



U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Interior Spending Bill Approved by Committee

WASHINGTON – Today the Senate Appropriations Committee unanimously passed the fiscal year 2007 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. The \$26.1 billion bill provides appropriations for the Department of the Interior (except the Bureau of Reclamation), the Forest Service, the Indian Health Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, and related agencies for the period of October 1, 2006, through September 30, 2007.

Amendments accepted at mark-up

- **Craig amendment to provide temporary relief for small public water systems attempting to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act's new arsenic standards**
- **Feinstein amendment disqualifying oil companies from bidding on future leases if they refuse to re-negotiate leases from 1998 and 1999 where they are currently paying no royalties**
- **Domenici amendment requiring the Secretary of Interior to seek to re-negotiate leases where no royalties are being paid; this amendment also clarifies the intent of Congress to implement price thresholds for certain federal leases**

GRAND TOTALS

FY 06 Enacted (including emergencies):	\$26.3 billion
FY 07 Budget Request:	\$25.5 billion
FY 07 House allowance:	\$25.9 billion
FY 07 Committee recommendation:	\$26.1 billion

WILDLAND FIRE ACTIVITIES

The bill provides a total of \$2.56 billion for **wildland fire management activities**, including \$776.6 million for the **Bureau of Land Management** and \$1.783 billion for the **Forest Service**. The total includes \$491.6 million for **hazardous fuels reduction**, an increase of \$3.4 million over the enacted level. Additionally, the Committee has provided \$5 million for **Rural Fire Assistance**, \$73 million for **State Fire Assistance** and \$14 million for **Volunteer Fire Assistance**.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Provides \$354 million from the **Land and Water Conservation Fund**, including \$129 million for **Federal land acquisition**, \$55 million for **Forest Legacy**, and \$30 million for **State Assistance**.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR - \$9.87 billion

\$ 1.804 billion for the **Bureau of Land Management** (\$50.2 million above the FY 06 level)

- \$776.6million for the Department of Interior **firefighting activity**, including \$199.8 million for **Hazardous Fuels Reduction**.
- \$135.7 million for **Energy and Minerals Development**, \$27.5 million over the enacted level.

\$2.3 billion for the **National Park Service**

- Provides \$1.75 billion for operation of the **national park system**, an increase of \$32 million over the FY 06 level. The amount includes \$15 million over the budget request for increases to individual park base budgets, and a total of \$603 million for **park maintenance activities**.
- \$70.7 million from the **Historic Preservation Fund**, including \$39.6 million for **preservation grants to states and tribes**, \$30 million for **Save America's Treasures** and \$10 million for **Preserve America**.

\$1.3 billion for the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** (\$32.4 million over the budget request.)

- Provides \$249 million for **Endangered Species Act** activities, including \$74 million for **Recovery**, \$80 million for **Section 6 grants**, \$10 million for **Land Owner Incentive Program** and \$7.3 million for **Private Stewardship Grants**.
- Increases **State Wildlife Grants** by \$17.4 million over the House allowance to \$67.5 million.

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\$980 million for the **U.S. Geological Survey** (\$18.3 million above the FY06 level ([excluding emergencies])

\$163.5 million for the **Minerals Management Service** (\$5.2 above the FY06 level [excluding emergencies])

\$298.1 million for the **Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement** (\$4 million above the FY06 enacted level)

\$2.27 billion for the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** (\$1.8 million below the FY06 level and \$50.6 million over the budget request)

- Funds **Tribally Controlled Community Colleges** at a total of \$60 million (\$5.2 million over the request level)
- Restores cuts of \$6 million to **Welfare Assistance** and \$14.4 million to **Johnson-O'Malley Education Grants**
- Funds **Law Enforcement** at \$201.6 million (\$8.2 million over the enacted level)

Funds **Office of the Special Trustee** at \$217.8 million, including \$39.2 million to reduce the fractionation of Indian lands. Provides \$50 million for **historical accounting activities**.

Funds **PILT** at \$235 million (\$37 million over the request and \$2.5 million over the FY06 level).

U.S. FOREST SERVICE - \$4.15 billion

Provides \$54.8 million for **forest legacy conservation easements**, \$1.7 million below the FY06 level.

Provides \$3.8 million above the request for **environmental review, monitoring, and processing of grazing permits**.

Provides \$1.78 billion for **fire activities**, including:

- \$292 million for **Hazardous Fuels Reduction** (\$11.7 million over FY06)
- \$51.3 million increase above the enacted level for **wildfire suppression**

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE - \$3.2 billion:

Amount provided is an increase of **\$148 million** over the FY06 enacted level, including:

- \$114.1 million increase for **pay costs, medical inflation and population growth**
- \$32.7 million over request to restore the **urban Indian health program**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY - \$7.5 billion

- \$793.3 million for the **Science and Technology** account (\$62.5 million above the FY06 level and \$5 million above the budget request)
- \$2.3 billion for the **Environmental Programs and Management** account (\$42 million below the FY06 level and \$4 million above the budget request)
- \$1.26 billion for the **Superfund** account (\$19.2 million above the FY06 enacted level and \$2.3 million above the budget request). The amount provided includes \$833 million for **Superfund clean-up** activities, which is \$10.1 million above the request.
- \$3 billion for the **State and Tribal Assistance Grants** account (\$133.3 million below the FY06 enacted level and \$202.9 million above the budget request)
 - \$687.5 billion for the **Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund** (equal to the budget request)
 - \$841.5 million for the **Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund** (equal to the budget request)
- \$163.2 million for **Brownfields** programs

OTHER RELATED AGENCIES:

- \$644.4 million for the **Smithsonian Institution** (\$29.3 million over the FY06 enacted level and the same as the request)
- \$117 million for the **National Gallery of Art** (the same as the request)
- \$33 million for the **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts** (the same as the request)
- \$124.4 million for the **National Endowment for the Arts** (the same as the request)
- \$141 million for the **National Endowment for the Humanities** (the same as the request)