



**FEMA**

February 18, 2014

The Honorable Sally Jewell  
Secretary of the Department of the Interior  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240-0001

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of Agriculture  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250-3700

Dear Secretary Jewell and Secretary Vilsack:

On behalf of the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, United States Fire Administration (USFA), I want to express our appreciation for the opportunity to have served as a partner in the development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy).

The successful implementation of the Cohesive Strategy will rely heavily on the continued collaborative engagement of the many stakeholders, including Federal, state, tribal and local government, non-governmental organizations, and land management entities. Strategic and programmatic alignment will be critical in addressing the actions identified in the Cohesive Strategy Regional and National Action Plans. Our continued strong and effective communications will be important to achieve the shared goals of restoring and retaining resilient landscapes, creating fire-adapted communities, and responding to wildfires.

USFA supports *The National Strategy – The Final Phase in the Development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy* report produced during Phase III of the Cohesive Strategy development. We are committed not only to sharing this information with the structural firefighting community and encouraging their adoption of recommended actions, but also integrating the Cohesive Strategy into our WUI and wildland fire mitigation and education efforts wherever possible. We look forward to our continued participation in the implementation of the Cohesive Strategy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernest Mitchell".

Ernest Mitchell  
Fire Administrator  
United States Fire Administration