



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Washington
Office

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Subject: Competitive Sourcing Feasibility Study for Communications

To: William Dougan, President, NFFE

This is an official notification in accordance with Article 38, Section 3 of the Master Agreement between the Forest Service (FS) and the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) that the FS intends to conduct a competitive sourcing feasibility study of 100 full-time equivalents (FTEs) within the Communications function. The study will be done in accordance with USDA Guidance for Determining the Feasibility of Conducting Competitive Sourcing Competitions.

This service-wide study will generally evaluate the current situation and culminate with recommendations as to whether cost savings and efficiency gains would be best achieved through one or more competitive sourcing studies, through a business process reengineering study, or using some other realignment method. The study may also recommend maintaining the current situation.

The 100 FTE Communications feasibility study will begin as soon as possible. The Competitive Sourcing Program Office will lead the study team which will also include communications subject matter experts and contractor support. To minimize direct impact to the field units, there are no field data calls planned as part of this study. The feasibility study will be completed by June 30 in accordance with Departmental direction, and follow-on actions will be determined and announced by the end of the calendar year.

We are committed to working in partnership with NFFE through the FS Partnership Council as we move through this process.

/s/ Irving W. Thomas
CHRISTOPHER L. PYRON
Deputy Chief for Business Operations

cc: Thomas Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth Estill, Jacqueline Myers, Eurial Turner

