

Architectural Guidelines for Recreation Residences on the Coronado National Forest

February 19, 2008



(Note: These guidelines are also appropriate for other non-Forest Service structures across the Coronado National Forest, including Organization Camps, buildings within astrophysical and electronic site complexes, and administrative residences owned and maintained by other governments.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction

Background	1
Purpose.....	1
Goals and Objective	1
Exceptions to Guidelines.....	2

Guidelines

Disturbed Ground.....	3
Driveways	3
Cabin Size	4
Foundations	4
Cabin Height	4
Lofts	4
Cabin Form	4
Windows and Doors	4
Walls and Siding	5
Roofs	5
Decks.....	5
Entrances.....	6
Railings	5
Security Features.....	6
Trim and Details.....	6
Skylights.....	6
Solar Panels.....	6
Exterior Stairways and Ramps	6
Utility Lines and Structures	6
Propane and Water Storage Tanks	7
Outbuildings.....	7
Cabin Numbers and Signs	7
Edging	7
Boulders and Rocks.....	7
Retaining Walls.....	8
Exterior Lighting.....	8
Misc. Constructed Site Features.....	8
Other Outdoor Equipment.....	8
Maintenance	9
Managing Vegetation.....	9
Rebuilding a Cabin.....	9
Abandonment.....	10
Colors	10

Appendix A: Coronado National Forest Plan Direction	12
---	----

Appendix B: Forest Service Directives.....	13
--	----

Appendix C: Approved Paint Colors	17
---	----

INTRODUCTION

Background

The U.S. Forest Service has permitted private cabins on National Forest lands since the 1920s. The objective of the program was to encourage city-dwellers to enjoy the recently established National Forests. On the Coronado National Forest, many of these recreation residences (also called summer homes) were permitted and constructed beginning in the 1930s and 1940s. These residences were typically small, simple, rustic wood structures.

Over the following decades, many of the recreation residences were expanded, painted, and modified in ways that did not always blend well with the environment or are more appropriate for rural subdivisions than for National Forest lands. In recent years, some cabins were destroyed by wildfire and have been reconstructed using architectural styles or materials not suited to natural, public landscapes.

At the same time, the population of southeastern Arizona has grown dramatically, resulting in significantly more visitors to Coronado National Forest lands, and increasing the importance of preserving the natural character of these scenic public landscapes for everyone.

Purpose

Scenic quality is important to National Forest visitors who come to the Coronado National Forest primarily for natural-appearing landscapes. To protect scenic quality, it is important that human-built structures and associated activities on the forest harmonize with the landscape whenever possible.

Both the Coronado National Forest Plan and U.S. Forest Service policy provide guidance regarding the appearance of recreation residences. Visual Quality Objectives established in the Forest Plan require that man's activities, including recreation residences, shall be "*not evident*" or shall be "*subordinate to the characteristic landscape*" (see Appendix A). The Forest Service Manual and Forest Service Handbooks provide direction for the appearance of developments on National Forest lands (see Appendix B). These guidelines are a compilation of relative information found in these references, along with site-specific policies developed by the Coronado National Forest.

While the recreation residence program on National Forest System lands is controversial to some, it is an established program within the Forest Service that is expected to continue for decades to come. These guidelines have been created to both preserve the landscape character as much as possible, and to provide guidance for recreation residence permit holders.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of these guidelines is to ensure that all visitors (both cabin owners and non-owners) are not distracted from enjoying beautiful, natural forest settings.

Objectives:

1. Meet objectives and direction in Coronado National Forest Plan, Forest Service Manual, and Forest Service Handbooks.
2. Provide guidance to recreation residence permit holders as they utilize, maintain, and modify their structures, and help permit holders understand permit compliance requirements prior to Forest Service inspection.
3. Apply guidelines consistently forest-wide.

Exceptions to Guidelines

The Authorized Officer may, on rare occasions, allow exceptions to guidelines. Exceptions usually fall into the following categories:

- **Prior Approval.** If a permittee can show that the Forest Service approved some cabin feature, an exception may be granted. However, an approved feature that does not meet guidelines can easily be changed (such as a paint or stain color), the exception may only be allowed until maintenance is needed again (such as re-painting or re-staining) or when the permit is transferred.
- **Health and Safety.** A permittee may request written approval of a temporary exception for health or safety. For example, an aging permittee might be allowed to construct a simple wood staircase on a steep slope between the parking space and cabin. However, this staircase would need to be removed upon permit transfer.
- **Protection of Natural Resources or protection of an authorized structure.** The Forest Service may determine that a feature is necessary to protect the environment or a structure that is authorized on the permit. For example: allowing an existing retaining wall to remain if it is determined that the wall is necessary to prevent erosion along a stream or the undermining of a cabin foundation.

GUIDELINES

The following provides guidance for many common recreation residence features and activities. For other features and activities not mentioned here, and for questions about any of the following items, contact the Forest Service for additional guidance. Always contact the Forest Service Authorized Officer (usually the District Ranger) prior to beginning any work that affects cabin exterior, the lot, or other structures authorized on permit. Minor maintenance involving repairs-in-kind do not need Forest Service approval if there are no visual effects and no structural changes (for example, replacing a few boards on a deck, a few shingles on a roof, or a broken windowpane). All other exterior modifications require written Forest Service approval.

Existing recreation residences that don't currently meet the guidelines will be required to meet them when improvements are maintained or altered, or when the permit is re-issued or transferred. Previously approved items that do not meet these guidelines may be "conditionally approved" by the Forest Service, but when improvements are destroyed or need to be replaced, they must meet requirements.

These guidelines only apply to exterior features (maintenance, reconstruction, new construction, additions, and exterior modifications) and major modifications (such as lofts). Decisions about minor interior modifications (painting, carpeting, etc.) are entirely at the permittee's discretion.

Permit holders must obtain appropriate building permits, adhere to county and state building and sanitation codes, and meet any applicable special requirements such as Pima County's wildfire-related requirements for structures in the urban-wildland interface.

