



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

## DOI WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM POLICY MEMORANDUM No. 2023-006

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: Jeffery Rupert, Director, Office of Wildland Fire

Subject: Additional Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)

Due Date: Does not apply

Effective Date: Immediately

Expiration Date: Remains in effect unless rescinded or modified.

**Purpose:** This Policy Memorandum (PM) provides information and direction regarding the second round of Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 allocations of funding for implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, or “Bipartisan Infrastructure Law” (BIL), Public Law (P.L.) 117-58.

**Background:** The direction in this PM supports the Department of the Interior’s continued implementation of BIL’s Wildland Fire Management (WFM) provisions. This PM covers the second round of approved allocations of BIL funding during FY 2023. This PM’s approved allocations and guidance are for Preparedness, Fuels Management, and Burned Area Rehabilitation. All funding is from FY 2023 appropriations except for allocations for Burned Area Rehabilitation, which are from FY 2022 appropriations.

**Coordination:** The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) consulted bureaus and offices participating in Interior’s WFM program, Interior’s BIL Project Management Office (PMO), and Interior’s Office of Budget in developing the allocations covered by 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 bureaus or offices that receive WFM BIL funding allocations approved through this PM.

**Existing Policy Affected:** This PM relates to the following other PMs for allocations and execution of BIL funding:

- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006](#), “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Execution for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-007](#), “Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Guidance on Implementation of Special Payments to Wildland Firefighters under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-008](#), “Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations (Public Law 117-58)”;
- [DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2023-002](#), “Initial Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Allocations for Implementing the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (Public Law 117-58)”

**Authority:** Departmental Manual (DM) Part 620 Wildland Fire Management; BIL (P.L. 117-58)

**Timeframe:** This PM applies to requirements of, and funding made available by, [P.L. 117-58](#). The allocations of funding detailed in this PM are from appropriations made available beginning in FY 2022 and FY 2023. The funds are available until expended.

**Policy: Budget Allocations:** See Table 1 (below) for new approved allocation amounts from P.L. 117-58 for FY 2023, by bureau or office, to implement BIL. These funds will be available in addition to unobligated balances of previously approved allocations of BIL funding. This PM’s allocations are for the following purposes (all references are to Division D, Title VIII, of P.L. 117-58, except if indicated otherwise):

- Preparedness:
  - Additional funding for special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(d)(4),
  - Additional funding for a pilot program to assist local governments and tribal nations in acquiring slip-on tanker units to operate vehicles as fire engines, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(5), and
  - Funding for wildfire detection and monitoring, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(18).
- Fuels Management:
  - Funding for fuels management projects through FWS’s Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Coastal Program, as authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)—subsections 11, 13, and 14—and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”,

- Funding for Reserved Treaty Rights Lands (RTRL) projects to be completed under BIL Section 40803(c)—subsections 11, 13, 14, and 15<sup>A</sup>— and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”, and
  - Funding for the annual assessment by the BIL PMO for central administrative costs by various offices of the Department.
- Burned Area Rehabilitation: Activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(16) and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”:
    - Funding for a contract to facilitate updating post-fire policies and handbooks, and
    - Funding for Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) rehabilitation projects.

OWF notifies bureaus of Treasury transaction numbers once transfers are completed. Bureaus and offices should obligate funding consistent with policy guidance and direction provided in/by:

- DOI Wildland Fire Program Policy Memorandum No. 2022-006, “Guidance for Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Execution for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”, which includes guidelines on administrative costs and reporting requirements; and
- DOI Wildland Fire Program Policy Memorandum No. 2022-007, “Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations and Guidance on Implementation of Special Payments to Wildland Firefighters under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58)”, which provides guidance on the BIL special pay supplements for federal wildland firefighters.

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<sup>A</sup> Appropriations authorized by section 40803(c)(15) may only be expended for projects on federal lands. Therefore, they are unavailable for any RTRL projects that would occur on non-federal lands.

