

Non-Federal Landowners Work Groups  
~Oregon~

Recovery Actions 13 through 19 make recommendations directly or indirectly applicable to non-Federal lands within the range of the spotted owl, including Recovery Action 14 which recommends, “Establish[ing] a comprehensive incentives program to develop creative opportunities for non-Federal landowners to engage in management strategies consistent with the recovery objectives.”

To implement these actions we created three, state-specific Non-Federal Landowners Work Groups based on on-going efforts in Washington, Oregon and California. Each of these groups work independently, focusing on issues and efforts (and with partners) specific to each state.

Oregon Work Group

FWS Contact: Lee Folliard (Lee\_Folliard@fws.gov), 503-231-6179

Oregon’s Non-Federal land work group is currently focused on completing a state-wide Safe Harbor Agreement with the Oregon Department of Forestry per recovery actions 13 and 14. The agreement is designed to encourage forest management efforts on private land that will contribute to the recovery of spotted owls. Through the agreement, landowners would receive assurances that future restrictions would not be imposed if their voluntary conservation actions develop new habitat or attract owls to their property. In addition, the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Healthy Forest Reserve Program will be implemented along with the Safe Harbor Agreement providing funding to eligible applicants to purchase easements where landowners agree to manage their forests to benefit spotted owls. The Service expects to finalize this Safe Harbor Agreement in the fall of 2009.