



# Departmental Offices

## Overview

Departmental Offices provide leadership, management, and coordination activities; deliver services to Interior’s bureaus and offices; and operate unique crosscutting functions that do not logically fit elsewhere. The following programs within Departmental Offices are funded in separate appropriations: Office of the Secretary (OS), Office of the Solicitor (SOL), and Office of Inspector General (OIG).

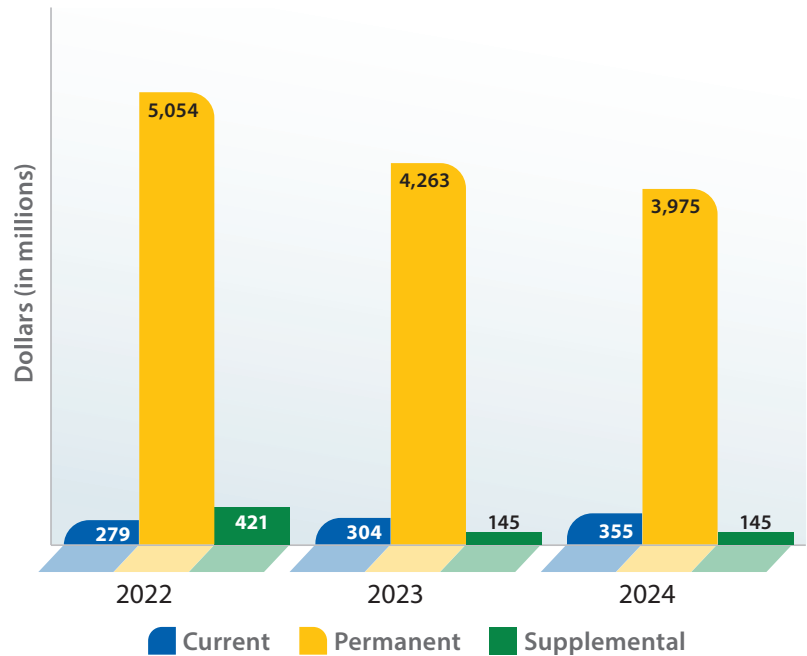
## Office of the Secretary

### Mission

The OS provides the executive-level leadership, policy, guidance, and coordination needed to manage the diverse, complex, and nationally significant programs that are the U.S. Department of the Interior’s (DOI) responsibilities. OS performs administrative services, such as finance, budget, information resources, acquisition, and human resources. OS also provides Interior’s administrative appeals functions through the Office of Hearings and Appeals and appraises the value of lands and minerals through the Appraisal and Valuation Services Office.

OS manages eight programs funded in separate accounts and discussed within the Departmentwide Programs chapter in the Bureau Highlights. Those programs are the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, Central Hazardous Materials

## Departmental Offices Funding



Fund, Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration, Wildland Fire Management, Abandoned Hardrock Mine Reclamation (financed through the Energy Community Revitalization Program account), Working Capital Fund, and Interior Franchise Fund.

The 2024 budget proposes establishing a Non-recurring Expenses Fund (NEF), which will support critical Information Technology (IT) and Infrastructure projects. The NEF will allow the Department to transfer unobligated balances within expired discretionary accounts to a no-year account to support non-recurring, high-priority IT and Infrastructure projects rather than canceling the funds in the source account. The NEF will enable DOI to fund critical or emergency requirements, which often do not coincide with the budget formulation process, are difficult to forecast, and would otherwise require the Department to reprogram current funds from other priorities.



Secretary Deb Haaland visiting Everglades National Park, FL in January, 2023.

DOI Photo.

## Budget Overview

The 2024 budget request for Departmental Operations is \$158.8 million, a net increase of \$22.9 million above the 2023 enacted level, and will support an estimated 885 full-time equivalents (FTEs). The 2024 request for OS builds on the high-priority initiatives proposed in the 2023 budget and maintains Departmental core operations, services, and management functions.

