State and Private Forestry within the Forest Service reaches across the boundaries of the NFS lands to States, Tribes, communities, and nonindustrial private land owners. Related authorities authorize providing technical and financial assistance to States and others to help sustain the Nation’s forests and protect communities and the environment from wildland fires.

**Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (P.L. 95–313, as amended)**
- Assist forest stewardship on private, State, and local lands.
- Improve timber stands.
- Manage insect infestation and disease.
- Support urban forestry.
- Aid fire prevention.
- Manage and support Forest Legacy Program.

**Wood Education and Resource Center (WERC) (P.L. 105–77, as amended)**
- Enhance forest products in the eastern hardwood industry.

**Collaborative Forest Restoration—Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act (P.L. 106–393 §605)**
- Apply only to projects in New Mexico.
- Promote healthy watersheds.
- Reduce threat of large high intensity wildfire.
- Improve function of forest ecosystems.
KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT AND PARTNERSHIP

Partnership programs are vital to accomplishing the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Forest Service mission. Involvement of the appropriate staff early in the process prevents delays and ensures Forest Service integrity and transparency in all partnership arrangements.

- Engage appropriate staff (line officers, budget officers, grants specialists, etc.) early in the process;
- Confirm the partner is a legal entity currently registered and active in the System for Awards Management (SAM);
- Establish a clearly defined scope of work and financial plan; and
- Ensure proposed project activities are approved and all necessary analysis—such as Work-Plan, environmental reviews, cost analysis, equipment justification—has been completed.

A partnership is not itself a goal, but rather a means of achieving a goal.

This guide provides information on the use of the most common grants and agreements (G&A) authorities. It is not a complete list of laws affecting the Forest Service. Always contact your G&A specialist before you begin a project or contact partners. For more information, visit http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/aqm3/pages/grants-agreements for statutory authorities available from U.S. Code (U.S.C.) websites and other resource links.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Public Law (P.L.) 106–393 §605
- Promote healthy watersheds.

Good Neighbor authority (16 U.S.C. 2113A)
- Allow States to perform restoration and protection services on National Forest System (NFS) lands, except wilderness areas.
- Treat infected trees.
- Reduce hazardous fuels.
- Improve watershed, fish, and wildlife habitat.

- Construct, reconstruct, maintain forest development roads.

- Cooperate with local government for the enforcement of law or ordinances on lands within or part of the NFS lands.

Stewardship End Result Contracting, as amended, P.L. 113–79
- Perform services to achieve land management goals for the NFS lands that meet local and rural community needs.

- Protect, restore, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat and other resources on public or private land that benefit those resources with a watershed.

Reciprocal Fire Protection Act (42 U.S.C. 1856a)
- Provide reciprocal protection with fire organizations maintaining fire protection facilities in the vicinity of NFS lands.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Federal Technology Transfer Act (P.L. 96-480)
- Accomplish cooperative research for technological transfer for commercial purposes.

Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act (16 U.S.C. 1641–1650)
- Conduct forest and rangeland research.
- Lead research on trees and timber management, forest watersheds management and rehabilitation, wildlife, range, fish habitat, forest recreation, forest products and harvesting, forest atmospheric sciences, forest insect and diseases, forest inventory and analysis, and renewable resources and economics.
- Accept funding for research activities from organizations in the United States and in other countries.

National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Act (P.L. 95–113)
- Provide agricultural, research, extension, and teaching activities.
- Acquire goods or services without competition to colleges and universities for agricultural, research, extension, and teaching activities.

CREATING A COLLABORATIVE CULTURE

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