Disturbed Ground

Recreation residences shall minimize their footprint on public land. Cluster site improvements close to cabin. Most improvements shall be within permit boundary, but some facilities (such as driveways) may need to be outside of the permit boundary. Grading for all improvements (cabin, roads, etc.) shall minimize disturbance of the environment. A pedestrian path with a maximum width of 5 feet may connect the parking spaces with the cabin; this path shall be native dirt, and shall not be surfaced with gravel or lined with rocks or logs. Sites shall not be terraced to create additional flat space. Avoid common areas where foot traffic compacts soils. Common use areas shall not be hardened with concrete, stone, or other materials. When outbuildings or other improvements become obsolete, remove them from National Forest land and naturalize the area.

Driveways and Parking Areas

Permit holders shall not create multiple travel lanes. Driveways shall be surfaced with native soils. No gravel, paving, or other surface material shall be placed on these areas unless needed for erosion control, and any surfacing must be approved by the Forest Service. Driveways shall be a maximum of 14 ft wide and not include loops. Driveways shall only connect the main access road with the parking spaces in a manner that minimizes the length while lying gently on the land (minimizing cuts and fills). Culverts under driveways and water bars are allowed when necessary to direct storm water runoff, with approval from the Forest Service. Parking spaces shall accommodate only 2 vehicles and the parking area shall be 25' x 25' maximum, and may

include a back-out zone if needed. Grading for roads and parking shall blend with natural contours and avoid edges that appear unnatural. Parking areas need not be flat; minimize grading by accepting parking spaces on natural grades.

Cabin Size

Size of cabins shall match the existing square feet on the permit or in plans on file. The only exception to this is for cabins currently without indoor bathrooms; permit holders may be allowed to expand the cabin footprint up to 100 square feet to install a bathroom. When a bathroom is added to a cabin, the existing pit toilet must be removed from the site, pit filled, and land re-contoured.

Foundations

At the time of cabin alteration or reconstruction, the following guidelines apply:

Foundations shall extend above the ground only as far as necessary to conform to acceptable construction practices. Generally this shall be limited to 2 ft. high maximum above the ground at highest elevation within the cabin footprint. Foundations may be constructed of poured concrete or filled concrete block. Color of foundations shall meet color standards by painting or staining to match cabin color or by using colored block. Foundations may also be stone faced; match type of rock found in immediate area and select darker shades of this rock.

Cabin Height

Cabins shall be one story or one story with a loft. Height must also conform to county ordinances. Cabins with a traditional gable roof may be 2 stories tall only at the top of a gable roof and only on two ends of a cabin.

Lofts

Lofts shall not exceed 50% of the main floor square footage. Side wall height of walls of second story lofts (where bottom of a gable roof meets the wall) shall not exceed 4 feet. Balconies are not permitted.

Cabin Form

At the time of cabin alteration or reconstruction, the following guidelines apply:

Cabins shall be rustic architecture traditional in western U.S. mountain areas. Structures shall be simple, compact forms, not modern architecture. Generally, cabins shall have four walls (usually in a rectangular footprint), a gable roof, and a chimney. Unusual wall angles and rooflines are not likely to be approved. Masonry chimneys, if included, must extend to the ground. Chimneys not utilizing native materials must be painted to meet color standards below. Each cabin may have one small (2'x2'x3' max.) box for storage of wood kindling or similar items on the outside perimeter of the cabin; color and materials must match cabin.

Windows and Doors

Windows shall be simple and appropriately proportioned to wall sizes; avoid small windows (especially on large walls) and mixing different types of windows on one wall. Bay windows are prohibited. Doors shall be simple and rustic. Select window and door frames that are neutral in color and not shiny; bronze, black, or painted to match cabin are best.

Walls and Siding

Exterior walls and siding shall be rustic, and generally shall use natural and/or local materials such as wood or stone. Walls and siding shall meet color standards below, except unpainted stone, which shall match the darker shades of natural rock. Reconstructed cabins shall not use brick, block, stucco, or metal for walls or siding. Mobile homes are not allowed. Altered cabins shall retain as much of the original building style and use similar materials as much as possible. Like materials on cabin (such as wood siding) shall all be the same color. Synthetic materials such as artificial wood siding and cultured stone may be approved if their appearance is appropriate. If real or artificial stone is used, match rock found naturally in the immediate area. Provide samples for Authorized Officer review.

Roofs

Shakes, shingles, and metal roofs are acceptable materials. Roofs shall meet color standards below. Valleys and trim shall match roof color. Roof colors that contrast sharply with the cabin wall color will not be approved. Whenever possible, paint vents black or the color of the roof.

At the time of roof alteration or reconstruction, the following additional guidelines apply:

Roofs shall generally be simple, symmetrical gable forms with pitches between 4:12 and 10:12 and a moderate overhang (eave) on all sides. Shed-style roofs, hip roofs, non-symmetrical roofs, A-frame roofs, and barn-style roofs are not likely to be approved. Dormers (gable or shed-style) are allowed, but must be modest in size (comprising less than 1/2 of the total length of the roof and preferably less than 1/3 of the total length of the roof) and shall be of the same style on any cabin (i.e., do not mix shed and gable style dormers on the same cabin).

Decks

Decks must be attached to the residence. Deck flooring shall be natural wood color, treated with some type of clear waterproofing. Horizontal and vertical surfaces (other than flooring) of decks shall be painted or stained brown, green, or grey per color standards below. If a composite material is used for decks, select a dark neutral color and submit a sample to the Authorized Officer for review. Modest areas less than 4 ft. in height beneath decks may be used for storing non-burnable items (ladders, wheelbarrows, and yard maintenance/firefighting tools), or for HVAC equipment or water tanks, but these areas shall be hidden from view by a maintained screen such as a wooden lattice (obtain permission from the Authorized Officer prior to screening). No other enclosure of spaces underneath decks is allowed and living space under decks is prohibited. Screening under decks is prohibited unless used for storage. Unused materials (such as lumber, old appliances, etc.) may not be stored under decks. Screened-in decks are not allowed; existing covered decks that are currently authorized may not be enclosed.

