

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER
(*EMPIDONAX HAMMONDII*)

Navajo/Federal Statuses: NESL G4 / MBTA; not listed under the ESA.

Distribution: Breeding range extends from central AK and western Canada south to central CA, and northern AZ and NM; winters in southeastern AZ, Mexico, and Central America. On Navajo Nation, only known nesting occurs in Chuska Mountains; potential also on Black Mesa and Navajo Mountain.

Habitat: Breeds in nearly all high-elevation (2-3,000 m) forest types, including monotypic Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine, and aspen, also mixed-conifer and aspen/conifer types; stands are typically dense old-growth with cool micro-climates. Migration habitat is less restrictive, but preferably mid-elevation forest and riparian habitats.

Similar Species: All other *Empidonax* flycatchers, but *E.hammondii* is unique in its high-elevation-conifer nesting and song. Western Wood Pewee is slightly larger and lacks a white eye-ring; Olive-sided Flycatcher is slightly larger, has dark chest patches, and white tuft on rump.

Phenology:

m.MAY-e.JUN: arrival to breeding area, courtship, nest-building
 e.JUN-m.JUL: egg laying, incubation (15 days)
 m.JUN-e.AUG: nestling period (16-18 days)
 e.JUL-m.AUG: fledging of young
 l.JUL-e.SEP: dispersal of young (20 days post-fledging)
 m.AUG-e.OCT: migration to wintering area

Survey Method: ≥1 pedestrian survey with broadcast of taped vocalization in suitable habitat during 1 JUN-15 JUL.

Avoidance: No activity within 0.2 km (1/8 mi) of active nest during 15 MAY-15 AUG; buffer may be less depending on activity type and duration, but not less than 0.1 km; no habitat alteration year-round within 0.2 km of nest site (=12 ha or 30 acre).

References:

Sedgwick, J.A. 1994. Hammond's Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondii*). In The Birds of North America, No.109 (A.Poole and F.Gill, Eds.). Philadelphia: The Academy of Natural Sciences; Washington, D.C.: The American Ornithologists' Union. (description p.2)