



March 19, 2013

Honorable Tom Corbett  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Corbett:

As you are likely aware, effective March 1, 2013, the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 as amended by the Budget Control Act of 2011, mandated budget reductions totaling \$85 billion across the Federal government for fiscal year 2013. These mandated cuts, known as sequester, impact a number of Federal programs including the Secure Rural Schools, 25 percent fund, and Grasslands payments to your state. Because payments were made to your state previously in fiscal year 2013, this letter outlines steps that must be taken to ensure the Federal government meets the mandated sequester and does not violate the Anti-deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. § 1341. The Forest Service will work with a designee in your state to answer any questions you may have.

### Secure Rural Schools

- **Titles I and III** - The fiscal year 2013 payment you recently received for Titles I and III of the Secure Rural Schools Act will be sequestered by 5.1 percent. For the State of Pennsylvania, this amounts to \$53,652.45.
- **Title II** - The State of Pennsylvania also elected to allocate \$91,479.04 in Title II Secure Rural Schools funds for conservation projects. This amount is also subject to 5.1 percent sequestration, or \$4,665.43.
- **25 Percent Fund Payment** - The fiscal year 2013 payment you recently received for 25 percent of the 7-year average of receipts will be sequestered by 5.1 percent. For the State of Pennsylvania, this amounts to \$116,210.25.

You have the option of having a sequestered amount of up to \$86,813.61 paid from your Title II funds, if you prefer, which will reduce your allocation in Title II. Otherwise, we will send you a bill for collection for the sequestered amounts from Titles I and III. Please let us know through email to [asc\\_ast@fs.fed.us](mailto:asc_ast@fs.fed.us) by April 19, 2013, how you would prefer to take the reduction.



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**Grasslands**

Counties in the State are scheduled to receive \$2,688.78 in Grasslands payments in late March or early April. This payment will be reduced by 5.1 percent, or \$137.13. We regret having to take this action, but we have no alternative under sequestration.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Thelma J. Strong, Chief Financial Officer, at (202) 205-0429.

Sincerely,



THOMAS L. TIDWELL  
Chief