



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

## Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors  
Attention: Regional Fire Management Officers

Through: Deputy Bureau Director, Field Operations

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Wildland Fire Management

As a result of the 2022 BIL, the Branch of Wildland Fire Management (BWFM) received continued funding in Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23). The FY23 funding has been allocated in two different funds and the various functional areas described below. A summary of FY23 funding to date is shown, along with guidelines for use and requirements for program areas.

### Fund: 22XA1125BI

AIF10 BIL Preparedness \$7,793,000

Purpose: Firefighter compensation and training

Obligation Requirements: Obligations handled by the national office. 95% Obligated

AIF31 BIL Hazardous Fuels \$16,923,000 in FY22; \$37,414,000 in FY23

Purpose: The Fuels BIL funding is allocated to plan, implement, and monitor hazardous fuels management projects in high priority areas.

Obligation Requirements:

BIL Hazardous Fuels Management funding is for areas with high and very high wildfire risk, that require a Preliminary Program of Work (PPOW) and a final program of work be completed before funding can be distributed to regions. The BIL Hazardous Fuels Management Funding also has specific allocation requirements and has been designated into 7 sub-activity areas or "Buckets". The BWFM has further defined these "Buckets" by individual functional areas (FA).

Administration - FA AIF3100AM

Funds may be utilized up to 3% of total allocated amount for the national and regional office staff that will support management and implementation of BIL funding and projects.

General Fuels – AIF3100GM

Funds may be utilized for all planning activities, risk assessments or any other costs that do not fit under a program element described below.

Thinning - AIF3100MX

Funds may be utilized to implement mechanical projects to reduce wildfire hazard and risk.

Prescribed Fire – FA AIF3100RX

Funds may be utilized to implement prescribed fire projects to reduce wildfire hazard and risk.

Fuel Breaks - AIF3100FB

Funds may be utilized to implement fuels breaks projects to reduce wildfire hazard and risk and protect communities or critical infrastructure.

Laborers and Contracting - AIF3100LB

Funds may be utilized for Laborers or contractors required to complete projects.

Tribal Indirect Costs (IDC) - AIF3100CS.

IDC funds are provided as a specific line item in the Bureaus BIL funding allocation to pay the Tribal Indirect Costs associated with BIL funding. The amount of IDC funding needed by a region will be provided in addition to the approved BIL project budget amounts.

The BWFM, Branch of Fire Use and Fuels is currently working with regional staff to complete the required Final Program of Work (FPOW) plan so funding may be distributed to regions.

Base funded equipment working on a BIL project will charge their operating and maintenance expenses to that BIL project.

AIF32 BIL Burned Area      \$75,000

Purpose: Post-fire restoration activities

Obligation Requirements: Within 3 years of containment

Fund: 23XA1125BI

AIF10 BIL Preparedness      \$3,757,000

Purpose: Firefighter compensation and training

Obligation Requirements: Obligations handled by the national office.

Total 22X and 23X Funding    \$65,962,000

Please direct any questions to Michael Nutter, Budget Officer, by phone at (208) 914-8324 or by email at michael.nutter@bia.gov.