



PACIFIC LEGAL FOUNDATION

August 19, 2015

Ms. Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Daniel M. Ashe
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Dear Secretary Jewell and Director Ashe:

Enclosed is a petition, pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 1533(b)(3) and 50 C.F.R. § 424.14(a), to remove the coastal Southwest willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*) from the list of endangered wildlife under the Endangered Species Act. A list of scientific references is also included. The petition to reclassify, submitted on behalf of: the Center for Environmental Science, Accuracy and Reliability; Building Industry Legal Defense Foundation, California Building Industry Association, California Cattlemen's Association, New Mexico Business Coalition, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, New Mexico Farm & Livestock Bureau, and New Mexico Wool Growers, Inc., demonstrates that the best available scientific data support removal of the Southwest willow flycatcher from the list of endangered species. This is based on the failure of the Southwest willow flycatcher to meet the necessary criteria to be listed as a subspecies, error in the original listing, and failure to currently meet the criteria for listing, as demonstrated by newly available data and analyses.

Petitioners look forward to your timely and favorable consideration of the petition.

Yours sincerely,


ANTHONY L. FRANCOIS
Senior Staff Attorney

Enclosure