Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)

Specialist Recommendation:

Potential SCC:

SELECT FROM: YES/NO

Rationale

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Regional Summary:

FILLED OUT BY REGIONAL STAFF ONLY

Species conservation status and occurrence records[1]

What, if any, are the scientific name synonyms for the species?

Current and historic synonyms for *Contopus cooperi* are: *Contopus borealis and Nuttallornis borealis* (GBIF Secretariat 2023. via USDA Forest Service 2025).

Conservation Status

Table 1. Conservation status.

Conservation List	Status
NatureServe Global Rank	G4
NatureServe Idaho State Rank	S3B
NatureServe Montana State Rank	None
USFS Region 1 Sensitive Species List	No
Idaho State Wildlife Action Plan	No
Montana State Wildlife Action Plan	No
Endangered Species Act Status	None

Occurrence Records

Table 2. Occurrence records by data source.

Data Source	Number of Observations
GBIF	219
SEINet	0
Bird Conservancy of the Rockies	128
Idaho NHP	58
Montana NHP	704

[1] Unless otherwise stated information comes from USDA Forest Service 2025

Data Source	Number of Observations
Forest Service	0

Year of first and last observation for all occurrence data:

First: 1969, Last: 2024

Species' Native Range

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Is the species native to, and known to occur in, the plan area?

Yes. plan area is in breeding range, 704 observation and last observed in 2024

Species information

Species Current Range Size and Configuration

What is the size of the species' range?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, SELECT FROM AND ADD SUPPORTING TEXT AS NEEDED:

Large (i.e., roughly the area of the continental U.S. or larger), Moderate (i.e., roughly ½ the area of the continental U.S.), Regional Endemic (i.e., occupying roughly the area of 2-6 states), State Endemic (i.e., only known to occur in the state overlapping the plan area but occupying an area larger than the environs of the plan area), Local Endemic (i.e., a state endemic only found within the plan area and the surrounding counties), Unknown (no modeled range map could be found for the species)

Is the portion of the species' range that overlaps the plan area disjunct from the main range of the species (i.e., the range overlapping the plan area is smaller and not connected to the larger range of the species)?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, SELECT FROM AND ADD SUPPORTING TEXT AS NEEDED:

No, Unknown (no modeled range map could be found for the species), Yes, Yes – disjunct breeding population, Yes – disjunct non-breeding population, Yes – disjunct year-round population.

Does the plan area transect the edge of the species modeled range?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, SELECT FROM AND ADD SUPPORTING TEXT AS NEEDED:

No, Unknown (no modeled range map could be found for the species), Yes, Yes – edge of breeding range, Yes – edge of non-breeding range, Yes – edge of year-round range, Yes – edge of breeding and non-breeding range, Species range does not overlap the plan area; see rationale for "known to occur."

Range Summary

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT.

Species' Landscape-scale Habitat

What are the landscape-scale habitat types or ecosystems the species occupies based on Best Available Scientific Information (BASI), including literature from outside of the plan area?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS; CHECK OUTPUT FOR ACCURACY OR DELETE "NO HABITAT" STATEMENT; MODIFY AND ADD SUPPORTING TEXT AS NEEDED.

BRIEF SUMMARY: Olive-sided flycatchers breed in various forest and woodland habitats: taiga, subalpine coniferous forest, mixed coniferous-deciduous forest, burned-over forest, spruce or tamarack bogs and other forested wetlands, and along the forested edges of lakes, ponds, and streams Most nesting sites contain dead standing trees, which are used as singing and feeding perches. Nests are placed most often in conifers, on horizontal limbs 2-15 meters from the ground. During the northern winter, this species occurs in a variety of forest, woodland, and open situations with scattered trees, especially where tall dead snags are present.BREEDING: in forest and woodland, especially in burned-over areas with standing dead trees, in taiga, subalpine coniferous forest and mixed coniferous-deciduous forest (AOU 1983). In Ontario, they nest in spruce or tamarack bogs, along the forested edges of beaver (Castor canadensis) ponds and rivers, and in burned-over forests (Cheskey 1987). In New York, however, where forest fires have been suppressed for much of this century, they favor small bog ponds and quaking bogs, swampy edges of lakes, marshy streams, backwaters of rivers, and beaver meadows. Most nesting sites contain dead standing trees, which are used as singing and feeding perches, and are bordered by forest (Peterson 1988). Birds also use small mountaintop ponds. Forests surrounding these sites are usually coniferous or mixed with deciduous trees. Black spruce (Picea mariana) is frequently mentioned as occurring at northern sites, and red spruce (P. rubens) at sites farther south, along with balsam fir, tamarack, and eastern hemlock (Tsuga canadensis) (Peterson 1988). Forbush (1927) and Griscom and Snyder (1955) mentioned that in southern New England, pitch pine (Pinus rigida) habitats, including pine barrens, are preferred for nesting. Nesting occurs in swamps and open woods or small clearings where fire, flooding or timber harvesting have left standing dead trees (Forbush 1927). High elevation spruce-fir forests are used in the mountains of Virginia and North Carolina (Bailey 1913, Potter et al. 1980). Nests are placed most often in conifers (Harrison 1978, 1979), on horizontal limbs from two to 15 m from the ground (Harrison 1979, Peck and James 1987). In Ontario, nests were found in black and white spruce (Picea glauca) (14 nests), jack pine (Pinus banksiana) (two nests), and balsam fir (one nest) (Peck and James 1987). Adirondack nests were built on an outer branch from 7.6-13.7 m high in balsam fir or spruce (Peterson 1988). Even though the nest is bulky, it is well concealed and rather difficult to find. NON-BREEDING: Includes a variety of forest, woodland, and open situations with scattered trees, especially where tall dead snags are present (AOU 1983). Primary habitat is mature, evergreen montane forest (Altman 1997). Migrants in Costa Rica occur almost anywhere, in exposed snags and open branches; in winter mostly around edges and clearings, or broken canopy of highland forest and semi-open areas (Stiles and Skutch 1989). (NatureServe 2025 via USDA Forest Service 2025)

Based on BASI about the landscape-scale habitat types or ecosystems the species occupies, what landscape-scale habitat types or ecosystems in the plan area are likely to support the species?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS; CHECK OUTPUT FOR ACCURACY; MODIFY HABITAT LIST AND ADD SUPPORTING TEXT AS NEEDED

Conifer, Hardwood, Shrubland, Forested/Shrub Riparian, Herbaceous Riparian, Freshwater Emergent Wetland, Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland

What is the distribution, abundance, and quality of those habitat types or ecosystems?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Does the species respond uniquely to landscape-scale habitat threats and trends, and if so, how?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Species Fine-scale Habitat

What are the fine-scale habitat features or conditions that the species relies on?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

What are the threats and trends for the fine-scale habitat features this species relies on (distribution, abundance, and quality), both within and beyond the plan area?

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Population

Abundance and distribution of species in the plan area

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Population trend of species on and off the plan area

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

The USGS estimates population trend with data from the North American Breeding Bird Survey collected from 1966 to 2022. In Northern Rockies Bird Conservation Region (S10) the trend is decreasing with a trend of -2.299% [95% CI -3.221%, -1.415%], in Idaho the trend is uncertain with a trend of -0.676% [95% CI -2.568%, 1.283%], in Montana the trend is uncertain with a trend of -0.811% [95% CI -2.373%, 0.761%], and in the United States the trend is decreasing with a trend of -1.83% [95% CI -2.305%, -1.373%] (Hostelter et al. 2025 via USDA Forest Service 2025).

Based on available eBird data, the range-wide trend for the North America breeding season (21 June to 26 July) suggest a 7% median increase in abundance (16.8 upper 90th quartile, 4.1 lower 10th quartile). The following maps are for the North America breeding season. The time period used to generate these trends is from 2012 to 2022 (Johnston et al. 2023 via USDA Forest Service 2025).

