



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Report any suspicious activity related to this funding to our hotline at <https://www.doiig.gov/site-page/complaint-hotline> or by phone at 1-800-424-5081.

In March 2020, the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The Act provides supplemental funding to respond to the outbreak and attempts to manage and contain coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

CARES Act oversight helps ensure good government



MONITORING FOR EARLY DETECTION

Early detection is critical to ensure the DOI and recipients use resources as intended. We are therefore monitoring procurement and other CARES Act-funded obligations and expenditures; how expediently the DOI is awarding funds; and whether the DOI is meeting reporting requirements. We also know from our past work that emergency funding inherently poses a high risk for fraud and mismanagement, so we are mining key datasets to target potential fraud and high-risk activities.



REVIEWS TO UNCOVER AND REPORT ON WRONGDOING

A focus on quick reviews and reporting will allow the DOI to address misuse and opportunities for improvement in a high-risk and uncertain environment, and it will allow us to adapt our reviews to changing conditions and needs. We will also conduct more traditional investigations into fraud and misconduct so wrongdoers can be held accountable.



OUTREACH TO PREVENT WRONGDOING

As a core part of our mission, we conduct outreach sessions with DOI employees and recipients of DOI funds to remind them of their role in deterring, detecting, and disclosing wrongdoing and mismanagement. We tailored our existing outreach material to include risks, red flags, and fraud schemes associated with CARES Act spending. We will focus on contracting and grants officials and purchase cardholders.



COORDINATION TO LEVERAGE RESOURCES & INFORMATION

We are coordinating our efforts with the Government Accountability Office, the Office of Management and Budget, and other OIGs. We are also communicating with the U.S. Department of Justice, Native American Tribes, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center to share information.

This initiative seeks to determine whether the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and its bureaus are effectively managing and overseeing the expenditure of funds appropriated for response to COVID-19, and to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and mismanagement of these funds.

We describe our four-pronged approach in this document.

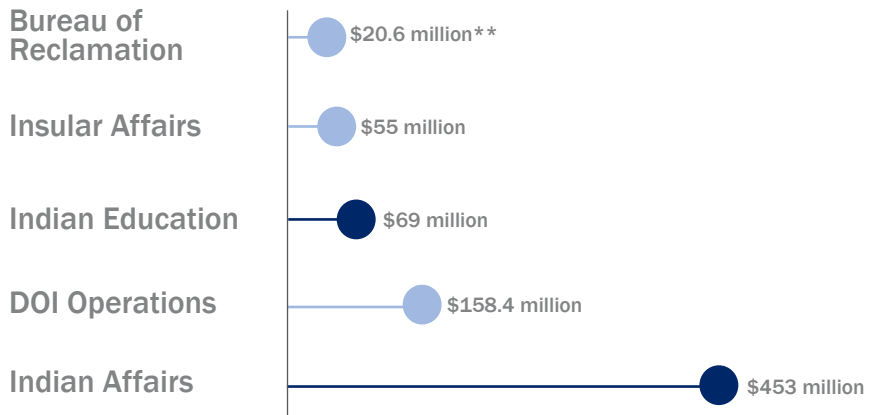
Oversight of the DOI's CARES Act spending is critical to safeguard health and safety, water, and Indian education.

Most of the DOI's funding is for Indian Affairs and Indian Education.*

Congress appropriated

\$756 million

for the Bureau of Reclamation, Insular Affairs, Indian Affairs, Indian Education, and Department operations.



* DOI appropriations also include \$1 million for the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

** Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) funding includes \$8.1 million for administration, \$12 million for water, and \$500,000 for the BOR - Central Utah Project Completion Act.

Click [here](#) to watch our short video about your role and the positive and preventative impact you can have on the DOI's mission.