

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 21, 2021

The Honorable Thomas J. Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Debra Haaland
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Haaland:

We write to you in your capacity as co-chairs of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet, created by President Donald J. Trump in Executive Order 13976 of Jan 14, 2021, “Establishing the Wildland Fire Management Policy Committee.”¹ As this devastating wildfire season has demonstrated, the efforts of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet are more important than ever.

The purpose of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet is to provide “a single focal point of responsibility for policy leadership and accountability for cost controls” for Federal wildland fire management. Per Executive Order 13976, the Wildland Fire Subcabinet is required to meet quarterly. It is our understanding that no such meetings have occurred in the first three quarters of this year.

The order established an April 14, 2021 deadline for the Wildland Fire Subcabinet to “identify all such Federal interagency working groups and provide recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on coordinating and consolidating these Federal interagency working groups.”

Moreover, the order established a July 13, 2021 deadline for the Wildlife Fire Subcabinet to “develop, publish, and implement a strategic plan addressing the issues described in this section [and] develop specific measurable goals, performance targets, and dashboard reporting for consideration by each Federal agency represented on the Wildland Fire Subcabinet, using common data standards at the wildfire and hazardous fuels program level.”

We would like to request the following information by November 4, 2021:

- Have any official meetings of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet occurred? If so, when did they occur and who was in attendance?

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/01/21/2021-01476/establishing-the-wildland-fire-management-policy-committee>

- If any meetings of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet have occurred, please provide meeting minutes or notes from the meetings.
- Are there any planned meetings of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet for the remainder of the calendar year? If so, when will they be occurring?
- Please share the Wildland Fire Subcabinet's recommendations, which are required by Section 4 of Executive Order 13976 to be completed not later than April 14, 2021.
- Please share the Wildland Fire Subcabinet's strategic plan, which is required by Section 5 of Executive Order 13976 to be completed not later than July 13, 2021.
- Will the Wildland Fire Subcabinet be providing an annual update to the relevant parties on the status of the strategic plan and the specific actions identified in this order, as required by Section 6 of Executive Order 13976?

The magnitude of the wildfire crisis afflicting our western states requires a highly coordinated federal strategy. We urge you to convene the Wildland Fire Subcabinet, fulfill your obligations under Executive Order 13976, and develop and implement a strategic plan to address the wildfire crisis.

We hope that you take your responsibility as co-chairs of the Wildland Fire Subcabinet seriously and look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,




Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



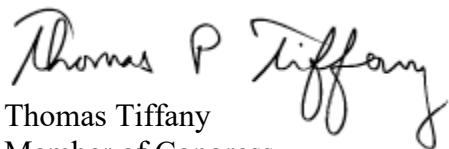
Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Thomas Tiffany
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress



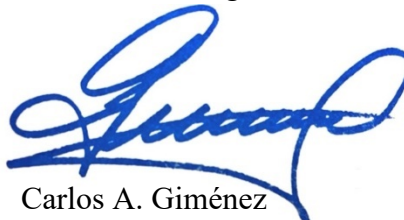
Young Kim
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
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Barry Moore
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Carlos A. Giménez
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Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Robert B. Aderholt
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