

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 28, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to expeditiously consider the enclosed requests for emergency FY 2002 supplemental appropriations for the Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within the Department of the Interior.

These supplemental requests would provide both the Forest Service and BLM with the necessary resources for wildland fire suppression and emergency rehabilitation activities.

I hereby designate these amounts totaling \$825 million as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of these actions are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with her comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Hastert", written over a faint rectangular stamp.

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR

August 27, 2002

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration are requests for emergency FY 2002 supplemental appropriations for the Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) within the Department of the Interior.

This emergency funding is needed due to the extraordinary and unanticipated expense directly related to responding to fires on Federal public lands this year. The 2002 fire season has been one of the worst in modern history. Specifically, these supplemental requests would provide the Forest Service with an additional \$636 million and BLM with an additional \$189 million for wildland fire suppression and emergency rehabilitation activities. The proposals also contain language that would allow the Forest Service and BLM to reimburse accounts from which funds have been transferred this year for use in firefighting.

I recommend that you designate these amounts as emergency requirements pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior in recommending that you transmit the proposals to the Congress.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy P. Dorn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nancy P. Dorn

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

Wildland Fire Management

For an additional amount to cover necessary expenses for wildfire suppression and emergency rehabilitation activities of the Forest Service, \$636,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such funds shall also be available to reimburse accounts from which funds were transferred for such purposes in fiscal year 2002: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

This proposal would provide an emergency supplemental appropriation for the Forest Service for wildland fire suppression and emergency rehabilitation of burned areas. This proposal would also provide the Forest Service with the authority to reimburse accounts from which funds have been transferred this year for use in firefighting.

The entire amount has been designated by the President as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wildland Fire Management

For an additional amount to cover necessary expenses for wildfire suppression and emergency rehabilitation activities of the Bureau of Land Management, \$189,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such funds shall also be available to reimburse accounts from which funds were transferred for such purposes in fiscal year 2002: Provided further, That the entire amount is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

This proposal would provide an emergency supplemental appropriation for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for wildland fire suppression and emergency rehabilitation of burned areas. This proposal would also provide BLM with the authority to reimburse accounts from which funds have been transferred this year for use in firefighting.

The entire amount has been designated by the President as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.