



INTERIOR/**WILDLAND FIRE**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR/OFFICE OF WILDLAND FIRE

Annual Report

FISCAL YEAR **2023**



Wildland firefighters dig a fireline, 2023.

PHOTO BY JOE BRADSHAW, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Accomplishments

Investment

The Interior Department invested **\$1.4 billion** in fiscal year 2023 to reduce wildfire risk, respond to wildfires, rehabilitate burned landscapes, promote a better understanding of wildfire, and support the wildland fire workforce.

Rehabilitation

In fiscal year 2023, the Interior Department invested nearly **\$21 million** to complete post-fire rehabilitation projects on **52,000 acres**.

Suppression

In fiscal year 2023, the Interior Department invested nearly **\$384 million** in wildfire suppression during a year in which **5,152 wildfires** burned over **635,000 acres** of Interior-managed lands.

Workforce

The Interior Department continued its wildland fire workforce improvements in fiscal year 2023, completing investment of the **\$126 million** in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding to **increase pay for over 5,450 firefighters** and developing a framework for a comprehensive **health and wellbeing program**.

Preparedness

To prepare for an effective response to wildfires in 2023, the Interior Department employed **5,150 wildland fire personnel** and put in place **670 engines, 71 airplanes, 41 helicopters, and 96 pieces of heavy equipment**.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

The Interior Department allocated over **\$261 million** from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support wildland fire management in fiscal year 2023, including substantial investments to **reduce wildfire risk, improve firefighter pay, and rehabilitate burned areas**.

Fuels Management

The Interior Department invested **\$247 million** to reduce wildfire risk by completing fuels management projects on over **2.5 million acres** in fiscal year 2023, a **30% increase** over the prior year.

Science

The Interior Department invested nearly **\$7 million** in the Joint Fire Science Program in fiscal year 2023. The investment helped to fund **49 research projects** and **training for 24,000 people** ranging from land managers to policymakers involved in wildland fire management.

Wildfire Statistics

TABLE 1: Fires and Acres Burned on Department of the Interior Lands, CY 2014-2023¹

Year	BIA	BLM	NPS	USFWS	Totals
10-year average	3,727 fires	2,315 fires	335 fires	238 fires	6,615 fires
	366,690 acres	1,777,585 acres	90,774 acres	69,846 acres	2,305,168 acres
2023	2,633	1,836	484	199	5,152
	192,807	274,004	137,242	30,707	634,760
2022	3,182	1,934	332	196	5,644
	255,552	1,752,793	28,615	20,659	2,057,619
2021	4,646	2,362	361	307	7,676
	396,433	412,155	131,182	51,264	991,034
2020	4,740	2,362	304	238	7,644
	923,298	1,131,540	145,447	52,739	2,253,024
2019	2,659	2,515	282	147	5,603
	139,195	2,019,771	18,104	94,637	2,271,707
2018	3,472	2,872	389	162	6,895
	216,118	1,905,343	121,092	71,137	2,313,690
2017	3,843	2,927	314	252	7,336
	306,542	2,711,267	110,349	206,393	3,334,551
2016	4,056	2,105	463	174	6,798
	325,162	1,183,821	177,901	15,374	1,702,258
2015	3,886	2,093	398	194	6,571
	591,644	4,770,133	74,780	33,897	5,470,454
2014	3,377	1,944	389	348	6,058
	327,352	871,642	24,949	17,404	1,241,347

¹ National Interagency Coordination Center Wildland Fire Summary and Statistics Annual Report, 2023

TABLE 1: Fires and Acres Burned on Department of the Interior Lands, CY 2014-2023¹

Year	Interior	USDA	Other*	Totals
10-year average	6,615 fires	6,300 fires	48,457 fires	61,407 fires
	2,305,168 acres	2,199,783 acres	2,658,676 acres	7,183,341 acres
2023	5,152	5,252	46,176	56,580
	634,760	831,465	1,227,685	2,693,910
2022	5,644	5,852	57,492	68,988
	2,057,619	1,865,791	3,653,773	7,577,183
2021	7,676	6,244	45,186	58,985
	991,034	4,126,564	2,008,045	7,125,643
2020	7,644	5,629	45,559	58,083
	2,253,024	2,307,439	4,146,363	8,767,492
2019	5,603	5,060	35,616	46,279
	2,271,707	713,976	2,176,054	5,161,737
2018	6,895	5,629	45,559	58,083
	2,313,690	2,307,439	4,146,363	8,767,492
2017	7,336	6,617	57,546	71,499
	3,334,551	2,866,031	3,825,504	10,026,086
2016	6,798	5,676	55,269	67,743
	1,702,258	1,247,906	2,559,831	5,509,995
2015	6,571	7,056	54,524	68,151
	5,470,454	1,916,302	2,738,393	10,125,149
2014	6,058	6,755	50,799	63,612
	1,241,347	871,876	1,482,390	3,595,613

* Includes federal, Tribal, state, and private lands not managed by the Interior or Agriculture departments.

