




# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

SEP 13 2013

## OWF POLICY MEMORANDUM 2013 – 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: Jim Douglas, Director – Office of Wildland Fire 

Subject: Preliminary Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Wildland Fire Budget Allocations

**Purpose:** This memorandum provides the preliminary DOI Wildland Fire Budget Allocations for FY 2014.

**Scope:** Fire management funded programs and activities in the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the Office of Wildland Fire, and the Department-wide Fire Activities.

**Time Frame:** This Policy Memorandum is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or modified.

**Policy:** This preliminary allocation is based on the FY 2014 President's Budget Justification as presented in February 2013. Additional appropriation actions may impact the allocations provided; however, these allocations are intended to assist managers in initial planning for the upcoming fiscal year based on the best information available at this time.

Once the appropriation actions are known, allocation decisions will be revisited resulting in final allocations.

Attachment 1 displays the preliminary distribution of a full year of funding. In the event of a Continuing Resolution a percentage will be established based on this preliminary allocation to distribute available funding. The following is additional program specific information:

The following represents the preliminary percent distribution of the estimated total funding for the bureaus/offices and department-wide activities:

<b><i>Bureau/Office/Activity</i></b>	<b><i>% Share of Preliminary Funding</i></b>
Department-wide Activities	2.2%
BIA	14.0%
BLM	39.6%
FWS	6.8%
NPS	9.6%
OWF	0.5%
Initially Held in Parent Account	27.3%

*Hazardous Fuels Reduction (HFR):* The preliminary allocation in HFR allocations are based on the FY 2013 percentage share for each bureau. The FY 2014 HFR program of work is being developed and will be used for the final FY 2014 HFR allocations. Two million dollars is held at the parent account for a study on the cost effectiveness and resource effectiveness of Hazardous Fuels treatments to be completed in FY 2014.

Bureaus are expected take full advantage of opportunities to implement fuels treatments but should exercise prudence to ensure adequate funding for staff and other program activities throughout the year. Internal management controls for hiring of personnel should be followed.

*Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR):* The only portion of the BAR funding being distributed preliminarily is for the program management component. The first quarter BAR priority projects will be allocated once the evaluation process has been completed. The balance of the BAR funding will be held in the parent account to be distributed as priority project decisions are reached.

*Emergency Stabilization (ES) and Severity:* The Emergency Stabilization and Severity Authority memos will be issued in the first quarter of the fiscal year. Both of these are level of spending authority designations with funding provided in the Suppression Operations program. Unallocated Suppression Operations funding is held in the parent account for future distribution as warranted based on program activity.

The FY 2014 ES authority level is capped at ten percent of the ten-year rolling suppression expenditure average for the Department of the Interior. The amount shown in the table below is the annual level and distribution to each bureau.

The distribution of the Department of the Interior ES authority is based on the rolling ten-year average percentage of acres burned by bureau nationally, excluding Alaska. In the event one or more bureaus will exceed their ES authority, the Office of Wildland Fire, in collaboration with the Interior Fire Directors, will coordinate and approve the redistribution of ES authority between bureaus as warranted.

Any recommended cap increases to the Departmental ES cap are subject to approval by the Director, Office of Wildland Fire in collaboration with the Interior Fire Directors.

Emergency Stabilization level for FY 2014 is:

Bureau	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	Total
Authority Level	\$6,454,000	\$26,700,000	\$2,712,000	\$1,922,000	\$37,788,000

*Fire Facilities:* The Fire Facilities project level descriptions can be found in the FY 2014 Budget Justification. The Fire Facility funding is not available for obligation on new projects until an appropriation is passed. This allocation does not account for a repayment of \$360,000 the BLM will provide to NPS in FY 2014.

*Carryover:* Carryover will be available to each bureau with the exception of any carryover associated with a Department-wide activity or as managed through the BAR and Hazardous Fuels allocation process. Department-wide activity carryover will be used to offset department-wide activity funds in FY 2014 and will be identified once final carryover is known in the beginning of FY 2014.

*Department Wide Activities:* Preliminary department-wide activity allocations are outlined in the DOI Allocation spreadsheet available with each bureau Wildland Fire budget lead.

*NWCG Budget:* The Office of Wildland Fire and Fire and Aviation Management in the Forest Service are reviewing the budget for the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. That budget and associated staffing are expected to change in FY14 commensurate with the pending charter revision that changes the roles and responsibilities of the NWCG. Pending the outcome of that review bureaus are to avoid filling vacancies associated with the NWCG and minimize expenses not consistent with the proposed charter.

Until the further appropriations activity is known all bureaus/offices should use caution to avoid expenditures and obligations which would be difficult to reverse in the event the funding level is less than provided in this preliminary budget.

**Contacts:** Any questions can be directed to Louis Mauney, Budget Officer, Office of Wildland Fire at (202) 606-0518 or Denise Schmitz, Senior Budget Analyst, Office of Wildland Fire at (208) 334-1554.

cc: Interior Fire Executives  
Interior Fire Directors

Attachment: DOI FY 2014 Preliminary Allocations

## Attachment 1

**DOI FY 2014 Preliminary  
Allocations**

(\$000s)

	<b>Preparedness</b>	<b>Suppression</b>	<b>Hazardous Fuels</b>	<b>BAR</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>JFSP</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>Department- Wide Activities</i>	8,314	-	6,040	782	-	-	15,136
<i>BIA</i>	51,846	25,855	17,336	-	537	-	95,574
<i>BLM</i>	156,916	67,524	39,279	-	1,802	5,990	271,511
<i>FWS</i>	27,507	6,312	12,211	-	408	-	46,438
<i>NPS</i>	34,313	14,660	13,554	-	3,380	-	65,907
<i>OWF</i>	3,032	30	515	-	-	-	3,577
<i>Parent</i>	-	171,497	-	15,253	-	-	186,750

<b>Total Estimated Funding</b>	<b>281,928</b>	<b>285,878</b>	<b>88,935</b>	<b>16,035</b>	<b>6,127</b>	<b>5,990</b>	<b>684,893</b>
<b>% Share of Total</b>	<b>41.2%</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Bureau shares shown above are before the Service-level agreements are distributed.

**DOI FY 2014 Preliminary Allocations with Service Level Agreements and Dept.-wide activities  
distributed to sponsoring bureau. (\$000s)**

	<b>Preparedness</b>	<b>Suppression</b>	<b>Hazardous Fuels</b>	<b>BAR</b>	<b>Facilities</b>	<b>JFSP</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>BIA</i>	50,998	25,855	17,336	180	537	-	94,906
<i>BLM</i>	160,787	67,524	39,855	165	1,802	5,990	276,123
<i>FWS</i>	27,056	6,312	12,198	164	408	-	46,138
<i>NPS</i>	34,510	14,660	13,805	273	3,380	-	66,628
<i>OWF</i>	8,477	30	3,641	-	-	-	12,148
<i>Parent</i>	100	171,497	2,100	15,253	-	-	188,950

<b>Total Estimated Funding</b>	<b>281,928</b>	<b>285,878</b>	<b>88,935</b>	<b>16,035</b>	<b>6,127</b>	<b>5,990</b>	<b>684,893</b>
<b>% Share of Total</b>	<b>41.2%</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>2.3%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>100%</b>