



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, Massachusetts 01035-9589

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/Region 5/ES

JUN 21 1996

Mr. James Everman
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

Dear Mr. Everman:

Enclosed are the original and one copy of the ENG Form 4914-R which provides funds for the Dolly Sods Project. The work has been assigned to our West Virginia Field Office in Elkins, West Virginia.

For accounting purposes, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has entitled the project "Dolly Sods North." We understand that the total amount of funds available shall not exceed \$13,480. Our Finance Center in Denver, Colorado, will submit monthly billings (SF-1080) to your Budget Branch and indicate the status as to whether it is a partial or final billing. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Nolan at 413-253-8607.

Sincerely,

Ronald E. Lambertson
Regional Director

Enclosures

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Huntington District
Dolly Sods Wilderness Ordnance Removal Project-PAL
Monongahela National Forest
Service Contact: Bill Tolin (304) 636-6586
District Contact: Wally Dean (304) 529-5712
Date: May 30, 1996

SCOPE OF SERVICES (SOS)
Planning Aid Letter for
Dolly Sods North, Ordnance Removal Plan
Monongahela National Forest
Grant, Tucker, and Randolph County
West Virginia

I. INTRODUCTION.

The Dolly Sods North Area, located within Grant, Tucker, and Randolph Counties, West Virginia and managed by the U.S. Forest Service, was a part of the 2,181,000 acre West Virginia Maneuver Area during World War II. Even though the areas were searched and cleared by military explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) teams after the war, at least 20 pieces of ordnance have been found in recent years. Some of these were found in a 1991 feasibility study by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The study conducted at Dolly Sods Wilderness, included searching a sampling of areas considered to most likely have been used as targets or contain overshots or undershots. Approximately 281 acres were searched with magnetometers and thirteen pieces of ordnance, ranging in size, were found from 6 to 24 inches beneath the surface. One piece was found within several feet of a site used as a campfire pit. If the fire had been located over the buried ordnance, there is the likelihood that the ordnance would have detonated, potentially harming several persons. There is also the potential for tent pegs to be driven into buried ordnance or for people to find and pick up pieces of ordnance, creating a hazardous situation. A high concentration of ordnance is thought to exist within the Red Creek Valley of the area, where campers are commonly found. An estimated 45,000 to 75,000 people come to the Dolly Sods Area each year for hiking, camping, picnics, and hunting. The Forest Service maintains existing trails and commonly used camping areas in the Wilderness.

II. STUDY EFFORT.

A. PROPOSED ACTION

Trails will be searched their entire length and 20 feet to each side by unexploded ordnance (UXO) specialists using hand-held ordnance detection devices such as metal detectors. If metal is indicated the area will be excavated by hand to a depth of one foot. Cleared areas used for camping will also be searched and excavated by hand to a 4-foot depth where metal is indicated. Small undergrowth, grasses, and fallen trees will be cleared only if necessary to search an area and only if the area is accessible to hikers, campers, or hunters. Earth will be excavated only if metal objects are detected. Discovered UXO for safety reasons will be destroyed in place by detonation moved to a disposal area.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of the SOS is to request the Service to prepare a Planning Aid Letter (PAL) for the Dolly Sods North, Ordnance Removal Plan, Monongahela National Forest. Special attention should be addressed to the Cheat Mountain Salamander, Northern Virginia Flying Squirrel and any other known species of biological interest. The findings of the PAL will be used by the District along with other engineering and environmental studies in the preparation of a Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA) for the Dolly Sods North area.

C. OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the PAL and associated studies will be to meet NEPA compliance.

III. SCHEDULING.

A. SCHEDULE

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Biologist/Day</u>	<u>Time Frame</u>
Field Evaluation	10	June-July 1996
Draft PAR	5	July 1996
Final PAR	5	August 1996

B. REPORTS/COORDINATION

1. A DPAL will be prepared for the Dolly Sods North, Ordnance Removal Plan by the Service and presented to the District for review by 15 July 1996.

2. A FPAL will be prepared for the Dolly Sods North, Ordnance Removal Plan by the Service and presented to the District by 15 August 1996.

<p align="center">U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT (ER 1140-1-211)</p>		1. AGREEMENT NO. E85967D15	
		2. <input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL AGREEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT NO. _____	
3. PROJECT TITLE Planning Aid Letter for Dolly Sods North, Ordnance Removal Plan Monongahela National Forest Grant, Randolph and Tucker County, West Virginia		4. EFFECTIVE DATE 30 May 1996	
		5. COMPLETION DATE 1 September 1996	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF USACE ORGANIZATION U.S. Army Engineers District, Huntington 502 Eighth Street Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070		7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF OTHER AGENCY Northeast Region USFWS 300 West Gate Center Hadley, MA 01035	
8. SCOPE OF WORK <i>(Additional pages may be used as needed.)</i> See attached Scope of Services (SOS)			
9. SPECIAL PROVISIONS <i>(Additional pages may be used as needed)</i>			
10. USACE PROJECT OFFICER		11. OTHER AGENCY PROJECT OFFICER	
Wallace E. Dean Ecologist		Bill Tolin Fish & Wildlife Biologist	
TELEPHONE		TELEPHONE	
(304)529-5712		(304)636-6586	
ADDRESS		ADDRESS	
U.S. Army Engineers District, Huntington 502 8th Street, ATTN: PD-R Huntington, WV 25701-2070		U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Post Office Box 1278 Elkins, WV 26241	