



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

SEP 24 2019

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors
Attention: Forestry and Wildland Fire Management

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Position Restriction Modification for Reserved Treaty Rights Land Program

This memorandum revises Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Reserved Treaty Rights Lands (RTRL) position funding restrictions.

Purpose: The BIA RTRL program enables tribes to participate in collaborative projects with non-tribal landowners to enhance the health and resiliency of priority tribal natural resources that are at high risk to wildland fire. However, recruiting and retaining personnel for Term (not to exceed four years) positions is a barrier to success for the RTRL program.

Policy/Action: This revision now allows permanent positions. Additionally, RTRL funding and hiring will now follow the BIA Fuels Management guidance and rules as described and outlined in the Fuels Management Handbook (2008) for Authorized Program Expenditures under Positions.

"Only positions of specified series and grade levels formally approved by the Director, Branch of Wildland Fire Management will be funded through the HFR Program. These must fully comply with the Interagency Fire Program Management (IFPM) direction pertaining to position qualifications."

Timeframe: Effective immediately until rescinded, the RTRL program may recruit and fund permanent positions.

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