



File Code: 3400; 2400
Route To:

Date: March 16, 2022

Subject: Farm Bill Insect and Disease Treatment Area Designation for Region 8

To: Regional Forester, R8

Thank you for your letter dated February 9, 2022, requesting the designation of additional landscape-scale areas for the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area in Region 8 to address insect or disease threats under Section 602 of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591a), as added by section 8204 of the Agricultural Act of 2014.

I have determined the areas you requested under Section 602 meet one or more of the following criteria:

- The area is experiencing decline of forest health based on annual forest health surveys;
- The area is at risk of substantial tree mortality over the next 15 years based on the National Insect and Disease Risk Map; or
- The area is one in which hazard trees pose imminent risk to public infrastructure, health, or safety.

Based on this determination, I hereby designate an additional 86,167 acres on the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. This increases total designated areas from 540,087 to 580,042 acres in Kentucky and from 587,876 to 634,088 acres in Tennessee. These designations exclude Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, and non-Forest Service inholdings. This letter and the enclosed map showing the designated areas will be posted at <http://www.fs.fed.us/farmbill/>.

Designation under Section 602 will allow us to evaluate these landscape areas for potential treatments to reduce the risk or extent or increase resilience to insect or disease infestation in accordance with Sections 602(d).

Thank you for your request to designate landscape areas that are experiencing declining forest health in Region 8. If you have any questions about the designation, please contact Christopher B. French, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, at (202) 205-1523 or christopher.french@usda.gov.

X 

Signed by: Department of Agriculture

RANDY MOORE
Chief

Enclosures (3)