Existing decks authorized by permit may remain, but when decks are reconstructed or replaced, the following additional guidelines apply:

The combined deck size shall be limited to 10 feet in width and the length of any one side of the cabin.

Entrances

Each cabin may have one front entry deck not to exceed 25 square feet in size. The entry deck may also include a roof not to exceed 25 square feet. Both items may extend beyond cabin a maximum of 5 feet.

Railings

Railings on decks, porches, and associated steps or ramps shall be wood (or wood composite to match deck material). Metal railings (wrought iron or painted metal) may be allowed for brief distances such as up a short staircase to the front door. Metal railings shall be no longer than 5 feet in length. Metal railings shall be painted black or painted per color standards below.

Security Features

Window shutters, if used, shall be simple (not ornate) and the color, when opened and closed, shall be bronze, black, or painted to match siding. Window bars and security screen doors, if used, shall be painted black or color of cabin. Security screen doors shall be simple in style. Rolling shutters, if used, are only allowed on the first floor and shall match color standards below.

Trim and Details

Trim shall be simple and rustic. Unrefined, exposed timbers and rough cut wood are encouraged. Do not use unnecessary details and frills such as decorative trim, trim around windows and doors that contrasts with the color of the siding, window shutters that call attention to themselves, decorative security screen doors, or other similar items such as window boxes.

Skylights

Clear skylights, with flashing painted black or to match roof, are allowed. Do not use white skylights or trim that is shiny or contrasts with cabin roof color. Where possible, orient skylights away from roads, trails, and other viewing areas.

Solar panels

Solar panels shall be mounted on roofs, preferably out of view from nearby roads, and shall have frames painted black or to match roof color. Small, portable solar panels may be located on the ground next to cabins. Store portable equipment inside cabin during off-season. Solar panels may remain attached to cabin roofs during the off-season.

Exterior Stairways and Ramps

Each cabin may have one staircase or ramp to front door and one staircase or ramp to deck or back door (max width 48"). Stairway to deck shall be located where ground is similar in elevation to the deck height to minimize the number of steps. Exterior stairways to 2nd story lofts are prohibited.

Utility Lines and Structures

Consult with utility company prior to modifying utility lines. Bury water lines to depth required by local code and to depth that will minimize freezing damage. Septic tanks and lines shall be buried appropriately; only dark colored cleanout caps and vents may be above ground. New and replacement power and phone lines shall be buried to industry standards. Whenever possible,

HVAC equipment shall be located under decks and screened (see above) or out of view from roads, trails, and other use areas. If rock that cannot be excavated is encountered, Permit holders must provide proof for Authorized Officer approval of overhead lines. Paint all exterior utility features on cabin (fuse boxes, conduit, etc.) to match cabin.

Propane, Water Storage, and other Tanks

Each cabin may have a single above-ground propane tank. Locate tank where it is as inconspicuous as possible, yet accessible for refilling. Painting propane tanks to match cabin is encouraged (check with local propane company for guidance prior to painting). Propane lines to the cabin in excess of 4 feet must be buried. Existing above-ground water storage tanks listed on permit will be allowed until replacement is needed. Replaced and new water storage tanks shall be completely buried except for access port and vent less than 12” above ground (and above-ground parts must meet color standards below), or placed under a deck and screened per Decks and Porches section above. Tanks required for toilets inside cabins (such as composting or chemical systems) shall be contained entirely within cabin. Exterior wastewater tanks, including septic and greywater/blackwater tanks, shall comply with all county codes and be completely buried except required access ports and vents less than 12” above ground, and above-ground parts must meet color standards below).

Outbuildings

Outbuildings such as outhouses, storage sheds, pump houses, etc. authorized by permit shall meet all applicable guidelines described in this document and shall match the appearance of the cabin. When major repairs are needed, outbuildings must meet standards or be removed. Outbuildings shall not be converted to living quarters. Outhouses shall not be converted to storage sheds. No new outbuildings will be authorized.

Cabin Numbers and Signs

Cabin numbers must be displayed on the cabin or at the driveway to be easily seen from the main road which passes in front of the cabin. In addition, where required for fire protection services, each recreation residence may have one sign with the property address, either freestanding or attached to cabin. Freestanding signs shall be no more than 3 feet in height. Where the lot number is part of the address, posting of the address is sufficient. The owner’s last name may also be included on this sign, but no other information shall be on the sign. Signs shall not be larger than 12”x24”, shall be rustic in appearance, and colors of both signs and posts shall comply with color standards below. A “For Sale” sign not larger than 12”x24” may be posted at the residence when a cabin is for sale. Signs shall not be attached to trees. No other signs (such as Private Property, No Trespassing, or “Our Getaway”) are allowed.

Edging

Edging along driveways, parking areas, paths, or other use areas, is not allowed.

Boulders and Rocks

Placing boulders and rocks is generally not allowed unless necessary to control vehicles and erosion and only when approved by the District Ranger. Boulders and rocks shall be set into the ground so that the bottom 1/3 is buried. Do not paint rocks. Evenly spaced rocks or lined up rocks that appear as edging are prohibited.

Retaining Walls

Retaining walls are not allowed unless listed on permit. Retaining walls are only authorized when it is necessary to protect the environment or a structure authorized on the permit. Approved retaining walls shall be constructed from stone or wood, or shall be painted to meet color standards below. Garden center type retaining block, slump block and standard block shall not be used.

Exterior Lighting

Exterior lights must be mounted on the cabin and must be shielded so the light shines directly on the lot or cabin entrances, not on surrounding lots. Generally, lighting shall be limited to one light at each entrance. Landscape lighting is prohibited. All motion-sensored lights must be turned off when the cabin is not occupied. Holiday lighting may be used the week prior and after the holiday but must be removed when the cabin is not occupied. Because of the potential impacts to adjacent cabin owners and the surrounding Forest environment, dusk till dawn lights are prohibited at all times.

