



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The Department of the Interior (DOI) manages and conserves the Nation's natural resources and cultural heritage, and supports the Administration's efforts to address the climate crisis and transition the Nation to clean energy. The President's 2025 Budget for DOI: protects environmental resources by investing in ecosystem restoration, wildfire management, and public land resilience to ensure healthy lands and waters; enhances programs that advance racial and economic justice and honors commitments to tribal nations; and supports development in U.S. Territories and freely associated states.

The Budget requests \$17.8 billion in discretionary budget authority for 2025, a \$0.8 billion or 4.8-percent increase from the 2023 level. The 2025 Budget advances DOI's mission through investments in wildfire management, tribal programs, ecosystem restoration, national park operations, western water infrastructure, and climate resilience. The Budget demonstrates the continued support of the Compacts of Free Association with Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands, which are critical to U.S. national security.

The President's 2025 Budget:

- **Honors Commitments to Tribal Communities.** Incorporating feedback from tribal consultations, the Budget continues to provide robust support for indigenous communities and upholds Federal trust responsibilities while working to advance equity. The Budget includes \$4.6 billion for DOI's tribal programs, \$514 million above the 2023 enacted level and more than \$1 billion over the 2021 enacted level, to support public safety and justice, human and social services, and education. The Budget continues to propose reclassification of Contract Support Costs and the Indian Self-Determination Act Section 105(l) leases as mandatory spending, beginning in 2026, to provide certainty for tribal communities in meeting these ongoing requirements with dedicated funding. Budget resources across DOI's tribal programs build on historic investments in the American Rescue Plan and complement Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law investments to ensure long-term success in addressing critical infrastructure and climate adaptation needs in indigenous communities.
- **Invests in Key Tribal Programs.** The Budget includes over \$700 million in Tribal Public Safety and Justice funding at DOI, a \$71 million increase over the 2023 enacted level, to support critical law enforcement and tribal court needs in Indian Country. The Budget supports and protects funding for economic development and other tribal community programs and proposes increases over the 2023 enacted level, including: an increase of \$26 million for climate resilience and natural resources management; a \$77 million increase for education programs across Bureau of Indian Education schools; a \$38 million increase for tribal human services programs; and an increase of \$12 million for native language and cultural revitalization

programs addressing needs highlighted by the Federal Boarding School Initiative and its recently concluded Road to Healing Tour. To strengthen tribal land management and promote tribal sovereignty through tribal co-stewardship, the Budget includes a new \$8 million allocation of mandatory funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to support tribal land acquisition for conservation and outdoor recreation.

- **Strengthens Climate Resilience in Communities and Ecosystems.** Across America, communities are enduring historic and catastrophic flooding, wildfires, extreme heat, drought, and more, while longer-term changes in temperature will continue to affect ecosystems and the economies that depend on them. The intensifying impacts of climate change are costing lives, disrupting livelihoods, and causing billions of dollars in damages. The Budget provides \$5.5 billion in climate adaptation and resilience to address the increasing severity of extreme weather events fueled by climate change. As a key steward of America's public lands and waters, and with a primary responsibility to uphold the Nation's commitments to American Indians and Alaska Natives, DOI plays a critical role in combating the climate crisis. The Budget provides DOI the resources to invest in community partnerships and science-based land management. The Budget complements the historic Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act, which dedicate more than \$50 billion across the Federal Government to advance climate resilience strategies in every community in America, including in support of the Justice40 Initiative to ensure that these investments reach communities that need them the most.
- **Advances Climate Science.** The Budget includes \$275 million at DOI to continue to leverage science to better understand the impacts of climate change and to inform and improve land management practices from the Federal to the local level. The Budget includes additional funding for the U.S. Geological Survey's Climate Adaptation Science Centers, which partners scientists with natural and cultural resource managers and local communities to help fish, wildlife, water, land, and people adapt to climate change. The Budget also provides increases for science that would support land management decisions, including funding to better map migration corridors for big game populations and to develop actionable science and tools for drought response.
- **Invests in America's Brave Wildland Firefighters.** The Budget builds on the Administration's historic investments in the wildland firefighting workforce at DOI and the Department of Agriculture, including investments from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, by supporting implementation of permanent and comprehensive pay reform, enhancement of health services, hiring of additional permanent and temporary wildland firefighters to increase capacity, and improvement of Government housing. These investments, totaling \$135 million over the comparable 2023 enacted level for DOI, would help address long-standing recruitment and retention challenges, increase the Departments' capacity to complete critical risk mitigation work, and further the Administration's commitment to build a more robust and resilient wildland firefighting workforce as the frequency and intensity of catastrophic wildfires continue to increase due to climate change.
- **Continues to Advance Clean Energy Development on Public Lands.** The Budget includes \$142 million, an increase of \$31 million above the 2023 enacted level, to continue the Administration's progress in deploying clean energy on public lands and waters, spurring economic development and creating thousands of good-paying jobs, while conserving biodiversity. The Budget supports the leasing, planning, and permitting of solar, wind, and geothermal energy projects, and associated transmission infrastructure that would help mitigate the causes

