

WESTERN BIRDS



Vol. 39, No. 2, 2008

Western Specialty: **Western Screech-Owl**



Photo by © Michael Pollack / www.untamedimages.com of Cupertino, California:
Western Screech-Owl (*Megascops kenecottii*)
Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve, Santa Clara County, California, 6 September 2006.
These extremely tolerant owls roosted for several months alongside one of the most popular trails in Santa Clara County, to the delight of many hundreds of hikers, joggers and birders.

Volume 39, Number 2, 2008

Nest Spacing in Elegant Terns: Hexagonal Packing Revisited <i>Charles T. Collins and Michael D. Taylor</i>	62
Reassessment of Tropical Parula Subspecies in Baja California Sur <i>Marshall J. Iliff, Richard A. Erickson, and Mark J. Billings</i>	69
Habitat Fragmentation and Scrub-Specialist Birds: San Diego Fragments Revisited <i>Autumn R. Sartain and Allison C. Alberts</i>	82
NOTES	
First Documented Breeding Colony of Caspian Terns on the Copper River Delta, Alaska <i>Tyee G. Lohse, Teal K. Lohse, Trae W. Lohse, and Aaron Lang</i>	94
Caspian Terns Nesting in Alaska: Prophecy, Serendipity, and Implications for Regional Climate-Related Change <i>Robert E. Gill, Jr.</i>	97
Breeding Behavior and Dispersal of Radio-Marked California Clapper Rails <i>Michael L. Casazza, Cory T. Overton, John Y. Takekawa, Tobias Rohmer, and Kenneth Navarre</i>	101
Book Reviews <i>Richard C. Hoyer and Nathan Pieplow</i>	107
Featured Photo: Great Gray Owls Nesting in Fresno County, California <i>David E. Quady</i>	110

Front cover photo by © Matt Sadowski of Chula Vista, California: Bridled Tern (*Onychoprion anaethetus*), Santa Margarita River mouth, San Diego County, California, 14 August 2007. Second Bridled Tern identified in California and first to be photographed. The species' northernmost known nesting site in the eastern Pacific is in Nayarit, central western Mexico.

Back covers (inside and outside) "Featured Photos" by © Gary L. Woods of Fresno, California: Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) female and young at nest, Shaver Lake area, Fresno County, California, 1 June 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).