



Departmental Highlights

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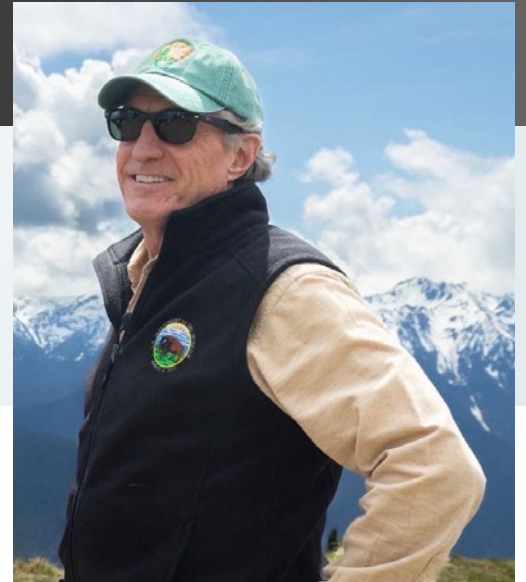
Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

NPS Photo.

Departmental Overview

“America will become Energy Dominant while protecting our most beautiful lands, abundant wildlife, clean air, and clean water!”

—Secretary Doug Burgum



The Department of the Interior directly affects the lives of every American daily. As the steward of 20 percent of the Nation’s lands, the Department of the Interior (Department, Interior) is the U.S. Government’s principal agency for managing America’s lands and waters, natural resources, and cultural heritage. The Department conserves and manages the Nation’s energy resources, including providing access to the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS); honors Federal responsibilities to Indian Tribes, Alaska Natives, the Native Hawaiian Community, and Insular Areas; supplies and delivers water in the West; works with other Federal agencies to protect our Nation’s borders; and manages our parks, historic sites, and wildlife refuges. The delivery of Interior’s mission creates economic benefits both through direct investment and facilitating private sector activities and contributions.

Interior-managed resources are a significant factor on America’s Balance Sheet. Our domain includes more than 480 million acres of surface land, 750 million acres of subsurface and mineral estate, and more than 2.5 billion acres offshore. We believe our natural resources are national assets that should be responsibly developed to grow our economy, help balance the budget, and generate revenue for American taxpayers. With common sense approaches and modern systems, we can do much, much better on increasing our returns for the taxpayer while protecting our beautiful lands, allowing wildlife to thrive, and enjoying clean air and clean water.

Under President Trump’s leadership, we are entering a new era of abundance—one in which we encourage energy development on our Federal lands and waters, establish our position as a leader in nonfuel minerals, and protect the United States’ economic and national security through our pursuit of Energy Dominance. The 2026 Budget presents new opportunities for a future that champions innovation over regulation. The Budget advances key Presidential priorities, including enhanced border security, investments to unleash American energy, and an optimized workforce level that leverages resources and maximizes the impact of taxpayer dollars.

The 2026 Budget

Interior’s 2026 Budget is \$14.4 billion and supports the establishment of a new centralized U.S. Wildland Fire Service (USWFS), which incorporates the wildland fire activities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA’s) U.S. Forest Service (FS) into those of Interior’s Office of Wildland Fire. Excluding the USDA FS wildland fire addition, Interior’s 2026 Budget request is \$11.9 billion in current authority, or \$11.7 billion in net discretionary authority. The Budget includes resources to cover fixed-cost increases, such as rent to maintain Interior’s core operations carried out by employees living and working in every corner of the country.

Implementing President Trump's Energy Agenda

EO 14154	<i>Unleashing American Energy (SO 3418)</i>
EO 14156	<i>Declaring a National Energy Emergency (SO 3417)</i>
EO 14153	<i>Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential (SO 3422)</i>
EO 14213	<i>Establishing the National Energy Dominance Council</i>
EO 14165	<i>Securing Our Borders</i>
EO 14241	<i>Immediate Measures To Increase American Mineral Production</i>
EO 14261	<i>Reinvigorating America's Beautiful Clean Coal Industry and Amending Executive Order 14241</i>
EO 14285	<i>Unleashing America's Offshore Critical Mineral Resources</i>
EO 14192	<i>Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation (SO 3421)</i>
EO 14148	<i>Initial Rescissions Of Harmful Executive Orders And Actions (includes revocation of Former Outer Continental Shelf Withdrawals) (SO 3420)</i>
Presidential Memorandum	<i>Temporary Withdrawal of All Areas on the Outer Continental Shelf from Offshore Wind Leasing and Review of the Federal Government's Leasing and Permitting Practices for Wind Projects</i>

EO = Executive Order. SO = Secretary's Order.

An additional \$2.85 billion authorized for the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund is accessible through a budget cap adjustment for wildfire suppression to ensure additional funds are available in the event the regular annual appropriation is inadequate to meet suppression needs. The Budget also includes \$681.8 million for Interior's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) programs. Interior's allocation for LWCF includes \$30.0 million for inholdings on Federal lands, \$375.7 million for grant programs, and \$276.1 million for a new deferred maintenance LWCF program that will provide the National Park Service (NPS), the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with additional funding to address the deferred maintenance backlog. An additional \$117.9 million is estimated to be available for State LWCF grants in 2026 from offshore oil and gas revenue in the Gulf of America.

