



Meeting Minutes

Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative

Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

01/08/24 2-3pm

Zoom

Attendees (in alphabetical order):

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Andy Geisler	American Forest Resources Council (AFRC)
David Eisler	Siuslaw Watershed Council (SWC)
Doug Heiken	Oregon Wild
Alyssa Bonini	Coordinator

Action Items:

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Send a pdf of the approved December Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes with Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.	Coordinator	Complete
Share the subcommittee's initial list of questions for the USFS about USFWS's Barred Owl Removal Program with Supervisor Brooke in advance of the Collaborative group's February meeting.	Coordinator	Complete
Outstanding		
Ask Katie Isacksen for USFS's Region 6 draft carbon sequestration white paper and share with the Subcommittee.	Coordinator	January 2024
Look into whether USFS Region 3 partnered with state agencies to enact a trapping closure on public lands or acted unilaterally.	Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon	Ongoing

Minutes: by Alyssa Bonini, Coordinator

I. Welcome & Agenda Review

- The Coordinator welcomed Subcommittee members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

II. Refresh on December Meeting & Review Action Items

- The Subcommittee revisited action items and approved meeting minutes from its last meeting on December 11, 2023.
- The Coordinator will pdf the December meeting minutes and post to the OCCFC website.

Action Item: The Coordinator will send a pdf of the approved December 11 Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes with Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.

III. Discussion: U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Barred Owl Removal Program

- Wildlife Subcommittee requested space at this meeting to discuss the Barred Owl Removal Program, proposed by the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife (USFWS). The Subcommittee understands that the Siuslaw National

Forest (SNF) has not indicated whether or not the program will take place on SNF land, but members feel it is important to begin thinking about possible effects of this program in advance. Hope was expressed that Forest Service (USFS) staff will involve the Collaborative group in any potential future conversations about this program as it relates to the SNF.

- Doug Heiken, Oregon Wild, expressed concern about agencies taking a piecemeal approach to program implementation. He hopes that there is inter-agency communication and planning to implement the program at a regional scale.
- Andy Geissler, AFRC, is unaware of private landowner interest in the program, and suggested that Collaborative member, Paul Lulay (Hampton) might have a better sense. Andy will keep an ear open and share any feedback he receives from private landowners with this subcommittee.
- Members agreed that it would be helpful to have more information and clarity about whether USFWS or the USFS would have jurisdictional authority over how the Barred Owl Removal Program might be executed on the SNF.
- It was requested that SNF Supervisor Brooke clarify USFS's authority as it relates to the Barred Owl Removal program at the Collaborative group's February meeting. Initial questions from Subcommittee members to the USFS on this topic are below:

Questions for Supervisor Brooks relating to USFWS's Barred Owl Removal Program on the SNF

1. What is SNF's interest in this program?
 2. At what level might USFS decisions about this program made, if at all? Forest level? Regional? Washington Office?
 3. What should USFS be ready to think/talk about regarding this program in the future?
 4. If USFWS move forward with this program on the SNF, would USFS be responsible for issuing special use permits?
 5. If the SNF is involved with Barred Owl removal, will they contract in-house or outside? If outside, what would the selection process look like?
 6. If this program takes place on the SNF, will there be a public education component? The subcommittee hopes to avoid "open season" for owls.
 7. Could USFS do anything to prevent incidental take of Spotted Owl (e.g. due to accidental misidentification)?
 8. Is this a topic that has come up with the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC)?
 9. Where does funding come from for this Barred Owl removal program? How would this program be funded on the SNF? USFS or Fish and Wildlife? Both?
- The Coordinator will share the questions above with Supervisor Brooke in advance of the February Collaborative group meeting.

Action Item: Coordinator will share the Subcommittee's initial list of questions for the USFS about USFWS's Barred Owl Removal Program with Supervisor Brooke in advance of the Collaborative group's February meeting.

- The Subcommittee agreed that it would be helpful to understand the jurisdictional authority of USFS and USFWS as it relates to possible future implementation of the Barred Owl Removal Program on the Siuslaw National Forest.

