



State of New Hampshire
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF FORESTS & LANDS

172 Pembroke Road Concord, New Hampshire 03301
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 nhdf.dncr.nh.gov

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DEC 03 2025



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September 24, 2025

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court *and*

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
 and the Honorable Executive Council
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Management Bureau to accept and expend \$480,000 in federal funds to fund State Forest Nursery improvements as authorized by Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation (BIL) Revegetation grants, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2027. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

03-035-035-351010-35310000 – Nursery-Tree Improvement

Class- Account-RG	Class Description	FY26 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	Revised FY26 Adjusted
000-400338- 16	Federal Funds	\$30,945	\$480,000	\$510,945
Total Revenue		\$30,945	\$480,000	\$510,945
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$0	\$160,464	\$160,464
030-500311	Equipment New Replacement	\$0	\$209,000	\$209,000
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$2,462	\$1,256	\$3,718
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$32	\$480	\$512
050-500109	Personal Service Temp Appoi	\$26,396	\$0	\$26,396
060-500611	Benefits	\$2,055	\$0	\$2,055
080-500717	Out of State Travel Reimb	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
103-502507	Contracts for Op Services	\$0	\$103,800	\$103,800
Total Expenses		\$30,945	\$480,000	\$510,945

EXPLANATION

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Management Bureau, State Forest Nursery provides the important resource of bareroot seedlings for reforestation, wildlife habitat, Christmas tree stock, and other uses for public and private landowners. The nursery has been able to secure additional funding through the Federal BIL Revegetation funds to assist in modernizing and updating equipment and facilities to meet growing demand for quality seedlings, provide additional funds for supplies needed to produce greater quantities of seedlings, and allow out of state travel to nursery conferences for professional development.

The funds are being requested for the following purposes:

Class 020 – Current Expenses – Current expenses for fertilizer, soil fumigant and other supplies to support maintenance and production of quality seedlings.

Class 030 – Equipment New Replacement – Purchase of equipment to upgrade existing nursery equipment or provide equipment for new processes.

Class 040 – Indirect Costs – Funding to cover indirect costs.

Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside – Additional funds to cover audit costs.

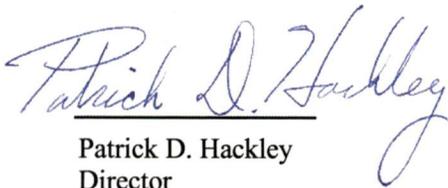
Class 080 – Out of State Travel Reimbursement – Funding to provide travel to annual nursery conferences for staff professional development.

Class 103 – Contracts for Op Services – Funding to have permanent deer fence installed around seedling fields. Funding for rental equipment for stumping and levelling new seed orchards.

In the event that federal funds are no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Concurred,


Patrick D. Hackley
Director


Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner

Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

GRANTS FISCAL SITUATION FISCAL YEAR 2026

03-035-035-351010-35310000 – Nursery-Tree Improvement

Total Federal Authorization	\$ 518,590
Less Expenditures thru 6/30/2025	\$ <u>6,208</u>
Remaining Authorization to Budget	\$ 512,382
Less Current FY26 Budget Authorization	\$ <u>30,945</u>
Total Available for Budgeting	\$ 481,437
Available to Budget at a Later Date	\$ <u>1,437</u>
REQUESTED ACTION	\$ 480,000

<u>Grant Award Number</u>	<u>Award Amount</u>	<u>Expenses to 6/30/25</u>	<u>Balance</u>
22-DG-11094200-113	\$14,512	\$6,208	\$8,304
23-DG-11094200-384	\$17,051	\$0	\$17,051
23-DG-11094200-317	\$480,000	\$0	\$480,000
25-DG-11094200-237	\$7,027	\$0	\$7,027

**FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
AWARD OF DOMESTIC GRANT 23-DG-11094200-317**

**Between
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES, NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF
And The
USDA, FOREST SERVICE
EASTERN REGION, STATE, PRIVATE, AND TRIBAL FORESTRY**

Project Title: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law New Hampshire Revegetation Funding

Upon execution of this document, an award to Natural and Cultural Resources, New Hampshire Department of, hereinafter referred to as “New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources,” in the amount of **\$320,000.00**, is made under the authority of Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act, P.L. 95-313 as amended, 16 U.S.C. 2103a. The Federal Assistance Listing (formerly Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance - CFDA) number and name are 10.678 - Forest Stewardship Program. Natural and Cultural Resources, New Hampshire Department of accepts this award for the purpose described in the application narrative. Your application for Federal financial assistance, dated 05/22/2023, and the attached Forest Service provisions, ‘Forest Service Award Provisions,’ are incorporated into this letter and made a part of this award.