The 2026 President's Budget advances key Administration priorities in Energy Dominance, multiple-use land management, and critical regulatory reform. To generate additional revenue and increase the return on our assets for the benefit of our citizens, the Department is prioritizing the transformation of our bureaus and the optimization of processes to be more technologically advanced and customer focused. The Budget reduces duplicative services and unnecessary grants

because, wherever possible, programs should be implemented by governments closest to those being served without burdensome Federal constraints. State and local governments understand and respect their communities' needs and desires far better than the Federal Government ever could.

Advancing Energy Dominance

The 2026 Budget for the Department features crucial investments to further President Trump's commitment to Energy Dominance, which is the foundation of American prosperity, national security, and world peace. This Budget prioritizes America's energy independence with a strategy that focuses on the development of ample baseload power that is needed to solve our National Energy Emergency. As part of this effort, the Budget eliminates support for Green New Scam technologies, including onshore and offshore renewable energy programs that facilitate unreliable, intermittent energy to the detriment of American consumers, businesses, and communities. Interior has already taken meaningful measures to increase production of affordable, reliable energy on Federal lands and waters while proving our commitment to reviving mining for coal and critical, rare earth, and other important minerals.



Secretary Burgum visiting the Range Resources fracking site in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

DOI Photo.

This Budget proposes more than \$500 million for energy-related programs across the Department. The 2026 Budget will support multiple efforts to address our Nation's inadequate energy supply and protect against this active threat to the national and economic security of the American people. Interior has successfully identified and continues to explore all emergency and legal authorities available to facilitate the identification, permitting, leasing, development, production, transportation, refining, distribution, exporting, and generation of domestic energy resources and critical minerals. In addition, the Department will continue identifying all emergency and other legal authorities available to expedite the completion of all authorized and appropriate infrastructure, energy, environmental, and natural resources projects. Included in BLM's 2026 Budget request of \$936.1 million is \$112.7 million for the onshore Oil and Gas Management program—a 10-percent increase over the 2025 CR level—and \$53.2 million for onshore Oil and Gas Inspection Activities.

One of Secretary Burgum's first actions was signing Secretary's Order (SO) 3417, *Addressing the National Energy Emergency*, and SO 3418, *Unleashing American Energy*. Collectively, these orders direct Interior to address the President's emergency declaration by tackling the critical need for ensuring

“a reliable, diversified, growing, and affordable supply of energy.” These orders encourage energy exploration and production on Federal lands and waters to meet the needs of our citizens, solidify the United States as a global energy leader, and achieve Energy Dominance.

Under President Trump's leadership, Interior is taking a leading role in securing Energy Dominance for the United States. Opening the Outer Continental Shelf is central to this strategy because it unleashes the domestic energy potential that had been throttled under the previous Administration. SO 3420, *Announcing President Trump's Revocation of Former Outer Continental Shelf Withdrawals*, directed immediate compliance with President Trump's revocations of the Biden administration's wrongful withdrawals of OCS areas from oil and gas leasing. SO 3420 notified the Department the “ban has been unbanned” and directed all bureaus and offices to comply with President Trump's revocation of the withdrawals, as outlined in EO 14148, *Initial Recissions of Harmful Executive Orders and Actions*.

In addition, on April 30, 2025, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) published in the Federal Register a Request for Information and Comments on the preparation of the 11th National

OCS Oil and Gas Leasing Program. “Launching the process to develop the 11th National Outer Continental Shelf Program marks a decisive step toward securing American Energy Dominance,” said Secretary Burgum. These leases generate billions of dollars in revenue for the U.S. Treasury and State governments while supporting hundreds of thousands of American jobs. In Fiscal Year 2024 alone, production from OCS leases accounted for approximately 14 percent of domestic oil production and 2 percent of domestic natural gas production, yielding \$7 billion in Federal revenues. The BOEM Budget includes \$72.6 million for OCS conventional energy programs and supports actions to expedite the leasing of the OCS for oil, gas, and mineral resources exploration and production.

On April 4, 2025, we proudly announced that the first lease sale in the appropriately renamed Gulf of America will occur this year—a move that generates immediate and long-term revenue for American taxpayers. In addition, we recently published a finding that reveals at least 23 percent more recoverable oil and gas in the Gulf of America than had previously been known. Through the 2026 Budget, we will protect the United States’ economic and national security and military preparedness by ensuring an abundant supply of reliable energy

is readily accessible in every State and territory of the Nation.

