

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

USDA-FOREST SERVICE

AND

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

I. Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to amplify the January 1988 Memorandum of Understanding between the USDA-Forest Service and the Environmental Protection Agency, as it pertains to providing technical services to State Foresters and other cooperators for the purpose of reducing nonpoint source pollution addressed in the 1987 CHESAPEAKE BAY AGREEMENT.

II. Authorities

The Forest Service is responsible for providing leadership in forest and range management, and ensuring a continuing flow of natural resource goods and services, including quality water, to help meet the needs of the Nation. This mission is accomplished through management of the National Forest System, cooperation with State and private landowners, and forest and range research.

The Environmental Protection Agency has regulatory responsibility for the control and abatement of pollution in areas of air, water, solid waste, pesticides, noise, and radiation. This includes setting and enforcing environmental standards; conducting research on the cause, effect, and control of environmental problems; and assisting State and local cooperators.

The agencies share a mutual interest in encouraging responsible and efficient management of the Nation's forest and range resources in an environmentally sound manner. The actions carried out under this agreement will strengthen coordination, increase understanding and action on key environmental issues, and reduce duplication of resources and expertise.

### III. Provisions

The Forest Service agrees:

- to designate or identify a liaison person, in the Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry, for the Chesapeake Bay Program
- to encourage, guide, and coordinate the Forest Service working arrangements with the Environmental Protection Agency, Chesapeake Bay Liaison Office
- to provide for the transfer of biological, physical, and economic research technology relating to forestry and harvesting practices and the effects of these practices on water quality, soil erosion, and sedimentation in the Bay area
- to provide the Environmental Protection Agency with forestry expertise through technical reviews, advice, consultation in plan reviews and development of Chesapeake Bay Program training, research, and demonstrations
- to encourage and direct, as feasible, programs and activities conducted or supported by the Forest Service and its cooperators toward balanced improvement and maintenance of the quality of the Chesapeake Bay's forest resources and its environment while maintaining the capability for sufficient and efficient production
- to integrate Chesapeake Bay program goals and concerns, to include forestry best management practices for nonpoint pollution control, into Forest Plan implementation for National Forest System lands within the Bay's watershed
- to evaluate, in conjunction with States with lands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the impacts of forestry best management practices for nonpoint pollution.
- in cooperation with States with watersheds in the Bay region, to develop or promote the installation of forest practices, including wooded filter strips, which will improve water quality while also enhancing wildlife habitat
- to cooperate with the states to develop urban forestry plans and implement them to reduce soil erosion and nitrogen loading in the bay.
- to train Youth Conservation Corps enrollees in urban forestry skills such as tree planting, fertilization, and maintenance.

The Environmental Protection Agency agrees:

- to support Forest Service membership on the Federal Agencies Coordinating Committee, Implementation Committee, Non-Point Source Subcommittee and other Agreement entities as appropriate.
- to utilize Forest Service technical reviews, advice, consultation, and technical assistance in decisions regarding development of programs, technical policies, regulations, guidelines, training, research, and demonstrations relative to the Chesapeake Bay Program
- to establish processes which encourage, guide, and coordinate entities of the Environmental Protection Agency and its cooperators to develop working arrangements with the Forest Service, State Foresters, and other cooperators for utilizing various resources, facilities, and personnel
- to encourage and direct, as feasible, programs and activities conducted or supported by the Environmental Protection Agency and its cooperators toward balanced improvement and maintenance of the quality environment while maintaining the capability for sufficient and efficient production.
- to provide office space as needed.

It is mutually agreed:

- to exchange, on a temporary detail basis, and within personnel and funding capabilities, personnel so that each agency may better learn the public policies of the other and so that each can efficiently utilize mechanisms and expertise of the other agency
- to the extent possible, support each other to implement water quality programs on forested lands.

IV. Duration of the Agreement

This agreement becomes effective on the date of signature by both parties and continues for five (5) years or until modified by mutual consent or terminated by either party.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

March 23, 1988  
DATE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NORTHEASTERN AREA  
STATE & PRIVATE FORESTRY

March 14, 1988  
DATE