Misc. Constructed Site Features

Fences, screens, and gates are not allowed unless approved for safety reasons, part of a grazing allotment or management area, or to protect the environment. Fences, screens, gates, bridges, and other constructed features shall meet color requirements below. Shade structures and other constructed features not listed on permit are prohibited. Permanent fire pits or campfire rings are not allowed. When possible, cabin owners are encouraged to share temporary horseshoe pits. Other sports areas such as volleyball courts are prohibited. Flat areas may be used as temporary play locations; however, stakes or stands must be removed in the off-season and the area returned to natural conditions. Any equipment (poles, stakes, nets, etc.) left out during the main season must conform to color standards below. Saunas and hot tubs are not allowed unless installed inside the cabin. Cables and wires are prohibited. Flagpoles must have Authorized Officer written approval.

Other Outdoor Equipment

Outdoor equipment includes, but is not limited to: patio furniture, picnic tables, benches, chairs, temporary cooking grills or fabricated portable campfire pans, potted plants and flowers (real or artificial), play equipment, hammocks, tents, tree swings and swingsets, bird feeders, and sports and playground equipment. Use of personal items outside the cabin is allowed during the main season of use (May 1st to October 31st). Limit the use of property and personal items around cabins to those that would be traditionally found on National Forest lands; avoid the appearance of a rural (suburban) subdivision setting. During the main season these items may be left outside at the cabin. If left outside, they must conform to the color standards below (except for flowers). For example colorful play equipment or white plastic chairs must be replaced or painted to match the color standards to minimize the visual impact of the cabins and associated equipment on other cabin owners and forest visitors. Artificial shrubs, bushes, and trees are not authorized. Furniture not meeting the color criteria may be used on a daily basis but must be brought in when not in use (daily). Temporary grills or any type of fabricated implement used for cooking food may be left outside during the main season, but shall be thoroughly cleaned prior to leaving the cabin for more than 24 hours (to avoid attracting wildlife). Tents may be used on a short term basis (not to exceed 2 weeks), provided the tent is kept on the lot. Temporary television

antennas and satellite dishes may be used but meet color requirements and must be removed and stored indoors during the off-season. They may not be attached to trees. Obtain written approval from Authorized Officer.

Metal trash cans with securable lids exclusively for holding and transporting hot ash will be allowed outside the cabin when it is unoccupied as long as they comply with the color standards. Temperature resistant spray paints found in automotive stores are recommended for this use. Trash bins shall not be stored outside. One hose for fire safety will be allowed outside the cabin when it is unoccupied during the main season as long as they comply with the color standards; it must be physically attached to the exterior hose bib so that is accessible during fire season and should be kept coiled or mounted and not left across the yard area. All vehicles must remain within approved driveways and parking areas. Vehicles (including motor homes, trailers, off-highway vehicles, and similar) may not be stored on National Forest land. Recreational vehicles including fifth-wheel and pop-up tent trailers may be parked at a recreation residence on a short-term basis (not to exceed two weeks in any 60 day period) while cabin is in use. Building materials that will not be used within 3 months shall be stored inside the cabin or taken off National Forest System lands. Bird feeder poles shall be removed during the off-season. Satellite dishes and antennas must be taken down and stored at the end of the season. House mounts for satellites and antennas must meet the color requirements. Do not mount satellite dishes, antennas, or other items to trees.

Maintenance

Cabins and all other authorized improvements shall be maintained and remain in good repair. Each cabin may have a firewood pile that meets fire safety standards. Do not use brightly colored tarps to cover firewood or other items. Firewood shall be stacked neatly, and scrap lumber shall be cut to size and staked with firewood. Roofs shall be kept reasonably clear of debris. Do not wrap any portion of a cabin (chimney, HVAC equipment, etc.) in plastic or tarps. Grounds shall be tidy; remove stored equipment and materials, non-functioning or unnecessary items (structures, tanks, etc.), litter, and other debris from the site. Permit holders are responsible for access roads and driveway maintenance.

Managing Vegetation

If pruning is necessary, obtain written Authorized Officer approval and use proper pruning techniques; prune limb back to next larger limb or trunk to avoid stubs. If tree removal is necessary, obtain approval from Authorized Officer prior to cutting and cut stumps low. Planting of non-native vegetation, including lawns and flower gardens, is prohibited. Existing non-native trees having a diameter greater than 4 inches when measured 4 ½ feet above the ground may be allowed to remain on a case-by-case basis, but must be approved in the permit. Replacement of non-native plants will not be authorized when the plant dies. Planting of native species may be authorized if necessary for restoring burned areas or preventing erosion; Authorized Officer written approval must be obtained prior to planting. Protective netting is allowed until trees reach 2 feet in height.

Rebuilding a Cabin

When a permit holder rebuilds a cabin lost to wildfire or simply wishes to reconstruct an entire cabin, the process is as follows:

1. Submit a conceptual design to the Authorized Officer and obtain written approval. Drawings need not be finished construction drawings, but should be sufficient to show compliance with guidelines. Drawings shall be to scale or clearly dimensioned. If reconstruction is not initiated within 1 year of the date of approval (or if conceptual submittal was submitted prior to June 2006), the approval is void and plans must be re-submitted. Re-submittals are subject to the most recent Forest Service requirements. Items to submit shall minimally include:
 - A site plan showing existing topography, the permit boundary, existing cabin, new cabin, deck (if included), roads, existing vegetation, other major existing site features, and all other proposed site improvements (driveway, parking spaces, septic system, tanks, utility lines, etc.). Indicate any features that will be underground.
 - A floor plan showing rooms and door and window locations. Ensure that square footage of cabin and loft size (if included) is clearly labeled.
 - Elevations for each side of the cabin showing foundation height, walls, roof, window sizes and locations, chimney (if included), and other exterior features. Include labels indicating all materials.
 - Product literature and color charts describing siding, metal roofing, stain and paint.
2. Obtain a building permit from the appropriate county.
3. Provide copies of the building permit and final construction plans to Authorized Officer for approval.
4. During construction, adhere to all Forest Service approved submittals and guidelines contained in this document, and pass all required county building inspections.
5. Demolition shall be completed within 3 months of project initiation. Construction shall be completed within 2 years of initiation of above-ground work on cabin.
6. Re-grade site around cabin to restore natural slopes and scatter rocks.

