



GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER

BY SHARON BEALS

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary
United States
Golden-cheeked Warbler
Dendroica chrysoparia
Kerr, Texas, collected in 1896
American Museum of Natural History

Golden-cheeked Warblers nest only in the juniper-oak woodlands of central Texas. The female binds strips of juniper bark with spider webs and cocoons into a small open cup, lining it with fine grass, hair, plant down, fur or feathers; this nest is adorned with cardinal plumage. Increased timber harvesting in Texas as well as their winter habitats in Central America have hastened this species decline. Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge and other habitat preserves have been created to protect these little warblers, as well as the Black-capped Vireo, and other species of wildlife.

The nests were photographed in four science co...