



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

DOI WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM POLICY MEMORANDUM No. 2024-002

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

From: Jeffery Rupert, Director, Office of Wildland Fire

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

Due Date: Does not apply

Effective Date: Immediately

Expiration Date: Remains in effect unless rescinded or modified.

Purpose: This Policy Memorandum (PM) provides information and direction regarding the first round of allocations of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 funding 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 continued implementation of BIL’s Wildland Fire Management (WFM) provisions. This PM covers the first 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 2022 and FY 2023 appropriations. The allocations for Fuels Management, BAR, and JFSP are from FY 2024 appropriations.

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.

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](#), “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Execution for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-007](#), “Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Guidance on Implementation of Special Payments to Wildland Firefighters under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-008](#), “Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-002](#), “Initial Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-006](#), “Additional Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-007](#), “Additional Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-008](#), “Additional Fiscal Year 2023 Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58).”

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 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024. The funds are available until expended.

Policy:

Budget Allocations: See Table 2 (below) for new approved allocations of appropriations from P.L. 117-58 for FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024, 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:**
 - Special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(d)(4), and
 - Training, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(7).

- Fuels Management: Projects to be completed under the authority of BIL Section 40803(c)—subsections 11, 13, 14, and/or 15¹— and/or 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/or appropriated funding by Title VI of Division J of BIL under the heading “Department-Wide Programs, Wildland Fire Management”.
- JFSP: Activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(9)(A).

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 above), which includes guidelines on administrative costs and reporting requirements; and
- DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-007 (see above), which provides guidance on the BIL special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters.

Preparedness: The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) apportioned \$30,000,000 in new funding for BIL Preparedness for FY 2024. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program is required by BIL to transfer 0.5 percent (\$150,000) to the Department’s Office of Inspector General (OIG). In addition, \$19,873,000 in FY 2023 funding appropriated to Interior for Preparedness remains available for allocation, and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service transferred \$6,000,000 in FY 2022 funding to Interior for the special payments for federal wildland firefighters authorized by BIL Section 40803(d)(4).

This PM approves the allocation of \$18,395,000 for Preparedness, including all of the FY 2022 funding (\$6,000,000) transferred from USDA Forest Service and \$12,395,000 of the FY 2023 balances, as indicated in Table 1 and for the purposes described below:

- Compensation – Special Pay Supplements: This PM approves the allocation of a total \$6,000,000 in BIL funding to BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS, and OWF to continue the special payments for federal wildland firefighters that Interior is making pursuant to Section 40803(d)(4). This funding, in combination with previous allocations, is intended to cover pay supplement costs through October 21, 2023, for all of these bureaus and offices. Furthermore, these allocations also will support federal wildland firefighter pay supplement costs through at least November 4, 2023, for BIA, NPS, and OWF. Bureaus should use these additional allocations consistent with the guidance in PM No. 2022-007, its attachments, and other relevant guidance. See also Table 2, below.

¹ Appropriations authorized by section 40803(c)(15) may only be expended for projects on federal lands. Therefore, they are unavailable for any Fuels Management projects on non-federal lands.

For the pay period ending November 4, BLM and FWS began to use funding appropriated by another law to continue these pay supplements: P.L. 118-15, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (a.k.a., the first Continuing Resolution [CR] of FY 2024). Congress made available CR funding to continue the special pay supplements through the period of the CR. The first CR extends through November 17, 2023. This new funding was provided in recognition that the BIL funding for these pay supplements will soon be depleted. On November 16, 2023, the President signed into law H.R. 6363, the Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024 (a.k.a., the second CR of FY 2024). (As of the effective date of this memo, the second CR of FY 2024 does not yet have a P.L. number.) The second CR extends the authority and funding to continue the special pay supplements through February 2, 2024.

For the pay period ending November 18 and continuing through February 2, 2024, BIA, BLM, FWS, NPS, and OWF all will use funding appropriated by P.L. 118-15 and H.R. 6363 for the pay supplements. For more information on the CR funding for the pay supplements, see [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2024-001, “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Allocations and Spend Plans for Fuels Management, Burned Area Rehabilitation, and Carryover Funding \(Public Law 118-15, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act\).”](#)

- **Workshops and Training:** This PM approves the allocation of a total \$12,395,000 to BLM, for the contracting costs for Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM); two full-time staff positions to administer, oversee, and report on the development and implementation of a contract(s) to implement recommendations and plans for IPTM; and one half-time contracting officer position to support IPTM. Within this allocation, \$395,000 is for the staff labor costs.

On August 4, 2022, the Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) approved the use of up to \$22,500,000 to pay contract costs for the IPTM work and additional funding to pay the labor costs for two new staff to oversee and manage this effort. On August 30, 2023, IFEC approved increasing the amount for IPTM by \$5,000,000 to a total of \$27,500,000, not including the labor costs for the two new full-time staff (i.e., the IPTM Program Manager and Assistant Manager).

Prior to this PM, OWF had approved the allocation of \$4,775,000 for IPTM, including \$25,000 for FY 2022 staff labor costs; \$250,000 for FY 2023 staff labor costs; and \$4,500,000 for initial contract costs. This PM brings the total amount allocated for IPTM to date to \$17,170,000.

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	TOTAL by Activity or Subactivity
Preparedness, Subtotals	980	15,795	385	1,225	10	0	18,395
Compensation/ B	980	3,400	385	1,225	10	0	6,000
Workshops and Training	0	12,395	0	0	0	0	12,395
Fuels Management, Subtotals	24,297	54,000	16,174	15,821	0	0	110,292
Projects/Programs of Work (FY 2024)/ C	20,947	54,000	16,099	15,821	0	0	94,101
Tribal Contract and Administrative Support	3,350	0	0	0	0	0	3,350
GIS Support Positions	0	0	75	0	0	0	75
Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR), Subtotals	3,870	3,455	176	0	0	0	7,501
FY 2024 Projects and Programs of Work/ C, D	3,870	3,155	176	0	0	0	7,201
Contracting Officers	0	300	0	0	0	0	300
Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP)	0	1,990	0	0	0	0	1,990
TOTAL by Bureau or Account	29,147	75,240	16,735	17,046	10	0	138,178

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

B/ These allocations are additional funding for BIL Section 40803(d)(4): the special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters (the same purpose as allocations in DOI Wildland Fire Program PMs 2022-007, 2022-008, 2023-002, 2023-006, 2023-007, and 2023-008). All of this funding is from FY 2022 funding that the USDA Forest Service transferred to Interior. The amounts in this table do not include funding appropriated by another law to continue these pay supplements: P.L. 118-15, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (a.k.a., the first CR of FY 2024).

C/ OWF will transfer amounts from these approved allocations for FY 2024 when eligible projects are identified and approved by the bureau.

D/ The full amount was made available to NPS in DOI Wildland Fire Program PM 2023-007, so there is no additional allocation for NPS for BAR at this time.

Table 2
Approved Allocations of Funding from the
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)
for Special Pay Supplements for Federal Wildland Firefighters/ A
(Dollars in thousands/ B)

Activity or Subactivity	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	OWF	WFM Parent Account	TOTAL, WFM Program
Previous Allocations for Firefighters' Compensation/ C	14,175	71,387	16,740	16,996	602	0	119,900
New Allocations for Firefighters' Compensation/ D	980	3,400	385	1,225	10	0	6,000
TOTAL, Allocations for Firefighters' Compensation	15,155	74,787	17,125	18,221	612	0	125,900

A/ The amounts in this table do not include funding appropriated by another law to continue these pay supplements after BIL funding for them has been depleted: P.L. 118-15, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (a.k.a., the first CR of FY 2024). That law provides funding and authority to extend pay supplements through November 17, 2023.

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

C/ BIL Section 40803(c)(2)(A) made available to Interior \$120,000,000 for salaries and expenses. Interior allocated \$119,900,000 of this funding, as authorized, for the special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters. Interior allocated the remaining \$100,000 for another BIL-authorized purpose for this funding: mental health.

D/ These allocations are additional funding for BIL Section 40803(d)(4): the special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters (the same purpose as allocations in DOI Wildland Fire Program PMs 2022-007, 2022-008, 2023-002, 2023-006, 2023-007, and 2023-008). These allocations are from FY 2022 BIL funding transferred from USDA Forest Service to Interior.

Fuels Management: OMB apportioned \$168,000,000 in new funding for BIL Fuels Management for FY 2024. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program is required by BIL to transfer 0.5 percent (\$840,000) to OIG. This PM approves the allocation of \$110,292,000 of the \$167,160,000 in FY 2024 BIL funding for Fuels Management that remains unallocated. The allocations to bureaus and OWF are as indicated in Table 1 and for the following purposes:

- Geographic Information System (GIS) Science Support: This PM approves the allocation of \$75,000 to FWS to increase staffing to provide GIS support for tracking BIL Fuels Management implementation.
- Tribal Contract and Administrative Support: This PM approves the allocation of \$3,350,000 to BIA for tribal contract and administrative support costs for BIL-related fuels management.
- Projects/Programs of Work (FY 2024): Consistent with Section 40803(b) and (c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of a total \$106,867,000 to BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS for additional Fuels Management projects to begin in FY 2024, as identified in the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS) or Interior Fuels and Post-fire Reporting System (IFPRS).

BIL-Authorized Purposes: Section 40803(b) of the 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](#), provides advice on augmenting or reimbursing accounts that receive resources from the annual appropriations process as well as administrative and programmatic costs, support for adding staff to implement BIL-funded fuels work.

Reporting Requirements: Under [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-003](#), 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](#).

OIG Audit: During FY 2023, OIG began auditing the Department’s implementation of BIL’s Fuels Management provisions. When OIG issues its final recommendations, OWF will work with BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS to respond to them.

BAR: OMB apportioned \$62,600,000 in new funding for BIL BAR for FY 2024. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program is required by BIL to transfer 0.5 percent (\$313,000) to OIG. This PM approves the allocation of \$7,501,000 of the \$62,287,000 in FY 2024 BIL funding for BAR that remains unallocated for activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(16) and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”. The allocations are as indicated in Table 1 and for the following purposes:

- Projects/Programs of Work (FY 2024): Consistent with Section 40803(c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of a total of \$7,201,000 to BIA, BLM, and FWS for additional BAR projects to begin in FY 2024, as identified in NFPORS.
- Contracting Officers: This PM allocates \$300,000 to BLM for BAR contracting officers to provide services to the entire WFM program.

JFSP: OMB apportioned \$2,000,000 in new funding for BIL JFSP activities for FY 2024. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program is required by BIL to transfer 0.5 percent (\$10,000) to OIG. This PM allocates all of the remaining \$1,990,000 in FY 2024 funding to BLM for activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(9)(A).

Table 3 (see 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 3
Cumulative Approved Allocations of Funding, FY 2022-2024 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	TOTAL Allocations by Activity or Subactivity
Preparedness/ B, C	16,845	95,607	18,955	21,081	21,094	0	173,582
Fuels Management/ D, E	100,401	223,596	86,858	61,996	4,799	10,191	487,841
Burned Area Rehabilitation/ D, E	20,099	37,716	4,785	7,381	730	45,955	116,666
Joint Fire Science Program	0	7,065	0	0	0	0	7,065
TOTAL Allocations, by Bureau or Account	137,345	363,984	110,598	90,458	26,623	56,146	785,154

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

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

C/ Allocations include \$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). The amounts in this table do not include funding appropriated by another law to continue these pay supplements: P.L. 118-15, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2024 and Other Extensions Act (a.k.a., the first CR of FY 2024).

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

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

Table 4 (see 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 4
FY 2022, FY 2023, and FY 2024 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 Funding Approved for Allocation/ B	FY 2023 Funding Approved for Allocation	FY 2023 Funding Unallocated	FY 2024 Funding Available	FY 2024 Funding Approved for Allocation	FY 2024 Unallocated Funding	TOTAL Approved Allocations by Activity or Subactivity
Preparedness/ C	81,560	92,022	7,478	29,850	0	29,850	173,582
Fuels Management/ D, E	251,297	126,252	0	167,160	110,292	56,868	487,841
Burned Area Rehabilitation/ D, E	75,620	33,545	0	62,287	7,501	54,786	116,666
Joint Fire Science Program	3,085	1,990	0	1,990	1,990	0	7,065
TOTAL	411,562	253,809	7,478	261,287	119,783	141,504	785,154

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
- BIL implementation (general): Ketti Spomer
- Federal wildland firefighters' pay supplements: Joe Majewski or Kimberly Salwasser
- Fuels Management or BAR: Kristy Swartz

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