

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

November 29, 2021

Dear President Biden,

We are writing in support of the Colville Confederated Tribes' (CCT) recent request for a Major Disaster Declaration, following extreme fire and straight-line winds that led to extensive damage on the Colville Indian Reservation from July 12, 2021 through September 24, 2021.

Due to the severity and magnitude of the disaster and damages, the CCT has requested assistance from all categories within the Public Assistance Program, including debris removal, emergency protective measures, roads and bridges, water control facilities, public buildings and contents, public utilities, as well as parks, recreational, and other facilities.

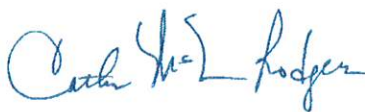
We are in full support of this request and ask that it receive full and fair consideration.

The Colville Indian Reservation sustained damage from five uncontrolled fires that burned between July and September. The Chuweah Creek and Summit Trail Fires grew quickly and merged with smaller fires. When they were finally contained, another storm system passed through the region and ignited additional blaze on Reservation lands. Despite full mutual aid response from surrounding fire districts, the CCT lost major power and communications infrastructure, primary homes, outbuildings, and vehicles and equipment. Now, much of the Reservation is at risk of flooding and erosion.

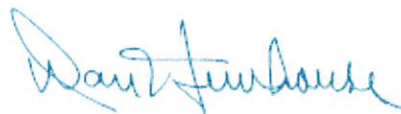
The damage sustained is beyond the capability of the CCT to address on its own. Again, we request that the CCT's request for a Major Disaster Declaration and aid from Public Assistance Programs receive full and fair consideration.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Liz Payne (Liz.Payne@mail.house.gov) or Stephanie McBath (Stephanie.McBath@mail.house.gov) in our offices.

Sincerely,



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress