

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
Based on: Watola, G. 2009. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (2nd Edition)  
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.  
Updated and amended text supplied by George Watola, October, 2011.  
Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)  
Snares Island snipe: p 134.

**Snares Island Snipe** (Tutukiwi) *Coenocorypha huegli* (Tristram 1893), Endemic  
1873 Snares Island

It was collected in 1873, and later found to be abundant in 1890 by Chapman. Buller (1888) thought it was the same as *C. aucklandica*. Baron A. von Hügel obtained specimens that were described by Tristram (1893).

“When Sir W. Buller published his second edition of the ‘Birds of New Zealand’ he had, unfortunately, sent back to New Zealand his only specimen from the Chatham Islands, and borrowed from me a specimen which had been obtained by Baron A. von Hügel on the Snares, seventy miles south of the southern extremity of New Zealand. This I had put down as *Gallinago pusilla*, having at that time never seen a Chatham Island specimen. It is very accurately figured and coloured in Buller’s second edition; but it proves to be very different from the true *G. pusilla*. The only other example in existence, so far as I am aware, is a second specimen obtained on the Snares at the same time by Baron A. von Hügel, and in the collection of the Hon. Walter Rothschild.”

Canon Tristram says, “This species may at once be distinguished from its congeners by its much redder hue, and especially by the remarkable fineness and delicacy of its markings, the edgings of the upper plumage and the striation and bands on the lower surface being much smaller, closer, and more distinct. In the other two species (*G. pusilla* and *G. aucklandica*) the abdomen and thighs are whitish, while in this they are thickly barred. In this species the three outer tail-feathers on each side are attenuated, with a white edging; in the others only the two outer pairs of tail-feathers appear to be so attenuated.” (Buller 1894a).