The Budget for the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE), including offsetting collections, is \$143.4 million to manage all offshore energy operations on the OCS and support conventional and emerging energy program work to advance Energy Dominance. On April 18, 2025, BSEE adjusted an existing policy and implemented new guidelines to strengthen *Unleashing American Energy* in the Gulf of America by expanding the allowable pressure differential in reservoirs to increase oil and gas production. Through this process, known as commingling, we are increasing production of oil and gas by an estimated 100,000 barrels per day, which will help reduce the price at the pump for American families. To address the National Energy Emergency, BSEE has positioned key opportunities on the Pacific and Alaska OCS to support American Energy Dominance and is exploring areas to reduce operational burdens, streamline the permitting process, and ensure Federal oversight reflects the realities of offshore development. BSEE continues to fulfill its mission of promoting safety, protecting the environment, and conserving resources on the OCS in conventional and unconventional energy programs throughout

BLM Drives Energy Expansion in President Trump’s First 100 Days

In its first 100 days under the new Administration, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) took bold steps to deliver on the priorities of President Trump's and Secretary Burgum's priorities for public lands. From advancing American energy independence to revitalizing industries and communities across the country, BLM's actions are supporting national security, enhancing public safety, and providing more than \$55 million in combined revenue from new energy leasing and timber sales. More than 23.2 million acres of BLM-managed lands are under lease for oil and gas development and production. During the first and second quarter lease sales of Fiscal Year 2025, BLM has generated more than \$42.4 million by leasing 45 parcels totaling 29,304 acres across five States

(Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, and Wyoming). BLM plans to hold an additional 16 lease sales across the United States in 2025, as the Department of the Interior works to address President Trump's National Energy Emergency Declaration and implements Secretary Burgum's Secretary's Order *Addressing the National Energy Emergency*.





Coal mined in the Powder River Basin in Wyoming.

BLM Photo.

its lifecycle from exploration, development, production, and decommissioning.

Another key to unleashing American energy is effective and efficient implementation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Budget increases funding to successfully recover species and celebrate their removal from ESA listing. In addition, the Budget proposes to merge the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Office of Protected Resources and associated ESA and Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) implementation responsibilities into FWS, which will reduce redundancies and streamline permitting.

The 2026 Budget establishes our position as the leading producer and processor of non-fuel minerals, including rare earth minerals, which will create jobs and prosperity at home, strengthen supply chains for the United States and its allies, and reduce the global influence of adversarial states. We are prioritizing America's critical mineral production by updating the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS's) list of critical minerals and continuing the ongoing geological mapping of the country. The USGS Budget requests \$106.8 million for Energy and Mineral Resources programs that support USGS's "Map, Baby, Map!" mission and

give us the ability to provide high-level energy and mineral characterizations that will afford greater understanding of the country's expansive resources.

Beautiful, clean American coal is essential to our national and economic security, as President Trump states in EO 14261, *Reinvigorating America's Beautiful Clean Coal Industry and Amending Executive Order 14241*. Clean American coal is a "triple win" for our country because thermal coal provides reliable, affordable baseload electricity; metallurgical coal is foundational for bringing back our steel industry; and the mining and refining of coal and rare earth minerals are important for our defense and tech capabilities.

It is a national priority to support the domestic coal industry by removing Federal regulatory barriers that undermine coal production, encouraging the use of coal to meet growing domestic energy demands, increasing American coal exports, and ensuring that Federal policy does not discriminate against coal production or coal-fired electricity generation. The Budget includes \$17.5 million for the BLM Coal Management program. BLM has responsibility for coal leasing on approximately 570 million acres; currently, there are 273 Federal coal leases on approximately 405,000 acres of public lands. BLM is reinvigorating America's coal industry through policy and regulatory reforms to



Delta Wild and Scenic River, Alaska.

BLM Photo.

ensure these acres remain open and accessible for development.

Coal is abundant, cost effective, and can be used in any weather condition. Moreover, the coal industry has historically employed hundreds of thousands of hardworking Americans. America's coal resources are vast, with a current estimated value around \$8 trillion, and are more than capable of substantially contributing to American energy independence, with excess to export to support allies and strengthen our economic competitiveness. Coal will also help our Nation harness the tremendous power of artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced manufacturing. In 2026, Interior will identify regions where coal-powered infrastructure is available and suitable for supporting AI data centers and assess the market, legal, and technological potential for expanding coal-based infrastructure to power data centers to meet the electricity needs of AI and high-performance computing operations.

The Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) works to ensure that the coal supply essential to the Nation's energy requirements and its economic and social well-being is provided. OSMRE endeavors to strike a balance between protection of the environment and agricultural productivity and the Nation's need for coal as an essential source of energy to increase our energy supply, lower electricity costs, stabilize our

grid, create high-paying jobs, support burgeoning industries, and assist our allies. The 2026 Budget requests \$261.7 million for OSMRE to support those efforts.

SO 3422 directs the Department to take all necessary steps to unleash the State of Alaska's abundant and largely untapped supply of natural resources. This order implements EO 14153, *Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential*, by prioritizing the enactment of policies that will efficiently and effectively maximize the development and production of the natural resources located on both Federal and State lands within Alaska.

The 2026 Budget will prioritize the prudent development of natural resources in Alaska and beyond to ensure the Nation's geopolitical security. Following a review of all punitive restrictions that have targeted resource development in Alaska under the prior Administration, Interior will develop plans of action to carry out President Trump's agenda for how Alaska can help unleash America's energy. In support of President Trump's and Secretary Burgum's orders to unleash Alaska's extraordinary resource potential, BLM is expanding exploration and development opportunities in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) and the Coastal Plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). BLM is also working toward partial

revocation of public land withdrawals to solidify the path forward for the proposed Ambler Road and Alaska Liquified Natural Gas Pipeline projects. The Department plans to reopen up to 82 percent (more than 19 million acres) of the roughly 23.4-million-acre NPR-A for leasing and energy development opportunities. We are working to reinstate a program that makes the entire 1.56-million-acre Coastal Plain of the ANWR available for oil and gas leasing.

