

**SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR  
OUTFITTING AND GUIDING**

**Authority: Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, 16 U.S.C. 6802(h)  
(Ref. FSH 2709.11, section 41.53)**

<This form may be used to authorize up to 10-year priority use, 2-year priority use, or one-year transitional priority use. Do not authorize temporary use on this form. Delete all instructions prior to printing.>

<Choose one of the following provisions. If you select 2-year priority use, this selection must also be made for clause I.D, Renewal, and clause II.A, Annual Operating Plan. If you select Transitional Priority Use, this selection must be identified as the purpose below and must also be made in clause I.D, Renewal, and clause II.A, Annual Operating Plan.>

**Selection item 1: up to 10-year Priority Use Outfitting and Guiding.**

- This permit authorizes priority use outfitting and guiding for [number up to 10] \_\_ years.

**Selection item 2: 2-year Priority Use Outfitting and Guiding.**

- This permit authorizes priority use outfitting and guiding for 2 years.

**Selection item 3: Transitional Priority Use Outfitting and Guiding.**

- This permit authorizes transitional priority use outfitting and guiding for 1 year.

#HOLDER\_NAME# of #HOLDER\_ADD\_LINE\_1#, #HOLDER\_ADD\_LINE\_2#, #HOLDER\_ADD\_LINE\_3#, #HOLDER\_CITY#, #HOLDER\_STATE# #HOLDER\_ZIP# (hereinafter "the holder"), is hereby authorized to use and occupy National Forest System lands, subject to the terms and conditions of this permit, to provide outfitting and guiding services within the [name of Ranger District]

[ ] of the [ ] [name of] National Forest or National Grassland, described as #TOWNSHIP\_SECT\_RANGE# #FIRST\_DIVISION# #FIRST\_DIV\_NAME\_NUMBER#, #SECOND\_DIVISION# #SECOND\_DIV\_NAME\_NUMBER#, #THIRD\_DIVISION# #THIRD\_DIV\_NAME\_NUMBER# and as shown on the map of the authorized area, attached as Appendix A. The above-described area shall be referred to as the "permit area."

The purpose of this permit is to authorize the following outfitting and guiding activities:

#PURPOSE#

and assign use as follows:

<Fill in the appropriate blanks below. To track service days for multiple activities or multiple districts, duplicate the applicable service day line. If use is allocated as a quota rather than as service days, compute the service day equivalent for the quota, and enter that number. In addition, describe the quota or delete the quota line. Enter "0" for assigned site or grazing use if not applicable. >

**Selection item 1: For holders of a priority use permit.**

[ ] priority use service days ["or the service day equivalent of a quota"] for [ ] [if appropriate, designate activity or district].

**Selection item 2: For holders of a transitional priority use permit.**

[ ] transitional priority use service days ["or the service day equivalent of a quota"] for [ ] [if appropriate, designate activity or district].

**Selection item 1: Select to have clause appear.**

The quota for this use is ["Describe the quota. For example, the quota for this use is 3 launches per day, six people per launch, 2 days per week for 12 weeks"].

**Selection item 2: Select to remove item 1 and have nothing appear.**

[ ] assigned sites  
[ ] grazing use (in head months (HMs))

This use will be exercised as described in the [ ] ["five-year" or "annual"] operating plan.

The following appendices are attached to and made a part of this permit:

**<Do not modify the list or designation of appendices, but note as "not applicable" any appendix that is not attached to the permit.>**

APPENDIX A – Map of Authorized Area

APPENDIX B – [ ] ["Five-year" or "annual"] Operating Plan, dated [ ] and approved annually

APPENDIX C – Trip Itinerary

APPENDIX D – Estimated Fee Determination Sheet, approved annually

APPENDIX E – Actual Use Report Format

APPENDIX F – Authorized Officer's Outfitter and Guide Performance Evaluation Criteria

APPENDIX G – Other [ ]

## I. AUTHORITY AND GENERAL TERMS OF THE PERMIT

- A. **AUTHORITY.** This permit is issued pursuant to Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, 16 U.S.C. 6802(h), and 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart B, as amended, and is subject to their provisions.
- B. **AUTHORIZED OFFICER.** The authorized officer is the Forest Supervisor or a subordinate officer with delegated authority.
- C. **TERM.** This permit shall expire at midnight on #EXPIRATION\_DATE#. Expiration of this permit shall not require notice, a decision document, or any environmental analysis or other documentation.

**<Select the first clause I.D for holders of an up to 10-year priority use permit. Select the second clause I.D for holders of a 2-year priority use permit. Select the third clause I.D for holders of a transitional priority use permit. For permits in Alaska Conservation System Units that are subject to competition, use the renewal clause in FSH 2709.11, chapter 50.**

**Selection item 1: For holders of an up to 10-year priority use permit.**

- D. RENEWAL.** This permit may be renewed upon expiration, provided the use is consistent with the applicable forest land and resource management plan, applicable laws and regulations, and the terms of this permit, and the holder has performed satisfactorily under this permit, as demonstrated by acceptable annual performance reviews. If the holder wants this permit to be renewed, the holder must notify the authorized officer in writing at least six months before this permit expires. The decision whether to issue a new permit to the holder is at the sole discretion of the Forest Service. The authorized officer may prescribe new terms and conditions when a new permit is issued.

**Selection item 2: For holders of a 2-year priority use permit.**

- D. RENEWAL.** This permit is not renewable. Upon expiration, this permit may be extended for up to 8 years if the priority use authorized by this permit is consistent with applicable law and the applicable land management plan and if the holder's performance is satisfactory.

**Selection item 3: For holders of a transitional priority use permit.**

- D. RENEWAL.** This permit is not renewable. Upon expiration, this permit may be extended for 1 year if the transitional priority use authorized by this permit is consistent with applicable law and the applicable land management plan and if the holder's performance is satisfactory. Additionally, this permit may be extended each year thereafter, up to a total of 5 years or until the holder's application for conversion to priority use is granted or denied. If the application for conversion to priority use is granted, this permit shall terminate and a priority use permit shall be issued. If the application for conversion to priority use is denied, this permit shall terminate, and the use shall not be reauthorized.

