

31.31 - Cost Recovery

The fees in the schedule are updated annually by using the annual rate of change, second quarter to second quarter, in the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross Domestic Product (IPD-GDP) index. The Forest Service rounds the changes in the rates either up or down to the nearest dollar (36 CFR 251.58). IPD-GDP values used to calculate cost recovery fee schedules can be found below in section 36.41.

Processing and Monitoring Fee Schedule for Applications and Authorizations

Category	Hours	Processing and Monitoring Fee CY 2025*
1 (Minimal Impact)	Estimated work hours are $>1 \leq 8$	\$155
2	Estimated work hours are $>8 \leq 24$	\$549
3	Estimated work hours are $>24 \leq 36$	\$1,033
4	Estimated work hours are $>36 \leq 50$	\$1,481
5 (Master Agreements)	Varies	As specified in the Agreement
6 (Major Agreements)	Estimated work hours are >50	Full reasonable costs (FLPMA) Full actual costs (MLA)

* Pursuant to 36 CFR 251.58(g), no processing or monitoring fee shall be charged for:

- Applications and authorizations that require one hour or less for the Agency to process or monitor.
- Applications and authorizations for recreation special uses that require 50 hours or less to process or monitor.
- Applications and authorizations for a noncommercial group use (36 CFR 251.51).
- Applications and authorizations to exempt a noncommercial activity from a closure order, except for applications or authorizations for access to non-Federal lands within the boundaries of the National Forest System granted under section 1323(a) of Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3210(a)).
- Applications and authorizations for water systems authorized by section 501(c) of Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1761 and 1761(c)).
- Applications submitted to and authorizations issued by a Federal agency under authorities other than Title V of FLPMA (43 U.S.C. 1761–1771); the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 185); the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470h-2); or the Act of May 26, 2000 (16 U.S.C. 4601–6d).