



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
Washington, DC 20240

April 12, 2021

IN REPLY REFER TO:

## Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors  
Attention: All Agency Superintendents  
All Regional and Local Unit Fire Management Officers  
Branch of Wildland Fire Management

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Wildland Fire Suppression Funds

Purpose: This memorandum initiates new policy regarding wildland fire suppression funding, provided by the Branch of Wildland Fire Management (BWFM).

Background: The BWFM manages the overall national wildland fire suppression account and coordinates with the Department of the Interior, Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) to determine the needs for suppression funding each fiscal year. The BWFM also coordinates with the regional offices to monitor and evaluate wildland fire suppression needs on a monthly basis. Wildland fire suppression funding will then be provided to each of the regional offices based on their needs and/or to rectify any negative balances using the eFED process.

Policy: Any available wildland fire suppression funds may be pulled back to the BWFM level if they are not obligated within ninety days after distribution. This includes all prior year funding under the AF2XXXXXX Functional Area code, including Severity and Emergency Stabilization (ES) funds.

Line Officers are responsible for ensuring the appropriate use of wildland fire suppression funding in accordance with regulations and policy. Line Officers, or their delegates, shall notify the BWFM immediately if their suppression needs change, to ensure the proper use and management of funds.

This policy becomes effective from the date of signature and is in effect until modified or rescinded.

If you have any questions, please contact Rachael Larson, Budget Director, at [rachael.larson@bia.gov](mailto:rachael.larson@bia.gov) for more information or questions.