The Honorable Betty McCollum  
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 Congresswoman McCollum:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

This estimate is pursuant to section 502(h)(3) of the Act, which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an estimate of the anticipated wildfire suppression costs by the first week of September. The delay in the availability of certain data elements presented challenges in preparing the report.

This forecast predicts, with 90 percent confidence, that fire suppression costs will be between $746 million and $1.876 billion in FY 2017, with a median forecast of $1.311 billion. These estimates are based on the best climate and weather data currently available as well as the most effective analytical tools and models used to estimate fire suppression costs.

In compliance with section 435 of Public Law 111–88, this information will be posted to http://www.fs.fed.us/aboutus/budget/congressional-directives.shtml after 45 days. A similar letter and report are being sent to Senator Tom Udall, Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Ron Wyden, Senator John Barrasso, Congressman Tom McClintock, Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, Congressman Glenn Thompson, Congresswoman Michelle Lujan Grisham, Congressman Ken Calvert, and Senator Jon Tester.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary  
Enclosure
OCT 11 2016

The Honorable Tom Udall
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 Udall:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure
OCT 11 2016

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chair
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure
The Honorable Ken Calvert  
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  

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary  

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

Dear Senator Wyden:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure
OCT 11 2016

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

Dear Senator Tester:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure
OCT 11, 2016

The Honorable Tom McClintock
Chairman
Subcommittee on Federal Lands
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1332 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

[Signature]

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure
OCT 11 2016

The Honorable Niki Tsongas
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Federal Lands
Committee on Natural Resources
U.S. House of Representatives
1329 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Tsongas:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary

Enclosure
The Honorable Glenn Thompson  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1301 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary  

Enclosure
The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1305 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Grisham:

This letter outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression costs for fiscal year (FY) 2017, as required in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–88), and as a part of the Title V—FLAME Act of 2009.

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Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure