



Peer Review Plan

(Reference [Information Quality Act](#))

FS-1400-0003 (V.1.1) 3/12

<input type="checkbox"/> Influential Scientific Information		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Highly Influential Scientific Assessment	
Agency USDA Forest Service, PNW Research Station, PSW Research Station			
Principal Investigator Thomas Spies, PNW; Peter Stine, PSW			
Title of Study Northwest Forest Plan Science Synthesis			
Field of Study Synthesis of existing science to provide managers with a science foundation for revision of forest plans within NWFP area			
Type of Review			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Panel Review		<input type="checkbox"/> Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Review			
Estimate Date for Completion 10/27/2016	Number of Reviewers <input type="checkbox"/> 3 or fewer <input type="checkbox"/> 4 to 10 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> More than 10		
Primary Discipline/Types of Expertise needed for Review Forest Ecology, Wildlife Biology, Aquatic Ecology, Sociology, Economics, Natural Resource Management			
Reviewer Names and Affiliations TBD			
Expected Publication Outlet (Science or similar Peer Reviewed Journal) Research Station General Technical Report			
Reviewers Selected by: <input type="checkbox"/> Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Designated Outside Organizational Organization's Name: TBD			
Opportunities for Public Comment? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided: How: Public input to be facilitated by outside organization When: TBD			

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments ☒ Yes ☐ No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel ☒ Yes ☐ No

Other Comments

The Pacific Northwest (which includes Oregon and Washington) and Pacific Southwest (which includes California) Research Stations are developing a science synthesis to inform the revision of management plans for 19 national forests within the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) area. The NWFP amended land management plans in 1994 in order to protect threatened and endangered species associated with late successional and old-growth forest habitats while still contributing to social and economic sustainability. Region 5 (California) and Region 6 (Oregon and Washington) of the Forest Service have requested the synthesis to provide a thorough, up-to-date review of the relevant scientific literature pertaining to key resource management topics within the NWFP area for use in forest assessments that contribute to plan revisions.

The synthesis will be organized around the conservation, restoration and socio-economic goals and themes of the NWFP. The synthesis will address additional topical areas relevant to plan revision identified by managers in Washington, Oregon and California such as questions related to:

- Old growth and other vegetation types
- Listed species including the northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet
- Other species associated with older forests
- Aquatic and riparian species and ecosystems
- Socio-economic well-being, community stability, timber harvest
- Collaboration
- Stakeholder attitudes and values
- Tribal values and resources
- Role and effects of disturbance agents
- Climate change
- Conservation strategies and effectiveness
- Restoration strategies and effects
- Uncertainties and scientific disagreement
- Geographic variation within the NWFP area
- Integration and tradeoffs
- Considerations for management