

Habitat Restoration to Benefit Southwestern Willow Flycatchers: What do we Know, and is it Enough?

The Southwestern Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) is an endangered riparian obligate that continues to decline in California. Although sympatric with the endangered Least Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*), flycatchers have not responded to management that has produced a 10-fold increase in vireo numbers over the last 25 years. This suggests that factors limiting the two species are different, and a closer look at habitat requirements of flycatchers is warranted to guide preservation and restoration actions. This presentation will discuss habitat use by flycatchers at multiple spatial scales and summarize our knowledge of patterns in territory and nest site selection. Factors such as association with surface water and use of various plant species for nest support will be considered, and integrated into recommendations for creating and prioritizing opportunities to restore habitat to benefit willow flycatchers.