

# Pacific Seabird Group



DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

Coastal Marine Laboratory  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, California 95064  
March 13, 1987

Charles W. Luscher, Chairman  
Oregon-Washington Interagency  
Wildlife Committee  
Bureau of Land Management  
P.O. Box 2965  
Portland, Oregon 97208

Dear Mr. Luscher:

The Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) is a scientific organization composed of seabird researchers and conservationists dedicated to the study and conservation of Pacific seabirds and their environment. The PSG was formed in 1972 and now has over 600 members from 16 countries. An information pamphlet on the activities and scope of the PSG is enclosed.

The status of the Marbled Murrelet in Washington, Oregon and California are of great concern to PSG. We believe that cooperation between forest and wildlife management agencies is necessary to maintain breeding populations of this species. We propose that the Oregon-Washington Interagency Wildlife Committee establish a sub-committee to develop and implement management guidelines for the Marbled Murrelet.

Seabird researchers met at the PSG annual meeting in December, 1986, to discuss research and management of this species. Biologists from Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, and California who have conducted research or inventories of this species reviewed the published literature and the unpublished reports and observations. The conclusion of this working group is that the Marbled Murrelet should be classified as a Sensitive Species and that protection of remaining nesting habitat is necessary. Little is known about nesting Marbled Murrelets, but its dependence on old-growth coniferous forest has been demonstrated in research and inventories from British Columbia

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south. An interim management plan should be implemented until there is unequivocal information on its habitat requirements.

The resolutions drafted by PSG, a summary of threats to Marbled Murrelet populations, management recommendations, research priorities, and a list of participants are included with this letter.

Lora Leschner, Washington Department of Game, and Harry Carter, Point Reyes Bird Observatory have organized a PSG Working Group on Marbled Murrelets. Please write or call one of them for additional information.

Sincerely,

THE PACIFIC SEABIRD GROUP

  
Ken Briggs  
Chair