News From The WHITE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

For Immediate Release: July 28, 2008 Contact: Colleen Mainville (603) 528-8796

White Mountain National Forest Administrative Complex Contract Awarded

The contract to construct a new White Mountain National Forest administrative complex has been awarded to P&S Construction of Lowell, Mass. The White Mountain National Forest Supervisor's Office and combined Pemigewasset Ranger District offices will be co-located on the 44 acre site adjacent to the Blair Bridge Exit, Exit 27, on Interstate 93 in the Town of Campton. The new office will house approximately 100 permanent and seasonal employees. Work on the new building is expected to begin in early August.

Implementation of this project is significant to improving efficient operations and effective public service provided by the White Mountain National Forest. The new administrative complex will be built using construction techniques to reduce the carbon footprint and increase sustainability, and achieve at a minimum a Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design, (LEED) rating of Silver.

Forest Supervisor Tom Wagner said, "This is a significant milestone in our efforts to reduce fixed costs, improve public service, and move into a sustainable facility. P&S Construction is the third in a series of outstanding contractors. A special thanks to Jeremy Hiltz Excavating, Inc., from Ashland, NH who built the access road, and Jewett Construction Co., from Raymond, NH, who did a terrific job on the first phase of the project."

The complex is designed to have more than a 60 percent energy savings through the colocation of three current offices, the physical orientation of the building, and by utilizing sustainable and efficient products such as super efficient windows and building materials. The building will take advantage of natural and controlled lighting, utilize composting technology to reduce water usage and wastewater generation, recycle grey water, and minimize site runoff, along with numerous other "green" technologies to save considerable energy. With the heating, cooling, and power requirements reduced by 60 percent, the design further reduces the energy needs by heating the entire complex with wood pellets at one-third the annual cost for fuel compared to heating with oil or propane.

In addition, a combined heat and power generating system will use innovative technology of biomass gasification for power and heat. This system will significantly reduce carbon emissions through the gasification process.

Occupancy is projected for late fall of 2009.