

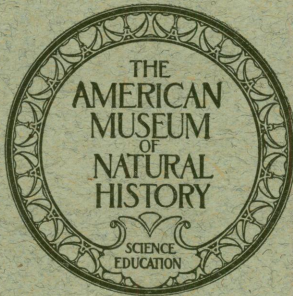
# AMERICAN MUSEUM NOVITATES

No. 15

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## A NEW NAME FOR A SUBSPECIES OF *UTA* *STANSBURIANA* BAIRD AND GIRARD

BY KARL PATTERSON SCHMIDT



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## A NEW NAME FOR A SUBSPECIES OF *UTA STANSBURIANA* BAIRD AND GIRARD

BY KARL PATTERSON SCHMIDT

In the 'Check List of North American Amphibians and Reptiles' (1917), Stejneger and Barbour have followed Richardson (1915, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XLVIII, p. 412, ff.) in his revision of *Uta stansburiana*.

Richardson divides the species into a northern subspecies, *Uta stansburiana stansburiana* (Baird and Girard), chiefly in the Great Basin; a southern subspecies, *U. s. elegans* (Yarrow), ranging from western Texas to Lower California; and a Pacific coast form, *U. s. hesperis* Richardson, of the coastal region of southern California and northern Lower California (and the San Joaquin Valley).

To the second subspecies Richardson applied the name *elegans* of Yarrow (1882, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., V, p. 442), with the type locality La Paz, Lower California. Richardson, however, had only four specimens of *Uta elegans* from the Cape Region of Lower California.

The Lower Californian collections of the Albatross Expedition made in 1911, contain an excellent series of *Uta elegans* from Lower California, numbering twenty-four specimens (seven from the vicinity of La Paz); in addition, through the courtesy of the U. S. National Museum, I have had an additional six specimens from the Island of Espiritu Santu, opposite La Paz, for examination.

The *Uta stansburianas* from Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona in The American Museum of Natural History agree excellently with Richardson's definition of *U. s. elegans*. The Lower Californian specimens, however, are at once distinguished in the greater length of the hind leg, which ranges from .74 to .85 of the length from snout to anus in eighteen male specimens, averaging .80, while in twenty-four male Arizonan and New Mexican specimens examined by me, the range is .65 to .79, average .71, and the average of Richardson's series of twenty-three males is .74.

I, therefore, regard the form in the Cape Region of Lower California as specifically distinct, and restrict the name *elegans* of Yarrow

to it. For the form in Arizona, New Mexico, western Texas, and northern Mexico, I propose a new name.

***Uta stansburiana stejnegeri*,<sup>1</sup> new name**

TYPE.—A. M. N. H. No. 348; ♂; collected July 23, 1906 by A. G. Ruthven.

TYPE LOCALITY.—Mouth of Dry Cañon, Alamogordo, Otero County, New Mexico.

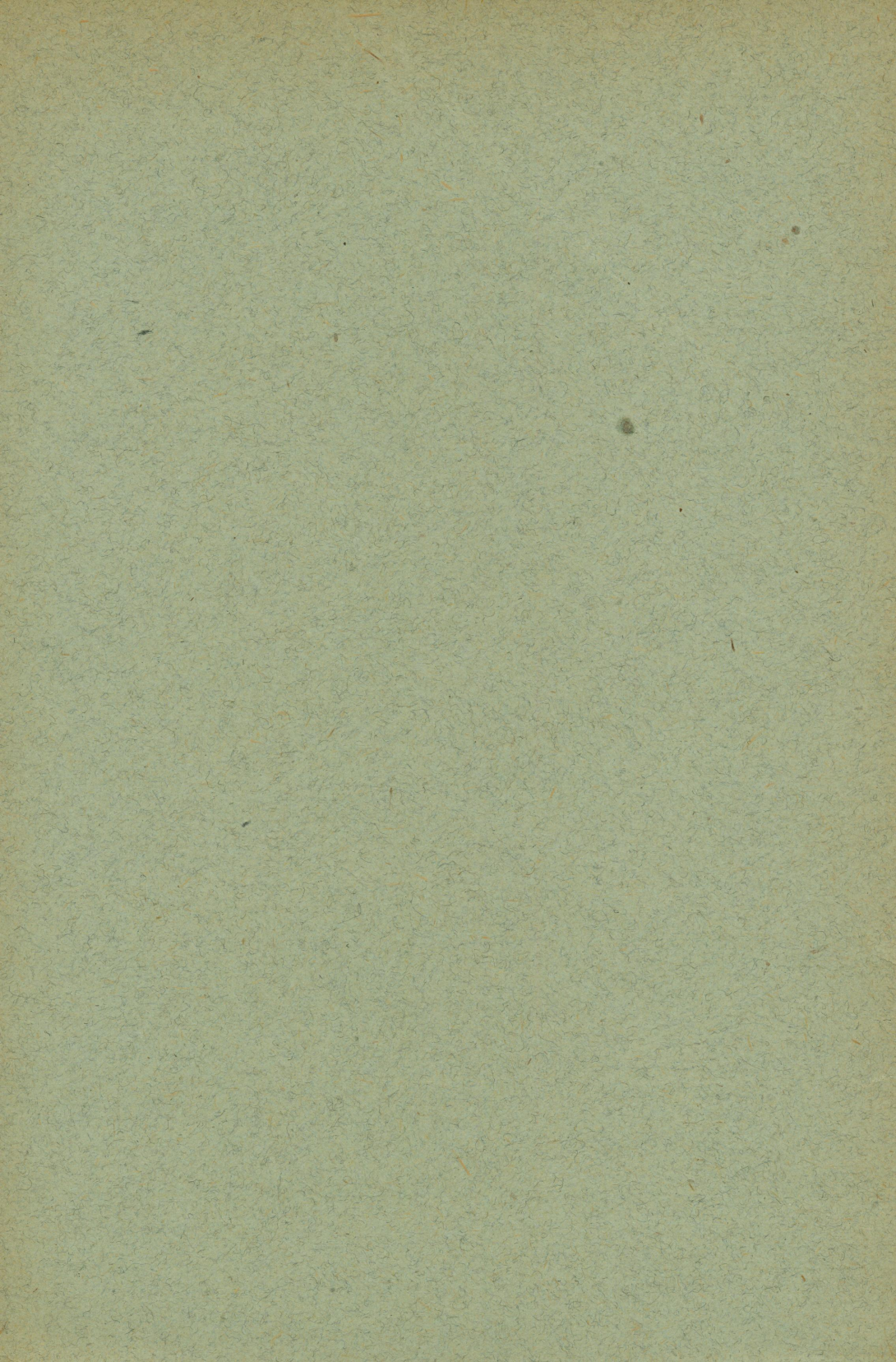
It is hoped that a more extended study of the genus *Uta* may be presented in the future.

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<sup>1</sup>Named for Dr. Leonhard Stejneger, whose contributions to the study of the genus *Uta* make it especially appropriate that a species of this genus should bear his name.







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FRANK E. LUTZ, Editor

**I**ssued, as occasion requires, for the publication of preliminary announcements, descriptions of new forms, and similar matters.

The articles are numbered serially but paged independently. An index will be provided for each 300 (approximately) pages.