Authorization ID: WTM0758
Contact ID: PSNH

Expiration Date: 12/31/2036

Use Code: 753

FS-2700-4b (05/03) OMB No. 0596-0082

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Forest Service FOREST ROAD SPECIAL USE PERMIT AUTHORITY FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MGMT ACT, AS AMENDED October 21, 1976

Public Service of New Hampshire of Attn: Real Estate Department, PO Box 330, Manchester, NH 03105-0330 (hereafter called the holder) is hereby authorized to use the following described National Forest Development Road within the White Mountain National Forest for the following purposes:

A right of way 4000' x10' totaling .9 acres+- to access a PSNH powerline # X-178 across the RF Andrew and Son Tract, US Tract# 2 a-I along the Reel Brook Trail

The road covered by this permit is located in the County of Grafton; State of New Hampshire and is identified as follows:

This permit authorizes use of approximately .75 miles of road.

THIS PERMIT IS MADE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS, PROVISIONS, AND CONDITIONS:

- 1. This permit is subject to all existing easements and valid rights existing on this date.
- 2. Holder shall comply with applicable Federal or State law and shall comply with State standards for public health and safety, environmental protection, and siting construction, operation, and maintenance if those standards are more stringent than applicable Federal standards.
- 3. The holder shall cut no timber except as authorized by construction stipulations or maintenance agreements.
- 4. Holder shall pay the United States for all injury, loss, or damage, including fire suppression costs, in accordance with Federal and State laws and regulations.
- 5. Holder shall indemnify the United States for any and all injury, loss, or damage, including fire suppression costs the United States may suffer as a result of claims, demands, losses, or judgments caused by the holder's use or occupancy under this permit.
- 6. Holder shall pay annually in advance a sum determined by the Forest Service to be the fair market value of the use authorized by this permit. Payments for each subsequent calendar year shall be adjusted using the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross National Product index (IPD-GNP), or other factor selected by the Forest Service, to reflect more nearly the current fair market value of the use. At intervals to be determined by certain changes in the indexes used to establish the linear rights-of-way fee schedule, the fee shall be reviewed and adjusted as necessary to assure that it is commensurate with the value of the rights and privileges authorized. In addition to the annual payment, the holder shall pay its proportionate share of road costs prior to using the road

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for commercial use. Failure of the holder to pay the annual payment, late charges, or other fees or charges shall cause the permit to terminate.

7. Late Payment Interest, Administrative Costs and Penalties. 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 the fee or fee calculation financial statement specified in this authorization becomes due. The rate of interest assessed shall be the higher of the rate of the current value of funds to the U.S. Treasury (i.e., Treasury tax and loan account rate), as prescribed and published by the Secretary of the Treasury in the Federal Register and the Treasury Fiscal Requirements Manual Bulletins annually or quarterly or at the Prompt Payment Act rate. Interest on the principal shall accrue from the date the fee or fee calculation financial statement is due.

In the event the account becomes delinquent, administrative costs to cover processing and handling of the delinquency will be assessed.

A penalty of 6 percent per annum shall be assessed on the total amount delinquent in excess of 90 days and shall accrue from the same date on which interest charges begin to accrue.

Payments will be credited on the date received by the designated collection officer or deposit location. If the due date for the fee or fee calculation statement falls on a non-workday, the charges shall not apply until the close of business on the next workday.

Disputed fees are due and payable by the due date. No appeal of fees will be considered by the Forest Service without full payment of the disputed amount. Adjustments, if necessary, will be made in accordance with settlement terms or the appeal decision.

If the fees become delinquent, the Forest Service will:

Liquidate any security or collateral provided by the authorization.

If no security or collateral is provided, the authorization will terminate and the holder will be responsible for delinquent fees as well as any other costs of restoring the site to it's original condition including hazardous waste cleanup.

Upon termination or revocation of the authorization, delinquent fees and other charges associated with the authorization will be subject to all rights and remedies afforded the United States pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3711 *et seq.* Delinquencies may be subject to any or all of the following conditions:

Administrative offset of payments due the holder from the Forest Service.

Delinquencies in excess of 60 days shall be referred to United States Department of Treasury for appropriate collection action as provided by 31 U.S.C. 3711 (g), (1).