This authority requires a match of 1:1, however, your organization has an approved match waiver on file. Therefore, no match is required for this award as shown in the attached application, financial plan, and narrative.

All required reports and official correspondence must be sent to SM.FS.R9SPFgrants@usda.gov and the assigned U.S. Forest Service Program Manager for internal record-keeping and processing.

This is an award of Federal financial assistance. Prime and sub-recipients to this award are subject to the OMB guidance in subparts A through F of 2 CFR Part 200 as adopted and supplemented by the USDA in 2 CFR Part 400. Adoption by USDA of the OMB guidance in 2 CFR 400 gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance in 2 CFR 200 where full text may be found.

Electronic copies of the CFRs can be obtained at the following internet site: www.ecfr.gov. If you are unable to retrieve these regulations electronically, please contact your Grants and Agreements Office at SM.FS.R9SPFgrants@usda.gov.

The following administrative provisions apply to this award:

- A. LEGAL AUTHORITY. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall have the legal authority to enter into this award, and the institutional,



managerial, and financial capability to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project, which includes funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project costs, when applicable.

- B. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS. Individuals listed below are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this award.

Principal Cooperator Contacts:

Cooperator Program Contact	Cooperator Administrative Contact
William Kunelius New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources 172 Pembroke Road Concord, NH 03301 603-796-2323 william.r.kunelius@dncr.nh.gov	Leslie Sherman New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources 172 Pembroke Road Concord, NH 03301 603-271-3456 leslie.a.sherman@dncr.nh.gov

Principal Forest Service Contacts:

Forest Service Program Manager Contact	Forest Service Administrative Contact
Carolyn Pike Eastern Region, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry 715 West State Street West Lafayette, IN 47907 765-496-6417 carolyn.c.pike@usda.gov	Justin Heersink Eastern Region, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry 626 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202 218-282-1863 justin.heersink@usda.gov

- C. SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT (SAM). New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall maintain current organizational information and the original Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) provided for this agreement in the System for Award Management (SAM) until receipt of final payment. This requires annual review and updates, when needed, of organizational information after the initial registration. More frequent review and updates may be required for changes in organizational information or agreement term(s). Any change to the original UEI provided in this agreement will result in termination of this agreement and de-obligation of any remaining funds. For purposes of this agreement, System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a Cooperative. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM Internet site at www.sam.gov.

D. ADVANCE AND REIMBURSABLE PAYMENTS – FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

Advance and Reimbursable payments are approved under this award. Only costs for those project activities approved in (1) the initial award, or (2) modifications thereto, are allowable. Requests for payment must be submitted on Standard Form 270 (SF-270), Request for Advance or Reimbursement, and must be submitted no more than monthly. In order to approve a Request for Advance Payment or Reimbursement, the Forest Service shall review such requests to ensure advances or payments for reimbursement are in compliance and otherwise consistent with OMB, USDA, and Forest Service regulations.

Advance payments must not exceed the minimum amount needed or no more than is needed for a 30-day period, whichever is less. If the Recipient receives an advance payment and subsequently requests an advance or reimbursement payment, then the request must clearly demonstrate that the previously advanced funds have been fully expended before the Forest Service can approve the request for payment. Any funds advanced, but not spent, upon expiration of this award must be returned to the Forest Service.

The Program Manager reserves the right to request additional information prior to approving a payment. To expedite payment, please attach a list of expenses that match the approved project budget when submitting each SF-270. Each SF-270 shall include the award number (**23-DG-11094200-317**) in Block 4. **A final SF-270 must have a final performance report submitted prior to its approval.**

The invoice must be sent by one of three methods: EMAIL (preferred): SM.FS.asc_ga@usda.gov FAX: 877-687-4894 POSTAL: Albuquerque Service Center Budget & Finance – Grants and Agreements 4000 Masthead St. NE Albuquerque, NM 87109
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E. INDIRECT COST RATES. The approved indirect cost rate at the time of execution is **14.02%** as shown in the NICRA provided by the Cooperator.

As new NICRAs are agreed to between New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and their cognizant audit agency, the revised provisional or final rate(s) are automatically incorporated into this award, as appropriate, and must specify (1) the agreed upon rates, (2) the bases to which the rates apply, (3) the fiscal year for which the rates apply, and (4) the items treated as direct costs. The award obligation will not increase as a result of indirect cost rate increases. Updates to NICRAs will not affect the total funds available for this award unless documented in a formally executed modification.