## Promoting Diversity, Equal Employment Opportunity Compliance, and Youth Engagement

—The 2024 budget includes a program increase of \$11.1 million as part of a Departmentwide Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) initiative to conduct a review of the DEIA program across Interior; address gaps, challenges, and best practices; examine Department and bureau roles, responsibilities, and governance; and improve the Department’s DEIA awareness and culture. The 2024 program increase includes \$3.2 million to address resourcing and compliance gaps identified by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)

during two technical assessments of DOI’s Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) program. In particular, the EEOC identified additional resources were needed to automate the tracking of EEO and public civil rights complaints; improve reporting capabilities to the EEOC; close EEO adjudication gaps; and strengthen DOI’s Affirmative Employment programs. The DEIA program request includes an increase of \$7.0 million for the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights; Office of Human Capital; and Office of Collaborative Alternative Dispute Resolution. That amount will be used to increase EEO and DEIA training across the Department; conduct barrier and workforce analyses; develop diversity and recruitment flexibilities; assess hiring programs to improve recruitment results; increase classification and compensation analysis; and increase alternative dispute resolution and EEO complaint mediation capacity. The budget increase includes \$885,000 to increase youth employment opportunities through the establishment of a Youth Coordinator, consistent with the direction in the John D. Dingell Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation

Act. The coordinator will work with a team to facilitate the Department's participation in youth corps programs, the Indian Youth Corps Program under the Dingell Act, and other youth-focused engagement, volunteer service, and outdoor recreation access programs offered throughout the Department. The budget also includes \$20,000 for the Secretary's Intern program, which will increase youth employment within the Office of the Secretary.

#### **Expanding Tribal Consultation and**

**Coordination**—The 2024 budget requests \$205,000 to provide a permanent coordinator for the newly established Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), which will improve DOI's Tribal consultation and coordination. The STAC will ensure Tribal leaders have direct and consistent contact and communication with Department officials to facilitate robust discussion on intergovernmental responsibilities, exchange views, share information, and provide advice and recommendations on programs and funding across the Department that affect Tribal Nations.

#### **Transitioning to a Zero-Emission Fleet**

—The 2024 budget includes an increase of \$150,000 to coordinate and support the Department's Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) program, transitioning DOI's fleet of light-duty vehicles (sedans, SUVs, and pick-up trucks) to ZEVs by 2027, consistent with Interior's FY 2022 ZEV Strategic Plan. Across Interior, the 2024 budget request for eight bureaus and offices (Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Geological Survey) includes funding to accelerate the conversion of Interior's fleet to ZEVs and provide charging and hydrogen fueling stations to support those vehicles and future ZEVs. This funding will support a staff position to act as the coordinator for the smaller bureaus and offices and work across Interior and with other agencies to maximize the utility of charging and fueling stations in areas where multiple agencies operate.

#### **Advancing Management Reforms and**

**Agency Capacity**—The 2024 budget helps to advance several significant management reforms surrounding audit and internal controls, financial assistance, risk management, energy revenue estimation, and sustainable operations. The budget includes an increase of \$200,000 to accelerate the Department's development and implementation of a Departmentwide Enterprise Risk Management program and implement a systemwide tool for risk identification, measurement, document treatments, assessment of internal risk controls, and enabling of cross-DOI analysis and reporting. The budget includes an additional \$730,000 to improve the Department's audit response and internal controls and to assist bureaus in reducing the backlog of open audit recommendations. The budget proposes an additional \$835,000 to fund four FTEs to improve the Department's management and oversight of its financial assistance programs. Those positions will coordinate Made in America requirements and sustainable acquisition practices, support climate change and infrastructure programs, increase oversight, and improve reporting for the Department's approximately 300 grants and direct payment programs.

The 2024 budget includes an increase of \$495,000 to expand OS capacity for energy revenue estimation and economic modeling and analysis. The budget request also includes \$325,000 to provide technical assistance and data management support for DOI's more than 75 million museum objects in more than 2,000 locations nationwide and abroad through the Interior Museum Program. The budget requests \$410,000 to fund two FTEs to improve DOI's sustainability and environmental compliance to meet goals to reduce single-use plastics by the end of 2032, reduce greenhouse gases in operations, increase the solid waste diversion rate from 50 percent in 2025 to 75 percent in 2030, and improve the Department's Federal sustainability tracking and reporting. The budget includes an increase of \$717,000 to optimize case production and closure rates for the Office of Hearings and Appeals and includes \$285,000 for a DOI Law Enforcement (LE) Mental Health and Wellness (MHW) Coordinator for DOI's law enforcement community, the fourth



Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona.

NPS Photo.

largest Federal law enforcement workforce in the Executive Branch. The DOI LE MHW coordinator will be a dedicated resource to conduct research and analysis of current MHW resources and collaborate with stakeholders to determine the need to help reduce physical and mental illness and suicide within DOI's law enforcement community.

