



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

DOI WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM POLICY MEMORANDUM No. 2024-009

To: Director, Bureau of Land Management
Director, National Park Service
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
Director, U.S. Geological Survey
Stephen G. Elmore for Jeffery Rupert

From: Jeffery Rupert, Director, Office of Wildland Fire

Subject: Additional Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)

Due Date: Does not apply

Effective Date: September 6, 2024

Expiration Date: Remains in effect unless rescinded or modified.

Purpose: This Policy Memorandum (PM) provides information and direction regarding the third round of funding allocations during Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 for implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL), Public Law (P.L.) 117-58.

Background: The direction in this PM supports the Department of the Interior’s (Interior) continued implementation of BIL’s Wildland Fire Management (WFM) provisions. This PM covers the third round of approvals of BIL funding allocations during FY 2024. This PM’s approved allocations and guidance are for Preparedness, Fuels Management, Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR), and the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP). The allocations for Preparedness are from FY 2024 appropriations. The allocations for Fuels Management are from FY 2024 and FY 2025 appropriations. The allocations for BAR and JFSP are from FY 2025 appropriations. Approved allocations of appropriations for FY 2025 will be available for transfer to bureaus beginning in the first quarter of FY 2025.

Coordination: The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) consulted bureaus and offices participating in Interior’s WFM program in developing the allocations covered by this PM.

Scope: This PM applies to budget allocations and execution for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the National Park Service (NPS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), OWF, and any other bureaus or offices that receive WFM BIL funding allocations

approved through this PM, including through a reimbursable services agreement.

Existing Policy Affected:

This PM relates to the following other PMs for allocations and execution of BIL funding:

- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006](#) (June 3, 2022),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-007](#) (July 7, 2022),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-008](#) (September 15, 2022),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-002](#) (November 18, 2022),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-006](#) (March 28, 2023),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-007](#) (July 11, 2023),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-008](#) (September 6, 2023),
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2024-002](#) (November 17, 2023), and
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2024-005](#) (April 5, 2024).

Authority: Departmental Manual Part 620 Wildland Fire Management, as amended by DOI Wildland Fire Program PM 2023-007, and BIL (P.L. 117-58)

Timeframe: This PM applies to requirements of, and funding made available by, [P.L. 117-58](#). The allocations of funding detailed in this PM are from appropriations made available beginning in FY 2024 and FY 2025. The funds are available until expended.

Policy:

Budget Allocations: See Table 1 (below) for new approved allocations of appropriations from P.L. 117-58 for FY 2024 and FY 2025, by bureau or office, to implement BIL. These funds will be available in addition to unobligated balances of previously approved allocations of BIL funding. This PM's allocations are for the following purposes (all references are to Division D, Title VIII, of P.L. 117-58, except if indicated otherwise):

- **Preparedness:** Training, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(7)(ii);
- **Fuels Management:** Investments and projects to be completed under the authority of BIL Section 40803(c)—subsections 13 (prescribed fire), 14 (fuelbreaks and other control locations), and 15 (employment of laborers)¹— and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”;
- **BAR:** Activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(16) of Title VIII, Division D and funding appropriated by Title VI of Division J of BIL under the heading “Department-Wide Programs, Wildland Fire Management”; and
- **JFSP:** Activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(9)(A).

¹ Appropriations authorized by section 40803(c)(15) may only be expended for projects on Federal lands.

OWF notifies bureaus of Treasury transaction numbers once transfers are completed. Bureaus and offices should obligate funding consistent with policy guidance and direction provided by DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006 (see the link above), which includes guidelines on administrative costs and reporting requirements.

Commission Recommendations: These allocations are consistent with and support implementation of several recommendations of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission, as documented in its [September 2023 report](#), including:

- Improving the training and development of wildland firefighters;
- Expanding wildland fire partnerships and collaboration, including for incident response, fuels management, and post-fire recovery;
- Increasing fuels management to reduce the risks and mitigate the impacts of hazardous fuels and wildfires;
- Expanding the use of beneficial fire, including prescribed fire and cultural burning;
- Increasing post-fire recovery initiatives;
- Engaging in more cross-boundary, cross-jurisdictional fuels management and burned area rehabilitation to support the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy;
- Strengthening the resilience of communities and ecosystems to the threat of wildfire; and
- Enhancing wildland fire research and science.

