

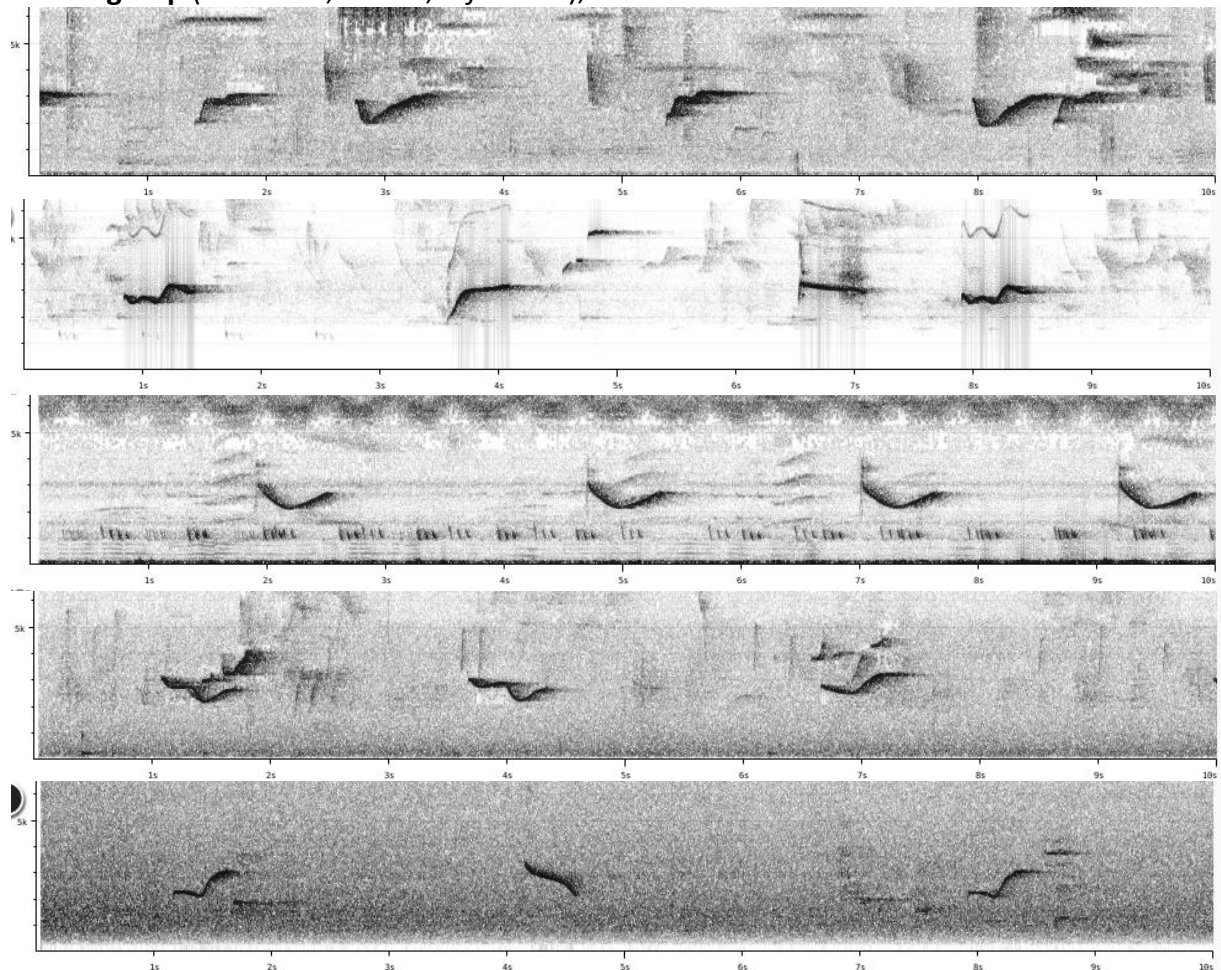
Notes on the vocalizations of Streaked Wren-babbler (*Napothera brevicaudata*)