Also included in the 2024 request is an increase of \$500,000 for DOI's Agency Contribution to the Office of Personnel Management to centralize the administration of Federal Executive Boards across the Nation. The budget includes \$315,000 for DOI's Agency Contribution to the General Services Administration's (GSA's) Technology Transformation Services reimbursable program, reflecting the transition of GSA's FedRAMP program—currently funded by GSA appropriations—to an agency contribution model. The budget proposes an increase of \$250,000 to improve DOI news and media monitoring and analysis. Lastly, the budget includes an increase of \$2.4 million to finance the cost escalation of annual contracts for Finance, Human Resources, and Acquisition services and fund IT enhancements and security costs for OS systems supporting Departmental reporting, analysis, and outreach activities.

### **Fixed Costs**

Fixed costs of \$5.6 million are fully funded.

## **Office of the Solicitor**

### **Mission**

The SOL mission is to provide high-quality legal counsel to the Secretary and the Department of the Interior's bureaus and offices; support the Department of Justice in representing the Secretary and Interior in Federal, State, and Tribal courts; help resolve legal issues for the bureaus and offices as they implement congressional direction on appropriations and substantive legislation; administer the Department's ethics program and ensure ethical compliance throughout the Department; and provide governance over Interior's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) programs.

### **Budget Overview**

The 2024 budget includes \$111.9 million, an increase of \$10.8 million, for SOL to support an estimated direct staffing of 441 FTEs, an increase of 28 FTEs. Department bureaus and offices will fund an additional 166 FTEs, an increase of 15 FTEs, for a total of 607 FTEs and a total increase of 43 FTEs that provide legal, ethics, and FOIA services to the Secretary and the Department agencies.

The budget request proposes a funding level of \$76.9 million for SOL's Legal Services activity to support legal work associated with the Department's mission. Within that amount, an increase of \$3.7 million supports an expansion of capacity to

advise on legal options for administrative decision making, respond to congressional oversight and inquiries, and provide expertise on litigation relating to DOI policies and actions. In addition, the request includes \$2.5 million for Legal Services related specifically to Inflation Reduction Act implementation. The budget eliminates \$3.1 million provided for a one-time cost to relocate an SOL regional office.

The budget includes important funding increases to address critical administrative requirements. The request proposes an additional \$2.4 million to begin a multiyear effort to fully digitize SOL records to meet the requirements of the Federal Records Act, modernize records management, and implement office space optimizations. The budget also includes \$1.0 million to cover the higher cost of a replacement Human Resource servicing agreement, as SOL is required to transition to a new provider after its current provider notified SOL it would no longer furnish those services. The request funds the SOL-administered DOI Ethics Office at \$21.1 million and the SOL-administered DOI FOIA Office at \$4.0 million, level with 2023 funding.

### Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$4.3 million are fully funded.

## Office of Inspector General

### Mission

The mission of the OIG is to provide independent oversight to promote accountability, integrity, economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the programs and operations of the Department of the Interior. OIG conducts independent investigations, audits, inspections, and evaluations and reports findings of fraud, waste, abuse, or mismanagement along with recommendations for improvement.

### Budget Overview

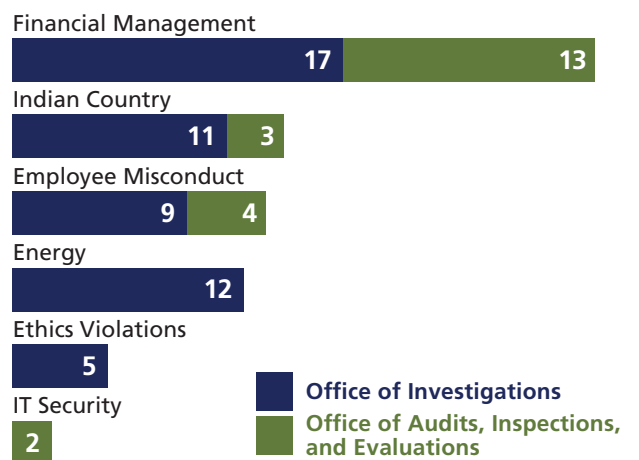
The 2024 budget proposes \$84.0 million, an increase of \$17.0 million in discretionary funding, and 357 FTEs for OIG. Programmatic increases total \$13.0 million to support 64 additional FTEs. The proposal supports capacity to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse and further enable robust oversight and accountability commensurate with the growing portfolio of DOI. The budget request will enable OIG to expand investigative capacity, broaden information technology capabilities across the organization, help strengthen oversight of DOI cybersecurity and governance practices, and maximize results to enhance production of top-quality and timely recommendations to stakeholders.

### Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$3.9 million are fully funded.



### Office of Inspector General Reports Top Six Focus Areas FY 2022



## SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS <sup>1/</sup>

(dollar amounts in thousands)

### Comparison of 2024 Request with 2023 Enacted

	2023 Enacted		2024 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Current</b>						
Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations .....	434	277,174	483	300,098	+49	+22,924
Office of the Solicitor .....	413	101,050	441	111,898	+28	+10,848
Office of Inspector General .....	280	70,289	341	87,259	+61	+16,970
Subtotal, Current .....	1,127	448,513	1,265	499,255	+138	+50,742
<b>Permanent</b>						
Salaries and Expenses, Departmental Management, from the Land and Water Conservation Fund .....	80	19,000	80	19,000	0	0
Indian Arts and Crafts Fund .....	0	20	0	20	0	0
Take Pride in America, Gifts and Bequests .....	0	5	0	5	0	0
Mineral Leasing and Associated Payments .....	0	3,793,562	0	3,506,584	0	-286,978
Payments to Oklahoma .....	0	10	0	10	0	0
Payments to Alaska, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge .....	0	104	0	3,949	0	+3,845
National Forest Fund, Payments to States .....	0	9,710	0	9,338	0	-372
Leases of Lands Acquired for Flood Control, Navigation, and Allied Purposes .....	0	52,929	0	49,034	0	-3,895
National Petroleum Reserve, Alaska .....	0	29,482	0	28,499	0	-983
Geothermal Lease Revenues, Payments to Counties .....	0	5,222	0	5,349	0	+127
States Share from Certain Gulf of Mexico Leases .....	0	352,802	0	353,625	0	+823
Salaries and Expenses .....	2	0	5	0	+3	0
Subtotal, Permanent .....	82	4,262,846	85	3,975,413	+3	-287,433
<b>Allocation and Reimbursable</b>						
Allocation—Office of the Secretary .....	50	0	42	0	-8	0
Allocation—Office of the Solicitor .....	52	0	57	0	+5	0
Reimbursable—Office of the Secretary .....	280	0	280	0	0	0
Reimbursable—Office of the Solicitor .....	99	0	109	0	+10	0
Reimbursable—Office of Inspector General .....	11	0	11	0	0	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable .....	492	0	499	0	+7	0
<b>TOTAL, DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES .....</b>	<b>1,701</b>	<b>4,711,359</b>	<b>1,849</b>	<b>4,474,668</b>	<b>+148</b>	<b>-236,691</b>
National Indian Gaming Commission .....	136	29,168	136	28,437	0	-731

<sup>1/</sup> Current funding amounts include supplemental appropriations and transfers. For further details, see Highlights of Budget Changes tables for each account.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

### APPROPRIATION: Office of the Secretary—Departmental Operations

	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Request	Change
Leadership and Administration.....	101,439	110,969	131,908	+20,939
Management Services .....	21,928	24,915	26,900	+1,985
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplemental and transfers).....	123,367	135,884	158,808	+22,924
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (P.L. 117-58).....	+337,000	+142,000	+142,000	0
Transfer to OIG (P.L. 117-58).....	-1,685	-710	-710	0
Other Transfer.....	-1,955	0	0	0
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplemental and transfers).....	456,727	277,174	300,098	+22,924

### APPROPRIATION: Office of the Solicitor

	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Request	Change
Legal Services.....	65,086	70,528	76,946	+6,418
General Administration .....	5,926	6,199	9,889	+3,690
Ethics Office.....	20,198	20,504	21,081	+577
FOIA Office.....	3,788	3,819	3,982	+163
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	94,998	101,050	111,898	+10,848

### APPROPRIATION: Office of Inspector General

	2022 Actual	2023 Enacted	2024 Request	Change
Audits, Evaluations, and Investigations.....	62,132	67,000	83,970	+16,970
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o transfers).....	62,132	67,000	83,970	+16,970
Transfers from Bureaus and Offices (P.L. 117-58).....	+85,692	+3,289	+3,289	0
<hr/>				
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ transfers).....	147,824	70,289	87,259	+16,970

