
**A new specimen of Southern
Horned Curassow *Pauxi
unicornis* from Peru**

Southern Horned Curassow *Pauxi
unicornis* is an Andean cracid at
risk of extinction due to hunting



Figure 1. Head of Southern Horned Curassow *Pauxi unicornis koepckeae*, collected in the El Sira Communal Reserve, Cerros del Sira, Peru, 6 October 2007 (James G. Graham)

pressure and habitat loss. *P. u. koepckeae* is known from just two specimens², although at least two recent sightings are also available¹. During a visit to the Cerros del Sira, dpto. Ucayali, Peru, in October–November 2007 we made five sightings of this taxon on an isolated ridge in cloud forest, at 1,400–1,600 m. A specimen, consisting of the head and feet, was salvaged from indigenous hunters after it was killed for food. The bird (a male) was collected on 6 October 2007, elevation 1,550 m, at c.09°27'S 74°34'W. The voucher has been deposited at the Center for Ornithology and Biodiversity (CORBIDI), Lima, Peru.

The range and conservation status of this bird are uncertain, due at least in part to the difficulty of accessing its remote habitat. Both previous specimens of *P. u. koepckeae* are from the west slope of the Cerros del Sira, in the upper Pachitea watershed. Our observations were made on the east slope of the range, in the El Sira Communal Reserve, at the headwaters of the río Iparia in the Ucayali watershed, c.20 km east of the site of the 1969 collections, but 200–400 m higher elevation.

References

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