

SERVING
COMMUNITIES:
SAFEGUARD
LIVES, PROPERTY
AND ASSETS;
ADVANCE SCIENTIFIC
KNOWLEDGE; AND
IMPROVE THE
QUALITY OF LIFE FOR
COMMUNITIES
WE SERVE

Interior is responsible for protecting lives, resources, and property; for providing scientific information for better decisionmaking; and for fulfilling the Nation's trust and other special responsibilities to American Indians, Alaska Natives, and residents of our affiliated island communities. We protect communities from catastrophic wildland fires; safeguard public land visitors from illegal activities; and provide scientific information to reduce risks from earthquakes, landslides, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. The Department's USGS also provides scientific assessments on the quality and quantity of the Nation's water resources and conducts multi-purpose natural science research.

FIGURE 1-43



A Whole Lotta Shaking: Virtual Tour Marks Centennial of Great San Francisco Earthquake

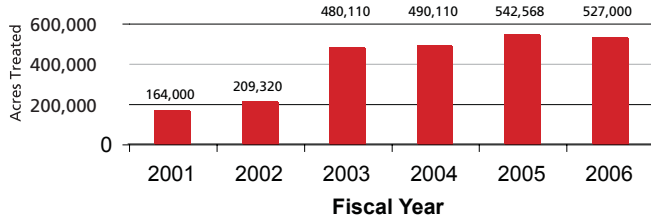
April 18, 1906, lives on in history as the date of America's most damaging earthquake. One hundred years ago this year, San Francisco and surrounding cities in Northern California were violently rocked by a magnitude 7.8 earthquake. The Great San Francisco earthquake woke up scientists to significance of the San Andreas fault and gave birth to the science of earthquake prediction and measurement.

To mark this earth-shaking event and to add to the body of scientific knowledge and awareness, the USGS launched an on-line "virtual tour" that can help all of us better understand and visualize the causes and effects of earthquakes. The interactive tour uses the three-dimensional geographic mapping tool Google Earth –beginning with a view from space and then zooming in on the 300-mile rupture of the 1906 earthquake along the San Andreas fault. The historic and scientific significance of the 1906 earthquake is told by overlays of ground-shaking intensity and damage maps, historic photos, and first-hand accounts. Users can also explore the present day earthquake hazard in the San Francisco Bay Area with maps and other on-line resources.

To see the virtual tour, visit <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/nca/virtualltour/>.

FIGURE 1-44

Interior Triples Amount of Wildland-Urban Interface Acres Treated Since FY 2001



In FY 2006, we met 48% of our performance targets for our Serving Communities Mission Area (Figure 1-50). We did not meet 13% of our targets. This compares with 69% of our targets met and 18% of our targets not met in FY 2005. Thirty-nine percent of our measures remain unreported in FY 2006. Due to the discontinued use of select performance measures by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Serving Communities experienced an increase in No Reports for 2006, 13% to 39%. This resulted in a decrease within Serving Communities of goals met or exceeded from 69% in 2005 to 48% in 2006.

Safeguarding Communities from Hazards

At Interior, we take seriously our responsibility to protect our employees and visitors to our lands and the communities we serve. In FY 2006, we limited the number of serious injuries on lands and waters that we influence or manage to an estimated 7,242 injuries (Ref #115). Our efforts have reduced safety risks to 393,728 people exposed to abandoned mine land hazard. This far exceeds our target of 160,000 people (Ref #111) in part due to the sites' proximity to communities, recreational areas, schools, and a portion of a national park. Our science agency, the USGS, reports that in FY 2006, an estimated 48% of communities used DOI science on hazard mitigation, preparedness, and avoidance for each of our hazard management activities (Ref #110). One hundred percent of sampled users reported that the science data they received was adequate to help inform their decision-making for managing hazards (Ref #124).