Abandonment

If a permit holder chooses not to rebuild a cabin lost to wildfire or abandon a cabin, or if a recreation residence permit is terminated, the permit holder must remove and dispose of all improvements and restore the site to its natural condition under Forest Service supervision. All work must be completed within 6 months.

Colors

To harmonize with the environment, colors for paint, stain, roofs, trim, and other features shall be selected from the surrounding forest and shall generally be darker than the landscape. Shades of brown and green are recommended; subdued grays may also be acceptable. More than one color may be used (such as one color for the cabin walls and another for the roof). Combinations of colors that contrast with each other are not authorized. Color of trim, doors, and window frames shall be the same or similar color as siding.

Approved colors are based on the industry standard Munsell Color System, which categorizes colors by hue (base color), value (relative lightness or darkness of a color) and chroma (richness of the color). Colors are also assigned a light reflectance value which identifies the perceived reflectivity of a color.

Paint Colors

- See Appendix C for approved paint colors. These colors do not need Authorized Officer approval prior to painting; however, notify the Authorized Officer of the store where paint was purchased, color name and number so it can be entered in the record.
- Permit holders who wish to use a paint color not listed in Appendix C are required to submit color samples to the Authorized Officer for written approval prior to painting. Submitted samples will be compared against the accepted color criteria.
- Do not use glossy paint.
- Do not use white or light-colored trim.
- Black paint may only be used on minor trim, vents, stove & chimney pipes, solar panel frames, etc.

Stain Colors

- Select a stain to match approved paint colors in Appendix C. Many paint stores can provide a semi-transparent stain to match a paint color; select a paint color and provide a piece of the material to be stained to the paint store for color matching.
- Rough or deeply textured materials are more likely to absorb stain colors sufficiently to darken them. If material has limited ability to absorb stain (such as materials that have been previously stained or those with a smooth surface), select a darker shade of stain and test in order to achieve acceptable color.
- Clear or nearly clear stains and sealers may be acceptable if wood color is a neutral brown or grey. Do not use light colored stains that are yellowish.
- Submit a color sample (if possible, on the material to be stained) to the Authorized Officer for written approval prior to staining.

Colors of Other Materials

- Submit a sample of material (or printed color chart) to the Authorized Officer for written approval prior to use.

Note: Some paint stores can file owner name and paint colors for future use.

APPENDIX A

Coronado National Forest Plan Direction

The current (1986) Coronado National Forest Plan specifies Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) for each acre of the forest. The existing VQOs for recreation residences on the Forest are:

Ranger District	Location	Number of Rec Residences	VQO
Douglas	Cave Creek	8	Retention
Douglas	South Fork Cave Creek	2	Retention
Douglas	West Turkey Creek	14	Partial Retention
Douglas	Rustler Park	6	Retention
Safford	Turkey Flat	74	Retention
Safford	Columbine	14	Retention
Santa Catalina	Willow Canyon	71	Retention
Santa Catalina	Soldier Camp	50	Retention
Santa Catalina	Bear Wallow	6	Retention
Santa Catalina	Middle Sabino	1	Retention

Definitions:

- Retention – A VQO which requires that man’s activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor
- Partial Retention – A VQO which requires that man’s activities may be evident but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape

In 1995 the US Forest Service published the Scenery Management System (SMS), which provides improved direction for managing scenic resources. In 2001, the Coronado National Forest used SMS to map Scenic Classes, which are a measure of the relative importance of scenery. Recreation residences on the Coronado all lie in Scenic Class 1, where scenery has extremely high public value.

Both VQOs and the SMS highlight the importance of ensuring that recreation residences harmonize with the surrounding landscape.

APPENDIX B

Forest Service Directives

Forest Service policy states that recreation residences must be administered to maintain a natural environment. The intent is that recreation residences should not look like rural subdivisions.

This document supplements direction found elsewhere, including that in the Forest Service Manual 2347.1 (Recreation Management) and 2721.23 (Special Uses), and Forest Service Handbook 2709.11 (Special Uses), including regional supplements, as well as in recreation residence special use permits and associated operations and maintenance plans.

Forest Service documents that provide direction for managing National Forest lands include:

1. The *Forest Service Manual* (FSM), which contains legal authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, instructions, and guidance needed on a continuing basis by Forest Service line officers and primary staff, and
2. The *Forest Service Handbooks*, which are the principal source of specialized guidance and instruction for carrying out the direction issued in the FSM and are primarily used by specialists and technicians.

Guidance applicable to recreation residences on National Forest lands include:

FSM 2330.2: *develop and manage sites consistent with the available natural resources to provide a safe, healthful, aesthetic, nonurban atmosphere*

FSM 2333.03: *[Facilities should be] simple and durable in nature, adequate for the intended function, and devoid of unnecessary frills and personal preference options...[and]...In close harmony with the surrounding environment*

National Forest Landscape Management, Volume 1, USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 434, 1973, page 73: *Landscape retention is management of the land so as to subordinate management activities to the characteristic landscape. Activities are subtly integrated into the landscape so that they attract little attention to themselves.*

National Forest Landscape Management, Volume 2; Chapter 1, The Visual Management System, USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 462, 1974

- Page 2: *The majority of recreation-oriented people who visit National Forests have an image of what they expect to see...People expect to see a naturally appearing character*
- Page 30 (definition of Retention): *Management activities are not visually evident. Activities may only repeat form, line, color, and texture which are frequently found in the characteristic landscape.*
- Page 32 (definition of Partial Retention): *Management activities remain visually subordinate to the characteristic landscape. Activities may repeat form, line, color, and*

texture common to the characteristic landscape, but changes in their qualities....remain visually subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

- Page 45 (definitions):
Partial Retention – A Visual Quality Objective which in general means man’s activities may be evident but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.
Retention – A Visual Quality Objective which in general means man’s activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor.

