



# Departmental Offices

## Overview

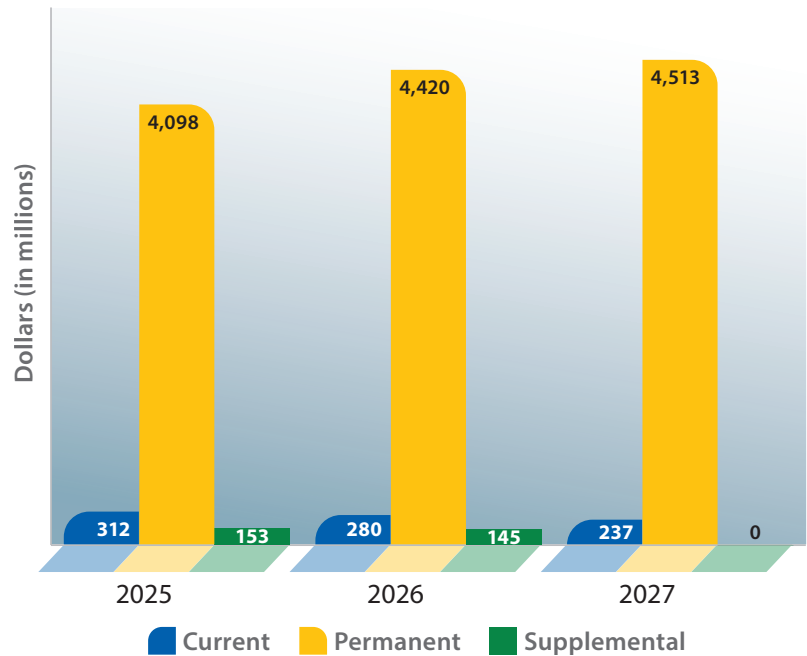
Departmental Offices provide leadership, management, and coordination activities; deliver services to the U.S. Department of the Interior’s (Department, Interior) bureaus and offices; and operate unique crosscutting functions that do not logically fit elsewhere. The following programs within Departmental 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 manages Departmentwide functions and performs administrative services, such as financial management, budget, information resources, acquisition, and property management. OS provides Interior’s administrative appeals functions through the Office of Hearings and Appeals, appraises the value of lands and minerals through the Appraisal and Valuation Services Office, and implements and enforces the Indian Arts and Crafts Act (Public Law 101–644) to combat counterfeit activity in the American Indian and Alaska Native arts and crafts market through the Indian Arts and Crafts Board. OS also implements the Alaska National Interest

## Departmental Offices Funding



Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA; Public Law 96–487) Title VIII, which ensures hunting and fishing are prioritized for the benefit of rural Alaskans through the Office of Subsistence Management.

The Assistant Secretaries and their offices, funded within the OS, manage information, outreach, and the development of strategies to address major policy issues of importance to the President and the Congress. The Assistant Secretaries support the Secretary in guiding the legislative, budget, and policy agenda for the Department; setting the policies and practices for coordination and communication with States, local entities, and external partners; providing the priorities and strategies for operation of the bureaus and offices in the Department; and providing the direction and leadership for ethical conduct, program effectiveness, and efficiency.

OS manages nine programs funded in separate accounts and discussed in the Departmentwide Programs chapter in the Bureau Highlights. Those programs are Payments in Lieu of



Secretary Burgum visiting Yellowstone National Park.

DOI Photo.

Taxes, Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Central Hazardous Materials Fund, Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration, Energy Community Revitalization Program, Working Capital Fund, Interior Franchise Fund, National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF), and the new Great Salt Lake Watershed Recovery Program.

### **Budget Overview**

The 2027 budget request for Departmental Operations is \$127.8 million and will support an estimated 530 full-time equivalents (FTE). OS is responsible for providing overall policy direction, leadership, guidance and assistance on a broad range of management and operational issues that directly affect Interior’s ability to fulfill its mission. The 2027 budget focuses funding on core mission requirements to support the highest priority efforts and advance Administration initiatives.

The 2027 budget proposes to reauthorize the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA; Public Law 116–152) LRF that was originally signed into law by President Trump on August 4, 2020. This legislation would reauthorize the LRF at its original 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 the Department to address the deferred maintenance backlog and restore deteriorating infrastructure. The 2027 budget also proposes to prioritize Land and Water Conservation Fund land acquisition funding to secure conservation easements on private lands adjacent to Federal lands, thereby increasing public access to recreational areas without increasing the Federal footprint.

### **Fixed Costs**

Fixed costs of \$3.5 million are fully funded.

## **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 the Department of the Interior’s bureaus and offices; support the U.S. 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; Public Law 89-487) programs.

### Budget Overview

The 2027 budget includes \$60.2 million for SOL, with an estimated staffing of 343 full-time equivalents (FTE). 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 Department policies and actions. Funding will also support SOL capacity to provide the most expeditious and best defense of important Administration priorities, including Executive Orders (EO), such as EO 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*, and EO 14156, *Declaring a National Energy Emergency*.

### Fixed Costs

Fixed costs are fully funded.

## Office of Inspector General

### Mission

The mission of the Office of Inspector General (OIG) is to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and to prevent and detect waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement in the programs and operations of the U.S. Department of the Interior (Interior). This mission is achieved by conducting fair, objective, and neutral audits, inspections, evaluations, investigations, and reviews. OIG recommends corrective actions to strengthen departmental programs and reports findings to Interior officials and Congress. OIG also refers potential criminal violations to the U.S. Department of Justice and provides active support for prosecutions and civil actions.

