



CITY OF BIGGS

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U.S. Representative Doug LaMalfa
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2023

Dear Congressman LaMalfa,

I write to express support for H.R. 1586 - the Forest Protection and Wildland Firefighter Safety Act of 2023.

Wildfires impact the City of Biggs in many ways. We have witnessed several fires originating on Federal Lands that have displaced people and destroyed property in the last 5 years. The Forest Service needs to do more to stop catastrophic wildfires in California.

I wish to express support for H.R. 1586 to exempt firefighting from potential Clean Water Act regulations for federal, state, local, and tribal firefighting agencies.

Fire retardant is an essential tool used to contain or slow the spread of wildfires. Currently the Forest Service and other agencies are operating under the assumption that a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is not required for the use of fire retardant because the regulations specifically state that fire control is a "non-point source silvicultural activity" and communications from EPA dating back to 1993 indicate a permit is not required.

Sincerely,