If the NICRA is for a provisional rate, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall be reimbursed at the established provisional rate(s), subject to appropriate adjustment when the final rate(s) for the fiscal year are established.

- F. PRIOR WRITTEN APPROVAL. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall obtain prior written approval pursuant to conditions set forth in 2 CFR 200.407.
- G. MODIFICATIONS. Modifications within the scope of this award must be made by mutual consent of the parties, by the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all properly authorized signatory officials, prior to any changes being performed. Requests for modification should be made, in writing, at least 90 days prior to implementation of the requested change. The Forest Service is not obligated to fund any changes not properly approved in advance.
- H. PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE. This agreement is executed as of the date of the Forest Service signatory official signature. Pre-award costs are authorized as of **01/01/2023** pursuant to 2 CFR 200.458.

The end date, or expiration date is **10/30/2028**. This instrument may be extended by a properly executed modification. *See Modification Provision above.*

- I. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES. By signature below, each party certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual parties are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this award. In witness whereof the parties hereto have executed this award.

(56)



SARAH STEWART, Commissioner
New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

12/12/23
Date

12/12/23
Date

ROBERT LUECKEL, Deputy Regional Forester
Eastern Region, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry

The authority and the format of this award have been reviewed and approved for signature.

JUSTIN HEERSINK Digitally signed by JUSTIN HEERSINK
Date: 2023.11.29 14:20:58 -05'00' 11/29/23

JUSTIN HEERSINK Date
Forest Service Grants Management Specialist

ATTACHMENT A: FOREST SERVICE AWARD PROVISIONS

- A. COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. Where permitted by terms of the award and Federal law, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources may enter into collaborative arrangements with other organizations to jointly carry out activities with Forest Service funds available under this award.
- B. FOREST SERVICE LIABILITY TO THE RECIPIENT. The United States shall not be liable to New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for any costs, damages, claims, liabilities, and judgments that arise in connection with the performance of work under this award, including damage to any property owned by New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources or any third party.
- C. NOTICES. Any notice given by the Forest Service or New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources will be sufficient only if in writing and delivered in person, mailed, or transmitted electronically by e-mail or fax, as follows:

To the Forest Service Program Manager, at the address specified in the award.

To New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, at the address shown in the award or such other address designated within the award.

Notices will be effective when delivered in accordance with this provision, or on the effective date of the notice, whichever is later.

- D. SUBAWARDS. Prior approval is required to issue subawards under this grant. The intent to subaward must be identified in the approved budget and scope of work and approved in the initial award or through subsequent modifications. Approval of each individual subaward is not required, however the cooperator must document that each sub-recipient does NOT have active exclusions in the System for Award Management (sam.gov).

The Cooperator must also ensure that they have evaluated each subrecipient's risk in accordance with 2 CFR 200.332 (b).

Any subrecipient under this award must be notified that they are subject to the OMB guidance in subparts A through F of 2 CFR Part 200, as adopted and supplemented by the USDA in 2 CFR Part 400. Any sub-award must follow the regulations found in 2 CFR 200.331 through .333.

All subawards \$30,000 or more must be reported at fhrs.gov in compliance with 2 CFR 170. See Attachment B for full text.

- E. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORTING. A Federal Financial Report, Standard Form SF-425 (and Federal Financial Report Attachment, SF-425A, if required for reporting multiple awards), must be submitted quarterly. These reports are due 30 days after the

reporting period ending March 31, June 30, September 30, December 31. The final SF-425 (and SF-425A, if applicable) must be submitted either with the final payment request or no later than 120 days from the expiration date of the award. These forms may be found at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms.html>.

- F. PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORTS. The recipient shall perform all actions identified and funded in application/modification narratives within the performance period identified in award.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.301, reports must relate financial data to performance accomplishments of the federal award.

New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall submit quarterly performance reports. These reports are due 30 days after the reporting period ending March 31, June 30, September 30, December 31. The final performance report shall be submitted either with New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources's final payment request, or separately, but not later than 120 days from the expiration date of the award.

- Additional pertinent information:

- To prevent payment delays, all reports should be emailed to SM.FS.R9SPFgrants@usda.gov and the U.S. Forest Service Program Manager prior to their respective due dates. Please ensure the subject line of the email contains the award number **(23-DG-11094200-317)** and the name of report being submitted.
- The final performance report must be submitted and approved prior to approval of the final SF-270 payment request.

- G. NOTIFICATION. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall immediately notify the Forest Service of developments that have a significant impact on the activities supported under this award. Also, notification must be given in case of problems, delays or adverse conditions that materially impair the ability to meet the objectives of the award. This notification must include a statement of the action taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation.

- H. CHANGES IN KEY PERSONNEL. Any revision to key personnel identified in this award requires notification of the Forest Service Program Manager by email or letter.

- I. USE OF FOREST SERVICE INSIGNIA. In order for New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to use the Forest Service insignia on any published media, such as a Web page, printed publication, or audiovisual production, permission must be granted by the Forest Service's Office of Communications (Washington Office). A written request will be submitted by Forest Service, Program Manager, to the Office of Communications Assistant Director, Visual Information and Publishing Services prior to use of the insignia. The Forest Service Program Manager will notify

New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources when permission is granted.

- J. FUNDING EQUIPMENT FOR STATE RECIPIENTS. Federal funding under this award is available for reimbursement of the State's purchase of equipment. Equipment is defined as having a fair market value of \$5,000 or more per unit and a useful life of over one year. States will adhere to State laws and procedures regarding purchase, use, and disposition of equipment.
- K. PUBLIC NOTICES. It is Forest Service's policy to inform the public as fully as possible of its programs and activities. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is encouraged to give public notice of the receipt of this award and, from time to time, to announce progress and accomplishments.

New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources may call on Forest Service's Office of Communication for advice regarding public notices. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is requested to provide copies of notices or announcements to the Forest Service Program Manager and to Forest Service's Office Communications as far in advance of release as possible.

- L. FOREST SERVICE ACKNOWLEDGED IN PUBLICATIONS, AUDIOVISUALS, AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall acknowledge Forest Service support in any publications, audiovisuals, and electronic media developed as a result of this award. Follow direction in USDA Supplemental 2 CFR 415.2.
- M. COPYRIGHTING. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is/are granted sole and exclusive right to copyright any publications developed as a result of this award. This includes the right to publish and vend throughout the world in any language and in all media and forms, in whole or in part, for the full term of copyright and all renewals thereof in accordance with this award.

No original text or graphics produced and submitted by the Forest Service shall be copyrighted. The Forest Service reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and to authorize others to use the work for federal government purposes.

This right shall be transferred to any sub-awards or subcontracts.

This provision includes:

- The copyright in any work developed by New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources under this award.
- Any right of copyright to which New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources purchase(s) ownership with any federal contributions.

- N. NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT – PRINTED, ELECTRONIC, OR AUDIOVISUAL MATERIAL. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall include the following statement, in full, in any printed, audiovisual material, or electronic media for public distribution developed or printed with any Federal funding.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, and American Sign Language) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, which can be obtained online at <https://www.ocio.usda.gov/document/ad-3027>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or*
- (2) Fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or*
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov.*

If the material is too small to permit the full Non-Discrimination Statement to be included, the material will, at a minimum, include the alternative statement:

“This institution is an equal opportunity provider.”

- O. DISPUTES.

1. Any dispute under this award shall be decided by the Signatory Official. The Signatory Official shall furnish New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources a written copy of the decision.
2. Decisions of the Signatory Official shall be final unless, within 30 days of receipt of the decision of the Signatory Official, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources appeal(s) the decision to the Forest Service's Director, State,

Private, and Tribal Forestry (SP&TF). Any appeal made under this provision shall be in writing and addressed to the Director, SP&TF, USDA, Forest Service, Washington, DC 20024. A copy of the appeal shall be concurrently furnished to the Signatory Official.

3. In order to facilitate review on the record by the Director, SP&TF, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall be given an opportunity to submit written evidence in support of its appeal. No hearing will be provided.
 4. A decision under this provision by the Director, SP&TF is final.
 5. The final decision by the Director, SP&TF does not preclude New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources from pursuing remedies available under the law.
- P. AWARD CLOSEOUT. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources must submit, no later than 120 calendar days after the end date of the period of performance, all financial, performance, and other reports as required by the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

Any unobligated balance of cash advanced to New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources must be immediately refunded to the Forest Service, including any interest earned in accordance with 2 CFR 200.344(d).

If this award is closed without audit, the Forest Service reserves the right to disallow and recover an appropriate amount after fully considering any recommended disallowances resulting from an audit which may be conducted later.

- Q. TERMINATION. This award may be terminated, in whole or part pursuant to 2 CFR 200.340.
- R. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall immediately inform the Forest Service if they or any of their principals are presently excluded, debarred, or suspended from entering into covered transactions with the federal government according to the terms of 2 CFR Part 180. Additionally, should New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources or any of their principals receive a transmittal letter or other official federal notice of debarment or suspension, then they shall notify the Forest Service without undue delay. This applies whether the exclusion, debarment, or suspension is voluntary or involuntary. The Recipient shall adhere to 2 CFR Part 180 Subpart C in regards to review of sub-recipients or contracts for debarment and suspension.