Interior's law enforcement officers, firefighters, and scientists contribute to the safety and well-being of the communities we serve. Over the past 6 years, Interior has actively participated in and supported the National Fire Plan. The plan, combined with tools under the President's

Healthy Forests Initiative and Healthy Forests Restoration Act, has provided strategies and tactics to battle or prevent wildland fires. In FY 2006, thanks to the hard work of our wildland fire program managers and firefighters, Interior limited the number of acres burned by unplanned and unwanted wildland fires to an estimated 3,074,232 acres against a target of 5,135,013, controlling 98% of unplanned and unwanted wildland fires during initial attack (Ref #116 and 117). We plan our performance targets regarding the number of acres burned based on a highly variable 10-year average. Actual acres burned can vary significantly based on where fires actually occur and how quickly they are contained. We treated 49% or an

FIGURE 1-45

Preventing Wildland Fires While Benefiting Local Community Economies and Providing An Alternative Energy Source

The Healthy Forests Restoration Act gives Federal agencies statutory authorization to increase their use of biomass. Biomass is the term used to describe the by-products of restoration and wildland fire treatments of forested areas—the limbs, tops, leaves, needles, and other parts of trees and woody plants removed to help reduce hazardous wildland fire fuels and create healthier forests. Biomass is used to produce paper and pulp, furniture, and bio-energy and bio-based products such as ethanol and diesel fuel. Agencies, such as Interior's BLM, are offering thousands of tons of biomass through stewardship contracts that benefit local communities. An example of a successful Stewardship project is the 10-year Gerber projects in south central Oregon. When completed, it will have treated 10,000 acres to improve forest and woodland health, improve rangeland health, reduce hazardous fuels, improve wildlife and fisheries habitat, and enhance riparian areas. In its third year, with 1,500 acres under contract, the project has sold 750 million board feet of timber and 15,000 tons of biomass for energy development.



FIGURE 1-46



Keeping the Public Informed About Avian Flu

Next to homeland security, few issues have appeared to dominate the news headlines recently as much as Bird Flu. The Departments of Interior, Agriculture, and Health and Human Services continue to work together to monitor the spread of the highly pathogenic H5N1 (a subtype of the influenza A virus capable of causing illness in many animal species, including humans) since it first appeared in Hong Kong in 1997. These agencies have conducted thousands of tests on migratory birds in the Alaska, Pacific, and Atlantic flyways since 1998, and no highly pathogenic avian influenza isolates have been identified. Efforts continue because as we intensify monitoring of migratory bird populations, we increase the likelihood of early detection—a key to controlling the spread of the virus, particularly in domestic poultry.

Within Interior, both the USGS and FWS are actively monitoring bird mortalities to detect the virus and provide an early warning to agricultural, public health, and wildlife communities. USGS recently released a new book titled, "Disease Emergence and Resurgence: The Wildlife-Human Connection." The 400-page publication focuses on concepts associated with disease emergence in wildlife, the general importance of wildlife as sentinels for disease emergence, and critical issues engaging wildlife as sources for zoonotic disease (diseases that are transmittable between humans and animals). The report and the latest information about avian flu research and monitoring can be found online at www.nwhc.usgs.gov.

estimated 527,000 acres in the wildland-urban interface that had been identified as high priority through collaboration with other agencies and communities (Ref #118, #119), consistent with the 10-Year Implementation Plan. An estimated 3,985 acres were treated per million dollars gross investment against a target of 3,553 acres (Ref #120).

Interior's law enforcement officers protect against illegal activities on our lands. In addition to providing for the safety and security of residents and employees, volunteers, and Indian Country citizens and visitors, our law enforcement programs protect natural and cultural resources

and facilities in every State. Interior is in its fourth year of reforming its law enforcement operations and activities, responding to 25 specific areas of improvement identified by a 2002 Inspector General report and mandated for reform by the Secretary of the Interior. We continue to make strategic investments in our law enforcement and security programs, improve oversight of related budgets, and ensure accountability through effective performance goals and measures.

