THE AGREEMENT'S DECISION TREE

Does the agreement include the exchange or expenditure of something of value (for example, funds or services)?

- NO
  - Is it a non-binding agreement?
    - YES
      - Memorandum of Understanding
        - A non-FSM 1580 instrument. Seek advice from appropriate staff area (for example, property transfers).
    - NO
      - These questions above do not apply.

Select Appropriate Questions/Responses

- YES
  - Does the FS procure goods and/or services for the direct benefit of the agency?
  - Is the agreement for authorized restoration services with a State, county, or tribe?
  - Will the FS use forest/commercial products to fund approved activities?
  - Is there a mutual benefit, mutual interest, and cost sharing?
  - Does the FS transfer anything of value, such as funds, to a recipient to accomplish a public purpose as authorized by law?
  - Will the FS perform a service, or provide goods for a cooperator with cooperator funds?
  - Does the project deal with law enforcement, fire protection, or roads?

Note: This is a tool. Be sure to consult with FSH 1509.11 and your local G&A specialist for additional information.

Answer Primary Follow-Up Questions

- Does the project cover one of the following:
  1. Pollution abatement?
  2. Manpower/job training?
  3. Publication of forestry history materials?
  4. Interpretive associations?
  5. Forest protection?
  6. Prescribed fire?
  7. Watershed restoration and enhancement?

- Will the FS cooperatively develop, plan, and implement a project with a cooperator that is mutually beneficial and enhances FS activities?

- Is the project for agricultural sciences to conduct research or teaching activities as defined in statute?

- Is the FS substantially involved?

- Is the cooperator a Federal agency?

- State or local laws?

- Fire?

- Joint road system?

Primary Instrument Type

- Contract (non-FSM 1580)
- Interagency Agreement (outgoing funds)
- Cost Reimbursable Agreement
- Good Neighbor
- Stewardship
- Participating Agreement
- Challenge Cost Share Agreement
- Joint Venture Agreement
- Grant
- Cooperative Agreement
- Collection Agreement
- Interagency Agreement (incoming funds)
- Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement
- Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement
- Cooperative Forest Road Agreement

*Ask your Grants Management Specialist for assistance in determining which authority fits your project best.