- E. AMENDMENT.** This permit may be amended in whole or in part by the Forest Service when, at the discretion of the authorized officer, such action is deemed necessary or desirable to incorporate new terms that may be required by law, regulation, directive, the applicable forest land and resource management plan, or projects and activities implementing a land management plan pursuant to 36 CFR 215.

- F. COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, REGULATIONS, AND OTHER LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.** In exercising the rights and privileges granted by this permit, the holder shall comply with all present and future federal laws and regulations and all present and future state, county, and municipal laws, regulations, and other legal requirements that apply to the permit area, to the extent they do not conflict with federal law, regulation, or policy. The Forest Service assumes no responsibility for enforcing laws, regulations, and other legal requirements that fall under the jurisdiction of other governmental entities.

- G. NON-EXCLUSIVE USE.** The use and occupancy authorized by this permit are not exclusive. The Forest Service reserves the right of access to the permit area, including a continuing right of physical entry to the permit area for inspection, monitoring, or any other purpose consistent with any right or obligation of the United States under any law or regulation. The Forest Service reserves the right to allow others to use the permit area in any way that is not inconsistent with the holder's rights and privileges under this permit, after consultation with all parties involved. Except for any restrictions that the holder and the authorized officer agree are necessary to protect the installation and operation of authorized temporary improvements, the lands and waters covered by this permit shall remain open to the public for all lawful purposes.

**H. CHANGE IN CONTROL**

- 1. Notification.** The holder shall notify the authorized officer when a change in control of the business entity that holds this permit is contemplated. If the holder is a corporation, change in control means the sale or transfer of a controlling interest in the corporation. If the holder is a partnership or a limited liability company, change in control means the sale or transfer of a controlling interest in the partnership or limited liability company. If the holder is an individual, change in control means the sale or transfer of the business to another party.
- 2. Termination.** This permit is not transferable. Any change in control of the business entity as defined in clause I.H.1 shall cause this permit to terminate upon issuance of a new permit to another party for the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. The party who acquires control of the business entity must submit an application for a permit for the type of use and occupancy authorized by this permit. Issuance of a new permit to the party acquiring control shall be at the sole discretion of the authorized officer. The authorized officer shall determine that the applicant meets requirements under federal regulations.

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- I. **LIMITATIONS.** Nothing in this permit gives or implies permission to build or maintain any structure or facility or to conduct any activity, unless specifically provided for in this permit. Any use not specifically identified in this permit must be proposed in accordance with 36 CFR 251.54. Approval of such a proposal through issuance of a new permit or permit amendment is at the sole discretion of the authorized officer.

## II. OPERATIONS

<Select the appropriate clause II.A. For an up to 10-year priority use permits, select the 5-year operating plan. For 2-year priority use permits and transitional priority use permits, select the annual operating plan.>

Selection item 1: For up to 10-year priority use permits.



**A. FIVE-YEAR OPERATING PLAN.** The 5-year operating plan, which shall be attached to this permit as Appendix B, shall be submitted by the holder and approved by the authorized officer before the holder conducts any services authorized by this permit. The holder shall prepare, annually review, and revise as needed the 5-year operating plan by  [date before start of operating season], in consultation with the authorized officer. At a minimum, the five-year operating plan shall include (1) the season of use for authorized outfitting and guiding activities, including the start and stop date of operations; (2) limitations on use established by the Forest Service (including fire restrictions); (3) the fee calculation option to be used and a completed Estimated Fee Determination Sheet (appendix D); and (4) any of the following that are applicable: (a) a process for submitting trip itineraries (appendix C); (b) guidelines and limits for incidental grazing; (c) location and layout of assigned sites to be used for base, spike, and drop camps or other purposes; and (d) authorized temporary improvements on National Forest System lands, including a schedule for their construction and removal.

Selection item 2: For 2-year priority use permits and transitional priority use permits.



**A. ANNUAL OPERATING PLAN.** The annual operating plan, which shall be attached to this permit as Appendix B, shall be submitted by the holder and approved by the authorized officer before the holder conducts any services authorized by this permit. The holder shall prepare an annual operating plan by  [date before start of operating season], in consultation with the authorized officer. At a minimum, the annual operating plan shall include (1) the season of use for authorized outfitting and guiding activities, including the start and stop date of operations; (2) limitations on use established by the Forest Service (including fire restrictions); (3) the fee calculation option to be used and a completed Estimated Fee Determination Sheet (appendix D); and (4) any of the following that are applicable: (a) a process for submitting trip itineraries (appendix C); (b) guidelines and limits for incidental grazing; (c) location and layout of assigned sites to be used for base, spike, and drop camps or other purposes; and (d) authorized temporary improvements on National Forest System lands, including a schedule for their construction and removal.

- B. ITINERARY.** The holder shall submit an itinerary for each type of trip.
- C. PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND EVALUATION.** The holder's compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit and the five-year or annual operating plan is subject to annual performance review and evaluation by the authorized officer. The holder's performance will be documented using the Outfitter and Guide Performance Evaluation Criteria, Appendix F.
- D. TEMPORARY IMPROVEMENTS.** No permanent improvements may be constructed under this permit. Temporary improvements with negligible value, such as hitching posts, corrals, tent frames, and shelters, may be approved by the authorized officer in the five-year or annual operating plan. Plans and revisions to plans for design, development, and layout of temporary improvements must have prior written approval from the authorized officer.
- E. PROHIBITION ON ASSIGNMENT OF USE.** The holder may not assign all or part of the authorized use to others.
- F. PERFORMANCE OF SUPPORT SERVICES.** As a general rule, the holder shall conduct the day-to-day activities authorized by this permit. Activities that support the use authorized by this permit, such as food or shuttle services,

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may be conducted by a party other than the holder, but only with prior written approval from the authorized officer. The holder shall continue to be responsible for compliance with all the terms of this permit.

