

## THE INSTITUTE FOR BIRD POPULATIONS

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July 17, 2018

Dear Reviewer,

Thank you for agreeing to review the **Draft Conservation Strategy for the California Spotted Owl, Version 1.0**, by the Pacific Southwest Region of the US Forest Service. As you conduct your review, please address in particular the following questions:

**1. Content and scientific support.** Are there other issues, points, or evidence that should be added? Is there content that should be removed due to insufficient relevance or scientific support? Are there instances of scientific inconsistency in the document? Has the science been treated and referenced fairly and accurately? Is there important and relevant science that has been omitted?

*Please note that much of the scientific material in the Conservation Strategy is covered in more depth in the Forest Service's California Spotted Owl Conservation Assessment (available at [https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw\\_qtr254/psw\\_qtr254.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_qtr254/psw_qtr254.pdf)) and assessment of the natural range of variation for yellow pine and mixed conifer forests (available at [https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw\\_qtr256/psw\\_qtr256.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/documents/psw_qtr256/psw_qtr256.pdf)). The intent of the Conservation Strategy authors was to summarize key points and conclusions and highlight new and emerging information from these reports, while avoiding unnecessary and cumbersome repetition of information.*

**2. Interpretation and conclusions.** Does the Conservation Strategy connect the conservation measures clearly to the scientific information? Are the conservation measures appropriate, clear and interpretable?

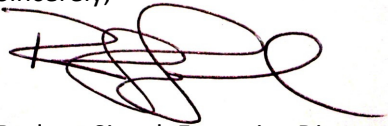
**3. Clarity of writing.** Is the document written clearly enough that it is understandable? What should be rephrased or clarified to avoid confusion or misinterpretation?

Please prepare your review as a memo summarizing your key points and providing any additional detail you think is appropriate. Additionally, you are welcome to make edits and comments directly in the document using Track Changes. If you choose to do the latter, please ensure that your document settings preserve your anonymity. I will make every effort to mask your identity when I return your review to the Forest Service, but please remember that both your review and your identity as a reviewer are subject to the Freedom of Information Act and may therefore become available to the authors and the general public in the future.

Unless you have made other arrangements with me, please return your review to me within four weeks of receiving this message.

Again, thank you very much for providing this important service. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [rsiegel@birdpop.org](mailto:rsiegel@birdpop.org) or 415-663-2051.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rodney Siegel', written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Rodney Siegel, Executive Director  
The Institute for Bird Populations