National Forest Landscape Management, Recreation, Volume 2, Chapter 8, USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 666, 1987

- Page iii: *Recreation facilities and activities should appear complementary to nature. The proper combination of materials, design, and visual characteristics will lessen the “urban” impact of recreation facilities, regardless of their sophistication or level of development. The thrust is not to reduce all things to a primitive state, but to make them appear as complementary to nature as possible.*
- Page 2: *It is the role of the Forest Service to maintain forest settings...the image created should be one of quality rust* Page 16: *Visual quality objective are used to measure the amount of visual contrast with the natural landscape caused by humans.*
- Page 16: *Visual quality objective are used to measure the amount of visual contrast with the natural landscape caused by humans.*
- Page 19: *How well developments fit into the characteristic landscape depends greatly on the colors of the area’s components harmonize with the surrounding landscape. Colors should generally be neutral and darker than the landscape backdrop. Bright colors and highly reflective materials are not recommended.*
- Page 86: *Recreation facilities on national forest lands should provide for convenience of the user without detracting from the essence of the landscape setting and recreation experience that attracted the users to the national forests in the first place. Blending all facilities with the landscape setting is a basic concept of visual management and a primary objective of national forest management. Facilities that are rustic and blend rather than contrast with the forest setting are recommended, whether located in primitive or more developed settings.*

Landscape Aesthetics; A Handbook for Scenery Management, USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 701, 1995

- Page 17: *Research findings support the logic that scenic quality and naturalness of the landscape directly enhance human well-being, both physically and psychologically, and contribute to other important human benefits.*
- Page 2-5: [To meet visual integrity] *Usually the most effective way is to repeat form, line, color, texture, pattern, and scale common to the valued landscape character being viewed.*
- Page B-2: *NEPA states that it is the “continuing responsibility of the Federal Government to use all practicable means to...assure for all Americans safe, healthy, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings.”*
- Page F-1: *Esthetic value is an important consideration in the management of recreation settings. This is especially so in National Forest settings where most people expect a*

natural appearing landscape with limited evidence of “unnatural” disturbances of landscape features.

The Built Environment Image Guide for the National Forests and Grasslands, USDA Forest Service, Agriculture Handbook Number 710, 2001

- Page 6: [Facilities on Forest Service lands should] *Harmonize with or complement the character of their landscape settings.*
 - Page 16: *The premise of SMS [Scenery Management System] is that land management activities (including construction of facilities) should not contrast with the existing natural-appearing landscape.*
 - Page 22: *Visitors to national forests expect to see natural-appearing landscapes. To fulfill those expectations...facilities should harmonize with their landscape settings. Structures and roads should not disturb ecological integrity. They should match visual features in the landscape such as color, texture, form, and line.*
 - Page 24: *Careful consideration of the following questions will help illustrate how landscape factors influence architectural character and materials:*
 - *Will the design visually complement the landscape?*
 - *Does it use colors and shapes found within the forest?*
 - Page 27: *Tested by time and proven to be utilitarian, traditional designs continue to be suitable and sustainable models for [structures on National Forest land]. The best traditional designs:*
 - *Use locally available building materials*
 - *Respond to the climate*
 - *Work sensitively within the landscape setting...*
 - *Reflect the region’s culture*
- Issues to consider:*
- *What are the traditional building styles of the region? Of the forest?*
 - *What materials, colors, and building techniques were traditionally used?*
 - *Does the design fit within the image, history, and culture of the Forest Service?*
- Page 45 (Architectural Character Guidelines): *The ideal is to use natural building materials indigenous to a setting.*
- Page 46 (Architectural Character Guidelines): *Color schemes can be keyed to the landscape by:*
 - *Employing colors that complement local vegetation, soils, and rock outcrops.*
 - *Integrating colors by using local, natural materials.*
 - *Selecting shades for large planar surfaces that are slightly darker than the surrounding natural colors.*
- Page 159-178 (guidelines for the Rocky Mountain Province, which is appropriate for the built environment in the Coronado National Forest’s mountains where most of the recreation residences are found):
 - *Use simple, compact forms.*
 - *Avoid complex multiple roof forms such as those that combine shed and gable dormers.*
 - *Concentrate windows toward the center of wall planes. Large windows and recessed windows [are appropriate].*

- *Use stone, wood, heavy timber, and other natural materials when they are available and practical to use.*
- *Use color schemes that are inspired by rock outcrops, leaves or needles, tree trunks and bark, and colors found on the forest floor.*
- *Dominate the palette with earth tones.*
- *Recreation cabin characteristics: Simple massing, Outdoor room [i.e., a deck], Local materials*
- Pages 203-230 (guidelines for the Southwest Province, which are also appropriate for much of the Coronado National Forest):
 - *Structures are usually low, horizontal, blocky, and rectilinear.*
 - *Simple wall masses are common.*
 - *Pitched roofs with a moderate 12"-15" overhang should be used in mountainous terrain.*
 - *Use strongly textured wall materials to create a pleasing play of light and shadow patterns.*
 - *Avoid reflective materials that create glare.*
 - *Make colors slightly darker than landscape precedents as they will fade in intense sunlight.*
 - *Use darker colors in mountains.*

APPENDIX C

Approved Paint Colors

Note color categories (Browns, Greens, Grays) are not precise. Some colors (such as brownish grays or greenish browns) only appear in one of the columns.

Paint Store	Browns	Greens	Grays
Ace	Tapper Brown C11-7 Rum Raisin C12-7 Graham Cracker C13-7 Barcelona Brown C14-7 Slate Brown C18-7 Aberdeen Cowboy D5-6 Pumpnickel D5-7 Estate Brown D6-7 Chocktaw D7-6 Red Rock D7-7 Teddy Bear D8-6 Beautiful Brown Eyes D8-7 Bungalow Brown D9-7 Cigarillo D10-6 Ohio Buckeye D10-7 Milkweed Pod D11-6 Caledonia D11-7 Wild, Wild West D12-7 Truffle D13-6 Espresso D13-7 Fortress Brown D14-6 Coffee Bean D14-7 Dark Earth D16-7 Log Cabin D17-6 Cheyenne Hills D17-7 High Mesa D18-6 Clydesdale D18-7 Woodstock D19-7 Dinosaur D20-7 Prancing Pony D21-7 Ventura Highway D22-7 Burough Green D23-7	Smokey Emerald B35-7 Bueno Vista B36-7 Emerald City B37-6 Cloverdale B37-7 Jungle Green C35-7 Becky's Garden C36-6 Green Jeans C36-7 Carolina Pines C37-7 Lake Forest C38-7 Sherwood Forest D28-7 Hathaway Pines D29-6 Colleen's Cote D29-7 Sequoia Forest D30-6 Aegean Hills D30-7 Green Edge D31-7 Treetop Green D32-7 The Hills of Huntley D33-6 Emerald Village D33-7 Eucalyptus D34-6 Green Forest D34-7 Maximum Green D35-7	Coal Dust C37-7 Coffee Clutch D1-7 Happy Valley D35-6 Rockaway Beach D36-6
Benjamin Moore	980 Woodcliff Lake 987 Buckhorn 994 Fallen Timber 1000 Northwood Brown 1001 North Creek Brown 1015 Cowboy Brown 1022 Maple Shadows 1029 Coconut Grove 1035 Cambridge Riverbed 1036 Deer Trail 1043 Blue Ridge Mountains 1049 Toasted Marshmallow 1050 Weathered Oak 1056 Edgewood Rocks	447 Holiday Wreath 448 Dakota Shadow 462 Vintage Vogue 469 Backwoods 476 Jade Romanesque 517 Greenbrook 518 Sterling Forest 567 Balsam 594 Peridot 595 Deep Jungle 602 Gondola Ride 623 Deep Sea 630 Martha's Vineyard 643 Steamed Spinach	1561 Castle Peak Gray 1595 Rocky Coast 1602 Gunmetal

	1057 Maple Valley 1085 Vero Beach Tan 1125 Acorn 1126 Baked Pretzel 1127 Sedona Brown 1134 Hidden Valley 1162 Wooded Vista 1211 Arizona Canyon 1224 Coyote Trail 1225 Abbey Road 1230 Oregon Trail 1231 Wynwood 1232 Fresh Brew 1237 Raisin 1238 Falcon Brown 1239 Rural Earth 1246 Cup O'Java 1526 Evening Grove 1533 Bay Leaf 1540 Cabin Fever 1547 Dragon's Breath 1554 Dash of Pepper	644 Garden Cucumber 651 Brazilian Rainforest 686 Crisp Romaine 692 Jack Pine 693 Under the Sea 1489 Devonshire Green 1490 Country Life 1491 Aegean Olive 1498 Forest Floor 1505 Trailing Vines	
Dunn Edwards	DE6035 Lynx DE6041 Missing Link DE6042 Bear in Mind DE6048 Pine Cone DE6049 Chaps DE6055 Wild West DE6056 Buffalo Herd DE6061 River Rocks DE6062 Tea Bag DE6063 Black Walnut DE6069 Bannister Brown DE6070 Chocolate Chunk DE6076 Wandering Road DE6077 Deep Brown DE6083 Badlands Sunset DE6084 Roxy Brown DE6097 Monterey Brown DE6098 Burns Cave DE6105 Weathered Leather DE6112 Cedar Chest DE6118 Sandpit DE6119 Neutral Valley DE6125 Carved Wood DE6126 Stockhorse DE6131 Teddy Bear DE6132 Big Stone Beach DE6133 Old Boot DE6139 Summerville Brown DE6140 Brown Bear DE6146 Lonely Road DE6147 Chester Brown DE6175 Burlap DE6189 Mossy	DE5649 English Holly DE5650 Green Bayou DE5706 Pine Needle DE5712 Stately Stems DE5713 Pine Haven DE5719 Ecological DE5720 Deep in the Jungle DE6237 Denali Green DE6238 Spruce Woods DE6244 Smoky Forest DE6245 Aged Jade DE6273 Green Gate DE6280 English Forest DE6293 Velvet Clover DE6294 Midnight Spruce DE6300 Windrock DE6301 Hidden Forest DE6307 Artistic Stone DE6308 Black Spruce DEA172 Camouflage DEA174 Olive Court DEA175 Black Forest DEA177 Holly Bush DEA178 Billiard Table DEC778 Boxwood DEC779 Woodlawn Green	DE6369 Legendary Gray DE6370 Charcoal Smudge DE6391 Black Russian