### Budget Overview

The 2027 budget includes \$48.5 million for the OIG. The Inspector General estimates staffing will total 227 full-time equivalents (FTE) in 2027. The budget request provides staffing to conduct audits, inspections, evaluations, and investigations that help prevent, detect, and eliminate fraud, waste, and abuse; ensure accountability by holding employees, contractors, and grant recipients accountable; and drive improvements in Interior's programs and operations.

### Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$551,000 are fully funded.

**In FY 2025, Interior implemented OIG recommendations, and OIG investigations held wrongdoers accountable through criminal convictions.**



**234**

AIE Recommendations Made

**292\***

AIE Recommendations Closed

\*Includes those made in previous years.



Months Sentenced as—

**308**  
Jail  
Time

**312**  
Probation

AIE = Office of Audits, Inspections, and Evaluations.

## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1/</sup>

(dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2027 Request with 2026 Enacted

	2026 Enacted <sup>2/</sup>		2027 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Current</b>						
Departmental Operations—Salaries and Expenses .....	319	272,302	352	127,798	+33	-144,504
Office of the Solicitor—Salaries and Expenses .....	309	84,181	209	60,212	-100	-23,969
Office of Inspector General—Salaries and Expenses .....	215	68,264	217	48,500	+2	-19,764
Subtotal, Current .....	843	424,747	778	236,510	-65	-188,237
<b>Permanent</b>						
Departmental Operations—Salaries and Expenses .....	107	19,025	107	19,025	0	0
Mineral Leasing and Associated Payments .....	0	3,819,313	0	3,939,070	0	+119,757
Payments to Alaska, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge .....	0	16,135	0	5,028	0	-11,107
National Forest Fund, Payments to States .....	0	6,112	0	6,243	0	+131
Leases of Lands Acquired for Flood Control, Navigation, and Allied Purposes .....	0	44,361	0	45,791	0	+1,430
National Petroleum Reserve, Alaska .....	0	44,917	0	31,530	0	-13,387
Geothermal Lease Revenues, Payments to Counties .....	0	9,296	0	6,948	0	-2,348
States Share from Certain Gulf of America Leases .....	0	460,864	0	459,712	0	-1,152
Office of Inspector General—Salaries and Expenses .....	10	0	10	0	0	0
Subtotal, Permanent .....	117	4,420,023	117	4,513,347	0	+93,324
<b>Current Reimbursable, Allocation, and Other</b>						
Allocation—Office of the Secretary .....	27	0	27	0	0	0
Allocation—Office of the Solicitor .....	45	0	45	0	0	0
Reimbursable—Office of the Secretary .....	44	0	44	0	0	0
Reimbursable—Office of the Solicitor .....	89	0	89	0	0	0
Reimbursable—Office of Inspector General .....	10	0	0	0	-10	0
Subtotal, Reimbursable, Allocation, and Other .....	215	0	205	0	-10	0
<b>TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES</b> .....	<b>1,175</b>	<b>4,844,770</b>	<b>1,100</b>	<b>4,749,857</b>	<b>-75</b>	<b>-94,913</b>
National Indian Gaming Commission .....	131	31,669	138	30,551	+7	-1,118

<sup>1/</sup> Funding amounts include supplemental appropriations and transfers. For further details on Current funding, see Highlights of Budget Changes tables for each account.

<sup>2/</sup> The 2026 amount for the Office of Inspector General shows repurposed appropriations provided in the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119–74).

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity  
(dollar amounts in thousands)

### APPROPRIATION: Departmental Operations

	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Request	Change
Leadership and Administration.....	111,241	95,448	86,691	-8,757
Management Services .....	36,177	35,564	41,107	+5,543
<b>SUBTOTAL APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>147,418</b>	<b>131,012</b>	<b>127,798</b>	<b>-3,214</b>
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58) .....	142,000	142,000	0	-142,000
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58).....	-710	-710	0	+710
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b>288,708</b>	<b>272,302</b>	<b>127,798</b>	<b>-144,504</b>

### APPROPRIATION: Office of the Solicitor

	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Request	Change
Legal Services.....	69,428	57,980	36,864	-21,116
General Administration .....	6,199	5,200	4,628	-572
Ethics Office.....	18,504	17,830	16,416	-1,414
FOIA Office.....	3,819	3,171	2,304	-867
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b>97,950</b>	<b>84,181</b>	<b>60,212</b>	<b>-23,969</b>

### APPROPRIATION: Office of Inspector General

	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted <sup>1/</sup>	2027 Request	Change
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations.....	67,000	65,000	48,500	-16,500
<b>SUBTOTAL APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b>67,000</b>	<b>65,000</b>	<b>48,500</b>	<b>-16,500</b>
American Relief Act (P.L. 118-158) .....	8,000	0	0	0
OIG Transfers from Bureaus and Offices (P.L. 117-58) .....	+3,289	+3,264	0	-3,264
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION</b> .....	<b>78,289</b>	<b>68,264</b>	<b>48,500</b>	<b>-19,764</b>

<sup>1/</sup> The 2026 amount for the Office of Inspector General shows repurposed appropriations provided in the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-74).

