

## Notes on the vocalizations of Yellow-breasted Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias flaviventris*)

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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Yellow-breasted Flycatcher (*Tolmomyias flaviventris*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC).

There are clearly 2 vocal groups (Fig. 1):

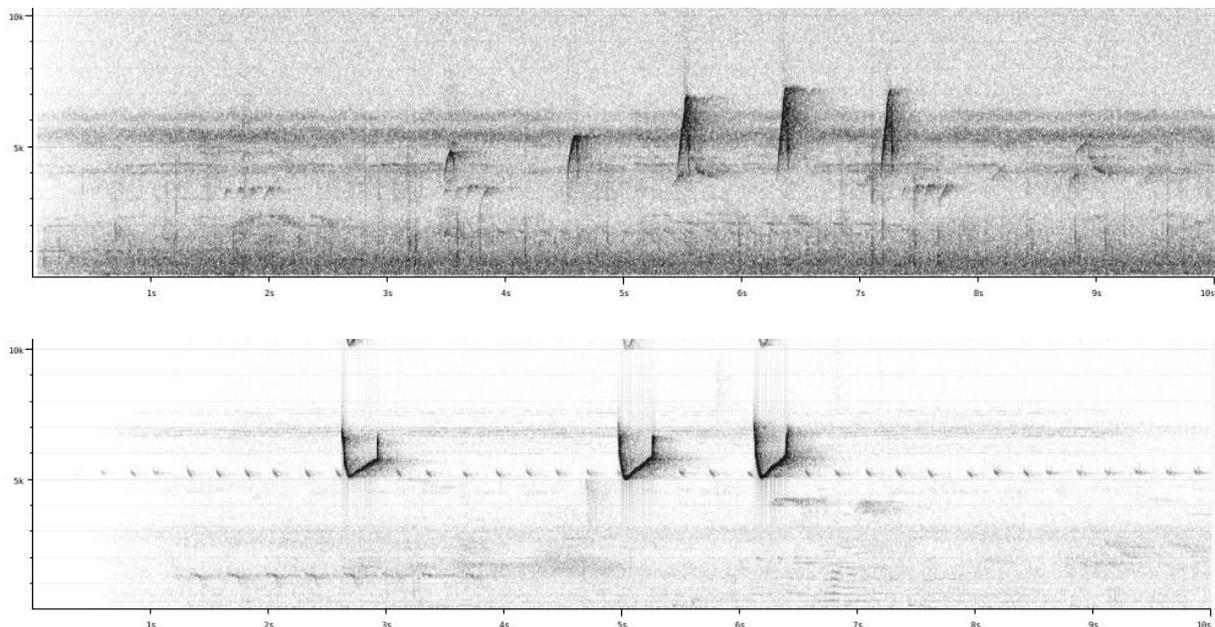


Figure 1: typical song of W Amazon group (top) and other races (bottom)

W Amazon birds (*T. f. viridiceps* *T. f. zimmeri* *T. f. subsimilis*) (with recordings only in E Ecuador and entire E Peru. The exact boundaries in Colombia, Brazil and Bolivia thus to be further explored, but birds from Beni (Bolivia), Rondonia (Brazil) and C Colombian Amazon lowlands belong to the other vocal group).

Song is a series of 4-7 short overslurred notes, first 3 rising in pitch, then at about same pitch.

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| max. note length | 0.010-0.12s |
| max. freq.       | 5600-7000Hz |
| freq. range      | 2200-4000Hz |
| # of notes       | 4-7         |

Other races (*T. f. aurulentus*, *T. f. dissors* *T. f. flaviventris*)

Song is a rather drawn-out high-pitched note, typically underslurred but often quite irregularly modulated. Usually uttered in loose series without clear pattern.

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| max. note length | 0.27-0.46s       |
| max. freq.       | 5500-7000Hz      |
| freq. range      | 1500-2500Hz      |
| # of notes       | no clear pattern |

Song of W Amazon birds is very different, having much shorter notes (score 3) with a larger frequency range (score 1-2), a different note shape (score 1-2) and a clear song pattern of 4-7 notes (score 2). When applying Tobias criteria, this would result in a total vocal score of 5.

This note was finalized on 2nd July 2015, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the many sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC.

### References

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* **152**(4): 724–746.

### Recommended citation

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