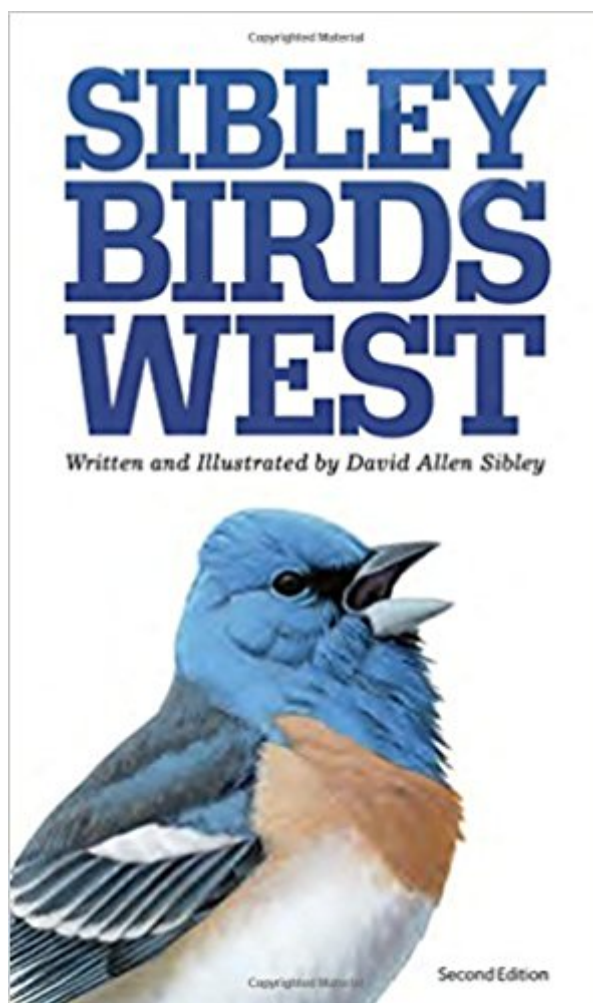


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Sibley Birds West: Field Guide To Birds Of Western North America



Synopsis

COMPLETELY REVISED AND UPDATED: From renowned birder, illustrator, and New York Times best selling author David Sibley, the most authoritative guide to the birds of the West, in a portable format that is perfect for the field. Compact and comprehensive, this guide features 715 bird species, plus regional populations, found west of the Rocky Mountains. Entries include stunningly accurate illustrations--more than 5,046 in total--with descriptive captions pointing out the most important field marks. Each entry has been updated to include the most current information concerning frequency, nesting, behavior, food and feeding, voice description, and key identification features. Here too are more than 652 updated maps drawn from information contributed by 110 regional experts across the continent, and showing winter, summer, year-round, migration, and rare ranges. This new and improved edition includes:

- Updated habitat, description, behavior, and conservation text for each species account and all family pages.
- New and revised illustrations of species and regional forms.
- New design featuring species accounts in columns, allowing for better comparison and more illustrations and text.
- Current taxonomic order and up-to-date common names.
- All maps revised to reflect the most current range information.
- More species and rarities included.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

DAVID ALLEN SIBLEY is the author and illustrator of the series of successful guides to nature that

bear his name, including the New York Times best seller *The Sibley Guide to Birds*. He has contributed art and articles to *Smithsonian*, *Science*, *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology*, *Birding*, *BirdWatching*, and *North American Birds*, and wrote and illustrated a syndicated column for *The New York Times*. He is the recipient of the Roger Tory Peterson Award for Lifetime Achievement from the American Birding Association and the Linnaean Society of New York's Eisenmann Medal. He lives in Concord, Massachusetts.

2016 edition. Book is smaller than the North American edition: 7.8 inches tall instead of 9.8 inches tall, so it is more portable, but it does require that the nice illustrations are also smaller - often smaller than the range maps. But still a very useful field guide. Errata: Page 119 *Wingtip* is on page 132, not 133; *Rock Sandpiper* is on page 138, not 136. Page 184 *South Polar Skua* is on page 188, not 186. Page 193 *Ancient Murrelet* should be *Ancient Murrelet*. Page 206 *Greater Roadrunner* is on page 207, not 201. Page 210 *Flammulated Owl* is on page 219, not 211. Page 254 *Aplomado Falcon* is on page 257; *Gyr Falcon* 255; *Prairie Falcon* 257; *Peregrine* (not *Pregrine*) 256; *American Kestrel* 258; *Merlin* 259; *Crested Caracara* 254. Page 266 *Great Crested Flycatcher* and *Brown-crested Flycatcher* are on page 279. Page 267 *Scissor-tailed and Fork-tailed Flycatchers* are on page 284. Page 365 *Black-throated Gray Warbler* is on page 386. Page 420 *Western Tanager* is on page 423. I just hope that the illustrations are not misplaced!

This is an outstanding book to use as a resource and guide if you are traveling out west or you live in the West. The illustrations are very accurate and the color details really help to identify subjects.

Very nice book for variations and multiple illustrations of different bird views. I'll still keep my Peterson for quality of illustration, and previous years of use. Nice to have both with your spouse or birding partner.

I ordered this book the day after I was hired to survey birds in National Park properties through out the Chihuahuan Desert. The second edition of "Birds West" is the first Sibley publication I've owned and I can not deny it has been a spectacular investment in the field. Up until this point I have relied on National Geographic's field guide to Western Birds and have been referencing both through out the season. What sets Sibley apart is not necessarily his artwork (which is exceptional regardless),

but his knack for providing extraordinarily helpful information in a brief format. The Nat Geo guide attempts to cram visual, behavioral, and habitat information into a small paragraph which allows maximal room for illustration. Sibley, on the other hand, has developed a format geared to maximize the recognition of diagnostic traits in the field. Each section is prefaced with a reference page showing each species, grouped into genus, side by side. This really helps you recognize the shared traits of a genus which can make all the difference when you're in a location with 6 wren species coming from 6 different genus. On the individual pages, Sibley gives more than adequate descriptions of the habitat you're likely to find each bird in and his comprehensive illustrations and sketches highlight even the least expected diagnostic features. Thanks to this I was able to initially ID a Black-chinned Hummer from its display flight pattern alone. The only short-coming of this regional field guide is a trivial one unique to the situation I find myself in. Surveying areas that fall right on the border that divides Sibley's Western guide from his Eastern, he has chosen to exclude some rarities, like the Great Kiskadee and Ringed Kingfisher, that would've been helpful. These are also excluded from my Nat Geo guide, however I have no doubt Sibley has included them in his comprehensive field guide. For the price, artwork, and the quality and breadth of information provided, this is definitely the book I'd recommend highest to any serious birder looking to gain familiarity with Western species.

My husband loves looking up new birds. This book has them all, except for the East birds who don't know they don't belong in the west!

Always good to have references on birds and this one being specific to birds of the western US is particularly relevant.

Great book. Recommended by birders. Good illustrations and information.

This was my first birding book, but it's great for hiking in Southern California. Perfect size to toss in a pack. You could probably jam it into a cargo pocket. After a once through, the book is very intuitive and makes finding birds pretty quick. I definitely recommend it.

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