The Secretary of the Treasury may offset an amount due the debtor for any delinquency as provided by 31 U.S.C. 3720, et seq.)

8. Holder shall pay the Forest Service for its share of maintenance cost or perform maintenance, as determined by the Forest Service for all commercial use of the road. The maintenance obligation of the holder shall be proportionate to total use and commensurate with its use. Any maintenance to be performed by the holder shall be authorized by and shall be performed in accordance with an approved maintenance plan. In the event the road requires maintenance, restoration, or reconstruction work to accommodate the holder's needs, the Forest Service shall

authorize the work required in the same manner as provided herein for maintenance or in clause 10 for reconstruction. The holder shall perform such work at its own expense.

- 9. The exercise of the use permitted shall be subordinate to any easement on said road subsequently granted by the United States to a public road agency for operation as a public highway.
- 10. Any construction or reconstruction of the road shall be in accordance with plans, specifications, and written stipulations approved by the Forest Service prior to beginning such construction or reconstruction.
- 11. The United States shall have unrestricted use of the road and right-of-way for all purposes deemed necessary or desirable in connection with the protection, administration, management, and utilization of Federal lands or resources, and it shall have the right alone to extend rights and privileges for use of the right-of-way and road thereon to States and local subdivisions thereof and to other users including members of the public, except users of land or resources owned or controlled by the holder. The Forest Service shall control such use to avoid unreasonable interference with use of the road by the holder.
- 12. The Forest Service may relocate the road to the extent necessary to accommodate the management needs of the National Forests.
- 13. This permit may be terminated or suspended upon breach of any of the conditions herein, or revoked at the discretion of the Regional Forester.
- 14. Unless sooner terminated in accordance with the provisions of the permit, or revoked by the Regional Forester, this permit shall expire and terminate on 12/31/2036. The permit shall not be reissued.
- 15. Nonexclusive Use and Public Access. Unless expressly provided for in additional terms, use of the permit area is not exclusive. The Forest Service reserves the right to use or allow others to use any part of the permit area, including roads, for any purpose, provided, such use does not materially interfere with the holder's authorized use. A final determination of conflicting uses is reserved to the Forest Service.
- 16. Forest Service Right of Entry and Inspection. The Forest Service has the right of unrestricted access of the permitted area or facility to ensure compliance with laws, regulations, and ordinances and the terms and condition of this permit.
- 17. Liability. For purposes of this section, "holder" includes the holder's heirs, assigns, agents, employees, and contractors.
 - A. The holder assumes all risk of loss to the authorized improvements.
 - B. The holder shall indemnify, defend, and hold the United States harmless for any violations incurred under any such laws and regulations or for judgments, claims, or demands assessed against the United States in connection with the holder's use or occupancy of the property. The holder's indemnification of the United States shall include any loss by personal injury, loss of life or damage to property in connection with the occupancy or use of the property during the term of this permit. Indemnification shall include, but is not 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; third party claims and judgments; and all

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administrative, interest, and other legal costs. This paragraph shall survive the termination or revocation of this authorization, regardless of cause.

C. The holder has an affirmative duty to protect from damage the land, property, and interests of the United States.

The holder shall maintain \$1,000,000.00 worth of insurance coverage, naming the United States additionally insured on the policies(s), to partially fund the indemnification obligations of the holder for any and all losses due to personal injury, loss of life, or property damage, including fire suppression and hazardous waste costs. The holder shall furnish proof of insurance (such as a surety bond, or certificate of insurance) to the authorized officer prior to execution of this permit and verify annually, and in writing, the insurance obligation to the authorized officer. The authorized officer may allow the holder to replace, repair, restore, or otherwise undertake necessary curative actions, to the satisfaction of the authorized officer, in order to mitigate damages in addition to or as an alternative to monetary indemnification.

