WESTERN BIRDS





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Western Specialties:

Lutescent Orange-crowned Warbler (Vermivora celata lutescens)



Photo by © Peter LaTourrette of Los Altos, California: Coyote Point Recreation Area, San Mateo County, California, 17 October 2007 Note the uniformly strong yellow tinge to both the upperparts and underparts, characteristic of both sexes of *Vermivora celata lutescens* (yellow tinge stronger in males).

Rocky Mountain Orange-crowned Warbler (Vermivora celata orestera)



Photo by © Peter LaTourrette of Los Altos, California: Coyote Point Recreation Area, San Mateo County, California, 26 October 2007 Note the contrasting gray head, characteristic of many females of *Vermivora celata orestera*, and underparts paler yellow than in *V. c. lutescens*, characteristic of both sexes of *V. c. orestera*, when the comparison is made by sex. Many males of *V. c. orestera* resemble females of *V. c. lutescens* closely.

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Front cover photo by © Cornelius Schlawe of Berlin, Germany: Lanceolated Warbler (*Locustella lanceolata*), Buldir Island, western Aleutian Islands, Alaska, 11 August 2007.

Back cover "Featured Photo" by © Steve N. G. Howell of Stinson Beach, California: South Polar Skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*) attacking a juvenile Laysan Albatross (*Phoebastria immutabilis*) near Cordell Bank, Marin County, California, 30 September 2007.

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* (at www.wfo-cbrc.org/journal.html).

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.