



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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SUMMARY: 2008 INTERIOR AND THE ENVIRONMENT APPROPRIATIONS AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE 6/28/07

The Interior and the Environment bill provides for the environmental and conservation needs of America's people and its natural resources. The key investments made in this bill will ensure that America's water and air will be cleaner, its pristine natural landscapes and historic structures more protected, wildfires will be appropriately managed, and visitors to its national parks, refuges and forests will experience, for the first time in years, improved levels of service.

The bill also honors our obligations to Native American communities, making investments into better education and healthcare. It works to improve the quality of drinking water throughout the country by restoring funding to the Clean Water Revolving Fund. And it renews our nations support for the arts and humanities.

Finally, the bill focuses our efforts on global climate change, establishing a commission of the government's top scientific experts tasked with identifying key areas for scientific research, and empowering them with the resources to finance work in these areas.

Bill Total

2007 Enacted:	\$26.405 billion
President's Request:	\$25.652 billion
Committee Mark:	\$27.598 billion

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY: \$8.091 billion, \$366 million above 2007 and \$892 million above the President's request which would have cut the agency by over a half billion dollars.

EPA Enforcement: \$569 million, \$19 million above the President's request and 2007 to ensure that environmental laws and regulations are followed.

Climate Change

- **Sense of the Congress:** States that climate change is a reality and requires the country to act.
- **Core Scientific Research:** \$266 million, \$94 million above 2007 for basic research on climate change at the Department of Interior (USGS), the EPA, and the U.S. Forest Service.
- **Commission on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation:** \$50 million to establish a commission to review the scientific questions which need to be addressed to best adapt to a warming planet and the specific science investments needed to address this reality. \$5 million will be used to support Commission activities, and the remaining \$45 will be distributed by the Commission to science agencies across the Federal Government to begin to implement the Commission's recommendations.
- **Regulations:** \$2 million to develop regulations to reduce green house gases following this spring's Supreme Court decision that the EPA has such authority under the Clean Air Act.

Water Infrastructure

- **Clean Water State Revolving Fund:** \$1.1 billion, \$437 million above the President's request, that could help roughly 150 communities with drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects. This will begin to address cuts made to these programs since 2004.
- **Sewer and Water Grants (STAG):** \$140 million, not funded in 2007 or the President's request, for sewer and water grants to local communities, roughly half of the 2006 level, a first step in restoring these funds.
- **Rural Water Technical Assistance:** \$16 million, eliminated in the President's request, for technical assistance (such as training staff) for rural drinking water and waste water treatment plants.

Protecting Bodies of Water

- **Cleaning Up Great Water Bodies:** \$176 million, \$52 million above 2007 and \$67 million over the President's request, to clean up America's waters including the Chesapeake Bay, the Great Lakes, Long Island Sound, Puget Sound and other important targeted watersheds.
- **National Estuary Program:** \$17 million, \$5 million above 2007 and \$10 million above the President's request, for grants to help local communities implement plans for attaining or maintaining water quality in an estuary.

Clean Air

- **Diesel Emission Reduction Program:** \$50 million, \$15 million above the President's request, for a new program to reduce pollution by retrofitting or replacing diesel engines in five categories: freight, construction, agriculture, ports and school busses.
- **Clean Air State Grants:** \$220 million, \$35 million above the President's request, for grants for state and regional efforts to implement the Clean Air Act, restoring funding to the 2006 level.
- **Energy Star:** \$52 million, \$8 million above the President's request and \$6 million above 2007, for the program that evaluates and promotes products for energy efficiency to help Americans make informed energy choices, restoring funding to the 2006 level. EPA estimates the program saved Americans \$12 billion in energy costs in 2005.

Hazardous and Toxic Cleanup

- **Superfund Sites:** \$600 million, \$26 million above 2007 and \$15 million above the President's request, to clean up the most toxic and hazardous waste sites. There is also \$170.6 million, \$9 million above the President's request and \$6 million above 2007 for Superfund enforcement.
- **Brownfields:** \$100 million, \$11 million above the President's request and 2007 for evaluation and cleanup of former industrial and commercial sites - turning them from problem properties to productive community use - and \$50 million in grants to states to administer Brownfield programs.
- **Leaking Underground Storage Tanks:** \$118 million, \$26 million above the President's request for grants to inspect and clean up pollution from underground storage tanks.

