

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 10, 2000

The Speaker of the

House of Representatives

Sir:

In accordance with provisions of P.L. 106-246, the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2000, I hereby request the following:

**Department of the Interior**

- Bureau of Land Management, Wildland Fire Management: \$50,000,000

These funds will be used to address urgent needs arising from the consequences of the severe and numerous fires on Federal public lands throughout the western United States.

I hereby designate the above request as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,



Enclosure



THE DIRECTOR

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

August 10, 2000

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available previously appropriated contingent emergency funds for the Department of the Interior (DOI). Your approval of this request would make available \$50 million to fight wildland fires and rehabilitate fire-damaged Federal public lands in the western United States. This request is in addition to the \$150 million that you made available to the Department of Agriculture on August 8th to address urgent firefighting needs.

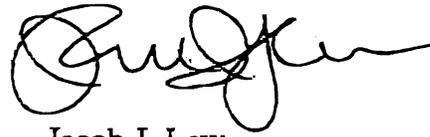
P.L. 106-246, the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2000, provided \$200 million to DOI for emergency wildland fire management activities. Upon enactment of P.L. 106-246, you made \$150 million of this amount available to address needs arising from the consequences of fires on Federal public lands.

Major recent fires in western States have resulted in costs that greatly exceed those of the average firefighting season, and new fires are being started daily by lightning and other causes. Funds currently available to DOI for wildland fire operations are insufficient to cover the expenses estimated to be incurred during this fiscal year. The funds now requested to be made available would support emergency wildland fire operations, including fire suppression and rehabilitation of fire-damaged lands.

I recommend that you designate this request for \$50 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be required.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Secretary of the Interior in recommending that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jacob J. Lew  
Director

Enclosure

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED  
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

**Department of the Interior (DOI)**

Bureau of Land Management::

Wildland Fire Management ..... \$50,000,000

P.L. 106-246, the Emergency Supplemental Act, 2000, provided \$200 million to DOI for emergency wildland fire management activities. The availability of this funding was made contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement. Of this amount, \$150 million was designated as an emergency requirement and made available upon enactment of P.L. 106-246.

Major recent fires in the western United States have resulted in costs that greatly exceed those of the average firefighting season. At this time, the remaining \$50 million in contingent funding is required to address urgent needs arising from the consequences of the severe and numerous fires on Federal public lands throughout the western United States. This funding will support emergency wildland fire operations, including fire suppression and rehabilitation of fire-damaged lands.