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On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1541
Topic:

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash and Members of the committee,

Fossil Fuels are a major pollution factor. My past work on disasters for both the USDA Forest Service and The American Red Cross, I have had a front row seat in both the remediation work and the cost bearing reports which have been submitted for contract payments. For this testimonial, the focus will be on wildfires that was over the limit of 100K acres, causing a trigger to bring in the post-containment BAER [Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation] Team:

Establish a command center Set up all local integrated services with contacts, phone, email, text numbers Set up crew calendar with number of staffers needed Project type of contractor services will be needed for rehabilitation work i.e. Geologist, Hydrologist, Land and Air crew, Fire crew, Soil scarification crew, road engineers, heavy equipment drivers, helicopter and fixed wing operators, all dependent on the existing stage of the fire containment. Hiring and establishing teams to accomplish the tasks. Local prisoners can be used as the fire containment crews that will live in tents. [750 men and women worked on this group and on this fire.] Engineers, and other contractors [250 for the balance of staffing leadership and adjunctive crews.] Order Army gear from approved sources and have on hand when the fire containment group arrives. Make sure group has access to food, water and sanitation facilities close by... Get multiple motel rooms for team leaders , arrange with motel to meals and shuttles to the Fire Control Site Order food trucks to serve 2 meals, breakfast and dinner, per day to feed to capacity 1000 people, crew and adjunctive contractors, laborers, fire planners, hydrologists, soil engineers, accountants 3. You get the idea. Three accountants are there to keep tabs on the contracts signed, and dollars which will be needed to pay for all these adjustive services, post-fire rehabilitation. Those numbers and dollars are collected after the fire is contained and rehabilitated. Some of these contract take more than a year to payoff.

A Superfund is needed now, to be prepared for these disasters and others which disrupt communities, destroy homes, building, pollute our air and cause health issues, and not least of all cost lots of money that simply gets burned up in smoke.

Thank you,
Laura Dawson