

Notes on the vocalizations of Chestnut-capped Brush-finch (*Arremon brunneinucha*)

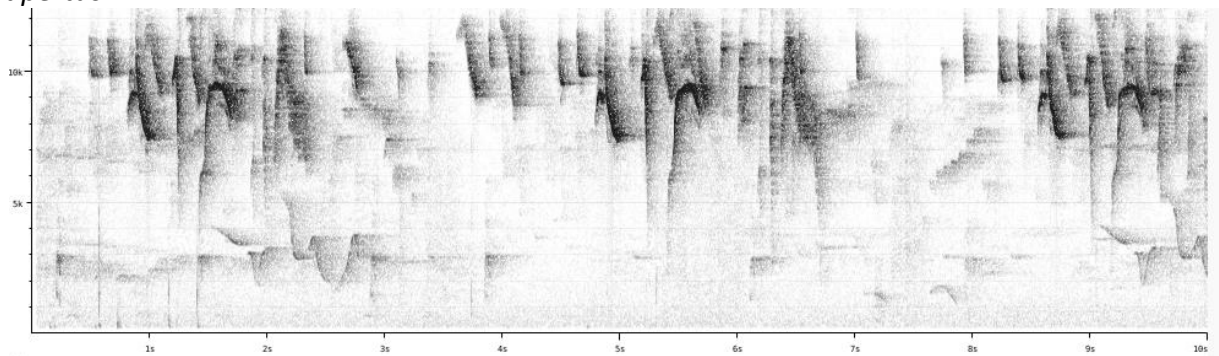
Peter Boesman

In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of several races of Chestnut-capped Brush-finch (*Arremon brunneinucha*). 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).

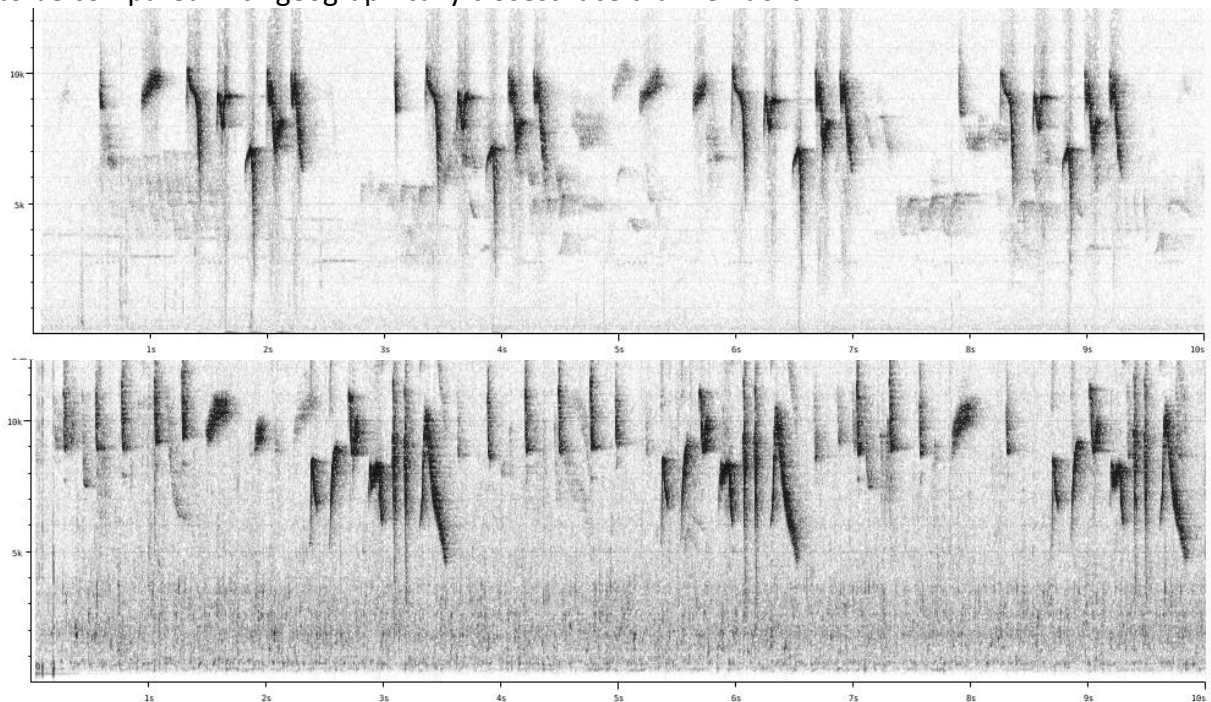
Our main interest is to compare voice of race *apertus* with other races, as the former has been suggested to represent a distinct species (Navarro-Sigüenza *et al.* 2004).

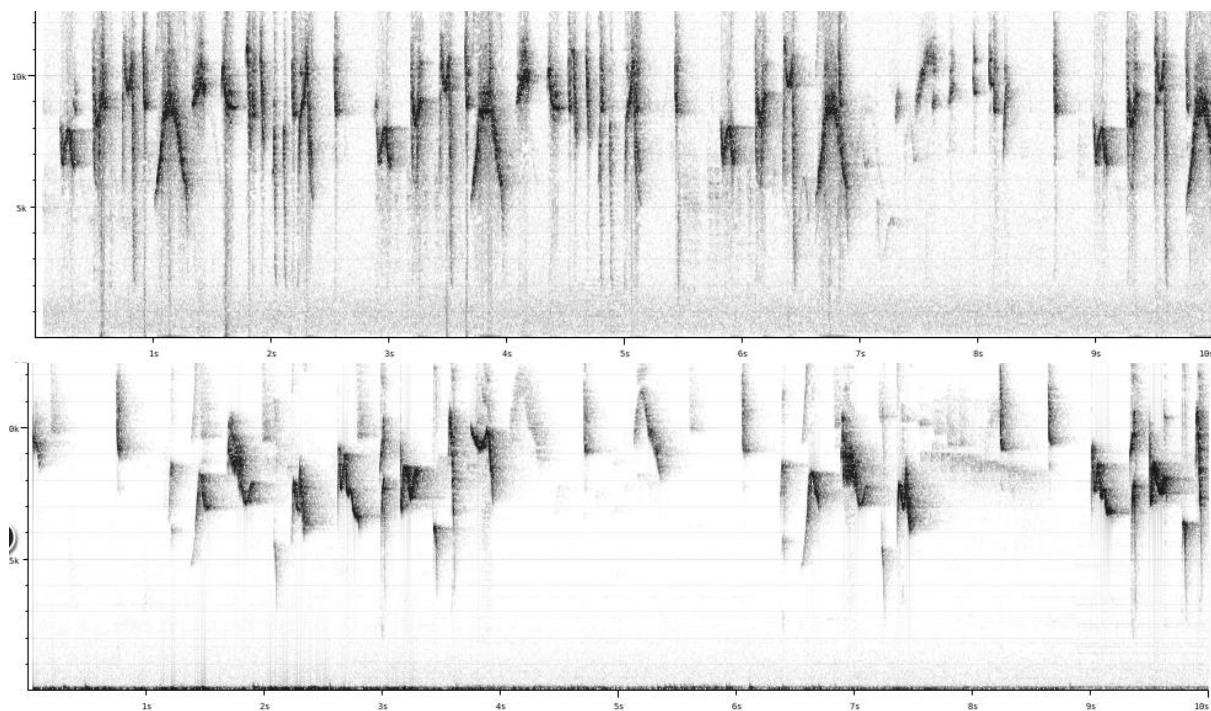
We have found only a single recording of song for race *apertus*:

apertus



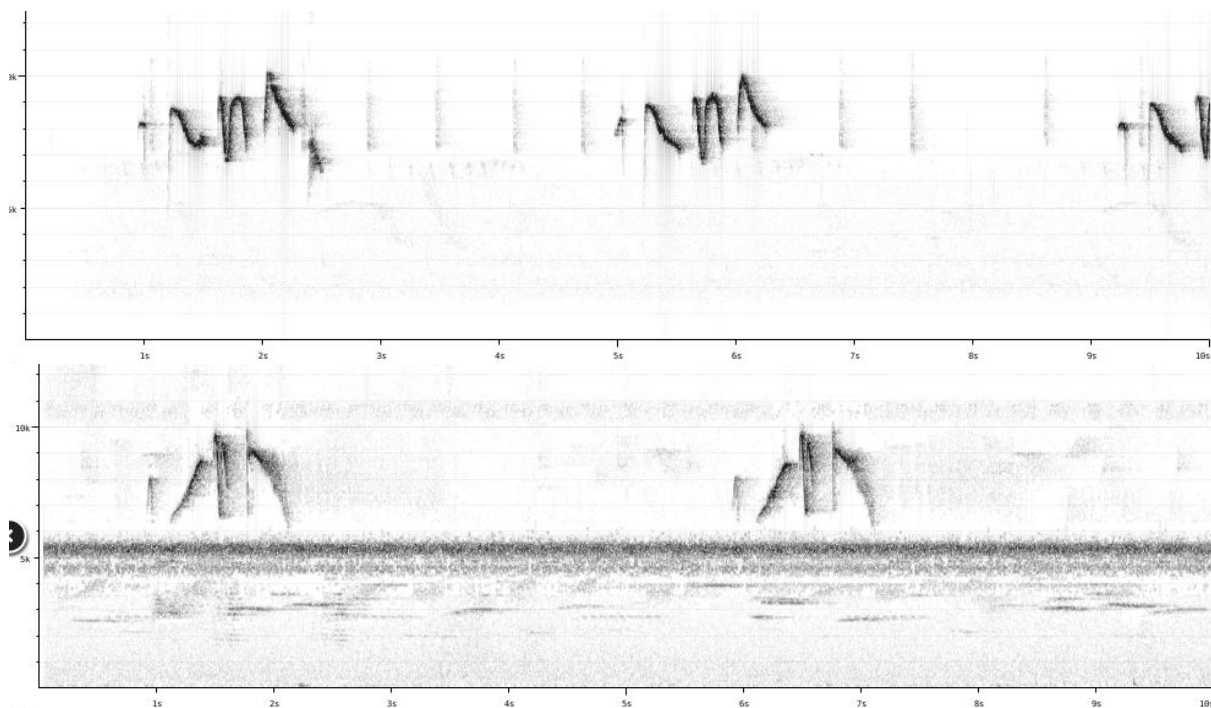
to be compared with geographically closest race *brunneinucha*:



