

Preliminary Damage Assessment Report

California – Caldor Fire FEMA-4619-DR

Declared September 12, 2021

On September 10, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom requested a major disaster declaration due to the Caldor Fire beginning on August 14, 2021, and continuing. The Governor requested a declaration for Individual Assistance and Public Assistance, including direct Federal assistance, for El Dorado County and Hazard Mitigation statewide. During the period of September 7-10, 2021, joint federal, state, and local government Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDAs) were conducted in the requested counties and are summarized below. PDAs estimate damages immediately after an event and are considered, along with several other factors, in determining whether a disaster is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and the affected local governments, and that Federal assistance is necessary.¹

On September 12, 2021, President Biden declared that a major disaster exists in the State of California. This declaration made Public Assistance requested by the Governor available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by the Caldor Fire in El Dorado County. This declaration also made Hazard Mitigation Grant Program assistance requested by the Governor available for hazard mitigation measures statewide.²

Summary of Damage Assessment Information Used in Determining Whether to Declare a Major Disaster

Individual Assistance

- Total Number of Residences Impacted:³ 447
 - Destroyed - 412
 - Major Damage - 3
 - Minor Damage - 9
 - Affected - 23
- Percentage of insured residences:⁴ 82.0%
- Percentage of poverty households:⁵ 8.7%
- Population receiving other government assistance such as SSI and SNAP: 5.0%
- Percentage of ownership households:⁶ 75.7%
- Pre-Disaster Unemployment: N/A
- Age 65 and older: 21.9%

- Age 18 and under: 19.8%
- Disability: 13.4%
- IHP Cost to Capacity (ICC) Ratio: 0.64
- Total Individual Assistance cost estimate: \$2,124,848

Public Assistance

- Primary Impact: Cost associated with debris removal.
- Total Public Assistance cost estimate: \$80,821,600
- Statewide per capita impact:⁷ \$2.17
- Statewide per capita impact indicator:⁸ \$1.55
- Countywide per capita impact: El Dorado County (\$446.39)
- Countywide per capita impact indicator:⁹ \$3.89

¹ The Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) process is a mechanism used to determine the impact and magnitude of damage and resulting needs of individuals, businesses, public sector, and community as a whole. Information collected is used by the State as a basis for the Governor's request for a major disaster or emergency declaration, and by the President in determining a response to the Governor's request (44 CFR § 206.33).

² When a Governor's request for major disaster assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (Stafford Act) is under review, a number of primary factors are considered to determine whether assistance is warranted. These factors are outlined in FEMA's regulations (44 CFR § 206.48). The President has ultimate discretion and decision making authority to declare major disasters and emergencies under the Stafford Act (42 U.S.C. § 5170 and § 5191).

³ Degree of damage to impacted residences:

- Destroyed – total loss of structure, structure is not economically feasible to repair, or complete failure to major structural components (e.g., collapse of basement walls/foundation, walls or roof);
- Major Damage – substantial failure to structural elements of residence (e.g., walls, floors, foundation), or damage that will take more than 30 days to repair;
- Minor Damage – home is damaged and uninhabitable, but may be made habitable in short period of time with repairs; and
- Affected – some damage to the structure and contents, but still habitable.

⁴ By law, Federal disaster assistance cannot duplicate insurance coverage. 42 U.S.C. § 5155 and 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(5).

⁵ Special populations, such as low-income, the elderly, or the unemployed may indicate a greater need for assistance. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).

⁶ Ibid. 44 C.F.R. § 206.48(b)(3).

⁷ Based on State population in the 2010 Census.

⁸ Statewide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY21, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2020.

⁹ Countywide Per Capita Impact Indicator for FY21, *Federal Register*, October 1, 2020.



FEMA

OCT - 8 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

This is in response to your September 10, 2021, request for a major disaster declaration for the State of California as a result of the Caldor Fire beginning on August 14, 2021, and continuing. You specifically requested Individual Assistance and Public Assistance for El Dorado County and Hazard Mitigation statewide.

The September 12, 2021, major disaster declaration FEMA-4619-DR authorized Public Assistance for El Dorado County and Hazard Mitigation statewide.

The damage to the infrastructure was significant in the area designated for Public Assistance. However, based on our review of all of the information available, including the joint Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage Assessments, it has been determined that impact to the individuals and households from this event was not of such severity and magnitude to warrant the designation of Individual Assistance under FEMA-4619-DR. Therefore, your request for Individual Assistance is denied.

This denial may be appealed within 30 days after the date of this letter. The appeal, along with additional information justifying the appeal, should be submitted to me through Robert J. Fenton, Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IX, located at 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607-4052.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Bibo", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Bibo
Associate Administrator (Acting)
Office of Response and Recovery

ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION MEMORANDUM

El Dorado County

FEMA-4619-DR-CA

PA ID 017-99017-00

Applicant Type ☐ State Agency ☒ Local Government ☐ Tribe ☐ Private Nonprofit	
Grants Manager: <i>Only fill out this section if the project is in Grants Manager.</i>	
EMMIE: <i>Only fill out this section if the project worksheet is in EMMIE.</i>	
Project No. 660675	EMMIE Project Worksheet No. N/A
Version No.	Version No.
Damage Inventory No. 927892	EMMIE Project Cost
	Total Amount Obligated
Project Title Private Property Debris Removal Road Damage	
☒ Large ☐ Small (<i>Potentially subject to Net Small Project Overrun appeal</i>)	Category of Work A – Debris Removal
Issue(s): Damages, Direct Result of Event, Deferred Maintenance	
Amount at Issue \$3,347,537	Eligibility Issue Type(s) ☐ Applicant Eligibility ☐ Facility Eligibility ☒ Work Eligibility ☐ Cost Eligibility
Amount Denied \$3,347,537	
Issue Keyword(s) Direct Result of Event; Damage Caused During Performance of Emergency Work; Supporting Documentation; Road Eligibility	

Project Description:

During the incident period of August 14 through October 21, 2021, severe wildfires burned throughout Northern California. The widespread damage resulted in a major disaster declaration (FEMA-4619-DR-CA) on September 12, 2021. El Dorado County (Subrecipient) requests funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) program for a total project amount of \$3,347,537.00. The damaged roads at issue primarily extend through the unincorporated community of Grizzly Flats and include additional sites along the PPDR debris haul routes in El Dorado County.

The Subrecipient requests funding to repair 124 road sections (Facilities) located in the vicinity of Grizzly Flats and maintained by the Subrecipient, plus additional sites along Private Property Debris Removal (PPDR) debris haul routes in El Dorado County, for a total of approximately 956,439 square feet (SF) of roads. The Subrecipient contends that the PPDR work performed by the State of California's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), which included numerous truck trips that transported heavy loads of debris across the hauling routes, exceeded normal use and caused roadway sections to rut, unravel, and fail.

Issues:

- May the Subrecipient seek assistance to repair damaged Facilities, which purportedly occurred as a result of another party's performance of eligible emergency work, if the Subrecipient did not perform the underlying work?
- Did the Subrecipient provide evidence that the claimed damage to the Facilities was a direct result of the event?

Applicable Statutes, Regulations, and Policies in Effect as of the Declaration of the Emergency or Disaster:

- The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, Pub. L. No. 93-288

Section 403 (codified as amended at 42 U.S.C. § 5170b), *Essential Assistance*

- Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations

44 C.F.R. § 206.32, *Definitions*

44 C.F.R. § 206.223, *General Work Eligibility*

44 C.F.R. § 206.225, *Emergency Work*

- FEMA Policy:

Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide (PAPPG), FP 104-009-2, at 51-52, 63-64, 110, 138-139, 169, 170. (June 1, 2020)

Analysis:

Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) authorizes FEMA to provide financial assistance to State, Tribal, and local governments for debris removal and work to reduce the immediate threats to life, property, and public health and safety that results from a declared disaster. Generally, actions taken before, during and after a disaster to save lives, protect public health and safety, or prevent significant additional damage to improved property are eligible.¹ FEMA administratively categorizes this work as “emergency work.”²

Direct Result of the Disaster

FEMA will not approve PA funding for such work unless the damage to be alleviated results from the event, which took place during the incident period.³ FEMA's implementing regulation, 44 C.F.R. § 206.223(a), states that to be eligible for financial assistance, an item of

¹ 44 C.F.R. § 206.225. See also FP 104-009-2, *Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide* (June 2020) (PAPPG), at 110

² PAPPG, at 51.

³ 44 C.F.R. § 206.32(f).

work must be required as a result of a disaster. Additionally, FEMA policy states that work must be required as a *direct* result of the declared incident.⁴ FEMA does not provide PA funding for the repair of damage caused by deterioration, deferred maintenance, failure to take measures to protect a facility from further damage, or negligence.⁵ Therefore, if work proposed by the Subrecipient addresses damage that cannot be traced back to the designated incident, the work is not eligible for PA funding.

Additionally, damage to improved property, supplies, or equipment may occur during the performance of eligible emergency response activities or debris removal operations. The repair of damage to public property, supplies, or equipment is eligible as part of the respective emergency work (Category A or B) project if the damage was (1) due to severe conditions resulting from the incident, (2) unavoidable, and (3) not due to improper or excessive use.⁶ Because damage caused during the performance of emergency work is incorporated into the emergency work project itself, only the applicant that originally performed the emergency work may be eligible to receive assistance for any additional damage that occurred as a result.⁷

Supporting Documentation

FEMA requests information and documentation to substantiate the eligibility of a project.⁸ The Subrecipient is responsible for providing this information and documentation to support that its facilities, work, and costs are eligible based on the applicable laws, regulations, executive orders, and policies.⁹ At a minimum, FEMA usually requires the “who, what, when, where, why, and how much” for each item claimed.¹⁰ FEMA and the Recipient, in this case the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), work with the Subrecipient to evaluate submitted documentation and determine whether it supports eligibility.¹¹ However, if the Subrecipient does not provide sufficient documentation to support its claim as eligible, FEMA cannot provide PA funding for the work.¹²

Road Eligibility

Response to an incident may cause damage to roads similar to that which occurs over time from other causes, such as road age, traffic flow, and frequent rain.¹³ Costs related to maintenance of roads are ineligible, and therefore the Subrecipient must be able to demonstrate that the damage was caused directly by the disaster rather than deferred maintenance.¹⁴ When evaluating eligibility of reported road damage, FEMA not only reviews how the incident caused the

⁴ PAPPG at 51-52.

⁵ *Id.*, at 52.

⁶ *Id.*, at 138-139.

⁷ See FEMA Second Appeal Analysis, *Lake Madrone Water District*, FEMA-4558-DR-CA, at 3 (June 28, 2023), stating that Applicant did not damage the property during the performance of eligible emergency work and is not eligible to request PA funding for damages to property caused by CalRecycle’s PPDR project.

⁸ *Id.*, at 63.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*, at 64.

¹³ *Id.*, at 169.

¹⁴ *Id.*

damage, but also any maintenance records or documentation establishing that the Subrecipient has routinely maintained the roads.¹⁵ In the absence of maintenance records, FEMA reviews material purchase invoices and activity logs and inspects other sections of the Subrecipient's road system to confirm the performance of regular maintenance activities.¹⁶ Additionally, work to repair potholes or fatigue cracking is generally ineligible, as this type of damage is rarely caused directly by one incident.¹⁷

Here, the Subrecipient claims that road damages were caused by CalRecycle during its emergency PPDR work, which included numerous truck trips that transported heavy loads of debris across the hauling routes. According to the Subrecipient, these efforts exceeded normal use, and caused roadway sections to rut, unravel and fail. The Subrecipient contends that it is eligible to receive reimbursement for work to repair the damaged roads in this project even though it claims the damage was associated with the FEMA-reimbursed project for CalRecycle, and not the Subrecipient. However, this directly conflicts with FEMA policy.

As noted above, only the applicant that performed the underlying eligible emergency work may apply for FEMA assistance for repairs arising of damage during the performance of that work.¹⁸ In this disaster, CalRecycle performed all of the PPDR work on behalf of the affected counties, including El Dorado County.¹⁹ The Subrecipient had no role in carrying out PPDR operations. Because the claimed road damage occurred during another party's performance of emergency work, the Subrecipient's request for PA funding does not conform to FEMA PA policy. Therefore, the request is not eligible.

Moreover, even if the Subrecipient had conducted the eligible emergency work, its request for PA funding would still be ineligible because it has not provided supporting documentation that the road damage occurred as a result of the PPDR work. Where pre-existing damage exists, it is the Subrecipient's responsibility to distinguish that from the damage caused during its emergency work performed in response to the declared disaster.²⁰

On August 10 and 16, 2022, FEMA staff conducted site inspections at 124 separate road sites identified by the Subrecipient as damaged. During its inspections, FEMA staff *did* document specific areas of road damage, including significant asphalt/chip seal surfacing that failed and dislodged from roadway segments, as well as sections that had become significantly raised or depressed.²¹ Also, photographs taken during the site inspections showed potholes, road edge damage, fatigue cracking, and temporary repairs.²²

¹⁵ *Id.*, at 170.

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ *Id.*, at 139.

¹⁹ See Letter from Cal OES to FEMA, FEMA-4619-DR-CA Removal and Disposal of Debris from Private and Public Properties (Oct. 19, 2021) at 5-6, in which the State asserts that CalRecycle performing debris removal on behalf of the affected counties will reduce economic and administrative burdens on taxpayers, State and Federal regulatory agencies, and the State and FEMA Public Assistance teams.

²⁰ FEMA Second Appeal Analysis, *Sonoma County*, FEMA-4344-DR-CA, at 6-7 (Mar. 11, 2022). See also *PAPPG*, at 169-170.

²¹ Site Photo's (1B).pdf, Site Photos (1A).pdf.

²² Site Photos -El Dorado PPDR Roads-(5).pdf, Site Photos-El Dorado PPDR Roads-(2).pdf, Site Photo's (3A).pdf.

However, FEMA compared the damaged roadway sections with pre-event Google map images. The comparisons showed that at numerous locations these road conditions also existed prior to the declared event.²³

Additionally, while FEMA staff conducted site inspections, they observed numerous other heavy vehicles (e.g., vehicles used by timber haulers, utility companies, and other commercial/non-commercial enterprises) also using the roadways. Moreover, the Subrecipient did not monitor traffic or keep logs of road use while PPDR efforts were underway. Thus, even if the roads were damaged by frequent traffic during this period, the Subrecipient could not provide FEMA with supporting evidence that the damage came from PPDR vehicles specifically, as opposed to any other heavy vehicle also utilizing the roads for transit.

The Subrecipient did not perform the emergency work that it claimed was the source of damage to the roads at issue here. Similarly, the Subrecipient also failed to provide FEMA with supporting documentation distinguishing pre-existing road damage and/or damage caused by other vehicles traveling these roads from damage that purportedly resulted from the emergency PPDR work. For these reasons, the Subrecipient's request for PA funding is not eligible.

Eligibility Determination: ☐ Partially Approved ☒ Denied

The Subrecipient's request for PA funding to repair road damage resulting from CalRecycle's PPDR work is not eligible because FEMA PA policy does not authorize funding for property damage resulting from another party's emergency work. Moreover, the Subrecipient did not provide documentation to support a finding that the proposed work to repair the 124 roadway sections are required as a direct result of the disaster or the eligible emergency work that followed. For these reasons, the claimed road repair work is not eligible for PA funding.

²³ FEMA site inspections also found that the total amount of roadway damage claimed by the Subrecipient (956,439 SF) was significantly overstated. FEMA staff noted that the Subrecipient's markings of damage often exceeded areas of actual damage. The Subrecipient maintained this was done to accommodate the width of a standard paving machine. FEMA staff concluded that the extra widely marked pavement areas were either undamaged, simply in need of regular maintenance, or damaged in a manner generally considered ineligible for FEMA assistance (e.g., fatigue cracking). Ultimately, the field inspection team documented only 107,824 SF of roadways that could be measured as a driving and safety hazard, but as stated above, could not be not directly attributable to PPDR vehicle operations.

