



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, DC 20240

## DOI WILDLAND FIRE PROGRAM POLICY MEMORANDUM No. 2022-008

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: Further Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Allocations (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Expiration Date: Remains in effect unless rescinded or modified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 additional Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 budget allocations based on the funding and provisions of 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 (DOI) continued implementation of BIL’s Wildland Fire Management (WFM) provisions, including Sections 40803(c)(5)—which authorizes a pilot program to provide financial assistance for slip-on tanker units—and 40803(c)(7)—which authorizes preplanning fire response workshops and wildland fire management training. This PM covers the third round of FY 2022 allocations.

**Coordination:** The Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) consulted bureaus and offices participating in Interior’s WFM program, the DOI BIL Project Management Office, and the DOI Office of Budget in developing 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 under this PM.

**Existing Policy Affected:** 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)”; and 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)”

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

**Time Frame:** 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. The funds are available until expended.

**Policy:**

**Budget Allocations:** See Table 1 (below) for new allocation amounts from P.L. 117-58 for FY 2022, by bureau or office, to implement BIL Sections 40803(c)(5) (authorizing a slip-on tanker units financial assistance pilot program) and 40803(c)(7) (authorizing preplanning fire response workshops and wildland fire management training). This PM also details additional allocations of funding for implementing the special pay supplement for Federal wildland firefighters authorized by BIL Section 40803(d)(4) (see also DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-007) and for Tribal contract and administrative support costs related to BIL fuels management projects (see also DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006).

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)”; 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).”

**Table 1**  
**New Allocations of FY 2022 Funding**  
**from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58)**

Dollars in thousands/ A

Activity or Subactivity	BIA	BLM	FWS	NPS	OWF	TOTAL
<b>Preparedness, Subtotal</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>7,903</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>15,786</b>
Slip-on Tankers Pilot Program/ B	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000
Workshops & Training/ C	0	4,525	0	875	0	5,400
Compensation/ D	587	3,378	645	763	13	5,386
<b>Fuels Management, Subtotal</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>635</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>7,903</b>	<b>645</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>5,013</b>	<b>16,421</b>

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

B/ These allocations are for BIL Section 40803(c)(5): the slip-on tanker unit financial assistance pilot program.

C/ These allocations are for BIL Section 40803(c)(7): preplanning fire response workshops and wildland fire management training.

D/ These are additional allocations for BIL Section 40803(d)(4): the special pay supplement for Federal wildland firefighters (the same purpose as allocations in DOI Wildland Fire Program PM 2022-007).

**Preparedness:** The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) apportioned \$75,940,000 for BIL Preparedness for FY 2022. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program transferred 0.5 percent (\$379,700) to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), as required by the law. DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006 allocated \$1,904,000, and PM no. 2022-007 allocated \$57,870,000, to Interior bureaus and offices for BIL Preparedness activities.

Of available balances, this PM allocates another \$15,786,300 to bureaus and offices as indicated in Table 1 and for the purposes described below:

- 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 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 allocates \$5,000,000 of FY 2022 funding to OWF to enter into an agreement with the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service for this pilot program. After considering options for implementation, Interior determined that it will be more efficient and effective for the USDA Forest Service to administer the application and awarding process for the financial assistance on behalf of Interior than for Interior to do so. Furthermore, this approach will be less burdensome on local entities who seek and receive this assistance. It will be aligned with the process for applying for Community Wildfire Defense Grants, for which USDA is responsible. Interior is allocating \$5.0 million of FY 2022 BIL Preparedness

funding to OWF to enter into the agreement with USDA Forest Service on behalf of Interior's WFM program. The Interior Fire Executive Council (IFEC) approved this approach and investment August 4, 2022.

- Wildland Fire Management Workshops & Training: Section 40803(c)(7) of BIL authorizes the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for Interior for FY 2022 through FY 2026 for: (1) preplanning fire response workshops that develop potential operational delineations and select potential control locations; and (2) workforce training for staff, non-Federal firefighters, and Native village fire crews for wildland firefighting and increasing the pace and scale of vegetation treatments, including training on how to prepare and implement large landscape treatments.

