Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

October 23, 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 Forest Service's response to P.L. 117-58 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, requiring that the Forest Service provide the Committees a report detailing the number of acres in need of reforestation, and the number of acres reforested after an unplanned event (such as a wildfire).

As required by Section 7016(b)(1) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, Pub. L. No. 117-328, this report will be posted on the Forest Service's website at https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/budget-performance within 45 days of receipt of the report by the Subcommittees.

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