



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 29, 2025

TO: Forest Practices Board

FROM: Karen Zirkle^{KZ}, Forest Regulation Policy and Services Assistant Division
Manager

SUBJECT: Northern Spotted Owl Conservation Advisory Group Update

At the November 2024 Board meeting you determined the Northern Spotted Owl Conservation Advisory Group continues to be needed for spotted owl conservation (WAC 222-16-010) and confirmed Lenny Young as the Forest Practices Program representative. This group will be convened when the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife approves a northern spotted owl protocol survey demonstrating the absence of owl detections within the habitat supporting an owl site center. When convened, the group evaluates if the owl habitat needs to be maintained in support of northern spotted owl recovery.

There were no northern spotted owl surveys submitted to WDFW for review and approval during the past year; as such, the group was not convened. However, WDFW has recently been contacted by a landowner to consider their surveys and this group may need to convene in 2025.

The three-person advisory group contains designees with working knowledge of northern spotted owl habitat relationships and factors affecting owl conservation – a representative from Washington's forest products industry (vacant), Washington conservation organization (vacant) and the Forest Practices Program (Lenny Young). Staff recommends that Claudine Reynolds with Port Blakely and Matt Danielson with Conservation NW be approved to serve on this advisory group to represent Washington's forest products industry and conservation organization respectively.

At your February 12th meeting, Maggie Franquemont will request your approval of Claudine Reynolds and Matt Danielson to serve on this group when necessary.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at karen.zirkle@dnr.wa.gov or Maggie Franquemont at maggie.franquemont@dnr.wa.gov.

KZ/