

TREE SWALLOW NEST

BY SHARON BEALS

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Contemporary
United States
Tree Swallow
Tachycineta bicolor

Collected from Tatoosh Island, Clallam County, Washington, 1995
The Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates

These iridescent aerialists nest in cavities of older trees and snags, often those created by woodpeckers. Goose feathers insulate this loose cup of grass and twigs found in one of these natural nesting sites, which have been disappearing over the past 200 years. They will readily occupy nest boxes as substitutes if they are placed near sources of insects, the mainstay of their diet.

The nests were photographed in four science collections: The California Academy of Sciences, The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, The Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, the Cornell Museum of Vertebrates, and the American Museum of

Natural History.
Subject Details:
Tachycineta bicolor
Cornell University Museum of Vertebrates
CUMV 48354
USA: Washington:Clallam County; Tatoosh Island, 1995
Most likely Canada Goose Feathers

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