- G. MAINTENANCE.** The holder shall maintain authorized temporary improvements and the permit area to standards of repair, orderliness, neatness, sanitation, and safety acceptable to the authorized officer and consistent with other provisions of this authorization. The holder shall comply with inspection requirements deemed appropriate by the authorized officer.
- H. SIGNS.** Signs posted on National Forest System lands must have prior written approval of the authorized officer.
- I. NONDISCRIMINATION**
1. The holder and its employees shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, sex (in educational activities), national origin, age, or disability or by curtailing or refusing to furnish accommodations, facilities, services, or use privileges offered to the public generally. In addition, the holder and its employees shall comply with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, as amended, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended.
  2. The holder shall include and require compliance with the above nondiscrimination provisions in any third-party agreement made with respect to the operations authorized under this permit.
  3. The Forest Service shall furnish signs setting forth this policy of nondiscrimination. These signs shall be conspicuously displayed at the public entrance to the premises and at other exterior or interior locations, as directed by the Forest Service.
  4. The Forest Service shall have the right to enforce the foregoing nondiscrimination provisions by suit for specific performance or by any other available remedy under the laws of the United States or the State in which the violation occurs.
- J. EQUAL ACCESS TO FEDERAL PROGRAMS.** In addition to the above nondiscrimination policy, the holder agrees to ensure that its programs and activities are open to the general public on an equal basis and without regard to any non-merit factor.
- K. SANITATION.** The operation and maintenance of all sanitation and food service systems and facilities shall comply with applicable standards set by state and local health departments.
- L. REFUSE DISPOSAL.** The holder shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local requirements related to disposal of any refuse resulting from the use and occupancy authorized by this permit.
- M. REMOVAL AND PLANTING OF VEGETATION.** This permit does not authorize the cutting of timber or other vegetation. Trees or shrubbery may be removed or destroyed only after the authorized officer has approved and marked what may be removed or destroyed. Timber cut or destroyed shall be paid for at current stumpage rates for similar timber in the [ ] National Forest. The Forest Service reserves the right to dispose of the merchantable timber to those other than the holder at no stumpage cost to the holder. Unmerchantable material shall be disposed of as directed by the authorized officer. Planting of trees, shrubs, and other plants in the permit area must have prior written approval from the authorized officer.
- N. FAILURE TO EXERCISE AUTHORIZED PRIVILEGES.** During the 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation and upon termination, the authorized officer shall review actual use and adjust the allocation of use to match the highest amount of actual use in 1 calendar year during the first 5 years of operation, plus 25 percent of that amount for holders with more than 1,000 service days or the equivalent in quotas or 15 percent of that amount for holders with more than 1,000 service days or the equivalent in quotas, provided that:
1. The combination of the highest amount of actual use in 1 calendar year and the additional 25 or 15 percent of use not exceed the amount of use allocated when the permit was issued; and

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2. To ensure that 5 years of use are available for review as a basis for making the allocation adjustment, the authorized officer may adjust the review period to include a previous or an additional year of use based on a finding that extraordinary circumstances prevented a season of operation.
- O. **RESTRICTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE USE.** The holder shall restrict motor vehicle use to designated roads, trails, and areas, unless specifically provided otherwise in the operating plan.

<Clauses II.P and II.Q are optional and may be deleted. If deleted, reletter appropriately.>

Selection item 1: Select to have clause appear.

- P. **NOXIOUS WEED/EXOTIC PLANT PREVENTION AND CONTROL.** The holder shall be responsible for the prevention and control of noxious weeds and/or exotic plants arising from the authorized use. For purposes of this clause, noxious weeds and exotic plants include those species recognized as such by  [name of federal, state, or local authority]. The holder shall follow prevention and control measures required by  [name of federal, state, or local authority]. When determined to be necessary by the authorized officer, the holder shall develop a plan for noxious weed and exotic plant prevention and control. These plans must have prior written approval from the authorized officer and, upon approval, shall be attached to this permit as an appendix.

Selection item 2: Select to remove item 1 and have nothing appear. Reletter the following clause if necessary.



<Include the following clause in permits involving livestock. Delete for all other permits.>

Selection item 1: Use this clause in permits involving livestock.

- Q. **WEED-FREE HAY.** The holder shall use only hay, grain, straw, pelletized feed, or mulch certified as noxious weed-free or noxious weed seed-free by a State Department of Agriculture or other authorized county official. The holder shall provide documentation of that certification to the authorized officer.

Selection item 2: Select to remove item 1 and have nothing appear.



### III. RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES

- A. **LEGAL EFFECT OF THE PERMIT.** This permit, which is revocable and terminable, is not a contract or a lease, but rather a federal license. The benefits and requirements conferred by this authorization are reviewable solely under the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart C, and 5 U.S.C. 704. This permit does not constitute a contract for purposes of the Contract Disputes Act, 41 U.S.C. 601. The permit is not real property, does not convey any interest in real property, and may not be used as collateral for a loan.
- B. **THIRD-PARTY RIGHTS.** This permit is subject to all valid outstanding rights. Valid outstanding valid rights include those derived under mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States. The United States is not liable to the holder for the exercise of any such right.
- C. **ABSENCE OF THIRD-PARTY BENEFICIARY RIGHTS.** The parties to this permit do not intend to confer any rights on any third party as a beneficiary under this permit.
- D. **WATER RIGHTS.** This permit does not confer any water rights on the holder. Water rights are not required by state law and may not be acquired to exercise the minor water uses authorized by this permit.