Financial Statistics

Table 3: Wildland Fire Management Appropriations, FY 2014-2023

Fiscal Year	Preparedness	Suppression ^{1,2}	Suppression Supplemental	Suppression Reserve Fund ³	Fuels Management	Fuels Management Supplemental	BAR	BAR Supplemental	JFSP ¹	Facilities	FLAME ⁴	Total
10-year average	\$338,992,200	\$357,637,700	\$14,660,000	\$9,600,000	\$191,998,800	\$5,500,000	\$19,833,000	\$5,190,000	\$4,446,000	\$12,924,300	\$37,600,000	\$1,065,402,000
2023⁴	\$427,159,000	\$383,657,000	\$75,000,000	\$0	\$247,000,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$4,500,000	\$10,000,000	\$0	\$1,430,386,000
2022	\$370,543,000	\$383,657,000	\$0	\$0	\$227,000,000	\$55,000,000	\$22,470,000	\$45,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$18,427,000	\$0	\$1,533,697,000
2021	\$347,105,000	\$383,657,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$219,964,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$18,427,000	\$0	\$992,623,000
2020	\$332,784,000	\$383,657,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$194,000,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$18,427,000	\$0	\$952,338,000
2019	\$322,179,000	\$388,135,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$189,000,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$18,427,000	\$0	\$941,211,000
2018	\$332,784,000	\$389,406,000	\$50,000,000	\$8,710,000	\$184,000,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	\$18,427,000	\$0	\$998,087,000
2017	\$332,784,000	\$395,000,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$180,000,000	\$0	\$20,470,000	\$0	\$5,990,000	\$8,427,000		\$957,671,000
2016	\$323,685,000	\$291,673,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$170,000,000	\$0	\$18,970,000	\$0	\$5,990,000	\$6,427,000		\$993,745,000
2015	\$318,970,000	\$291,657,000	\$0	\$8,710,000	\$164,000,000	\$0	\$18,035,000	\$0	\$5,990,000	\$6,127,000	\$92,000,000	\$896,779,000
2014	\$281,929,000	\$285,878,000	\$21,600,000	\$8,710,000	\$145,024,000	\$0	\$16,035,000	\$6,900,000	\$5,990,000	\$6,127,000	\$92,000,000	\$861,483,000

¹ Does not include funding transferred from USDA Forest Service.

² Does not include funding available under Section 102 transfer authority.

³ Includes enacted funding transferred; does not reflect carryover funding transferred to the Wildland Fire Management account for suppression operations.

⁴ Preparedness and suppression funding includes base funding amounts provided under Disaster Relief Supplemental funding appropriations.

⁵ Enacted funding was \$65 million; however, \$50 million was transferred to the USDA Forest Service in support of suppression operations.

Table 4: Wildland Fire Management Obligations, FY 2014-2023

Fiscal Year	Preparedness ^{1,2}	Suppression ^{1,3}	Suppression Supplemental	Suppression Reserve Fund	Fuels Management ^{1,2}	Fuels Management Supplemental	BAR ³	BAR Supplemental	JFSP ^{1,2}	Facilities	RFA	FLAME	Total	% Change from enacted
10-year average	\$352,261,800	\$376,925,700	\$12,435,700	\$59,834,400	\$218,735,000	\$5,376,500	\$22,186,200	\$4,960,800	\$6,079,700	\$10,571,500	\$2,300		\$1,106,969,600	3.9%
2023	\$474,503,000	\$373,293,000	\$52,757,000	\$40,275,000	\$443,030,000	\$7,853,000	\$36,106,000	\$11,135,000	\$9,246,000	\$11,319,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,459,517,000	2.0%
2022	\$420,605,000	\$396,444,000	\$0	\$253,298,000	\$256,574,000	\$45,912,000	\$21,008,000	\$31,573,000	\$4,715,000	\$22,532,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,452,661,000	-5.3%
2021	\$347,834,000	\$648,316,000	\$0	\$237,771,000	\$227,811,000	\$0	\$22,492,000	\$0	\$3,072,000	\$17,203,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,266,728,000	27.6%
2020	\$338,463,000	\$510,947,000	\$0	\$67,000,000	\$197,984,000	\$0	\$21,556,000	\$0	\$4,138,000	\$8,068,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,081,156,000	13.5%
2019	\$331,514,000	\$440,708,000	\$0	\$0	\$196,676,000	\$0	\$21,463,000	\$0	\$2,869,000	\$11,883,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,005,113,000	6.8%
2018	\$340,871,000	\$412,351,000	\$50,000,000	\$0	\$191,053,000	\$0	\$23,523,000	\$0	\$3,255,000	\$11,161,000	\$0		\$1,098,214,000	10.0%
2017	\$341,712,000	\$453,103,000	\$0	\$0	\$184,540,000	\$0	\$29,702,000	\$0	\$6,529,000	\$8,513,000	\$0		\$1,079,099,000	12.7%
2016	\$330,361,000	\$271,729,000	\$0	\$0	\$176,633,000	\$0	\$17,534,000	\$0	\$10,228,000	\$2,821,000	\$0		\$909,306,000	8.5%
2015	\$316,651,000	\$312,543,000	\$0	\$0	\$162,821,000	\$0	\$14,814,000	\$0	\$7,026,000	\$5,234,000			\$924,112,000	3.0%
2014	\$280,104,000	\$254,594,000	\$21,600,000	\$0	\$150,228,000	\$0	\$13,664,000	\$6,900,000	\$9,719,000	\$6,981,000	\$0		\$793,790,000	7.9%

¹ Obligations include funding transferred from USDA Forest Service in support of activity.

² Obligations include funding enacted under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

³ Obligations include funding available under Section 102 transfer authority.

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A fire break stops a wildfire's progress in southern Florida, 2023.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL GUE, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE