location on the lower San Pedro River apparently supported relatively large numbers of *E. t. extimus* in the 1940's (G. Monson, private individual, *in litt.* 1993 and pers. comm. 1993), but only a single pair in 1978 and 1979, and none in 1986 (Unitt 1987). Following habitat improvements at this locale, six to seven singing males were present in 1993, and a total of 11 singing males were located at two other locations on the lower San Pedro in 1993 (Muiznieks *et al.* 1994).

Historically occupied habitat on the upper San Pedro River is in the process of rehabilitation, but remains unoccupied by nesting E. t. extimus (Krueper and Corman 1988, D. Krueper unpubl. data). Two small groups at high elevations in the White Mountains, comprising approximately five singing males each, have remained relatively stable numerically from 1985 to 1993 (Muiznieks et al. 1994, Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD), unpubl. data). At a site on the Verde River in central Arizona where R. Ohmart (unpubl. data) observed four nesting pairs in 1992, one pair and one single male were present in 1993. The single nest produced only a cowbird young. Of 13 river reaches in Arizona studied by Hunter et al. (1987), nesting E. t. extimus were extirpated from eight, declining in two, and present in stable numbers in three.

Statewide surveys in 1993 located between 42 and 56 territorial males, and all nest sites were considered vulnerable to habitat loss and cowbird parasitism (Muiznieks et al. 1994). Preliminary data from 1994 surveys indicate that approximately 70 to 80 breeding pairs were found at a total of 12 locations in the State. This included the discovery of a group of flycatchers at one location consisting of approximately 15 breeding pairs. Brood parasitism by cowbirds was documented at at least six (50%) of those 12 sites. Brown-headed cowbirds were documented at all 12 breeding locations (Arizona Game and Fish Department, in prep.).

Where information on population trends since the mid-1980's is available, most areas show declines and/or high rates of cowbird parasitism. In early 1993, catastrophic flooding on the Verde, Gila, and San Pedro Rivers temporarily damaged many sites inhabited since the mid-1980's, and much potential habitat. Unitt (1987) concluded that "Probably the steepest decline in the population levels of *E. t.* extimus has occurred in Arizona \* *E. t.* extimus has been extirpated from much of the area from which it was originally described, the riparian woodlands of southern Arizona." The

State of Arizona classifies the willow flycatcher as endangered (AGFD 1988).

New Mexico. Bailey (1928) classified breeding willow flycatchers in New Mexico as E. t. brewsteri, according to Oberholser's (1918) taxonomy of that time. Because of few records at that time, she believed that either the bird was rare or was overlooked by most observers and collectors. More recently, Hubbard (1987) reviewed and summarized the flycatcher's status in New Mexico. He classified breeding birds in the State as E. t. extimus and reported breeding locations that were generally confined to the regions west of the Rio Grande, with records from the Rio Grande, Chama, Zuni, San Francisco, and Gila drainages (See also Hubbard 1982). However, he provisionally assigned all willow flycatchers nesting in New Mexico to E. t. extimus, noting records from the Pecos River and Penasco Creek in the southeast and from near Las Vegas in the northeast.

Both Hubbard (1987) and Unitt (1987) believed that the overall range of E. t. extimus had not been reduced in New Mexico, but that habitat and numbers had declined. Unitt (1987) believed the majority of all remaining nesting birds may occur in New Mexico. Areas with 19 and 53 singing flycatchers, not distinguished as nesting or migrants, were found on the upper Gila River (Montgomery et al. 1985, cited in Suckling et al. 1992). Preliminary data from 1994 surveys indicate that this breeding group is still present. However, the breeding status of flycatchers and trend over time have not been determined (S.O. Williams, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish-pers. comm.)

Hubbard (1987) noted that data were lacking for trends of most nesting areas. However, where data were available, they indicated loss of a group of 15 breeding pairs by the rising waters of Elephant Butte Reservoir. The willow flycatcher was considered fairly common in this area on the middle Rio Grande in the late 1970's (Hundertmark 1978). Hubbard hypothesized that some of these birds could have moved upstream, to new shoreline habitat created by the impoundment. Between 1987 and 1990, bird surveys along the Rio Grande Valley State Park in Albuquerque found a single singing willow flycatcher during the breeding season (Hoffman 1990). Current trends in New Mexico are not being extensively monitored. However, in 1992, 71 transects along the Rio Grande were surveyed for breeding birds, but not specifically targeting willow flycatcher habitat. A single willow

flycatcher was located near Espanola (Leal, Meyer and Thompson, unpubl. data). In 1993, surveys of 52 locations found 31 pairs or singing males at 15 of those locations (S.O. Williams III, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), in litt. 1993). Hubbard (1987) estimated that the State population may total 100 pairs; that estimate has not been revised. Hubbard (1987) found that "the conclusion is virtually inescapable \* \* \* a decrease has occurred in the population of breeding willow flycatchers in New Mexico over historic time," resulting from habitat loss. The State of New Mexico classifies the willow flycatcher as endangered (NMDGF 1988).

Texas. The eastern limit of the southwestern willow flycatcher's breeding range is in western Texas (Unitt 1987). Collections have been made at Fort Hancock on the Rio Grande (Phillips 1948), in the Guadalupe Mountains (Phillips, pers. comm., cited in Unitt 1987), the Davis Mountains (Oberholser 1974), and from unspecified locales in Brewster County (Wolfe 1956). Wauer (1973 and 1985) considered E. t. extimus a rare summer resident in Big Bend National Park. Data are lacking on current population levels and trends in Texas. Loss and modification of habitat may have reduced populations on the Rio Grande and Pecos Rivers.

Utah. The north-central limit of breeding southwestern willow flycatchers is in southern Utah. Behle (1985) and Unitt (1987) believed a clinal gradation between E. t. extimus and E. *t. adastus* existed, but Browning (1993) disagreed, identifying a range boundary at approximately the 38th north parallel. Southern Utah is characterized by extreme topographic relief. In this region, subspecific separation may be a function of elevation, with E. t. extimus at lower elevations (e.g., Virgin and Colorado Rivers) and E. t. adastus higher (e.g., Sevier River, wet meadows of mountains and high plateaus). Records that are likely to represent *E. t. extimus* are from the Virgin River (Phillips 1948, Wauer and Carter 1965, Whitmore 1975), Kanab Creek, and along the San Juan and Colorado Rivers (Behle et al. 1958, cited in Unitt 1987; Behle and Higgins 1959, Behle 1985; see also Browning 1993). Other reports document the subspecies being present along the Virgin, Colorado, San Juan, and perhaps Paria Rivers (BLM, unpubl. data). Although Behle believed E. t. extimus was always rare in southern Utah overall (pers. comm. cited in Unitt 1987), he considered it a locally common breeding resident where habitat existed along the Colorado River