



An Introduction to the Northern Spotted Owl Interagency Working Group (NSO IWG)



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Presentation Overview

- Formation
- Purpose
- Actions
- Ongoing Meeting Topics
- California Endangered Species Act Updates
- Future Actions

Formation

- Small landowner concerns regarding NSO prompted series of meetings
 - The Buckeye, CDFW, CNRA, CAL FIRE – August 2015
 - Arcata USFWS, CDFW, CNRA, CAL FIRE – August 2015
 - Yreka USFWS, CDFW, CNRA, CAL FIRE – January 2016
- Perceived lack of communication among agencies
- Formed NSO IWG with CDFW, CAL FIRE, and USFWS

NSO IWG Purpose

Promote recovery of the NSO by facilitating interagency understanding and communications

Actions

- Meet regularly to discuss current topics and issues
- Share and use the best available science
- Develop recommendations, guidance, and protocols
- Training for agency staff
- Resolve Spotted Owl Database issues
- Seek ideas from stakeholders and subject experts
- Outreach and education
- Promote compliance with statutes, regulations, and policies

Ongoing Meeting Topics

- Post-fire habitat use
- Potential impacts of Emergencies and Exemptions
- Spotted Owl Database issues
- Agency roles and responsibilities

CA Endangered Species Act Updates

- NSO listed as threatened (July 7, 2017)
- Outcomes of listing process
 - NSO Stakeholder Forum
 - Barred Owl Science Team (BOST)
 - Re-defined agency roles
 - Renewed interest in reviewing FPRs

Future Actions

- Work with Board as needed to help inform regulation changes
- Submit proposals to Effectiveness Monitoring Committee
- Provide NSO guidance to landowners
- Training/workshops

