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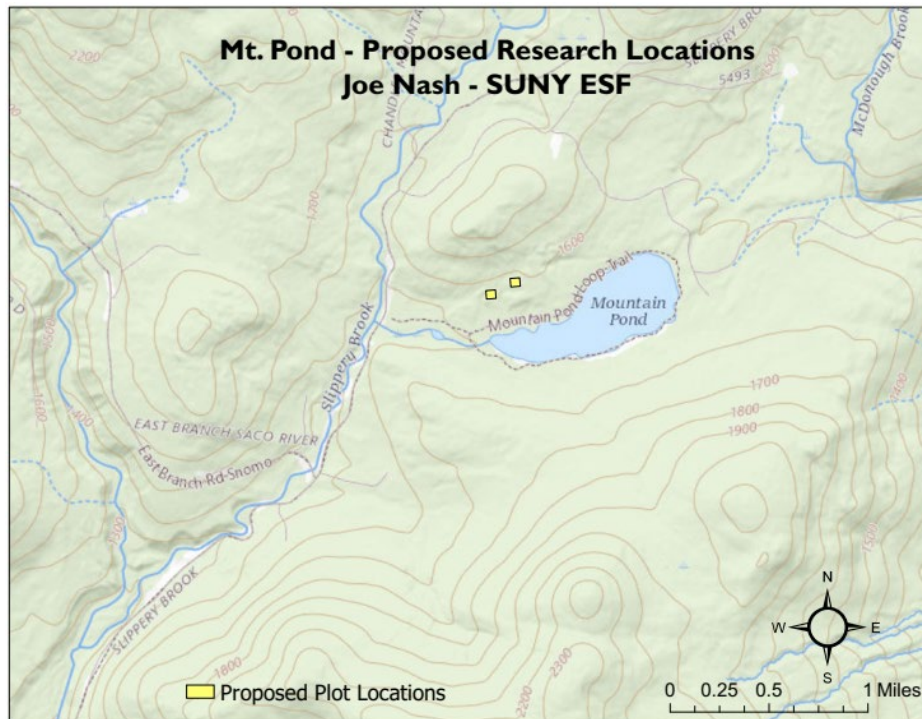
Joe Nash

SUNY ESF
3785 Timber Trail
Liverpool, NY 13090

Dear Mr. Nash:

This letter is to approve your project to research focused on downed wood and tree inventory in a chrono sequence of northern hardwood forests in the White Mountains.

You plan to establish one to two 70.7-by-70.7 m (0.5 hectare) plot(s) in the northern hardwood portion of the forest surrounding Mountain Pond (see map below). Only non-destructive measurements will be taken and impact to the area will be kept to a minimum. Within the plots you plan to conduct an inventory of live and dead standing trees. The tree inventory will occur on five 70 m transects. Beech trees ≥ 10 cm dbh will be given a rating based on the prevalence and severity of beech bark disease. Downed wood will be inventoried using the line intersect sampling method. Three clusters will be installed in the proposed plots. Each cluster is composed of three 25 m transects that will be used for line intersect sampling. No wood will be removed from the forest. During the field work, plot boundaries will be marked with nylon wire flags. All research materials will be removed before leaving the area.



This letter serves as your approval to conduct your work and must be carried with you while working on the White Mountain National Forest. Your work is approved through December 2021. Upon completion of your project, please submit a copy of your results to the Forest contact listed below.

You assume any risks associated with your work. During the current pandemic, you must ensure your operations are consistent with applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and comply with applicable state and local requirements. Before operating, you are asked to develop and implement COVID-19 best practices for your work consistent with applicable federal, state, and local requirements. These best practices do not need to be submitted for approval or acceptance.

If you have any questions, please contact Erica Roberts, Forest Research Coordinator, at erica.roberts@usda.gov or 603-536-6230.

Sincerely,

DEREK J.S. IBARGUEN
Forest Supervisor