Surveys were conducted by the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies on the White River National Forests. Analysis of survey results produces a trend estimate that represents the per year percent change in population for a given stratum. Estimates are considered robust if the F-statistic is greater than or equal to 0.9 and uncertain if the F-statistic is less than 0.9. Surveys reported the following trends by strata for

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Bitterroot National Forest (BRF) estimated an uncertain median density population trend of 4.65% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=132, f=NA)] per year and estimated an uncertain median occupancy trend of 1.67% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=95, f=NA)] per year from 2014 to 2024; Montana (MT) estimated an uncertain median density population trend of NA% [95% CL 4.23%, 11.26%, (n=1,480, f=NA)] per year and estimated an uncertain median occupancy trend of NA% [95% CL 4.98%, 12.51%, (n=950, f=NA)] per year from 2010 to 2024; Montana (MT) estimated an uncertain median density population trend of NA% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=1,480, f=NA)] per year and estimated an uncertain median occupancy trend of NA% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=950, f=NA)] per year from 2010 to 2024; USFS Region 1 National Forests (USFS R1) estimated an uncertain median density population trend of NA% [95% CL 4.05%, 9.64%, (n=2,085, f=NA)] per year and estimated an uncertain median occupancy trend of NA% [95% CL 4.42%, 9.7%, (n=1,314, f=NA)] per year from 2010 to 2024; USFS Region 1 National Forests (USFS R1) estimated an uncertain median density population trend of 6.73% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=2,085, f=NA)] per year and estimated an uncertain median occupancy trend of 7.04% [95% CL NA%, NA%, (n=1,314, f=NA)] per year from 2010 to 2024 (Reese et al. 2024 via USDA Forest Service 2025).

Threats to populations that are not habitat-related (on or off the plan area)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Natural and Life History Characteristics that Inform Species Persistence

