



**File Code:** 2400  
**Route To:**

**Date:** May 9, 2017

**Subject:** CORRECTED- Retained Receipts Program, Call for Proposals

**To:** District Rangers and Staff Officers, Tongass National Forest

**REPLY DUE JUNE 30, 2017**

This is a corrected version of the letter dated and sent April 28, 2017. Corrections are made on the attachments.

The Tongass National Forest has increased its use of the stewardship contracting authority to foster collaboration, build capacity, perform restoration work and reduce risk to contractors by allowing for longer-term contracts. To date, the Tongass has awarded nine stewardship contracts, with more in the planning process.

**Retained Receipts**

The goal of stewardship sale contracting is to be close to a 1:1 match between sale value and restoration projects. When sales have less than 1:1 match then a key provision in the stewardship contracting authority permits the collection and use of retained receipts. Retained receipts refer to the funds generated in “excess” after the completion of stewardship projects in the contract. Retained receipts can then be used to implement additional forest restoration in stewardship areas approved by the Regional Forester.

Reinvesting retained receipts provides the Tongass with a significant opportunity to implement innovative forest and watershed restoration projects that create jobs and local economic benefits. The retained receipts from stewardship contracts can further the common ground and creative solutions established through collaborative processes across the forest.

Monies collected from these approved projects can supplement the appropriated funds to the forest. The receipts must be spent on projects that maintain, and/or restore habitat, ecological function, water quality, soil productivity, forest health, and/or watershed condition (*See criteria for a stewardship project from Handbook 2409.19 Chapter 60 sec. 61.2.*)

**2017 Project Proposal Submittals**

Project proposals for this round of retained receipts will be limited to National Forest System Lands, or adjacent lands with a clear nexus that will improve habitat on National Forest System Lands within the same watershed (e.g. stream restoration where the stream flows through multiple ownership jurisdictions).

The criteria for project proposals is attached for your information. A regional collaborative group selected by the Forest Service made up of a 6-member review committee comprised of Forest Service, State, non-profit, Alaska Native and community members will review and recommend projects. The group will provide one point of feedback and the ultimate decision making authority on allocation of receipts lies with the Regional Forester.



My intent is to have a retained receipts program this fall of \$250,000 with the goal of project implementation occurring in FY'18.

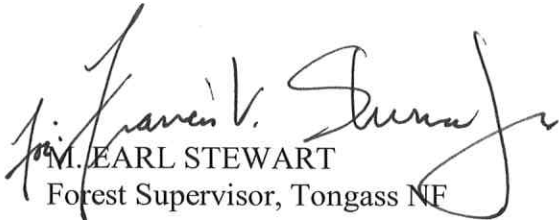
**Requesting carryover funding for projects**

Projects are expected to be completed within 3 years of awarding funding to the proposal.

Retained receipts must not be used for Forest Service salary, overhead, administrative or indirect costs, or for the completion of environmental studies, inventories or other planning analysis.

**Program Information Management**

I encourage you to share and discuss the information regarding the management of the Retained Receipts Program with your District/Staff employees, collaborative partners, other government agencies and community members. If more information is needed, you can contact myself or Charley Streuli.

  
M. EARL STEWART  
Forest Supervisor, Tongass NF

cc: Beth Pendleton, Dave Harris, Frank Sherman, Jason Anderson, Paul Robbins, Bob Vermillion, Charley Streuli