As Interior moves forward under Secretary Burgum's leadership, these initiatives set the foundation for a renewed focus on responsible resource management and economic growth. By advancing policies that honor America's heritage while fostering innovation, the Department remains committed to serving the interests of the American people and strengthening the Nation's economic future.

Protecting Our People and Borders

Interior is home to approximately 2,800 permanent Federal law enforcement officers across six distinct organizational units within four bureaus. These units include the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Office of Justice Services, the BLM Law

Enforcement Program, the NPS Law Enforcement Ranger Program, the U.S. Park Police, the FWS Office of Law Enforcement, and the FWS Refuge Law Enforcement. They patrol the border, protect our communities, make Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools safe places to learn, and protect our parks, wildlife refuges, and public lands. Interior has drug enforcement teams on public lands and in Indian Country; urban search-and-rescue units, which also support disaster response; and backcountry units that operate in the wilderness for days at a time. Our law enforcement officers have removed opioids and other drugs from communities, shut down illegal marijuana-growing operations on public lands, apprehended drug dealers and criminals, helped protect the border, and saved lives. The 2026 Budget continues priority border and drug enforcement operations on Interior lands and Tribal areas to provide safety for visitors and for emergency response. The recent emergency withdrawal to transfer approximately 110,000 acres of Interior-managed land along the southern border in New Mexico to the Department of the Army will safeguard sensitive natural resources in the region while also enabling Department of Defense support to U.S. Border Patrol operations in securing the border and preventing illegal immigration.



A U.S. Park Police cruiser on the streets of Washington, DC.

NPS Photo.



The Mormon Lake Hotshots dig a fireline amid towering evergreens during the Cedar Creek Fire in the Willamette National Forest.

Alaska Incident Management Team Photo.

The 2026 Budget includes funding to support Operation Spirit Return within BIA, an initiative to help solve missing and unidentified person cases involving American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States. BIA's Missing and Murdered Unit is collaborating with the Federal database NamUs, the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, and using forensic genetic genealogy to identify human remains. The Missing and Murdered Unit began as the Cold Case task force, part of Operation Lady Justice, a multiagency effort established by President Trump's administration in 2019 to enhance the operation of the criminal justice system and address the staggering number of missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives in Tribal communities. Operation Spirit Return aims to identify unknown human remains located in or close to Indian Country that are believed to belong to either American Indians or Alaska Natives. The operation will focus on reuniting remains with family members and returning them to their Tribal communities.

The Department also plays a critical role in preparing for and addressing the aftermath of natural hazard events. The USGS Budget request of \$891.6 million includes \$136.5 million for Natural

Hazards programs. USGS's scientific information is used by emergency responders, policymakers, and the public to address the risk of loss from a wide range of natural hazards, including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, wildfires, geomagnetic storms, and drought. For example, USGS produces earthquake-monitoring information indicating the severity of events and data helpful in assessing the potential of further risks. The 2026 Budget also includes resources for domestic seismographic monitoring, the characterization of potential coastal and marine resources, and storm scenario forecasts for coastal hazard preparedness.

Preventing and combating wildfires is vitally important to protect people, communities, and the natural environment. Nearly 65,000 wildfires burned more than 8.9 million acres across the United States in 2024, endangering communities, critical infrastructure, and local economies. The trend of increasingly extreme and frequent wildfires has continued this year, with catastrophic fires in southern California and the Southeast in recent months.

The key to containing this wildfire risk is a unified approach, which is why President Trump

is establishing a new U.S. Wildland Fire Service within Interior. USWFS will reform and unify Interior's wildland fire program—which includes BIA, BLM, FWS, and NPS—and wildland fire resources of the USDA FS. Under the new USWFS, command and appropriations from all existing wildland fire bureaus and agencies will be consolidated in Interior to streamline Federal suppression response, risk mitigation efforts, and coordination with non-Federal partners to combat the wildfire crisis. The new USWFS will employ all Federal wildland firefighters responsible for lands administered by Interior and USDA FS, wildfire risk mitigation planners, and other wildland fire management personnel; procure and maintain Federal wildland fire resources; and manage Federal wildland fire response policies. As part of this new unified approach, Interior is eliminating duplicative Federal policies, streamlining program implementation processes, and increasing the role that States and localities have in wildfire preparedness.

Continued investment in the Federal wildland fire workforce is essential to protecting the public and reducing the risk of future catastrophic wildfires. The 2026 Budget continues a key element of fighting these destructive fires: permanent pay increases for Federal and Tribal wildland firefighters across the United States. The Budget fully funds the new special salary rates for Federal wildland firefighters at all levels, including temporary and seasonal employees, and the new incident response premium pay for all responders, as enacted in the Full-Year

Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (Public Law 119–4). The Budget also includes funding for Tribal Nations to provide similar pay increases to their wildland firefighters. These permanent pay increases will help USWFS and Tribal Nations recruit and retain the top talent needed to achieve Federal wildland fire goals.