Notice of Right to Appeal:

The Subrecipient may appeal this determination, pursuant to Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations § 206.206, Appeals. The appeal must be submitted electronically via the FEMA Grants Portal/Grants Manager System (GM). If the Subrecipient elects to file an appeal, the appeal must:

1. Contain documented justification supporting the Subrecipient's position;
2. Specify the monetary figure in dispute; and
3. Cite the provisions in federal law, regulation, or policy with which the Subrecipient believes the initial action was inconsistent.

The appeal must be submitted to the Recipient, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), by the Applicant within 60 days of its receipt of this determination. The Recipient must then electronically transmit the appeal, through GM, with a written recommendation, to Region 9 within 120 days from the date of this FEMA eligibility determination (Friday, April 12, 2024). FEMA must receive the appeal from the Recipient no later than 120 days after the signature date. If you have any questions, please contact CalOES at DisasterRecovery@CalOES.ca.gov.

Approval:

PA Management: Carter Long, PA Deputy Infrastructure Branch Director

Signature: _____

Date: 12/14/23

Document Index:

Document Description	File Name
Applicants List of Damaged Roads	WO#78061-DI#927892-Damagerd Road Site Listing- 4619DR-CA.xlsx
Site Inspection Photos	• Site Photos -El Dorado PPDR Roads-(5).pdf
	• Site Photos-El Dorado PPDR Roads-(2).pdf • Site Photo's (1B).pdf • Site Photos (1A).pdf • Site Photo's (3A).pdf
PPDR Request Letter 10/19/21	Letter to R Fenton FEMA 4619 DR CA Removal and disposal of Debris from Private and Public Properties 10-19-2021.pdf

TOM McCLINTOCK
4TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0504

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP
RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CONSTITUTION, CIVIL LIBERTIES,
AND CIVIL RIGHTS

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WATER, OCEANS, AND WILDLIFE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS, AND PUBLIC LANDS

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

November 19, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to call upon you to fulfill the solemn promise that you made to the victims of the Caldor Fire when you visited the scene on September 13th and promised to help them in the aftermath. This fire is the 15th largest and 16th most destructive fire in the history of California. It literally wiped out the Gold Rush-era town of Grizzly Flats and destroyed nearly 800 homes.

On that occasion, when officials from El Dorado County and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) apprised you of the need to assist these displaced families, you said, "we're going to take care of them...there's a lot that we can do, and it starts off being a federal responsibility, in my view."

To fulfill this pledge, it is imperative that you reverse the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) denial of the Governor's appeal for Individual Assistance for the victims of the Caldor Fire. As I noted in my letters to you of September 17th and November 4th, the denial of Individual Assistance, if allowed to stand, will have devastating consequences on survivors whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed.

The FEMA denial is a stunning double standard when viewed next to assistance granted in other fires of far less impact. For example, Cal OES identified nine other Individual Assistance approvals in 2021, which cumulatively had fewer homes destroyed than those destroyed by the Caldor Fire alone.

Survivors hoping to rebuild their homes face an insurance deficit of \$200,000 or more. Many survivors are uninsured, and nearly all of them are underinsured due to the severity of recent wildfire seasons. Survivors who were able to remain on their properties still lack access to potable water.

President Joseph R. Biden
November 19, 2021
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Moreover, residents of Grizzly Flats are disproportionately low-income, elderly, and socioeconomically vulnerable. Those who work or own businesses in the region were shut out of work for weeks as the fire blazed, and the regional economy will continue to suffer if survivors are not able to rebuild. Critical infrastructure has been either damaged or completely destroyed, including schools, fire stations, and the Grizzly Flats Post Office. While local officials, residents, and organizations are doing everything in their capacity to provide support to one another and rebuild, they will not be able to recover without the federal assistance that they desperately need and deserve.

Last year, when FEMA denied the Governor's request for Individual Assistance for the Creek Fire in Fresno and Madera Counties, President Trump immediately reversed the decision and granted Individual Assistance.

You made a promise to the victims of the Caldor Fire, and now is the time to fulfill it by taking the same action.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom McClintock", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom McClintock



October 25, 2021

Mr. David Bibo, Acting Associate Administrator
Office of Response and Recovery
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20472

Through: Mr. Robert J. Fenton, Jr., Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region IX
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, California 94607-4052

Subject: Appeal of Denial for Individuals and Households Program for El Dorado County

Dear Mr. Fenton:

On October 8, 2021, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) denied California's request for Individual Assistance for the Caldor Fire that began in El Dorado County on August 14, 2021. Specifically, FEMA stated that "the impact to the individuals and households from this event was not of such severity and magnitude to warrant the designation of Individual Assistance." California disagrees with this determination. Looking at the totality of the circumstances, beyond simply the number of homes destroyed and county-level insurance policies in effect, Individual Assistance is warranted and necessary for the impacted communities and disaster survivors to fully recover.

Under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act) and implemented by 44 Code of Federal Regulations section 206.46, I am appealing this denial of Individual Assistance. I request that you approve the Individuals and Households Program, including Disaster Case Management, Crisis Counseling, Disaster Unemployment Assistance, and Disaster Legal Services for El Dorado County.

On September 12, 2021, the President declared a major disaster to exist in El Dorado County due to the damage resulting from the Caldor Fire, which burned 221,835 acres before full containment on October 21, 2021. Catastrophic destruction occurred as more than 1,000 structures were consumed by the Caldor Fire, including an immense concentration of homes in Grizzly Flats— one of the most poverty-challenged area in the county. The near-total devastation of this community, including destruction of its



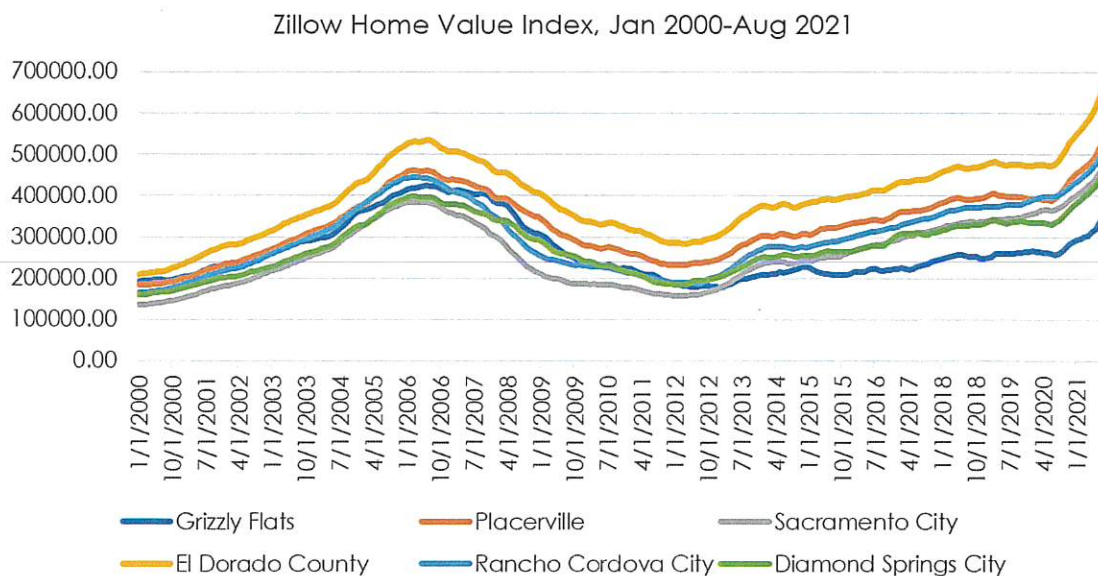
only school, post office, and water system, necessitates partnership and action from all levels of government to ensure survivors can recover, rebuild, and return to normalcy.

UNINSURED HOME AND PERSONAL PROPERTY LOSSES

Joint Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage assessments confirmed 785 destroyed homes, including 594 primary residences, and an additional two homes with major damage, principally within the Grizzly Flats area of El Dorado County. Some survivors have found temporary shelter by using recreational vehicles. However, these temporary shelters are far removed from their pre-disaster address due to limited availability in campgrounds and parks. This displacement placed additional burdens on the survivors due to increased costs for gas from extended commutes for work, school, and family. Renters face even more challenges and displacement due to the housing shortage and nonexistent availability of nearby rental resources, compounding the challenges of their recovery.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) extensively researched and analyzed home value data, insurance rates, and rebuild costs for Grizzly Flats and the surrounding communities with strong economic ties to the area. The results demonstrate the overwhelming disparity in home insurance coverage of the survivors of the Caldor Fire and their ability to rebuild or relocate without federal assistance. Ultimately, survivors face a set of options that all result in a significant loss due to underinsurance.

Zillow Home Value Index data, shown in the chart below, highlights a widening gap in home values in recent years between Grizzly Flats, El Dorado County as a whole, and other nearby communities. As insurance policies are tied to the valuation of the residence, this gap in home value is directly correlated to survivors having drastically insufficient coverage to remain in El Dorado County. If survivors are unable to rebuild or relocate nearby, the recovery of Grizzly Flats remains bleak.



As discussed in the September 17, 2021 request, *Supplemental Preliminary Damage Assessment Data and Request to add Individual Assistance to FEMA-4619-DR-CA, California Caldor Fire*, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) provided the average residential construction costs in El Dorado County. The estimated rebuild costs for a 1,500 square foot home in Grizzly Flats is calculated below using a \$362 per square foot cost for slab on grade and a \$385 per square foot cost for pier and beam, according to HCD data. Survivors hoping to return to their community and rebuild face insurance deficits of approximately \$200,000—underscoring the widespread underinsurance rate.

Individuals and households that choose to purchase a home nearby experience similar challenges due to underinsurance. Here, survivors encounter insurance deficits ranging from \$122,000 to \$310,000. When viewed comprehensively with the insurance value of the destroyed residences compared with the average rebuild costs and home values in surrounding areas, the deficit in insurance coverage is astounding. Survivors of the Caldor Fire must overcome significant financial hurdles due to this disparity in insurance coverage, which necessitates federal assistance to augment their recovery.

Home Insurance Deficit					
	Rebuild in Grizzly Flats		Purchase a Home		
	Slab on Grade	Pier and Beam	El Dorado County	Placerville	Sacramento
Cost	\$543,000	\$577,500	\$655,821	\$528,271	\$466,961
Full Insurance Value	\$345,014	\$345,014	\$345,014	\$345,014	\$345,014
Deficit	\$197,986	\$232,486	\$310,000	\$183,257	\$121,947
Source	HCD	HCD	Zillow	Zillow	Zillow

El Dorado County officials have also expressed that due to the lower income levels of this community, many survivors were uninsured and essentially all are underinsured—further supported by the data shown above. Residents in fire prone areas of California have continually struggled with homeowner's insurance coverage as companies increase premiums or cancel policies altogether. Following the devastating 2018 wildfire season, insurance policy cancellations rose by 61 percent, with the state's 10 most fire-prone counties experiencing a 203 percent increase,¹ demonstrating the increasing challenges homeowners face in the Wildland Urban Interface.

IMPACT TO COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Nearly two months after the Caldor Fire, all areas of the Grizzly Flats Community Services District (GFCSD) water system remain unsafe for consumption. GFCSD provides water service to approximately 1,220 parcels. At least 418 of those parcels were destroyed by the Caldor Fire, severely affecting the district's ability to recover and maintain infrastructure as this will impact their revenue and budget. GFCSD water storage and

¹ "Can 'fire hardening' solve California's home insurance crisis?" CalMatters, December 7, 2020, <https://calmatters.org/environment/california-wildfires/2020/12/homeowners-insurers-fire-science/>

distribution infrastructure were heavily damaged by the fire, along with surface collection and diversion systems. The State Water Resources Control Board created a water quality testing program for GFCSD; however, service line leaks must be repaired before sampling, and GFCSD customers remain under a "do not drink – do not boil" water advisory.

The El Dorado Irrigation District, which serves over 130,000 residents, also relied on surface water collection in the area of the Caldor Fire burn scar. The district had a diversion facility and miles of a wooden flume conveyance system destroyed in the fire which were of critical importance for the supply of one-third of the district's water supply. Thus, the Caldor Fire survivors that were able to remain on their properties still do not have access to safe, potable water through the traditional means.

Highway 50 remained closed for 32 days during the height of the Caldor Fire, significantly disrupting commerce and tourism in the region. As a critical west-east corridor from the Bay Area to Lake Tahoe, the California Department of Transportation estimated the daily cost in commerce of the closure to be \$238,000 or \$7.6 million over the course of the incident. Highways 88 and 89 also had multiple closures in place, adding to the overall transportation and commerce impacts to the Trans-Sierra highway system and its communities.

As the Caldor Fire blazed across El Dorado County, many school districts evacuated, canceled school, or postponed the start of school for weeks due to the fire. Sadly, Walt Tyler Elementary School in the Pioneer Union School District, which served the Grizzly Flats community, was destroyed, eliminating a cornerstone of the community, and leaving 34 students without a school. The 34 students have been temporarily relocated to the Pioneer Elementary School, which is at least a 45-minute drive one-way from Grizzly Flats, further burdening the surviving families. According to data from the 2019-2020 school year, over 64 percent of students were eligible for free and reduced-priced meals, underscoring the limited economic resources of families in Grizzly Flats.

Critical community services, such as the Grizzly Flats Forest Service Fire Station, Pioneer Fire Department Station 35, and the Grizzly Flats Post Office were also destroyed in the blaze. However, with Public Assistance programs approved for FEMA-4619-DR-CA, repair and restoration of critical infrastructure can ultimately occur, although residents may not be financially able to return without Individual Assistance. Thus, while Walt Tyler Elementary School can eventually be rebuilt, many families will continue to seek alternate living arrangements outside of the community and may never return. Moreover, with the school located on United States Forest Service property, complications are expected to arise with debris removal and will further delay reconstruction and the return of the community. The viability of Grizzly Flats demands the full support of federal, state, local, and private nonprofit programs to reinforce its recovery efforts and secure its future as a community in the Sierra foothills.

DISASTER RELATED UNEMPLOYMENT

Commercial impacts due to the closures of critical transportation corridors, state and federal parks and forests, and other leisure sites have long-term economic implications

for the area. Disruptions and damages to agricultural, logging, and recreational industries have also affected numerous low-wage sectors, which traditionally face additional challenges when recovering from a disaster. The widespread economic impacts from the Caldor Fire throughout El Dorado County illustrate a need for Disaster Unemployment Assistance for survivors to bolster their recovery.

The tourism industry accounts for more than 60 percent of the Lake Tahoe Basin's \$5 billion regional economic output, which was severely impacted due to the Caldor Fire. Widespread smoke and ash inundated the region far before encroachment of the actual fire that ultimately triggered mandatory evacuation orders. Then, as the Caldor Fire raced toward South Lake Tahoe, more than 53,000 residents received notice to flee to safety. As businesses shuttered their doors, low-wage sector employees and small business owners found themselves without income during peak summer tourist season—Labor Day weekend. The numerous hotels, bed and breakfasts, vacation rentals, and resorts were left empty, and restaurant and grocery store inventory wilted and rotted. Hundreds of businesses throughout El Dorado County were closed for weeks until the valiant efforts of local, state, and federal firefighting personnel tamed the out-of-control blaze.

The regional economy, already depressed by reduced discretionary spending from COVID-19 pandemic challenges for nearly two years, is highly susceptible to economic shocks due to its reliance on tourism. An initial analysis by University of Nevada, Reno researchers estimates at least \$50.3 million in lost economic activity in El Dorado County due to the Caldor Fire, which does not include losses in sectors like rental homes or recreation businesses. As United States Census Bureau Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) data demonstrates, roughly 43 percent of the employed residents in Grizzly Flats travel more than 50 miles to work, compared to 28 percent in El Dorado County and 15 percent statewide. This data indicates the long-term recovery and viability of Grizzly Flats is at risk as a large share of its employed residents have economic ties outside the immediate community, and therefore, without adequate support, will likely relocate from Grizzly Flats.

