



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

## DOI WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM POLICY MEMORANDUM No. 2022-002

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: Jeff Rupert, Director – Office of Wildland Fire

Subject: Guidance for Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations during Continuing Resolutions (Public Laws 117-43 and 117-70)

Due Date: Does not apply

Effective Date: Immediately

Expiration Date: Remains in effect unless rescinded or modified

**Purpose:** This Policy Memorandum (PM) provides direction regarding initial budget allocations for Department of the Interior (DOI) Wildland Fire Management (WFM) programs and activities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 during the first and second Continuing Resolutions (CR). Public Law (P.L.) 117-43, the *Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act*, was the first CR for FY 2022. P.L. 117-70, the *Further Extending Government Funding Act*, is the second CR for FY 2022. The direction in this PM is consistent with the direction provided by DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-001, “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations, Disaster Relief Funding Allocations, and Spend Plans for Burned Area Rehabilitation and Carryover Funding,” issued October 18, 2021 (see Attachment 2).

**Background:** Public Law (P.L.) 117-43:

- Authorized continuing appropriations for FY 2022 from October 1 through December 3, 2021;
- Provided emergency supplemental funding for disaster assistance, including DOI WFM;
- Raised the premium pay cap for the pay of certain wildland fire employees for services performed during calendar year 2021 for DOI and the Department of Agriculture (USDA);
- Requires that DOI and USDA submit a report to Congress detailing the number of positions, occupations, grades, and pay, by type of pay, of positions where the premium pay authorization was applied; and

- Requires that DOI and USDA jointly provide a report to Congress on the framework to modernize the wildland firefighting workforce.

P.L. 117-70 authorized continuing appropriations for FY 2022 from December 4, 2021, through February 18, 2022 (see Attachment 1-C).

**Coordination:** The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) consulted WFM bureaus and offices in the development of 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 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the National Park Service (NPS), OWF, and any other DOI bureaus or offices that receive WFM funding from the FY 2022 CRs.

**Existing Policy Affected:** DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-001, “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations, Disaster Relief Funding Allocations, and Spend Plans for Burned Area Rehabilitation and Carryover Funding” (see Attachment 2)

**Authority:** Departmental Manual (DM) Part 620 Wildland Fire Management

**Time Frame:** This PM applies to funding made available under P.L. 117-70 for the period of December 4, 2021, through February 18, 2022. This period covers 77 days, which is 21.10 percent of FY 2022. Including funding made available under P.L. 117-43 (the first CR for FY 2022, which covered 64 days, or 17.53 percent of the fiscal year), Congress and the President have approved funding for 141 days, or 38.63 percent, of FY 2022.

## **Policy:**

**Continuing Resolution:** WFM bureaus and offices must follow the CR terms and provisions outlined in the October 1, 2021, DOI Office of Budget (POB) memo, “Guidance for FY 2022 Funds Execution Under H.R. 5305, the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act.” (See Attachment 1 and its attachments: A, B, and C. Attachments 1 and A remain unchanged from the first CR. Attachments B and C reflect updated documents for the second CR.)

Under the terms of the CRs, WFM bureaus and offices must manage funding consistent with FY 2021 enacted appropriations and may not assume enactment of funding in the FY 2022 President’s budget, in H.R. 4502 (which the House of Representatives passed July 29, 2021), or in the Senate subcommittee FY 2022 appropriations mark, including bill or report language. WFM bureaus and offices must manage prudently to maintain ongoing activities in a manner that does not “impinge on final funding prerogatives,” per direction in the POB memorandum (see Attachment A).

In planning funds execution for the full fiscal year, WFM bureaus and offices should execute the amounts provided by the CRs but keep in mind the possibility that there may eventually be reductions from the FY 2021 full-year enacted levels. OWF is not holding funds in the WFM

Parent account to cover such potential reductions. Allocation amounts for the CRs (P.L. 117-43 and P.L. 117-70) are provided below in Table 1.

