

Least Bell's Vireo

Vireo bellii pusillus

A small insectivorous bird of the central and southwestern United States and northern Mexico, the Bell's Vireo is drably colored and indistinctly marked. Its distinctive song can be heard coming from the dense vegetation of scrubby woodlands, old fields, or mesquite brushlands.

Keys to Identification

Adult Description

- Small songbird.
- Drab gray to greenish above.
- White to yellow below.
- One prominent wingbar and a more faint one above it.
- Faint white eyering

Immature Description

Juvenile similar to adult, but whiter below and with more distinct wingbars

Cool Facts

- The Bell's Vireo is the most yellow in the easternmost part of its range, and it gets progressively grayer to the west. The "Least" Bell's Vireo of California and northern Baja California is the grayest, with little yellow or green in its plumage.
- The Bell's Vireo has not been observed drinking water. It may be able to obtain all that it needs from its food.

Measurements

Both Sexes

- Length - 4.3 - 4.7 inches
- Wingspan - 7.1 inches
- Weight - 0.2 - 0.4 ounces

