

Known from perhaps three nineteenth-century skins from Bolivia, this hummingbird if a good species – may prove to inhabit the Amazonian lowlands in the north of the country.

DISTRIBUTION The Coppery Thorntail is apparently known from only three nineteenth century specimens simply labelled from Bolivia (see Remarks). The two male specimens reported presumably came from north-eastern Bolivia (Remsen and Traylor 1989).

POPULATION The species has not been seen or collected this century (Remsen and Traylor 1989).

ECOLOGY Nothing is known; however, it could inhabit the Amazonian lowlands of northern Bolivia (Remsen and Traylor 1989), based on the facts that no other *Popelairia* has been recorded there (except for Black-bellied Thorntail *P. langsdorffi* in extreme north-west Pando) and that the other *Popelairia* have lowland distributions (J. V. Remsen *in litt.* 1991).

THREATS None is known.

MEASURES TAKEN None is known.

MEASURES PROPOSED Searches are needed in northern lowland Bolivia for this mysterious species.

REMARKS According to Peters (1945) and Meyer de Schauensee (1966, 1982), two male specimens of this species exist, although it is not clear in which museum(s) they are held; however, AMNH possesses an unsexed and presumably therefore third specimen, which was examined by R. Bleiweiss *in litt.* (1988), who considered it perhaps a late immature and, while expressing due caution on the evidence of a single skin, thought it represented a distinct form.