

West Virginia
(Dollars in Thousands)

West Virginia	2012 Total*	5% Sequester	Revised Total
Estimate of Total Interior Funding	80,452	-4,022	76,430

* The 2012 Total does not include project specific funding for land acquisition, construction, and Bureau of Reclamation projects or competitive grant allocations.

Interior funding in West Virginia totaled about \$80 million in 2012. A five percent sequester of Interior funding at this level would mean a loss of about \$4.0 million. This estimate will be updated once the sequestration order is issued and allocations are finalized. There could be further reductions in competitive grants, land acquisition and construction projects, and wildland fire expenditures that are not included in this estimate.

- The Department of Interior has a presence in West Virginia with over 700 employees. West Virginia hosts eight national park units, some of which are shared with adjoining States. In addition, West Virginia is home to two wildlife refuges and one national fish hatchery that preserve habitat and protect species.
- Together these assets attracted over 1.8 million visitors, created over 1,200 jobs, and generated \$71 million for local economies in 2011.
- Under the sequester, Interior operations in West Virginia stand to lose an estimated:
 - \$1.8 million from Fish and Wildlife Service sites like *Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge*.
 - \$769 thousand from National Park Service sites like *New River Gorge and Harper's Ferry*.

Within this total, major grants and direct payments to West Virginia would drop by about \$4 million.

Interior Grants and Payments	Estimate Total	Sequester	Revised Total
Abandoned Mine Land Grants	62,753	-3,200	59,553
Cooperative Endangered Species Cons. Fund Grants	700	-35	665
Historic Preservation Fund	707	-35	672
LWCF State Grants w/GOMESA	451	-23	428
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	3,042	-155	2,887
Sport Fish & Wildlife Restoration	9,573	-488	9,085
State and Wildlife Grants	479	-24	455
Mineral Revenue Payments	235	-12	223
Total, West Virginia	77,940	-3,972	73,968

Note: The sequester is an across-the-board reduction that reduces every account and activity (with few exemptions). The result will be reduced levels of direct services provided to the American public. Cut backs in visitor hours and programs will impact tourism and travel and have ripple effects on communities and economies that are reliant on these activities. Reductions in permanent and seasonal staffing and reductions in contracts will impact surrounding communities where employees live and where supplies and services are acquired. Reductions in grants and payments will impact the abilities of States, Tribes and counties to sustain ongoing services in emergency response, education, and others. As these impacts are defined, we will provide details.