



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Funding Highlights:

- The Department of the Interior (DOI) conserves and manages natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people, provides scientific and evidence-based information about America's natural resources and hazards, supports safe and responsible development of Federal energy resources, fosters rural prosperity, and honors the Nation's trust responsibilities and special commitments to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and U.S.-affiliated island communities to help them prosper.
- The 2020 Budget request for DOI prioritizes wildland fire risk mitigation, energy development programs, infrastructure improvements on public lands, and DOI-wide reorganization efforts. The Budget eliminates funding for unnecessary or duplicative programs while reducing funds for lower priority activities, including land acquisition and various grant programs.
- The Budget requests \$12.5 billion for DOI, a \$2 billion or 14-percent decrease from the 2019 estimate (including 2019 changes in mandatory programs).

### The President's 2020 Budget:

DOI protects and manages the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage, manages development of energy and mineral resources on Federal lands and waters, provides scientific and other information about the Nation's natural resources, manages water infrastructure, honors trust responsibilities to American Indians and Alaska Natives, and fulfills commitments to Insular areas. The 2020 Budget reflects the Administration's strong commitment to promoting economic security and energy dominance by developing domestic energy resources. These efforts invest in America's future and prioritize the safety and security of American taxpayers by reducing U.S. dependency on foreign nations.

**Strengthens America's Energy Security.** The Budget increases funding for DOI programs that support the safe and responsible development of energy on public lands and offshore waters. DOI has proposed an aggressive strategy for leasing offshore oil and gas under its Draft Proposed Program for 2019-2024. Onshore, the Administration is working aggressively to carry out congressional direction to implement oil and gas leasing in the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The Department will also continue to make new areas available for renewable energy development—both onshore and offshore—and will prioritize renewable project permitting consistent with industry demand. The Budget also maintains funding for scientific research and data collection by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to inform responsible energy and mineral development

and minimize the environmental impacts of these activities. Combined with administrative reforms to streamline permitting processes, these efforts would provide industry with access to the energy resources America needs, while ensuring that taxpayers receive a fair return from the development of these public resources.

*"Together, we are going to start a new energy revolution—one that celebrates American production on American soil."*

President Donald J. Trump  
March 28, 2017

**Supports Reorganization of DOI.** The Budget provides \$28 million to continue implementing DOI's vision for a reorganized Department, focusing resources on its new unified regions, moving headquarters staff west, and expanding the use of shared services. Through its 12 new unified regions, DOI hopes to improve collaboration and coordination across its bureaus on key DOI missions—such as recreation, conservation, and permitting—and to focus regions on the same resources and constituents. By relocating staff, the Department brings employees closer to the public that they serve and the resources they manage. Efforts to expand shared ser-

vices will reduce duplicative capacity within DOI and increase the Department's ability to deliver on DOI's missions and responsibilities.

**Supports Federal Efforts to Reduce Wildfire Risk.** In light of historically catastrophic wildfire seasons in recent years, the Budget significantly increases funding for wildland fire management programs to reduce hazardous fuel loads and support wildfire preparedness efforts. The Budget responsibly funds base suppression costs pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, which would be bolstered by \$300 million in additional suppression resources under the recently enacted wildfire cap adjustment. In addition, the Administration is unequivocal about the need to accelerate active forest management. The Budget reflects this critical priority by requesting \$194 million for DOI's hazardous fuel mitigation work and \$172 million for DOI timber programs; together, these programs help ensure that Federal lands and watersheds are sustainable, healthy, and productive. These programs also generate jobs in rural communities and help make them safer and more resilient to the destructive impacts of wildfire.

**Invests in Public Lands Infrastructure Fund.** DOI and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service manage an infrastructure asset portfolio with a replacement value exceeding \$300 billion. The buildings, trails, roads, water systems, and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) schools managed by the Departments are deteriorating, as evidenced by a deferred maintenance backlog that exceeds \$18 billion. To address this backlog, the Budget proposes a \$6.5 billion Public Lands Infrastructure Fund (Fund) to improve and repair facilities at national parks and forests, wildlife refuges, BIE schools, and on other public lands. The Fund would be supported by the deposit of 50 percent of the proceeds received from Federal offshore and onshore energy leases over the 2020-2024 period, subject to an annual limit of \$1.3 billion. These investments would improve some of America's most visited parks and public lands that support a multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy.

**Preserves National Park Service (NPS) Assets for Future Generations.** NPS has a long history of preserving and protecting the natural and cultural sites that tell America's story. To continue this tradition and ensure preservation of national parks for generations to come, the Budget provides \$293 million to help address NPS's \$12 billion deferred maintenance backlog. Along with the mandatory funding provided by the Public Lands Infrastructure Fund, this funding would help NPS maintain and preserve America's highest priority assets.

