



# U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

*PRESS RELEASE*

## **Summary: FY12 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations** *Conference Report*

FY 2011 enacted level	\$29.6 billion
FY 2012 President's request	\$31.3 billion
FY 2012 Conference agreement	\$29.2 billion

Division E of the conference report on H.R. 2055 includes fiscal year 2012 appropriations for those agencies and programs that fall within the jurisdiction of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. Funds appropriated to these accounts support a wide range of programs that create jobs within our communities, safeguard our public lands, protect our natural resources, strengthen Native American and Alaska Native programs, and support our most treasured cultural institutions, memorials and monuments. The recommended overall amount of \$29.2 billion is \$339.89 million below the current year 2011 enacted level.

### **Highlights:**

- Provides \$5.97 billion to support the ongoing operations of our national parks and forests, our national wildlife refuges and our federal rangelands;
- Provides more than \$6.8 billion to help improve the quality and accessibility of education, health care and law enforcement programs for Native Americans and Alaska Natives;
- Provides \$8.5 billion to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to fund environmental research, regulation and protection programs at the Federal, State and local levels, including \$2.39 billion to fund local water infrastructure improvements and create jobs through the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Programs.
- Provides \$322.8 million for the purchase and protection of lands through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a 7% increase over fiscal year 2011;
- Makes available more than \$3.1 billion for firefighting and hazardous fuels reduction activities on Federal lands, including sufficient funds to meet the U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior ten-year average of fire suppression costs;

- Completes the reorganization of the former Minerals Management Service to create the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. These new bureaus will ensure better and safer management of our nation's offshore energy and mineral resources, including offshore drilling permitting and leasing, worker safety issues, and protection from avoidable environmental disasters;
- Provides \$75 million to complete design and begin construction of the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture.

*A summary of Division E of the conference agreement by title follows:*

**Title 1, Department of the Interior**

**Bureau of Land Management** – The conference agreement includes \$1.085 billion for the Bureau of Land Management, \$3 million below the fiscal year 2011 enacted level. The total amount includes \$947.6 million to manage recreation, resource protection, habitat conservation, and energy production on public lands, of which \$75 million is for the wild horse and burro program, \$19.7 million is for renewable energy activities, and \$19.9 million is to inventory and clean up abandoned mine sites.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** – The conference agreement includes \$1.48 billion for operations of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, a decrease of \$25.3 million below the FY 2011 enacted level. Within that amount, the conference agreement provides \$176.2 million for endangered species programs, \$35.6 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund, and \$61.4 million for state and tribal wildlife grants.

**National Park Service** – The conference agreement includes \$2.6 billion for operations of the National Park Service, a decrease of \$27.3 million from the FY 2011 enacted level. Within this total, \$2.2 billion is provided for operations of the National Park System, and \$155.6 million is provided for construction activities that help address the maintenance backlog.

**U.S. Geological Survey** - The conference agreement includes \$1.1 billion for operations of the U.S. Geological Survey, a decrease of \$20 million from the FY 2011 enacted level. The total includes increases of \$11.5 million to complete funding for Landsat 8 ground operations in preparation for the satellite's launch in December of 2012; \$5 million to support USGS Climate Science Centers; and \$6.5 million to continue the Water Resources Research Institutes program, which was proposed for elimination in the budget request.

**Bureau of Ocean Energy Management** – The conference agreement includes \$160.9 million for the new Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. Funds are provided for conventional and renewable energy resource evaluation, environmental review, leasing activities, and lease management for Outer Continental Shelf energy and mineral production.

**Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement** – The conference agreement includes \$197.5 million for the new Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. Funds are provided for regulating and enforcing safety, environmental, and conservation compliance during the development of the nation’s ocean energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf and oil spill response research. Included in this amount is an additional \$62 million for offshore oil and gas inspections that will be available from inspection fees assessed to the industry.

**Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement** –The conference agreement includes \$150.5 million for the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, a decrease of \$12.1 million from the FY 2011 enacted level.

**Bureau of Indian Affairs** - The conference agreement includes \$2.5 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a decrease of \$58.7 million from the FY 2011 enacted level. This amount includes \$2.4 billion for the operation of Indian programs; \$123.8 million for construction of education, public safety and justice facilities; and \$32.9 million for Indian land and water claim settlements and miscellaneous payments to Indians.

**Insular Affairs** -- The conference agreement provides \$105.3 million for assistance to territories and Compact of Free Association programs, an increase of \$3.8 million over the FY 2011 level. The conference agreement continues payments for the Republic of Palau at \$14 million. It also provides \$5 million in discretionary funding to supplement mandatory payments to jurisdictions whose educational, health care and social programs are affected by Compact of Free Association migration.

**Department-wide Programs** – The conference agreement makes available \$848 million for Wildland Fire Management programs at the Department of the Interior, an increase of \$70 million over available funds in fiscal year 2011. That amount includes \$270.6 million for fire suppression and \$92 million for the FLAME Wildfire Suppression Reserve account.

