

THE WINTER SEASON . WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI

North American Birds

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF ORNITHOLOGICAL RECORD PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION



VOLUME 59: NO. 2, 2005 • DECEMBER 2004 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2005



DIALOG WITH NATURE

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ON THE COVER: Between February 2004 and February 2005, a half-dozen or more sight reports of Ivory-billed Woodpecker have come from Bayou de View, within the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge just outside of Brinkley, Arkansas. In all of these sightings, the woodpecker has managed to elude cameras and has been seen mostly in flight. Though the bird also refused to sit for a painting, artist Evan Barbour visited the Bayou de View in April 2005 and rendered this watercolor portrait of a male Ivory-billed. Painting by © Evan Barbour.



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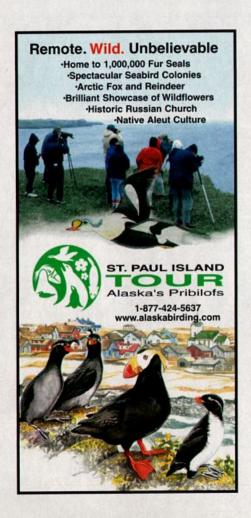
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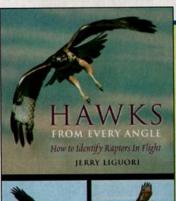
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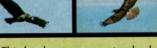
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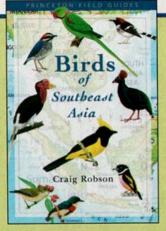
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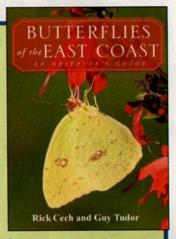
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20 October-2 November 2005.

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11-23 June, 2006.

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16-23 March 2006

Location:

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1-6 May 2006

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8-13 May 2006

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Ornithology for Birders

16-20 May 2006

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Instructors:

David Bird and Rodger Titman

Birding by Ear

5-10 June 2006

Location:

White Mountains, NH

Instructor:

Mark Suomala

Caribbean Seabirds

18-24 June 2006

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San Salvador, Bahamas

Instructors:

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Sparrows

26-30 June 2006

Location:

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Jim Rising and David Beadle

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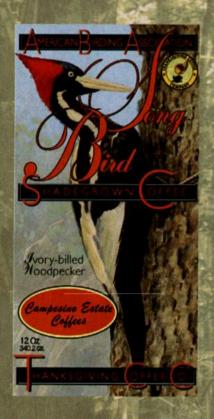
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ne of the rarest, most beautiful, and most mysterious birds in the world, the Ivory-billed Woodpecker has reappeared in the deep swamp forests of Arkansas. Feared extinct for decades, the species may also persist elsewhere within its former range, as significant remnants of the great southern forests are being protected and nurtured back to their former glory. The magnificent Ivory-billed Woodpecker speaks to us about our past, and about hopes for our future. This was a bird of the ancient forests. When we clear-cut the old growth southern forests, humans virtually eliminated the special haunts of this magnificent species. By securing and restoring large expanses of forest across the southern U.S. and allowing these places to grow old in their natural condition, we can hope that one day Ivory-billed Woodpeckers will again grace the treetops of our great southern forests.

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