Peter Boesman

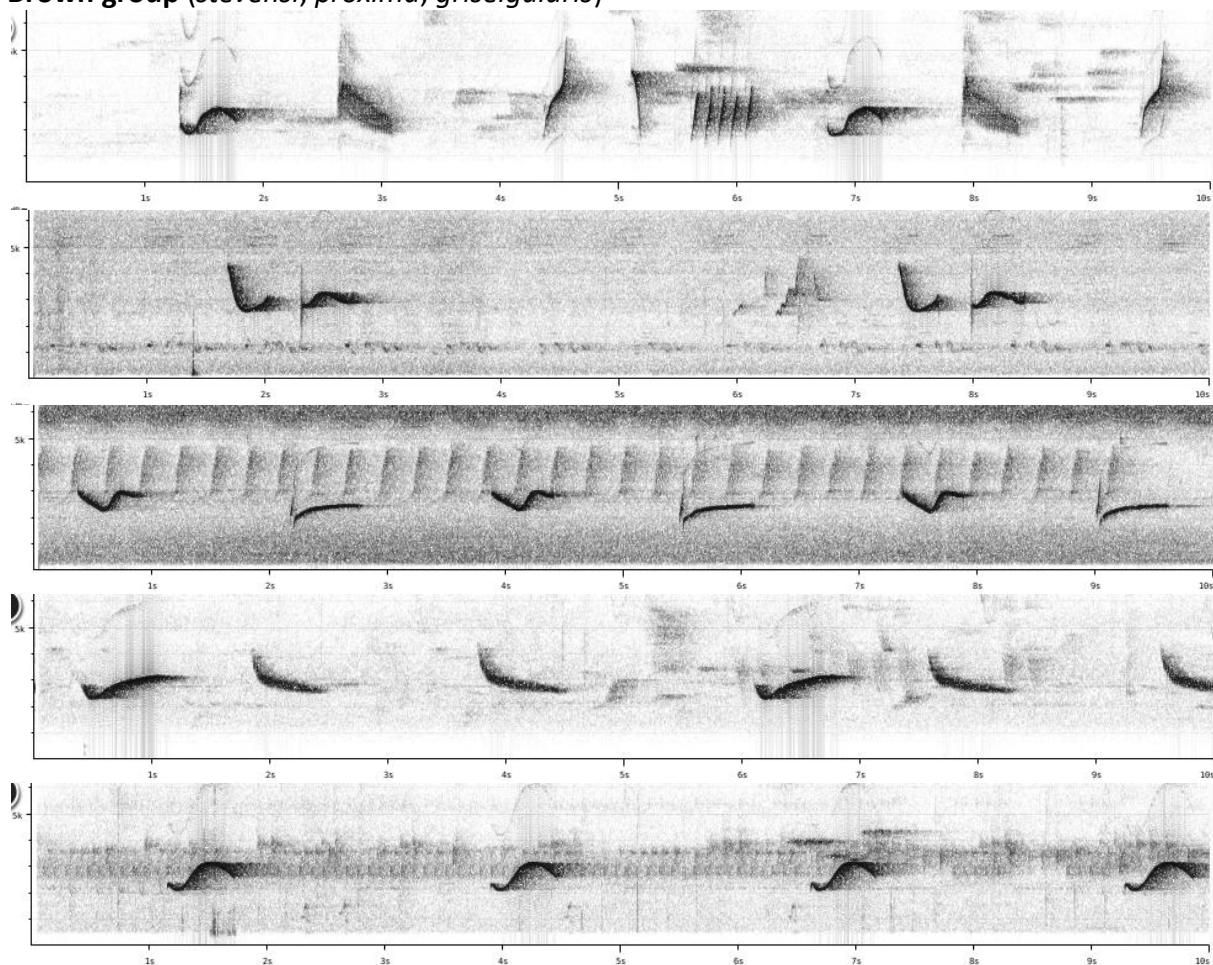
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Streaked Wren-babbler (*Napothera brevicaudata*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC).

