
Siuslaw National Forest Supervisor's Office

3200 SW Jefferson Way
Corvallis, OR 97331
541-750-7000

December 23, 2024

Dear Forest Supervisor Becca Brooke,

The Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative (OCCFC) is interested in understanding how the Siuslaw National Forest, and Region 6 as a whole, is considering the role of the recently published Barred Owl Removal Strategy in Northern Spotted Owl recovery. We understand that the strategy is entirely voluntary for "willing participants." Specifically, we have the below questions for your consideration. We welcome a response through written documentation to the OCCFC or through in-person discussion at a future OCCFC meeting. We understand that these questions may be most appropriate for leadership at Region 6 and ask that you please consider forwarding the letter to the appropriate individual(s) if that is the case.

1. Is the Forest Service considering participating in the Barred Owl Removal Strategy as described in the Final EIS published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
2. If not, what factors are keeping the Forest Service from being willing participants and what, if any, discussions took place on trying to address those factors?
3. If so, what are the next steps toward implementation and what are the primary obstacles limiting effective implementation of the strategy?
4. Does Region 6 leadership feel that they have complete scientific data to inform understanding of the current status of Barred Owl and Spotted Owl population trends?
5. Regardless of Region 6's participation in the program, is Region 6 willing to provide a statement that would indicate Region 6's commitment to addressing the challenge of Northern Spotted Owl extinction, especially on the Siuslaw National Forest?

The OCCFC has been and remains very interested in this topic and requests a response from the Siuslaw National Forest and Region 6. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
The Oregon Central Coast Forest Collaborative (OCCFC)