	DE6195 Prairie Grove DE6196 Covered Wagon DE6202 Coconut Shell DE6203 Essential Brown DE6209 Rock 'n' Oak DE6210 Midnight Brown DE6217 Ancient Earth DE6223 Mission Trail DE6224 Treasure Chest DE6230 Center Ridge DE6231 Shaker Gray DE6399 Molasses DEA158 Northern Territory DEA159 Rich Mocha DEA161 Wild Mustang DEA162 Log Cabin DEC712 Briar DEC755 Cocoa DEC756 Weathered Brown		
Home Depot (Behr Paints)	710B-6 Painted Leather 710B-7 Rich Mahogany 720B-6 Beechwood 720B-7 Spanish Raisin 730B-6 Sweet Truffle 730B-7 English Manor 740B-5 Bradford Brown 740B-6 Winsor 740B-7 Smooth Coffee 750B-6 Tree Bark 750B-7 Thick Chocolate 760B-6 Traditional 760B-7 Revival Mahogany 770B-6 Oakwood Brown 770B-7 Chocolate Sparkle 780B-6 Mountain Ridge 780B-7 Bison Brown 790B-6 Stone Hearth 790B-7 Bitter Chocolate 700D-6 Belgian Sweet 700D-7 South Kingston 710D-6 Butternut Wood 710D-7 Chocolate Cupcake 740D-6 Mountain Elk 740D-7 Frontier Shadow 760D-6 Spanish Galleon 770D-6 Sandwashed Driftwood 770D-7 Wanderer 780D-7 Wild Rice 790D-6 Dusty Mountain	400F-7 Groundcover 410F-7 Fiddle Leaf 420F-7 Forest Ridge 430F-6 Inland 430F-7 Windsor Moss 440F-7 Fresh Pine 450F-6 Whispering Pine 450F-7 Hampton Green 460F-5 Island Palm 460F-6 Midieval Forest 460F-7 Hazel Woods 460D-7 Sabal Palm 470D-7 Windy Pine 480D-7 Isle of Pines 700F-6 Dense Shrub 700F-7 Evergreen Bough 720D-6 Toasted Walnut 720D-7 Winter Oak 730D-6 Coconut Husk 730D-7 Shadow Ridge 750D-6 Lemon Pepper 750D-7 Hampton 760D-7 Moosewood	710F-6 Painted Turtle 770F-5 Dark Ash 770F-6 Evening Hush 780F-6 Dark Granite
Pioneer Paint (Pittsburgh Paints)	511-7 Walnut Grove 315-7 Seasoned Acorn 415-6 Ruffled Clam 415-7 Obelisk 515-6 Patches 515-7 Friar's Brown	302-7 Deep Veridian 402-6 Smoky Emerald 402-7 Holly Leaf 502-6 Salal Leaves 502-7 Black Spruce 303-7 Peacock Green	506-6 Cannon Gray 507-6 Submarine 508-6 Gunmetal Gray 511-6 Autumn Gray 517-6 Armory 518-5 Dover Gray

	316-7 Shaker Peg 416-6 Stony Fields 416-7 Seal Skin 516-6 Clam Shell 516-7 Afternoon Tea 417-6 Hat Box Brown 417-7 Kodiak 418-6 Cocoa Pecan 418-7 Maple Syrup 419-6 Chipmunk 419-7 Classic Brown 420-7 Caravel Brown 420-7 Molasses 421-6 Glazed Pecan 421-7 Country Sleigh 520-6 Oswego Tea 520-7 Dark Granite	403-6 Christmas Ivy 403-7 Midnight Clover 503-6 Dwarf Spruce 503-7 Dark Green Velvet 304-7 Racing Green 404-6 Country Club 404-7 Billiard Green 305-7 Brunswick 405-6 Cactus Pine 405-7 Bottle Green 505-6 English Ivy 505-7 Pine Forest 306-7 Rhododendron 406-6 Painted Turtle 406-7 Royal Hunter Green 307-7 Hummingbird Green 407-6 Chives 407-7 Shady Knoll 408-7 Camouflage 409-7 Grape Leaves 410-7 Pinetop 510-6 Thyme Green 510-7 Castle Stone 411-7 Olive Green	518-6 Knight's Armor
Sherwin Williams	2923 Bramble Bush 2924 Woodsy Brown 2926 Iron Gate 6006 Black Bean 6011 Chinchilla 6012 Browse Brown 6013 Bitter Chocolate 6159 High Tea 6160 Best Bronze 6076 Turkish Coffee 6081 Down Home 6082 Cobble Brown 6083 Sable 6102 Portabello 6103 Tea Chest 6104 Kaffee 7034 Status Bronze	6186 Dried Thyme 6187 Rosemary 6188 Shade Grown 6194 Basil 6195 Rock Garden 6207 Retreat 6208 Pewter Green 6209 Ripe Olive 6215 Rocky River 6216 Jasper 6446 Arugula 6447 Evergreens 6459 Jadite 6460 Kale Green 6461 Isle of Pines	6075 Garret Gray 6200 Link Gray 6201 Thunderous 6202 Cast Iron
Southwestern Paint (Porter Paints)	6678-4 French Toast 6684-1 Chestnut 6690-3 Oiled Leather 6696-3 Coffee Bean 6714-3 Brown Pheasant 6720-2 Chocolate Candy 6726-2 Tan Bark 6732-2 Chocolate Brown 6738-2 Brown Log 6744-3 Deep Chestnut 6750-1 Walnut Husk 6893-1 Antique Bronze 6906-3 Roman Bronze 6918-2 Deep Bayou 6924-3 Smoky Olive	6942-2 Creole Green 6348-5 Deep Hemlock 6954-3 Mossy Log 6960-3 Deep Aloe 6966-3 Dusty Lichen 6972-3 Deep Fjord 7008-3 Rain Forest 7014-3 Kelp 7020-4 Murphy Green 7026-5 Green Valley 7038-3 Deep Iris 7044-4 Summer Pine 7050-5 Mountain Green 7062-3 Deep Spruce 7068-3 Glen Shadow	7074-2 Gray Moss 7085-1 Lichen Gray 7133-2 Quaker Gray 7139-2 Deep Birch 7145-3 Deep Pewter 7151-2 Charcoal 7163-2 Old Stone 7168-1 Gray Sea 7175-3 Marblehead Gray 7187-3 Autumn Bark 7188-2 Rock Shell

	6948-2 Dark Lichen 7164-1 Brown Earth 7182-1 Char Brown 7193-3 Plover Gray 7194-2 Turnstone Gray 7199-1 Umber Brown 7200 Deep Bronze	7079-1 Needleleaf 7080-2 Mossy Stone	
True Value	3121 Country Brown 3156 Black Cherry 3206 Dark Mocha 3207 Taupe Rose 3211 Rocky Ledge 3216 Hedgehog 3221 Dutch Chocolate 3226 Java Bean 3431 Round About 3436 Bungalow Brown 3441 Farmhouse 3451 Basalt 3995 River Bed 4018 Bramble 4020 Hometown 4022 Wild Raisin 4023 Real Coffee 4024 Terre Brown	3446 Green Timber 3586 Camouflage 3596 Pineview 3601 Ranieri 3606 Sheraton Green 3611 Campsite 3616 McKai Green 3621 Forged 3626 Wildwood 3671 Safari	3456 Interplanetary 3886 Thunderstorm 3887 Steel Wool 3892 Oyster Shell