HBW (Collar *et al.* 2016) suggests three distinct groups based on morphology. We will compare song of these three groups:

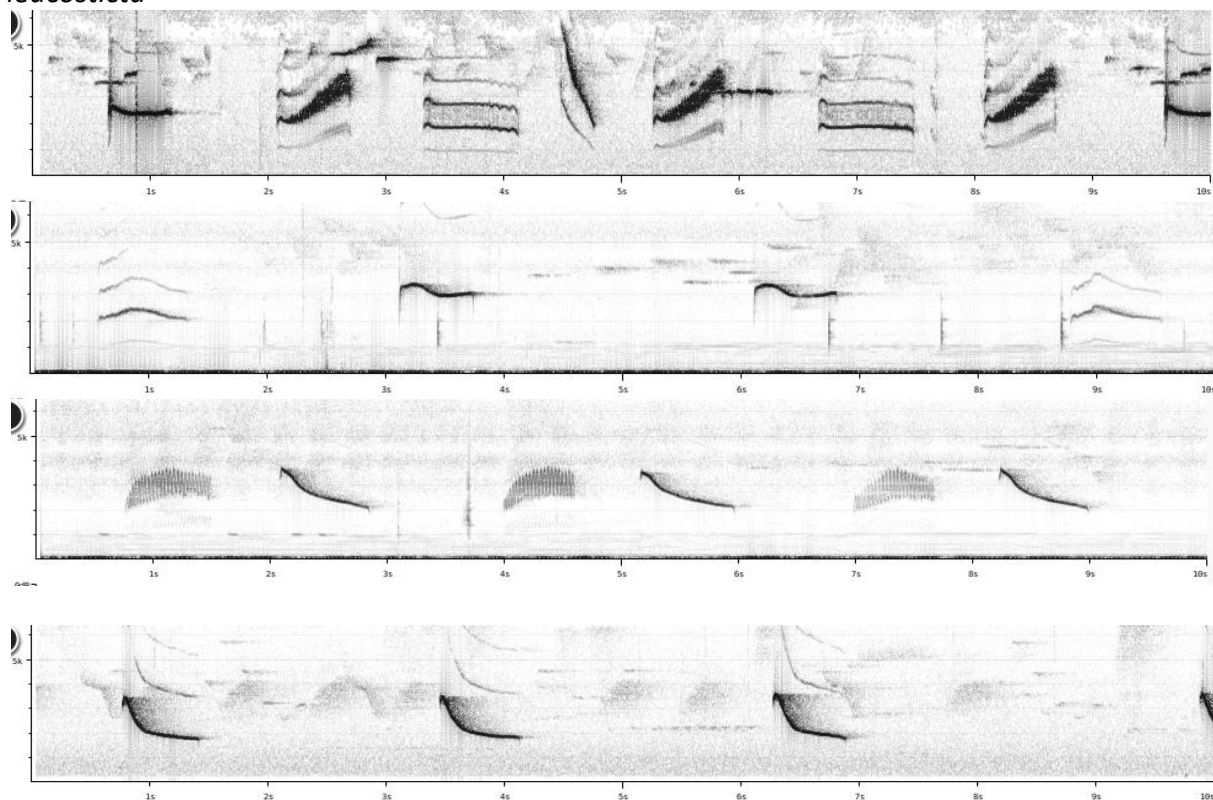
Rufous group (nominate, *striata*, *rufiventer*),



Brown group (*stevensi*, *proxima*, *griseigularis*)



leucosticta



Song of the three groups is quite similar: single (or occasionally double) whistles repeated at intervals. Either the same whistle is repeated or 2 or 3 whistles are alternated.

Basic sound parameters are similar for all groups (note length, min./max. freq., etc.) and a blind recording would not be clearly attributable to any group. There is a large variation of note shapes within each group, and again no clear indication that any group would have unique note shapes, although a more thorough study with a large set of recordings would be needed to prove this.

At this point, we can only conclude that the available recordings do not indicate any significant vocal difference among groups.

This note was finalized on 12th April 2016, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC.

References

Collar, N. & Robson, C. (2016). Streaked Wren-babbler (*Napothera brevicaudata*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. & de Juana, E. (eds.). *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/59532> on 12 April 2016).

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* 152(4): 724–746.

Recommended citation

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