

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 21, 2020

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to request full and fair consideration of the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration as a result of several fires burning across the State.

As you may know, an extreme weather event which began on August 14, 2020 caused record-breaking temperatures and Red Flag Warnings throughout California. During these exacerbated fire conditions, the State experienced widespread lightning strikes which resulted in hundreds of fires across California. Several of these fires, including the River Fire in Monterey County, the Jones Fire in Nevada County, the Carmel Fire in Monterey County, the CZU August Lightning Complex in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties and LNU Lightning Complex Fire in Lake, Napa, Sonoma, Solano and Yolo Counties, have rapidly grown. These fires have destroyed 3,326 residences and currently are threatening more than 42,154 structures more along with critical infrastructure across the State. Currently, these fires have collectively burned more than 209,643 acres.

This massive explosion of fire activity has resulted in an immense strain on California's resources and firefighting capabilities. It is increasingly difficult for the State and local governments to obtain the necessary resources to respond to these fires. California is instituting all possible actions at its disposal to combat this massive disaster. However, the size and scope of the current fire activity demands assistance, coordination, and federal action. This is why, we ask your full and fair consideration of the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration as a result of several fires burning statewide.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

KEVIN MCCARTHY
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress

ANNA G. ESHOO
Member of Congress

JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress

PAUL COOK
Member of Congress

KAREN BASS
Member of Congress

MARK DESAULNIER
Member of Congress

HARLEY ROUDA
Member of Congress

JIMMY GOMEZ
Member of Congress

ERIC SWALWELL
Member of Congress

AMI BERA
Member of Congress

JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress

GRACE F. NAPOLITANO
Member of Congress

LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ
Member of Congress

JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

RAUL RUIZ, M.D.
Member of Congress

JERRY MCNERNEY
Member of Congress

JACKIE SPEIER
Member of Congress

ZOE LOFGREN
Member of Congress

JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress

ADAM SCHIFF
Member of Congress

J. LUIS CORREA
Member of Congress

ALAN LOWENTHAL
Member of Congress

TED W. LIEU
Member of Congress

SALUD CARBAJAL
Member of Congress

BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress

GILBERT R. CISNEROS, JR.
Member of Congress