Effectively Managing Our Land and Water Resources and Expanding Outdoor Access

In 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt gave remarks at the laying of the cornerstone of the Gateway to Yellowstone, where he described our National Parks as “great natural playgrounds” that exist for the “benefit and enjoyment” of the American people. President Trump recognizes that the American public's connection with our lands is strengthened through expanded access. Our natural wonders are unparalleled, and this Administration is committed to expanding access for both recreational enjoyment and improving the economic benefit for gateway communities. The millions of Americans visiting Interior's Federal lands seeking peace and recreation are also helping to grow the booming outdoor recreation industry.

In April 2025, Secretary Burgum directed NPS to ensure national parks are open and accessible for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people and to ensure NPS will provide the best customer service experience for all visitors. Last year, NPS welcomed more than 331 million visitors across

Celebrating the Power of BLM Public Lands Through Tourism and Community Impact

Each year, millions of people turn to public lands not only for recreation but for connection—connection to nature, local culture, and the communities that make these places special. During National Travel and Tourism Week (May 4–10, 2025), the Bureau of Land Management celebrated how tourism on BLM-managed public lands fuels economies, supports rural jobs, and otherwise helps small towns thrive.

In 2024, BLM public lands hosted nearly 81 million recreation-related visits. These visits are not just numbers—they represent real people spending time in local shops, restaurants, and lodging across the country. In 2023, this activity generated more

than \$4.7 billion in visitor spending within 50 miles of BLM-managed areas, supporting \$1.6 billion in pay for local workers and contributing \$11.7 billion in economic output across the U.S. economy. That economic output, or commerce, is equivalent to Interior's entire Fiscal Year 2026 net discretionary Budget request before incorporating the new wildland fire activities from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service.

From Alaska's snow-packed trails to Meadowood's rolling fields in Virginia, your public lands shape unforgettable visitor experiences while supporting the communities that make those experiences possible.

FWS Announces Expansion of Hunting and Fishing Opportunities

In a major step to expand recreational access to America's public lands, in May 2025, Secretary Burgum announced 42 new proposed hunting opportunities across more than 87,000 acres in the National Wildlife Refuge System and National Fish Hatchery System. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to open or expand opportunities for hunting and sport fishing at 16 National Wildlife Refuge System stations and 1 National Fish Hatchery System station. These stations are in Alabama, California, Idaho, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, North Carolina, Texas, and Washington.

This proposal would greatly expand the number of stations and acres opened, underscoring a strong national commitment to outdoor recreation and conservation. "Expanding recreational access to our public lands isn't just about tradition—it's about supporting rural economies and the American families who depend on them," said Secretary Burgum. "By

opening more areas to hunting and outdoor recreation, we're helping drive tourism, create jobs, and generate revenue for local communities, all while promoting responsible stewardship of our natural resources."

More than 1 million people each year visit the 71 national fish hatcheries in the National Fish Hatchery System. Hatcheries offer opportunities for viewing the operations and learning about fish, as well as activities such as fishing, hunting, hiking, sightseeing, nature study, birdwatching, and photography. Many hatcheries also provide picnic areas and offer other activities. Currently, 31 National Fish Hatchery System units are open to hunting, sport fishing, or both.

Hunting, within specified limits, is permitted on 401 wildlife refuges and 36 wetland management districts. Fishing is permitted on 343 wildlife refuges and 35 wetland management districts.

433 individual park units and 63 national parks, covering more than 85 million acres in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. The 2026 NPS Budget request of \$2.1 billion supports programs that enable all Americans to have the opportunity to visit and enjoy our Nation's most treasured places, placing focus on primary Federal responsibilities and allowing State and local governments to manage local resources.

Opportunities for outdoor recreation draw more than 67 million visits each year to national wildlife refuges, boosting local economies. Many visitors take part in hunting and fishing; others enjoy hiking, paddling, wildlife viewing, or nature photography. Those and other outdoor activities contributed more than \$394 billion in economic expenditures in communities across the United States in 2022, with hunters and anglers accounting for more than \$144 billion in expenditures, according to FWS's National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. The survey also found that, in 2021, an estimated 39.9 million Americans older than age 16 fished and 14.4 million hunted. The 2026 Budget requests \$1.1 billion for FWS.

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) works in partnership with States, Tribes, water and

power customers, and others to seek creative and collaborative solutions to Western U.S. water issues. The 2026 Budget continues efforts to address the challenges of water availability and drought conditions, such as those in the Colorado River Basin, where operations continue to represent a critically important mission focus; annually, Reclamation works to ensure the reliable delivery of water and power to more than 40 million people. The Budget invests \$1.2 billion in water resources to ensure millions of customers continue to receive the water and power that are the foundation of a healthy economy. Reclamation serves as the Nation's largest wholesale water supplier, operating 296 reservoirs for agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses; provides flood risk reduction and reliable baseload electricity for millions of people; and collaboratively hosts more than 90 million visits annually at recreation areas created by its operations.

To address deferred maintenance on our public lands, the 2026 Budget also includes a proposal to reauthorize President Trump's Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) at its current level and length, \$1.9 billion a year for 5 years. This legislation is a significant investment in the facilities needed to carry out Interior's mission and will allow this

Administration to address the deferred maintenance backlog and restore deteriorating assets.

