

Steps in Special Uses Proposals, Application, and Authorization Process,

Initial Screening

Person or Entity Proposes To Use NFS Lands
(earliest possible notice given)
(36 CFR 251.54(a);
FSH 2709.11, sec 12)

Proposal Submitted to Appropriate Agency Office
Presented Orally or in Writing
(36 CFR 251.54(b); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12)

Proposal Must Contain Required Information*
(36 CFR 251.54(d); FSH 2709.11, sec. 11)

Proposal Triggers Pre-Application Consideration
(36 CFR 251.54(e); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.1)

Authorized Officer Applies 9 Initial Screening Criteria
(36 CFR 251.54(e)(1)(i)-(ix); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.2)

Proposal Does Not
Meet All 9 Criteria

Proposal Receives No
Further Consideration;
Proponent Advised;
Proposal Returned
(36 CFR 251.54(e)(2);
FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.22)

Proposal Does
Meet All 9 Criteria**
(36 CFR 251.54(e)(2)
FSH 2709.11, sec 12.21)

Second-Level Screening

Proponent Given Guidance and Information
on Requested Use
(36 CFR 251.54(e); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.3)

Proposal Triggers Second-level Consideration
Authorized Officer Applies 5 Screening Criteria
(36 CFR 251.54(e)(5); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.31)

Proposal Meets
5 Criteria
(Pre-Application
Process Ends at
This Point)

Proposal Does Not Meet 5 Criteria;
Proposal Denied (Pre-Application Process Ends;
No Further Consideration); Proponent Advised
(36 CFR 251.54(g)(1); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.4)

Proposal Is Formally "Accepted" for
Processing and Becomes an "Application"
(36 CFR 251.54(g)(1); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.5)

Proceed with Application Processing

Authorized Officer Evaluates Application:
NEPA Requirements Apply
(36 CFR 251.54(g)(2); FSH 2709.11 sec. 12.51-12.52)

Authorized Officer Responds
to Application and Renders Decision
(36 CFR 251.54(g)(4); FSH 2709.11, sec. 12.6)

Application Denied

Application Approved

Application Approved
With Modification

Authorization Issued
(36 CFR 251.54(g)(5))

*See 36 CFR 251.54(d)(2) and (g)(3) and section 17.4 of this Handbook for requirements related to noncommercial group uses.

**See section 13 of this Handbook for direction on competitive interest.