IV. Wrap-Up & Next Steps

- The Coordinator wrapped up the meeting and reviewed action items.
- The Subcommittee will hold its next meeting on **Monday, February 12 from 2-3pm on Zoom.**

The meeting was adjourned.



Meeting Minutes

Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative
 Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting
 02/12/24 2-3pm
 Zoom

Attendees (in alphabetical order):

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Andy Geisler	American Forest Resources Council (AFRC)
Katie Richardson	U.S. Forest Service
Eric Andersen	U.S. Forest Service
Alyssa Bonini	Coordinator

Action Items:

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Send a pdf of the approved January Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes with Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.	Coordinator	March 11, 2024
Outstanding		
Ask Katie Isacksen for USFS's Region 6 draft carbon sequestration white paper and share with the Subcommittee.	Coordinator	January 2024
Look into whether USFS Region 3 partnered with state agencies to enact a trapping closure on public lands or acted unilaterally.	Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon/Oregon Bird Alliance	Ongoing

Minutes: by Alyssa Bonini, Coordinator

I. Welcome & Agenda Review

- The Coordinator welcomed Subcommittee members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

II. Refresh on December Meeting & Review Action Items

- The Subcommittee approved meeting minutes from its last meeting on January 8, 2023.
- The Coordinator will pdf the January meeting minutes and work with Cascade Pacific post to the OCCFC website.

Action Item: The Coordinator will send a pdf of the approved January 11 Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes with Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.

III. Discussion: U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife Barred Owl Removal Program

- Wildlife Subcommittee requested space at this meeting to discuss the Barred Owl Removal Program, proposed by the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife (USFWS). Katie Richardson, USFS attended to discuss the program from the Forest's perspective and clarify where the line is between USFS and USFWS jurisdictional authority.
- Andy Geisler (AFRC) asked Katie if she would share USFS's perspective on the program and what it might mean in the context of the Siuslaw National Forest.
- While Katie explained that USFS manages habitat, while USFWS manages populations and noted that Barred Owl removal is population management. USFS does occasionally make exceptions and invests in mitigation

measures, such as when USFS invested in corvid removal on the Oregon Dunes as a snowy plover mitigation measure.

- Presently, USFWS is making recommendations for how the USFS can help the Northern Spotted Owl, which will be considered at the regional level between USFS Regions 5 and 6.
- Katie shared the Subcommittee's questions about the Barred Owl Removal Program with the Director of Biophysical Resources, who appreciated knowing where the public had concerns and where communications about this program would be appreciated in the future.
- USFWS's Environmental Impact Statement is not yet finalized.
- USFS will update the Collaborative on this topic as they receive updates from the Region on the status of the program.

Questions for Supervisor Brooks relating to USFWS's Barred Owl Removal Program on the SNF

1. What is SNF's interest in this program?
2. At what level might USFS decisions about this program made, if at all? Forest level? Regional? Washington Office?
3. What should USFS be ready to think/talk about regarding this program in the future?
4. If USFWS move forward with this program on the SNF, would USFS be responsible for issuing special use permits?
5. If the SNF is involved with Barred Owl removal, will they contract in-house or outside? If outside, what would the selection process look like?
6. If this program takes place on the SNF, will there be a public education component? The subcommittee hopes to avoid "open season" for owls.
7. Could USFS do anything to prevent incidental take of Spotted Owl (e.g. due to accidental misidentification)?
8. Is this a topic that has come up with the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC)?
9. Where does funding come from for this Barred Owl removal program? How would this program be funded on the SNF? USFS or Fish and Wildlife? Both?

IV. Wrap-Up & Next Steps

- The Coordinator wrapped up the meeting and reviewed action items.
- The Subcommittee will hold its next meeting on **Monday, March 11 from 2-3pm on Zoom.**

The meeting was adjourned.



