

USDA/FS-35

System Name: Congressional Correspondence Records, USDA/FS.

System Location: Records in this system are maintained at Forest Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C., the 9 Regional Offices, the 10 Experiment Station Offices, Area Offices, Forest Supervisor Offices, and District Ranger Offices. The address for the Headquarters is: Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250; the addresses for Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Offices, and Forest Supervisors are listed in 36 CFR 200.2, Subpart A; and addresses for District Rangers are in the telephone directory of the applicable locality under the heading, U.S. Government, Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

Categories of individuals covered by the system: Current Members of the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

Categories of records in the system: Files containing congressional letters with attached congressional constituent correspondence; copies of FS responses to written correspondence from congressional members; Congressional Record and newspaper clipping of statements made by Members of Congress on forestry, forestry legislation or the Forest Service; statistical data on Forest Service activities in the congressional district or State, that is, payments to States and counties from national forest receipts, by congressional district, county, State, and national forest acreage by congressional district, county and State; copies of letters to the record by Forest Service officials summarizing meetings with Congressmen and/or visits to Forest Service offices and National Forest System land by Members and Committees of Congress and their staffs, and biographies of Members of Congress.

Authority for maintenance of the system: 5 U.S.C. 201; 16 U.S.C. 582a-582a-7; U.S.C. 1601-1610.

Routine uses of records maintained in the system, including categories of users and the purposes of such uses: To Members of Congress to enable them to (1) respond to constituents, (2) judge the agency's response to the constituent, (3) obtain factual information on National Forest acreage, Forest Service projects, receipts to States and local governments by district or State, (4) to prepare statements on forestry legislation and issues.

Policies and practices for storing, retrieving, accessing, retaining, and disposing of records in the system:

Storage: Records are stored in individual file folders.

Retrievability: Material is filed alphabetically by name.

Safeguards: All information in this file is a matter of public record and subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Special safeguards are not required.

Retention and disposal: Files are retained until a Member leaves Congress. Within the files, copies of correspondence are retained for 12 months. Factual material on Forest Service activities in the District or State are updated annually and previous material destroyed. Statements are made in the Congressional Record are retained in the file until the entire file is destroyed.

System manager(s) and address: Director, Legislative Affairs, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 12th and Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250; appropriate Regional Information Officer; appropriate National Forest Administrative Officer.

Notification procedure: Any individual may request information regarding this system of records, or information as to whether the system contains records pertaining to him by contacting the appropriate system manager.

Record access procedures: A request for information pertaining to an individual should contain: Name, address, and any available particulars involved in the specific case, that is, dates of correspondence, subject matter, et cetera.

Contesting record procedures: Use same procedures as for notification.

Record source categories: Records in this system come from U.S. Congressmen and replies from within the agency; attachments to congressional correspondence from constituents, newspapers, the Congressional Records, and Forest Service records.