Preparedness: This PM approves the allocation of \$3,095,000 of the funding appropriated for FY 2024 for Preparedness that remains unallocated, as indicated in Table 1 (below) and for the following purposes:

- Workshops and Training (OWF): This PM approves the allocation of \$200,000 to OWF for the office to provide program management support during FYs 2024 and 2025 to the National Wildland Fire Workforce Development Program. The Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) approved this support through at least FY 2025.
- Workshops and Training (BLM): This PM also approves the allocation of \$2,895,000 to BLM for contracting costs (\$2,500,000) and FY 2025 personnel labor costs (\$395,000) for Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM). To date, IFEC has approved a total \$28,960,000 for IPTM through FY 2026, including \$27,500,000 for contracting costs. This allocation brings the total allocated to date for both contracting and personnel costs to \$20,065,000 (\$19,000,000 for contracting costs and \$1,065,000 for personnel costs).

Fuels Management: This PM approves the allocation of all of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for FY 2024 for Fuels Management that remains unallocated and \$130,485,000 of the \$164,726,000 appropriated for FY 2025 for Fuels Management. The approved allocations are as indicated in Table 1 (below) and for the following purposes:

- BIL Program Management Office (PMO) Central Assessment (OWF): This PM approves the allocation of \$352,000 of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for FY 2024 to OWF to pay the FY 2024 central assessment to the WFM program by the BIL PMO for Interior offices supporting

BIL implementation department-wide;

- Personnel Support for BIL Implementation (BIA, BLM, NPS, and OWF): This PM approves the allocation of a total \$660,000 of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for FY 2024 for personnel support to work on BIL implementation, including:
 - \$60,000 to NPS for personnel support the bureau provided to the WFM program through a personnel detail to OWF to work on BIL implementation;
 - \$150,000 to BLM for FY 2025 costs of the staff position that is developing an interagency agreement or memorandum of understanding with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, establishing tracking mechanisms both within Interior and with USDA Forest Service, and tracking the exchange of resources and associated expenditures for cross-boundary fuels management;
 - \$150,000 each to BIA and BLM for personnel support the bureaus will be providing to the WFM program to work on tracking of BIL implementation, including the transition to the Interior Fuels and Post-fire Reporting System (IFPRS); and
 - \$150,000 to OWF for information technology personnel support to work on tracking of BIL implementation.

National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center (BIA and FWS): This PM approves the allocation of \$2,789,000 of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for FY 2024 to support the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center (NIPFTC), as approved by IFEC. Initially, the approved allocation for FWS is \$970,000 and the approved allocation for BIA is \$215,000. The remaining \$1,604,000 will stay in the WFM Parent account until the program identifies bureau needs consistent with the approved plan.

The initial allocation to FWS (\$970,000) includes funding for:

- \$735,000 for three staff positions—(1) the director, (2) the current operations specialist, and (3) a second operations specialist position to be filled—and related operational costs including such things as travel, training, and supplies;
- \$205,000 for logistical support for Western training, including program supplies and equipment for the Western hubs of the NIPFTC and a cache of training supplies for future workshops and training; and
- \$30,000 for FWS to enter into a support agreement with the National Fire Equipment System for a cache of personal protective equipment for students at all workshops and field modules.

The initial allocation to BIA (\$215,000) provides funding for one prescribed fire training staff position and related operational costs including such things as travel, training, and supplies.

The remaining \$1,604,000—which will stay in the WFM Parent account until it is needed—includes:

- \$1,149,000 for student, cadre, and staff support for NIPFTC, including an estimated:
 - \$157,000 for an interagency fuels academy;
 - \$292,000 for agency administrative workshops; and
 - \$700,000 for fire leadership modules; and

- \$455,000 for seven detail assignments not to exceed 120 days each to provide administrative support, fill in for cadre positions, and assist with developing new training materials and providing operational support for NIPFTC programs and activities. IFEC also approved allocating additional BIL funding for the NIPFTC for FY 2026.
- Designated Funding for Tribal Contract Support (BIA): This PM approves the allocation of \$4,972,738 of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for FY 2024 to BIA to fund the contract support costs of 638 contracted and self-governance compacted Tribal wildland fire programs in implementing BIL fuels management.
- Projects/Programs of Work (beginning FY 2025; BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS): Consistent with Section 40803(b) and (c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of up to a total \$166,945,000 to BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS for additional Fuels Management projects to begin in FY 2025. These allocations include \$36,394,000 of the \$45,168,000 in funding appropriated for Fuels Management for FY 2024 that remains unallocated and \$130,551,000 of the \$164,726,000 in appropriations for FY 2025. OWF will transfer funds after work has been identified and approved in IFPRS. For planning purposes, preliminary bureau allocations for each BIL fuels treatment/activity type through FY 2026 will be provided in the first BIL PM in FY 2025.

Authorized Fuels Management Purposes: Section 40803(b) of BIL directs the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, by September 30, 2027, within Federal or Tribal lands identified as having very high wildfire hazard potential to “conduct restoration treatments and improve the Fire Regime Condition Class of 10,000,000 acres that are located in (1) the wildland-urban interface; or (2) a public drinking water source area.” Additionally, DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006 (see the link above), provides advice on augmenting or reimbursing accounts that receive resources from the annual appropriations process as well as administrative and programmatic costs, including support for adding staff to implement BIL-funded fuels work.

Fuels Management Reporting Requirements: Under [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-003](#) (March 20, 2023), bureaus must report fuels accomplishments within 30 days of the completion of a treatment or other activity. For consistency with grazing work funded by regular appropriations, bureaus may only report BIL-related grazing accomplishments consistent with direction provided in [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2024-001](#) (October 27, 2023).

Office of Inspector General Audit: During FY 2023 and continuing in FY 2024, Interior’s Office of Inspector General (OIG) began auditing Interior’s implementation of BIL’s Fuels Management provisions. In October 2023, OIG issued a notice of potential findings and included recommendations to improve program oversight and compliance with the requirements of BIL. OWF is working with BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS to develop updated planning and reporting policies to address the findings and recommendations.

Table 1
New Approved Allocations of Funding from the
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

| Activity or Subactivity | BIA | BLM | FWS | NPS | OWF | WFM Parent Account/ B | TOTAL by Activity or Subactivity |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Preparedness, Subtotal | 0 | 2,895 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 3,095 |
| Workshops and Training | 0 | 2,895 | 0 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 3,095 |
| Fuels Management, Subtotal | 38,059 | 84,607 | 26,179 | 24,768 | 502 | 1,604 | 175,719 |
| Interior BIL Program Management Office Central Assessment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 352 | 0 | 352 |
| Personnel Support for WFM Program BIL Implementation | 150 | 300 | 0 | 60 | 150 | 0 | 660 |
| National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center | 215 | 0 | 970 | 0 | 0 | 1,604 | 2,789 |
| Tribal Contract and Administrative Support | 4,973 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,973 |
| Projects/Programs of Work (beginning FY 2025) | 32,721 | 84,307 | 25,209 | 24,708 | 0 | 0 | 166,945 |
| Burned Area Rehabilitation, Subtotal | 11,050 | 11,230 | 4,460 | 4,960 | 1,854 | 22,375 | 55,929 |
| Projects/Programs of Work (beginning FY 2025) | 11,050 | 10,930 | 3,060 | 4,960 | 1,854 | 0 | 31,854 |
| Contracting Officers | 0 | 300 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300 |
| FWS Projects | 0 | 0 | 1,400 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,400 |
| Plant Materials Development/ B | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 20,000 | 20,000 |
| Plant Materials Coordinator | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 175 | 175 |
| Previously Approved 5-10 year | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,200 | 2,200 |
| Joint Fire Science Program, Subtotal | 0 | 1,443 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,443 |
| TOTAL by Bureau or Account | 49,109 | 100,175 | 30,639 | 29,728 | 2,556 | 23,979 | 236,186 |

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table.

B/ Projects submitted for plant materials will be compiled, reviewed, and prioritized in July 2025 for funding transfers from the WFM Parent Account to bureau accounts.

C/ OWF will transfer amounts from these approved allocations when eligible projects are identified and approved by the bureau.

Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR): This PM approves the allocation of \$55,929,000 of the \$72,323,000 in appropriations for FY 2025 for BAR that will become available October 1, 2024, for activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(16) and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management.” All actions and funding must comply with the planning and reporting requirements described in [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM 2023-004](#) (March 20, 2023), which provides direction on reporting post-fire planning and accomplishments. These allocations are as indicated in Table 1 (above) and for the following purposes:

- Projects/Programs of Work (beginning FY 2025; BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS, and OWF): Consistent with Section 40803(c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of a total of \$31,854,000 to BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS, and OWF for additional BAR projects to begin in FY 2025, as identified in the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS). The allocations include \$1,854,000 for six additional Bureau of Reclamation BAR projects, in California, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington.
- Contracting Officers (BLM): This PM approves the allocation of \$300,000 to BLM to provide funding for two contracting officers to continue to provide departmentwide contracting support for post-fire rehabilitation.
- Post-Fire Recovery Projects (FWS): This PM approves the allocation of \$1,400,000 to FWS to provide funding for additional BAR projects.
- Plant Materials Development: This PM approves the allocation of \$20,000,000 for investments in strategic plant materials development for such things as nurseries, seed collection, and production. The funding will remain in the WFM Parent account until eligible projects are approved. Bureaus will nominate plant materials projects through their bureau post-fire coordinator by May 31, 2025. The Interior Burned Area Emergency Response Coordinators will review and prioritize the nominated projects. Based on that review and prioritization, OWF will allocate funding from the WFM Parent account to bureau accounts in September 2025.
- Plant Materials Coordinator: This PM approves the allocation of \$175,000 for a plant materials coordinator for the program’s plant materials development efforts. This funding will stay in the WFM Parent account until the lead bureau or office is determined and the position is announced.
- Treatments 5-10 years Post-Fire Recovery: This PM approves the allocation of \$2,200,000 for post-fire recovery from five to ten years after a wildfire. OWF will transfer the funds from the WFM Parent account as needed once a bureau has approved projects and programs of work and entered them in NFPORS.