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- E. **RISKS.** The holder assumes all risk of loss associated with use and occupancy of the permit area, including but not limited to theft, vandalism, fire and any fire-fighting activities (including prescribed burns), avalanches, rising waters, winds, falling limbs or trees, and acts of God. If authorized temporary improvements in the permit area are destroyed or substantially damaged, the authorized officer shall conduct an analysis to determine whether the improvements can be safely occupied in the future and whether rebuilding should be allowed.
- F. **DAMAGE TO UNITED STATES PROPERTY.** The holder has an affirmative duty to protect from damage the land, property, and other interests of the United States. Damage includes but is not limited to fire suppression costs, damage to government-owned improvements covered by this permit, and all costs and damages associated with or resulting from the release or threatened release of a hazardous material occurring during or as a result of activities of the holder or the holder's heirs, assigns, agents, employees, contractors, or lessees on, or related to, the lands, property, and other interests covered by this permit. For purposes of clauses III.F, III.I, and V, "hazardous material" shall mean any hazardous substance, pollutant, contaminant, hazardous waste, oil, and/or petroleum product, as those terms are defined under any federal, state, or local law or regulation.
1. The holder shall avoid damaging or contaminating the environment, including but not limited to the soil, vegetation (such as trees, shrubs, and grass), surface water, and groundwater, during the holder's use and occupancy of the permit area. If the environment or any government property covered by this permit becomes damaged during the holder's use and occupancy of the permit area, the holder shall immediately repair the damage or replace the damaged items to the satisfaction of the authorized officer and at no expense to the United States.
  2. The holder shall be liable for all injury, loss, or damage, including fire suppression, or other costs in connection with rehabilitation or restoration of natural resources associated with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. Compensation shall include but not be limited to the value of resources damaged or destroyed, the costs of restoration, cleanup, or other mitigation, fire suppression or other types of abatement costs, and all administrative, legal (including attorney's fees), and other costs in connection therewith.
  3. With respect to roads, the holder shall be liable for damage to all roads and trails of the United States open to public use caused by use of the holder or the holder's heirs, assigns, agents, employees, contractors, or lessees to the same extent as provided under clause III.F.1, except that liability shall not include reasonable and ordinary wear and tear.
- G. **HEALTH, SAFETY, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.** The holder shall promptly abate as completely as possible and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations any activity or condition and arising out of or relating to the authorized use and occupancy that causes or threatens to cause a hazard to public health or the safety of the holder's employees or agents or harm to the environment (including areas of vegetation or timber, fish or other wildlife populations, their habitats, or any other natural resources). The holder shall immediately notify the authorized officer of all serious accidents that occur in connection with such activities. The responsibility to protect the health and safety of all persons affected by the use and occupancy authorized by this permit is solely that of the holder. The Forest Service has no duty under the terms of this permit to inspect the permit area or operations and activities of the holder for hazardous conditions or compliance with health and safety standards.
- H. **INDEMNIFICATION OF THE UNITED STATES.** The holder shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the United States for any costs, damages, claims, liabilities, and judgments arising from past, present, and future acts or omissions of the holder in connection with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. This indemnification and hold harmless provision includes but is not limited to acts and omissions of the holder or the holder's heirs, assigns, agents, employees, contractors, or lessees in connection with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit which result in (1) violations of any laws and regulations which are now or which may in the future become applicable, and including but not limited to those environmental laws listed in clause V.A of this permit; (2) judgments, claims, demands, penalties, or fees assessed against the United States; (3) costs, expenses, and damages incurred by the United States; or (4) the release or threatened release of any solid waste, hazardous waste, hazardous substance, pollutant, contaminant, oil in any form, or petroleum product into the environment. The authorized officer may prescribe terms that allow the holder to replace, repair, restore, or otherwise undertake necessary curative actions to mitigate damages in addition to or as an alternative to monetary indemnification.

<USER NOTES FOR CLAUSE III.I>

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<Select the appropriate clause III.I below, in accordance with the type of insurance and holder. READ ALL USER NOTES PRIOR TO SELECTION>

**Selection item 1: For policies with separate limits of coverage for personal injury or death and third party property damage, use the following clauses III.I, III.I.1, and III.I.2.**

- I. INSURANCE.** The holder shall furnish proof of insurance, such as a certificate of insurance, to the authorized officer prior to issuance of this permit and each year thereafter that this permit is in effect. The Forest Service reserves the right to review and approve the insurance policy prior to issuance. The holder shall send an authenticated copy of any insurance policy obtained pursuant to this clause to the authorized officer immediately upon issuance of the policy. Any insurance policies obtained by the holder pursuant to this clause shall name the United States as an additional insured, and the additional insured provision shall provide for insurance coverage for the United States as required under this clause. The policies shall also specify that the insurance company shall give 30 days prior written notice to the authorized officer of cancellation of or any modification to the policies. The certificate of insurance, the authenticated copy of the insurance policy, and written notice of cancellation or

modification of insurance policies should be sent to  [mailing address of administering office]. Minimum amounts of coverage and other insurance requirements are subject to change at the sole discretion of the authorized officer on the anniversary date of this permit.

1. **Liability.** The holder shall have in force liability insurance covering losses associated with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit arising from personal injury or death and third party property damage in the minimum amount of:

\$  [amount] for injury or death to one person per occurrence,

\$  [amount] for injury or death to more than one person per occurrence, and

\$  [amount] for third-party property damage, per occurrence.

2. Depending on the holder's operations, the Forest Service may require the holder to demonstrate the availability of funds to address any release or threatened release of hazardous materials that may occur in connection with the holder's use and occupancy. Any requirements imposed would be established on a case-by-case basis by the authorized officer based on the degree of environmental risk from the holder's operations. The use and storage of normal maintenance supplies in nominal amounts generally would not trigger financial assurance requirements.

**Selection item 2: For policies with combined single limits of coverage for personal injury or death and third party property damage, use the following clauses III.I, III.I.1, and III.I.2.**

- I. INSURANCE.** The holder shall furnish proof of insurance, such as a certificate of insurance, to the authorized officer prior to issuance of this permit and each year thereafter that this permit is in effect. The Forest Service reserves the right to review and approve the insurance policy prior to issuance. The holder shall send an authenticated copy of any insurance policy obtained pursuant to this clause to the authorized officer immediately upon issuance of the policy. Any insurance policies obtained by the holder pursuant to this clause shall name the United States as an additional insured, and the additional insured provision shall provide for insurance coverage for the United States as required under this clause. Such policies shall also specify that the insurance company shall give 30 days prior written notice to the authorized officer of cancellation of or any modification to the policies. The certificate of insurance, the authenticated copy of the insurance policy, and written notice of cancellation or

modification of insurance policies should be sent to  [mailing address of administering office]. Minimum amounts of coverage and other insurance requirements are subject to change at the sole discretion of the authorized officer on the anniversary date of this permit.



1. **Liability.** The holder shall have in force liability insurance covering losses associated with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit arising from personal injury or death and third-party property damage in the minimum amount of \$  as a combined single limit per occurrence.
2. Depending on the holder's operations, the Forest Service may require the holder to demonstrate the availability of funds to address any release or threatened release of hazardous materials that may occur in connection with the holder's use and occupancy. Any requirements imposed would be established on a case-by-case basis by the authorized officer based on the degree of environmental risk from the holder's operations. The use and storage of normal maintenance supplies in nominal amounts generally would not trigger financial assurance requirements.

**Selection item 3: If the prospective holder is a federal agency, use the following clause III.I.**



**I. DAMAGE TO NATIONAL FOREST INTERESTS, PROPERTY, OR RESOURCES.** As an agency of the United States, the holder is limited by federal law as to the assumption of liability for its acts or omissions. The holder agrees, within its legal limitations and limitations of appropriations, to be responsible for all damages arising from injury to persons or property associated with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. The holder further agrees, to the extent legally permissible, to use its appropriations and resources as required to pay any claims and to repair damage to the land within the permit area. This provision is intended to shield the appropriations of the Forest Service from any burdens, other than administrative costs, which may arise in connection with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit.

<User Note: If the prospective holder is a state or one of its political subdivisions that has statutory or constitutional authorities limiting its liability or obligation to indemnify, the authorized officer shall prepare a risk assessment to determine the potential for loss to the United States from personal injury, death, or property damage associated with the prospective holder's use and occupancy. If the authorized officer determines based on the risk assessment that the potential for personal injury, death, or property damage associated with the prospective holder's use and occupancy exceeds the limitations on the liability or indemnification obligation of the state or its political subdivision, the prospective holder shall, as a precondition to issuance of this permit, procure insurance under the terms of clause III.I of this permit in the amount determined in the risk assessment that exceeds the liability or indemnification limitations on the state or its political subdivision.>

<END USER NOTES FOR CLAUSE III.I>

<Include the following clause in permits involving contracts for ancillary services. Delete for all other permits.>

**Selection item 1: Use in permits involving contracts for ancillary services as defined in FSH 2709.11, section 41.53d.**



**J. CONTRACTED SERVICES.** The holder shall have in force an endorsement covering contracted services and equipment or, alternatively, the holder or the holder's contractor shall procure a separate insurance policy that covers these services.

**Selection item 2: Select to remove item 1 and have nothing appear. Reletter following clause if necessary.**

#### IV. PERMIT FEES AND ACCOUNTING RECORDS

- A. **PERMIT FEE.** The holder shall pay to the USDA, Forest Service, an annual permit fee for the term of this permit based on the fair market value of the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. The annual permit fee shall include a commercial use fee and, if applicable, an assigned site fee and grazing fee, as enumerated in clauses IV.B, C, and D. The minimum annual permit fee for the authorized use and occupancy shall be \$ . Estimates of service days, the number of assigned sites, and grazing use shall be determined from the five-year or

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annual operating plan. Estimated fees shall be calculated on an Estimated Fee Determination Sheet. The holder shall pay the annual permit fee in advance of the authorized use and occupancy, as provided in clause IV.B. Payments due before commercial operations commence are not refundable. The Forest Service shall adjust and calculate permit fees authorized by this permit to comply with any new permit fee system based on market value that may be adopted by statute, regulation or directive issued by the Chief after issuance of this permit.

1. **COMMERCIAL USE FEE.** The annual permit fee shall be determined in accordance with  [option A (fee schedule); option B (3% of gross revenue); option C (short-stop fee); option D (regional fee system such as Alaska Region flat fee system, or option E (fee pursuant to 36 CFR 251 Subpart E).

