

May 16, 2016

Public Comments Processing

Attn: Docket No. FWS–R2–ES–2016–0039

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MS: BPHC

5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041-3803

**Re: Delisting Petition for the Southwest Willow Flycatcher**

To whom it may concern,

The Tucson Audubon Society is a nonprofit 501c3 conservation organization that “inspires people to enjoy and protect birds through recreation, education, conservation, and restoration of the environment upon which we all depend.” Founded in 1949, Tucson Audubon became a member chapter of the National Audubon Society in 1964, participates in the nationwide Audubon Urban Chapter Network and is now the third largest chapter in the United States. Tucson Audubon, in coordination with the National Audubon Society and BirdLife International, founded the Arizona Important Bird Area (IBA) Program in 2001. Tucson Audubon has since partnered with Audubon Arizona to continue to identify and protect a network of IBAs that provide vital habitats for common and threatened birds living within or migrating through Arizona. Tucson Audubon maintains the Arizona IBA database and co-administrates the Program with Arizona Audubon’s Director of Bird Conservation.

At this time Tucson Audubon is opposed to de-listing the Southwest Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) from the list of threatened and endangered species. Tucson Audubon endorses the National Audubon Society’s comment letter regarding Docket No. FWS–R2–ES–2016–0039, in particular as it applies to Arizona.

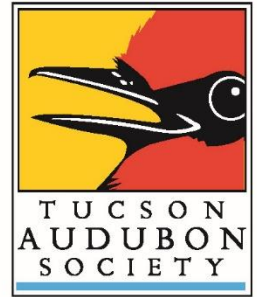
Sincerely,



Karen Fogas

Executive Director

Tucson Audubon Society



*Leaders in conservation  
and education since 1949*

*Main Office*  
300 E. University Blvd., #120  
Tucson AZ 85705  
TEL 520.629.0510  
FAX 520.623.3476

*Tucson Audubon's Mason Center*  
3835 W Hardy Road  
Tucson AZ 85742

Karen Fogas  
*Executive Director*  
TEL 520.209.1801  
kfogas@tucsonaudubon.org