Life history strategy

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

Ecological specialization

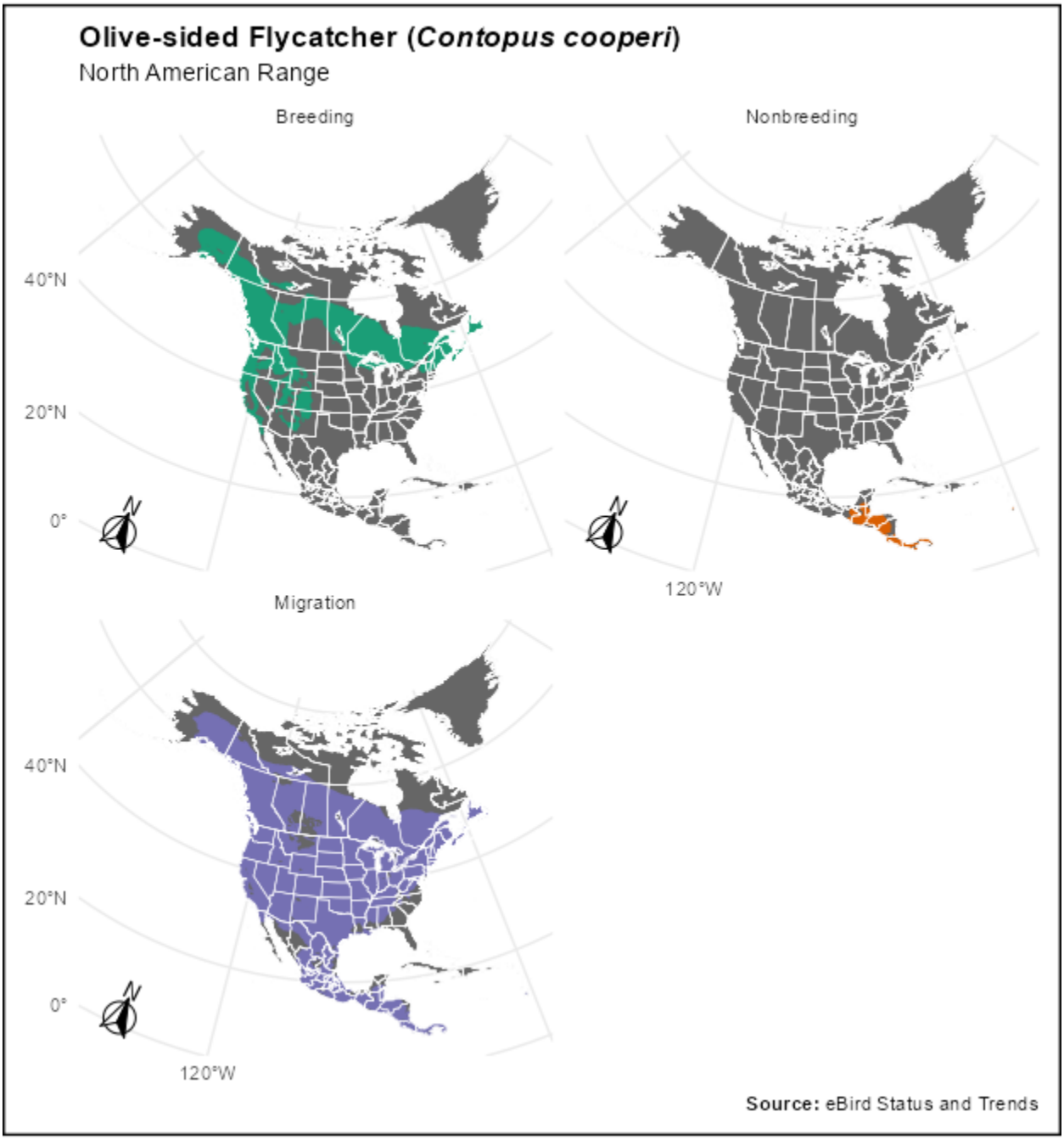
SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

References

SEE INSTRUCTIONS, ADD TEXT

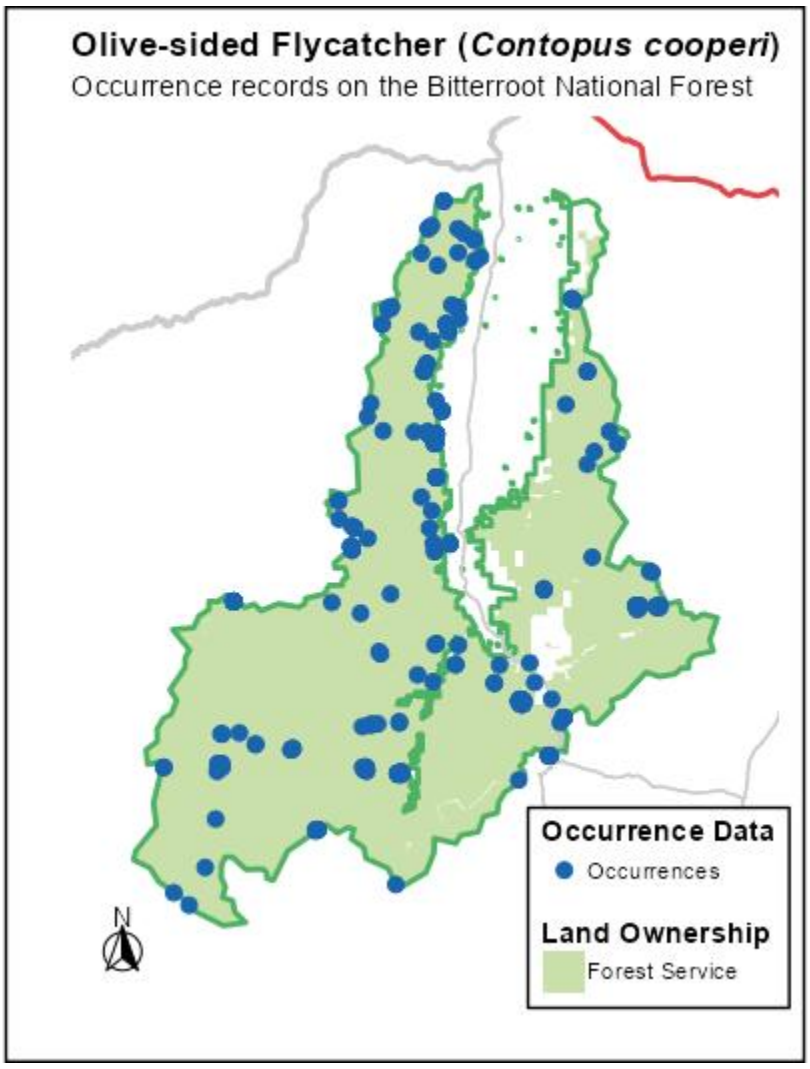
Maps (FOR REFERENCE ONLY - DELETE BEFORE PUBLISHING)

