

CARES Act Flash Report

June 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), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Figure 1 includes a breakdown of the transferred funds.

DOI CARES Act Funds as of June 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, which includes direct apportionments of \$756 million to support the needs of DOI programs, bureaus, Indian Country, and the Insular Areas, and a \$153.7 million transfer from the U.S. Department of Education to the BIE in June. This report includes the DOI's progress as of June 30, 2020 (see Figure 1), a new highlighted recipient, and updated information regarding the DOI's accomplishment of CARES Act milestones (see page 3).

Figure 1: Funding Status as of June 30, 2020

| Business Area | Appropriation /Transfer (\$) | Expenditures To Date (\$) | Obligations To Date (\$) |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| BIA | 453,000,000 | 342,976,639 (75.7%) | 395,359,424 (87.3%) |
| OS* | 144,865,000 | 561,054 (0.4%) | 2,154,264 (1.5%) |
| FWS | 3,585,000 | 396,687 (11.1%) | 408,369 (11.4%) |
| NPS | 5,197,000 | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) |
| BLM | 3,753,000 | 470,912 (12.5%) | 637,321 (17%) |
| BIE | 69,000,000 | 46,353,546 (67.2%) | 50,275,037 (72.9%) |
| BIE (ED) | 153,750,000 | 5,968 (0%) | 40,482,634 (26.3%) |
| OIA | 55,000,000 | 487,182 (0.9%) | 42,627,375 (77.5%) |
| BOR (Water) | 12,000,000 | 574,221 (4.8%) | 691,153 (5.8%) |
| BOR (Policy) | 8,100,000 | 1,448,072 (17.9%) | 1,645,568 (20.3%) |
| OIG | 1,000,000 | 263,981 (26.4%) | 263,981 (26.4%) |
| BOR (CUPCA) | 500,000 | 0 (0%) | 0 (0%) |
| Totals | \$909,750,000 | \$393,538,262 (43.3%) | \$534,545,127 (58.8%) |



Top 5 Recipients

- Government of Guam (\$12 million)
- Navajo Nation Tribal Government (\$9.5 million)
- Cherokee Nation Tribal Government (\$7.9 million)
- Government of the U.S.
 Virgin Islands (\$7.8 million)
- Federated States of Micronesia National Government (\$7.7 million)

Example CARES Act Program

A nonprofit organization in Guam received \$151,550 in CARES Act emergency relief funding to prepare, prevent, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The organization will use the funding to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate information, assistance, and workshops during and after the pandemic to communities in Guam. The funding will give the organization a way to help Guam's migrant communities stay informed and safe during the pandemic. It will also help retrain individuals who have lost employment due to COVID-19 and prepare them to reenter the workforce.

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 June 30, 2020

| Award Type | Total Value (\$) | % of Total Value |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Grant/financial assistance award | 525,659,527 | 98.2 |
| Contracts and supplies | 6,713,526 | 1.3 |
| Other (e.g., equipment, personnel) | 2,928,094 | 0.5 |
| Totals | \$535,301,147 | 100% |

Highlighted Recipient – Guam

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the United States and its territories. Through the DOI Office of Insular Affairs appropriation, CARES Act funding will provide much needed health and welfare assistance to Guam, the DOI's largest recipient to date. Guam is a U.S. Territory in Micronesia, the Western Pacific, with a population exceeding 165,000. It is home to six historical parks, including the War of the Pacific National Historical Park overseen by the NPS. As of June 30, Guam has reported 259 positive cases and 5 deaths. Guam is currently developing its detailed spending plan for approval by the DOI Office of Insular Affairs, which is a prerequisite for the disbursement of funds.

COVID-19 vs. CARES Act Expenditures

DOI programs and bureaus used Government charge cards to make expenditures. As of June 30, 2020, CARES Act charge card expenditures totaled \$1.8 million and COVID-19-related purchases (not charged to CARES Act funds) totaled \$7.9 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 get reviewed for proper classification.

Figure 3: Charge Card Purchase Amounts as of June 30, 2020

| Bureau | CARES Act (\$) | COVID-19 (\$) | Total (\$) |
|--------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| BIA | 925,075 | 2,088,735 | 3,013,810 |
| BLM | 327,778 | 741,094 | 1,068,872 |
| BOR | 437,647 | 4,126 | 441,772 |
| FWS | 60,856 | 897,636 | 958,493 |
| Other | 0 | 4,155,106 | 4,155,106 |
| Totals | \$1,751,356 | \$7,886,697 | \$9,638,053 |



Significant Milestones

The CARES Act requires agencies to submit reports by certain deadlines, and the 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.

The CARES Act established the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) to coordinate and support inspectors general in performing CARES Act oversight. 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 30, 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. We are awaiting confirmation of the monthly due date for that report to add to the milestone list.

- April 10[†] 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. To date, we have identified \$7,886,697 in charge card charges with the COVID identifier.
- April 26 By this date, the Secretary of the Treasury shall consult with the Secretary of the Interior and Indian tribes for making 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 participants representing Indian County and Alaska Native villages on funding determinations. 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. On June 26, a U.S. District Court ruled that Alaska Native corporations are eligible to receive CARES Act funds.
- By this date, the DOI needs to assess and adjust existing reporting and audit deadlines, considering how to balance existing statutory and regulatory compliance requirements with the new workload associated with the COVID-19 crisis. The DOI has assessed impacts to current DOI reporting and audits, including a GAO audit, annual audit, and Data Act reporting and noted that all were still on target.
- June 25 Not later than 90 days after enactment of the CARES Act, the DOI must submit to the PRAC a plan describing how the covered funds will be spent. The DOI submitted the required plan to the PRAC on July 16.
- June 30 Starting with the June 30 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. An update to this milestone will be provided in the next report.
- Not later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter, each recipient of covered funds exceeding \$150,000 shall submit a report on use of the funds to the DOI and the PRAC. As part of this requirement, the DOI in coordination with the PRAC and the OMB must provide "user-friendly" means for recipients to meet this requirement.
- July 21 The DOI must submit DATA Act files A, B, and C monthly instead of quarterly, starting with the June 30 reporting period. These submissions must be certified by the DATA Act Senior Accountable Official or Financial Representative Designee for COVID-19 related funding.
- 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 on a website established by the PRAC to foster greater accountability and transparency in the use of covered funds.

[†]All dates 2020