**Table 1**  
**New Approved Allocations of Funding**  
**from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)**  
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

<b>Activity or Subactivity</b>	<b>BIA</b>	<b>BLM</b>	<b>FWS</b>	<b>NPS</b>	<b>OWF</b>	<b>TOTAL, WFM Program</b>
<b>Preparedness, Subtotal</b>	<b>1,400</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>2,400</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>15,900</b>
Compensation/ B	1,400	5,100	2,400	0	0	8,900
Slip-On Tankers Pilot Program	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Wildfire Detection and Monitoring	0	2,000	0	0	0	2,000
<b>Fuels Management, Subtotal</b>	<b>9,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23,700</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>33,033</b>
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Coastal Program/ C	0	0	23,700	0	0	23,700
Reserved Treaty Rights Lands/ C	9,000	0	0	0	0	9,000
BIL PMO Central Assessment for Administrative Costs	0	0	0	0	333	333
<b>Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR), Subtotal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>205</b>
Policies and Handbooks Contract	0	0	0	0	150	150
BOR Projects	0	0	0	0	55	55
<b>TOTAL, All Activities</b>	<b>10,400</b>	<b>7,100</b>	<b>26,100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,538</b>	<b>49,138</b>

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table.

B/ These allocations are additional funding for BIL Section 40803(d)(4): the special pay supplement for federal wildland firefighters (the same purpose as allocations in DOI Wildland Fire Program PMs 2022-007, 2022-008, and 2023-002).

C/ OWF will transfer amounts from these approved allocations as eligible projects are identified and approved by the bureau.

**Preparedness:** This PM approves the allocation of \$15,900,000 of the \$69,564,000 in FY 2023 BIL funding for Preparedness that remains unallocated. The allocations to bureaus and OWF are as indicated in Table 1 and for the purposes described below:

- Compensation – Special Pay Supplements: This PM approves the allocation of a total \$8,900,000 to BIA, BLM, and FWS to implement the special payments for federal wildland firefighters that Interior is making pursuant to Section 40803(d)(4). This funding, in combination

with previous allocations, is intended to cover the pay supplement costs through July 2023 (estimate). Bureaus should use these additional allocations consistent with the guidance in PM No. 2022-007, its attachments, and other relevant guidance. This PM does not allocate additional funding for NPS or OWF at this time because current unobligated balances appear adequate to continue the payments through July 2023 (estimate). However, if NPS or OWF need additional funding before then, OWF will allocate it.

- Slip-on Tanker Unit Financial Assistance Pilot Program: Section 40803(c)(5) of BIL authorizes the appropriation of \$50,000,000 over the period FY 2022 through FY 2026 for Interior to establish and implement a pilot program to provide to local and tribal governments financial assistance for the acquisition of slip-on tanker units to establish fleets of vehicles that can be quickly converted to be operated as fire engines. This PM approves the allocation of another \$5,000,000 to OWF to enter into an agreement with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (USFS) for this pilot program. This funding is in addition to the \$5,000,000 approved in FY 2022 (see DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-008).
- Wildfire Detection and Monitoring: Section 40803(c)(18) of BIL authorizes the appropriation of \$5,000,000 over the period FY 2022 through FY 2026 for wildfire detection and monitoring. This PM approves the allocation of \$2,000,000 to BLM for these purposes, including:
  - \$1,500,000 for agreements with universities to expand detection coverage in Idaho, Nevada, and Oregon; and
  - \$500,000 to the Remote Automated Weather System (RAWS) program to complete a proof of concept to evaluate camera and smoke sensors that could be added to existing and mobile incident RAWS stations.

**Fuels Management:** This PM approves the allocation of \$33,033,000 of the \$120,252,000 in FY 2023 BIL funding for Fuels Management that remains unallocated. The allocations to bureaus and OWF are as indicated in Table 1 and for the purposes described below:

- Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Coastal Program: Consistent with Section 40803(c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of \$23,700,000 to FWS for fuels management treatments through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and the Coastal Program. This funding will support 24 fuels reduction projects in 13 states: Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. OWF will transfer this funding to FWS as projects approved for funding are identified in the National Fire Plan Operations and Reporting System (NFPORS).
- Reserved Treaty Rights Lands (RTRL): Consistent with Section 40803(c) and Division J, Title VI, of BIL, this PM approves the allocation of \$9,000,000 to BIA for RTRL projects. OWF will transfer this funding to BIA as projects approved for funding are identified in NFPORS.
- BIL PMO Central Assessment: This PM approves the allocation of \$332,711 to OWF for the annual central assessment for Interior offices supporting BIL implementation.

