

WESTERN BIRDS



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Western Specialty: **Black - throated Sparrow**



Photo by © Brian E. Small of Los Angeles, California:
Black - throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*)
Kern County, California, February 2001

Volume 35, Number 3, 2004

Seasonal Abundance of Marine Birds in Nearshore Waters of Monterey Bay, California <i>Laird A. Henkel</i>	126
Glossy Ibis Records for Colorado and Neighboring States <i>Doug Faulkner</i>	147
Low Incidence of Cowbird Parasitism on Swainson's Thrushes in Central Coastal California <i>Jennifer D. White</i> and <i>Thomas Gardali</i>	156

NOTES

Expansion of the Breeding Range of the Bufflehead in California <i>T. Will Richardson</i>	168
Southernmost Record of a Spotted Owl × Barred Owl Hybrid in the Sierra Nevada <i>Mark E. Seamans, Jeffery Corcoran,</i> and <i>Angela Rex</i>	173
The Southern Limit in California of the Northern Pygmy-Owl <i>Philip Unitt</i>	175
Book Review <i>Jeff N. Davis</i>	178
Featured Photo <i>Bruce Deuel</i>	181

Front cover photo by © Steve H. Metz of Tulsa, Oklahoma: Red-billed Tropicbird (*Phaethon aethereus*), deep water off Santa Barbara, California, 11 September 2004.

Back cover "Featured Photos" by © Stephen J. Davies of Bethesda, Maryland: Lesser Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis parvipes*) and Taverner's Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii taverneri*), Arrowhead Marsh, Alameda County, California, 25 January 2004.

Western Birds solicits papers that are both useful to and understandable by amateur field ornithologists and also contribute significantly to scientific literature. The journal welcomes contributions from both professionals and amateurs. Appropriate topics include distribution, migration, status, identification, geographic variation, conservation, behavior, ecology, population dynamics, habitat requirements, the effects of pollution, and techniques for censusing, sound recording, and photographing birds in the field. Papers of general interest will be considered regardless of their geographic origin, but particularly desired are reports of studies done in or bearing on the Rocky Mountain and Pacific states and provinces, including Alaska and Hawaii, western Texas, northwestern Mexico, and the northeastern Pacific Ocean.

Send manuscripts to Kathy Molina, Section of Ornithology, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 900 Exposition Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007. For matters of style consult the Suggestions to *Contributors to Western Birds* (8 pages available at www.wfo-cbrc.org/journal.html) and the *Scientific Style and Format: The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers* (available for \$60 from Cambridge University Press at 1-800-872-7423).

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Good photographs of rare and unusual birds, unaccompanied by an article but with caption including species, date, locality and other pertinent information, are wanted for publication in *Western Birds*. Submit photos and captions to Photo Editor. Also needed are black and white pen and ink drawings of western birds. Please send these, with captions, to Graphics Manager.