



## Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire Common Questions

QUESTION	ANSWER
What is the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire Assistance Act?	President Biden signed this Act into law on September 30, 2022, allocating \$2.5 billion to the people and businesses directly impacted by the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire and subsequent floods. This appropriation is intended to cover 100% of the damages sustained by New Mexicans.
Why would the federal government pay me?	The Hermit's Peak Fire resulted from a United States Forest Service (USFS) prescribed burn that spread outside the project boundary. The Calf Canyon Fire emerged from a dormant fire on federal property around the same time, and the two fires merged. The USFS accepted responsibility and apologized for the fires. Because the fires were caused by a federal agency, the federal government must pay for the resulting damage.
What losses are recoverable?	Whether you are the owner or tenant of a residential or commercial property, the purpose of the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire Assistance Act is to help you recover all tangible and intangible losses incurred by the fires. These losses may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Property loss;</li><li>· Loss of subsistence (hunting, fishing, timbering, etc.);</li><li>· Business loss (uncompensated financial loss);</li><li>· Financial loss incurred in the recovery process (lost wages, relocation expenses, increased insurance and mortgage interest costs); and</li><li>· Additional loss (erosion, tree planting costs, newly required flood insurance, pet loss and personal injury).</li></ul>
Are erosion or flooding losses recoverable?	Yes, but these types of losses may require a detailed analysis by experts. Our team will review the evidence and work with experts to demonstrate you are entitled to compensation for flooding and erosion.
Is documenting my losses necessary?	Yes. If you suffered injury as a result of the Hermit's Peak/Calf Canyon Fire or subsequent flooding, you must file a claim supported by documentation, or the federal government will not compensate you for your damages. While you may or may not have extensive documentation surrounding your losses, we suggest you at least write them down. Although this exercise may be strenuous and stressful, we are here to help, and doing so helps assign value to your loss and aids us in maximizing your recovery.



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Is this a lawsuit?	Not necessarily. Claims for loss will be filed with the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") first. If you aren't happy with FEMA's initial decision on the amount of compensation you are owed, we can file an Administrative Appeal. If the result of the Administrative Appeal is still not satisfactory, we can either enter into arbitration with FEMA, or file a lawsuit.
What happens if I choose not to file a claim?	Your right to recover for the damage you sustained because of the actions of the USFS could be lost. In order to benefit from the \$2.5 billion set aside for affected New Mexicans under the Hermit's Peak Fire Assistance Act, you must report your injuries to FEMA by November 14, 2024.
Why should I hire an attorney?	To build a solid, successful case so that you're compensated to the fullest extent possible for each and every type of injury you sustained. Flint Cooper attorneys specialize in filing claims and lawsuits against the federal government. Flint Cooper is here to relieve your burden, help recover your losses and ensure the process is as simple as possible. Representation by an experienced law firm, like Flint Cooper, is the best way to recover your damages.
Will this cost me?	No. Clients are not required to pay any out-of-pocket, upfront fees and zero expenses unless your case is won. Flint Cooper represents all of its clients on a contingency fee basis, and only gets paid when your claim is successfully resolved. If our team wins your case, our fee is a percentage of the award. You will, however, never receive a bill from us.
Why Flint Cooper?	Our team is passionate about holding the federal government accountable. Our team of experienced attorneys has successfully represented landowners across the country against the federal government. Our team will handle your claim for you and keep you updated throughout every step of the process.
How can I get in touch with Flint Cooper?	If you would like to discuss your claim and understand your rights in more detail, please contact the firm toll-free at +1.866.816.7383, via email at <a href="mailto:fires@flintcooper.com">fires@flintcooper.com</a> , or schedule a time with the team to meet with you at your home or property.



Welcome to Flint Cooper. If you are interested in our firm representing you, then please use your mobile device and simply scan the QR code to learn more or sign up now within seconds.