Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

September 8, 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 Explanatory Statement that accompanied the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (Public Law 117-328) directing the Forest Service to report on appraisal program improvements, including Service-wide appraisal and real estate policies that result in region-wide consistencies, timely appraisals, and collaborative partnerships.

After 45 days from the date of the transmittal to Congress, 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. We will send a similar letter to Ranking Member Lisa Murkowski.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure