October 22, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins
Secretary of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Scott Bessent
Secretary of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rollins and Secretary Bessent:

We, the undersigned national organizations, represent America's private forest owners who form the backbone of our domestic timber sector and provide 90% of our domestic timber harvest. One out of every four rural Americans is a forest landowner, with more than 21 million American families stewarding forests across the country. Private forest owners sustain rural economies by providing raw materials for housing, energy, and other products while maintaining the long-term health and resiliency of our forest landscapes.

As the Trump Administration works to advance remedies to address unfair trade practices, we urge you to ensure that private forest owners and our manufacturing partners are also supported. Our sector is confronting unprecedented pressures, including mill closures, natural disasters, and limited safety net tools compared to traditional agriculture, that significantly reduce our access to new and innovative markets and narrow our margins. Without trade policies that strengthen our position domestically and globally, these challenges threaten the viability of private working forests and the communities they support.

We respectfully request that USDA and Treasury:

- Explicitly include U.S. timber producers and product manufacturers in trade relief discussions and actions.
- Structure trade agreements and related actions to strengthen U.S. timber and product markets and expand exports.
- Provide policy and economic support that sustain long-term investments in forest management, expand market growth and access, and respond to the acute shocks of market disruptions and natural disasters.

By supporting private forest owners, the Trump Administration can safeguard rural jobs, maintain the resiliency of our working forests, increase U.S. manufacturing, and secure a reliable domestic timber supply for generations to come. We appreciate your leadership and urge you to prioritize private working forest owners as USDA crafts trade remedies.

Respectfully,

American Forest Foundation
Forest Landowners Association
National Alliance of Forest Owners