THE AGREEMENT'S DECISION TREE

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

YES →

NO ↓

Is it a non-binding agreement?

YES ↓ | NO ↓

Memorandum of Understanding

A non-FSM 1580 instrument. Seek advice from appropriate staff area (for example, property transfers).

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

Select Appropriate Questions/Responses

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/commerical 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?

These questions above do not apply.

Answer Primary Follow-Up Questions

With for profit vendor?

With another Federal agency?

With a college for research or teaching and practicums?

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 activites?

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

NO → Grant

YES → Cooperative Agreement

NO → Collection Agreement

YES → 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.