- D. In the event of any breach of the conditions of this authorization by the holder, the authorized officer may, on reasonable notice, cure the breach for the account at the expense of the holder. If the Forest Service at any time pays any sum of money or does any act which will require payment of money, or incurs any expense, including reasonable attorney's fees, in instituting, prosecuting, and/or defending any action or proceeding to enforce the United States rights hereunder, the sum or sums so paid by the United States, with all interests, costs and damages shall, at the election of the Forest Service, be deemed to be additional fees hereunder and shall be due from the holder to the Forest Service on the first day of the month following such election.
- E. With respect to roads, the holder shall be proportionally liable for damages to all roads and trails of the United States open to public use caused by the holder's use to the same extent as provided above, except that liability shall not include reasonable and ordinary wear and tear.
- F. The Forest Service has no duty to inspect the permit area or to warn of hazards and, if the Forest Service does inspect the permit area, it shall incur no additional duty nor liability for identified or non-identified hazards. This covenant may be enforced by the United States in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- 18. Members of Congress. No Member of or Delegate to Congress or Resident Commissioner shall benefit from this permit either directly or indirectly, except when the authorized use provides a general benefit to a corporation.
- 19. Appeals and Remedies. Any discretionary decisions or determinations by the authorized officer are subject to the appeal regulations at 36 CFR 251, Subpart C, or revisions thereto.
- 20. Assignability. This authorization is not assignable or transferable. If Holder, through death, voluntary transfer, enforcement of contract, foreclosure, or other valid legal proceeding shall cease to be owner of the above described real property accessed by the authorized road, this authorization shall terminate.
- 21. Superior Clauses. In the event of any conflict between any of the preceding printed clauses or any provision thereof and any of the following clauses or any provision thereof, the preceding printed clauses shall control.

The holder shall be responsible for the prevention and control of noxious weeds and/or exotic plants of concern on the area authorized by this authorization and shall provide prevention

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and control measures prescribed by the Forest Service. Noxious weeds/exotic plants of concern are defined as those species recognized by the (county weed authority/national forest) in which the authorized use is located.

The holder shall also be responsible for prevention and control of noxious weed/exotic plant infestations which are not within the authorized area, but which are determined by the Forest service to have originated with the authorized area.

When determined to be necessary by the authorized officer, the holder shall develop a site-specific plan for noxious weed/exotic plant prevention and control. Such plan shall be subject to Forest Service approval. Upon Forest Service approval, the noxious wed/exotic plant prevention and control plan shall become a part of this authorization, and its provisions shall be enforceable under the terms of this authorization.

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

A. Nondiscrimination (B-1)

- 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 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.

B. The holder has an affirmative duty to protect from damage the land, property, and interests of the United States.

The holder shall be strictly liable (liability without proof of negligence) to the United States for any injury, loss, or damage arising under this authorization. Such strict liability shall be in the amount of \$1 million unless the Forest Supervisor determines at the time of issuance of this authorization that a lesser amount of strict liability is appropriate based upon a risk assessment for the use authorized by this instrument. Liability for injury, loss, or damage to the United States in excess of the prescribed amount of strict liability shall be determined under the general law of negligence.

C. <u>Operating Plan</u> (C8). The holder shall provide an Operating Plan and revise the plan every 5 years. The plan shall be prepared in consultation with the authorized officer or designated representative and cover operation and maintenance of facilities, dates or season of operations, and other information required by the authorized officer to manage and evaluate the occupation and/or use of National Forest System lands. The provisions of the Operating Plan and the annual

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revisions shall become a part of this authorization and shall be submitted by the holder and approved by the authorized officer or their designated representative(s). This Operating Plan is hereby made a part of the authorization.

D. <u>Surveys, Land Corners</u> (D4). The holder shall protect, in place, all public land survey monuments, private property corners, and Forest boundary markers. In the event that any such land markers or monuments are destroyed in the exercise of the privileges permitted by this authorization, depending on the type of monument destroyed, the holder shall see that they are reestablished or referenced in accordance with (1) the procedures outlined in the "Manual of Instructions for the Survey of the Public Land of the United States,"

(2) the specifications of the Forest Service.

Further, the holder shall cause such official survey records as are affected to be amended as provided by law. Nothing in this clause shall relieve the holder's liability for the willful destruction or modification of any Government survey marker as provided at 18 U.S.C. 1858.

