

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2018

The Honorable Brock Long
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Administrator Long:

We write in support of the State of Montana's major disaster declaration request. Montana experienced heavy spring flooding this year that severely impacted communities and infrastructure across our state. Federal assistance is urgently needed for cleanup and recovery efforts, and we urge you to prioritize the needed resources should the State's request be granted.

A variety of conditions contributed to the flooding in Montana. Snowpack in our mountains was significantly higher than seasonal average and the snowpack in the high plains carried unusually long into the spring. A colder than average winter, followed by heavy rains and rapidly warming temperatures in the spring, led to flooding that affected homes, schools, and businesses throughout the state.

Governor Bullock requested a major disaster declaration on June 18, 2018. The State of Montana has specifically requested Hazard Mitigation statewide and Public Assistance for Blaine, Carbon, Golden Valley, Hill, Liberty, Missoula, Musselshell, Petroleum, Pondera, Powell, Toole, and Valley Counties.

Montana has endured many disasters and emergencies throughout the past two years, and the State has exceeded its capability to respond. Montana's affected communities cannot afford delays in funding and urgently need federal resources to restore their way of life. We urge you to approve the State's request and look forward to working with you and the Administration to assist with Montana's current and future recovery efforts. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



STEVE DAINES
United States Senator



GREG GIANFORTE
United States Representative