The LWCF is another tool the Administration is using to address the backlog of deferred maintenance. Instead of adding more land and infrastructure to the Federal Government's already bloated real property portfolio, the Budget proposes to repurpose \$276.1 million for a new deferred maintenance program within LWCF, which can be used by BLM, NPS, and FWS to address our maintenance needs, with additional funding provided separately for the USDA FS. LWCF will continue to fund grants to States that support locally led outdoor recreation.

The 2026 Budget maintains an important commitment to neighboring communities by including \$635.0 million in the discretionary request for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program. PILT payments offset the loss of property

tax revenue for communities with significant Federal lands in their jurisdictions. The 2026 funding level for PILT ensures continuation of this important program supporting rural America. In strengthening the Federal Government's commitment to neighboring communities, the Budget proposes to transfer excess Federal lands to willing States and Tribes. Many parks and other Federal lands receive only a limited number of local visitors and do not constitute a primary Federal responsibility. Transferring those lands to willing States and Tribes supports local communities and their economies.

Upholding America's Trust and Insular Responsibilities

The Department of the Interior upholds the Federal Government's unique trust responsibilities by fostering government-to-government relations between the Federal Government and federally



Snowmobilers line up to enter Yellowstone National Park.

NPS Photo.

recognized Tribes, American Indians, Alaska Natives, and the Native Hawaiian Community. The United States also has important relationships with the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. In addition, Interior administers and oversees Federal assistance provided under the Compacts of Free Association agreements with three sovereign Pacific Island nations collectively known as the Freely Associated States: the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Interior’s programs maintain strong and important relationships with Native communities and deliver community services, restore Tribal homelands, fulfill commitments related to water and other resource rights, execute fiduciary trust responsibilities, support the stewardship of energy and other natural resources, create economic opportunity, and provide access to education. The Budget includes \$2.7 billion for Indian Affairs bureaus across the Department.

The Department provides services directly or through contracts, grants, or compacts to the currently 574 federally recognized Tribes in the 48 contiguous States and Alaska. The Department and its bureaus and offices play an important leadership role in carrying out the Federal trust responsibility to Tribes and individual Indians. The 2026 Budget requests \$1.7 billion for BIA to address Federal responsibilities and Tribal needs related to public safety and justice, social services, infrastructure, and stewardship of land, water, and other natural resources. The Budget prioritizes support for core programs that serve the broadest service population. The President’s Budget maintains the Administration’s strong support for the principle of Tribal self-determination and efforts to strengthen Tribal communities across Indian Country. The Budget also considers New Tribe resources, consistent with the President’s Memorandum of January 23, 2025. BIA will work to determine a New Tribes program funding estimate for the Lumbee Tribe when the Tribe is federally recognized. Finally, the Budget includes full funding for Contract Support Costs and Tribal Grant Support

Costs that Tribes incur from managing Federal Indian programs, as well as Payments for Tribal Section 105(l) leases.

The Budget eliminates programs that provide unnecessary funding related to the climate extremist agenda, including the Tribal Climate Resilience Program. The Budget eliminates the Indian Guaranteed Loan program for Tribal business development because it is duplicative of several other programs across the Federal Government that offer loans to small businesses and which Tribal businesses are eligible for and receive. The Budget also terminates the Indian Land Consolidation Program, which has received bipartisan criticism for being ineffective.

The Budget includes \$521.9 million for BIA Public Safety and Justice programs, which provide law enforcement, corrections, and court services to Indian communities. The programs safeguard life and property, enforce laws, and maintain justice and order.

BIE requests \$916.1 million in 2026 to continue support for core Indian education programs, including formula funding and operation and maintenance funding for elementary and secondary schools and support for postsecondary programs. The request prioritizes programs that directly support educational services to Indian children at BIE-funded schools.

Support for Trust Resources

The Bureau of Indian Affairs' trust programs assist Tribes in the management, development, and protection of Indian trust land and natural resources on 56 million surface acres and 59 million acres of subsurface mineral estates. These programs assist Tribal landowners to optimize stewardship and use of resources, providing benefits such as revenues, jobs, and the protection of cultural and traditional resources. Income from energy is one of the larger sources of revenue generated from trust lands, with energy lease revenues of \$1.2 billion disbursed in 2024.

BIA and Reclamation continue to meet the Federal responsibilities outlined in enacted land and water rights claims settlements with Indian Tribes

to ensure they have access to land and water to meet domestic, economic, and cultural needs. These settlements support infrastructure projects to improve the health and well-being of Tribal members and their communities. Interior's 2026 discretionary Budget includes \$98.1 million for authorized settlements.

The 2026 Budget also includes \$100.0 million to support Tribal and Individual Indian Money financial functions managed by the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA). BTFA executes the Secretary's fiduciary trust responsibilities to properly account, receipt, invest, disburse, reconcile, and report on approximately \$8.8 billion in Indian trust funds on behalf of Tribes (more

than 4,300 accounts) and individuals (more than 414,000 accounts). BTFA disburses more than \$1 billion annually and has received 12 consecutive unmodified audit opinions for its management of individual Indian trust funds. BTFA also maintains the official archive of American Indian Records, safeguarding millions of original, historic documents that detail the Federal Government's treaty obligations to Native Americans.

