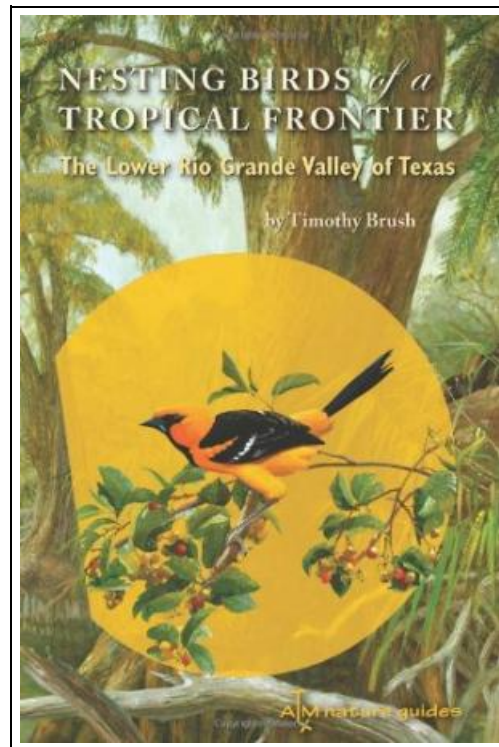


Nesting Birds of a Tropical Frontier: The Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas



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NESTING BIRDS OF A TROPICAL FRONTIER: THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY OF TEXAS

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Texas A M University Press, United States, 2005. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 234 x 155 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Halfway between Dallas and Mexico City, along the last few hundred miles of the Rio Grande, lies a subtropical outpost where people come from all over the world to see birds. Located between the temperate north and the tropic south, with desert to the west and ocean to the east, the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas provides habitat for a variety of birds seen nowhere else in the United States. If you want to see a Hooked-billed Kite, Muscovy Duck, or Altamira Oriole, this is the place. Drawing on years of personal observation and study, Timothy Brush has written a classic work of natural history about the little-known breeding bird communities of the Valley and the diversity of nesting strategies and behaviors that can be seen. Brush estimates that there are more than 150 current breeding species in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. In *Nesting Birds of a Tropical Frontier*, he describes the habits, distribution, changes in occurrence, and general outlook of these as well as former breeders, concentrating on Valley specialties and other birds of particular interest in the Valley. The species are all dependent upon appropriate habitat, from riparian forest to mesquite savannah, and Brush describes the history of these habitats and the special features that keep the birds coming. He also discusses conservation and the need for both large-scale land acquisitions by public and private groups and small-scale restoration through urban parks and individual landscaping. Art by Gerald Sneed and color photographs by several of Texas top nature photographers show off some of the Valley's famous birds. Historical maps of vegetation and geology help us gain a better perspective on the changes...

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