



Peer Review Plan

(Reference [Information Quality Act](#))

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



Influential Scientific Information 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

Panel Review Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Individual Review

Estimate Date for Completion

Number of Reviewers

10/27/2016

3 or fewer

4 to 10

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: Agency Designated Outside Organizatic
Organization's Name: TBD

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes 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