Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

December 19, 2023

THE HONORABLE JEFF MERKLEY
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
United States Senate
125 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Merkley:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to Committee's request in the House Report (117-83) Department of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill of 2022 for a report detailing the barriers to implementing prescribed burns in the Western United States.

After 45 days from the date of the transmittal to Congress, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/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,

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure