

**Town of Malden, WA**  
P.O. Box 248  
204 W. Moreland  
Malden, WA 99149

**Pine Creek Community Restoration**  
Long Term Recovery Organization  
212 W. Moreland  
Malden, WA 99149

December 8, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We hope this letter finds you and your family well during this holiday season. Please extend our best holiday wishes to all of them.

On behalf of the Town of Malden, WA., and the Pine Creek Community Restoration Long Term Recovery Organization (LTRO), we write to you today to follow-up on the letters from Washington Governor Jay Inslee and our Washington Congressional delegation requesting both a Federal disaster declaration as well as Public and Individual Assistance for the eligible counties including Whitman County. Over Labor Day, our communities felt the devastating impact of an unprecedented wildfire that reduced our communities to only memories to the people who once lived here. Over 85 percent of our homes were destroyed and nearly 60 percent of these were uninsured or underinsured. Our entire way of life has been disrupted and the community we all love so much has been taken away from us.

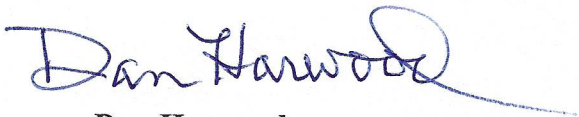
Despite all this, we celebrate this way of life and continue the great American tradition of self-reliance and independence. Nevertheless, we are struggling every day because of the overwhelming challenges we all face trying to rebuild our lives and our communities. For instance, Malden resident Jim Jacobs, a retired construction worker and veteran, lost his home

and all his possessions with no insurance. Shortly thereafter, he lost his wife and currently resides in a motorhome on his property. Through all of this, he continues to be grateful for the support of his neighbors and generous donations of others. Another resident, Vanessa Place, a wife and mother of four also serves as the Malden Town librarian and a member of the LTRO. Besides the library burning down, her family lost their home and possessions. The family of six is living in a modest RV until they can plan a more permanent future. But they do plan their future here and nowhere else.

These are but two of the stories of our residents. We have many others with similar struggles and needs that we're trying to address. All of this combined with the reality of the current pandemic has meant that our recovery and support efforts have been made much more difficult. We are committed to rebuilding our communities and restoring our lives. However, without your help this may not be possible.

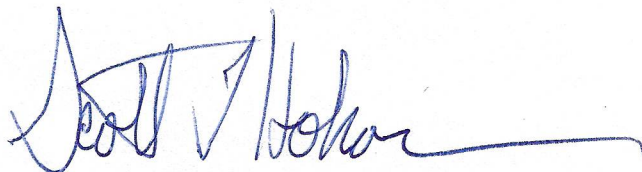
We respectfully ask for your careful and timely consideration of these earlier disaster declaration and assistance requests on our behalf. Please do the right thing. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



**Dan Harwood**

Mayor of Malden



**Scott Hokanson**

Director

Pine Creek Community Restoration LTRO

**Cc: WA Congressional Delegation – via electronic copy**

**WA Governor Jay Inslee – via electronic copy**