(a) **Definitions**

- (1) **Adjusted Gross Revenue.** Gross revenue and revenue additions less applicable exclusions.
- (2) **Gross Revenue.** The total amount of receipts from the sale of goods or services provided by the holder or third party under the permit.
- (3) **Revenue Additions.** The market value of the following items, which are added to gross revenue:
- (A) The value of goods and services that are donated or the value of goods and services that are bartered in exchange for goods and services received that are directly related to the outfitted or guided trip; and
  - (B) The value of gratuities, which are goods, services, or privileges that are not available to the general public and that are donated or provided without charge to organizations; individuals; the holder's employees, owners, or officers; or immediate family members of the holder's employees, owners, or officers.
- (4) **Revenue Exclusions.** The following are excluded from gross revenue:
- (A) Revenue derived from goods or services sold on private land that are not related to outfitting and guiding operations conducted on National Forest System lands, such as souvenirs, telephone toll charges, and accident insurance sales.
  - (B) Amounts paid or payable to a State government licensing authority or recreation administering agency from sales of hunting or fishing licenses and recreation fee tickets.
  - (C) Revenue from the sale of operating equipment, rental equipment, capitalized assets, or other assets used in outfitting and guiding operations, such as horses, tack, watercraft, and rental skis and boots, which are sold periodically and replaced.
2. **ASSIGNED SITE FEE.** A fee shall be charged for the occupancy of National Forest System sites assigned to the holder. Assigned site fees shall not be prorated; the holder shall pay the full annual fee for each assigned site. No refunds or credits will be given for authorized but unused assigned sites.
3. **GRAZING FEE.** A fee shall be charged for grazing livestock used in conjunction with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit. No refunds or credits will be given for authorized but unexercised grazing use.
- B. **PAYMENT SCHEDULE.** The holder shall pay the annual estimated permit fee, including the fee for commercial use, assigned site fee, and grazing fee, in advance of the authorized use, as follows:
- 1. **Single Payment.** The holder shall pay the total annual estimated fee in advance when it is less than \$500.
  - 2. **Two Payments.** The holder shall pay half the total annual estimated fee in advance and the remainder by mid-season when the total is equal to or greater than \$500, but less than \$2,500.
  - 3. **Three Payments.** The holder shall pay one-third of the total annual estimated fee in advance and the remainder in two equal payments by mid-season when the total is \$2,500 or more.
  - 4. **Final Payment.** The Forest Service shall reconcile annually the actual permit fee against permit fee payments made. The holder shall pay any additional fees owed for the past year's operation within 30 days of billing.

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**C. DOCUMENTATION OF REVENUE.** The holder shall provide documentation of use and revenue for purposes of permit fee verification.

1. **Actual Use Report.** Within 30 days of completion of the holder's approved operating season, the holder shall submit to the authorized officer an actual use report in accordance with the format in Appendix E.
2. **Income Statements.** No later than 90 days after the close of the holder's fiscal year, the holder shall submit to the authorized officer a statement of income reporting the results of the holder's annual operations. The statement shall include gross revenue, the value of donated goods and services, the value of gratuities, the value and description of items excluded from gross revenue, and all adjustments, such as taxes deducted, and shall be broken down by permitted activities.

**D. FEE PAYMENT ISSUES**

1. **Crediting of Payments.** Payments shall be credited on the date received by the deposit facility, except that if a payment is received on a non-workday, the payment shall not be credited until the next workday.
2. **Disputed Fees.** Fees are due and payable by the due date. Disputed fees must be paid in full. Adjustments will be made if dictated by settlement terms or an appeal decision.

**3. Late Payments**

- (a) **Interest.** Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3717 et seq., interest shall be charged on any fee amount not paid within 30 days from the date it became due. The rate of interest assessed shall be the higher of the Prompt Payment Act rate or the rate of the current value of funds to the Treasury (i.e., the Treasury tax and loan account rate), as prescribed and published annually or quarterly by the Secretary of the Treasury in the Federal Register and the Treasury Fiscal Requirements Manual Bulletins. Interest on the principal shall accrue from the date the fee amount is due.
- (b) **Administrative Costs.** If the account becomes delinquent, administrative costs to cover processing and handling the delinquency shall be assessed.
- (c) **Penalties.** A penalty of 6% per annum shall be assessed on the total amount that is more than 90 days delinquent and shall accrue from the same date on which interest charges begin to accrue.
- (d) **Termination for Nonpayment.** This permit shall terminate without the necessity of prior notice and opportunity to comply when any permit fee payment is 90 calendar days from the due date in arrears. The holder shall be responsible for the delinquent fees, as well as any other costs of restoring the site to its original condition, including hazardous waste cleanup.

4. **Administrative Offset and Credit Reporting.** Delinquent fees and other charges associated with the permit shall be subject to all rights and remedies afforded the United States pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3711 et seq. and common law. Delinquencies are subject to any or all of the following:

- (a) Administrative offset of payments due the holder from the Forest Service.
- (b) If in excess of 60 days, referral to the Department of the Treasury for appropriate collection action as provided by 31 U.S.C. 3711(g)(1).
- (c) Offset by the Secretary of the Treasury of any amount due the holder, as provided by 31 U.S.C. 3720 et seq.
- (d) Disclosure to consumer or commercial credit reporting agencies.

**E. ACCOUNTING RECORDS.** The holder shall follow generally accepted accounting principles or another comprehensive basis of accounting, such as the cash, modified cash, or income tax basis of accounting, in recording financial transactions. The minimum acceptable accounting system shall include:

1. Systematic internal controls and separate recording of gross receipts from each type of business conducted under this permit, separate from any other commercial or personal activity. Receipts shall be recorded daily without reduction

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and, if possible, deposited into a bank account. Receipt entries shall be supported by documentation such as cash register tapes, sales invoices, reservation records, and cash accounts from other sources.

2. For permits with fees greater than \$10,000, when requested by the Forest Service, the holder at its own expense shall have its annual accounting records audited by an independent public accountant acceptable to the Forest Service.
- F. **ACCESS TO ACCOUNTING RECORDS.** The holder shall make all of the accounting books and supporting records for the business activities authorized by this permit available for audit by the Forest Service or other federal agencies authorized to review Forest Service activities. The holder shall retain these records and make them available for review for five years after the end of the year they were generated, unless disposition is otherwise authorized by the Forest Service in writing.

