



# Peer Review Plan

(Reference [Information Quality Act](#))

FS-1400-0003 (V.1.2) 5/16

☒ Influential Scientific Information

☐ Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency

Research & Development/Northern Research Station/Forest Inventory & Analysis

Agency Contact (name/ email/ phone)

Charles H. Perry; charles.h.perry@usda.gov; 651-649-5191

Title of Review

Westfall et al. A national-scale tree volume, biomass, and carbon modeling system for the United States.

Purpose of Review

Evaluate scientific soundness of new inventory estimation procedures

## Type of Review

☐ Panel Review

☒ Individual Review

A panel of experts nominated by the author's peers in the Techniques Research Band, FIA's biometrics expertise.

☐ Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review

07/01/2023

Start

02/01/2023

End

07/01/2023

☐ 3 or fewer

Number of Reviewers

☒ 4 to 10

☐ More than 10

Primary Discipline/Types of Expertise Needed for Review

Statistics, sampling theory, forest inventory, estimation

Reviewer Names and Affiliations

Dr. Linda Heath, USDA Forest Service, Research & Development

Dr. Charles H. Perry, USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station

Seven anonymous reviewers solicited from the Forest Service Forest Inventory & Analysis Techniques Research Band

Expected Publication Outlet (Science or Similar Peer Reviewed Journal)

USDA Forest Service Research & Development General Technical Report

Reviewers Selected by: ☒ Agency

☐ Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Opportunities for Public Comment? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How: \_\_\_\_\_

When: \_\_\_\_\_

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Commentary

☐ Yes☒ No**Summary of Peer Reviewers' Comments**

All reviewers recommended acceptance of the manuscript with minor revisions. A complete listing of reviewers's comments and the author's reconciliation is available upon request.

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel

☐ Yes☒ No**Other Comments**

Process outline:

1. Dr. Charles H. Perry, program manager and supervisor of the author, was identified to serve as the point of contact and coordinator of blind peer review.
2. Dr. Perry collected nominations for reviewers from the FIA program's Techniques Research Band, the program's cadre of biometrics and remote sensing experts.
3. Dr. Perry contacted EVERY nominee (8) and asked for their participation in a blind peer review process. Seven (7) of eight nominees agreed.
4. Dr. Perry transferred the document under review to the panelists and requested responses in 30 days (3 March 2023). Cover and transmittal letters are available upon request.
5. Dr. Perry received reviews and removed all content that might be used to identify the reviewer.
6. Dr. Perry shared the combined reviews with the lead author (Dr. James Westfall) and offered him 30 days to respond (in writing) to the reviewers' comments and suggestions.
7. Dr. Perry reviewed the authors' responses for effectiveness as addressing the panel's concerns. The authors' responses to reviewers was stored for the public record and is available upon request.
8. Dr. Perry submitted the revised document for publication.