Environmental Justice: \$7 million, \$3 million above the President's request and \$2 million above 2007 to ensure that environmental decisions and EPA programs do not affect minority populations unfairly.

EPA Science: \$788 million, \$34 million above 2007, not including the new commission on climate change science.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR: \$10.163 billion, \$257 million above 2007 and \$450 million above the President's request.

National Parks: \$2.513 billion, \$224 million above 2007 and \$149 million above the President's request, the first step in a 10 year program to upgrade our parks in time for the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service in 2016.

- **Operations:** \$2.048 billion, \$199 million above 2007, to reverse the major declines over the last decade in staffing, visitors' services and law enforcement capacity by allowing the parks to hire 3,000 new seasonal employees and 590 new year-round staff.
- **Centennial Challenge Grants:** \$50 million, to be matched with private funds, for the new Centennial Challenge matching grant program to finance "signature" enhancements in the parks.
- **Historic Preservation:** \$102 million, \$30 million above 2007 and \$20 million above the President's request, for programs including: Save America's Treasures (+\$12 million), Heritage Partnership Grants (+\$7 million), State and Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (+\$9 million), and the Preserve America program (+\$5 million).
- **Park Service Construction:** \$202 million, \$96 million below 2007, the President's request to give the parks time to complete old projects before beginning new ones.
- **"Stateside" Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF):** \$50 million, \$20 million above 2007 and zeroed out in the President's request, for grants to states for conservation and recreation including land acquisition and aid to local parks.

Bureau of Indian Affairs: \$2.347 billion, \$39 million above 2007 and \$118 million above the President's request.

- **Methamphetamine Prevention and Treatment:** \$35 million for programs at the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Services for combating methamphetamine in Indian country including: help for tribal law enforcement officers, detention centers, tribal courts, education programs, mental health, and substance abuse treatment and prevention.
- **Education:** \$699 million, \$39 million above the President's request and \$41 million above 2007, to improve education ranging from elementary and secondary schools to adult education. This includes fully restoring the Johnson-O'Malley assistance grants to support education programs for Indian tribes nationwide.

Indian Health Service: \$3.384 billion, \$204 million above 2007 and \$114 million above the President's request, to improve healthcare access and quality for Native Americans including restoring the Urban Health Program and adding \$25 million for the Indian Healthcare Improvement Fund.

Fighting Wildfires: \$2.8 billion, \$199 million above 2007 and \$111 million above the President's request to prevent and fight wildfires. Last year was the most expensive year on record for these programs.

- **Fires Suppression Operations:** \$163 million over 2007
- **Preparedness Funding:** \$113 million over the President's request to support staffing
- **Other Critical Needs:** \$50 million over the President's request to remove hazardous fuels, rehabilitate burned lands, and assist state and local firefighters.

Fish and Wildlife Service: \$1.417 billion, \$86 million above 2007 and \$130 million above the President's request.

- **National Wildlife Refuge System:** \$451 million, \$56 million above 2007 and the President's request, to restore staffing shortfalls and to improve visitors' services and wildlife management.

Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT): \$253 million, \$20 million above 2007 and \$63 million above the President's request, for payments to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable federal lands within their boundaries.

Bureau of Land Management: \$1.046 billion, \$28 million over 2007 and \$26 million above the President's request for land stewardship activities such as recreation, trails, law enforcement, wildlife and fisheries, and wild horses. (not including previously mentioned funds for fire)

U.S. Geological Survey: \$1.033 billion, \$50 million above 2007 and \$58 million above the President's request for core research into areas such as earthquakes, geography, hydrology and stream gauges, and biological research. Also includes \$24 million for the Landsat Data Continuity Mission for a new satellite to continue detailed mapping of the earth.

- **Global Climate Change Research:** \$36 million, \$10 million above the President's request and 2007 for new research on global climate change including glacier and polar monitoring, impacts on rivers and ground water, and impacts on organisms.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE: \$2.593 billion, \$92 million above 2007 and \$355 million above the President's request, not including previously mentioned funds for fire.

State and Private Forestry: \$280 million, \$1 million above 2007 and \$78 million above the President's request to help manage over 500 million acres of non-federal forest lands.

National Forest System: \$1.506 billion, \$54 million above 2007 and \$162 million above the President's request to manage public lands in national forests and grasslands. Other increases above the request include \$30 million for road maintenance and \$11 million for trail maintenance.

- **Legacy Road Remediation:** \$65 million to repair damaged roads and decommission those that receive little use. Over the years thousands of miles of roads have been built in the forests, many of which have fallen into disrepair and disuse.

RELATED AGENCIES

Smithsonian: \$652 million, \$18 million above 2007 and \$26 million below the President's request. This includes \$536 million for operational costs, a freeze at the 2007 level and \$35 million below the President's request, based on significant problems of governance and fiscal policies at the Institution.

National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities: \$160 million for the National Endowment for the Arts, \$35 million above 2007 and \$160 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$19 million over 2007, to help these programs to recover from deep cuts over the last decade.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT POLICY ITEM

Moratoria on Offshore Drilling: Maintains longstanding moratoria on energy development on the Outer Continental Shelf carried since the mid-1980's.

Oil Shale Leasing: Prohibits certain commercial oil shale leasing activities so that pilot demonstrations can be implemented before large-scale commercialization occurs.

Tongass: Prohibits construction of timber roads in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska

SIGNIFICANT CUTS

- \$193 million cut from construction accounts due to large unobligated balances. This includes \$96 million from the Park Service.
- Eliminates \$31 million for the land owner incentive and private stewardship programs in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service because these programs duplicate work being done by state wildlife grant programs.
- \$24 million cut from EPA Mexican border program due to large unobligated balances.
- \$24 million cut from EPA Alaska village's set-aside which is \$5 million below the request.
- \$24 million cut from Indian land consolidation.

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Summary of FY 2008 House Passed Bill

June 27, 2007

(discretionary funding in millions of dollars)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 President's Request	FY 2008 House Passed	House vs. 2007	House vs. Request
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies House Passed Bill	26,405	25,652	27,598	1,193	1,946
Department of Interior:	9,906	9,713	10,163	257	450
Bureau of Land Management, non-fire	1,019	1,020	1,046	27	26
US Fish and Wildlife Service	1,331	1,287	1,417	86	130
<i>[National Wildlife Refuge System]</i>	<i>[395]</i>	<i>[395]</i>	<i>[451]</i>	<i>[56]</i>	<i>[56]</i>
National Park Service	2,289	2,364	2,513	224	149
<i>[NPS park base]</i>	<i>[1,127]</i>	<i>[1,233]</i>	<i>[1,233]</i>	<i>[106]</i>	-
US Geological Survey	983	975	1,033	50	58
Bureau of Indian Affairs	2,308	2,229	2,347	39	118
Office of Special Trustee	223	196	193	-30	-3
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	233	190	253	20	63
Environmental Protection Agency:	7,725	7,199	8,091	366	892
Science and Technology	733	755	783	50	28
Commission on Climate Change Mitigation	0	0	50	50	50
Environmental Programs and Management	2,358	2,298	2,371	13	73
Hazardous Substances Superfund	1,255	1,245	1,272	17	27
State and Tribal Assistance Grants	3,185	2,725	3,407	222	682
<i>[Clean Water Fund]</i>	<i>[1,084]</i>	<i>[688]</i>	<i>[1,125]</i>	<i>[41]</i>	<i>[437]</i>
<i>[Infrastructure projects]</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>[140]</i>	<i>[140]</i>
U.S. Forest Service, non-fire	2,501	2,258	2,603	102	345
Indian Health Service	3,180	3,271	3,384	204	113
Smithsonian Institution	635	678	652	17	-26
Kennedy Center	30	39	43	13	4
National Endowment for the Arts	125	128	160	35	32
National Endowment for the Humanities	141	141	160	19	19
Cross-cutting Programs:					
Land Acquisition and Forest Legacy (LWCF)	199	87	268	69	181
Construction Accounts	844	657	734	-110	77
Wildland Fire, DOI & FS	2,582	2,670	2,781	199	111
Indian Programs	5,488	5,500	5,731	243	231
Climate Change	173	170	266	93	96