Moreover, researchers studied the nationwide impact of California's 2018 wildfire season and estimated the total economic damage of \$148.5 billion, or roughly 1.5 percent of California's annual gross domestic product.² The assessment of costs included direct (e.g. structure loss), healthcare (e.g. smoke pollution exposure), indirect (e.g. lost hours working), and disruption to supply chains, which exceeded that of any disaster in the United States between the 9/11 terrorist attacks in 2001 and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic—other than Hurricane Katrina.³ Given the disruption to the robust tourism and recreational industries and the lengthy closures of critical transportation corridors, the nationwide economic impacts of the 2021 wildfires will greatly surpass those of the 2018 season. With the impacts from California's wildfires felt across the

² "Economic footprint of California wildfires in 2018." *Nature Sustainability*, December 7, 2020. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41893-020-00646-7>

³ "How much do wildfires really cost California's economy?" *CalMatters*, October 11, 2021. <https://calmatters.org/economy/2021/10/california-wildfires-economic-impact/>

country, it is imperative to provide federal assistance to those that are most in need, particularly in ground zero of the Caldor Fire: Grizzly Flats.

DISASTER IMPACTED POPULATION PROFILE

United States Census Bureau data for Grizzly Flats indicates an elderly population more than double the state and national averages, with triple the percentage of households relying on Social Security Income. Grizzly Flats also had a significant pre-disaster unemployment rate more than four times the national rate, which is likely to increase due to the protracted fallout of wildfire impacts across the region.

According to the Social Vulnerability Index, the census tract encompassing Grizzly Flats is more vulnerable than El Dorado County as a whole, ranking in the 37th percentile of all census tracts in the US. Grizzly Flats ranked in the 64th percentile in terms of socioeconomic vulnerability, driven by a high unemployment rate and a relatively high poverty rate, and indicating that only 36 percent of census tracts in the nation are more vulnerable in this category. Ultimately, the survivors of the Caldor Fire face numerous socioeconomic barriers in accessing assistance programs and resources to support their recovery.

Population Demographics					
Area	Population ⁴	Elderly (65+) ⁴	Persons (<18) ⁴	Limited-English Proficient ⁴	Language Other than English Spoken at Home ⁴
National	324,697,795	15.6%	22.6%	8.4%	21.6%
California	39,283,497	14.0%	23.0%	17.8%	44.2%
El Dorado	188,563	20.5%	20.1%	3.6%	12.2%
Grizzly Flats	1,195	35.5%	17.7%	0.0%	1.4%

Vulnerable Population Demographics						
Area	Below Poverty ⁴	Disabled ⁴	SSI Recipients ⁴ (Households)	SNAP Recipients ⁴ (Households)	Pre-Disaster Unemployment	Electricity-Dependent Medicare Beneficiaries ⁵
National	13.4%	12.6%	5.3%	11.7%	5.4% ⁶	0.8%
California	13.4%	10.6%	6.1%	8.9%	7.6% ⁷	0.5%
El Dorado	8.4%	13.2%	5.1%	5.7%	5.8% ⁸	1.0%

⁴ "2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates." United States Census Bureau. <https://data.census.gov/cedsci/>

⁵ "Medicare Electricity-Dependent Populations by Geography." United States Department of Health and Human Services. <https://empowerprogram.hhs.gov/empowermap>

⁶ "Employment status of the civilian population, July 2021." United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/empsit.t01.htm>

⁷ "California Unemployment Rate, July 2021." United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. <https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LASST0600000000000003>

⁸ "Labor Force and Unemployment Rate for California Counties, July 2021." State of California Employment Development Department. <https://data.edd.ca.gov/Labor-Force-and-Unemployment-Rates/Labor-Force-and-Unemployment-Rate-for-California-C/r8rw-9pxx/data>

Grizzly Flats	8.7%	20.6%	16.3%	0.0%	21.8% ⁹	0.9%
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Given the vulnerable populations that comprise the Grizzly Flats community, Individual Assistance programs are necessary to augment recovery efforts in progress by local and state agencies and private nonprofit partners.

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

California's eight largest wildfires occurred within the last four years. That and a nearly two-year long pandemic have exhausted local, state, and private nonprofit personnel and resources. Despite attempts to maximize assistance through existing programs and resources, FEMA's Individual Assistance is necessary and warranted for the individuals and households that survived the Caldor Fire to strengthen their recovery and facilitate their return to Grizzly Flats, and to fill in gaps where state and local governments cannot. For example, while California administers a State Supplemental Grant Program to provide up to \$10,000 to individuals and households, this assistance is only available to those that receive a maximum grant from the FEMA Individuals and Households Program. Thus, a FEMA Individual Assistance declaration is necessary to unlock this state assistance.

Within El Dorado County, there is a lack of available social services, with faith-based organizations, such as the United Methodist Church in Placerville, local foundations and nonprofits providing assistance to a far greater extent than compared to larger metropolitan areas. The United Methodist Church and other faith-based organizations are currently focused on providing assistance to lower income survivors, many of whom are renters without insurance that lost everything in the Caldor Fire. However, this limited assistance leaves survivors with significant unmet needs that can and should be addressed by FEMA's Individual Assistance program. Similarly, on the local foundations and nonprofits side, the El Dorado Foundation is providing rental assistance through direct payments to landlords and has assisted 26 families to date. The Salvation Army and the Tzu Chi Foundation are also providing various forms of financial assistance.

While voluntary and faith-based organization assistance has been critical toward the recovery of survivors of the Caldor Fire, unmet needs, such as affordable housing in the region, remain. Without authorization of FEMA's Individual Assistance programs, survivors face potentially insurmountable challenges due to the limited availability of resources through the faith-based community and the lack of housing options. Survivors are already facing complications when navigating their recovery. FEMA's Disaster Case Management program would be crucial to guide survivors and facilitate their return to their close-knit community in the Sierra foothills. Furthermore, FEMA's Crisis Counseling Program would support and empower survivors that may face the harsh reality of losing the entirety of their possessions and of their displacement from the community that their family has called home for generations.

EQUITY IN DISASTERS

⁹ "Labor Force and Unemployment Rate for California Sub-County Areas, July 2021," State of California Employment Development Department. <https://data.edd.ca.gov/Labor-Force-and-Unemployment-Rates/Labor-Force-and-Unemployment-Rate-for-California-S/8z4h-2ak6/data>

While statewide metrics are bolstered by the economic engines of Los Angeles and San Francisco counties, the story is much different in the Sierra Nevada foothills. El Dorado County ranks 44th out of 58 counties in terms of per capita gross domestic product, further highlighting the limited resources of the County and its residents and the importance of FEMA's evaluation through the lens of the impacted community. The situation in Grizzly Flats is even more dire, as residents there earn far less than their counterparts in the more suburban and affluent areas of El Dorado County. For example, if Grizzly Flats were a county, the median household income of its residents would place it near the bottom, ranking 46th out of all counties.

As President Biden noted in his January 20, 2021 Executive Order On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, equity is "the consistent and systematic fair, just, and impartial treatment of all individuals, including individuals who belong to underserved communities that have been denied such treatment, such as [...] persons with disabilities; persons who live in rural areas; and persons otherwise adversely affected by persistent poverty or inequality." The socioeconomically disadvantaged residents of Grizzly Flats are emblematic of those underserved communities referred to by the President and deserve the full support of FEMA Individual Assistance.

Cal OES has identified nine other major disaster declarations approved for Individual Assistance in 2021 which, cumulatively, had fewer destroyed homes than those destroyed by the Caldor Fire alone. Just as those events were evaluated on the totality of the impacts, not just the number of destroyed residences, the loss of the entire Grizzly Flats community, and the socioeconomic makeup of the community, should be considered in this appeal. With the destruction of its only school, post office, and water system, and 785 primary and secondary residences, the devastation to this community cannot be overstated. Moreover, according to the Zillow Home Value Index and home insurance deficit previously discussed, the amount of the insurance deficit when purchasing a home in El Dorado County (\$310,000) is more than the average Zillow home value in 29 states. As California ranks second in home values nationwide, and with at least 594 households now rendered homeless in El Dorado County due to the Caldor Fire, California respectfully requests FEMA reconsider the decision-making to account for equity in Individual Assistance designations for California.

Further, without an Individual Assistance declaration, FEMA will preclude the community of Grizzly Flats from receiving Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program funding. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development administers the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program, which addresses unmet housing needs. This program is only available to communities that have received a FEMA Individual Assistance declaration. Based on allocations from this program to California communities affected by the 2017 and 2018 wildfires with sociodemographic profiles similar to Grizzly Flats, we estimate that this will deprive the community of between \$9 and \$13 million of federal funds to support rebuilding. This further hinders the vulnerable, disaster-ravaged community's ability to recover from the Caldor Fire.

CONCLUSION

The State of California and its residents have endured an onslaught of record-breaking wildfires in recent years, with more than 2,000 homes destroyed thus far in 2021 and over 5,400 destroyed in 2020. Local, state, and non-profit resources are overwhelmed from the repeated devastating impacts and their long-term economic ramifications. Due to the additional strain on state and local resources as a result of the Caldor Fire—which ignited on federal land—I strongly urge you to consider the information presented in this appeal and approve Individual Assistance for El Dorado County.

The survivors of the Caldor Fire, specifically those in the underserved community of Grizzly Flats, are exceptionally vulnerable and will face insurmountable challenges in their recovery due to the concentration of catastrophic destruction in their community and the widespread impacts to community infrastructure and the regional economy. Further delay of this request will prolong the financial burden on individuals, communities, and the local governments impacted by the Caldor Fire.

I reiterate the certifications and assurances submitted with the request for a major disaster declaration (FEMA-4619-DR), which FEMA approved for Public Assistance and Hazard Mitigation statewide on September 12, 2021.

If you require additional information for this request, please contact Ryan Buras, Deputy Director of Recovery, at (916) 845-8767 or Ryan.Buras@caloes.ca.gov.

By affixing my signature hereto, I represent I am duly authorized as the Governor's Authorized Representative to make this request on behalf of the state of California.

Sincerely,



MARK S. GHILARDUCCI
Director, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Governor's Authorized Representative

United States Senate

October 27, 2021

The Honorable Deanne Criswell
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC, 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell:

We write to request you grant the State of California's appeal for Individual Assistance for El Dorado County to be included in the major disaster declaration granted on September 12, 2021 in response to the Caldor Fire.

The Caldor Fire—now the 15th largest wildfire ever in state history—has burned 221,775 acres, forced the evacuation of more than 50,000 Californians, and destroyed over 1,000 structures, most of which were homes. According to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), the Caldor Fire alone destroyed more homes than nine other major disaster declarations approved for Individual Assistance in 2021 combined.

While the damage to property and households is immense, we encourage you to evaluate the state's proposal on the basis of the totality of impacts of the Caldor Fire. For instance, the Grizzly Flats community was completely destroyed and lost its only school, post office, water system, and hundreds of homes. Compounding these losses, Grizzly Flats has a higher-than-average percentage of seniors and a pre-disaster unemployment rate more than four times higher than the national rate. In addition, many of those who lost their homes live on limited incomes and face the prospect of relocating or rebuilding without federal assistance or adequate insurance coverage.

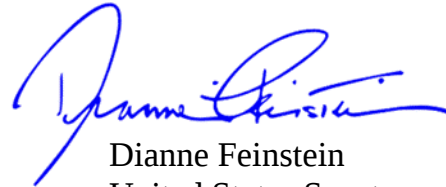
We want to thank you and the President for declaring a Major Disaster and providing Public Assistance in response to this incident. In particular, we want to commend Region 9 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for their close communication with the California Office of Emergency Services throughout the declaration review process.

We firmly believe that the size and scope of destruction unleashed by the Caldor fire necessitate additional assistance, particularly individual assistance, to help the many survivors who are just now beginning to recover and rebuild their lives. For these reasons, we urge you to grant Governor Gavin Newsom's appeal for Individual Assistance, for El Dorado County, to be included in the major disaster declaration granted in response to the Caldor fire on September 12, 2021.

Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

United States Senate

September 6, 2022

The Honorable Deanne Criswell
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell,

We write to inquire about FEMA's Individual Assistance approval process and to request any updates you can provide on changing the 2019 rule. When you appeared before the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee on June 22, 2022, you testified that FEMA was reevaluating the criteria for FEMA Individual Assistance, and you offered to provide an update on the status of this analysis.

As you know, FEMA issued a Major Disaster Declaration for the Caldor Fire, which devastated the town of Grizzly Flats, California. Nearly 222,000 acres were burned in 69 days, and more than 1,000 structures, including 782 homes, were destroyed. However, despite the Caldor Fire destroying more homes than nine other disasters in 2021 combined, California's requests for FEMA Individual Assistance have been repeatedly denied.

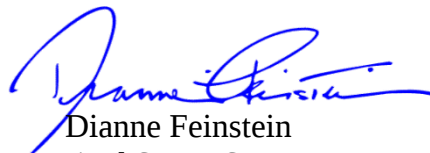
It is our understanding that this denial can be traced back to a rule FEMA established in 2019 to consider a state's total resources when determining whether to provide disaster assistance for individuals. California's Office of Emergency Services expressed its concerns with this rule during the comment period, including that it would leave survivors without much-needed aid and discriminate against large states, like California, that may need to provide state resources for numerous disasters simultaneously.

As you know, California and other Western states continue to face increasingly dangerous and extreme fire seasons. We appreciate your commitment to improving the FEMA Individual Assistance process, and we look forward to hearing the status of your review and working with you to provide more equitable federal disaster assistance for all survivors.

Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
Board of Supervisors

330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5652
(530) 622-3645 Fax



GEORGE TURNBOO
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT II

Honorable [REDACTED],

I would like to inform you about a tragic situation facing the residents of Grizzly Flats, CA. The Caldor Fire was the largest fire in El Dorado County history, and one of the largest wildfires in California history. The Caldor Fire decimated several communities, but the most severely impacted was the community of Grizzly Flats. Representatives at all levels of government have reached out to FEMA for Individual Assistance for the victims who suffered tremendous losses by no fault of their own. FEMA denied Individual Assistance for El Dorado County. When President Biden visited California to discuss the Caldor Fire, he promised to help the residents of Grizzly Flats, but since that time, FEMA consistently denies Individual Assistance to the victimized residents. President Biden could authorize the FEMA Individual Assistance to Caldor Fire victims and led residents to believe that he would.

Please watch the YouTube video below that was created by El Dorado County to encourage President Biden to authorize FEMA Individual Assistance to victims of the Caldor Fire. We appreciate any response, recognition and support you can offer. I can be reached by email at bostwo@edcgov.us, by phone at (530) 621-5105.

Caldor Fire Survivors Need Individual Assistance!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xJz_Zn-pnD0

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "G. Turnboo", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

- George Turnboo

El Dorado County District 2 Supervisor
bostwo@edcgov.us
(530) 621-5105

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

Board of Supervisors

330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5652
(530) 622-3645 Fax



GEORGE TURNBOO
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT II

Congressman Kevin Kiley

3rd District of California
United States House of Representatives
1032 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

6538 Lonetree Blvd, Suite 200
Rocklin, CA 95765

Email: kevin@electkevinkiley.com

Subject: 2021 FEMA Caldor Fire in El Dorado County,
Request for Assistance Due to FEMA Denial
FEMA-46919-DR-CA
Project No. 660675 / Title: Private Property Debris Removal Road Damage

Dear Congressman Kiley,

The Caldor Wildfire caused widespread damage throughout El Dorado County (County) between August 14, 2021, and October 21, 2021 ("incident period"). On September 12, 2021, the President issued a major disaster declaration (FEMA 4619-DR-CA), which authorized the distribution of PA disaster funds for the area impacted by the wildfire.

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) served as the coordinating entity for disaster response and recovery for the State of California. After the incident period, Cal OES tasked the State of California Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) with managing and conducting debris removal operations. CalRecycle contracted with a third party to perform debris clean -up work and hazardous tree removal within the county. The County was not a party to the CalRecycle's third-party contract.

