



Office of the Secretary  
Washington, DC 20250

July 28, 2023

THE HONORABLE MIKE SIMPSON  
*Chairman*  
*House Committee on Appropriations*  
*Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,*  
*and Related Agencies*  
*U.S. House of Representatives*  
*2007 Rayburn House Office Building*  
*Washington, DC 20515*

Dear Chairman Simpson:

This letter transmits the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service response to the Committee's request in House Report 117-400 for a strategy to ensure burned area recovery work is being adequately prioritized and the plan to establish a new budget line in FY 2024.

In compliance with Public Law 117-328 Section 7016, after 45 days, this report will be posted to the Forest Service website <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 Chellie Pingree.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. VILSACK  
*Secretary*

Enclosure