

Project Update: August 2012

On our first visit we captured with an effort of nearly 20 days of mist netting just two Tumbes tyrants (TT) and a couple of rufous flycatchers (RF). Birds did not respond as we expected using playback during this season and movements were commonly over four meters up from forest floor. A male RF in reproduction was ringed and tagged with a VHF transmitter and its female mate just ringed. TTs captured and marked just with rings were extremely difficult to relocate accurately because they move really fast from one site to another vocalising from frequently to rarely varying daily. For this reason it was highly probable that further detections outside the core areas might be excluded. Fortunately, we got some lower weight transmitters and glued them to the backs of two TT with great results.

For diet habits we were following randomly some RFs and TTs in forests near the regional protected area 'Bosque Huacrupe-La Calera' with nearly 40 incidences for each species with data on substrate and plant species where they forage like height and location, and details on techniques used. Our upcoming visit is in September 2012 and we are expecting to capture at least two more TTs and recapture the first ones for transmitter replacement for their first non-reproductive season. We are also going to recapture RFs and try to capture more besides it turns extremely difficult to capture them at the study site during this month because the reproductive season just finished.



Left: Rufous flycatcher tagged with VHF transmitter and marked with aluminium anodized colour band at mature secondary forest patch dominated by 'algarrobo' trees *Prosopis pallida*. Right: Rufous flycatcher tagged with VHF transmitter and marked with aluminium anodized colour band at mature secondary forest patch dominated by 'algarrobo' trees *Prosopis pallida*.