File Code: 2320/5100 Date: November 17, 20XX

Route To:

Subject: Authorization of Certain Motorized Equipment, Boom Axe Fire, XXXXX XXXXX Wilderness

To: The Files

This memo documents my approval of the use of certain motorized equipment within the Thunder Ridge Wilderness on the Glenwood/Pedlar Ranger District for the management of the Boom Axe Fire.

On Monday, November 14, 2011, at approximately 16:15 hours, I was contacted by Forest Wilderness Specialist XXXX XXXX, who informed me that Central Zone FMO XXXX XXXX had requested the use of powertools in the XXXXXX Wilderness on the Boom Axe Fire. The fire was started by equipment at milepost 73.2 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, and spread rapidly uphill and into the adjacent Wilderness. We discussed the current and expected conditions; the weather forecast; the other ongoing fires on the XXXXX Ranger District; the fire vicinity including Wilderness, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, the Blue Ridge Parkway; and also discussed a variety of options and scenarios. We agreed that limited use of motorized leaf blowers and chain saws by fire personnel in the Wilderness was warranted in order to provide for their safety while scouting, determining the position of the fire, to check the fire’s spread, and to build handline if warranted. We also discussed the use of a helicopter for overflight reconnaissance and possible water drops. In my role as Forest Supervisor, I verbally approved these uses. No landing of the helicopter within Wilderness is anticipated.

Following an on-scene coordination meeting between ICT3 XXXX and ICT3(t) XXXXX, XXXX XXXXX communicated my approval of the use of leaf blowers, chain saws, and helicopters on the Boom Axe Fire to IC XXXXXXX at approximately 18:00.

Per agency regulations and as detailed in Chapter 90 of the Southern Area Mobilization Guide, the Forest Supervisor has the authority to authorize the use of certain generally prohibited actions within Wilderness in an emergency situation.

/s/ XXXXX XXXXXX

XXXXXXX X. XXXXX

Forest Supervisor

cc: Wilderness Program Manager