

Section 7 Work Group (S7WG)

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Roles: While this group is not responsible for any specific recovery actions the role of the Section 7 Work Group is to identify and analyze Recovery Plan issues requiring clarification in order for interagency consultations to proceed. Our goal is to resolve issues such that there is a shared and common understanding between the Federal agencies most involved in implementing the plan.

Geographic area: Entire Recovery Plan area.

Members: Forest Service, BLM and Fish and Wildlife Service employees within each of the three states in the range of the spotted owl.

Subgroups: Ad hoc, but none currently.

Key questions for the group: To be determined as they arise

Key milestones/timeline:

- 1) December 15, 2008 – Issued recommendation to IT on interpretation of Recovery Plan’s RA 4 dispersal language.
- 2) January 28, 2009 – Provided Work Group update at Executive Group and Implementation Team meeting.
- 3) February 9, 2009 – Issued memo to IT declining to address definition of “significant investment of time and resources” as requested, since it is a policy question best resolved at a higher level.
- 4) April 9, 2009 – Issued recommendation to IT on interpretation of which silvicultural activities are allowed within RA 32 stands while remaining consistent with the Recovery Plan.