



**CARES Act Flash Report**

# November 2020: Where's the Money?

The DOI received

**\$909.7 million**

under the CARES Act to respond to impacts from COVID 19:

- **\$453 million** for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- **\$157.4 million** for DOI operations (Office of the Secretary (OS))\*
- **\$69 million** for the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE)
  - **\$153.7 million** for the BIE transferred from the U.S. Department of Education
- **\$55 million** for the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA)
- **\$12 million** for the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) water resources
- **\$8.1 million** for the BOR policy and administration
- **\$1 million** for the Office of Inspector General (OIG)
- **\$500,000** for the BOR Central Utah Project Completion Act (CUPCA)

\* The OS transferred funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Park Service (NPS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), and Office of Wildland Fire (OWF). In addition, OWF funds were transferred to BLM, FWS, and NPS child accounts with the OS. Figure 1 includes a breakdown of the transferred funds. The OS may transfer additional funds within the DOI in the future.

## DOI CARES Act Funds as of November 30, 2020

On March 27, 2020, the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). To date, the CARES Act has provided the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) with \$909.7 million. This report describes the DOI's funding status as of November 30, 2020 (see Figure 1), a new example recipient, and updated information on the DOI's completion of CARES Act milestones (see page 3). We are issuing this report for the purpose of transparency and for the Department's use in managing the funding. The funding and related information has not been audited or reviewed in accordance with applicable standards.

Figure 1: Funding Status as of November 30, 2020

Business Area	Appropriation/ Transfer (\$)	Obligations To Date (\$)	Expenditures To Date (\$)
BIA	453,000,000	423,466,913 (93.5%)	393,446,915 (86.9%)
OS*	143,580,000	2,816,896 (2.0%)	905,870 (0.6%)
FWS	3,585,000	1,343,896 (37.5%)	1,126,168 (31.4%)
NPS	5,467,000	1,854,108 (33.9%)	1,503,289 (27.5%)
BLM	4,053,000	1,421,947 (35.1%)	1,068,980 (26.4%)
OWF	265,000	241,460 (91.1%)	134,078 (50.6%)
BOR	450,000	0 0%	0 0%
BIE	69,000,000	59,907,815 (86.8%)	57,698,747 (83.6%)
BIE (ED)	153,750,000	124,506,385 (81.0%)	110,847,141 (72.1%)
OIA	55,000,000	42,627,375 (77.5%)	7,139,309 (13.0%)
BOR (Water)	12,000,000	6,268,420 (52.2%)	6,140,452 (51.2%)
BOR (Policy)	8,100,000	1,698,426 (21.0%)	1,698,426 (21.0%)
OIG	1,000,000	755,627 (75.6%)	755,627 (75.6%)
BOR (CUPCA)	500,000	28,617 (5.7%)	1,110 (0.2%)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$909,750,000</b>	<b>\$666,937,885 (73.3%)</b>	<b>\$582,466,112 (64.0%)</b>



### Top 5 Recipients

- Navajo Nation Tribal Government (\$12,577,400)
- Government of Guam (\$12,039,565)
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (\$9,553,410)
- Cherokee Nation (\$9,131,601)
- Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands (\$7,863,776)

### Example CARES Act Program

The Blackfeet Tribal Business Council of the Blackfeet Nation created the COVID 19 Incident Command to provide resources and support to tribal members. In August, the council announced it would provide a one time relief payment of \$500 to tribal members who have been financially affected by the COVID 19 pandemic. The council also established an Emergency Small Business Assistance COVID 19 Relief Program for small businesses owned by tribal members and appropriated \$1.2 million in CARES Act funding for the program.

### Details on Award Types

DOI programs and bureaus have made funds available via contracts and grants/financial assistance awards (see Figure 2).

**Figure 2: Award Types Used as of November 30, 2020**

Award Type	Total Value (\$)	Percentage of Total Value
Grant/financial assistance award	608,815,309	91.3
Contracts and supplies	29,621,706	4.4
Other (e.g., equipment, personnel)	28,500,870	4.3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$666,937,885</b>	<b>100%</b>

### COVID-19 vs. CARES Act Expenditures

As of November 30, 2020, CARES Act charge card expenditures totaled \$4.6 million, and COVID-19-related purchases (not charged to CARES Act funds) totaled \$12.1 million (see Figure 3). The DOI may make future adjustments to some of these COVID-19 expenditures to reflect the use of CARES Act funds as more transactions are reviewed for proper classification.

