

**Forest Service Manual
National Headquarters - Washington Office
Washington, DC**

Forest Service Manual 1500 – External Relations

Zero Code

Amendment: 1500-2007-1

Effective date: April 26, 2007

Duration: This amendment is effective until superseded or removed.

Superseded Directive: 1500 zero code, Amendment 1500-2005-1, July 29, 2005

Approved by: Gloria Manning, Associate Deputy Chief

Date approved: April 04, 2007

Responsible Staff:

Explanation of changes: Following is an explanation of the changes throughout the directive by section.

1509.12: Changes title FSH 1509.12 from “Appeals Handbook” to “36 CFR 215 Appeals Handbook”.

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At international, national, and local levels, the Forest Service has both formal and informal working relations with others outside the Forest Service.

Through authorized channels the Forest Service works with the Congress in legislative matters. In many activities it works with other Federal agencies and establishments, and with States and local governmental organizations. Similarly, it cooperates directly and indirectly with international organizations and with governments of friendly nations. In addition, the Forest Service has working relationships of many kinds with nongovernmental groups; such as business firms, trade associations, and civic groups.

Some of the working relationships are a result of laws; some follow from Executive orders, Department regulations, or contracts and agreements. In other cases, the working relationships develop from a mutual interest in related fields of activity.

1502 - Objective

It is the objective of the Forest Service:

1. To conduct its external relations with business like efficiency.
2. To conform with policy instructions.
3. To encourage the development of sound forestry and a forestry consciousness throughout the world.

1503 - Policy

It is Forest Service policy:

1. To enter into Service-wide agreements with various external entities when:
 - a. An arrangement is authorized.
 - b. An agreement is mutually beneficial.
 - c. An agreement will coordinate efforts and eliminate duplication and waste.
2. To place all Service-wide agreements with various international entities, Federal agencies, State agencies, county agencies, local agencies, businesses, and non-profit organizations in the appropriate chapters of this title.
3. To place cross-references to these agreements in the appropriate titles of the Forest Service Manual for the pertinent program.

1509 - Handbooks

1509.1 - Internal Service-Wide Handbooks

1509.11 - Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Other Agreements Handbook (FSH)

This Handbook provides authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, and procedural instructions related to the various types of agreements.

1509.12 - 36 CFR 215 Appeals Handbook

This Handbook provides authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, and procedural direction related to appeals filed under Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, part 215.

1509.13 - American Indian and Alaska Native Relations Handbook

This Handbook provides authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, and procedural instructions related to maintaining relationships with Tribes.

1509.2 - Unit Handbooks

1509.21 - Litigation Support Handbook (FSH)

Units may issue Handbooks at this code to provide technical guidance on processing litigation.