**Burned Area Rehabilitation:** This PM approves the allocation of \$205,000 to OWF (from FY 2022-apportioned funding) of the total \$70,155,000 that remains available for activities authorized by BIL Section 40803(c)(16) and Division J, Title VI, under the heading “Wildland Fire Management”. The allocations are as indicated in Table 1 and for the purposes described below:

- Policies and Handbooks: This PM approves the allocation of \$150,000 to OWF to enter into a contract to facilitate updating post-fire policies and handbooks.
- BOR Rehabilitation: This PM approves the allocation of \$55,000 to OWF to enter into an agreement with BOR to fund Lake Cascade and Hiawatha rehabilitation projects.

Table 2 (below) shows all total allocations of BIL funding to date, by activity and bureau or office, including allocations covered by this PM:

**Table 2**  
**Cumulative Approved Allocations of Funding, FY 2022-2023**  
**from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)**  
**by Bureau or Office**  
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

Activity or Subactivity	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	OWF
<b>Preparedness/ B</b>	12,950	67,351	15,155	14,826	11,114
<b>Fuels Management/ C, D</b>	63,437	124,520	60,958	36,616	4,799
<b>Burned Area Rehabilitation/ C, D</b>	9,457	21,038	2,910	5,080	730
<b>Joint Fire Science Program</b>	0	5,075	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL Allocations, by Bureau or Office/ C</b>	<b>85,844</b>	<b>217,984</b>	<b>79,023</b>	<b>56,522</b>	<b>16,643</b>

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table.

B/ For Preparedness, the OWF amount reflects that the FY 2023-approved allocations to OWF are offset by a reduction in a FY 2022-approved allocation to OWF that was not obligated (from DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

C/ The allocation to OWF includes FY 2022 funding transferred to FWS Ecological Services (per DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

D/ OWF will transfer each bureau’s allocations of funding as projects needing funding are identified and bureau approved in NFPORS.

Table 3 shows total approved allocations of BIL funding to date and unallocated amounts remaining in the WFM Parent account, including amounts approved for allocation through this PM:

**Table 3**  
**FY 2022 and FY 2023 Approved Allocations**  
**and Unallocated Amounts Remaining in the Parent Account**  
**from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)**  
(Dollars in thousands/ A)

Activity or Subactivity	FY 2022 Funding Available/ B	FY 2022 Funding Approved Allocations	FY 2022 Funding Unallocated	FY 2023 Funding Available/ B	FY 2023 Funding Approved Allocations	FY 2023 Funding Unallocated	TOTAL Approved Allocations, by Activity or Subactivity
<b>Preparedness/ C</b>	75,560	75,560	0	99,500	45,836	53,664	121,396
<b>Fuels Management/ D, E</b>	251,297	251,297	0	126,252	39,033	87,219	290,330
<b>Burned Area Rehabilitation/ D, E</b>	75,620	39,215	36,405	33,545	0	33,545	39,215
<b>Joint Fire Science Program</b>	3,085	3,085	0	1,990	1,990	0	5,075
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>405,562</b>	<b>369,157</b>	<b>36,405</b>	<b>261,287</b>	<b>86,859</b>	<b>174,428</b>	<b>456,016</b>

A/ Allocations are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars for presentation in this table.

B/ Available funding amounts are less the directed transfer of 0.5 percent of all appropriations to the Office of Inspector General.

C/ The approved allocations for FY 2023 amount reflects that the allocations are offset by a reduction in an approved FY 2022 allocation to OWF (from DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

D/ The approved allocations for FY 2022 amount includes funding transferred to FWS Ecological Services (per DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

E/ OWF will transfer each bureau's allocations as projects needing funding are identified and bureau approved in NFPORS.

**Contacts:**For more information about this PM, you may contact the following OWF staff:

- Regarding budget allocations: Stephen Elmore or Kimberly Salwasser
- Regarding Bipartisan Infrastructure Law implementation: Ketti Spomer
- Regarding special pay supplements for federal firefighters: Joe Majewski
- Regarding the slip-on tanker units pilot program: Kim Van Hemelryck
- Regarding wildfire detection and monitoring: Chris Buzo
- Regarding Fuels Management or Burned Area Rehabilitation: Kristy Swartz

CC: Interior WFM Executives  
Interior WFM Directors  
Interior WFM Budget Staff