<u>Participants</u>: The Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management have been authorized by Congress to use stewardship contracting. These two agencies are required to report annually on the role of local communities in developing agreements or contract plans. You have been involved in a stewardship contracting project, and yours, \_\_\_\_\_, has been selected for annual review. We have used a stratified random sampling process to make selections. The Pinchot Institute for Conservation is coordinating this study, under contract with the Forest Service and the BLM.

The survey will be conducted by telephone. It should take no longer than 30 minutes. A sample survey form is included in this e-mail. You may review the questions before the telephone call. We will conduct these telephone calls from [insert Month xx, year xxxx through Month xx, year xxxx].

Your name will not be associated with the interviewer's notes. We will not retain the names of anyone who is interviewed. Individual survey responses will not be shared with any other agencies or organizations. The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management will use the aggregated data in their annual report to Congress on stewardship contracting implementation. Therefore, the aggregated results will be available for use by organizations both inside and outside the government.

Your participation in the interview is completely voluntary. Your participation assumes that you understand and accept this voluntary agreement. Your decision about participation will not affect your current or future relations with the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, the Pinchot Institute for Conservation or \_\_\_\_(insert local/regional subcontractor name here).

On behalf of the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, the Pinchot Institute would like to thank you in advance for your thoughtful and candid responses to questions related to stewardship contracting in your community.