**Figure 3: Charge Card Purchase Amounts as of November 30, 2020\***

Bureau	CARES Act (\$)	COVID-19 (\$)	Total (\$)
BIA	2,035,522	4,247,633	6,283,155
BLM	575,898	1,722,082	2,297,980
BOR	883,522	8,389	891,911
FWS	235,544	1,161,463	1,397,007
NPS*	932,359	4,169,336	5,101,695
Other†	0	830,423	830,423
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$4,662,845</b>	<b>\$12,139,326</b>	<b>\$16,802,171</b>

\* The NPS adjusted some of the expenditures to reflect proper classification as not related to COVID.

† This includes departmental offices, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

### Example Recipient – Citizen Potawatomi Nation

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation is a federally recognized tribe in Shawnee, OK, with more than 30,000 tribal members around the world. The BIA distributed \$5.5 million in CARES Act funding to the Nation. The Nation's COVID-19 committee decided that it would assist tribal members by distributing funding through individual grants for housing, technology, food, and clothing. In addition, the Nation is providing up to \$5,000 to member-owned businesses to assist with eligible costs, such as rent, utilities, and salaries. To ensure that members are aware of available assistance, 70 people have been assigned to make telephone calls to 23,000 households.



## Significant Milestones

The CARES Act requires agencies to submit reports by certain deadlines, and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provided further clarification on the reporting requirements in its Memorandum M 20 21, *Implementation Guidance for Supplemental Funding Provided in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID 19)*, issued April 10, 2020. We are monitoring these DOI milestones.

## Completed Milestones

Due and completed on June 9:

The DOI assessed and adjusted existing reporting and audit deadlines and considered how to balance existing statutory and regulatory compliance requirements with the new workload associated with the COVID 19 crisis.

Due June 25, completed July 16:

Not later than 90 days after enactment of the CARES Act, the DOI was to submit to the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) a plan describing how the covered funds will be spent.

## Ongoing Milestones

- April 10<sup>†</sup>** Effective the date of OMB Memorandum M-20-21, the DOI must identify, track, and anticipate reporting charge card spending related to COVID-19. These charge card transactions must use “COVID” as an identifier. **As of November 30, we have identified \$12,139,326 in charge card transactions with the COVID identifier.**
- April 26** By this date, the Secretary of the Treasury must consult with the Secretary of the Interior and Indian tribes about payments totaling \$8 billion to tribes. Several tribes, including three in Alaska, argued that the allotment is not meant for for-profit corporations and should exclusively support tribal governments. On April 2 and April 9, Treasury and the DOI consulted with more than 3,000 representatives from Indian Country and Alaska Native villages. On May 5, the Secretary of the Treasury and Secretary of the Interior issued a [statement](#) on the path forward for funds to tribes, making \$4.8 billion available to tribal governments in all States. A U.S. District Court ruled that Alaska Native corporations (ANCs) are eligible to receive CARES Act funds, but a July 7 injunction prevented the ANCs from receiving the funds while tribal nations appealed the ruling. **On September 25, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit held that ANCs are not eligible for funding under Title V of the CARES Act.**
- October 16** Starting with the June 2020 reporting period through September 30, 2021, the Deputy Secretary or the Chief Operating Officer must review quarterly the progress made on program performance under the CARES Act. The Deputy Secretary will conduct quarterly reviews on performance goals and is also informed in near real time on various performance developments. The Acting Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget issued a memo to heads of bureaus and offices regarding CARES Act Quarterly Output/Outcome Reporting Guidance. Assistant Secretaries were to turn in bureau reports by October 16. **Not all bureau reports were received by October 16 for the fourth quarter reporting period. The quarterly status review briefing was held on December 4, 2020.**
- Reporting Milestones Completed by Submitting Data to USASpending.gov and Pandemicoversight.gov**
- June 30** The DOI must report monthly to the OMB, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the PRAC, and the appropriate congressional committees on any obligation or expenditure of large covered funds, starting with the June 2020 reporting period through September 30, 2021. Large covered funds are any funds made available in any form (e.g., via grant, cooperative agreement, contract, loan, loan guarantee, award, or other mechanism) that exceed \$150,000. **The DOI continues to meet this monthly requirement.**
- July 10** Not later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter, each recipient of large covered funds shall submit a report on use of the funds to the DOI and the PRAC. **The DOI met this requirement for the quarter ending September 30.**
- July 21** The DOI must submit Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA Act) files A, B, and C monthly instead of quarterly, starting with the June reporting period. These submissions must be certified by the DATA Act Senior Accountable Official or Financial Representative Designee for COVID-19-related funding. **The DOI certifying official for the monthly DATA Act file submissions is the Financial Business Management System Business Integration Office Director. The DOI continues to meet this monthly requirement.**
- July 30** Not later than 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter, the PRAC in consultation with the DOI must make the reports by covered recipients publicly available. **The DOI met the requirement for the quarter ending September 30.**

<sup>†</sup> All dates 2020