



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

October 12, 2021

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Committees' request for a report on prioritizing Early Detection and Rapid Response in the fiscal year 2021 program of work and the plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.

In compliance with Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: <https://www.fs.fed.us/about-agency/budget-performance>.

If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter is being sent to Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack".

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

October 12, 2021

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
125 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Ranking Member Murkowski:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Committees' request for a report on prioritizing Early Detection and Rapid Response in the fiscal year 2021 program of work and the plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
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October 12, 2021

The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2007 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Chair:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Committees' request for a report on prioritizing Early Detection and Rapid Response in the fiscal year 2021 program of work and the plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.

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If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter is being sent to Ranking Member David Joyce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Vilsack" clearly legible.

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

October 12, 2021

The Honorable David Joyce  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member Joyce:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Committees' request for a report on prioritizing Early Detection and Rapid Response in the fiscal year 2021 program of work and the plan to protect specific native species and natural resource values on public lands across the Nation.

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If you have any questions, please have a member of your staff contact the Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720-7095. A similar letter is being sent to Chairwoman Chellie Pingree.

Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure