

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES, 2023

\$38.85 billion in total base discretionary funding

The Interior bill provides \$38.85 billion in non-defense funding for Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23), which is an increase of \$850 million (2.2 percent) when compared to FY22 enacted. In addition, \$2.55 billion is made available by the wildfire suppression cap adjustment.

- Prioritizes agencies and programs that provide for sound management and recreation on public lands, provide health and other critical services to tribal communities, and invest in water and wastewater infrastructure.
- Includes an additional \$2.55 billion for wildfire suppression activities made available by the wildfire cap adjustment.
- Rejects provisions that would have impeded oil and gas activities on public lands.
- Includes long-standing legacy riders regarding the sage grouse, regulation of lead in fishing tackle and ammunition, regulation of greenhouse gases, and carbon neutrality.

BILL HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. Department of the Interior – The bill provides a total of \$15.1 billion for programs within the Interior Subcommittee’s jurisdiction, \$583.8 million (4 percent) above the FY22 enacted level.

NOTE: The total for DOI does not include the Bureau of Reclamation, which is funded in the Energy and Water Appropriations bill.

- **Bureau of Land Management (BLM)** – \$1.49 billion, an increase of \$83 million above enacted and \$67 million below the budget request. Increases will expand program capacity across the Bureau and support responsible energy and mineral development on public lands.
- **National Park Service (NPS)** – The bill provides \$3.47 billion for the NPS, \$210 million above the FY22 enacted level. This level fully funds fixed costs and activities necessary to facilitate visitor experiences at our nation’s parks.
- **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)** – \$1.77 billion, an increase of \$128 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$199 million below the President’s budget request. There are small increases across all subaccounts within the National Wildlife Refuge System along with Fish and Aquatic Conservation receiving the most substantial increases. Other smaller increases are included for recovery and grant programs such as NAWCA and State and Tribal Grants.
- **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)** – \$1.49 billion, an increase of \$102 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$214 million below the President’s budget request. Increases are provided to expand the Survey’s work and capacity on energy and minerals, natural hazards, and water resources.
- **Bureau of Ocean Energy Management** – \$183 million, an increase of \$19 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$17 million below the President’s budget request. The funding provided will support the Bureau’s conventional energy program and expand capacity for renewable energy, permit processing, and a new carbon sequestration program.

- **Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement** – \$172 million, an increase of \$16 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$26 million below the President’s budget request. Increases are provided to support the Bureau’s core work and to address decommissioning of offshore infrastructure under the Bureau’s responsibility.
- **Office of Surface Mining (OSM)** – \$290 million, an increase of \$22 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$18 million above the President’s budget request. The Abandoned Mine Land state grants are funded at \$135 million, an increase of \$12.5 million above the FY22 enacted level.
- **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)** – \$2.44 billion, an increase of \$177 million above the FY22 enacted level and \$299 million below the President’s budget request. Funding for natural resources and law enforcement receive the most substantial increases, including the continuation of \$62 million to address the law enforcement needs in Oklahoma in response to the McGirt court case.
- **Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)** – \$1.40 billion, an increase of \$118 million over the FY22 enacted level and \$175 million below the President’s budget request. Elementary and secondary programs receive increases, as well as post-secondary programs.
- **Office of Wildland Fire** – The bill provides \$1.004 billion for wildland fire management. This amount includes \$382 million for preparedness and \$340 million in the Wildfire Suppression Operations Reserve Fund. \$247 million is included for hazardous fuels management, an increase of \$20 million above the FY22 enacted level.
- **Energy Community Revitalization Program** – \$5 million is provided to help address the plugging of orphaned oil and gas wells, reclamation of well locations, and remediation of abandoned mine sites on federal, state, and tribal lands.
- **Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)** – The bill includes the annual mandatory funding routinely provided which allows PILT to be fully funded. PILT funding is provided to communities in 49 states and in the territories to compensate for lost tax revenues resulting from federal land ownership within their jurisdiction. The estimated level for this year is \$535 million.

Environmental Protection Agency – \$10.135 billion is included for the EPA, an increase of \$576 million (6 percent) above the FY22 enacted level. This funding is \$1.744 billion below the President’s budget request. Increases are provided for all accounts with a particular focus on addressing fixed cost needs across the Agency and providing increases for grant programs. The bill provides an increase of \$52 million in the Science and Technology account and an increase of \$322 million in the Environmental Programs and Management account. The Superfund account is provided a \$50 million increase above the enacted level. The State and Tribal Assistance Grants account is funded at \$4.480 billion, an increase of \$129 million.

U.S. Forest Service – The bill provides \$7.074 billion for the Forest Service, which includes \$2.210 billion in wildland fire cap adjustment funding. The bill increases funding for hazardous fuels reduction by \$19.6 million and provides an additional \$91.8 million investment in the wildland fire workforce to convert the firefighters into year-round employees to combat longer fire seasons and increased fuel loads across the Service. Funding for forest products and state and local fire assistance is also increased.

Indian Health Service – \$6.95 billion, an increase of \$327 million above FY22 enacted levels. Current services have been included and staffing packages are fully funded. Increases have been provided for the electronic health record system, as well as important initiatives such as maternal health, Urban Indian health, and programs that support Indian Health Professions. Advance appropriations are included for FY24 to prevent the interruption of health care-related services during funding disruptions.

Smithsonian Institution – \$1.14 billion, an increase of \$82 million over FY22 enacted levels and \$30 million below the President’s budget request. All fixed costs along with salaries and expenses are included with small programmatic increases. The Latino and Women’s Museum requests are fully funded as requested.

Kennedy Center – \$45.38 million is included, an increase of \$4.9 million over FY22 enacted and equal to the President’s budget request.

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) – Each Endowment receives \$207 million, a \$27 million increase above the FY22 enacted level.

Commissions – The request includes funding for the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Native Children’s Commission. \$1 million is included for ongoing work at the World War I Memorial Commission and funding for the Eisenhower Commission has concluded. \$15 million is included for the Semiquincentennial Commission.