The Office of Native Hawaiian Relations (ONHR) advances the Secretary of the Interior's initiatives administering the United States' relationship with the Native Hawaiian Community (NHC). The NHC is one of the Nation's largest Native American communities, and the United States'



American Samoa.

OIA Photo.

special political and trust relationship with the NHC is largely administered by the Department of the Interior. The ONHR also discharges the Secretary's responsibilities designated under the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA), State of Hawai'i Admission Act, and the Hawaiian Home Lands Recovery Act (HHLRA). The 2026 Budget includes funding to fulfill the Department's trust responsibilities under the HHCA and HHLRA for reviewing amendments, restoring trust lands, approving land exchanges, and serving as a guiding resource for Federal agencies seeking to consult with the NHC when required by statute.



Moose in Yellowstone National Park.

FWS Photo.

The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) 2026 Budget request of \$103.0 million supports the Administration's unwavering commitment to the U.S. territories and the Freely Associated States. Investments in these islands play a critical role in furthering and protecting U.S. interests in the Indo-Pacific and Caribbean because unfunded requirements provide opportunities for the People's Republic of China (PRC) or other foreign actors to fill funding gaps and exert economic and political pressure. OIA strengthens insular economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, public services, health and education, energy, and technical assistance, which attracts private sector investment and deters and counters the PRC's influence operations and attempts to compromise our critical national defense apparatus hosted in these strategically important islands.

Reducing Costs for Hardworking Americans

Following President Trump's Presidential Memorandum *Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and Defeating the Cost-of-Living Crisis*, SO 3419, *Delivering Emergency Price Relief for American Families and Defeating the Cost-of-Living Crisis*, mandated Interior to take immediate steps to reduce living costs for American families.

These efforts are further supported by SO 3421, which directed Interior to support President Trump's deregulatory agenda, as outlined in the EO *Unleashing Prosperity Through Deregulation*. The goal is to reduce red tape, enhance national security, and improve the quality of life for U.S. citizens. Interior will eliminate at least 10 existing regulations for every new one introduced and return to the discipline of ensuring the cost of planned regulations is responsibly

managed and controlled through a rigorous regulatory cost analysis process. In 2026, Interior will continue a Departmentwide review of all programs and regulations that are unnecessarily causing higher living costs for hardworking American families to identify and recommend future actions to lower costs. Interior will also focus on ways to eliminate harmful, coercive climate extremist policies to lower the cost of energy, which, in turn, will restore purchasing power to Americans and improve their overall quality of life. All of Interior's bureaus and offices have been tasked with streamlining financial management and alleviating unnecessary regulatory burdens on the American people.

Opening the Outer Continental Shelf is central to this strategy because it unleashes domestic energy potential that had been unnecessarily restricted under the previous Administration. Expanded leasing will generate tens of thousands of high-paying jobs—from exploration and production to service and supply chains.

America also needs more affordable housing, and the Federal Government can make it happen by making Federal land available to build affordable housing stock. Together, Interior and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) created a Joint Task Force on Federal Land for Housing to increase the housing supply and decrease costs for millions of Americans. Under this agreement, HUD will pinpoint areas where housing needs are most pressing and guide the process by working with State, Tribal, and local leaders, who know their communities best. Interior will identify locations that can support homes while carefully considering the environmental impact and land-use restrictions. Working together, our Departments will take inventory of underused Federal properties, transfer or lease them to States or localities to address housing needs, and support the infrastructure required to make development viable—all while ensuring affordability remains at the core of the mission.

Optimizing the Federal Workforce and Management of Real Property

Interior is focused on streamlining our core business operations, which will result in improved efficiencies and lower costs for American taxpayers. The Department has taken steps to unify many of the Department's functions within the Office of the Secretary as directed in SO 3429, *Consolidation, Unification and Optimization of Administrative Functions*, including human resources, information resources and technology management, training and development, civil rights and equal employment opportunity, procurement, Federal financial assistance (grants and cooperative agreements), communications, personnel security, finance, congressional and legislative affairs, external affairs, and other similar functions. Further unifying our organization will create significant efficiencies across the Department by optimizing processes, eliminating redundant efforts, and helping streamline technology adoption. Interior will advance innovation, collaboration, and solutions that address the pressing challenges of our time.

The Department's real property portfolio is vast, with approximately 43,000 buildings and 90,000 structures across 2,400 locations. Interior is working to review and prioritize infrastructure investments to optimize mission delivery, while divesting excess assets and reducing our real property footprint. Interior is working closely with the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Federal Real Property Council (FRPC) to identify opportunities to streamline leases and ensure our employees are strategically placed to deliver mission-critical services. In 2026, Interior will continue to collaborate with the GSA and the FRPC to execute President Trump's EO 14222, *Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Cost Efficiency Initiative*.

Department of the Interior Facts

Land—Interior manages more than 480 million acres, or about 20 percent of the land area of the United States; more than 700 million acres of subsurface minerals; and more than 760 million acres of submerged land in five national monuments. The Department also has jurisdiction over nearly 3.2 billion acres of the Outer Continental Shelf.

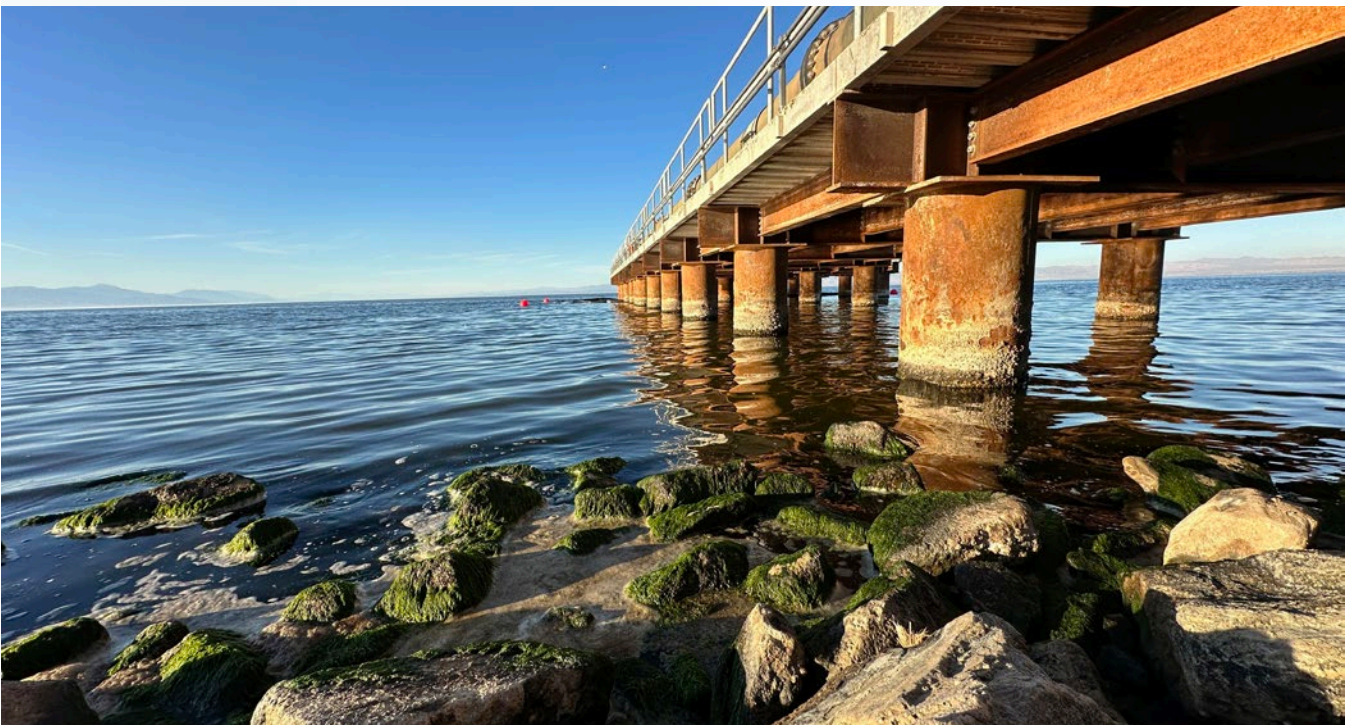
Parks, Refuges, and Public Lands—Interior manages 433 units of the National Park System, 572 national wildlife refuges, 69 fish hatcheries, and 1 historic fish hatchery, as well as 25 national conservation areas and similarly designated areas and 31 national monuments in BLM's national conservation lands.

Volunteers—Interior benefits from more than 177,000 volunteers, who provide more than 5.2 million hours of service, valued at an estimated \$180 million per year.

Revenues—Interior collects revenues from energy, minerals, grazing, timber, land sales, and other revenue-producing activities. Estimated revenue projections in 2025 are \$20.1 billion.

Water—The Department is the largest supplier and manager of water in the 17 Western States. Reclamation manages 490 dams and 294 reservoirs that deliver water to more than 31 million people and 1 out of every 5 Western farmers irrigating 10 million acres of farmland.

Energy—Interior manages lands, subsurface rights, and offshore areas that produce approximately 18 percent of the Nation's energy, including 15 percent of natural gas, 28 percent of oil, and 41 percent of coal.



Salton Sea in California.

Reclamation Photo.

Department of the Interior Facts *(continued)*

Visitation—Annually, more than 570 million visits are made to BLM public lands, national park units, national wildlife refuges and fish hatcheries, and Reclamation recreation sites.

American Indians—The Department provides services to American Indians and Alaska Natives from the 574 federally recognized Tribes in the 48 contiguous States and Alaska. Services include education, law enforcement, and leasing for economic activities, including farming and energy development. Interior has responsibility for the largest land trust in the world. Today, the Indian trust includes \$8.8 billion in trust funds and approximately 56 million surface acres and 59 million acres of subsurface mineral estates.

Science—Interior provides science for use in understanding, mapping, and managing natural resources and hazards. Data are available to the public from more than 12,000 streamgages and more than 4,000 earthquake sensors. Interior is also responsible for operating two Earth observation satellites: the Landsat 8 and 9 missions.



Park Ranger welcomes visitors to Yellowstone National Park.

NPS Photo.

