



File Code: 1560 / 4000

Date: December 20, 2013

Dear Tribal Leader:

In 2010, the Forest Service Research & Development branch (FS R&D) launched an initiative to better coordinate its activities related to Tribes and to increase its tribal outreach and engagement. As part of this initiative, FS R&D has developed a new Tribal Engagement Roadmap (Roadmap) to share activities already underway, as well as highlight opportunities and priority areas for future work with Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, and other indigenous peoples organizations. We are pleased now to share this document (attached) for your review.

This letter is to invite you to consult on this proposed document. I encourage you to request a consultation meeting with your regional Forest Service Research Station Director, to both learn about FS R&D activities in your area and to discuss the proposed Roadmap. Recognizing that you may have local consultation protocols in place, the Forest Service Regional Forester for your area will also be sending you a letter that will provide local contact information to conduct consultation on this document.

Materials for consultation will be available January 10, 2014. These materials can be accessed electronically at <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/tribal-engagement/roadmap>. Hard copies of these materials may also be requested from your Forest Service consultation contact.

While consultation on this document is directed at the regional or local level, we in Washington DC do want to hear directly from Tribes and tribal resource managers. A listening session/conference call with Washington DC-based FS R&D leadership and staff on the Roadmap is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 2:30 pm ET. Information for joining this call can be accessed at the website above and is also included below:

Date/Time: Thursday, February 13, 2013 at 2:30 pm ET
LiveMeeting URL: <https://www.livemeeting.com/cc/usda/join?id=NFJ5RS&role=attend>
Phone: 1-888-844-9904
Participant Code: 2701759#

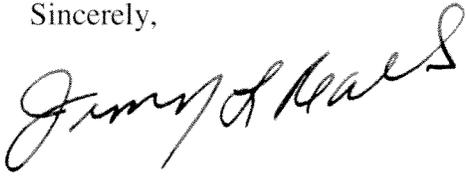
In order for the Roadmap writing team to consider your views on the proposed document, your comments must be received by May 11, 2014. All comments received from Tribes as part of the Consultation process will receive a written response on how they were considered and/or addressed in the final Roadmap.

The Agency continues to be committed to government-to-government consultation. I recognize that we have initiated consultation on many Forest Service initiatives. We encourage you to



combine your consultation meetings where appropriate and we look forward to assisting you in meeting your consultation needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy L. Reaves". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jimmy L. Reaves, Deputy Chief, Research and Development

Enclosures:

USFS RD Tribal Engagement Roadmap DRAFT 20131113