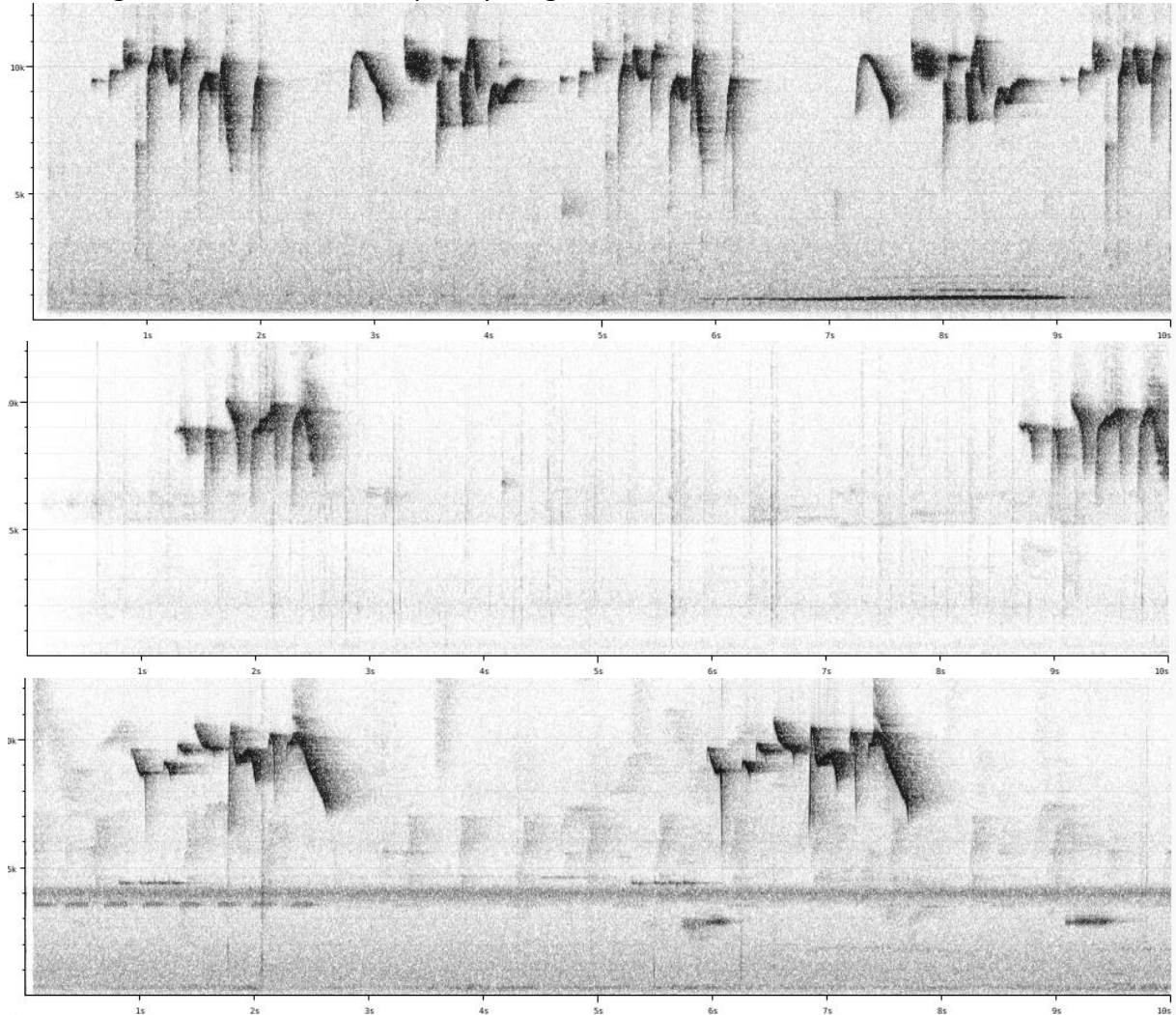


There seem to be no obvious differences in song. As a matter of fact, differences of Mexican races vs other races are more outspoken, e.g.:

Costa Rica/Panama highlands (*e/sae*) : shorter, simpler phrases with narrower freq. range



In South America, there is quite some variation within wide-spread race *frontalis*, but notes on average cover a narrower frequency range :



We can thus conclude that song of race *apertus* is not markedly different from its neighboring race, but at the other hand there seems to be a slight change in voice south of the isthmus of Tehuantepec, with song covering a narrower frequency range and note shapes somewhat less steeply changing pitch (lacking the multiple 'vertical lines' on a sonogram). A more detailed analysis would be required to have a better quantification of this vocal change.

This note was finalized on 25th May 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

Navarro-Sigüenza, A.G. & Peterson, A.T. (2004). An alternative species taxonomy of the birds of Mexico. *Biota Neotropica* 4(2): 1–32.

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

Boesman, P. (2016). Notes on the vocalizations of Chestnut-capped Brush-finch (*Arremon brunneinucha*). *HBW Alive Ornithological Note* 360. In: *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/1252903> on 28 October 2016).