



March 11, 2011

Secretary Ken Salazar
 U.S. Department of the Interior
 1849 C Street NW
 Washington, DC 20240

Secretary Tom Vilsack
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Suite 200-A
 Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Salazar and Secretary Vilsack,

On behalf of the National Association of State Foresters, I express our appreciation for the opportunity for state forestry agencies to participate as full partners in the development, review and completion of the Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire Management as called for in the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act of 2009 (FLAME Act). We endorse the processes utilized in the development of both the Report to Congress and the Path Towards a Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. Discussing and addressing our wildland fire problems in a national, cohesive approach is a step in the right direction.

We all recognize the importance of the document in framing future dialogue on wildland fire management issues. The states' commitment to participate in the process ensured that a broad range of interests were considered and melded into the report. We look forward to our continued engagement in the next phases of the Cohesive Strategy including state forester representation on the Wildland Fire Executive Committee, the Regional Strategy Committees and the working groups that will be formed to undertake the regional analysis' that will comprise the Phase III National Trade-Off Analysis.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jahnke
 President
 National Association of State Foresters