



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

White Mountain  
National Forest

719 N. Main Street  
Laconia, NH 03246  
Comm: (603) 528-8721  
TTY: (603) 528-8722

File Code: 2720

Date: February 22, 2005

Dr. Steven Hamburg  
Ctr. for Environ. Studies-Brown University  
P.O. Box 1943  
Providence, RI 02912

Dear Dr. Hamburg:

I wrote you on June 10, 2004 to authorize a research project within the proposed expansion area of the Bartlett Experimental Forest. This project has to do with calcium cycling. I did this in coordination with Dr. John Brissettee and Bill Leak of Northeast Research Station, Durham, NH. The original authorization remains in effect with the exception that we can now identify the final locations of the study plots and there is an additional mitigation measure.

The final study plots are shown on the enclosed map, which is based on spatial data provided by you to identify the exact locations. These sites were visited by Steve Fay in the fall of 2004. This spatial data appears in our gis data (fs/fsfiles/ref/library/gis/white mountain/planning/ecology/calcium study). Obviously, you have the coordinates for each location.

As you know, two sites are located on National Forest System lands outside of the proposed expansion of the Experimental Forest, and west of the height of land of the Bear Notch Road. I have been in contact with the Saco Ranger District, and they have no issues with these two sites. The use is consistent with MA Direction in the 1986 Forest Plan, and the proposed Revised Plan. There is an issue, however, with an ongoing research project by Northeast Research Station. In particular, there are pit traps on the north side of the Bear Notch Road, west of the height of land. Access to your nearby study site must be coordinated with Mariko Yamasaki of the Northeast Research Station at 603-868-7659 to avoid impacts to their existing pit trap sites. This needs to be done before further field work takes place.

Sincerely,



THOMAS G. WAGNER  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure  
cc: Terry Miller





File Code: 2720

Date: June 10, 2004

Dr. Steven Hamburg  
Ctr. for Environ. Studies  
Box 1943  
Brown University  
Providence, RI 02912

Dear Mr. Hamburg:

Thank you for the proposal to study calcium cycling that includes plots on the White Mountain National Forest (WMNF). We appreciate your continuing interest in this topic. I know you have been coordinating this proposal through Steve Fay. As I am sure you realize, this is an important topic on National Forest System lands.

The way I understand it, this proposal will affect WMNF lands as well as the Bartlett Experimental Forest. John Brissette and Bill Leak are aware of this proposal and have approved the portion affecting Bartlett Experimental Forest. Some plots are outside the Experimental Forest because of specific site requirements. These plots on the WMNF are within a proposed expansion of the Experimental Forest that is being considered in Forest Plan Revision. Furthermore, these plots are also within the boundary of the inventoried roadless areas. I do not find that your proposal would affect the future eligibility of these lands for Wilderness Designation.

My understanding is that you would like to use three areas, identified on the map you sent to Steve Fay. At each of these three locations, you would like to establish 3, 30-square meter plots, and 1, 50-square meter plot. At each plot, the plan for 2004 is to characterize the soil, vegetation and nutrient content of the vegetation. The vegetation sampling will include collecting branches and the cutting of a few small trees. There is also a plan to use plastic baskets in the fall to collect leaf fall. In 2005, or sometime soon thereafter, depending on funding, you seek to apply fertilizer at all the above mentioned plot sites. This would include nitrogen and phosphorus.

It is my decision to consent to the proposal. This decision is contingent on the following four conditions:

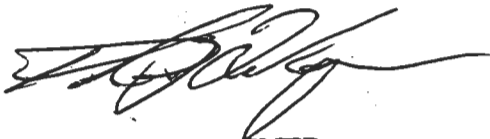
- (1) Any trees larger than 5" in diameter that may need to be cut at the plot sites must be marked ahead of time by District personnel.
- (2) In the event this does not become an addition to the Bartlett Experimental Forest, the fertilizer treatment must be executed within three years, or permission will be rescinded. I have included this because this permission cannot be in perpetuity.
- (3) Administration of this special use will transfer to the Experimental Forest if, and when, these lands become under their administration.



(4) This special use of National Forest System lands is for the period 2004-2010. I am including a time period because unlike Experimental Forests, where the main purpose is long term research, that is not the purpose of National Forest System lands.

Please contact Rick Alimi, Assistant Ranger, at 603-447-5448 (ext 103), if you need any trees marked. Once again, thank you for contacting me on this proposal.

Sincerely,



THOMAS G. WAGNER  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Rick Alimi