



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

May 11, 2022

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors
Attention: All Agency Superintendents
All Regional Fire Management Officers
All Regional Budget Representatives

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Fire Assistance Collection Accounts

This memorandum establishes policy and business rules for Fire Assistance Collection accounts that will improve allocation processes and reduce carryover.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of the Interior (DOI) have become increasingly aware of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA's) collection accounts, their use, and carryover amounts. This memorandum announces the establishment of a single deposit account to collect both Suppression and Preparedness Reimbursements (AF460) that could in turn transfer funding to AF561 (Suppression) and AF571 (Preparedness) accounts more efficiently. Funds will be requested and collected through the National Office and will be applied towards national initiatives that benefit all regional offices or will be spread among the regional offices for priorities based on AF100 allocations.

Deposits: Fire Assistance Collections-AF460

All fire assistance collections, both Suppression and Preparedness, are to be deposited into one subactivity, AF460, which will be named "Protection Assistance Suppression Collection." Collections deposited into AF460 will be transferred to Protection Assistance Suppression Expense (AF561) and Protection Assistance Preparedness Expense (AF571), depending on the intended use of the funds.

Allocation: Protection Assistance Suppression Expense (AF561)

The AF561 funds will be allocated to Fire and Aviation (FA) and used on programmatic expenses that would normally be charged to Suppression (AF200) and/or in support of suppression efforts, including the cost of pre-positioning firefighting assets and personnel.

Allocation: Protection Assistance Preparedness Expense (AF571)

The AF571 funds will be allocated to non-recurring contracts, interagency activities, and one-time purchases not requiring continued monetary commitment beyond the level of this account. Fire protection assistance reimbursements are no-year funds and will be managed accordingly. Carryover funds will remain and be available in the account until expended, as established in the agreement. These activities should provide benefit to BIA fire programs (nationally and regionally). Some examples where funding may be used include:

Heavy equipment needs
Fire equipment and supplies
Rural Fire Readiness funding
Supplemental non-permanent staffing

Effective immediately, this memorandum establishes new direction for Fire Assistance Collection account deposits and allocation processes for AF460 (Protection Assistance Suppression Collection) funds for the BIA.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Jennifer Hebbeler, Incident Business Specialist, Branch of Wildland Fire Management by email at jennifer.hebbeler@bia.gov.