All subrecipients and contractors must complete the form AD-1048, Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion, Lower Tier Covered Transactions. Blank forms are available electronically. Completed forms must be kept on file with the primary recipient.

- S. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. Pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 22, no member of, or delegate to, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this award, or benefits that may arise therefrom, either directly or indirectly.
- T. TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.
1. Provisions applicable to a Recipient that is a private entity.
 - a. You as the Recipient, your employees, Subrecipients under this award, and Subrecipients' employees may not:
 - (1) Engage in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect;
 - (2) Procure a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect; or
 - (3) Use forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.
 - b. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if you or a Subrecipient that is a private entity:
 - (1) Is determined to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
 - (2) Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either:
 - i. Associated with performance under this award; or
 - ii. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),".
 2. Provision applicable to a Recipient other than a private entity. We as the Federal awarding agency may unilaterally terminate this award, without penalty, if a subrecipient that is a private entity:
 - a. Is determined to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term; or
 - b. Has an employee who is determined by the agency official authorized to terminate the award to have violated an applicable prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term through conduct that is either—
 - (1) Associated with performance under this award; or
 - (2) Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 2 CFR part 180, "OMB Guidelines to Agencies on Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement),".

3. Provisions applicable to any recipient.
 - a. You must inform us immediately of any information you receive from any source alleging a violation of a prohibition in paragraph a.1 of this award term.
 - b. Our right to terminate unilaterally that is described in paragraph a.2 or b of this section:
 - (1) Implements section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)), and
 - (2) Is in addition to all other remedies for noncompliance that are available to us under this award.
 - c. You must include the requirements of paragraph a.1 of this award term in any subaward you make to a private entity.
4. Definitions. For purposes of this award term:
 - a. "Employee" means either:
 - (1) An individual employed by you or a subrecipient who is engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award; or
 - (2) Another person engaged in the performance of the project or program under this award and not compensated by you including, but not limited to, a volunteer or individual whose services are contributed by a third party as an in-kind contribution toward cost sharing or matching requirements.
 - b. "Forced labor" means labor obtained by any of the following methods: the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.
 - c. "Private entity":
 - (1) Means any entity other than a State, local government, Indian tribe, or foreign public entity, as those terms are defined in 2 CFR 175.25.
 - (2) Includes:
 - i. A nonprofit organization, including any nonprofit institution of higher education, hospital, or tribal organization other than one included in the definition of Indian tribe at 2 CFR 175.25(b).
 - ii. A for-profit organization.
 - d. "Severe forms of trafficking in persons," "commercial sex act," and "coercion" have the meanings given at section 103 of the TVPA, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7102).

U. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE.

1. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources agree(s) that it will publish a drug-free workplace statement and provide a copy to each employee who will be engaged in the performance of any project/program that receives federal funding. The statement must
 - a. Tell the employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in its workplace;
 - b. Specify the actions New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources will take against employees for violating that prohibition; and

- c. Let each employee know that, as a condition of employment under any award, the employee:
 - (1) Shall abide by the terms of the statement, and
 - (2) Shall notify New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in writing if they are convicted for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace, and shall do so no more than 5 calendar days after the conviction.
2. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources agree(s) that it will establish an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about
 - a. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - b. The established policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - c. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation and employee assistance programs; and
 - d. The penalties that you may impose upon them for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace.
3. Without the Program Manager's expressed written approval, the policy statement and program must be in place as soon as possible, no later than the 30 days after the effective date of this instrument, or the completion date of this award, whichever occurs first.
4. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources agrees to immediately notify the Program Manager if an employee is convicted of a drug violation in the workplace. The notification must be in writing, identify the employee's position title, the award number of each award on which the employee worked. The notification must be sent to the Program Manager within 10 calendar days after New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources learns of the conviction.
5. Within 30 calendar days of learning about an employee's conviction, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources must either
 - a. Take appropriate personnel action against the employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), as amended, or
 - b. Require the employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for these purposes by a Federal, State or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

V. PROHIBITION AGAINST USING FUNDS WITH ENTITIES THAT REQUIRE CERTAIN INTERNAL CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS.

1. The recipient may not require its employees, contractors, or subrecipients seeking to report fraud, waste, or abuse to sign or comply with internal confidentiality agreements or statements prohibiting or otherwise restricting them from lawfully

reporting that waste, fraud, or abuse to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information.

2. The recipient must notify its employees, contractors, or subrecipients that the prohibitions and restrictions of any internal confidentiality agreements inconsistent with paragraph (1) of this award provision are no longer in effect.
3. The prohibition in paragraph (1) of this award provision does not contravene requirements applicable to any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.
4. If the Government determines that the recipient is not in compliance with this award provision, it;
 - a. Will prohibit the recipient's use of funds under this award in accordance with sections 743, 744 of Division E of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2016, (Pub. L. 114-113) or any successor provision of law; and
 - b. May pursue other remedies available for the recipient's material failure to comply with award terms and conditions.

W. ELIGIBLE WORKERS. New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall ensure that all employees complete the I-9 form to certify that they are eligible for lawful employment under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a)). New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources shall comply with regulations regarding certification and retention of the completed forms. These requirements also apply to any contract or supplemental instruments awarded under this award.

X. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA). Public access to award or agreement records must not be limited, except when such records must be kept confidential and would have been exempted from disclosure pursuant to Freedom of Information regulations (5 U.S.C. 552). Requests for research data are subject to 2 CFR 315(e).

Public access to culturally sensitive data and information of Federally-recognized Tribes may also be explicitly limited by P.L. 110-234, Title VIII Subtitle B §8106 (2009 Farm Bill).

Y. TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING. In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," any and all text messaging by Federal employees is banned: a) while driving a Government owned vehicle (GOV) or driving a privately owned vehicle (POV) while on official Government business; or b) using any electronic equipment supplied by the Government when driving any vehicle at any time. All Cooperators, their Employees, Volunteers, and Contractors are encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging when driving company owned, leased or rented vehicles, POVs or GOVs when driving while on official Government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government.

- Z. PROMOTING FREE SPEECH AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. As a recipient of USDA financial assistance, you will comply with the following:
1. Do not discriminate against applicants for sub-grants on the basis of their religious character.
 2. 7 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 16.3(a), Rights of Religious Organizations.
 3. Statutory and National policy requirements, including those prohibiting discrimination and those described in Executive Order 13798 promoting free speech and religious freedom, 2 CFR 200.300.

- AA. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT. The cooperator (including subrecipients) is responsible for compliance with the prohibition on certain telecommunications and video surveillance services or equipment identified in 2 CFR 200.216. See Public Law 115-232, Section 889 for additional information.

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.216, the grantee (including subrecipients) is prohibited from obligating or expending loan or grant funds for covered telecommunications equipment or services to:

- (1) procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain;
- (2) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure; or
- (3) obtain the equipment, services or systems.

- BB. DAVIS BACON WAGES FOR CONSTRUCTION. Following the requirement in Section 41101 of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, P.L. 117-58, Davis-Bacon wage rates must be applied for all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction, alteration, or repair work on a project assisted in whole or in part by funding made available under this Act. Laborers and mechanics shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar projects in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Davis-Bacon Act”).

- CC. BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA (OMB Memo M-22-11). Recipients of an award of Federal financial assistance from a program for infrastructure are hereby notified that none of the funds provided under this award may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

1. All iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States--this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
2. All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard for

- determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and
3. All construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States. This excludes cement and cementitious materials, aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel, or aggregate binding agents or additives.

The Buy America preference only applies to articles, materials, and supplies that are consumed in, incorporated into, or affixed to an infrastructure project. As such, it does not apply to tools, equipment, and supplies, such as temporary scaffolding, brought to the construction site and removed at or before the completion of the infrastructure project. Nor does a Buy America preference apply to equipment and furnishings, such as movable chairs, desks, and portable computer equipment, that are used at or within the finished infrastructure project, but are not an integral part of the structure or permanently affixed to the infrastructure project.

Waivers

When necessary, recipients may apply for, and the agency may grant, a waiver from these requirements. The agency should notify the recipient for information on the process for requesting a waiver from these requirements.

1. When the Federal agency has made a determination that one of the following exceptions applies, the awarding official may waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference in any case in which the agency determines that:
 - a. Applying the domestic content procurement preference would be inconsistent with the public interest;
 - b. The types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
 - c. The inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25 percent.

A request to waive the application of the domestic content procurement preference must be in writing. The agency will provide instructions on the format, contents, and supporting materials required for any waiver request. Waiver requests are subject to public comment periods of no less than 15 days and must be reviewed by the Made in America Office.

There may be instances where an award qualifies, in whole or in part, for an existing waiver.

Definitions

“Construction materials” includes an article, material, or supply—other than an item of primarily iron or steel; a manufactured product; cement and cementitious materials; aggregates such as stone, sand, or gravel; or aggregate binding agents or additives—

that is or consists primarily of:

- Non-ferrous metals;
- Plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
- Glass (including optic glass);
- Lumber; or
- Drywall.