## **Title II, Environmental Protection Agency**

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** – The conference agreement includes \$8.5 billion for the Environmental Protection Agency, a decrease of \$309.1 million below the FY 2011 enacted level. The distribution of funds among major programs of the agency follows:

- \$2.39 billion to fund local clean and drinking water infrastructure projects, including \$1.47 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds program and \$919.4 million for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds program. The amount provided for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds program will fund approximately 473 new wastewater projects nationwide and more than 81,000 jobs when combined with State matching funds and leverage capabilities. Amounts provided for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds program will fund approximately 353 new drinking water projects nationwide and more than 50,000 jobs when combined with State matching and leveraged funds;

- \$2.68 billion is provided for environmental program and management activities, of which \$410.4 million is included for environmental protection programs focusing on great water bodies, including \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and \$57.4 million for the Chesapeake Bay program;
- \$1.09 billion is provided for grants to States and tribes to fund environmental regulation and protection;
- \$1.21 billion is provided for Superfund programs and activities;
- \$795 million is provided for science and technology programs; and
- \$30 million is included to restore funding for the Diesel Emission Reduction Act grant program, which the Administration had proposed to terminate in the budget request.
- The bill also includes language to permanently apply Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to the Clean and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.

### **Title III, Related Agencies**

**U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture** – The conference agreement includes \$4.6 billion for operations of the U.S. Forest Service, a decrease of \$83.4 million below the FY 2011 enacted level. The total amount includes \$295.8 million for forestry research; \$253.3 million for state and private forestry assistance, of which \$53 million is for the Forest Legacy program; \$1.55 billion for operations of national forests and grasslands, of which \$40 million is provided for large-scale collaborative landscape restoration projects; \$394.7 million for capital improvement and maintenance activities, including \$45 million for legacy road and trail remediation; \$52.6 million for land acquisition; and makes available \$2.29 billion for wildland fire management. The conference agreement allows for a pilot of the Administration’s proposed Integrated Resource Restoration program in three regions.

**Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services** – The conference agreement includes \$4.3 billion for Indian Health Service programs, an increase of \$244.2 million over the FY 2011 enacted level. Within that overall amount, \$3.87 billion is recommended for the health services account and \$441.1 million is recommended for the health facilities account. Increases include \$65 million for Contract Health Services; \$12 million for the Indian Health Care Improvement Fund; \$74.5 million for Contract Support Costs; \$63.1 million for the staffing of new facilities; and an additional amount of \$46.1 million to continue construction of replacement health facilities.

**Smithsonian Institution** - The conference agreement includes \$811.5 million for the Smithsonian Institution, an increase of \$52 million over the FY 2011 enacted level. An amount of \$75 million is provided to begin construction of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

**National Gallery of Art** – The conference agreement includes \$128.6 million for the National Gallery of Art, an overall decrease of \$30.1 million from the FY 2011 enacted level. The large discrepancy between the Gallery’s current year budget level and the FY 2012 recommendation results from the completion of funding in FY 2011 for major critical repairs to the East Building façade at a total cost of \$82.25 million. An increase of \$3.5 million over current year funding is provided for operations, maintenance, and protection of the Gallery’s buildings, as well as the care of its collections.

**John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** – The conference agreement includes \$36.9 million for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, an increase of \$503,000 above the FY 2011 enacted level.

**Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars** – The conference agreement includes \$11 million for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a decrease of \$198,000 from the FY 2011 enacted level.

**National Endowment for the Arts** – The conference agreement includes \$146.3 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, in agreement with the fiscal year 2012 budget request.

**National Endowment for the Humanities** – The conference agreement includes \$146.3 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, in agreement with the fiscal year 2012 budget request.

**United States Holocaust Memorial Museum** – The conference agreement includes \$50.8 million for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, an increase of \$1.8 million above the FY 2011 level.

**Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission** – The conference agreement includes \$33 million in new funding for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, which will allow the Commission to begin construction of the presidential memorial.

The conference report does not contain the following House provisions, which restricted funding in the following areas:

Sec 431	Greenhouse gas emission from stationary sources
Sec 432	Mountaintop mining, Stream Buffer rule limitation
Sec 433	Mountaintop mining, coordination and guidance
Sec 434	Regulation of coal ash
Sec 435	Navigable waters under the Clean Water Act
Sec 436	Cooling water intake structures
Sec 444	Integrated Risk Information System
Sec 448	Reducing emission from Portland cement factories
Sec 450	Lead renovation and repair rule
Sec 454	Particulate matter air quality standards
Sec 456	Wetlands designation
Sec 462	Utility MACT rule
Title V	Pesticide application requirements
Sec 445	Grand Canyon uranium mining
Sec 119	Grey Wolf, restriction on judicial review

Language in the Fish & Wildlife account prohibiting the use of funds for listing or critical habitat designations under the Endangered Species Act.

###