



# Departmental Offices

## Overview

Departmental Offices provide leadership, management, and coordination activities; deliver services to Department of the Interior's (Interior's) bureaus and offices; and operate unique crosscutting functions that do not logically fit elsewhere. The following programs within Departmental Offices are funded in separate appropriations: Office of the Secretary, Office of the Solicitor, and Office of Inspector General.

## Office of the Secretary

### Mission

The Office of the Secretary (OS) provides the executive-level leadership, policy, guidance, and coordination needed to manage the diverse, complex, and nationally significant programs that are Interior's responsibilities. OS performs administrative services, such as finance, budget, information resources, acquisition, and human resources. OS also provides Interior's administrative appeals functions through the Office of Hearings and Appeals and appraises the value of lands and minerals through the Appraisal and Valuation Services Office.

OS manages seven programs funded in separate accounts and discussed in the Departmentwide Programs chapter in the Bureau Highlights. Those programs are the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, Central Hazardous Materials Fund, Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration, Energy Community



Secretary Burgum at work in his office.

DOI Photo.

Revitalization Program, Working Capital Fund, and Interior Franchise Fund.

### Budget Overview

The 2026 Budget request for Departmental Operations is \$124.0 million. The 2026 Budget focuses funding on core mission requirements and realigns resources to support the highest priority efforts and advance Administration initiatives.

To address deferred maintenance on our public lands, the 2026 Budget includes a proposal to reauthorize the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) that was originally signed into law by President Trump on August 4, 2020. This legislation would reauthorize the Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) at its current level and length, \$1.9 billion a year for 5 years. This proposed legislation is a significant investment in the facilities needed to carry out Interior's mission and will allow Interior to address

the deferred maintenance backlog and restore deteriorating infrastructure.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is another tool the Administration is using to address the backlog of deferred maintenance. Instead of adding more land and infrastructure to Interior's portfolio, the Budget proposes to provide \$276.1 million for a new deferred maintenance program within LWCF, which can be used by the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service to address maintenance

needs, with additional funding set aside for the U.S. Forest Service in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

### **Workforce Restructure**

The 2026 Budget supports the Administration's priority to streamline government and will continue efforts to unify and optimize administrative services across the Department to increase effectiveness and efficiency for the benefit of American taxpayers.



Secretary Burgum escorts DJ Daniels and family after Daniels was sworn in as an honorary U.S. Park Police officer.

DOI Photo.

## Office of the Solicitor

### Mission

The mission of the Office of the Solicitor (SOL) is to provide high-quality legal counsel to the Secretary and Interior's bureaus and offices; support the Department of Justice in representing the Secretary and Interior in Federal, State, and Tribal courts; help resolve legal issues for the bureaus and offices as they implement congressional direction on appropriations and substantive legislation; administer the Department's ethics program and ensure ethical compliance throughout the Department; and provide governance over Interior's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) programs.

### Budget Overview

The 2026 Budget includes \$60.2 million for SOL. Funding will support SOL capacity to advise on legal options for administrative decision making,

respond to congressional oversight and inquiries, and provide expertise on litigation relating to DOI policies and actions. Funding will also support SOL capacity to provide the most expeditious and best defense of important Administration priorities, including Executive Orders (EOs), such as EO 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*, and EO 14156, *Declaring a National Energy Emergency*.

### Workforce Restructure

The 2026 Budget supports the Administration's priority to streamline government and will continue efforts to unify and optimize administrative services across the Department to increase effectiveness and efficiency for the benefit of American taxpayers.

## Office of Inspector General

### Mission

The mission of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) is to provide oversight to promote accountability, integrity, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within Interior. OIG achieves this mission by conducting independent and objective investigations, audits, inspections, and evaluations and by reporting findings of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement and recommendations for improvement.

### Budget Overview

The 2026 Budget includes \$48.5 million for the Office of Inspector General. The Budget request supports OIG's activities, such as audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse and enable oversight and accountability of Interior programs.



**In FY 2024, OIG identified \$73.8 million in questioned, wasted, defrauded, and uncollected funds.**

**OI – \$59,908,738**

**AIE – \$13,895,123**



**TOTAL: \$73,803,861**



**Office of Investigations (OI)**



**Office of Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations (AIE)**



## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2026 Request with 2025 CR

|  | 2025 CR <sup>1/</sup> | 2026 Request |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|
| Current, without Supplementals   |                       |              |
| Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations .....  | 147,418               | 124,012      |
| Office of the Solicitor .....  | 97,950                | 60,212       |
| Office of Inspector General .....  | 67,000                | 48,500       |
| Subtotal, Current, without Supplementals .....   | 312,368               | 232,724      |
| Current, 2026 Supplementals  |                       |              |
| Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations .....  |                       | 141,290      |
| Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) .....   |                       | 142,000      |
| Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58) .....  |                       | -710         |
| Office of Inspector General  |                       |              |
| Transfer from Bureaus and Offices (P.L. 117-58) .....  |                       | 3,264        |
| Total, Current, 2026 Supplementals .....   |                       | 144,554      |
| Permanent, 2026 LWCF   |                       |              |
| Salaries and Expenses, Departmental Management, from the<br>Land and Water Conservation Fund ..... |                       | 1,800        |
| Total, Permanent, 2026 LWCF .....  |                       | 1,800        |

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity

### APPROPRIATION: Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations

|                                     | 2024 Actual | 2025 Notional <sup>1/</sup> | 2026 Request |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Leadership and Administration ..... | 110,969     | 111,241                     | 85,633       |
| Management Services .....           | 36,449      | 36,177                      | 38,379       |
| TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....           | 147,418     | 147,418                     | 124,012      |

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

**APPROPRIATION: Office of the Solicitor**

|                                  | 2024 Actual   | 2025 Notional <sup>1/</sup> | 2026 Request  |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Legal Services.....              | 67,428        | 69,428                      | 39,666        |
| General Administration .....     | 6,199         | 6,199                       | 4,966         |
| Ethics Office.....               | 20,504        | 18,504                      | 13,604        |
| FOIA Office.....                 | 3,819         | 3,819                       | 1,976         |
| <b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b> | <b>97,950</b> | <b>97,950</b>               | <b>60,212</b> |

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

**APPROPRIATION: Office of Inspector General**

|  | 2024 Actual   | 2025 Notional <sup>1/</sup> | 2026 Request  |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations..... | 67,000        | 67,000                      | 48,500        |
| <b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>             | <b>67,000</b> | <b>67,000</b>               | <b>48,500</b> |

<sup>1/</sup> Resource levels included are estimates. The President reserves his authority under the "Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025" (P.L. 119-4) to revise spending within the amounts provided by Congress.