Range Maps



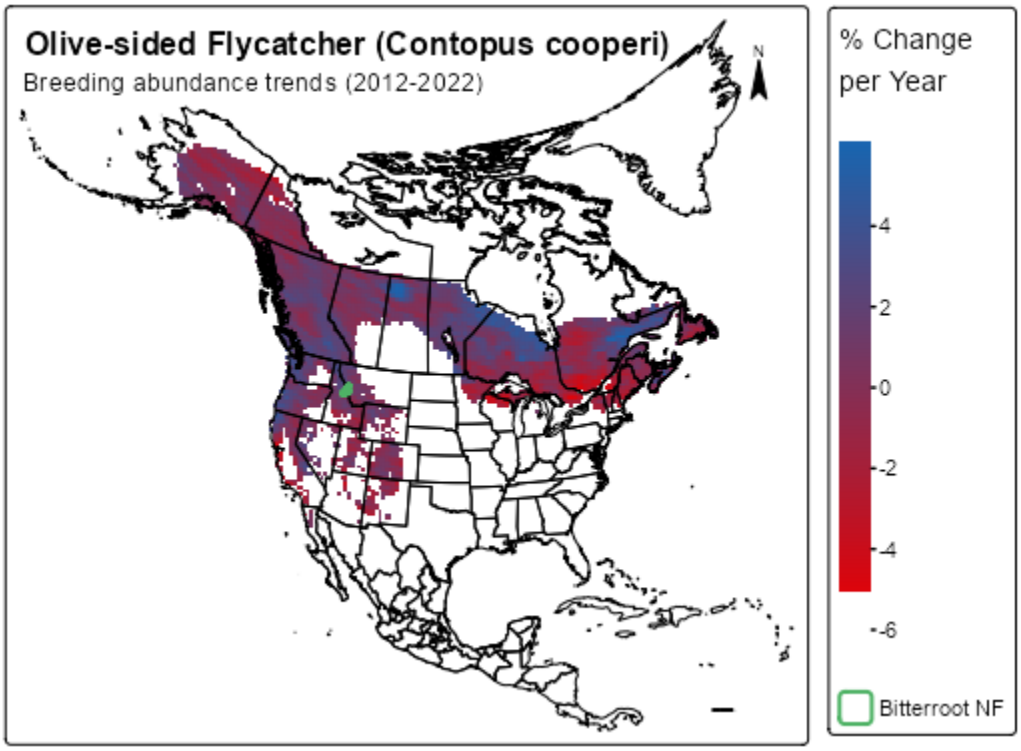
North American Seasonal Ranges

Occurrence Map

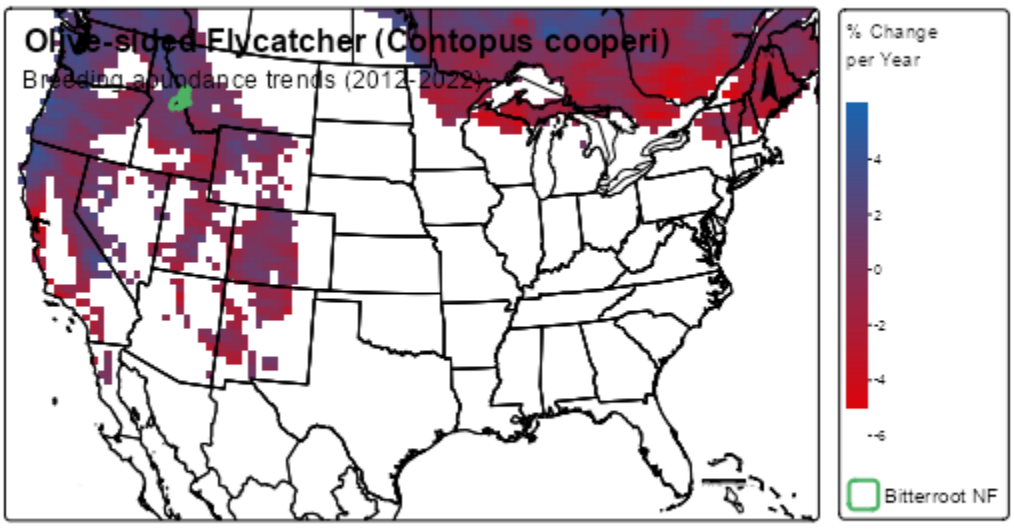


Occurrence records on Bitterroot National Forest.

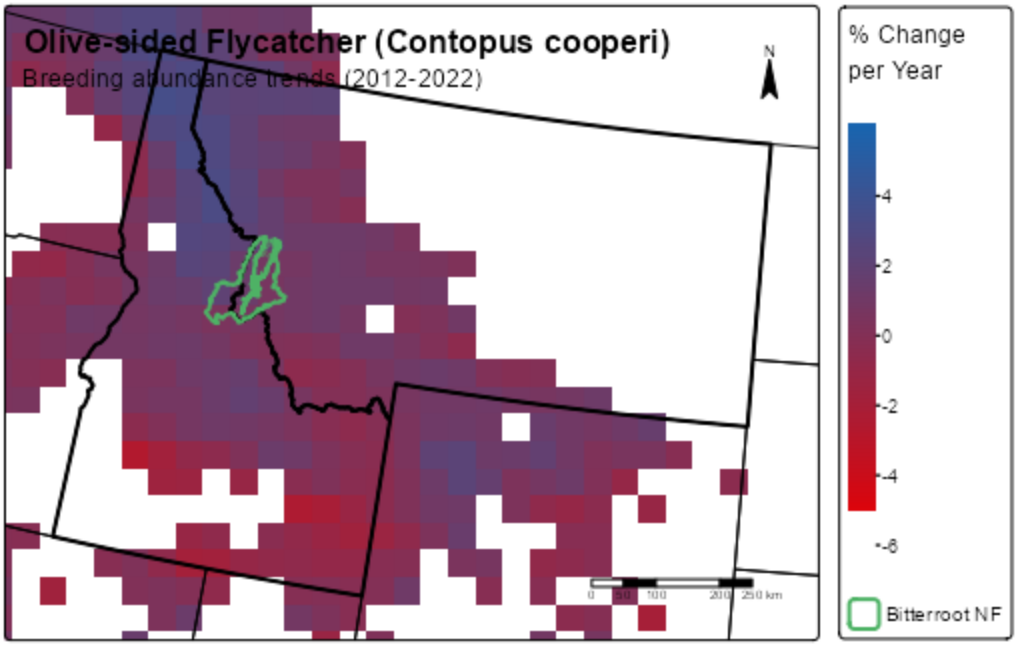
Trend Maps



eBird abundance trends for North America.



eBird abundance trends for the continental United States.



eBird abundance trends for the State of Colorado.