USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

April 2, 2024

THE HONORABLE CHELLIE PINGREE
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Pingree:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service's, response to the Explanatory Statement that accompanied the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law No. 117-328), directing the Forest Service to maintain and update five-year deferred maintenance plans that, to the extent practicable, list all outstanding deferred maintenance needs, and to provide the plans quarterly to the House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies; and the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies. Enclosed is the Forest Service's five-year deferred maintenance plan, updated for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2024.

After 45 days from the date of this letter, the updated five-year deferred maintenance plan will be posted on the Forest Service's 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 Department's Office of Congressional Relations at (202) 720–7095. A similar letter is being sent to Chairman Mike Simpson.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure