



File Code: 6570/6530

Date: January 28, 2005

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested

(5)(6) Henry Brown

[REDACTED]
Hanahan, SC 29406

Dear Mr. Brown:

On March 5, 2004, you ignited a prescribed burn on your private property adjacent to the Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests. Our investigation disclosed that, due to your negligence, the fire escaped and burned approximately 20 acres of National Forest System land. As a result, the Forest Service incurred suppression costs in the amount of \$4,747.18 for which you are liable.

Payment is due the Forest Service upon receipt of this letter and enclosed bill, but no later than THIRTY DAYS FROM DATE OF BILL/LETTER. Please make your payment by money order, bank draft or check payable to the USDA Forest Service. Please mail your payment, along with a copy of the enclosed bill, to the Unit Collection Officer, U.S. Forest Service; Francis Marion and Sumter National Forests; 4931 Broad River Road; Columbia, SC 29212-3530. A pre-addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

If this bill is not paid in full by the due date, you shall be charged interest on the unpaid principal at the rate of 1 percent (the Department of the Treasury current value of funds rate) from the date the bill was issued. Additionally, you shall be charged an administrative cost to cover processing and handling of the overdue debt. Finally, if this bill is not paid in full 90 days after the due date, in addition to the interest and administrative costs, you will be charged a penalty of 6 percent per year on the amount overdue. Interest and penalty charges will be calculated from the date the bill was issued.

If you have homeowner's insurance, you may want to consider referring this bill to your insurance company.

Please also be advised that we have the authority to refer this matter to the Department of the Treasury for follow up collection action or to the Department of Justice for possible civil litigation if this debt is not paid by the due date.



Henry Brown

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You may contact Claudette Bryant, at (803) 561-4000, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stanley Moore
STANLEY A. MOORE
Claims Officer

Enclosures