



MAY 31 2013

United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Timothy Walz  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry  
Committee on Agriculture  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1305 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walz:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression cost for fiscal year (FY) 2013, as required in the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of Public Law 111-88).

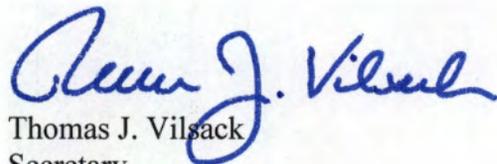
This estimate is pursuant to section 502(h)(3) of the Act, which requires the Secretary of Agriculture to submit an estimate of the anticipated wildfire suppression costs the first week of March. The report is late due to the delay in the availability of certain data elements required for the development of the report.

This forecast predicts fire suppression costs to be between \$621 million and \$1.409 billion for FY 2013, with a median of \$985 million. 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. The forecast only includes costs for aviation assets or cost pools that were not shifted to the preparedness account as part of the rebaselining initiative.

The enclosed report includes both USDA and the Department of the Interior (DOI) forecasts. DOI submits an anticipated wildland fire suppression cost report independently. 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.

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Sincerely,



Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



MAY 31 2013

United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Robert Bishop  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Public Lands  
and Environmental Regulation  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1017 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chair:

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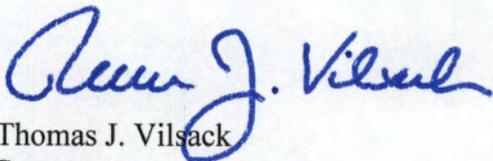
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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

MAY 31 2013

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Indian Affairs  
United States Senate  
838 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Madam Chair:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression cost for fiscal year (FY) 2013, as required in the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of Public Law 111-88).

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Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable John Barrasso  
Vice Chair  
Committee on Indian Affairs  
United States Senate  
838 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Vice Chair:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression cost for fiscal year (FY) 2013, as required in the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of Public Law 111-88).

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable James Moran  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,  
and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House and Representatives  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Moran:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression cost for fiscal year (FY) 2013, as required in the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of Public Law 111-88).

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Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
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 Murkowski:

Enclosed is a report that outlines the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service estimate of anticipated wildland fire suppression cost for fiscal year (FY) 2013, as required in the Federal Land Assistance, Management, and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 (Title V of Division A of Public Law 111-88).

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Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

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

Dear Mr. Chair:

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Sincerely,

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
Secretary

Enclosure



United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson  
Chair  
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

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
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United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

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

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Thomas J. Vilsack  
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United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Joseph Manchin  
Chair  
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. Chair:

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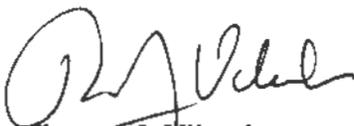
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Thomas J. Vilsack  
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United States Department of Agriculture

MAY 31 2013

Office of the Secretary  
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Raul M. Grijalva  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Public Lands  
and Environmental Regulation  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1324 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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