



First nest of
Cypseloides storeri,
White-fronted Swift

Eric G. Horvath

USA



White-fronted Swift

rarely seen, little known

Field Identification Marks:

- **White lores & forehead**
- **White chin**
- **White post-ocular spot**



White-fronted Swift

Hard to identify in flight: similar appearance to Chestnut-collared and Black Swifts

Luke Seitz 19 Mar 2021



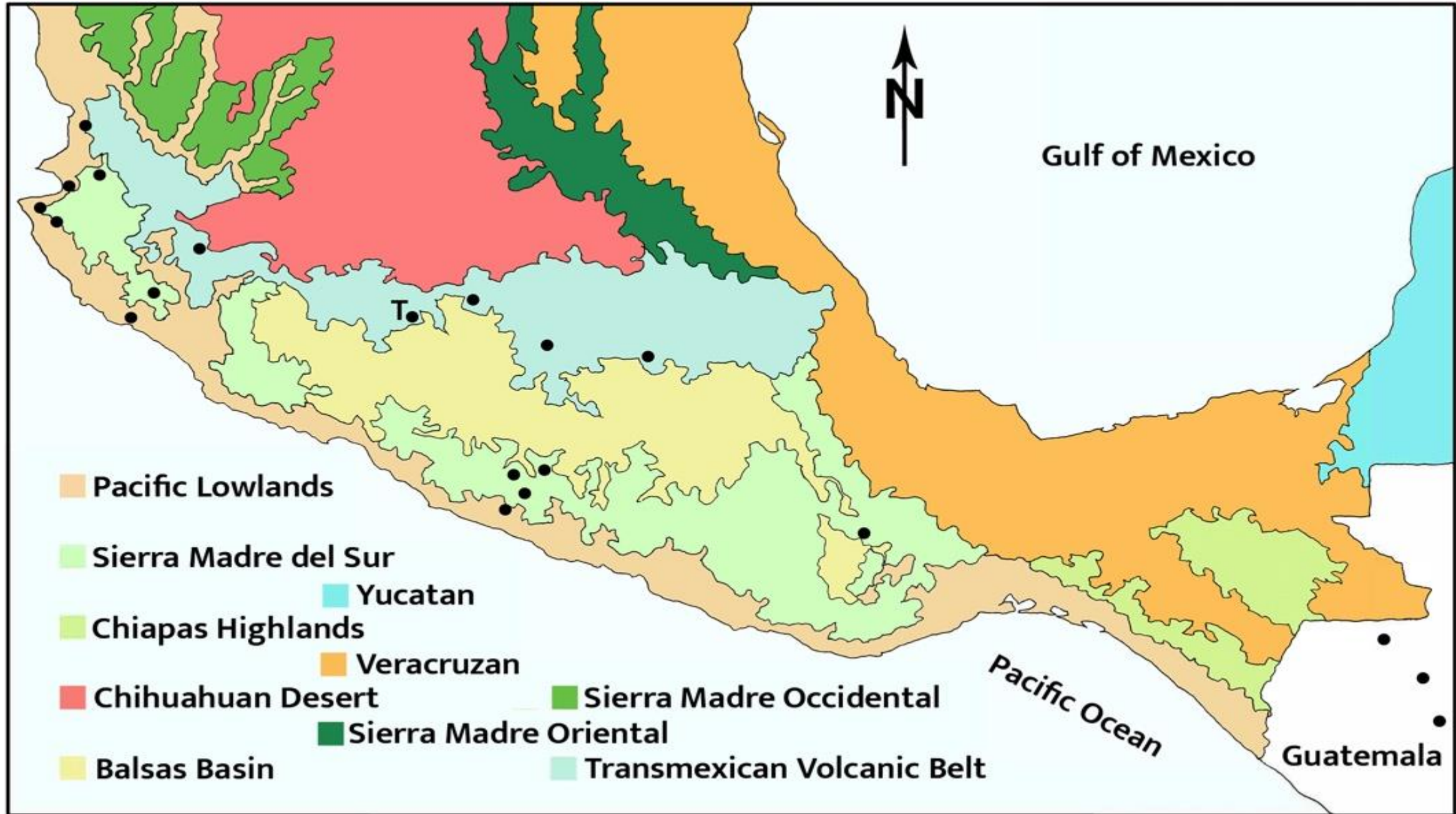
Photos eBird mass ~40g

Daniel Garza Tobón 9 July 2022

White-fronted
Swift
occurs in
Mexico



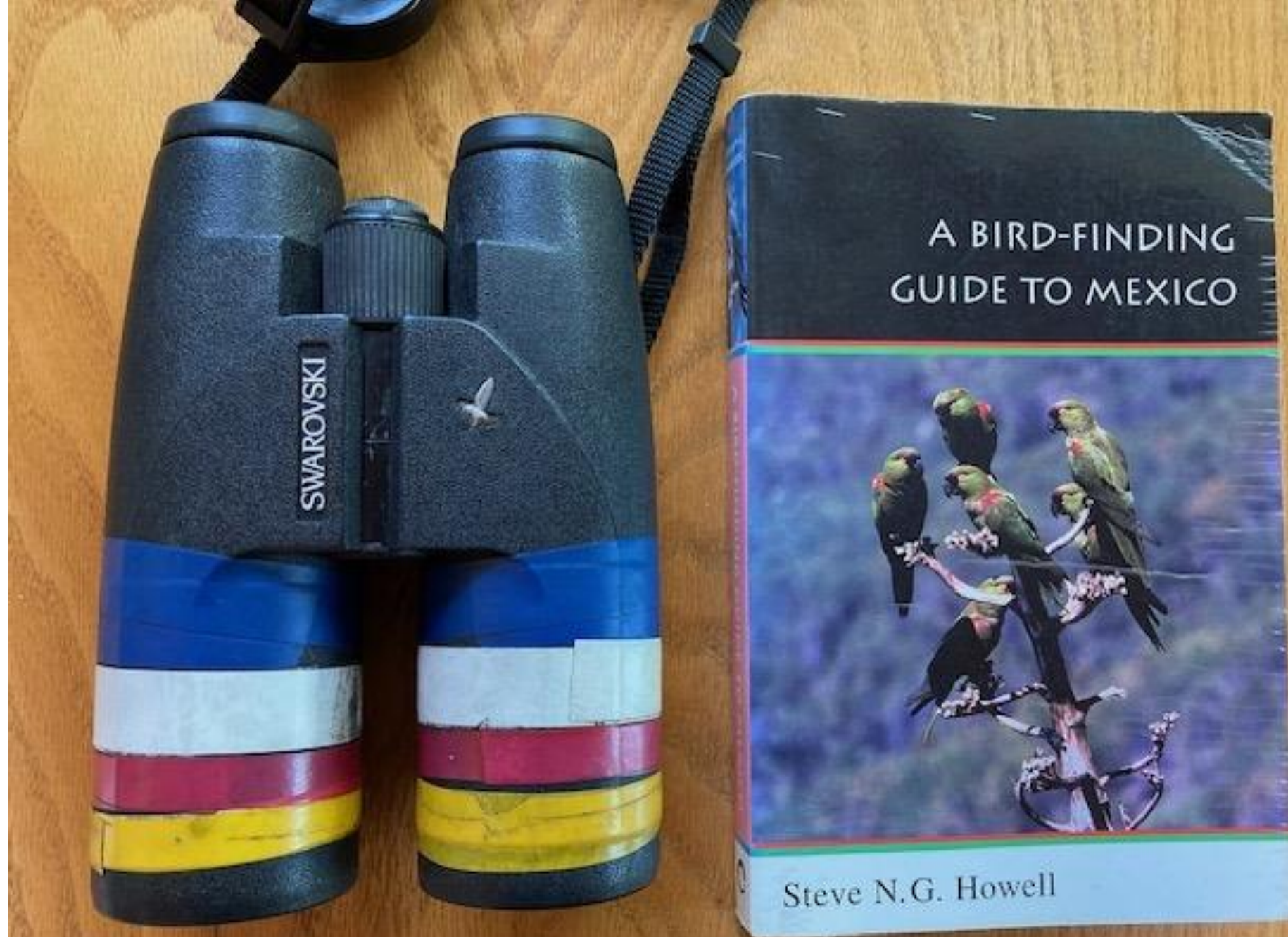
ECOREGIONS OF MEXICO, dots are records



Bird Guidebook

where to find
White-fronted
Swift:

Tacámbaro,
Michoacán,
Mexico



White-fronted Swift nest search

- Where?
- **Tacámbaro,
Mexico**
- When?
- **Rainy Season**
- **(begins June)**
- Photo eBird, Andrew Spencer





Methods: search with telescope,
careful scanning of waterfall cliff

White-fronted Swift

- Nest at Salto de Agua, Yoricostio, Michoacán, Mexico
- Waterfall (~15m height)
- Under forest canopy of tall pines and oaks
- Also nesting here 1 pair of White-naped Swifts, *Streptoprocne semicollaris*



White-naped Swift, *Streptoprocne semicollaris*

- Nesting at same waterfall
- Largest swift in New World
- 180g
- Feeding nestling
- White on nape (back of neck)