This PM allocates a total \$5,400,000 in FY 2022 funding for wildland fire management workforce training for staff, non-Federal firefighters, and Native village fire crews for wildland firefighting, prescribed fire implementation, and the preparation and implementation of large landscape treatments. This total includes:

- \$4,525,000 to BLM to:
  - Hire two staff to administer, oversee, and report on the development and implementation of a contract(s) for position analysis and training development (The allocation for personnel reflects the estimated costs for the final month of FY 2022. Full-year funding for the positions—estimated to be \$250,000 for FY 2023—will be allocated for subsequent fiscal years.); and
  - Pay initial costs of this contract(s)—estimated to be \$4,500,000 initially—which is intended to implement recommendations and plans of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) to improve wildland fire management training. The effort will support the development and integration of a performance-based training system for NWCG incident positions that will base position training and qualifications on position-specific standards to enable consistency among evaluators and skillsets among trainees. This process will evaluate the amount of required classroom training and, when appropriate, move training to on-the-job field experience, to be evaluated in a next-generation position task book.
- \$875,000 to NPS to:
  - Contract for a competency modeling and gap analysis for the wildland fire management occupation to inform future investments in workforce training for Federal and Tribal wildland firefighters, including training on preparing and

implementing large landscape treatments. The total cost is estimated to be \$995,900. This PM allocates \$875,000. The remaining \$120,900 for this investment will be allocated in the initial allocations of BIL funding for FY 2023.

On August 4, 2022, IFEC approved allocating funding for these initiatives and investing in staff for a National Workforce Development Program. On August 19, 2022, the Fire Management Board approved hiring six personnel—five to be funded by DOI and one to be funded by USDA Forest Service—to establish and staff the program. DOI allocations for these personnel will be included in the initial allocations of BIL Funding for FY 2023.

- Special Pay Supplements under BIL: This PM allocates \$5,386,300 of FY 2022 funding to bureaus and offices to implement the special payments for Federal wildland firefighters that Interior is making pursuant to Section 40803(d)(4). These additional FY 2022 allocations for the special pay supplements, rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, are as follows:
  - BIA: \$ 587,000
  - BLM: \$3,378,000
  - FWS: \$ 645,000
  - NPS: \$ 763,000
  - OWF: \$ 13,000

Bureaus should use these additional allocations consistent with the guidance in PM No. 2022-007, its attachments, and other relevant guidance provided by DOI.

**Fuels Management:** OMB apportioned \$252,560,000 for BIL Fuels Management for FY 2022. This funding is available until expended. The WFM program transferred 0.5 percent (\$1,262,800) to OIG, as required by the law. DOI Wildland Fire Program PM No. 2022-006 allocated \$80,984,000 to bureaus and offices for BIL Fuels Management activities.

Of available balances, this PM allocates an additional \$635,000 to BIA for Tribal contract and administrative support costs for BIL-related fuels management. The remainder of the apportioned FY 2022 funding for Fuels Management will remain in the WFM Parent account and be allocated as additional needs are identified.

Table 2 (below) shows total allocations of BIL funding for FY 2022 to date, including allocations covered in this PM (see also PMs No. 2022-006 and 2022-007):

**Table 2**  
**Total Approved Allocations of FY 2022 Funding**  
**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
Preparedness	7,793	42,552	8,546	9,806	6,863
Fuels Management	17,023	38,210	11,433	11,236	3,717
Burned Area Rehabilitation/ B	4,691	10,519	1,455	2,540	525
Joint Fire Science Program	0	3,085	0	0	0
<b>Total Allocations by Bureau or Office</b>	<b>29,507</b>	<b>94,366</b>	<b>21,434</b>	<b>23,582</b>	<b>11,105</b>

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

B/ OWF is transferring each bureau's allocation of BAR funding as BAR projects needing funding are identified and bureau-approved in the National Fire Plan Operations System or Vegetation Management Action Portal.

Table 3 (below) shows total allocations of FY 2022 BIL funding to date and the amount of funding remaining in the WFM Parent account, by activity or subactivity:

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

Activity or Subactivity	Available Funding FY 2022/ B	FY 2022 Allocations	Amount Remaining in Parent Account
Preparedness	75,560	75,560	0
Fuels Management	251,297	81,619	169,678
Burned Area Rehabilitation	75,620	19,730	55,890
Joint Fire Science Program	3,085	3,085	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>405,562</b>	<b>179,994</b>	<b>225,568</b>

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

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

**Contacts:** For more information, you may contact the following people regarding:

- Budget allocations: 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))
- BIL (General): Ketti Spomer ([katherine\\_spomer@ios.doi.gov](mailto:katherine_spomer@ios.doi.gov))
- Fuels Management: Kristy Swartz ([kristy\\_swartz@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kristy_swartz@ios.doi.gov))
- Firefighters' compensation: Erin Horsburgh ([erin\\_horsburgh@ios.doi.gov](mailto:erin_horsburgh@ios.doi.gov)), Jason Fallon ([jason\\_fallon@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jason_fallon@ios.doi.gov)), Joe Majewski ([joseph\\_majewski@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joseph_majewski@ios.doi.gov)), or Ryan Wilkins ([ryan\\_wilkins@ios.doi.gov](mailto:ryan_wilkins@ios.doi.gov))

cc: Interior WFM Executives  
Interior WFM Directors  
Interior WFM Budget Staff