## V. RESOURCE PROTECTION

- A. **COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS.** The holder shall in connection with the use and occupancy authorized by this permit comply with all applicable federal, state, and local environmental laws and regulations, including but not limited to those established pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq., the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq., the Oil Pollution Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 2701 et seq., the Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq., the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq., the Toxic Substances Control Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 2601 et seq., the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 136 et seq., and the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.
- B. **VANDALISM.** The holder shall take reasonable measures to prevent and discourage vandalism and disorderly conduct and when necessary shall contact the appropriate law enforcement officer.
- C. **HERBICIDE AND PESTICIDE USE.** Herbicides and pesticides may not be used to control undesirable woody and herbaceous vegetation, aquatic plants, insects, rodents, fish, and other pests and weeds without prior written approval from the authorized officer. A request for approval of planned uses of pesticides shall be submitted annually by the holder on the due date established by the authorized officer. The report shall cover a 12-month period of planned use beginning 3 months after the reporting date. Information essential for review shall be provided in the form specified. Exceptions to this schedule may be allowed, subject to emergency request and approval, only when unexpected outbreaks of pests or weeds require control measures that were not anticipated at the time an annual report was submitted. Only those materials registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the specific purpose planned shall be considered for use on National Forest System lands. Label instructions and all applicable laws and regulations shall be strictly followed in the application of pesticides and disposal of excess materials and containers.
- D. **ARCHAEOLOGICAL-PALEONTOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES.** The holder shall immediately notify the authorized officer of any antiquities or other objects of historic or scientific interest, including but not limited to historic or prehistoric ruins, fossils, or artifacts discovered as the result of operations under this permit. The holder shall leave such discoveries intact until authorized to proceed by the authorized officer. Protective and mitigative measures specified by the authorized officer shall be the responsibility of the holder.
- E. **PROTECTION OF HABITAT OF ENDANGERED, THREATENED, AND SENSITIVE SPECIES.** Location of areas needing special measures for protection of plants or animals listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), 16 U.S.C. 531 et seq., as amended, or as sensitive by the Regional Forester under the authority of Forest Service Manual Chapter 2670, derived from ESA Section 7 consultation, may be shown on a separate map, hereby made a part of this permit, or identified on the ground. Protective and mitigative measures specified by the authorized officer shall be the sole responsibility of the holder. If protective measures prove inadequate, if other such areas are discovered, or if new species are listed as federally threatened or endangered or as sensitive by the Regional Forester, the authorized officer may specify additional protection, regardless of when such facts become known. Discovery of such areas by either party shall be promptly reported to the other party.
- F. **CONSENT TO STORE HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.** The holder shall not store any hazardous materials at the site without prior written approval from the authorized officer. This approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. If the authorized officer provides approval, this permit shall include, or in the case of approval provided after this permit is

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issued, shall be amended to include specific terms addressing the storage of hazardous materials, including the specific type of materials to be stored, the volume, the type of storage, and a spill plan. Such terms shall be proposed by the holder and are subject to approval by the authorized officer.

<Add clauses V.F.1, V.F.2 when consenting to store hazardous materials. Otherwise, omit them.>

1. If the holder receives consent to store hazardous material, the holder shall identify to the Forest Service any hazardous material to be stored at the site. Such identification information shall be consistent with column (1) of the table of hazardous materials and special provisions given at 49 CFR 172.101 whenever the hazardous material appears in that table. For hazard communication purposes, the holder shall maintain Material Safety Data Sheets for any stored hazardous chemicals, consistent with 29 CFR 1910.1200(c) and (g). In addition, all hazardous materials stored by the holder shall be used, labeled, stored, transported, and disposed of in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
2. The holder shall not release any hazardous material as defined in clause III.F. onto land or into rivers, streams, impoundments, or into natural or man-made channels leading thereto. All prudent and safe attempts must be made to contain any release of these materials. The authorized officer in charge may specify specific conditions that must be met, including conditions more stringent than federal, state, and local regulations, to prevent releases and protect natural resources.

Selection item 2: Select to remove selection item 1 and have nothing appear.



#### G. CLEANUP AND REMEDIATION.

1. The holder shall immediately notify all appropriate response authorities, including the National Response Center and the authorized officer, of any oil discharge or of the release of a hazardous substance at the site in an amount greater than or equal to its reportable quantity, in accordance with 33 CFR Part 153, Subpart B, and 40 CFR Part 302. For the purposes of this requirement, "oil" is as defined by section 311(a)(1) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. 1321(a)(1). The holder shall immediately notify the authorized officer upon knowledge of any release or threatened release of any hazardous material at or in the vicinity of the permit area which may be harmful to public health or welfare or which may adversely affect natural resources under the management of the United States.
2. Except with respect to any federally permitted release as that term is defined under Section 101(10) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9601(10), the holder shall clean up or otherwise remediate any release, threat of release, or discharge of hazardous materials that occurs either on site or in connection with the holder's activities, whether or not those activities are authorized under this permit. The holder shall perform cleanup or remediation immediately upon discovery of the release, threat of release, or discharge of hazardous materials. The holder shall perform the cleanup or remediation to the satisfaction of the authorized officer and at no expense to the United States. Upon revocation or termination of this permit, the holder shall deliver the site to the Forest Service free and clear of contamination.

- H. **CERTIFICATION UPON REVOCATION OR TERMINATION.** If the holder uses or stores hazardous materials at the site, upon revocation or termination of this permit the holder shall provide the Forest Service with a report certified by a professional or professionals acceptable to the Forest Service that the site covered by this permit is uncontaminated by the presence of hazardous materials and that there has not been a release or discharge of hazardous materials upon the site, into surface water at or near the site, or into groundwater below the site during the term of the permit. This certification requirement may be waived by the authorized officer when the Forest Service determines that the risks posed by the hazardous material are minimal. If a release or discharge has occurred, the professional or professionals shall document and certify that the release or discharge has been fully remediated and that the site is in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

#### VI. REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, AND TERMINATION

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- A. REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION.** The authorized officer may revoke or suspend this permit in whole or in part:
1. For noncompliance with federal, state, or local laws and regulations;
  2. For noncompliance with the terms of this permit;
  3. For failure of the holder to exercise the privileges granted by this permit;
  4. With the consent of the holder; or
  5. At the discretion of the authorized officer, for specific and compelling reasons in the public interest.
- B. REVOCATION BASED ON PERFORMANCE RATING.** If the holder receives an annual rating of unacceptable based on deficiencies identified but uncorrected in a mid-season review and evaluation, the Forest Service shall revoke this permit or, if it is about to expire, shall allow it to terminate.
- C. NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION.** Prior to revocation or suspension under clause VI.A or VI.B, the authorized officer shall give the holder written notice of the grounds for the action to be taken. For purposes of revocation under clause VI.B, written notice must be given to the holder after the mid-season review and evaluation that if the identified deficiencies are not corrected, they will result in an annual rating of unacceptable, which in turn will result in revocation of the permit. Prior to revocation or suspension under clause VI.A.1, 2, or 3 or revocation under clause VI.B, the authorized officer also shall give the holder a reasonable period, not to exceed 30 days, to complete corrective action prescribed by the authorized officer. The period between the mid-season review and evaluation and the annual rating shall constitute adequate opportunity to take corrective action for purposes of revocation under clause VI.B.

