Attached is the survey protocol for the Great Gray Owl (Strix nebulosa) prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2001 Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines.

The protocol requires pre-disturbance surveys when proposed projects occur within the range, contain suitable habitat, and have the potential to cause significant negative effect on habitat or persistence at a site. Range and habitat are described for the species and guidance is provided to assist line officers in determining the potential of a proposed project to cause significant negative effect on habitat or persistence at a site. Line officers should seek specialists’ recommendations on the type, timing, and intensity of the proposed habitat disturbing activity in order to evaluate significant negative effect.

Full implementation of this protocol will be required for new projects on which surveys have not yet been initiated.

This protocol will be revised, as appropriate, after field implementation and peer review but should be considered adequate to meet all ROD requirements until further notice.

Questions regarding implementation of this protocol should be directed to taxa lead Deb Quintana-Coyer (dquintanacoyer@fs.fed.us, 541-782-5335); BLM agency representative
Rob Huff (rob_huff@blm.gov, 503-808-6479); R6 agency representative Carol Hughes, (cshughes@fs.fed.us, 503-808-2661); R5 agency representative Paula Crumpton, (pcrumpton@fs.fed.us, 530-226-2431).

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1 Attachment
1 – Survey Protocol for the Great Gray Owl (46 pp)

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OR-010 (Lucile Housley)
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