Meeting Minutes

Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative

Wildlife Subcommittee Meeting

03/19/24 10-11am

Zoom

Attendees (in alphabetical order):

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Andy Geisler	American Forest Resources Council (AFRC)
Paul Engelmeyer	Oregon Bird Alliance
Eric Andersen	USFS
<i>Alyssa Bonini</i>	<i>Coordinator</i>

Action Items:

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Send pdf of approved February Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes to Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.	Coordinator	Complete
Email Coordinator a link to the Coho Salmon Recovery Plan to cite at ZOA 3.	Paul Engelmeyer	Complete
Circulate a clean, final draft Beaver Habitat ZOA document with Subcommittee members and draft meeting minutes in the next week.	Coordinator	3/25/24
Outstanding		
Look into whether USFS Region 3 partnered with state agencies to enact a trapping closure on public lands or acted unilaterally.	Paul Engelmeyer, Audubon/Oregon Bird Alliance	Complete

Minutes: by Alyssa Bonini, Coordinator

I. Welcome & Agenda Review

- The Coordinator welcomed Subcommittee members to the meeting and reviewed the agenda.
- Paul Engelmeyer, Oregon Bird Alliance, has noticed spraying operations that are followed by rain events and asked Eric Andersen, USFS, if he had any information about the effects of herbicide runoff on roadside and downstream habitat. Eric encouraged Paul to bring this question up with USFS botanist, Chelsea Monks, or at the next Herbicides and Invasives Subcommittee meeting.
- Eric left the meeting to give the Subcommittee a chance to focus on revising its draft ZOAs on Beaver habitat.

II. Review February Meeting Notes & Review Action Items

- The Subcommittee approved meeting minutes from its last meeting on February 12, 2023.
- The Coordinator will pdf the February meeting minutes and work with Cascade Pacific post to the OCCFC website.

Action Item: The Coordinator will send a pdf of the approved February Wildlife Subcommittee meeting minutes to Cascade Pacific to post to the OCCFC website.

III. Address Beaver ZOA Feedback

- The Wildlife Subcommittee reviewed the feedback that the full Collaborative Group provided on the draft Beaver Habitat ZOAs that it provided at its February 9 meeting. They considered relevant sources that could be cited within the ZOAs, based on feedback from the full Collaborative Group. Each ZOA was inspired by language found in the Adaptation Partners Climate Adaptation Library, which is linked in the first clause of the ZOA document.
- The Subcommittee incorporated the Collaborative Group's proposed changes and made additional revisions to the following ZOAs:
 - o **ZOA 2, Priority Species:** Interest was expressed in including language signaling the Collaborative's support of designating Beaver as a "species of conservation concern" in future USFS policy guidance. However, it was decided that including specific policy language in the ZOAs is premature at this time. The Subcommittee instead added language that represents the Collaborative's high value of Beaver as a species and on the landscape, and that encourages the Siuslaw National Forest to assign equally high value to Beaver on future policy decisions and NEPA projects.
 - o **ZOA 3, Associated Species:** Paul suggested adding a citation to the Coho Salmon Recovery Plan to ZOA 3.

Action item: Paul will email Coordinator a link to the Coho Salmon Recovery Plan to cite at ZOA 3.

- o **ZOA 8, Water Resources and Infrastructure:** The Subcommittee removed the word "disturbance" for vagueness.
- o **ZOA 11, Projects:** The Subcommittee updated ZOA 11 to recommend that the SNF consider incorporating Beaver habitat needs into its selection criteria.
- The Subcommittee did not feel that further revisions or edits are needed and were comfortable sending the ZOA document back to the full Collaborative Group for reconsideration and to test consensus at an upcoming meeting.
- The Coordinator congratulated members on their perseverance and hard work on the ZOA document. She will incorporate the changes made during this subcommittee meeting and circulate a final, clean draft document with the meeting minutes in the next week.

Action Item: The Coordinator will circulate a clean, final draft Beaver Habitat ZOA document with Subcommittee members and draft meeting minutes in the next week.

IV. Wrap-Up & Next Steps

- The Coordinator wrapped up the meeting and reviewed action items.
- The **Subcommittee will postpone its April meeting** until the full Collaborative has reviewed the updated Beaver Habitat ZOA draft.

The meeting was adjourned.