



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

APR 22 2011

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Forest Service's initial estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2011. Section 502(h)(3) of the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V, Division A, Public Law 111-88) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an estimate of the anticipated wildfire suppression costs for each fiscal year the first week of September.

This pre-season forecast predicts fire suppression costs to be between \$831 million and \$1.388 billion for FY 2011. These estimates are based on the best climate, weather, and other related data currently available, as well as the best current models and other analytical tools to estimate fire costs.

A similar letter and copy of the report are being sent to your colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black 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

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Washington, D.C. 20250

APR 22 2011

The Honorable John A. Barrasso  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
United States Senate  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Forest Service's initial estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2011. Section 502(h)(3) of the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V, Division A, Public Law 111-88) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an estimate of the anticipated wildfire suppression costs for each fiscal year the first week of September.

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Michael Simpson  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

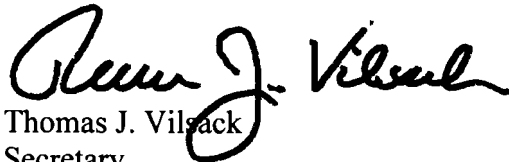
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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable James Moran  
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 Congressman Moran:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Jack Reed  
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:

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APR 22 2011

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

Dear Senator Murkowski:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Daniel Akaka  
Chairman  
Committee on Indian Affairs  
United States Senate  
838 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Indian Affairs  
United States Senate  
838 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Rob Bishop  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest  
and Public Lands  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1017 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Raul Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on National Parks,  
Forests and Public Lands  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H2-186 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Grijalva:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Jeff Fortenberry  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Department Operations,  
Oversight, and Credit  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1407 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Marcia Fudge  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Department Operations,  
Oversight, and Credit  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1305 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Fudge:

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APR 22 2011

The Honorable Lamar Alexander  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Alexander:

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