

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/10/2025 7:43:36 PM

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Comments: The original drafting of the NWFP was aimed at protecting forest ecosystems on public land for their long-term viability, primarily focusing on the Northern Spotted Owl as an ecosystem proxy. At the urgent request of scientists and policy makers, the current review and rewriting of the plan should and is adapting the framework to include updated information on the Northern Spotted Owl and build out a new framework that includes other very important forest species. The PNW Bioacoustics Lab has developed cutting edge innovations in the field of acoustic monitoring (using sound to detect animals) to improve our knowledge of species distributions and behaviors, which will be the cornerstone of writing the new plan. Researchers have designed a very sophisticated and impressive network of sampling sites at 4,000 locations, covering an area of over 24 million acres, which has produced over 10 million hours of data! This staggering amount of data has been the impetus to develop AI and machine learning tools to process the sound recordings at low cost and high output. Already the team has learned so much more than we were ever able to know by tagging and tracking individuals. Innovation in this line of work sets the stage for the tools to be used by other research and land management groups to answer questions about wildlife with a small budget, and more importantly, passively. Using passive bioacoustics monitoring produces incredibly high-resolution data without the need to physically capture animals, which reduces our impact on sensitive species. The PNW Bioacoustics Lab is an inextricable part of developing the new NWFP with the best data available, therefore its support is crucial. Furthermore, the evaluation of Northern Spotted Owl by this group of researchers is required under the ESA guidelines, therefore will be necessary in all circumstances. It is imperative to protect the intellectual contributions the PNW Bioacoustics Lab has made because so much progress has been demonstrated, so many people have devoted their careers to this endeavor, so much money has been invested in equipment, the tools developed have already made waves in the research and management worlds, it is the best and cheapest way to do the work that needs to be done, and the innovations have only just begun. Thank you for your time.