

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND THE  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The Boy Scouts of America (Boy Scouts) and the United States Department of the Interior (USDI) enter into this Memorandum of Understanding, for the purpose of establishing a framework for a cooperative relationship under which the Boy Scouts and USDI, to the extent permitted by law, will assist one another in areas of mutual concern.

The purpose of the Boy Scouts is, among other things, to promote the abilities of young people, train them in Scoutcraft, and teach them "patriotism, courage, self reliance, and kindred virtues" through cooperation with public agencies. The purpose of USDI is to manage wisely the nationally owned public lands, waters, and other natural resources for which the Department is responsible. This includes protection and enhancement of certain fish and wildlife resources; preservation of national parks, wildlife refuges and historical places; providing outdoor recreation opportunities; and assuring the development of energy and mineral resources in the best interests of all our people.

II. REFERENCES AND AUTHORITY

USDI  
16 U.S.C. 4601-1(d) & (f)

BOY SCOUTS  
36 U.S.C., 21 et seq.

### III. SUBSTANCE

#### General Provisions

1. The Boy Scouts and USDI, working together at appropriate local, regional and national levels, will foster communications with respect to their programs and activities relating to the conservation, management, protection, and development of the Nation's land, water and natural resources, as well as other USDI programs. This effort will include, where possible, other Federal Departments having similar concerns.
2. Subject to applicable limitations, USDI will be involved in Boy Scout training and program activities to the extent they pertain to the conservation, management, and development of the Nation's natural resources including, but not limited to, fish, wildlife, minerals, national parks, national wildlife refuges, fish hatcheries and other public lands administered by the Department.
3. USDI personnel will be made aware of this Memorandum and, to the extent compatible with their Federal responsibilities, will be permitted and encouraged to serve on appropriate Boy Scout Committees and Councils.
4. USDI shall be consulted regarding Boy Scouts program requirements or development of informational materials related to activities associated with departmental programs.

Specific Provisions (Program Areas)

On or about January 1 of each year, when appropriate, USDI shall submit to the Boy Scouts proposed activities and other information that may relate to the following:

1. Scout Council Programs
2. National Exploring Program
3. National Jamboree
4. National Conservation Committee
5. Current status of National Parks, National Recreation Areas, Wilderness Areas, National Wildlife Refuges, and National Fish Hatcheries.
6. Current Roster of USDI Facilities

IV. PERIOD

- A. The duration of this Memorandum shall be from the date shown on the signature page until terminated by written notice from either party to the other.
- B. Nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as obligating USDI or Boy Scouts to expenditures or future obligation or payment of money, in excess of appropriations by Congress.
- C. In carrying out the terms of this Memorandum, there shall be no discrimination against any person because of race, creed, color, or national origin.

V. MODIFICATION

The terms of this agreement may be modified at any time by mutual agreement.

VI. OTHER PROVISIONS

Nothing herein is intended to conflict with current USDI directives. If the terms of this agreement are inconsistent with existing directives of either of the agencies entering into this agreement, then those portions of this agreement which are determined to be inconsistent shall be invalid; but the remaining terms and conditions of this agreement not affected by inconsistency shall remain in full force and effect. At the first opportunity for review of the agreement, such changes as are deemed necessary will be accomplished by either an amendment to this agreement or by entering into a new agreement, whichever is deemed expedient to the interest of both parties.

Should disagreement arise as to the interpretation of the provisions of this agreement, or amendments and/or revisions thereto, that cannot be resolved at the operating level, the area(s) of disagreement shall be reduced to writing by each party and presented to the other party for consideration. If agreement on interpretation is not reached within 30 days, the parties shall forward the written presentation of the disagreement to respective higher officials for appropriate resolution.

