



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

## **Report of the Department of the Interior Conference Activities and Spending – Fiscal Year 2025**

The Department of the Interior (Department or DOI) has implemented internal controls over conference spending and activities in conformance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-12-12 *Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, OMB Memorandum M-17-08 *Amending OMB Memorandum and M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations*, and the *Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, P.L. 118-47*.

Departmental policies provide a framework of internal controls designed to mitigate risks associated with conference planning, hosting and spending, and ensure compliance with Federal travel regulations. These policies require senior management to review and approve Department, Bureau, and Office hosted or attended conference events based on the estimated total conference costs. These efforts have resulted in effective controls over conference activities and spending.

For Fiscal Year 2025, the DOI did not conduct any agency-sponsored conferences with net expenses in excess of \$500,000 which would have required a Secretarial waiver in compliance with OMB Memorandum M-17-08.

### **Reporting of Conferences held during Fiscal Year 2025 that exceeded \$100,000 in Net Costs**

OMB M-17-08 requires, “Agencies shall report on conference expenses on a dedicated place on their official website. By January 31 of each year, the agency shall provide a description of all agency-sponsored conferences from the previous fiscal year where the net expenses for the agency associated with the conference were in excess of \$100,000.”

During Fiscal Year 2025, the DOI conducted four conferences in which expenses exceeded \$100,000. DOI carefully planned each conference to support the DOI mission, the industries it serves, and the American people. A listing of these conferences with pertinent data is provided in the Fiscal Year 2025 Conference Activity table. All agency-hosted conferences were approved by officials with delegated approval authority (per DOI guidance). Conference information and data is based on individual reporting from the relevant Bureaus and Offices.

Department of the Interior  
Fiscal Year 2025 Conference Activity

Conference Title	Purpose	Dates of Conference	Location	Attendees*	Total Net Costs
2025 Reclamation Leadership Conference (RLC)	The purpose of the RLC was to provide the Bureau of Reclamation's leadership an opportunity to discuss topics related to key challenges facing the agency today and provide training to senior leadership. The conference provided a mechanism to share knowledge among Reclamation's senior leadership and front-line managers on the latest practices and complex tasks facing Reclamation. This conference helps to ensure consistency and overall management to better provide for the needs of Reclamation's stakeholders, customers, and staff.	October 15, 2024 – October 18, 2024	San Diego, CA	170	\$ 381,831.00
Indian Affairs Administrative Workshop	Administrative Officers and Executive Assistants must possess a wide variety of skills and versatility to successfully perform their jobs. This workshop serves as an introductory course targeting those critical universal skills and competencies necessary for staff support positions regardless of agency, title, grade, or position.	November 13, 2024 – November 14, 2024	Phoenix, AZ	100	\$ 223,095.00
2024 Alaska Region Providers Conference	The Alaska Region Providers Conference helped to fulfill the mission of the Department of Interior (DOI), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) by presenting BIA officials an opportunity to interact with tribal leaders, tribal staff, and tribal service providers at one place and time, on a wide variety of programs and services administered by the BIA. The conference involved face-to-face dialogue regarding trust responsibilities, human services, transportation, contracts, grants, housing, energy, natural and cultural resources, subsistence, etc.	December 3, 2024 – December 5, 2024	Anchorage, AK	48	\$ 316,210.00
2025 Tribal Self-Governance Conference	The 2025 Tribal Self-Governance Conference convened Tribal Nations, federal partners, and allies to honor the 50th anniversary of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and to celebrate the enduring strength of Tribal Self-Governance as a cornerstone of Tribal sovereignty. The conference marked fifty years of progress under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA)—recognizing the leadership of Tribal Nations and the partnerships that transformed how federal programs are delivered in Indian Country. Through shared learning, the conference highlighted how Tribal Self-Governance has improved outcomes, strengthened Tribal institutions, and reaffirmed the fundamental principle that Tribal Nations are best positioned to govern their own affairs.	April 7, 2025 – April 10, 2025	Washington, DC	34	\$ 233,906.00

\*Per OMB M-17-08, total number of individuals (inclusive of DOI and non-DOI) whose travel expenses or other conference expenses were paid by the government.