USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

March 13, 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's Forest Service response to the Congressional directive included in Division G of the fiscal year 2022 appropriations act Explanatory Statement that the Forest Service provide a report detailing its strategy for pursuing the maximum utilization of domestic labor and long-term workforce development.

In compliance with Public Law 111-88, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service 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 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