The County requested FEMA reimbursement for the repair of 124 road sections (Facilities) located in the vicinity of Grizzly Flats and maintained by the County, plus additional sites along the Private Property Debris Removal (PPDFR) debris haul routes in El Dorado County, for a total of approximately 956,439 square feet (SF) of roads. However, FEMA denied the County for two primary reasons. One, the County did not have a role in carrying out PPDR operations because the claimed road damage occurred during Cal Recycle's performance of emergency work; essentially, FEMA claims the County should have billed CalRecycle for damages and not

Second Appeal for Net Small Project Overrun
FEMA 4308-DR-CA

claimed them. And two, FEMA said the County did not provide documentation to support a finding that the work to repair the roads was a direct result of the disaster or of the emergency work that followed, and that the County overstated the damages (\$3,347,537).

The County responded to FEMA's denial that it had provided documentation of the pre- and post-debris removal conditions of the roads and provided cost estimates to FEMA, and that FEMA had performed two site inspections to assess the roads and document the damages in the field (PAPPG at 63-65), and that the County asserts that the damages were incurred as a result of eligible emergency work, incident-related, unavoidable, and was not due to improper or excessive use. The response also included pre- and post-PPDR video footage of claimed road damages and stated that the County had a legal responsibility for disaster-related restoration of the facility. It had a copy of the letter received from CalRecycle stating that "damage to roads or repair of damage to roads resulting from overall disaster response and recovery operations is not the responsibility of CalRecycle," which backs up the County's steps in filing a claim with FEMA. Furthermore, case law was cited in the response that would support the County's argument that it is eligible for reimbursement.

Finally, the County did concede that a "fair-share" contribution was reasonable and respectfully reduced the amount of reimbursement requested (\$ 1 ,562, 184).

The intent of this letter is to pursue support from your office to encourage FEMA to assist El Dorado County in recovering eligible expenses related to the Caldor Fire disaster.

If you have any questions, or need any further details, please contact our Director of Transportation, Rafael Martinez, at 530-621-7533, or Rafael.Martinez@edcgov.us. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Turnboo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

George Turnboo
District 2 Supervisor
County of El Dorado

KEVIN KILEY

3RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

CHAIRMAN
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS

1032 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0503
(202) 225-2523

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0503

August 18, 2023

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Joe Biden,

I write you today to once again ask you to reconsider the major disaster declaration that was made for the Caldor Fire in 2021. When making this declaration, you failed to grant Individual Assistance (IA). This was after you toured the devastated town of Grizzly Flats and saw for yourself the extent of the destruction. At that time, you promised Californians you would help rebuild, saying "we're going to take care of them... there's a lot we can do, and it starts off being a federal responsibility, in my view."

After you and I spoke personally in January at the White House, I followed up with a meeting with your staff in May and they told me to consult with the Director of the California Office of Emergency Services, Director Nancy Ward. I spoke with her, and she agreed with our assessment that the White House acted in error by denying Individual Assistance to the people of Grizzly Flats, CA. This is evident in the letter she sent me outlining the reasons why the Caldor Fire should have qualified. In this letter she outlines the following factors:

- 1. Personal Property Losses in Grizzly Flats** – Joint Individual Assistance Preliminary Damage assessments confirmed 785 destroyed homes, including 594 primary residences, and an additional two homes with major damage within Grizzly Flats. Cal OES extensively researched and analyzed home value data, insurance rates, and rebuild costs for Grizzly Flats and the surrounding communities with strong economic ties to the area. The results demonstrate the overwhelming disparity in home insurance coverage of the survivors of the Caldor Fire and their ability to rebuild or relocate without federal assistance.
- 2. Disaster Related Unemployment**- The regional economy, already depressed by reduced discretionary spending from the COVID-19 pandemic, is highly susceptible to economic shocks due to its reliance on tourism. The University of Nevada, Reno estimated at least \$50.3 million in lost economic activity in El Dorado County due to the Caldor Fire, which does not include losses in sectors like rental homes or recreation businesses. U.S. Census Bureau data shows that 43 percent of the employed residents in Grizzly Flats travel more than 50 miles to work, compared to 28 percent in El Dorado County and 15 percent statewide. This proves that the long-term recovery and viability of Grizzly Flats is at risk as a large share of its employed residents have

economic ties outside the immediate community, and therefore, without adequate support, will likely relocate from Grizzly Flats.

3. **Disaster Impacted Population Profile-** U.S. Census Bureau data for Grizzly Flats indicates an elderly population more than double the state and national averages, with triple the percentage of households relying on Social Security Income. Grizzly Flats also had a significant pre-disaster unemployment rate more than four times the national rate. The Social Vulnerability Index shows the census tract encompassing Grizzly Flats is more vulnerable than El Dorado County as a whole, ranking in the 37th percentile of all census tracts in the nation. Grizzly Flats ranked in the 64th percentile in terms of socio-economic vulnerability, driven by a high unemployment rate and a relatively high poverty rate. The survivors of the Caldor Fire continue to face numerous socio-economic barriers in accessing assistance programs and resources to support their recovery.
4. **Equity in Disaster-** As reflected in the previous points, the loss of Grizzly Flats and the socio-economic makeup of the community, should be reconsidered. Additionally, without an approval of Individual Assistance, the community of Grizzly Flats is precluded from receiving Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program funding. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development administers the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program, which addresses unmet housing needs. This program is only available to communities that have received a FEMA Individual Assistance declaration.
5. **Lastly, Cal OES identified nine other major disaster declarations approved for Individual Assistance in 2021 which, cumulatively, had fewer destroyed homes than those destroyed by the Caldor Fire.** We have also discussed with FEMA our concern that there is a consequential level of inconsistency FEMA is applying in approving or not approving Individual Assistance under a Major Disaster Declaration.

Although this fire was two years ago, my constituents continue to suffer. Some live in RVs and tents on their plots of land because they can't afford to rebuild. Others have been forced to put their property up for sale. With fall and winter approaching, this is not a sustainable living situation. Individual Assistance would make funds available for Grizzly Flats citizens to rebuild their homes.

Given these reasons outlined by Director Ward and myself, I am once again calling on you to grant Individual Assistance to those affected by the 2021 Caldor Fire. This error is something that only you can remedy. You have the power to grant Individual Assistance and fulfill the promises you made those affected.

Sincerely,



Representative Kevin Kiley
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2022

The Honorable Randy Moore
Chief
United States Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Chief Moore,

We write to inquire about the Forest Service's failed implementation of the Trestle Forest Health Project resulting in the destruction of Grizzly Flats, California, which was almost entirely wiped out by the 2021 Caldor Fire. In light of the recent investigation by CapRadio and the California Newsroom – and the billions of dollars that Congress has recently provided for hazardous fuels projects – we request that you provide us with a detailed briefing regarding the failed implementation of the Trestle Project, which experts have determined could have saved the town and spared its residents.

As highlighted in the investigation by CapRadio and the California Newsroom, the Forest Service warned the residents of Grizzly Flats decades ago that a blaze such as Caldor could destroy their town, which is surrounded on three sides by the Eldorado National Forest. Fire modeling from the Forest Service highlighted that a severe wildfire could engulf the town in as little as 24 hours. The Forest Service then spent nearly 10 years developing the Trestle Forest Health Project to protect Grizzly Flats by removing fuels on 15,000 acres of forest by 2020 to prevent a catastrophic fire using a combination of commercial thinning, hand thinning, and prescribed fire. However, the recent investigation found that the Forest Service neglected priority areas at the highest risk for fire, delayed the deadline for the project's completion, only completed 14% of the intended work, and only implemented the commercial thinning elements of the project that produce revenue for the forest unit.

On the other hand, the residents of Grizzly Flats took immediate action after being presented with the fire risk modeling. A volunteer Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council was formed following that modeling and raised over \$2 million dollars through grants and grassroots funding to protect their community. Over the next 15 years, the council created fire breaks on the north, east, and west sides of the town – with the understanding that the Forest Service would complete its forest management and fire mitigation plan that included a fuel reduction project on the town's highly-combustible southern side, a promise that the Forest Service ultimately never fulfilled.

On August 17, 2021, the entire town of Grizzly Flats was destroyed by the Caldor Fire. The fire followed the southern path that had been predicted by the modeling and that would have been mitigated by full implementation of the Trestle Forest Health Project.

It is unacceptable that the town's proactive efforts and calls for aggressive fire mitigation assistance were met with inaction and delays from the Forest Service. Though we understand the administrative and environmental hurdles facing forest management projects – including staffing shortages, funding challenges, climate change, and endangered species concerns – the length of delays with regard to the Trestle Forest Health Project are particularly egregious and raise broader concerns.

In light of this example – and in anticipation of billions of dollars being spent on similar projects throughout California and the West in the coming years – we request a full explanation for the delays on the

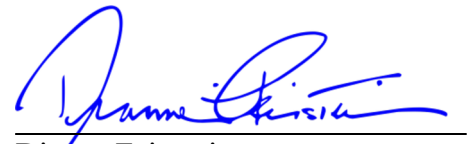
Trestle Forest Health Project and a thorough overview of the uncompleted components of the project, the misplaced focus on the commercial thinning elements of the project, the lack of prescribed burns, and any administrative delays that ultimately resulted in the project being left incomplete. We also ask that you name any other communities in California for which the Forest Service has identified a high risk of catastrophic wildfire and is in the process of preparing a plan – or has prepared a plan but not yet fully implemented it.

We look forward to your response, and we hope to continue working together to increase the efficiency and funding for crucial wildfire mitigation projects to prevent further tragedies.

Sincerely,



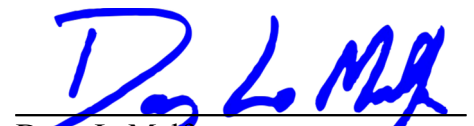
Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Subcommittee
on Conservation and Forestry



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Katie Porter
Member of Congress



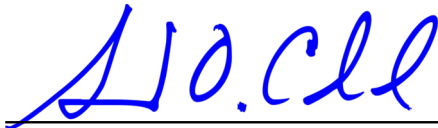
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

September 1, 2021

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

Through: Robert J. Fenton, Jr.
Regional Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX
1111 Broadway, Suite 1200
Oakland, California 94607-4052

Dear Mr. President,

Under the provisions of Section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207 (Stafford Act), and implemented by 44 CFR § 206.35, I request that you issue an Emergency Declaration for El Dorado County as a result of the devastating Caldor Fire actively burning in the county, as well as for Alpine, Amador, and Placer counties, which are impacted as a direct result of the Caldor Fire.

Critical fire weather and exceptional drought conditions led to the explosive growth of the Caldor Fire, which outpaced the relentless efforts of local, state, and federal firefighting personnel as the conflagration tore through Grizzly Flats, Strawberry, and Twin Bridges. Additionally, the Caldor Fire has damaged and destroyed critical infrastructure, with impacts including, but not limited to, communications infrastructure and major roadways. Today, under Red Flag Warning conditions, the Caldor Fire threatens to be one of the most destructive

fires in modern California history as it continues engulfing communities and critical infrastructure posing an immediate threat to life and property.

The need for federal assistance is paramount to prevent catastrophic devastation as the Caldor Fire rapidly advances into the Lake Tahoe Basin. South Lake Tahoe in El Dorado County, home to more than 22,000 residents, faces economic ruin due to potential impacts to tourism and commerce. The looming destruction of local businesses, including hotels, resorts, restaurants, campgrounds, and recreational sites would cripple the regional economy and precipitate significant unemployment.

Furthermore, impact to and contamination of Lake Tahoe would be unprecedented. Designated as an “Outstanding National Resource Water” under the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also identifies Lake Tahoe as a scenic and ecological treasure that is recognized globally as a natural resource of special significance. Historically, 15 million people visit Lake Tahoe annually, infusing hundreds of millions of dollars into the local and state economy.

With the Caldor Fire actively expanding and threatening communities along its 100-mile perimeter, significant evacuation efforts are underway for over 55,903 residents across Alpine, Amador, El Dorado, and Placer counties. This includes densely populated areas such as South Lake Tahoe, which sits on the California-Nevada border. As a result, many Californians evacuated into Nevada, requiring close coordination between the states. In fact, nearly 1,000 evacuated Californians are being sheltered across the state border in Nevada.

As resources are already spread extraordinarily thin from firefighting and recovery efforts on multiple significant fires throughout California, the severity of this fire is such that it will cause significant impacts to the State and to the affected local jurisdictions, making recovery efforts beyond the State's capabilities.

INCIDENT OVERVIEW

As California continues to experience one of the driest years on record and is actively under siege by historic wildfires and unprecedented fire weather conditions, the impacts of climate change are apparent now more than ever. Consequently, I proclaimed a State of Emergency on May 10, 2021, for El Dorado County due to the drought.

California also experienced its warmest July on record¹, with critical fire weather conditions intensifying and extending into August, as prolonged periods of record-breaking temperatures, high winds, and low relative humidity resulted in numerous Heat Advisories, Excessive Heat Warnings, Fire Weather Watches, and Red Flag Warnings issued by the National Weather Service. These extreme weather conditions have fueled the explosive growth of fires across California, scorching more than 1,887,773 acres as of September 1, 2021, with eight wildfires accounting for more than 1,588,136 acres. The current situation in California is dire, with the Caldor Fire and four additional megafires straining local, state, and federal firefighting resources as numerous communities experience imminent threats to public health and safety.

On August 14, 2021, high heat and elevated fire weather conditions in El Dorado County caused the Caldor Fire to explode in size. In a matter of hours, over 35,000 acres were scorched, including much of the community of Grizzly Flats. Furthermore, the National Weather Service issued a Red Flag Warning across northern California, which included El Dorado County, from August 17 through August 19, 2021, with forecast wind gusts up to 40 miles per hour and minimum daytime humidity of 9 percent. An additional Red Flag Warning was in effect August 21, 2021, specifically for the Caldor Fire area, with forecast wind gusts up to 40 miles per hour and minimum daytime humidity of 20 percent. These continuous fire weather conditions have accelerated the spread of the Caldor Fire, which has incinerated 204,390 acres as of September 1, 2021, and is 20 percent contained.

With yet another Red Flag Warning in place from August 30 through September 1, 2021, the potential for catastrophe is apparent, as southwest winds in excess of 35 miles per hour are predicted to rapidly advance the fire towards the northeast into South Lake Tahoe. Firefighters face insurmountable challenges as the Caldor Fire continues to exhibit extreme behavior while burning in steep and rugged terrain with critical fuel conditions. Breezy winds have allowed short and mid-range spotting that produces new ignitions, while poor humidity recovery overnight has enabled passive crown fires and limited backburning operations by firefighters.

Unified Command has identified more than 34,834 structures under threat in communities from Placerville to Lake Tahoe, including South Lake Tahoe, Meyers, Pollock Pines, Camino, Somerset, Sly Park, Pacific, White Hall, Kyburz, Strawberry, Twin Bridges, Kirkwood, and many more. An estimated 55,038

¹ "Assessing the U.S. Climate in July 2021," National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – National Centers for Environmental Information. <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/national-climate-202107>

residents are under mandatory evacuation orders across Alpine, Amador, El Dorado, and Placer counties, with thousands more having received voluntary notices.

Although preliminary damage assessments have been impossible to conduct due to unsafe conditions and limited resources, initial reports indicate up to 90 percent of the structures within Grizzly Flats have been destroyed. This devastation includes the total loss of the Walt Tyler Elementary School and the Grizzly Flats Post Office, essential pillars of the local community. Within the Grizzly Flats area alone, CAL FIRE's initial damage inspections have identified 729 destroyed structures to date, including 544 residences.

Imminent threats to critical infrastructure include major transportation corridors, communications towers, power transmission lines, and water systems. State Highways 50, 88, and 89 are closed for more than 100 miles, reducing options of escape for evacuees while simultaneously eliminating essential transportation links from the Bay Area to Nevada. Furthermore, impacts to the Lake Tahoe Watershed would be catastrophic, with the added consequence of negatively impacting the Truckee River Watershed, as the Truckee River is the only outlet of Lake Tahoe. The Truckee River Watershed supports the area's 20-billion-dollar economy by providing drinking water to over 400,000 individuals and 7,000 businesses, and is home to sugar pines, tiger lilies, and buttercups—as well as river otter, bobcat, Great Blue Heron, and Lahontan cutthroat trout.

Additional threats include the Cosumnes Watershed and El Dorado County's water sources, such as Jenkinson Lake and 300-million-gallon water facility that provides half of the County's water supply. This watershed is home to important natural resources and productive agricultural lands which are at risk due to the potential mobilization of ash, debris, and household hazardous waste from the hundreds of destroyed structures. Furthermore, the Cosumnes Watershed serves as a tributary to the San Joaquin River, which serves as the drainage channel for the entire 16,000 square mile San Joaquin River basin and discharges into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Two civilians suffered serious injuries and were transported to hospitals by air ambulances, three firefighters suffered injuries while fighting the blaze, and an officer from the Galt Police Department was tragically killed in a traffic accident while traveling to assist with the fire.

RESPONSE OVERVIEW

On August 17, 2021, I proclaimed, under the authority of the California Emergency Services Act, a State of Emergency in El Dorado County due to the Caldor Fire.

El Dorado County also proclaimed a local emergency. Given the rapid growth and spread of the Caldor Fire, on August 30, 2021, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in Alpine, Amador, and Placer counties due to impacts of the Caldor Fire.

My Office of Emergency Services expanded its State Operations Center (SOC) activation on August 4, 2021, to include response to multiple wildfires occurring in the State, even as the SOC remains activated for COVID-19 response activities and the Southern Border humanitarian mission. The SOC has been activated since March 2020. The State activated its Emergency Plan and deployed all available assets, including local and state mutual aid, as well as mobilizing out-of-state resources. The Inland Regional Emergency Operations Center was also activated as of June 24, 2021 to support the coordination of fire response resources. Additionally, Amador and El Dorado counties activated their Emergency Operations Center at the county level. The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Operations Center is also activated to support statewide wildfire response.

On July 14, 2021, the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Group raised the Wildfire Preparedness Level (PL) to 5, only the third time in the past 20 years the nation has reached PL 5 by mid-July.

As of September 1, 2021, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) reported 15,042 personnel, 1,321 engines, 390 hand crews, 351 bulldozers, 368 water tenders, and 110 helicopters assigned to battle and suppress wildfire incidents across the State, with additional fixed-wing aircraft assigned daily. The California National Guard (CNG) has 1,006 personnel, including 131 out-of-state National Guard personnel activated for the wildfire firefighting effort. Activated aircraft include 11 helicopters for fire suppression and medical support, as well as eight Modular Airborne Firefighting System aircraft for fire suppression. Additionally, pre-positioned Cal OES Fire and Rescue and local government mutual aid resources include 498 engines and 27 water tenders.

As noted above, there are multiple active and very significant wildfires burning throughout the State with little to no containment, which are stretching firefighting resources to their limits. During the initial growth of the Caldor Fire, critical firefighting resource requests were unfilled, and the next available assets were over 12 hours away in southern California. Furthermore, California has

requested 150 engines from all 50 states through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact and to date has received 36 engines and 153 personnel. The State of California and local governments continue to struggle with catastrophic wildfires throughout the state as well as the extreme costs to infrastructure and resources resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, limited assets and personnel are available and assigned to the Caldor Fire due to active incidents across the State and the country.

Despite scant resources, the State of California, local governments, community-based organizations, and volunteers have taken extraordinary steps to respond to the Caldor Fire. Nine evacuation shelters had an overnight population of 889 survivors, with the American Red Cross and other Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster providing support to the community and disaster survivors. At least 15 California state agencies are activated and providing assistance, both in the field and in the SOC, for the fire. This includes the California Department of Social Services, which is assisting with shelter operations is providing support to individuals with access and functional needs. Adding complexity to an already-challenging situation, the primary evacuation route from South Lake Tahoe was into Nevada. California has been working closely with Nevada to ensure that evacuated Californians' needs are met.

Californians, including first responders across the State, local officials, and volunteer organizations are exhausted. In addition, COVID-19 has also impacted the number of volunteers available to support those impacted by the wildfires. The last several years have taken a toll on the people and the property of this State. Although Californians are resilient and step up to the challenge, when disasters hit one right after another, assistance is needed from the federal government.

DISASTER IMPACTED POPULATION PROFILE

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2019 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, California's official poverty rate is 11.8 percent, slightly lower than the national 12.3 percent, and ranks 26th amongst all states and Washington D.C. When considering an alternate poverty measure that compensates for cost of living and benefits factors, California ranks 2nd in the nation after Washington D.C. at 17.9 percent, compared to 13.1 percent nationally. In addition, during the second quarter of 2020, nearly three million Californians were unemployed, representing more than 14 percent of the nation's total unemployment. In 2019, California's nonfarm jobs accounted for 11.5 percent of the nation's jobs. These jobs decreased by more than two million or 13 percent in that second quarter

due to COVID-19, a steeper drop than the 12 percent for the United States, and about 12.5 percent of the nation's job losses.

According to the Centers for Disease Control's Social Vulnerability Index, El Dorado County has a high level of vulnerability in the category of Minority Status & Language, indicating that there may be segments of the impacted communities that require targeted support to ensure equitable distribution of recovery resources. Demographic data from El Dorado County indicates significant and disproportionate impacts to vulnerable populations, including individuals at lower income levels, the elderly, disabled, and those that are medically electricity dependent. In addition, those at lower income levels are also experiencing higher rates of unemployment due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Grizzly Flats, the community suffering the greatest impact thus far, as reports indicate the fire nearly decimated the community, has a greater elderly population (35.5 percent) and a greater poverty rate (8.7 percent) than the broader population of El Dorado County, which is detailed in the 2021 El Dorado County Demographics enclosure.

Additionally, as the fire continues to grow, it is directly impacting Alpine, Amador, and Placer counties, which are adjacent to El Dorado County. These counties, too, include vulnerable populations. Alpine, Amador County, and Placer counties have elderly populations that represent approximately 30 percent, 27 percent, and 20 percent of the counties' respective populations, as compared to the state average of 14.8 percent. Nineteen percent of Amador County's population is disabled, as is 16 percent of Alpine County's population, as compared to the state average of 10.3 percent.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

California continues to recover from multiple, consecutive disasters that warranted and received Major Disaster Declarations in recent history, including the 2021 wildfires (FEMA-4610-DR-CA). The 2020 wildfires (FEMA-4558-DR-CA and FEMA-4569-DR-CA) were historic events that consumed over 4.2 million acres statewide and destroyed over 17,000 structures, including over 10,000 homes. These fire impacts devastated large swaths of arable land and affected crops, including the vital vineyard industries of Napa and Sonoma Counties, forestry operations, and even the homes of agricultural workers – all of which are further impacted by exceptional drought conditions.

Between 2017 and 2019, California received five Major Disaster Declarations that included the February 2019 flooding and mudslides (FEMA-4431-DR-CA and FEMA-4434-DR-CA), the Carr and Mendocino Complex Fires in the Summer of 2018 (FEMA-4382-DR-CA), the Hill, Woolsey, and Camp Fires in November 2018

(FEMA-4407-DR-CA), and the Thomas Fire and subsequent Montecito debris flow (FEMA-4353-DR-CA) in 2017. Collectively, these significant events have claimed lives, destroyed thousands of homes, and disrupted the economic viability of numerous communities across the State, whose long-term recovery will be adversely affected by the ongoing fire siege.

In addition to the recent fires, California is still very much engaged in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic (FEMA-4482-DR-CA), which has far-reaching impacts statewide. As COVID-19 cases continue to increase due to the delta variant, Alpine, Amador, El Dorado, and Placer counties have a combined ICU capacity of only nine beds available.

The compounding impacts of the multiple successive and, in many instances, simultaneous devastating disasters over the past several years cannot be understated.

CERTIFICATION

I certify for this emergency the state and local governments will assume all applicable non-federal shared costs as required by the Stafford Act.

CONCLUSION

In recent years, despite investment of billions of dollars on fire prevention and mitigation efforts, the overwhelming challenges of wildfires continue to expand. As demonstrated above, the communities impacted by the Caldor Fire include vulnerable populations, such as low income, elderly, and disabled residents, as well as recipients of government assistance. Coupled with the significant impacts to already vulnerable communities and the inevitable loss of homes and critical infrastructure, the Caldor Fire will have devastating economic and infrastructure impacts within the affected communities. This fire represents yet another relentless and successive disaster to strike California, coming during the surge of the delta variant of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing response and recovery from the other numerous and significant wildfires burning in California, and in the immediate aftermath of record-breaking wildfires in 2020.

Pursuant to 44 CFR § 206.35, the incident is of such magnitude and severity that effective response is beyond state and local capability, requiring supplementary federal assistance to save lives and protect property, public health, and safety. Because of this disaster, the State of California is specifically requesting an Emergency Declaration for Public Assistance categories A and B, and Direct Federal Assistance, to include Department of Defense Air Assets to immediately mitigate the impacts of the Caldor Fire, shelter supplies and water for 55,000

evacuated residents, U.S. Department of Agriculture's assistance in evacuating large animals, hazardous household waste removal, mass care, evacuation assistance for individuals with access and functional needs, and ambulatory support for El Dorado, Alpine, Amador, and Placer counties.

As this disaster progresses, subject to additional programs warranted, we reserve the ability to amend this request for additional federal assistance.

I have designated the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Mark Ghilarducci, as the State Coordinating Officer for this request. Mr. Ghilarducci will work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in continuing to assess damage and may provide more information or justification on my behalf.

Sincerely,



Gavin Newsom
Governor of California

Enclosures:

2021 County Demographics

2021 County Social Vulnerability Index

National Weather Service – Caldor Fire Weather Conditions

Stafford Act and State Disaster Declarations for Last 24 Months

OMB No. 1660-0009/FEMA Form 010-0-13

List of Federally Recognized Tribes in California

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
Board of Supervisors

330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5652
(530) 622-3645 Fax



GEORGE TURNBOO
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT II

September 5, 2023

Dear FEMA Administrator Ms. Deanne Criswell,

Please talk to President Biden about providing FEMA funded homes to the victims of the Caldor Fire, especially since he promised to help the residents of Grizzly Flats, CA. The people still living on their properties in Grizzly Flats, CA, are destitute and struggling to survive. Many of the residents in Grizzly Flats are without homes and have temporary living conditions due to the expectation that President Biden would keep his promise of assistance and support. The President may not be aware of these circumstances, so please ensure that he knows and encourage the President to get something done to provide homes for Caldor Fire victims.

The unaffordable conditions in California have been rising costs causing Grizzly Flats residents hardship and preventing them from rebuilding what was lost in the Caldor Fire. The residents look to Government as having the ability and responsibility to help with disasters, like the Caldor Fire, through FEMA and other federal agency programs. There has been no individual assistance from Government, despite clear promises from President Biden. The congressional representatives that have tried to talk to President Biden about Grizzly Flats claim they have not been able to secure anything in terms of homes. Hopefully, you will have more success.

The people of Grizzly Flats have begun the process of going to the press with their concerns. There is a general feeling that Government at all levels has abandoned Grizzly Flats residents. Since we work for El Dorado County Government, and work hard to help rebuild Grizzly Flats, we would like the opportunity to prove to the residents that they have NOT been abandoned and that Government still works for the people. Only the Federal Government has the ability to help provide homes for the residents of Grizzly Flats after a wildfire natural disaster, so we implore you in your position as FEMA Administrator, to talk to President Biden so he understands and can fulfill his promise to help the residents who were impacted by the Caldor Fire.

Sincerely,

George Turnboo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "GT", written over a light blue horizontal line.

District 2 Supervisor
County of El Dorado



El Dorado County 

El Dorado County Residents Deserve FEMA Individual Assistance

1249 signers. Add your name now!



1249 signers. Almost there!

95%

 Amy Krabe signed recently

Dear President Biden,

In August 2021, the community of Grizzly Flats and areas surrounding Lake Tahoe in El Dorado County were brought to destruction by the Caldor Fire. Hundreds of young families, seniors, and people from all walks of life lost their homes. Nearly 40% of these families did not have homeowners insurance or were underinsured for a catastrophic event like the Caldor Fire due to the exorbitant cost of fire insurance in our region.

You visited the Caldor Fire area on September 13, 2021 and met with El Dorado County's Chief Administrative Officer that same day at Mather Air Force Base. You assured him that the people affected by the Caldor Fire would receive assistance. On October 8, 2021 El Dorado County was denied FEMA Individual Assistance. After many calls for help and several letters for assistance from our state and federal elected representatives, our pleas for help have gone unanswered. FEMA has denied Individual Assistance to the people of El Dorado County. All appeals to this decision have also been denied. After the Camp Fire in 2020, FEMA also denied Individual Assistance to that devastated community. It took the then-sitting president to overturn FEMA's decision and allow the funding necessary to rebuild their homes. We believe El Dorado County deserves no less than the assistance provided to other areas that so desperately needed help.

Also of note, cabins built on United States Forest Service (USFS) lands are being denied the funds needed for clean-up of their sites. Previously, clean-up of fires on USFS lands have been paid for using federal funds. A new interpretation of the Stafford Act has been cited as a reason to withhold funds for those cabin owners who, on average, will be paying more than \$50,000 to clean up a site that has no guarantee of being allowed to re-build, regardless of their insurance coverage. We feel this interpretation is not correct and ask for the assistance needed to also help

SIGN PETITION

structures, most of which were homes. This devastation is particularly tragic as El Dorado County has a higher-than-average percentage of seniors and many of those who lost their homes live on limited incomes. Many hard-working families with children and many senior citizens are homeless, living in tents or cars, sleeping on friends' and family members' couches, or if they are fortunate enough, in recreational vehicles.

We want to thank you, Mr. President, for declaring a Major Disaster and the assistance FEMA has provided to our local government jurisdictions to assist with rebuilding our infrastructure.

You are our last hope – the only person who can help relieve the pain of the survivors of this terrible and tragic event. Individual Assistance was granted to the people affected by fires in Colorado and hurricanes in Kentucky. The people of El Dorado County humbly ask for the same assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

Share for Success

COMMENT

Anonymous

Sep 15, 2022

   Sep 15, 2022

Assistance is needed to these disaster victims.

James Lee

Aug 20, 2022

   Aug 20, 2022

Please help this community.

John R Saunderson

Aug 06, 2022

  
Aug 06, 2022

Please Help!!!!

Paul David Strick Jr

Aug 06, 2022

   Aug 06, 2022

I trusted my insurance broker and we were underinsured.

Susan Scott Williams

Aug 06, 2022

   Aug 06, 2022

Well done. Thank you.

Scott leal

Aug 06, 2022

   Aug 06, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Larry Guiera

Aug 06, 2022

upvote  Aug 06, 2022
reply show

Any help that can be given would be much appreciated. Thanks

Trina Del Cupolo

Aug 06, 2022

upvote  Aug 06, 2022
reply show

help

Jack Gale

Aug 06, 2022

upvote  Aug 06, 2022
reply show

I am retired U S Navy and we lost everything in this fire.

Abbas Tourzani

Aug 06, 2022

upvote  Aug 06, 2022
reply show

My cabin burned down and I could not get a insurance.

Lyn Barnett

Jun 29, 2022

upvote  Jun 29, 2022
reply show

Keep your promise, Mr. President. Help the people of El Dorado County who are still suffering from the 2021 Caldor Fire.

Jason

Jun 13, 2022

upvote  Jun 13, 2022
reply show

Please support our local community by having Fema do their job here.

Rena Lowry

Jun 10, 2022

upvote  Jun 10, 2022
reply show

Step up FEMA!

Sara Girard

Jun 09, 2022

upvote  Jun 09, 2022
reply show

Please help those in need.

Jon Todd

Jun 09, 2022

upvote  Jun 09, 2022
reply show

Please correct this injustice

Robert Kimball

Jun 09 2022

SIGN PETITION

Please help those in need as a result of the caldor fire

Catherine Newey

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show

Fulfill your promises, President Biden!

Stacey Burgett

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show



John Baxter

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show

Get them help NOW!

Beverly Terry

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show

Time to help these people

Jeff Kaltenbach

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show

Mr President do what you said you would!