**Table 1: Wildland Fire Management FY 2022 Allocations**  
**Public Laws 117-43 and 117-70**  
**Continuing Resolutions 1 and 2 for FY 2022**  
Dollars in thousands

	<i>BIA</i>	<i>BLM</i>	<i>FWS</i>	<i>NPS</i>	<i>OWF</i>	<i>Parent</i>	<i>Total CR Funding</i>
<i>Preparedness</i>	\$ 25,547	\$ 75,119	\$ 11,022	\$ 15,630	\$ 6,499	\$ 270	\$ 134,087
<i>Suppression</i>	\$ 52,881	\$ 29,210	\$ 2,798	\$ 22,565	\$ 182	\$ 40,571	\$ 148,207
<i>Fuels Management</i>	\$ 19,042	\$ 39,659	\$ 11,814	\$ 11,853	\$ 2,224	\$ 380	\$ 84,972
<i>Burned Area Rehabilitation</i>	\$ 1,962	\$ 4,274	\$ 608	\$ 1,062	\$ 1		\$ 7,907
<i>Facilities Maintenance and Construction</i>						\$ 7,118	\$ 7,118
<i>Joint Fire Science Program</i>		\$ 1,159					\$ 1,159
<i>Unallocated - Reserved in Parent Account</i>							\$ -
<b>Total Bureau Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 99,432</b>	<b>\$ 149,421</b>	<b>\$ 26,242</b>	<b>\$ 51,110</b>	<b>\$ 8,906</b>	<b>\$ 48,339</b>	<b>\$ 383,450</b>

This table does not show allocations of disaster relief emergency supplemental funding provided by P.L. 117-43. For those allocations, refer to DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-001. This table also does not show allocations of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding (P.L. 117-58). That funding has not been apportioned by the Office of Management and Budget.

The transfer of funds from the second CR was completed December 9, 2021. At that time, OWF notified bureaus and offices and provided the Treasury transaction numbers.

Under the provisions of P.L. 117-70, funding provided under the CR is only available until February 18, 2022. Accordingly, all WFM bureaus and offices should closely monitor program expenditures under the CR and return any projected unallocated funds to OWF in a timely manner for re-allocation to other bureaus for the implementation of other priority work.

**Budget Guidance:** Please contact OWF if you identify priority needs through February 18, 2022, that cannot be met using the funds allocated as shown in Table 1 and other available funding (e.g., disaster relief emergency supplemental assistance provided by P.L. 117-43 for FY 2022 for fuels management and burned area rehabilitation).

In addition to the requirements in the POB memo and its attachments and in DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-001, the following budget guidance and direction applies:

- **Suppression Operations:** The CRs provide a total of \$148.2 million for Suppression Operations in the WFM account. In accordance with policy and past practice, during the CRs, OWF initially allocated to the WFM bureaus approximately 40 percent of the ten-year average of suppression expenditures. From the amount retained in the Parent account, OWF has provided additional allocations as needed by bureaus to continue suppression operations during the CRs. In addition to the CR funding allocated to Suppression, carryover funding of

\$45.0 million from the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund were transferred to the WFM Suppression account prior to the end of the first CR to provide necessary resources.

- Facilities Construction and Maintenance: The CRs provide \$7.1 million for Facilities Construction and Maintenance through February 18, 2022. However, no funding is allocated for Facilities Construction and Maintenance at this time, and no minimum funding is necessary to continue operations. Available funding will be held in the Parent account for future allocation.

**Contacts:** For more information, you may contact Stephen Elmore ([stephen\\_elmore@ios.doi.gov](mailto:stephen_elmore@ios.doi.gov)) or Kimberly Salwasser ([kimberly\\_salwasser@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kimberly_salwasser@ios.doi.gov)).

cc: DOI WFM Executives  
DOI WFM Directors  
DOI WFM Budget Leads

**Attachments:**

- 1 – DOI Office of Budget memo, “Guidance for FY 2022 Funds Execution Under H.R. 5305, the Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act”
  - A – Office of Management and Budget Bulletin No. 21-05, “Apportionment of the Continuing Resolution(s) for Fiscal Year 2022”
  - B – DOL Table for CR through February 28, 2022 *[This is an updated attachment from the original attachment to the DOI Office of Budget memo.]*
  - C – Text of P.L. 117-70 *[This is an updated attachment from the original attachment to the DOI Office of Budget memo.]*
- 2 – DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-001, “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations, Disaster Relief Funding Allocations, and Spend Plans for Burned Area Rehabilitation and Carryover Funding”