

The Department of the Interior: A Tree with Many Branches

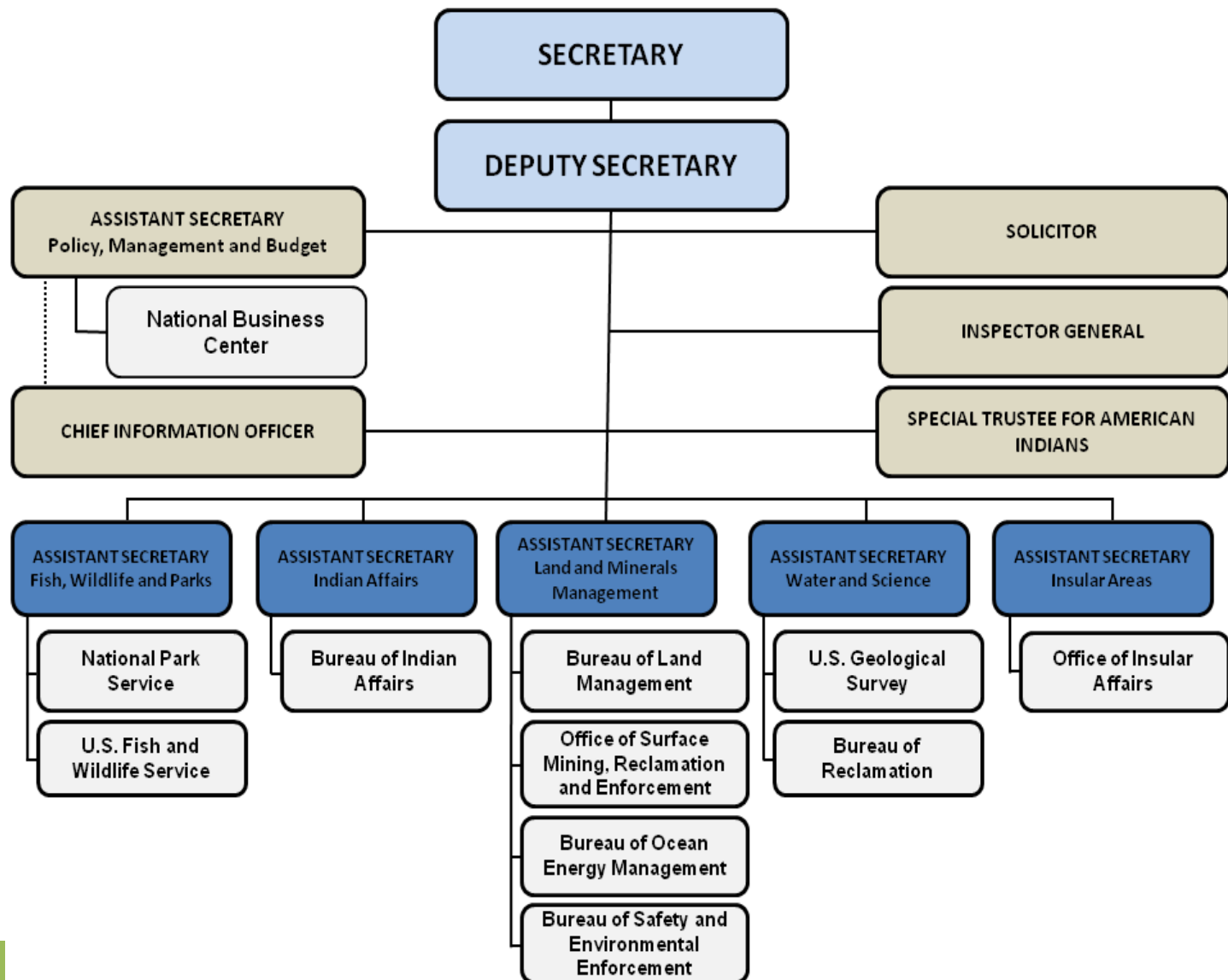


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ASSESSMENT

History of DOI



- March 3, 1849, the last day of the 30th Congress that a bill was passed to create the Department of the Interior to take charge of the Nation's internal affairs:
- The Interior Department had a wide range of responsibilities entrusted to it:
 - the construction of the national capital's water system
 - the colonization of freed slaves in Haiti
 - exploration of western wilderness
 - oversight of the District of Columbia jail
 - regulation of territorial governments
 - management of hospitals and universities
 - management of public parks
 - the basic responsibilities for Indians, public lands, patents, and pensions



Bureaus & Offices



- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
- National Park Service
- Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey

DOI Today



- 70,000 employees
- Entrusted to oversee and manage the Nation's Natural and Cultural Heritage
- 507 million acres of land
- 400 National Parks, Monuments, Seashores, & Recreation Areas (NPS)
- 586 NWRs (FWS)
- 886 Areas in the National Landscape Conservation System (BLM)
- 476 dams (BOR)
- Over 565 Federally recognized Indian Tribes (BIA)

