

bugs, and 8 mirids of which 4 were the alfalfa bugs (*Lygus elisus* and *L. hesperus*); 229 Homoptera, including 191 aphids in one stomach, of which at least 4 were pea aphids, 30 adult and 3 nymphal beet leafhoppers in 16 stomachs, and 1 tree hopper, *Stictocephala gillettei*; 288 Coleoptera, including 3 larvae, 5 scarabaeids (1 *Phyllophaga decimlineata*), 53 leaf beetles, 5 rove beetles, 17 predacious ground beetles, 28 snout beetles (9 alfalfa weevils in seven stomachs and 2 clover leaf weevils), 1 ladybird beetle, 2 blister beetles (1 *Epicauta maculata*), 1 dermestid (*Dermestes lardarius*), 2 cerambycids and 4 buprestids; 60 lepidopterous larvae, including 13 sugarbeet webworms in three stomachs and 25 caterpillars which appeared to be cutworms (several army and variegated cutworms); 18 Diptera, including the large horsefly *Tabanus punctifer*, 6 maggots (apparently the common *Sarcophaga kelleyi* digested out of parasitized grasshoppers); 342 Hymenoptera, including 287 ants (many harvester and a few carpenter ants), several hornets and wasps, and 1 velvet ant; 5 insect eggs; 6 spiders in four stomachs. Also present were: several plant fragments, 2 weed seeds, and 18 black currants in six stomachs of birds taken during the summer of 1941 near roadside black currant bushes north of Snowville, Utah.—G. F. KNOWLTON and F. C. HARMSTON, *Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, Logan, Utah, December 15, 1941.*

**Vesper Sparrow and White Pelican as Late Migrants in Oregon.**—On November 28, 1940, while looking for small passerine birds along the center patrol road in the south part of Unit 1 of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon, the writer observed a single Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*) fly from the ground to the low branches of a willow. Thinking the bird had sustained some injury that caused it to stay so long in that vicinity, the writer looked it over closely from a distance of about ten yards. No sign of injury was noticeable and the bird appeared to have normal flight. Gabrielson and Jewett (*Birds of Oregon, 1940:562*) state that this species migrates south in September, and the latest date recorded by them in Oregon is September 20, in Lake County.

On December 12, 1940, in the vicinity of Boca Lake in Unit 3 of the Malheur Refuge, a lone White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) was noted in the company of 1500 geese. The lake was covered by a solid sheet of ice and the pelican skidded some distance when landing. The geese paid little attention to it as it stood or walked among them. The pelican appeared to be uncomfortable because of the cold. Gabrielson and Jewett's (*op. cit.*: 90) latest record is November 13, in Klamath County.—CLARENCE A. SOOTER, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Burns, Oregon, December 17, 1941.*

**The Systematic Position of *Ortalis wagleri* Gray.**—In the course of recent field work in Sonora, I was surprised to observe that the chachalaca *Ortalis wagleri*, as compared with other members of the genus, possesses a distinct structural character. In life it bears a very conspicuous, almost cylindrical, tuft of semi-setaceous feathers about 25 millimeters in length, which rises vertically from the extreme anterior forehead or more properly from the base of the culmen. No other member of *Ortalis* seems to have this character, and I therefore propose as a subgeneric name

*Peneloides* new subgenus

*Type.*—*Ortalida wagleri* G. R. Gray.

*Remarks.*—In life the tuft is sharply separated from the short, normal feathers of the forehead. In dried skins it is invariably flattened along the crown and thus has escaped notice. *Ortalis wagleri* is obviously so closely related to a group otherwise represented only in South America that full generic separation seems inadvisable for the present. It may be that the conspicuous tuft of *wagleri* is unique, but field observation may show at least indications of it in related species, in which case the character would be a matter of degree. However, Mr. H. B. Conover and Dr. Alexander Wetmore, who have kindly inspected all the material available to them, have been unable to discover anything beyond a somewhat bristly tendency on the foreheads of some species. Whether the tuft is a sex character or not is a question. The three specimens personally observed and collected were males.

