

This gamebird (still of some taxonomic uncertainty) is known only from the type-specimen taken during 1943 in the río Magdalena valley, Colombia, where it is apparently at risk from human disturbance of the dry deciduous forest that grows (or grew) in the area.

DISTRIBUTION The Magdalena Tinamou (see Remarks) is only known from the type-specimen (in USNM) taken at Ayacucho (8°36'N 73°35'W, c.150 m), on the lower middle río Magdalena, Cesar department, north-central Colombia (Wetmore 1950, Paynter and Traylor 1981).

POPULATION This species is known from just a single male taken on 9 June 1943 (in USNM), and has seemingly not been recorded since that date.

ECOLOGY Nothing is known, although the type-locality is (or was) covered by low, dry, deciduous forest and savannas (Paynter and Traylor 1981, LGN). An unattributed remark (on USNM printout) suggests that the type-specimen is an immature bird.

THREATS Clearance of the dry forests for cattle-ranching and farming in this area is a serious threat to the Magdalena Tinamou, and hunting by locals (of tinamous in general) is to be expected (A. J. Negret *in litt.* 1987, LGN).

MEASURES TAKEN There are no protected areas in the vicinity of the type-locality of this species, most of the land being privately owned and used for cattle-ranching (CNPPA 1982, LGN).

MEASURES PROPOSED A thorough search for this tinamou in suitable (remaining) habitat close to the type-locality is urgently needed, to assess both the conservation status of the bird and its taxonomic position (see Remarks).

REMARKS Several authors (e.g. Carriker 1955b, Blake 1977, Hilty and Brown 1986), based on comparison of specimens and interspecific mallophagan ectoparasites, have suggested that the Magdalena Tinamou is in fact a subspecies of the widespread Red-legged Tinamou *Crypturellus erythropus*, from northern Colombia, northern Venezuela, the Guianas and northern Brazil (Hilty and Brown 1986).