<Use the following clause VI. C. for short operating seasons where a mid-term evaluation is not feasible, and delete the preceding clause VI.C. For other permits, delete the following clause.>

**Selection item 1: Use for short operating seasons where a mid-term evaluation is not feasible.**

- C. NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE CORRECTIVE ACTION.** Prior to revocation or suspension under clause VI.A. or VI.B, the authorized officer shall give the holder written notice of the grounds for the action to be taken. For purposes of revocation under clause VI.B, written notice must be given to the holder after a review and evaluation that if the identified deficiencies are not corrected, they will result in an annual rating of unacceptable, which in turn will result in revocation of the permit. Prior to revocation or suspension under clause VI.A.1, 2, or 3 or revocation under clause VI.B, the authorized officer also shall give the holder a reasonable opportunity to complete corrective action prescribed by the authorized officer. The period between the review and evaluation and the annual rating shall constitute adequate opportunity to take corrective action for purposes of revocation under clause VI.B.

**Selection item 2: Select to remove selection 1 and to have nothing appear.**

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- D. IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION.** The authorized officer may immediately suspend this permit in whole or in part when necessary to protect public health or safety or the environment. The suspension decision must be in writing. Within 48 hours of the request of the holder, the superior of the authorized officer shall arrange for an on-the-ground review of the adverse conditions with the holder. Following this review, the superior shall take prompt action to affirm, modify, or cancel the suspension.
- E. APPEALS AND REMEDIES.** Any written decisions by the authorized officer relating to administration of this permit, including annual ratings of probationary and unacceptable and revocation or suspension decisions, are subject to the administrative appeal regulations at 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart C, as amended. Revocation or suspension of this permit shall not give rise to any claim for damages by the holder against the Forest Service.
- F. TERMINATION.** This permit shall terminate when by its terms a fixed or agreed upon condition, event, or time occurs without any action by the authorized officer. Examples include but are not limited to expiration of the permit by its terms on a specified date and termination upon change of control of the business entity. Termination of this permit is

not subject to administrative appeal and shall not give rise to any claim for damages by the holder against the Forest Service.

- G. REMOVAL OF TEMPORARY IMPROVEMENTS.** Upon revocation or termination of this permit, the holder shall remove within a reasonable time prescribed by the authorized officer all temporary improvements, except those owned by the United States, and shall restore the site. If the holder fails to remove all temporary improvements within the prescribed period, they shall become the property of the United States and may be sold, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of without any liability to the United States. However, the holder shall remain liable for all costs associated with their removal, including costs of sale and impoundment, cleanup, and restoration of the site.

## VII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- A. ADVERTISING.** The holder shall not misrepresent in any way, either orally, in its circulars, brochures, advertising, and other materials, or on its website, signs, or letterheads, any aspect of the use authorized by this permit, including services provided by the holder, the status of this permit, or the area it covers. All of the holder's circulars, brochures, and advertising and its website regarding use of the permit area shall state that the permit area is located in the  National Forest or Grassland.
- B. CURRENT ADDRESSES.** The holder and the Forest Service shall keep each other informed of current mailing addresses, including those necessary for payment of fees.
- C. SERVICES NOT PROVIDED.** This permit does not provide for the furnishing of road or trail maintenance, water, fire protection, search and rescue, or any other service by a government agency, utility, association, or individual.
- D. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.** No member of or delegate to Congress or resident commissioner shall benefit from this permit either directly or indirectly, except to the extent the authorized use provides a general benefit to a corporation.

<Use clause VII.E for renewal of priority use permits. Otherwise, delete it and reletter the remaining clauses.>



- E. SUPERSEDED PERMIT.** This permit supersedes a permit designated #PREV\_REISSUE\_HOLDER#, , and dated #PREV\_REISSUE\_DATE#.



- F. SUPERIOR CLAUSES.** In the event of any conflict between any of the preceding printed clauses and any subsequent clauses or any provisions in the appendices attached to this permit, the preceding printed clauses shall control.

This permit is accepted subject to all its terms and conditions.

<Selection item 1: Use this signature block for individuals, partnerships, businesses, and all non-corporate entities.>



HOLDER: #HOLDER\_NAME#

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Forest Service

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Holder or Holder's Agent)  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Officer)  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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<Selection item 2: Use the following signature block for corporations.>



HOLDER: #HOLDER\_NAME#

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Holder or Holder's Agent)

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Authorized Officer)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The following certificate shall be executed by the secretary or assistant secretary of the corporation:

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [name of Secretary or Assistant Secretary], certify that I am the \_\_\_\_\_ [select Secretary of Assistant Secretary] of the corporation that executed the above permit; that \_\_\_\_\_ [name of signatory], who signed this permit on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ [name of holder] was then \_\_\_\_\_ [title of signatory] of that corporation; that I know his/her signature; that his/her signature on this permit is genuine; and that this permit was signed, sealed, and attested to on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ [name of holder] by authority of its board of directors.

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**BURDEN AND NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENTS**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0596-0082. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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