of climate change and support the Administration's goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind capacity by 2030 and 25 gigawatts of clean energy capacity on public lands by 2025.

- **Commits to Tribal Water Rights Settlements Funding.** The Budget builds on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law investments to provide \$2.8 billion in additional mandatory funding to the Indian Water Rights Settlement Completion Fund, as well as \$226 million in discretionary funding to meet existing settlement obligations. This funding would ensure stable, dedicated funding for tribal water rights settlements, which is crucial for safe, reliable water supplies to improve public and environmental health and support economic opportunity in tribal communities.
- **Increases Drought Resilience.** The Budget helps ensure communities across the West have access to a resilient and reliable water supply by investing in rural water projects, water conservation, development of desalination technologies, and water recycling and reuse projects. The Budget complements the nearly \$1.7 billion provided in 2025 for western water infrastructure through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, as well as the nearly \$4.6 billion that was provided by the Inflation Reduction Act for drought mitigation and domestic water supply projects through the Bureau of Reclamation. The Budget provides funding to address the ongoing drought in the western United States, including along the Colorado River System, which remains near historically low levels, and also for other western river sheds that are experiencing similar adverse impacts due to climate change. The Budget also funds Reclamation's research and development activities and the WaterSMART program which converts unusable water resources into useable water supplies, conserve water, and increase drought resiliency.
- **Invests in Columbia and Snake River Salmon Recovery.** The Budget includes \$22 million for technical support, studies, and habitat restoration activities to restore healthy and abundant populations of fish in the Columbia and Snake River basins. The Budget provides additional funding for a study to evaluate the potential success of reintroducing anadromous fish above the Grand Coulee Dam.
- **Supports Biodiversity, Ecosystem Health, and Visitor Experiences.** The Budget recognizes the critical importance of biodiversity and ecosystem health across the Nation. In order to enhance the President's America the Beautiful initiative to support locally designed and community-driven conservation, the Budget supports high-priority biodiversity programs including: the Endangered Species Act of 1973 implementation; the National Wildlife Refuge System; and migratory bird, fish, and aquatic conservation. The Budget includes: \$602 million for the National Wildlife Refuge System with increased support for refuge law enforcement activities to improve safety and the visitor experience; and \$111 million, an increase of \$19 million above the 2023 enacted level, for law enforcement programs enhancing wildlife and plant protections. In addition, the Budget also includes increases for natural resource stewardship and increased recreation access at America's National Conservation Lands and other Bureau of Land Management recreation areas, and to help advance the National Seed Strategy across DOI.
- **Increases Access to National Parks.** The Budget provides \$3.6 billion for the National Park Service, an increase of \$461 million since the start of the Administration. Investments include \$11 million to create a more inclusive and representative National Park System and to strengthen tribal co-stewardship. The Budget also includes \$11 million to support new sites that preserve the stories of the cultures and history across America. In addition, the Budget provides \$125 million for the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Program to develop high-quality

recreation opportunities in economically disadvantaged urban communities, which advances the Justice40 Initiative.

- **Strengthens and Streamlines Permitting Activities.** The Budget supports environmental permitting capacity to accelerate delivery of modernized infrastructure across the Nation. For example, the Budget includes nearly \$200 million for Endangered Species Act of 1973 environmental planning and consultation and migratory bird permitting, an increase of more than \$40 million above the 2023 enacted level. The Budget continues to propose expanding existing transfer authority by enabling Federal agencies to transfer funds provided under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries to expedite Endangered Species Act of 1973 consultations. Together with existing law, this proposal would facilitate timely development of priority infrastructure projects and energy solutions while minimizing negative environmental impacts.