White-fronted Swift

- Nest location: Salto de Agua, Yoricostio, Michoacán, Mexico
- Nest concealed behind main flow of water
- 2.7 m above plunge pool



- Yoricostio
- Nest
- Wingtips visible







White-fronted Swift

- Nest at Salto de Agua, Yoricostio, Michoacán, Mexico
- 30 June 2022
- Neither nest nor bird was collected
- Diagnostic photo is sufficient documentation



Nest Found!

Elation!

Salto Santa Paula,
Tacámbaro,
Michoacán

Second nest
discovered





Salto Santa Paula, Tacámbaro

- Nest location circled
- 1 m from main flow
- In dry area under a rock roof

White-fronted Swifts nesting at Salta Santa Paula, Tacámbaro





Results

White-fronted Swift nest

- Moss and mud, no saliva
- One nestling
- Nest at Salto de Agua, Yoricostio, Michoacan, Mexico
- 30 June 2022

Conclusions

photo eBird, Brian Gibbons



- White-fronted Swifts nest at waterfalls, like other *Cypseloides*
- Nesting season begins in June with the beginning of Rainy Season, same as other tropical *Cypseloides*
- 1 nestling observed matches clutch size of 1 egg, known for other *Cypseloides*
- Breeding of White-fronted Swift *Cypseloides storeri* in Michoacán, Mexico. 2024. Eric G. Horvath. Bull. British Ornithological Club 2024 144 (3), 134-138, in press.