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**Steve Moyer**  
*Vice President of Government Affairs*

August 7, 2019

The Honorable James E. Hubbard, Undersecretary  
Natural Resource and Environment  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Jefferson Drive SW  
Washington DC 20024

**RE: Public comment period extension for proposed revisions to the Forest Service's National Environmental Policy Act regulations (Docket: FS-2019-0010-0001).**

Dear Undersecretary Hubbard:

I am writing to request an extension to the comment period for the USDA Forest Service's proposal to update its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations.

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a national conservation organization with more than 300,000 members and supporters who share in a mission to conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Forest Service lands are incredibly valuable to TU and our conservation work involving public lands is multi-faceted. We are participants in the NEPA process as a member of the public, as well a partner with the Forest Service on restoration projects that require NEPA review. In this way, we have a unique perspective having been on both sides of the NEPA coin.

It is from this perspective that we recognize the broad implications of the proposed rule, as well as the need for interested stakeholders to fully understand the proposal and formulate detailed, constructive comments for the Forest Service. We feel that a sixty-day comment period is not sufficient to accomplish this objective.

NEPA is one of our America's bedrock environmental laws, providing meaningful opportunities for the public to be involved in the management of their public lands and ensuring that agency decisions are fully informed and grounded in the best available scientific information. Accordingly, TU requests a public comment period extension of no less than 30 days to ensure that the public can give this important rulemaking the attention that it deserves.

Thank you for your commitment to America's public lands heritage and the consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Steve Moyer

Cc: Vicki Christiansen, Chief, USDA Forest Service