JFSP (BLM): This PM approves the allocation of all of the \$1,443,000 in appropriations for FY 2025 for JFSP to BLM for activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(9)(A). This funding will become available October 1, 2024.

Table 2 (below) shows the total amounts of approved allocations of BIL funding to date, by activity and bureau or office, including allocations covered by this PM:

Table 2
Cumulative Approved Allocations of Funding, FY 2022 through FY 2025
from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)
by Bureau or Office
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

| Activity or Subactivity | BIA | BLM | FWS | NPS | OWF | Parent/ B | TOTAL Allocations by Activity or Subactivity |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| Preparedness/ C, D | 16,845 | 101,092 | 19,137 | 21,445 | 21,244 | 7,360 | 187,123 |
| Fuels Management/ E, F | 149,460 | 308,353 | 113,037 | 86,764 | 8,605 | 9,041 | 675,260 |
| Burned Area Rehabilitation/ E, F | 32,364 | 66,841 | 21,325 | 27,145 | 4,305 | 75,411 | 227,391 |
| Joint Fire Science Program | 0 | 8,508 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,508 |
| TOTAL Allocations, by Bureau or Account | 198,669 | 484,794 | 153,499 | 135,354 | 34,154 | 91,812 | 1,098,282 |

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table.

B/ Allocation amounts in this table reflect funding transferred from the WFM Parent account to bureau accounts following previously-approved allocations.

C/ The OWF amount reflects that FY 2023-approved allocations were offset by a reduction in a FY 2022-approved allocation that was not obligated (from DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

D/ Allocations include a total \$6,000,000 transferred from USDA Forest Service to Interior to support pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters pursuant. The amounts in this table do not include base (non-BIL) appropriations to continue these pay supplements during FY 2024.

E/ The allocation to OWF includes FY 2022 funding transferred to FWS Ecological Services (per PM No. 2022-006).

F/ OWF transfers allocations of funding as projects needing funding are identified and approved by a bureau in NFPORS or IFPRS.

Table 3 (below) shows total approved allocations of BIL funding to date and unallocated amounts remaining in the WFM Parent account, including amounts approved for allocation through this PM:

Table 3
FY 2022 through FY 2025
Approved Allocations and Unallocated Amounts
from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

| Activity or Subactivity | FY 2022-2024 Funding Approved for Allocation/ B | FY 2024 Unallocated Funding | FY 2025 Available Funding | FY 2025 Funding Approved for Allocation | FY 2025 Unallocated Funding | TOTAL Approved Allocations by Activity or Subactivity |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Preparedness/ C | 187,123 | 23,787 | 22,795 | 0 | 22,795 | 187,123 |
| Fuels Management/ D, E | 544,709 | 0 | 164,726 | 130,551 | 34,175 | 675,260 |
| Burned Area Rehabilitation/ D, E | 171,452 | 0 | 72,323 | 55,939 | 16,384 | 227,391 |
| Joint Fire Science Program | 7,065 | 0 | 1,443 | 1,443 | 0 | 8,508 |
| TOTAL | 910,349 | 23,787 | 261,287 | 187,933 | 73,354 | 1,098,282 |

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table. Funding amounts are less the directed transfer of 0.5 percent of all of Interior's BIL WFM appropriations to DOI OIG.

B/ FY 2022 Preparedness funding includes \$6,000,000 transferred from USDA Forest Service to Interior to support pay supplements for Federal wildland firefighters pursuant to BIL Section 40803(d)(4). OWF has approved all FY 2022 funding for allocation.

C/ The approved allocations amount for FY 2023 Preparedness reflects that the allocations are offset by a reduction in an approved FY 2022 allocation to OWF (from DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

D/ The amounts of approved allocations for FY 2022 for Fuels Management and BAR include funding transferred to FWS Ecological Services (per DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

E/ OWF transfers each bureau's allocations as projects needing funding are identified and approved by the bureau in NFPORS or IFPRS.

Contacts: For more information about this PM, you may contact the following people regarding:

- Budget allocations: Stephen Elmore or Kimberly Salwasser
- Preparedness: Ketti Spomer
- Fuels Management or BAR: Ketti Spomer, Jolie Pollet, or Henry Bastian
- IFPRS or NFPORS: Henry Bastian

CC: Interior WFM Executives
Interior WFM Directors
Interior WFM Budget Staff