



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

March 18, 2024

Memorandum

To: All Regional Directors
Agency Superintendents
Attention: Wildland Fire Management

Through: Deputy Bureau Director, Field Operations

From: Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Subject: Fiscal Year 2025 Solicitation of Plant Materials for Post Wildfire Rehabilitation

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Date: 2024.03.18 07:34:28
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Purpose: The Department of the Interior (DOI) Fire Directors and Interior Fire Executive Council approved a proposal for proactive development of plant materials for Burned Area Rehabilitation (BAR) in May 2023. This memorandum provides guidance to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Regional and Agency Offices on how to submit project proposals for strategic plant materials development, such as nurseries, seed collection, propagation, and storage for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Background: The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provides \$325 million for post wildfire restoration. The intent of BIL BAR investments is to focus on landscapes that are unlikely to recover naturally from wildfire by ensuring appropriate plant materials (necessary for establishing a trajectory towards a functioning structure, composition, and diversity that are consistent with existing land management plans such as rare, native, and culturally important) are readily available when a wildfire occurs. The intent is to develop plant materials production that will sustain itself into the future. Because of this, plant materials developed from this funding must be sold and are not available as “no cost” to the local unit.

Timeline:

1. Projects must be submitted to the BIA Post Wildfire Recovery (PWR) Deputy Coordinator by close of business, May 31, 2024.
2. Projects will be compiled, reviewed, and prioritized in June and July of 2024 for funding in October and November of 2024.
3. Projects that were approved in FY 2024 for BIL BAR strategic plant materials development must reapply to this solicitation for outyear funding. This provides for an opportunity of these projects to update their proposals as new information is learned from the FY 2024 approval process.

How to Apply: Complete the MS Form that is accessible via the following URL <https://forms.office.com/g/JpTCL56tMD>. You must be a DOI employee to access the MS Form. This MS Form will include an Excel Spreadsheet that will be used to submit your budget proposal. These must be submitted by May 31, 2024.

For further information regarding this solicitation, please contact Cameron Paulk, BIA PWR Deputy Coordinator at (406) 672-0112 or via email at cameron.paulk@bia.gov, or Jennifer Hickman, Watershed Specialist at (505) 553-2205 or via email at jennifer.hickman@bia.gov.

Attachments: FY2025 Guidance on Proactive Development of Plant Materials for Post Wildfire
2025 BIL BAR Plant Materials Budget Worksheet

cc: Directorate, Environmental and Natural Resources