

Project Summary
Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Neotropical Bird Habitat Assessment Study, Fort Wainwright, Alaska

Type of Project: Research

Project Discipline: Natural

Funding Agency: Department of Defense

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Effective Dates: 9/24/2014 - 9/30/2017

Funding Amount: \$464,137

Investigators and Agency Representative:

Agency:

Investigator: Cal Bagley, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO; (970)491-3324; Calvin.Bagley@ColoState.EDU

Project Abstract: Many species of neotropical birds such as olive-sided flycatchers and rusty blackbirds are in decline, probably due to widespread mismatch in insect emergence and spring arrival. Rusty blackbirds have experienced a 90% decrease in their population across the boreal forest of Canada and Alaska. These aerial insectivores, as well as many others, are species of concern identified by DOD Partners in Flight, Audubon Alaska, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game. The Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex EIS (2013) requires investigation into the effects of increased development, such as noise, on neotropical songbirds. In addition, the Alaska Army Lands Withdrawal Renewal EIS (1999) states that bird surveys will continue on withdrawn lands to identify habitat areas for neotropical migrants. Species of concern such as aerial insectivores would be priority species for these required surveys.

Outcomes with completion dates: 9/30/2018

Keywords: neotropical birds, surveys, habitat use, Fort Wainwright, Alaska, Colorado State University, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands