



**FOREST SERVICE MANUAL
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION (R5)
VALLEJO, CALIFORNIA**

**FSM 2700 - SPECIAL USES MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER 20 - SPECIAL USES ADMINISTRATION**

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Digest:

Removed 2725.5.2 Unique Attractions.

Removed 2725. 51 and 2725.52 references to filming fee schedule.

Removed 2726.43.4 and Exhibit 2726.43 01. Memorandum of Understanding.

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2725 INDUSTRY

2725.5 - ARTS

Authorize the use of National Forest System lands for commercial photography and motion picture and television locations only where such uses do not seriously impact forest land resources or other uses, or do not unreasonably interfere with National Forest management. Forests may require the posting of forest officers in order to assure resource protection, fire prevention, or similar activities.

Grant permits for filming on areas under Special Use Permit only with concurrence of the permittee.

1. Fee Schedule. Determine basic fees as provided by FSH 2709.11, 31.51 (R5 Supplement)
2. Permit Applications. Require the following documentation with the permit application:
 - a. Number of people involved on-location, whether employees, volunteers, contractors, or other personnel.
 - b. A schedule of times, dates, and location of operations.
 - c. All equipment or chemicals to be available on-location.
 - d. Changes in the natural condition of the area that can reasonably be expected to result from the production.
3. Other Requirements. Where appropriate, the District Ranger shall require liability insurance and performance bonds (site rehabilitation) that protect the public interest.
4. Allow filming in wilderness areas only when:
 - a. It is demonstrated that a wilderness setting is required.
 - b. No reasonable alternative outside of a wilderness exists.
 - c. Impacts are negligible.
5. The restrictions for any use of motor vehicles and mechanized equipment in wilderness areas apply to these activities (FSM 2326).
6. Collection Agreements. Use collection agreements to recover costs incurred by the Forest Service for activities which are the responsibility of the permittee, such as the posting of forest officers to assure resource protection, fire prevention, or similar activities, and for costs incurred by the use of government buildings, equipment, and employees (See FSM 1584).

2726 - ENERGY GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION

2726.43 - POWERLINE

1. Objectives:
 - a. To eliminate or mitigate long-term conflicts between overhead powerlines and the management of National Forest lands and resources.
 - b. To eliminate identified fire and safety hazards.

2. Policy. The following direction applies in those cases where trenching is reasonable and topography is accessible, and where resource damage can be minimized during undergrounding.
 - a. Powerlines Up To and Including 35 KV. Place all new powerline installations underground, except where the environmental analysis indicates that aerial construction provides better protection for National Forest resource and environmental values.

The authorizing officer shall consider undergrounding of existing aerial powerline installations as an alternative when the holder proposes those lines for upgrading, replacement, or reconstruction, except where the environmental analysis clearly indicates that aerial construction provides better protection for National Forest resource and environmental values. Undergrounding should not be required when in-kind pole replacement is being proposed, but should be considered for reconstruction where entire lines or segments are destroyed by wildfire or proposed for complete replacement.
 - b. Powerlines Over 35 KV. Forest Service officers may authorize aerial construction, except for those areas where the environmental analysis clearly indicates unacceptable effects to National Forest resource and environmental values.

While it is technically feasible to underground electric powerlines over 35 KV, construction costs and operational problems increase substantially. Consider undergrounding only after a thorough assessment of the situation by the authorizing officer.
 - c. Alternative energy sources, including solar, should be analyzed in lieu of dedicated powerlines to remote communication sites for new and re-issued authorizations.
3. High Hazard Clause. Do not include the high hazard clause with any undergrounding authorization.

2728 - COMMUNICATIONS

1. Objectives:
 - a. To eliminate or mitigate long-term conflicts between overhead powerlines and the management of National Forest lands and resources.
 - b. To eliminate identified fire and safety hazards.
2. Policy. The following direction applies in those cases where trenching is reasonable and topography is accessible, and where resource damage can be minimized during undergrounding.

Place all new communication line installations (including telephone, telegraph, cable TV, and the like) underground, except where the environmental analysis indicates that aerial construction provides better protection for National Forest resource and environmental values.