As an aside, which has no particular bearing on the present case, I cannot subscribe to the placing of *Ortalis leucogastra* as a race of *vetula*. *Leucogastra* is, of course, a geographic representative of the genus but I do not consider this circumstance a valid reason for reducing it to racial status. The plumage, particularly ventrally, is firmer and otherwise different in character from that of *vetula*,

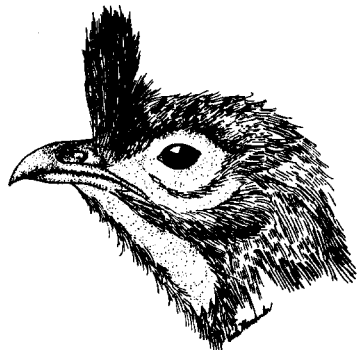


Fig. 22. Head of the chachalaca *Ortalis wagleri*, showing tuft of feathers on forehead.

the tail is distinctly less graduated, and the large, naked throat patch is divided only by a thin, broken line of very short bristles. No intergradation with *vetula* has ever been shown.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Dickey Collections, University of California, Los Angeles, November 26, 1941.*

**Pacific Gull Color-banding Project.**—Where and how do gulls migrate? What is their life history? In order to answer these questions, the Western Bird-Banding Association, with the cooperation of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, color-banded 11660 young gulls of three species at eleven nesting colonies in the summers of 1938, 1939, 1940 and 1941.

The seven original colonies (see *Condor*, 41, 1939:38) were marked in the course of a scheduled three-year period as follows:

Colony	1938		1939		1940	
	right leg	left leg	right leg	left leg	right leg	left leg
<i>N. Coronado Island, Mexico</i> (off San Diego, Calif.): 859 Western Gulls; Mrs. M. C. Sargent.	Red Survey Red	.....	Red Red	Survey	Red Survey	Red
<i>Three Arch Islands, Oregon:</i> 283 Western Gulls; Reed Ferris.	Survey	Red Blue	Blue Red	Survey .....	Survey	Blue Red
<i>Haystack Rock, Oregon:</i> 1958 Western Gulls; Reed Ferris.	Blue	Red Survey	Red Survey Blue	.....	Red	Blue Survey
<i>Mono Lake, California:</i> 1510 California Gulls; Walter F. Nichols.	Blue Survey	Blue	Survey Blue	Blue	Survey	Blue Blue
<i>Yellow Island, Haro Straits, British Columbia:</i> 699 Glaucous-winged Gulls; Dennis Ashby.	Yellow Blue	Survey	Blue Yellow	Survey	Blue Survey Yellow	.....
<i>Gull Island, Howe Sound, B.C.:</i> 213 Glaucous-winged Gulls; Kenneth Alexander.	Yellow Survey	Blue	Yellow Survey Blue	.....	Blue Survey	Yellow
<i>Mittenatch Island, Strait of Georgia, B.C.:</i> 479 Glaucous-winged Gulls; Theed Pearse.	Yellow Survey	Yellow	Yellow Yellow	Survey	Yellow Survey Yellow	.....

Four additional colonies have been banded as follows:

Colony	1939		1940		1941	
	right leg	left leg	right leg	left leg	right leg	left leg
<i>Great Salt Lake, Utah:</i> 2834 California Gulls; A. M. Woodbury.	Red Survey	Yellow	Red Yellow	Survey	Red Survey Yellow	.....
<i>Utah Lake, Utah:</i> 2000 California Gulls; Vasco M. Tanner.			Yellow Red	Survey	.....	Red Survey Yellow
<i>Puget Sound, Washington:</i> 500 Glaucous-winged Gulls; Robert S. Bach.			Yellow White	Survey		
<i>Klamath Falls, Oregon:</i> 325 California Gulls; Carl Richardson.			Black Survey Blue	.....	Black Survey	Blue

Many good records have now been received on the movements of the immature gulls. However, as yet no evidence has been obtained on the breeding of the adults. Therefore, the Association welcomes the continued cooperation of all bird students in watching for these color-banded gulls, and, if opportunity offers, in visiting nesting colonies.

If a bird is found dead, send the numbered aluminum Survey band to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C. If a live gull is seen, observe *carefully* the color combination, and report, with date, place and your name to the writer.—MRS. M. C. SARGENT, *Box 109, La Jolla, California, January 23, 1942.*

**Winter Records of the Sora Rail in Washington.**—In the Washington State Museum are two skins of the Sora Rail (*Porzana carolina*) taken in the vicinity of Seattle, Washington, in the months of November and January. So far as present information goes these are the first late fall and winter records of this bird in the state, and they constitute a considerable northward and westward extension of the winter range of the species. The nearest winter localities given by Ridgway and Friedmann (*U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* 50, part 9, 1941:138-139) are Marysville, California, nearly 600 miles south of Seattle, and Corvallis, Montana (where the species is only "occasional in winter"), about 390 miles to the east. Data for the two specimens are as follows: W.S.M. no. 11006, adult male taken at Seattle, Washington, on January 10, 1937; "Found frozen, starved.—by Jim Trot." Received