Mike Thornbrough

Jun 09, 2022

Jun 09, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help these Americans!!

Darren Minard

Jun 07, 2022

Jun 07, 2022
upvote reply show

Mr. President please help us here in Eldorado County California. Sincerely Darren Minard

Tiffany Blackford Minard

Jun 07, 2022

Jun 07, 2022
upvote reply show

Mr. President We need help. PLEASE. Sincerely Ghost Pipe Dream

Patricia Robb

Jun 04, 2022

Jun 04, 2022
upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

lumber is burnt and hazardous but many perfectly good trees were cut and removed. The residents can't stop them. The

Sheriff can't stop them. These people need help. Why are they being ignored and why is everyone taking more from them? Seems it's all about money. They have none which is why they're now homeless.

Amy Krahe

Jun 02, 2022

upvote  Jun 02, 2022
reply show

Local resident. Please help.

Guadalupe Rodriguez

May 31, 2022

upvote  May 31, 2022
reply show

please help

Gracie Valle

May 29, 2022

upvote  May 29, 2022
reply show

Please allow them to re-built the cabin

Anonymous

May 28, 2022

upvote  May 28, 2022
reply show

How about the people that started this fire spend the rest of their lives supporting the people who lost everything. Just Justic

Robert H Freitas

May 26, 2022

upvote  May 26, 2022
reply show

Lost home and business
5363 Wood View ct

Patricia A Boyer

May 26, 2022

upvote  May 26, 2022
reply show

FEMA must respond to and take care of their responsibilities.

HELENA JONES-Kim

May 25, 2022

upvote  May 25, 2022
reply show

OUR CABIN WAS BURNED TOT HE GROUND-NOT FAIR

Anonymous

May 25, 2022

upvote  May 25, 2022
reply show

We lost our home in the Caldor fire and would like rebuild. Individual assistance would allow this.

Mike Fissel

May 21, 2022

SIGN PETITION

please help

Joan Wicklund

May 21, 2022

May 21, 2022
upvote reply show

If The USFS had responded initially when this fire was reported, there may have been NO loses. The Federal government needs to accept responsibility and help these people!

PATRICIA SM

May 21, 2022

May 21, 2022
upvote reply show

since insurance companies are largely failing to help, the federal government needs to help with disaster relief. thank you

Anonymous

May 20, 2022

May 20, 2022
upvote reply show

Dear President Biden,
The victims of the Caldor Fire need your assistance and FEMA's. Please help them.

Catherine J Mone

May 20, 2022

May 20, 2022
upvote reply show

I'm so surprised that FEMA Individual Assistance has been denied, even on appeal. These people deserve help. The fire is believed to have been started by some idiot with guns. Should the people who lost their homes sue the gun manufacturer? We can't leave Americans high and dry, they need assistance to rebuild or move on.

Kyle Kuperus

May 20, 2022

May 20, 2022
upvote reply show

Please give the help that was promised!

Kenneth V Payne

May 19, 2022

May 19, 2022
upvote reply show

From a fire that started on federal lands - half the County lands is federal property. The fire has harmed people and devastated communities - with a turned eye from the federal agencies that were created to assist Americans ... federal leaders need to push to give need assistance to the communities of our nation.

Susan Metcalfe

May 18, 2022

May 18, 2022
upvote reply show

This is soo unfair. I evacuated and me and my animals were safe after great expense. Grizzly Flats other other hand was completely destroyed. Shame on Biden

Carla

May 17, 2022

May 17, 2022
upvote reply show

Please overturn FEMA's decision and help our residents who need it!

Barbara Hatch

SIGN PETITION

Please help those in need an in despair. This was our home. For so many years it was a community that thrived on being self sufficient. We all did our part to commute to an from work being away from our families to have them live a dream most only think about. It is time to move forward with help an compassionate reason for the sake of our community. And the futures of our beliefs an children.

Pip Reynolds
May 06, 2022

upvote reply show
May 06, 2022

Help humans!

Michael Beem
May 02, 2022

upvote reply show
May 02, 2022

I was renting in Grizzly Flats and now I am still homeless living in my truck.

Shelley Hall
Apr 20, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 20, 2022

Please help them

Anonymous
Apr 15, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 15, 2022

Please help. We have no insurance...total loss

Stephanie Smith
Apr 12, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 12, 2022

15th largest fire in California and no FEMA! Not acceptable!

Debra P Kellogg
Apr 12, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 12, 2022

This is the sort of thing FEMA is made for; to help those devastated by natural disasters. These people need the help of the federal government and it's the job of the federal government to look after its citizens in this way.

Benedict Ching
Apr 11, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 11, 2022

That's just wrong, take care of your tax payers in such devastations. Do your jobs.

David Oustifine
Apr 11, 2022

upvote reply show
Apr 11, 2022

Sounds like a reasonable request

Sal Dilorio
Apr 11, 2022

SIGN PETITION

It's criminal that the victims of this disaster get nothing from FEMA because the 2 wealthier cities at each end of the county were unaffected. Nearly 250 thousand acres burned, 800+ families displaced and homes destroyed. Personally I lost almost everything, many lost more.
Help the individuals, the State just wastes the funds you give them

Lisa Walker

Apr 10, 2022

⬅ Apr 10, 2022
upvote reply show

Total loss of property and zero insurance to pay for loss OR cleanup!

Diane Nasser

Apr 10, 2022

⬅ Apr 10, 2022
upvote reply show

Please approve IA for people who need help from the Caldor fire

Jack and Melba Killam

Apr 09, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Apr 09, 2022

do it

KristiAnna Heiman

Apr 08, 2022

⬅ Apr 08, 2022
upvote reply show

I was one of the many who lost my home and everything else when evacuating. I could really use the help and support in order to find a place to stay more permanently. By the end of June we will be kicked out of where we live and may not have anywhere else to go.

Debra Gregory

Apr 08, 2022

⬅ Apr 08, 2022
upvote reply show

We lost our family home we lived in for 11 years. Newsome of our children have dispersed to various places too heartbroken to come back My husband, our youngest son, out eldest daughter and grandson will be moving back to the homesite in a trailer soon. Currently spend part time in a trailer and an unfinished house we rent for \$1000 a month. I'm a volunteer medical responder and Firefighter. As well as Secretary of the Grizzly Flats Fire Safe Council. This Community needs your help! We have survived so much devastation and get have so much work to do ahead of us. Many/most of us have no idea how to afford everything that needs to be done.

David Most

Apr 08, 2022

⬅ Apr 08, 2022
upvote reply show

We all deserve fire protection including the residents of Coloma CA.

Anji Manning

Apr 08, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Apr 08, 2022

Keep your promise!

Debbie Miller

Apr 07, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Please help the people. We all lost so much. Our homes our possessions our family heirlooms, everything. We're all living all over the place. We want to come home.

William Haddock

Apr 06, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 06, 2022

Please help

Terrie Taylor

Apr 06, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 06, 2022

Our whole street is gone. Our neighbor didn't have insurance. We had good insurance and even that isn't sufficient to rebuild. Please stand by your word. Thank you.

Melanie Young

Apr 06, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 06, 2022

Help these families

Louise R Tyler

Apr 06, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 06, 2022

Praying for help as an underinsured senior citizen who cannot afford to rebuild on a social security income. Desperately need individual assistance. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Margaret Goebel

Apr 05, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 05, 2022

The cabins which were on forest service land have been taxed and a fee has been paid for permits which benefits many in the Lake Tahoe Basin who use public services. The cabin owners do not own the land, yet they are financially responsible for its clean up. It is adding insult to injury, do the right thing.

Kevin Koroush

Apr 04, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 04, 2022

I will be building in Grizzly Flats at the corner of String Canyon and Sciaroni Road. Stop by and say hi

Linda Prentiss

Apr 04, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 04, 2022

This a huge rural area where Group \$ don't make much sense ... we are NOT a CITY!!!

Jeff Lee

Apr 03, 2022



upvote reply show

Apr 03, 2022

It is important to provide equal funding for this disaster as the was done for the Camp Fire victims and others.

SIGN PETITION

 upvote reply show

The people in Grizzly Flat need help. El Dorado county is very diverse and Grizzly Flat was an older community with affordable housing. With insurance companies raising their fees or canceling policies many did not have insurance and lost everything. Please help!!!

Natalie

Apr 02, 2022

 Apr 02, 2022
upvote reply show

If you can send taxpayer money to Ukraine and to house illegal immigrants, you can surely use it to help our own citizens.

Judy Callnon-Weston

Apr 02, 2022

 Apr 02, 2022
upvote reply show

I was assured by El Dorado County, where I pay taxes for my home as well as my cabin, handed down for generations, & Calif State OES, that we would be eligible & covered for clean up of this declared national disaster! Why have we been excluded from these funds?

Lesley Kite

Apr 02, 2022

 upvote reply show
Apr 02, 2022

.)

Katherine Lyon

Apr 01, 2022

 Apr 01, 2022
upvote reply show

Where is the common sense ? Of course FEMA ought to help all people effected by the fire.

Ivo Dachev

Apr 01, 2022

 Apr 01, 2022
upvote reply show

Thanks to the Criminal negligence of the Forest Service Management and Pioneer Fire Chief incompetence.

Laurie Page

Mar 31, 2022

 Mar 31, 2022
upvote reply show

Please work with FEMA to reconsider and overturn their denial of Individual Assistance to those who lost homes in the Caldor Fire. Thank you.

larry mullinix

Mar 30, 2022

 Mar 30, 2022
upvote reply show

Please support the echo summit cabin owners

william a klas

Mar 30, 2022

 Mar 30, 2022
upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

that the forest service quickly gives us permission to get started. The cost of clean up to the standards set by various

agencies is enormous and we ask that the agencies that were poised to provide the clean up to those standards are able to do this using FEMA funding. We are supporters of you and hope that you can support us in this situation. Thank you

Roger Shortz

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help the stewards of the forest.

Rebecca Sprague

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

We lost our cabin in the Caldor fire and we're unable to keep it insured due to the exorbitant cost

Max Burchett

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

Total loss. Nothing but ashes and debris. Over forty years of family fun and memories at our Echo Summit cabin. Such a loss.

Kai Goebel

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

Please make good on your promise

Gene Ponce

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

Please consider helping send don't abandon us.

Miranda Thomas

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

Please get our neighbors the help they need.

Teresa Lorraine Whedbee

Mar 30, 2022



Mar 30, 2022

upvote reply show

My house burnt down a spark from caldor fire on September ,13 , 2021

Sara Flores

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

I love you

Felicia Moffat

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

Jeanne Rene Evans

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

I work with many folks who have lost tens of thousands of personal funds due to the Caldor Fire. These folks need your help!

Sandy Thomason

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29,

upvote reply show 2022

Help these victims please!

Curtis Jefferson

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

House burnt and california fair plan hasnt been very fair

Leslie Souza

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

Please stand with and help the citizens of these communities and this country Mr. President

Anonymous

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

Now is the time to do the right thing

Whedbee Amie

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

We lived on lupin lane in Pollock pines and lost everything. It was my mother, my 6 kids and self. We have received no help and it's not right

Leo Bennett-Cauchon

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

I have experienced the loss of my home to fire. Individual assistance is crucial for equitable recovery.

Tamara Quiroz

Mar 29, 2022



Mar 29, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help these people-they have lost everything!

Leanne Snow Bear Saldana

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Please help us !!!

SIGN PETITION

upvote reply show

I think the president is being extraordinarily parsimonious with this circumstance I believe a bellwether such as himself should be doing more to assist in the benefaction and furtherance of this predicament.

Irene Zamzow

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Do the right thing

Denise Haase

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Governor Newsom, please follow through and give these residents the help they deserve to put their lives back in order. They have lost everything!

Scot Telfer

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

The formula you are using to approve or deny individual assistance is not a representation of the destruction we have realized from the Caldor Fire

Azzy Butcher

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Help is desperately needed for those who lost their homes and livelihood. Do something good to be remembered by instead of lip service. Grizzly flats don't need your speeches or optics. Help hard working Americans by providing FEMA personal assistants to the community, put our tax money to good use here in America first.

Lori Ingram

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

I cannot believe that we have to sign a petition for this community to receive FEMA. This should have been done along time ago.....Absolutely Ridiculous...

Anonymous

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29,

2022

Help those who lost everything

Christina Schwenker Holum

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Mr President

Please help our community many cannot rebuild without FEMA help also we need the help for expenses insurance does not cover.

Judy L Watson

Mar 29, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 29, 2022

Update: The California State Board of Equalization has approved the funding for the California State Board of Equalization.

SIGN PETITION

Layla hatch

Mar 29, 2022

upvote  Mar 29, 2022
show

WE DESERVE FEMA.
THERE IS NO HELP GIVEN
PLEASE HELP US.

CynthiaWeaver

Mar 29, 2022

upvote  Mar 29, 2022
show

Grizzly Flats residents deserve FEMA assistance.

Ali kipke

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

The devastation some families have to endure is overwhelming! Please help these families!!

Barbara Tomsett

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

Please help these people to rebuild.

Cynthia M Allen

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

The treatment of these people is atrocious. This is not the America I grew up in ! Please help.

Lorene Hansen

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

Mar 28, 2022

Way overdue!

Melanie Edman-Osmer

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

I had insurance, but so many of my neighbors did not - or had insufficient coverage - and it is impacting rebuilding our community.

Ernest W Adams

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

My family has had a residence in the area for over 60 years. Now it has burned down through no fault of our own. We need help!

Wendy Jones

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
show

SIGN PETITION

Sheryl Bolton

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

Please help our community.

Anonymous

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

Help was promised, keep the promise...

Bonnie Porter

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

Please overturn fema's decision. This fire was a disaster. We were lucky with no loss of life. The people feel they lost their "lives" in their destroyed homes. Please help them.

Robert Harrington

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

President Biden, you help people around the world... but you don't help your own citizens that pay taxes! Not fairw

Timothy Smith

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

People that lived or live within the Caldor Fire area need assistance to help with rebuilding this beautiful town and homes!

Anonymous

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

I am new to the Grizzly Flats community but it breaks my heart to see my neighbors suffer without any support from FEMA. Please help them.

Pam Gardner

Mar 28, 2022

upvote  Mar 28, 2022
reply show

Please authorize the provision to the residents of El Dorado County, CA with the FEMA Individual Assistance. Thank you!

John Rice

Mar 27, 2022

upvote  Mar 27, 2022
reply show

Be true to your word to help

Kathleen Haley

Mar 27, 2022

upvote  Mar 27, 2022
reply show

We lost our home at 4817 Mt Pleasant Drive Grizzly Flatd Ca and all of our trees!

SIGN PETITION

upvote reply show

This area suffered a terrible disaster and many of the residents had no insurance and are relatively low income. Help is desperately needed.

Anonymous

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

Life is scary enough without some body starting a fire that may change your life forever. When we buy insurance and than are told we have no claim for fire damages, again life changing. FEMA is here to help with that, I was told. Let's help not only our Caldor fire victims number 1. but what about "Paradise" fire victims? I see the results.

Phillip Dayton

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

Insurance did not even cover my VA loan. I am a disabled vet now paying a home mortgage on dirt.

Marcia Schultz

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

Please help my neighbors

Keith K Wollenberg

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

It is necessary to support the USFS cabin owners, and find funds to complete remediation for those burned out by the Caldor Fire

Amber Shook

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

FEMA denying assistance is absolutely insane!

Cheryl Dunken

Mar 27, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 27, 2022

If it were your children for maybe your parents you would help.

Kayla Nunez-Soto

Mar 26, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 26, 2022

Our people need help. We faced so much destruction. Family, Friends and many others lost everything. Some won't be rebuilding because of rising insurance prices so they didn't have any. Please they need help, show that you care about others.

Aaron Treadaway

Mar 26, 2022

upvote reply show
Mar 26, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

This fire should of been extinguished at first sight. Instead it was the old wait and see what happens approach. We need a chance in this ever growing threat!

Jolyne Kaiser
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

Nobody should ever be turned down!!

Anonymous
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

Please -- the people in my community who lost their homes desperately need help!

