

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 25, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Administrator Deanne Criswell
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. President and Administrator Criswell,

We write in strong support of the request by the Governors of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, and Washington for a federal major disaster declaration for the drought in these states. Federal resources are needed to address these conditions and support our Western communities.


The Western United States is experiencing record-setting temperatures, coupled with historic dry conditions and devastating wildfires. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecasts that these conditions and high temperatures could last until November of this year across most Western states. The Bureau of Reclamation also recently declared a water shortage in the Colorado River Basin for the first time ever as a result of the drought, an alarming indication of the severity of this crisis.

There is little to no livestock feed available in the West, farmers are considering selling their livestock or land, and many species of wildlife are suffering from wildfires and lack of water. This drought could have long-term impacts on the food supply, wildlife, and livelihood of Americans in the West as these conditions persist.


The Governors of these Western states have stated that they do not have the resources necessary to face this crisis without additional investment and support from the federal government. Given the scale and scope of this problem, we request an expeditious approval of their request.

Thank you for your support and consideration, and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



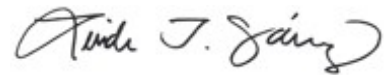
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



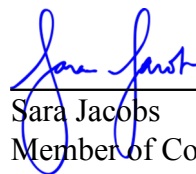
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



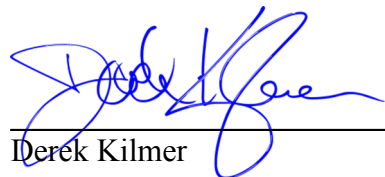
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



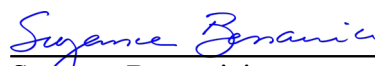
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



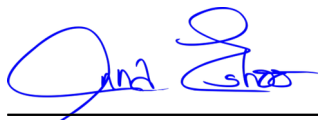
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Arna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



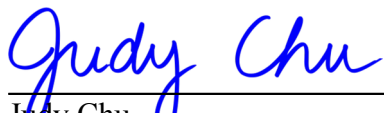
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Ken Buck
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress