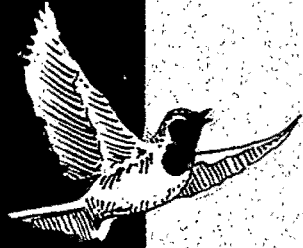
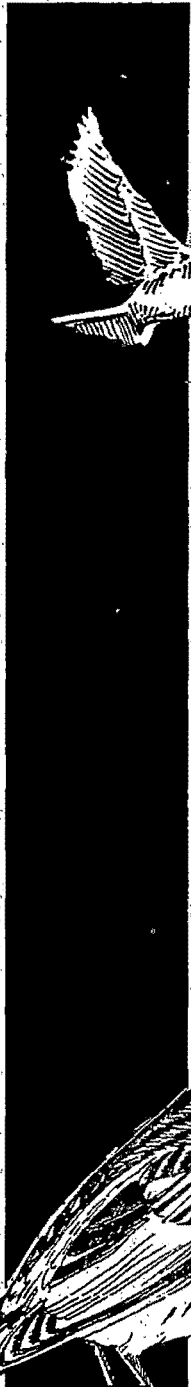


OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHERS: FROM CATEGORY 2 TO SPECIES OF CONCERN

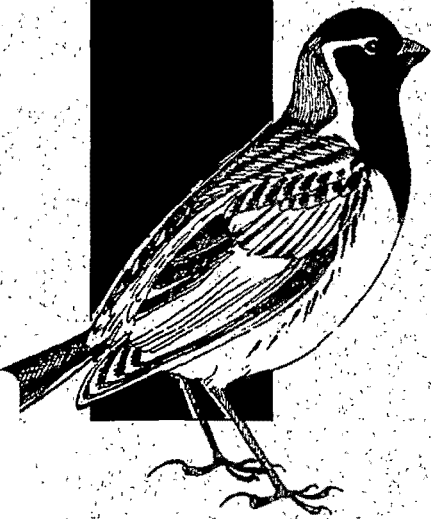
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The Olive-sided Flycatcher was added to the Category 2 list of candidates for threatened or endangered status by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) in 1993. In 1995, "Category 2" was eliminated nation-wide and within Region 7 (Alaska) FWS Endangered Species office Olive-sideds became a *Species of Concern*. Also in 1995, Olive-sideds were included in a list of *Migratory Nongame Birds of Management Concern in the U.S.* by the Office of Migratory Bird Management, FWS. Significant declines on Breeding Bird Surveys and threats to both wintering and breeding habitat are reasons for concern. Field studies begun in 1994 focused on singing and breeding behavior relevant to monitoring programs. Olive-sideds sang to attract mates, with lower singing rates during pairing and nest initiation (most initial pairing/nesting between 27 May-5 June). Following initiation of a first nest, males moved from 340-700m from first nest to a second singing area, though no polygyny was observed. Nine territories ranged in size from 14.7 to 23.1 ha, averaging 18.6 ha. Most were long and narrow, aligned along drainages in conifer forest/open woodland/muskeg habitat. Nests were located on branches of black or white spruce trees from 3.5-12m above the ground (ave. of 9 = 7.1m) in trees from 6-16m tall (ave. of 9 = 9.6m). In contrast, singing perches were atop taller, dominant conifers averaging 18.0m (n=49); canopy height around nest and perch trees averaged 13.1m (n=58). Breeding success was poor, young were fledged on only 2 of 10 territories monitored near Fairbanks in 1995. A female, 1 of 2 female and 1 male adults color-banded at 1 nest in 1994, returned to the same breeding territory in 1995.

Key words: Olive-sided Flycatcher, *Contopus borealis*, species of concern, singing behavior, breeding biology, breeding habitat



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