

This poorly known tinamou inhabits semi-humid montane scrub near the treeline in southern Peru. It is uncommon and perhaps local, and is affected by frequent burning of grassland, and by the cutting of high-elevation copses and shrubby patches for use as firewood.

DISTRIBUTION Taczanowski's Tinamou has been recorded from Junín, Apurímac, Cuzco and Puno departments, southern Peru, where it is known from sixteen specimens and a number of recent observations, at the following localities (coordinates from Stephens and Traylor 1983):

Junín vicinity of Maraynioc (11°22'S 75°24'W), near the source of the río Aynamayo (= río Vítoc), where specimens (in AMNH, FMNH, MCZ and Warsaw) have been taken between 3,300 and 3,650 m, most recently in 1939 (also Taczanowski 1874, 1884-1886, Sclater and Salvin 1874, von Berlepsch and Stolzmann 1902, Peters and Griswold 1943);

Apurímac Pomayaco (untraced, but in the río Pampas valley, c.1.5 hours ride from Ahuayro at c.13°22'S 73°52'W), where a specimen (in BMNH) was taken in 1939 (also Morrison 1948); Bosque de Chincheros (c.13°30'S 73°45'W), where a specimen (in FMNH) was collected at 2,900 m in 1970 (also Blake 1977, Mayr and Cottrell 1979); Bosque Ampay (c.13°38'S 72°57'W), where there have been several recent sightings at elevations ranging from 2,700 to 4,000 m (J. Fjeldså *in litt.* 1990); Bosque de Naupallagta, probably east of Caraybamba (c.14°23'S 73°09'W) on the road to Antabamba (14°19'S 72°55'W), where a specimen (in MHNJP) was taken at 3,650 m in 1977 (also Fjeldså and Krabbe 1990);

Cuzco Canchaillo (13°08'S 72°19'W), where the species has recently been seen at c.3,500 m (TAP); Cachuapata (c.13°17'S 71°22'W), 32 km east of Paucartambo, on the east slope of the Andes in the Madre de Dios drainage, where specimens (in BMNH) were taken at 3,500 m (also Sclater and Salvin 1874, Taczanowski 1884-1886, Salvadori 1895a, Peters 1931, Hellmayr and Conover 1942, Blake 1977, Mayr and Cottrell 1979; see Remarks);

Puno Valcón (c.14°26'S 69°24'W), on the eastern slope of the Andes, where two specimens (in LSUMZ) were taken at c.3,000 m in 1980 (also Fjeldså and Krabbe 1990).

POPULATION This tinamou was described as being fairly common at Maraynioc in 1939, but was so wary that it was difficult to shoot (Peters and Griswold 1943), and thus scarcity of museum specimens may not reflect its true rarity. The species was uncommon at Bosque Ampay in November 1989 (J. Fjeldså *in litt.* 1990). The status of "rare" given by Parker *et al.* (1982) was intended for Kalinowski's Tinamou *Nothoprocta kalinowskii* adjacent to it in the book, while the status for that species, "uncommon", was meant for the present species (TAP).

ECOLOGY Taczanowski's Tinamou inhabits humid and semi-humid montane scrub at the edge of fields and puna grassland, at elevations ranging from 2,700 to 4,000 m (Peters and Griswold 1943, Morrison 1948, J. Fjeldså *in litt.* 1990). At Canchaillo, Cuzco, it was found in near-pristine grassland with scattered *Lupinus* bushes and small thickets of *Gynoxys* shrubbery, just above treeline forest (TAP). At Pomayaco, Apurímac, a specimen was collected on the fringe of humid temperate woods, which lie as a belt above the arid río Pampas valley, and which change abruptly above to the lower level of the puna zone (Morrison 1948). At Maraynioc, Junín, the species occurred in small copses and on the grassy slopes, and was most frequently encountered around small potato fields scattered through the area (Peters and Griswold 1943). Judging from the photographs in Peters and Griswold (1943) these copses were composed, at least partly, of *Buddleia*, *Gynoxys* and *Polylepis* (NK). At Bosque Ampay, Apurímac, the species was also found in a mosaic habitat: small tuber fields and strongly grazed patches interspersed with copses, small woods and scrub (*Podocarpus*, *Escallonia myrtilloides*, *Vallea stipularis*, *Barnadesia*, *Hesperomeles* and others) (J. Fjeldså *in litt.* 1990). Birds may run rapidly whenever there is much cover, but if surprised in the open will usually freeze until almost stepped on (Peters and Griswold 1943).

At Bosque Ampay the species was noted to feed in the open (mainly on tuber crops) only early in the morning, and would hide at the edge of shrubbery and woods the rest of the day (J. Fjeldså *in litt.* 1990). At Maraynioc it was found to be fond of potatoes, which it dug out of the ground, often returning to the same fields (Peters and Griswold 1943); also at this locality, females with eggs in the oviduct, a

chick, and a male with active gonads were taken in April and May (Peters and Griswold 1943; specimens in FMNH and MCZ). At Valcón, Puno, a chick was collected in October (Fjeldså and Krabbe 1990; specimen in LSUMZ). The Pomayaco bird from October had inactive gonads and was moulting (specimen in BMNH), and an immature bird was collected in September in Cuzco (Taczanowski 1874, Sclater and Salvin 1874).

THREATS The isolated temperate woodlands and adjacent shrubby grasslands in the high Andes have been diminishing for hundreds of years owing to the activities of man (Fjeldså 1987), including frequent burning of grassland, and the cutting of high-elevation copses and shrubby patches for use as firewood (NK, TAP). The species is being hunted for food (NK).

MEASURES TAKEN None is known.

MEASURES PROPOSED Taczanowski's Tinamou should be studied to clarify its ecological requirements and distributional limits. The upper elevations (above 3,500 m) of existing protected areas should be extended to incorporate (at least a few) large areas of treeline habitat from which domestic livestock should be excluded (and annual burning prohibited). These habitats occur in or near Manu National Park, above the Machupicchu "sanctuary", above the Tambopata-Condado Reserve (all in Peru), and along the western edge of the recently proposed Alto Madidi National Park in Bolivia (Parker *et al.* 1990). An additional high-elevation biological reserve or national park should be established somewhere between the río Huallaga canyon (in Huánuco) and the río Apurímac canyon (in Ayacucho), while in densely settled areas farmers should be encouraged to leave plenty of shrubbery and open, park-like woodland bordering their fields in order to stop wind- and soil-erosion: all this would benefit a large number of plant and animal species confined to small areas in the high Andes of central and southern Peru (TAP).

REMARKS One of the two specimens taken by H. Whitely in Cuzco was described as a distinct species and named *Nothoprocta godmani* by Taczanowski (1884-1886). However, Sclater and Salvin (1873) had considered this specimen an immature, arguing that while the type of *taczanowskii* agrees in general coloration with the larger of the two Cuzco specimens, it corresponds in dimensions with the smaller, which was later designated the type of *godmani*. Taczanowski (1884-1886) nevertheless gave the measurements of *godmani* as all being smaller than those of the type of *taczanowskii*, except for the middle

toe, which he gave as longer; he made no reference to the other Cuzco bird, under either *tacznowskii* or *godmani*. Hellmayr and Conover (1942) believed that Taczanowski had referred both Cuzco specimens to *godmani*, and they left the question of the status of *godmani* open, but referred to the type of *godmani* as an immature bird. Subsequent authors have uncritically included the Cuzco specimens under *tacznowskii* (e.g. Blake 1977, Mayr and Cottrell 1979).