

A Klechioneries Clarence

Black Tern

A relative of the gull, the long-winged, web-footed tern is found from East British Columbia to New Brunswick, south to central California, Nebraska and Western Kentucky. More delicate than the sea gull, this long, slender bird ordinarily sits on the shore or floating objects, walks little, and feeds either on the wing or by plunging into the water.

The Black Tern nests inland in marshes and along reed-bordered lakes in a small, loose colony. These graceful birds engage in a lovely courtship flight flying high and fast, then sweeping down to the marsh on set wing with the trailing bird holding a constant distance, as if being towed.

Both the male and female tern share domestic duties, tending the eggs and feeding the young.

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