

Parental Provisioning and Life History of Flammulated Owls (*Psiloscopus flammeolus*)

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Flammulated Owls (*Psiloscopus flammeolus*) are avian insectivorous migrants that breed in western mountain ranges in the United States. There are many knowledge gaps in the life history of this secretive owl species. More specifically, parental investment and partitioning efforts by parents during the nesting season are understudied. The purpose of this project is to provide data on how parental owls partition provisioning efforts to their young throughout the nesting season across nests located in habitats of different quality characteristics. I propose to (1) capture and mark adult female owls in occupied nests to differentiate them from adult males in the same nest, (2) mount motion-activated trail cameras inside occupied Flammulated Owl nests to record food deliveries throughout the nesting season, and (3) utilize insect traps and the camera recordings to assess the quality of the habitat surrounding each occupied nest. I will collect data on feeding rates and relative investment from each parent as the nesting season progresses and compare those data to indicators of quality for each occupied nest territory. These data will allow us to compare provisioning rates across multiple breeding seasons to understand how these owls adjust to environmental changes over time.