

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 16: Department of Agriculture Forest Health Initiatives

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Frederick

The Natural Resources Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of Agriculture for retroactive approval to submit a federal grant application for forest health initiatives.

The U.S. Forest Service is offering a non-competitive one-time grant to support three projects: 1) early detection and rapid response of exotic bark beetles; 2) noxious weed management; and 3) sudden oak death quarantine enforcement. There is a one-year period of performance from the date of execution and an in-kind match of \$144,276 anticipated to be met through existing Lottery Funds and Other Funds resources.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means retroactively approve the submission of a federal grant application by the Department of Agriculture to the U.S. Forest Service, in the amount of \$136,500, for forest health initiatives.