

REVEALING THE MIGRATORY PATH AND WINTERING AREAS OF OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHERS THAT BREED IN ALASKA

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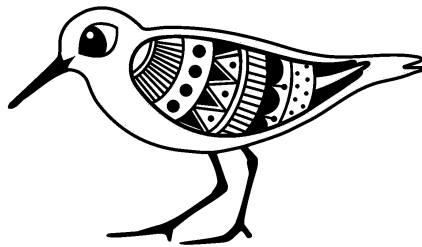
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The Olive-sided Flycatcher (OSFL; *Contopus cooperi*) is a neotropical migrant of long-standing concern, due to a 76% decline in North America over the last 40 years. Documenting the annual migratory path of OSFL is fundamental to understanding threats and taking appropriate conservation actions. In 2013 we began a multi-year effort to deploy light-level geolocators on adults breeding in central and southcentral Alaska. As of 2016, 15 recovered units have revealed the first information on OSFL migration, including linkages between breeding, stopover and wintering locations. Birds from both central and southcentral Alaska wintered in two general areas: Ecuador and Southern Peru. During spring migration, birds stopped more frequently for prolonged (6–13 day) periods in Central America, southern and eastern Mexico, the Pacific Northwest and western Canada. In contrast, fall migration involved rapid southward movement along the east side of the Rocky Mountains, with stops in southern Texas, southern Mexico and Central America. Recovery of Pinpoint GPS units in the future promises to reveal more specific geographic locations and habitats that support OSFL during their remarkable 22,000 km (~13,500 mi) annual migration.

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