- E. Revegetation of Ground Cover and Surface Restoration (D9). The holder shall be responsible for prevention and control of soil erosion and gullying on lands covered by this authorization and adjacent thereto, resulting from construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of the authorized use. The holder shall so construct permitted improvements to avoid the accumulation of excessive heads of water and to avoid encroachment on streams. The holder shall revegetate or otherwise stabilize all ground where the soil has been exposed as a result of the holder's construction, maintenance, operation, or termination of the authorized use and shall construct and maintain necessary preventive measures to supplement the vegetation.
- F. <u>Pesticide Use</u> (D23). Pesticides may not be used to control undesirable woody and herbaceous vegetation, aquatic plants, insects, rodents, trash fish, etc., without the prior written approval of the Forest Service. A request for approval of planned uses of pesticides will be submitted annually by the holder on the due date established by the authorized officer. The report will cover a 12-month period of planned use beginning 3 months after the reporting date. Information essential for review will 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 require control measures which 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 will be considered for use on National Forest System lands. Label instructions will be strictly followed in the application of pesticides and disposal of excess materials and containers.

- G. <u>Right-of-Way Clearing, Powerline</u> (F15). The holder shall clear designated parts of the powerline right-of-way and keep them clear as required by the Forest Service; shall trim all branches of trees in contact with or near the line; shall remove all dead snags and all trees which are leaning toward the line on or adjacent to the right-of-way; and shall observe such other fire precautions as may be required; but all waste material shall be burned or otherwise disposed of to the satisfaction of the Forest Service. The clearing width shall be restricted to that necessary for safe transmission, unless the specific permission of the Forest Service for a greater clearing width is obtained.
- H. <u>Protection of Habitat of Endangered, Threatened, and Sensitive Species</u> (X8). Location of areas needing special measures for protection of plants or animals listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, or as sensitive by the Regional Forester under authority of FSM 2670, derived from ESA Section 7 consultation, may be shown on a separate map, hereby made a part of this authorization, or identified on the ground. Protective and mitigative measures specified by the authorized officer shall be the responsibility of the authorization holder.

If protection 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.

- I. <u>Archaeological-Paleontological Discoveries</u> (X17). The holder shall immediately notify the authorized officer of any and all antiquities or other objects of historic or scientific interest. These include, but are not limited to, historic or prehistoric ruins, fossils, or artifacts discovered as the result of operations under this authorization, and 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.
- J. <u>Improvement Relocation</u> (X33). This authorization is granted with the express understanding that should future location of United States Government-owned improvements or road rights-of-way require the relocation of the holder's improvements, such relocation will be done by, and at the expense of, the holder within a reasonable time as specified by the authorized officer.
- K. <u>Powerline Change Application</u> (X48). The holder agrees that no substantial change or alteration shall be made in the design, location, construction, voltage, or capacity of this line until application for such change shall have been submitted to and approved by the authorized officer.

In Witness Whereof, the parties hereto have caused this permit to be duly executed on this	
day of April	2006. 7
Holder	USDA - Forest Service
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By: Solm In LuceBuld Public Service of New Hampshire,	By Chin
Public Service of New Hampshire,	Thomas G. Wagner
Authorized Officer	Forest Supervisor
JOHN M MACDONALD	White Mountain National Forest

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are 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.

VP E.D. & GEN-PSNH

This information is needed by the Forest Service to evaluate requests to use National Forest System lands and manage those lands to protect natural resources, administer the use, and ensure public health and safety. This information is required to obtain or retain a benefit. The authority for that requirement is provided by the Organic Act of 1897 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, which authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to promulgate rules and regulations for authorizing and managing National Forest System lands. These statutes, along with the Term Permit Act, National Forest Ski Area Permit Act, Granger-Thye Act, Mineral Leasing Act, Alaska Term Permit Act, Act of September 3, 1954, Wilderness Act, National Forest Roads and Trails Act, Act of November 16, 1973, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to issue authorizations for the use and occupancy of National Forest System lands. The Secretary of Agriculture's regulations at 36 CFR Part 251, Subpart B, establish procedures for issuing those authorizations.

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) govern the confidentiality to be provided for information received by the Forest Service.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information, if requested, is estimated to average 1 hour per response for annual financial information; average 1 hour per response to prepare or update operation and/or maintenance plan; average 1 hour per response for inspection reports; and an average of 1 hour for each request that may include such things as reports, logs, facility and user information, sublease information, and other similar miscellaneous information requests. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

