



Peer Review Plan

(Reference [Information Quality Act](#))

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

☒ Influential Scientific Information

☐ Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

Agency

USDA Forest Service

Agency Contact (name/ email/ phone)

Andrew Gray, andrew.gray@usda.gov

Title of Review

Wicked problems and sticky wickets: defining and inventorying mature and old-growth forests

Purpose of Review

To ensure scientific rigor of defining and inventorying mature and old growth forests

Type of Review

☐ Panel Review

☐ Individual Review

Internal review selected by authors;
Formal, anonymous peer review from the journal, once submitted

☒ Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review

07/31/2023

Start

04/26/2023

End

07/31/2023

☐ 3 or fewer

Number of Reviewers

☒ 4 to 10

☐ More than 10

Primary Discipline/Types of Expertise Needed for Review

Forest ecology and silviculture

Reviewer Names and Affiliations

-Brian Palik, USDA Forest Service NRS Research Station
-Jerry Franklin, University of Washington
-Andy Kerr, The Larch Company
-Anonymous reviewers to be determined by the journal

Expected Publication Outlet (Science or Similar Peer Reviewed Journal)

Forest Ecology and Management, where the manuscript will receive additional anonymous peer review from scientific experts selected by the journal editorial board

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**

- Paper does a good job of summarizing the concepts and literature and should be a useful contribution
- Be more explicit on the goal of needing to define and inventory mature and old-growth forest to keep the focus clear
- Provide a conclusion on how we should define and inventory these forests
- The emphasis on CMAI [Culmination of Mean Annual Increment (CMAI)] seems misplaced-this isn't what we really want going forward, is it?
- There's a newer, much simplified version of successional stages that's been published
- People need to understand that old trees are very different and distinctive from young trees, not just bigger and older versions of young trees.
- Should note that management for CMAI is defined in the NFMA
- The importance of Native American burning is controversial. Should include references (provided) documenting the forest types in which it was likely a minor impact.

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel

☐ Yes☒ No**Other Comments**