**Prioritizes Land Management Operations at NPS, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management.** To protect and conserve America's public lands, the Budget provides \$5 billion for land management operations. These resources would ensure access to recreational activities such as hunting, fishing, and camping, and provide safe experiences for visitors. The Budget also advances efforts to streamline operations and reduce unnecessary spending.

**Invests in Essential Science Programs.** The Budget invests in USGS science related to natural hazards; water, energy, minerals, and other natural resources; and the health of America's ecosystems and environment. The Budget supports development of the Landsat 9 ground system, as well as research and data collection to inform sustainable energy and mineral development, responsible resource management, and natural hazard risk reduction.

**Supports Tribal Sovereignty and Self-Determination across Indian Country.** The Budget supports Federal trust responsibilities and tribal needs related to education, social services, law enforcement, infrastructure maintenance, and stewardship of land, water, and other natural resources. Funding priorities include core operational activities and services that support tribal sovereignty, sustain tribal governments, including assisting tribal law enforcement initiatives and training, and foster effective stewardship of trust resources, such as fully funding contract support costs. The Budget also supports BIE's efforts to foster the success of the approximately 47,000 students it serves.

**Streamlines Reviews and Permitting.** DOI is responsible for administering foundational environmental and historic preservation laws nationwide and for managing more than 20 percent of the Nation's lands, which affects the American public and many private stakeholders. The Budget supports DOI in fulfilling these important permitting and review responsibilities in a timely and thorough manner. As an example, the Budget maintains core funding for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultations, which help facilitate development of infrastructure projects while ensuring threatened and endangered species receive the protections intended by the ESA. The Budget also strengthens the Bureau of Land Management's ability to efficiently facilitate and administer development of energy transmission projects.

**Eliminates Unnecessary, Lower Priority, or Duplicative Programs.** The Budget includes elimination of discretionary Abandoned Mine Land economic development grants that overlap with existing mandatory reclamation grants, National Heritage Areas that are more appropriately funded locally, Indian Guaranteed Loan Program funding that largely duplicates other existing loan programs serving Indian Country, and National Wildlife Refuge Fund payments to local governments that are duplicative of other payment programs.

**Reduces Funding for Land Acquisition.** The Budget continues to focus on using resources to manage existing lands and assets managed by DOI. For example, the Budget reduces funding for land acquisition to \$8 million, including balance cancellations. Less funding for land acquisition would allow DOI to focus resources on supporting activities and asset repair in existing national parks, refuges, and public lands which encompass more than 500 million acres.

**Supports Law Enforcement Capacity on Public and Trust Lands.** DOI serves as the steward of more than 500 million acres of public lands and more than 55 million acres of tribal trust lands. The Budget keeps visitors and natural resources safe on the Nation's public lands and supports safe tribal communities on trust lands through law enforcement efforts. The Budget supports a strong and secure border, with DOI law enforcement efforts focused on the 12 million acres of DOI lands along the United States-Mexico border. The Budget also invests in the United States Park Police, who safeguard lives and protect America's national treasures. In addition, the Budget invests in

efforts to combat illegal wildlife trafficking using United States Fish and Wildlife Service law enforcement capacity, in support of the President's Executive Order on combatting transnational criminal organizations.

**Expands Recreational Access and Supports the Outdoor Recreation Economy.** Each year, hundreds of millions of Americans visit U.S. national parks, wildlife refuges, and other public lands to hike, hunt, fish, view wildlife, and participate in other recreation opportunities. Visitors to public lands spend money in local gateway regions, and these expenditures generate and support economic prosperity within these local communities. In addition, through the purchases of hunting and fishing licenses and equipment—and associated excise taxes—sportsmen and women have generated billions of dollars to fuel wildlife and habitat conservation efforts. To serve these visitors, the Budget supports expanded public access to lands and waters administered by DOI. The Budget also invests in increased access to encourage sportsmen and women conservationists, veterans, minorities, and underserved communities that traditionally have low participation in outdoor recreation activities.

**Invests in Water Resources and Infrastructure.** The Budget invests in the safe, reliable, and efficient management of water resources throughout the United States. The Budget requests \$1.1 billion for the Bureau of Reclamation, with an emphasis on operating, maintaining, and rehabilitating existing water resources infrastructure throughout the western United States. Through the Bureau of Reclamation and Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Budget requests \$179 million for the implementation of enacted Indian water rights settlements in support of Federal trust responsibilities to Tribes. The Budget also invests \$194 million in water-related science at USGS and the Bureau of Reclamation to sustain and enhance ground and surface water quality and quantity research and monitoring, and to develop new technologies to respond to the water resource challenges facing the Nation.