

Cabin Projects, Permit and Approval Process Overview

Understanding the process for review and approval of any projects around the cabin is critical to ensure cabin owners do not violate the terms of their permit with the Forest Service. Projects being completed without authorization is a violation of the permit, and this could put the permit at risk.

No work should be started without approval from the Forest Service. The key exception to this is that any work on the interior of a cabin or outbuildings can be done without approval from the FS.

All other projects with exterior impacts to the existing structures or property, must be submitted in September of each year (the Project Request open window cutoff for submissions), for review and consideration for the following year.

Formal responses from the Forest Service would typically be expected by late Spring the following year.

If projects entail significant ground disturbing impacts, or significant cabin exterior modifications which might impact the individual cabin or cabin tract historical designation, these projects require more detailed review and a longer timeline, and responses are not guaranteed the next year.

Septic Systems need Pierce County approval, but the Forest Service should also be kept in the loop on the perk test, design and implementation of a septic system installation.

These actions do NOT require submission for the Project Request open window, but do require approval prior to proceeding (submit requests to the Forest Service at any time):

- Hazard Tree Removals.
- Basic In-Kind Replacements (replacing damaged materials with the same material).
- Metal Roofs Requests (using approved materials).