Using Science for Decision-Making

Science informs land management and conservation decisions made by the Department of the Interior. It helps us protect employees and visitors to our lands and helps safeguard the lives of those in the communities that we serve. The USGS is Interior's principal science agency. Founded in 1879, the USGS serves the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

In FY 2006, USGS continued its long history of serving communities with accurate and reliable scientific data. It provided temporal and spatial monitoring, research, and assessment/data coverage to meet land use planning and monitoring requirements for 80% of the Nation's surface area (Ref #131).

In FY 2006, 96% of partners surveyed, against a target of 90%, reported that the data provided by USGS helped them to achieve their goals (Ref #130). Eighty-seven percent of those using USGS data reported improved access to needed scientific information during the year (Ref #129).

Fulfilling Our Trust Responsibilities

While we continue to address challenges related to our trust beneficiary assets, Interior has made progress toward improving trust operations and management. Some noteworthy accomplishments include:

- 100% of financial information was accurately processed in Trust beneficiary accounts against a target of 98% (Ref #134);
- 100% of financial account information was provided to Trust beneficiaries in a timely manner against a target of 100% (Ref #135); and


FIGURE 1-47

Helping Alaska Native Communities Meet Their Energy Needs

In 2006, the Department of the Interior awarded a grant to the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. (APIA) to develop a wind energy system to supplement diesel-driven electrical generators. APIA is a non-profit tribal organization in Anchorage, Alaska, that is working with Alaska Native communities of the State's Aleutian Island chain to assist in their sustainable economic development. The grant enables APIA to continue its Alternative Energy Development Program, which was started with a grant from Interior in 2005.

Residents of the villages of False Pass, King Cove, Nikolski, and Sand Point and the Pribilof Island Communities make their living largely from fishing. Because of their insular and remote locations, they must import diesel fuel for their energy-producing generators. The rising cost of diesel fuel has significantly increased the villages' costs for producing electricity. Supplementing the diesel-driven generators with wind power may provide the villages with more affordable energy sources.

Interior's 2006 grant to APIA will help pay for many of the technical steps needed before wind turbines can be installed in targeted communities. This includes collecting of wind resource data. Using the U.S. Department of Energy's rating scale for commercial wind energy, which ranges from Class 1 to Class 7—with 7 being the highest—wind speeds within APIA's monitoring area have been measured within the Class 7 category of 8.8 meters per second or higher, making wind power appear quite viable.



- An estimated 33% of missing owner information (accounts) was recovered, exceeding a target of 20% (Ref #154)

Advance Quality Communities for Native American Tribes and Alaska Natives

Interior also promotes Tribal community economic development opportunities, contributing to improvements in the quality of life of 1.5 million Native Americans and Alaska Natives across the Nation who live on or near federally recognized reservations. Efforts range from supporting education programs to promoting self-governance and self-determination.

Dramatic economic developmental advances have come to Indian Country over the past 4 years in areas such as energy, minerals, forestry, water, agriculture, range and grazing, and wildlife and recreation. Achieving thriving Tribal economies will create a dynamic synergy of jobs, financial resources, and personal fulfillment. More than ever before, tribes and Tribal members have the opportunity to engage in America's free enterprise system. Stronger Tribal economies will strengthen Tribal government, and contribute to a stronger America.

During the last 5 years, Interior has heightened its commitment to the education of American Indian children and adults. Through these efforts, 46% of BIA school children were able to read independently by the 3rd grade in FY 2006, an increase of 5% over FY 2005 performance (Ref #174). Priority attention is being given to repairing and replacing BIA elementary and secondary schools. Between 2001 and 2006, BIA made progress toward replacing 38 schools on the Education Facilities Construction Priority Ranking List. Interior is continuing to ensure that facilities are in fair to good condition as measured by the FCI.

In FY 2006, Interior also progressed toward its goals of increasing economic self-sufficiency and improving financial management practices of insular areas. Our Office of Insular Affairs reported that in FY 2006, it reduced the number of months insular general fund financial statements were late from 19 months in 2005 to 12 months (Ref #184).