“Domestic content procurement preference” means all iron and steel used in the project are produced in the United States; the manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States; or the construction materials used in the project are produced in the United States.

“Infrastructure” includes, at a minimum, the structures, facilities, and equipment for, in the United States, roads, highways, and bridges; public transportation; dams, ports, harbors, and other maritime facilities; intercity passenger and freight railroads; freight and intermodal facilities; airports; water systems, including drinking water and wastewater systems; electrical transmission facilities and systems; utilities; broadband infrastructure; and buildings and real property. Infrastructure includes facilities that generate, transport, and distribute energy.

“Project” means the construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of infrastructure in the United States.

ATTACHMENT B: 2 CFR PART 170

Appendix A to Part 170—Award Term

I. Reporting Subawards and Executive Compensation

a. *Reporting of first-tier subawards.*

1. *Applicability.* Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that equals or exceeds \$30,000 in Federal funds for a subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
2. *Where and when to report.*
 - i. The non-Federal entity or Federal agency must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.1. of this award term to <http://www.fsrs.gov>.
 - ii. For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)
3. *What to report.* You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at <http://www.fsrs.gov> specify.

b. *Reporting total compensation of recipient executives for non-Federal entities.*

1. *Applicability and what to report.* You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—
 - i. The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award equals or exceeds \$30,000 as defined in 2 CFR 170.320;
 - ii. in the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards), and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and,
 - iii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/excomp.htm>.)
2. *Where and when to report.* You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.1. of this award term:
 - i. As part of your registration profile at <https://www.sam.gov>.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.

c. *Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.*

1. *Applicability and what to report.* Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier non-Federal entity subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most

highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i. in the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards) and,
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - ii. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/excomp.htm>.)
2. *Where and when to report.* You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.1. of this award term:
- i. To the recipient.
 - ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (*i.e.*, between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.
- d. *Exemptions.* If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:
- i. Subawards, and
 - ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.
- e. *Definitions.* For purposes of this award term:
1. Federal Agency means a Federal agency as defined at 5 U.S.C. 551(1) and further clarified by 5 U.S.C. 552(f).
 2. Non-Federal *entity* means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR part 25:
 - i. A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - ii. A foreign public entity;
 - iii. A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and,
 - iv. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization
 3. *Executive* means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
 4. *Subaward:*
 - i. This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - ii. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see 2 CFR 200.331).
 - iii. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.

5. *Subrecipient* means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:
 - i. Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and
 - ii. Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
6. *Total compensation* means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2)).

END OF ATTACHMENT B: 2 CFR PART 170

ATTACHMENT C: WHISTLEBLOWER NOTICE

Whistleblowers perform an important service to USDA and the public when they come forward with what they reasonably believe to be evidence of wrongdoing. They should never be subject to reprisal for doing so. Federal law protects federal employees as well as personal services contractors and employees of Federal contractors, subcontractors, grantees, and subgrantees against reprisal for whistleblowing. USDA bears the responsibility to ensure that nothing in a non-disclosure agreement which a contractor, subcontractor, grantee, or subgrantee requires their employees to sign should be interpreted as limiting their ability to provide information to the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

41 U.S.C. § 4712 requires the head of each executive agency to ensure that its contractors inform their workers in writing of the rights and remedies under the statute. Accordingly, it is illegal for a personal services contractor or an employee of a Federal contractor, subcontractor, grantee, or subgrantee to be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against for making a protected whistleblower disclosure. In this context, these categories of individuals are whistleblowers who disclose information that the individual reasonably believes is evidence of one of the following:

- Gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant;
- A gross waste of Federal funds;
- An abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant;
- A substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or
- A violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant.

To be protected under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, the disclosure must be made to one of the following:

- A Member of Congress, or a representative of a committee of Congress;
- The OIG;
- The Government Accountability Office (GAO);
- A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at USDA;
- An otherwise authorized official at USDA or other law enforcement agency;
- A court or grand jury; or
- A management official or other employee of the contractor, subcontractor, or grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

Under 41 U.S.C. § 4712, personal services contractors as well as employees of contractors, subcontractors, grantees, or subgrantees may file a complaint with OIG, who will investigate the matter unless they determine that the complaint is frivolous, fails to allege a violation of the prohibition against whistleblower reprisal, or has been addressed in another proceeding. OIG's investigation is then presented to the head of the executive agency who evaluates the facts of the investigation and can order the contractor, subcontractor, grantee, or subgrantee

to take remedial action, such as reinstatement or back pay.

Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 3.903, *Whistleblower Protections for Contractor Employees, Policy*, prohibits government contractors from retaliating against a contract worker for making a protected disclosure related to the contract. FAR Subpart 3.909-1 prohibits the Government from using funds for a contract with an entity that requires its employees or subcontractors to sign internal confidentiality statements prohibiting or restricting disclosures of fraud, waste, or abuse to designated persons. This prohibition does not contravene agreements pertaining to classified information. The regulation also requires contracting officers to insert FAR clause 52.203-17, *Contractor Employee Whistleblower Rights and Requirement to Inform Employees of Whistleblower Rights*, in all solicitations and contracts that exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold as defined in FAR Subpart 3.908. This clause requires notification to contractor employees that they are subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies referenced in 41 U.S.C. § 4712.

In order to make a complaint alleging any of the violations mentioned above, one should complete the OIG Hotline form located at: <https://www.usda.gov/oig/hotline>. For additional information, they may also visit the WPC's webpage at: <https://www.usda.gov/oig/wpc> or they may directly contact the WPC at OIGWPC@oig.usda.gov.



MODIFICATION OF GRANT OR AGREEMENT		PAGE PAGES	OF
		1	21
1. U.S. FOREST SERVICE GRANT/AGREEMENT NUMBER: 23-DG-11094200-317		2. RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR GRANT or AGREEMENT NUMBER, IF ANY:	
4. NAME/ADDRESS OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE UNIT ADMINISTERING GRANT/AGREEMENT (unit name, street, city, state, and zip + 4): Eastern Region, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry 626 East Wisconsin Avenue Milwaukee, WI 53202-4616		5. NAME/ADDRESS OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE UNIT ADMINISTERING PROJECT/ACTIVITY (unit name, street, city, state, and zip + 4): State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, Durham Field Ofc. 271 Mast Road Durham, NH 03824-0640	
6. NAME/ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR (street, city, state, and zip + 4, county): New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources 172 Pembroke RD Concord, NH 03301-5791 Merrimack County		7. RECIPIENT/COOPERATOR'S HHS SUB ACCOUNT NUMBER (For HHS payment use only):	
8. PURPOSE OF MODIFICATION			
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:	This modification is issued pursuant to the modification provision in the grant/agreement referenced in item no. 1, above.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	CHANGE IN PERFORMANCE PERIOD:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CHANGE IN FUNDING: Additional Funding \$160,000.00		
<input type="checkbox"/>	ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (Specify type of modification): Budget Reallocation - See Mod		
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the Grant/Agreement referenced in 1, above, remain unchanged and in full force and effect.			
9. ADDITIONAL SPACE FOR DESCRIPTION OF MODIFICATION (add additional pages as needed):			
10. ATTACHED DOCUMENTATION (Check all that apply):			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revised Scope of Work		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Revised Financial Plan		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other: Cover Letter, SF-424, SF-424A, Narrative and Expanded Budget, Equipment Justifications		
11. SIGNATURES			
<u>AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:</u> BY SIGNATURE BELOW, THE SIGNING PARTIES CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PARTIES AND AUTHORIZED TO ACT IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS FOR MATTERS RELATED TO THE ABOVE-REFERENCED GRANT/AGREEMENT.			
11.A. COOPERATOR SIGNATURE	11.B. DATE SIGNED	11.C. U.S. FOREST SERVICE SIGNATURE	11.D. DATE SIGNED
(Signature of Signatory Official)	8/26/25	(Signature of Signatory Official)	
11.E. NAME (type or print): SARAH STEWART		11.F. NAME (type or print): STEVEN MILLER	
11.G. TITLE (type or print): Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources		11.H. TITLE (type or print): Acting Deputy Regional Forester Eastern Region, State, Private, and Tribal Forestry	



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FS-1500-19 (VER. 05/24)

OMB No. 0596-0217

EXP: 05/31/2027

12. G&A REVIEW

12.A. The authority and format of this modification have been reviewed and approved for signature by:

JUSTIN HEERSINK

U.S. Forest Service Grants & Agreements Specialist

12.B. DATE
SIGNED

8/25/25



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FS-1500-19 (VER. 05/24)

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EXP: 05/31/2027

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond, to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Persons are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0217. Response to this collection of information is mandatory. The authority to collect the information Section 7 of the Granger-Thye Act (16 U.S.C. 580d) and Title IV of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1751-1753). The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering, and maintaining the data needed and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Room 404-W, Washington, D.C. 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB# 0596-0217), 725 17th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20503.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

The Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a and the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.