Vicky Brundige
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

Make good on your promise to the residents of Grizzly Flats.

Janna Wallace
Mar 26, 2022

upvote reply show
Mar 26, 2022

#grizzlyflatsstrong

Elizabeth Standridge
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

The devastating impact to individuals from this fire has been wide spread. There's no reason to deny help for us.

josh emigh
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

The survivors of this disaster need help!

Bonnie Driscoll
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

We are Eldorado County residents and do not need FEMA help but there are many who do.

Marc Malek
Mar 26, 2022

Mar 26, 2022
upvote reply show

Completely preventable disaster where Federal agencies were complicit. Federal funds should be available to compensate those directly suffering.

MaryAnn Cook
Mar 26, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Everyone needs help...why are we different from any other natural disaster

Jacob Robertson

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

I would love to see the victims that lost their homes in the Caldor Fire receive the assistance they need.

Amber Walker

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

as someone who was evacuated for several weeks, but did not experience losing their home, I would love to see those who need help, receive the aid they need to continue recovering from this disaster.

Laura Beeman

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

Send help to our CA fire victims!

Erin Wylie

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

Do right by El Dorado County citizens. Help them rebuild

Viola Tara

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

Those people are destroyed. FEMA aid is a must!

Wendi-Mae Davis

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

The Community needs this money to rebuild and move on-Let's get them this \$ now!!! We shouldn't have to sign a petition to make it happen! Respectfully-

Anonymous

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

I'm a cabin owner and the cleanup will be a challenge to afford or do properly.

John Crane

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

These individuals need help desperately!

Dawn Johnson

Mar 25, 2022

Mar 25, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help my neighbors who have lost everything! I am one of the few whose house survived the firestorm, but I cannot bear to see my neighbors suffer from this injustice. Please help them!

SIGN PETITION

Mar 25, 2022

 upvote  reply  show

I could use the help hardly enough to rebuild now my septic tank is damaged might need to replace a lot of back fill .
please help us

Janet Sambucetti

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

When you find out how the fire was handled, FEMA Assistance is the least you can do.

Lona scott

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

These people have lost everything and many without insurance as of recent due to Cancellations in our area with no other affordable options!

Roberta Bailey

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

The mission of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is to reduce the loss of life and property and protect our institutions from all hazards by leading and supporting the nation in a comprehensive, risk-based emergency management program of mitigation, preparedness, response, and RECOVERY.
Aren't these communities entitled to compensation?

Patrick Hamer

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

Government making us beg for bred. Oh, btw, I own trees that burned. I found out FEMA is going to steal my trees. I have a mill, so it's like you did to the Native Americans. Still stealing from human beings. What a shame. I hope my free speech isn't retaliated against by more arbitrary abuse of power under the color of law.

Irene Muzio

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

The exisiting rule is a cruel discrimination against those who lost their homes.

Bonni Bergstrom

Mar 25, 2022

 Mar 25, 2022
upvote  reply  show

Please authorize FEMA aid for the victims of the Caldor Fire!

Bonnie Flint

Mar 24, 2022

 Mar 24, 2022
upvote  reply  show

Please help El Dorado County (like you have helped so many other locales)

Patricia Worley

Mar 24, 2022

 Mar 24, 2022
upvote  reply  show

SIGN PETITION

Bonnie J Kelley

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

Please keep your promise President Biden.

Fred Walker

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

Was wondering why the president changed his mind .

Tim Collins

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

We need help!

Julia Sumsion

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

Our community needs the help that you said you would provide. Please just do the right thing. Overturn Fema's decision!

Shannon M Mainwaring

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

The Caldor fire was devastating to an extreme number of residents in Northern California - we are requesting that the FEMA decision is overturned to allow aid to the families affected.

James Kalteren

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help these people, many of them have lost everything, including family pets and livestock.

Debra Morgan

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help victims of the Calder Fire
By granting FEMA for needed assistance

Susan Brown

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

They're just as deserving as any other disaster victim -please approve. Thank you!

Jill Kunder

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

I was lucky enough to have my home spared, though the fire completely encircled my immediate are, but others lost their homes and need help.

SIGN PETITION

upvote reply show

Please help! This could happen to anyone of us living with drought and climate change.
Thank you for your help!

Dennis

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Why would a state that is supporting you be denied the same level of assistance other states are receiving? Is this how our federal government supports their people? Please help these individuals and look into why they have been denied.
Thank you.

Delaya Diana

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Please help these people, many of them have lost everything, including family pets and livestock.

Bill O'Neill

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Our community needs this support. People are hurting.

Teresa Fenech

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Please help our devastated county!!

We are over 70 and cannot stand to see the people who are homeless In our county due to Caldor Thank you for any help you can give.

Richard Gilbert

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Mar 24, 2022

HELP!!

Richard W Nichols

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Please honor your word, Mr. President.

Virginia Brown

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

Please help these families

Anonymous

Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show Mar 24, 2022

So many have lost their houses from this terrible fire. FEMA is there to help American citizens in their time of crisis.

SIGN PETITION

William b Threlkel II

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Calder fire victims deserve help for their loss

Ric Gatling

Mar 24, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 24, 2022

Help these families

Nancy Candee

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Caldor Fire victims deserve help for the financial, physical and emotional burden their losses have placed on them.

Addison Davidson

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

These 2 points of FEMA assistance and USFS denial are wrong. New interpretations on unchanged language is a convenience swap and is wrong. Grant relief and stand up to your words of help.

Kathryn Hamilton

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Please sign and help people in El Dorado County CA

Dennis Gagne

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Mr. President. Please reverse FEMA's decision to not award Caldor Fire victims any Federal assistance.

Hilde Schweitzer

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

This country was founded on the premise that all are created equal. When disasters happen, please assist every individually equally and fairly. Thank you for your guidance and help.

Katherine R Bryson

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

The Caldor fire has been devastating for us seniors living in Grizzly Flats. Being on a fixed income and having to replace everything we lost has really cut into our savings. The California fair plan did not pay out like any of us thought it would so even though we were covered we still came up short. Please give us the individual assistance so we can go on and live out our golden years not having to struggle. Not everyone that lives in California is rich!

Alan Ehrgott

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Marlene Green

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Victims of wildfire in El Dorado and other counties need assistance from FEMA!!

Anonymous

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

These people have suffered enough. Please help them rebuild their lives

CJ OBrien

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

PLEASE help the victims of this devastating fire.

Thanks so much

Nichole goulet

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

It is a shame this is not approved. This continues to be an issue in our beautiful state due to mismanagement of our forests. It's not acceptable to continue to turn a blind eye to the devastation every year here in our beautiful (and...very democratic state). Please take care of the people who voted you in office.

Linda Riley

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

Requesting assistance for the individuals in the path of the Caldor Fire in El Dorado County California. Many families lost their homes and are struggling to get back on their feet. A quick response would be greatly appreciated.

Sharon Durst

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

People need help NOW, not on government time.

Deb Kinney

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

We lost our home and are dismayed by the lack of action on behalf of the federal government to clean and address the affected area in a way that takes into account the environment, the people and the impact of fire. Please assist us.

Sandra Ollen

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

These people pay taxes and should be given federal assistance NOW!!!

Beth-A Hammack

Mar 24, 2022



Mar 24, 2022

upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

The residents of El Dorado County have suffered devastation from the Caldor fire. They deserve FEMA help. Thank you.

Vernon D Miller

Mar 24, 2022

Mar 24, 2022
upvote reply show

How can we provide assistance to non- citizens and to other countries and deny help for our own!!

Paige K Palombo

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23,
2022
upvote reply show

This is the right thing to do.

Angelica Settell

Mar 23, 2022

Mar
23,
2022
upvote reply show

It was a really bad fire.

Elizabeth Neilsen

Mar 23, 2022

Mar
23,
2022
upvote reply show

Thank you for helping.

Ron Hawley

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Our neighbors, homeowners, and patriots need this assistance. Please make this happen.

Daniel Jose

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

When is a disaster big enough, to qualify for assistance, from the agencies we fund? 1200homes sounds bi enough to me!

Michael Houlf

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

It is NOT RIGHT and UN-AMERICAN to turn down individuals asking for help.

Candis Donaldson

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

What a shame these people aren't being helped

SIGN PETITION

Please help these home owners that have lost everything please. Thank you

Donald Morrison

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

Please help

Ruth M Misevic

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

Not only were these citizens shortchanged on the Federal level, but were also disadvantaged at the local level due to typical political disparities/bias. Additionally fire insurance skyrocketed far beyond the means of many homeowners, with no alternatives to resolve immediately. Only State help via CA Fair Plan have provided any way to reduce these sudden costs. None of this burden is the fault of the vast majority of those homeowners. Please reconsider.

Matthew Jones

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

What is FEMA for if they aren't going to help out victims of a major disaster like this. This is where I want my hard earned tax dollars going.

Marian Washburn

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

Grizzly Flat folk urgently need Federal help.

Cindi Ehrgott

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

As a person who lost everything in this fire- ours was a residence on USFS land- I implore you to provide this much needed assistance. There is no justification for withholding the help for this specific catastrophic fire event. Many thanks.

Earl Holley

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

Please help our citizens and patriots they should come first

Allen Buhler

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23,

2022

Give these people help now

Nora Buhler

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23,

2022

These people need help now

Dr Valerie McKav

SIGN PETITION

Too little is often done too late to help those in need 'here at home.' Global politics, because of the threat of nuclear warfare, demand attention and that cannot be discounted. But helping those at home does a lot to ensure that sense and sensibility will prevail when the time comes to select a true and real leader for this country. Think ahead, Mr. President. Think ahead.

Timothy Thompson

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help the Caldor fire victims

Suzanne Kern

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

This was a horrible & devastating fire and these people need help, NOW!

Margaret A Toralti

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

Please make this happen, it was a horrifying time and these people need help!

John Kerhlikar

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

I thought the government believes homeless people need help.

Daniel Disalvi

Mar 23, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 23, 2022

Plesse

Dorothy Franceschini-Rohrer

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

It is the only fair thing to do. If other states get FEMA then California should also.

Anonymous

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

Caldor Fire Residents deserve help from FEMA.

Charles Bloss

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

This is our Hurricane and Tornado! We deserve what the rest of the country gets!!

Michael Moreno

Mar 23, 2022



Mar 23, 2022

upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

Aaron Bate

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

These people deserve help now!!!

Michele Turney

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help us

Wendy Thomas

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

As an El Dorado County Supervisor, I know firsthand how desperate the neighbors in Grizzly Flats are. Their entire community was destroyed, and 40% of those residents could not afford adequate insurance due to the outrageous cost of coverage. They have nothing to rebuild their lives, and we need you to overturn FEMA's decision and provide individual assistance, like you promised our CAO when you met him following the Caldor Fire. We respectfully ask you to make good on your promise to "take care of them".

Anonymous

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Hopefully they get the needed help.

Sandi Blinn

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

With housing already so short in the world, we need these many destroyed homes to be replaced . There are too many homeless even w/o this fire issue- usually not the fault of the homeowner.
Thank you for your consideration of this serious problem.

Carroll Hudson

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Help them help themselves.

Lynda Thomas

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Our neighbors and community need the help of our government.

James frank

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

It's the right thing to do

Friedhelm Peter

Mar 23, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Why pay taxes when we get empty promises

CYNTHIA J FREELAND

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Free up these funds for El Dorado County, President Biden. FEMA Administrator Deanne Criswell announced that additional federal disaster funding is available to eligible jurisdictions with Presidential major disaster and emergency declarations. The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022, H.R. 2471, authorized an increase to the standard 75% federal cost share to at least 90% for any emergency or major disaster declarations that were either issued or declared for incidents that occurred between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021.

Hilary Krogh

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Our family, as well as many of our neighbors, hosted fire evacuees for four weeks. It is heartbreaking to see those who lost their homes and beautiful community.

Ann Marie Duff

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

It's shameful to publicly promise assistance and do nothing to back it up. This was an entire community, of neighbors, family and friends who loved one another, looked out for each other and were violently torn apart by this disaster.

Gina Greene

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

We lost our home of 27 year's, we beg that you reverse your decision and help those in need.

naomi lurey

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

Give financial assistance to Caldor fire victims

Joanna Russell

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

I had many family members lose their home and I was evacuated for some time.

Tom King

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

The cabin I lived in for 3 1/2 years was lost in this fire. How is it that the community of Grizzly Flat can be denied FEMA (along with anyone outside of Grizzly Flat), while others are given basic FEMA assistance. The survivors of this fire deserve FEMA help!

Dana M Torok

Mar 23, 2022

Mar 23, 2022
upvote reply show

For my friends and family that deserve support and financial aid

SIGN PETITION

 upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

Please provide the people of this community the assistance they need and deserve

Ho Kim
Mar 23, 2022

 Mar 23, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

I lost home in Grizzly Flats, CA from the Caldor fire but no support from FEMA. Please help us!

Ronald Arnall
Mar 23, 2022

 Mar 23, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

These survivors deserve the FEMA help.

Arthur Quillen
Mar 23, 2022

 Mar 23, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

Please put politics aside and keep your promise.

Engracia Massa
Mar 23, 2022

 Mar 23, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

I sincerely hope that this petition makes a difference.

Tina Heinrich
Mar 23, 2022

 upvote [reply](#) [show](#)
Mar 23, 2022

Please!!!

Tina Nunez-Soto
Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

They need help. These people deserve the help.

CLARE GAVIN
Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22,
upvote [reply](#) [show](#) 2022

I lost my cabin in this fire.

Georgianne Knight
Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote [reply](#) [show](#)

Please assist our citizens in El Dorado County California President Biden. They are counting on you to overturn the FEMA decision so they can receive individual assistance. Thank you.

Lawrence Yates
Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Ana rosa Hernandez

Mar 22, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 22, 2022

Help please

Katherine Thornburgh

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Would this be denied in a Presidential Election Year? In a hurricane-struck beach city that brings in the tourist \$? What if it were Napa? Nope. It's El Dorado County - where regular people live, in a mud-term year.

Laurie A Lindenauer Brown

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Our people need help rebuilding our communities and making them fire safe.
Authorizing some Federal Assistance for Disaster unemployment (DUA) due to this Fire would also be helpful.

Patricia Clark

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help our neighbors from the devastating loss they have suffered from the. Caldor fire.

Patricia Clark

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help our neighbors from the devastating loss they have suffered from the. Caldor fire.

Deena Camilli

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Help these poor people who lost everything

Mary Bright

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please let El Dorado have individual assistance so they can rebuild.

Nanette Lewis

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please sign. I have friends who struggle today to survive this fire

Ivo Dachev

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Give the size and magnitude of the fire, and all of the inaction of the Governor agencies, we do deserve compensation

SIGN PETITION

I think is so sad to see that is taking this long for the people that went through this trumatic fire to receive the proper help ,to turn ashes into something beautiful again,may our Lord God help those in authority to help, to provide the help that the victims of this fire are crying out for .

Robin Cacioppo

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22,
upvote reply show 2022

Please help our people rebuild.

Brian Hall

Mar 22, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

Camino, CA resident.

Kyle Kuperus

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

The people of Grizzly Flats need the help! I have personally seen many people driven to homelessness who have no where to go, and no way to rebuild.

Lynn Gustafson

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Help our friends and neighbors!

RandiHerrod

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help these families get the help they need.

Cindy Moine

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please keep your word and help. These families need it NOW

Darlene Holland

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Help our county recover from this disaster.

Christopher A Titman

Mar 22, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

Please help.

Stacey Heston

Mar 22, 2022

⬅

SIGN PETITION

Please help!

Steven K Payne

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Recently I watched a news segment on KCRA 3 that made the case that this is a national issue that can only be legislative fixed by amending the emergency management law. The President as recorded in a news conference did say he would help the people of Grizzly Flat but obviously he did not mean what he said. The White House is not FEMA.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

Please and thank you

Diega R Diaz

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please provide individual assistance thru FEMA for the Caldor Fire victims

Linda Spadavecchia

Mar 22, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

please help.

Holly Anderson

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22,
upvote reply show 2022

Help these people please.

Frances

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Help these family get the assistance they need

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please reconsider and help these families

Paul Trammell

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

We need help to get our little community back.

Linda G Garrett

Mar 22, 2022

⬅
upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

Maureen Ringer

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please President Biden help the fire victims of El Dorado County, you promised to help and it has not been given.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Stop acting like you will do the right thing for the camera and actually take actions to do the right thing for these Americans. A promise is a promise.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

The Biden Administration needs to do what is Right for the People of the Caldor Fire. FEMA

Jeffrey Spencer

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

This fire was the creation of USFS dereliction in fire suppression. It is the responsibility of the government to make it right and help rebuild.

Patrick Haley

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

We lost our home at 4817 Mt Pleasant Drive Grizzly Flats Ca.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Catastrophic fire deserves FEMA help.

Stephanie Demsar

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

This was a devastating fire that came fast and without warning, the residents deserve help to rebuild.

Betty Allen

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22,

upvote reply show 2022

Please help all these people

gina posey

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

President Biden ..make good on your promise to provide the federal help needed

William Runyon

SIGN PETITION

Please help our fire victims temporary housing and food and health needs. Thank you William

James Roark

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please provide FEMA assistance so we can build Grizzly back

Joe Olson

Mar 22, 2022


upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

Please help

J Gillespie

Mar 22, 2022


upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

Keep your promise

Susan Smith

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22,
upvote reply show2022

Please help these people.

Joy vierra

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Caldor fire survivors deserve FEMA assistance

Viola Tiffer

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22,
upvote reply show2022

People are in need of help

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please grant individual assistance to the victims of this fire

Whitney Polls

Mar 22, 2022

 Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

My family and friends that have lost their homes deserves to have assistance as they try to rebuild their homes and lives.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022


upvote reply show
Mar 22, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

DO THE RIGHT THING. GRIZZLY FLATS WAS A " GEM" TO THOUSANDS. NOT JUST
LSKE TAHOE

Dawn Miller-Wuerthner

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

I am a victim of the Caldor fire which our president said would be handled. Nothing for those w no insurance or under insured. Its the states responsibility to take care of any and all tax payers. Especially since it looks like sheer neglect on states part that we parished in the first place. The responsibility to regenerate our mountains of on us. And the permitting and ridiculous rules to come back to the land we own is impossible without the help we were promised. And the two victims In jail that w out a trial or sufficient evidence should be let go. Scapegoats for those at fault. Don't let the faith we have left in our government be yet another joke on us. We still do and pay what ridiculous taxes we have to. Now you l need to do the jobs we voted you in . Save our untainted and fema needs to be available.

Jason Saldana

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

A lot of people lost everything.any were under insured due to the significantly high cost of insurance since the Paradise fire. These folks need assistance getting their lives back in order.

Robert Gracom

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Mr. President, why did you come here and then forget us ? ? We've received no news or information on what to do. This state has made it impossible to start life again. There are good people that you've forgotten here. Why would you forget us ? ? This makes it look like you were forced to see what happened. I was blessed to have kept my house, but my small village of neighbors were not. You have the chance to reverse the path this administration has taken. Man up and get these people back on the road to a somewhat normal life. Gavin Newsome has done nothing. PG&E has stolen everyone's wood so they can burn it in their biofuel plant. THIS IS WOOD YOUR PEOPLE COULD BE USING TO RE-BUILD WITH !!!!! I don't and have never expected much from you and your administration and on that note, I haven't been let down, but at least help your fellow Americans.
You came, you went, and you didn't do a damned thing. Man up and HELP.

Candance Flaming

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Mr president we lost all of the homes on our Ranch an original homestead in Grizzly Flats built in 1854. Seven houses on the Ranch were completely decimated on that tragic night with little to no insurance on our homes that have been in our family for generations. Our community has 240 uninsured families. 70% of the population had no insurance or was under insured, and 80% of our community was completely destroyed including our School, Church, Post office, and Fire department. You promised to take care of us and to help us after you flew over this devastating fire. Now all we ask is that you keep your promise and provide individual assistance to these families! We need your help! Please help this small rural and poverty stricken community Rise From The Ashes!!

Adam Reif

Mar 22, 2022

Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

If there was ever a place that needs FEMA help - this is it.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Please allow individual assistance to our community! Our people were so devastated and need help recovering. We still have so many homeless.

Peggy Zappen

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please reconsider helping these people who suffered great losses. Some that cannot be replaced.

Dave Iverson

Mar 22, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 22, 2022

Do it

Stefani Specht

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

My whole community was leveled. And no one seems to want to help or even care. We have all been struggling since august of 2020.

Roger Hodge

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

I did not lose our home many have due to the Calder Fire. Please reconsider assistance to those that lost their homes.

Janet Baumann

Mar 22, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 22, 2022

Please help!

Shelia williams

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please overturn fema's denial of individual assistance for the caldor Fire survivors. They deserve the help.

Theresa La Voie

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

The Caldrie fure devastated many homes the same as Paradise. These homeowners need and deserve help from FEMA. They are tax payers too.

David Dudley

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22,

upvote reply show2022

Please help those in need

Douglas Towner

Mar 22, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Our family property was burned over by the Caldor Fire. While we lost our family camp, we did not lose a home and are not seeking assistance for ourselves. However, all of our nearest neighbors with homes on inholding properties surrounded by National Forest lands lost their homes and are currently on their own to recover and rebuild. We ask that the FEMA decision be reconsidered on an individual claim basis to assist those requesting assistance.

Dennis Berg

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

seems a partisan based decision, sadly

Susan Hawkes

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help the people affested by the Caldor Fire

Janet Gruber

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Completely agree FEMA should offer individual help..My husband and I are disabled and on fixed income we don't qualify for a loan..I did not ask to be in this situation..

Lark Weston

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help the people who lost everything in the Caldor Fire!

Lisa wright

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please provide assistance to our county residents.

Patricia Quakenbush

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Please give assistance to these victims thru certainly need it

Shannon Murphy

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22, 2022

upvote reply show

Mr. President, please honor your word as you said on 9/13/21 and assist the the citizens of el dorado county with the relief those need so badly.

Robert Mccartney

Mar 22, 2022



Mar 22,

upvote reply show2022

I think it should be overturned

Jennifer Haun

Mar 22, 2022



..

SIGN PETITION

Please do the right thing

Isabel Castro

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Take care of citizens, because it's the right thing to do.

Anonymous

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help these unfortunate people. Thanks!

Donn Neher

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

WHY are homeowners in EL DORADO COUNTY being denied FEMA help? This appears to be an ongoing battle with the federal government. WHY is FEMA not following your assurance that "the people affected by the Caldor Fire would receive assistance." Come on President Biden -- stand by your word!

Jameela Gilmete

Mar 22, 2022

⬅ Mar 22, 2022
upvote reply show

My husband and I and our 3 children lost our home of 6 years as well as all our neighbors in Grizzly Flats. Almost every home there was a full time residence, and some had been for multiple generations. There were very few vacation cabins in this community, and we experienced the most loss. It was also not a high income community, and a huge majority of residents had no insurance or we're vastly underinsured. Please don't take income levels of wealthy cities like El Dorado Hills and South Lake Tahoe into consideration for the needs of this small town, because although we are in the same county, we are worlds apart. The disparity between FEMA approval for Eastern US disasters and Western US disasters feels disparaging in comparison.

Richard Wheeler

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Many of these folks lost everything they had and they need help now!!

Ali S

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

This town burned to the ground, literally. Without FEMA aid, there will be no recovery. Stop the suffering and save our gorgeous mountain town.

Charles Sherwood

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

We lost everything and were under insured.

Diana Tursky

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help the residents of Grizzly Flats. ca

SIGN PETITION

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

I lost everything I own and my insurance was supposed to kick in 2 days after the fire

Anonymous
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

All that have lost their homes in this county due to Caldor fire need and deserve this assurance! Many are living in tiny trailers or out of cars with no place rent in our overly saturated or over priced rental market! Their struggles have gone on far too long with no aid available. Even fresh water, showers and laundry all part of basic necessities are difficult! Assistance is long over due for these family who have lost everything and the rebuild is a very slow going process!

Jeff Carter
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

Grizzly Flats has been forgotten. You said this would not happen. Fix it. Please.

Jerry L Scher
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

Give them what their taxes pay for!

Greg Wilton
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

This has been such a tragedy for my wife a two daughters ages six and eight with no financial help at all ... we are asking please help the people of the caldor fire we need so much after losing everything.... Thank you

Cari McCracken
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

Please help us!

Jennifer Maratsos
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

Please help those without homeowners insurance

Larina Peters
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

This is why we pay exorbitant taxes so citizens can be helped! High insurance too

Muriel Collins
Mar 21, 2022

upvote  Mar 21, 2022
reply show

I will gladly sign this petition! These folks shouldn't have to go through this!! President Biden said he would take care of them, WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT???

SIGN PETITION

Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show

President Biden do the right thing...Grizzly Flats was destroyed and the community is suffering. Overturn FEMA's denial of individual assistance. Help each victim of the Caldor Fire. Thank you.

Lynne C
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

Please help our neighbors. They lost everything

June Vasquez
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show
Mar 21, 2022

Lost everything

Lauren Mahrt
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show
Mar 21, 2022

Renters

Dana Ellis
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

The community of Grizzly Flats was destroyed by the Caldor Fire. Many are displaced and have lost everything. The denial of this assistance makes no sense.

Joshua Feis
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

Keep the promise you made to our community!

Deborah White
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

Please do the right thing and help the victims of the Caldor fire.

Toni Carpenter
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

They absolutely need more help. We have a displaced couple living in a motorhome on our property. It's been 7 months.

Charlotte Kimball
Mar 21, 2022

 upvote  reply  show Mar 21, 2022

This has wiped out Grizzly Flats, we need our community back. Please help by overturning FEMA's denial of individual assistance. Thank you.

SIGN PETITION

These folks have lost all that they had and many did not have insurance. Please help them all.

Amanda Reinhard

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

These people need assistance. This is a must now!!!!

Elizabeth Freitas

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

We need assistance our town was destroyed. In your own words you promised to help.

Kelly Yamanishi

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Most homeowners who lost their homes to wildfires in California have qualified for individual assistance from FEMA. Those of us who lost homes in El Dorado County are being denied for reasons that make no sense. Our loss is the same, the cause of the loss is the same, the access--or lack thereof--to resource is the same, except for the inexplicable denial of FEMA individual assistance. El Dorado County deserves equal access with others who have experienced wild fire loss.

Kevin Forbey

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21,
upvote reply show 2022

Keep your promise to help.

Marie Veerkamp

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Those who lost their homes in the Caldor Fire should be provided individual assistance to rebuild their homes. Please make this happen!

Yolanda

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Why on earth would you ever deny anyone from the Caldor Fire? They didn't ask for that to happen. We seem to help everyone in the world except our own people of the US. Get out of this job if you don't have the heart to help others.

Anonymous

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

The feds failed this community, you have a responsibility to help them fix the disaster poor forest management has caused.

Jolene Gillespie

Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21,
upvote reply show 2022

Please keep your promise.

Michael George

SIGN PETITION

first time homeowner for 10 months at Grizzly Flats,
I apply at Fema then Denied.

Brenda Bryan

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please support the people of the Caldor fire.

Steven Schwarzbach

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Cabin owners are in a catch 22. Limited in what they can do before and after the fire but denied resources.

Jennifer Kanady

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

HELP EDC PLEASE!!!!

We are always getting BURNED...this was one of the WORST!!! SO MUCH LOSS

Cole S

Mar 21, 2022


upvote reply show
Mar 21, 2022

Patrick Higgins

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help Grizzly Flats citizens

Julie Wilson

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Our home was destroyed in the Caldor Fire

Susan Mascorella

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

That's to everyone who has supported those who have lost.

Bryon Hush

Mar 21, 2022

 Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please support rebuilding El Dorado county after the Caldor fite

Bonnie Hurst

Mar 21, 2022


upvote reply show
Mar 21, 2022

SIGN PETITION

Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Why do the people of the Caldor Fire, in El Dorado Count, CA, get treated differently then other fire victims. (Ex: Paradise).

Tiffany Devos
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Please help with individual assistance. This is absolutely crazy to be denied. I am a mother of 2 with a 1 person income. I cannot afford to build a new house even with insurance. My family is split in half to be able to live, I want us all back together in one house. Not separated or living in an rv. My children are suffering and now in therapy for sooo many reasons pertaining to this fire and loosing everything. Please help.

Patricia Kunakov
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Our home on Wooded Glen and this is a much needed protection for us

Floyd Knapp
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Thru no fault of theirs, they suffered tragic losses and need REAL HELP!

Barbara Rogers
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Please approve FEMA assistance to the victims of the Caldor Fire in El Dorado County CA. These people need your help Mr. President.

Edwin and Susan Hatch
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Total loss of our home, barns, goats and two cats... insurance is not even coming close to replacement value! On top of Excessive costs to bring replacement home up to codes! We need any and all help available!

Mark Hilles
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

Please sign it we need help

terry caudle
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

this was my primary home and I lost everything!!

Bill Yandell
Mar 21, 2022

upvote   Mar 21, 2022

So many people have been affected by this Caldor fire. Please do what's right for all involved.

SIGN PETITION

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help the community impacted by the fire. They should qualify for FEMA. This is what we pay our taxes for - safety nets for vulnerable citizens.

Don Ellis
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Every one in Grizzly Falts lost every thing in the Caldor Fire, and we need HELP.

Shanea Tucker
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

My family not only lost our home in this fire, but an ENTIRE community was destroyed. Please make this a declared FEMA disaster so the people of this community can get the help they NEED!!!

Anonymous
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Help these people as promised, or we won't be voting for you again. Thank you...

Wendy Keach
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Don't let this be another political photo op for you. You made a promise... make your people honor it.

Connie Hieb
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

We need these politicians to listen to our pleas.

Melody Meyer
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please help my neighbors by providing disaster assistance. We have so many homeless people in our country today; without federal assistance the victims of the Caldor fire will continue to add to that tragic number. Thank you very much for your aid in this matter.

Barbara Crawford
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

Please. There are many of us who have not and will not receive any assistance. Many are seniors and this situation is horrific for us.

Charlene Ank
Mar 21, 2022

⬅ Mar 21, 2022
upvote reply show

We need fema most people cant rebuild without it

SIGN PETITION

upvote reply show

Dear President Biden. Please keep your word. You said you would help the survivors of the Caldore fire. I have friends and family who have lost ever they own . We are counting on you., to do the right thing.

John Foltz

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

My cousin and her husband lost their only home in Grizzly Flats. This was not their vacation cabin.

CJ Welch

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

The lady at the OES had heard that FEMA based its reversal on our being mistakenly considered as El Dorado Hills and not El Dorado County. Big difference!

Josh Steele

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

My family has lost everything that we owned in the caldor fire with little to none assistance at all.

Julie Velebit

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

Please do the right thing and help us! Many of us lost our only homes, not vacation homes as previously thought. Please help us.

Julia Szumiel

Mar 21, 2022



upvote reply show

Mar 21, 2022

Please help!

Carla Castleberry

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

Just took a drive to Grizzly Flats complete devastation! These Human beings need and deserve help.

Leslie Alvarez

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

This is awful for our community! What good is FEMA if they aren't here to help!

Lynn Hannblom

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

Please help my community by helping my neighbors rebuild.

Victor D

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

SIGN PETITION

Kim Gustafson

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

We need help recovering!!! Please keep your word and offer of individual assistance.

Disalvi Kelly

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

We lost our house and everything we owned. We literally left with clothes on our back and animals. FEMA should have stepped in. We have gotten no help.

John Davey

Mar 21, 2022



Mar 21, 2022

upvote reply show

El Dorado County residents that were impacted by the Caldor Fire disaster deserve as much support as fire victims in other parts of California, or any other state. El Dorado County demands the same level of Federal and State support as provided to any other victims of fire disasters. President Biden, you verbally committed to help provide that Federal Support to victims in El Dorado County during your September 13, 2021 visit. El Dorado County is not asking for anything more than what other fire disaster victims have received. Please keep your word, and help our community heal.

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