FIGURE 1-48

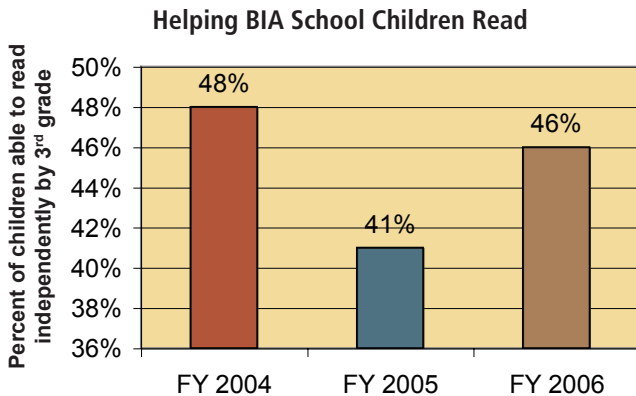


FIGURE 1-49

How Interior Performed at a Glance: FY 2005-2006		
Selected Performance Measures from Serving Communities Mission Area		
Performance Measure	FY 2005	FY 2006
Legend: □ = No Report ■ = Target Not Met ■ = Target Met ■ = Target Exceeded		
#110: Percent of communities using DOI science on hazard mitigation, preparedness and avoidance for each hazard management activity	45%	48%
#111: Number of people with reduced exposure potential to safety risks from abandoned mine lands	2,244,458	393,728
#115: Reduced number of serious injuries on DOI managed or influence lands and waters	5175	7242 E
#116: Percent of unplanned and unwanted wildland fires controlled during initial attack	97%	98% E
#117: Number of acres burned by unplanned and unwanted wildland fires	8,681,252	3,074,232 E
#118: Number of acres treated that are in the wildland-urban interface and are identified as high priority through collaboration consistent with the 10-Year Implementation Plan – in total	542,568	527,000 E
#119: Number of acres treated that are in the wildland-urban interface and are identified as high priority through collaboration consistent with the 10-Year Implementation Plan as X percent of all acres treated	43%	49% E
#120: Number of acres treated in the wildland-urban interface per million dollars gross investment	4092	3985 E
#124: Percent of sampled stakeholders reporting adequacy of science base to inform decision-making for each hazard management activity	99%	100%
#129: Improve stakeholder access to needed science information	92%	87%
#130: Stakeholders reporting that information helped achieve goal	95%	96%
#131: Percent of surface area with temporal and spatial monitoring, research, and assessment/data coverage to meet land use planning and monitoring requirements	59%	80%
#134: Percent of financial information accurately processed in Trust beneficiary accounts	100%	100%
#135: Percent timeliness of financial account information provided to Trust beneficiaries	99%	100%
#153: Average number of months that active probate cases are before the Office of Hearings and Appeals	6 months	5.7 months
#154: Percent of missing owner information (accounts) recovered	36 %	33%
#157: Number of land acquisitions to increase land use capabilities and reduce fractionation of land interests	72,547	77,577
#170: Facilities are in fair to good condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index (FCI)	.107	.199
#174: Percent of children able to read independently by the 3rd grade	41%	46%
#184: Total average months late for all insular general fund financial statements	19	12

FIGURE 1-50

Serving Communities—Safeguard lives, property and assets, advance scientific knowledge; and improve the quality of life for communities we serve				
Performance and Cost Scorecard				
End Outcome Goal	Number of Goals Met	Number of Goals Not Met	Number of No Reports*	Goal Activity Costs (rounded to thousands)
Goal #1: Protect Lives, Resources, and Property	15	6	4	\$2,385,628
Goal #2: Advance Knowledge Through Scientific Leadership and Inform Decisions Through the Applications of Science	6	0	0	\$952,968
Goal #3: Fulfill Indian Fiduciary Trust Responsibilities	12	2	17	\$647,476
Goal #4: Advance Quality Communities for Tribes and Alaska Natives	5	3	10	\$2,140,811
Goal #5: Increase Economic Self-Sufficiency of Insular Areas	2	0	1	\$391,678
TOTAL	40	11	32	\$6,518,561
Percentage of Total Out of 83 Measures	48%	13%	39%	

* For the purpose of this chart, preliminary data are considered a "no report."