Change in facial coloration in a bushtit.—On 29 July 1966 a juvenile Common Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), showing scattered black feathers around the ears and eyes, was captured in a mist net at Cedar Crest, New Mexico, in the Sandia Mountains east of Albuquerque. The pattern of black feathering approximated category C for facial coloration as recognized by Raitt (Auk, 84: 503, 1967). The bird was judged a male on the basis of dark iris color, and active molt was noted. After banding, the bird was photographed in color and released.

On 9 April 1967 this bushtit was again taken in a mist net at Cedar Crest; at that time it showed no black feathers in the facial area and conformed to Raitt's category A. Color photographs were again taken before the bird was released.

Both Raitt (op. cit.) and Phillips et al. (The birds of Arizona, Tucson, Univ. of Arizona Press, 1964) consider all bushtits conspecific. They recognize a cline of increasing frequency of black facial coloration southward from the Rocky Mountains through Mexico: in the northern portion of the range, black facial coloration seems to occur mainly in juvenile males, and only rarely in adults, especially north of southwestern Texas. The presence of black in a juvenile male and its absence in the same bird as an adult is confirmed by these observations of the Cedar Crest bird.

Additional reports of bushtits with black ears in northern New Mexico include one collected in the Sandia Mountains 17 July 1965, juvenile, sex unknown (John Tatschl); one photographed in color at Bluewater Lake, northwest of Grants, Valencia County, 6 July 1966 (Donald Bolduc); several seen in a flock at Bernal, south of Las Vegas, San Miguel County, 23 June 1968 (Walton Hawk). Evidently black facial coloration in bushtits occurs more frequently in New Mexico than has previously been supposed.

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Unpneumatized skull condition in adult Scaly-fronted Weavers, *Sporopipes frontalis*.—The retention of juvenile-like areas of lamellar, unpneumatized bone in the skull throughout adult life is characteristic of the parasitic African finches (both *Anomalospiza imberbis* and the viduines) but is uncommon among the nonparasitic African ploceids and estrildids, having been reported only for the Grey-capped Social Weaver *Pseudonigrita arnaudi* (Chapin, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 75B, 1954; Payne, Ostrich, 39: 158, 1968). During July and August 1968 I netted 10 adult Scaly-fronted Weavers, *Sporopipes frontalis*, near Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, and they all had large unpneumatized areas which were paired laterally, lay in the parietotemporal region behind the orbits, and comprised from 15 to 85 per cent of the area of the skull viewed from a dorsal aspect. All the birds were adults (spotted malar stripe) and all were molting. None were observed to be breeding, although the species was seen adding dry grass to old nests at Zaria and at Gusau during August; Bannerman (The birds of West and Equatorial Africa, vol. 2, Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd, 1953) reports these birds breed after the rains and lay eggs from October to February. One bird, found banded with a British Museum ring, was the most pneumatized of the sample; it had about 15 per cent of the skull surface lacking the granulated appearance of pneumatized bone. This bird, recaptured at the university 3 August 1968, was originally banded there as an adult 25 July 1967 by C. H. Fry; it had thus retained the unpneumatized areas at least well into its second year.—Robert B. Payne, *Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma 73069.*