



**CARES Act Flash Report**

# September 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), and Office of Wildland Fire (OWF). Figure 1 includes a breakdown of the transferred funds.

## DOI CARES Act Funds as of September 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 (ED) to the BIE. This report includes the DOI's progress as of September 30, 2020 (see Figure 1), a new highlighted vendor, and updated information on the DOI's accomplishment of CARES Act milestones (see page 3).

**Figure 1: Funding Status as of September 30, 2020**

Business Area	Appropriation/ Transfer (\$)	Expenditures To Date (\$)	Obligations To Date (\$)
BIA	453,000,000	380,193,483 (83.9%)	420,174,126 (92.8%)
OS*	144,480,000	902,572 (0.6%)	2,066,896 (1.4%)
FWS	3,585,000	961,638 (26.8%)	1,332,135 (37.2%)
NPS	5,317,000	1,469,212 (27.6%)	1,858,108 (34.9%)
BLM	3,753,000	884,560 (23.6%)	1,388,362 (37.0%)
OWF	265,000	0 (0%)	241,460 (91.1%)
BIE	69,000,000	55,085,348 (79.8%)	60,063,118 (87.0%)
BIE (ED)	153,750,000	97,328,890 (63.3%)	121,320,851 (78.9%)
OIA	55,000,000	2,783,932 (5.1%)	42,627,375 (77.5%)
BOR (Water)	12,000,000	4,986,461 (41.6%)	5,078,463 (42.3%)
BOR (Policy)	8,100,000	1,688,993 (20.9%)	1,688,993 (20.9%)
OIG	1,000,000	623,002 (62.3%)	623,002 (62.3%)
BOR (CUPCA)	500,000	0 (0%)	27,507 (5.5%)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$909,750,000</b>	<b>\$546,908,092 (60.1%)</b>	<b>\$658,490,397 (72.4%)</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 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) developed an expenditure plan that outlines how it will use its \$36 million in CARES Act relief funds for healthcare and community response to the pandemic. The overall expenditure plan includes procuring supplies (such as COVID 19 tests and personal protective equipment) and capital assets (such as ventilators and portable x rays). The plan also estimates using \$1.5 million for the construction of the Medical Care and Treatment Site, \$10 million to support first responders, and about \$1.2 million for assorted related expenses, such as communication and travel costs associated with procuring supplies. The OIA provided \$4 million of the \$36 million in CARES Act funds. As of July 2020, it approved the CNMI's use of \$2.5 million for various projects, which are largely for hospital renovations.

### 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 September 30, 2020**

Award Type	Total Value (\$)	Percentage of Total Value
Grant/financial assistance award	608,480,028	92.4
Contracts and supplies	26,242,410	4.0
Other (e.g., equipment, personnel)	23,767,959	3.6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$658,490,397</b>	<b>100%</b>

### COVID-19 vs. CARES Act Expenditures

As of September 30, 2020, CARES Act charge card expenditures totaled \$4.2 million, and COVID-19-related purchases (not charged to CARES Act funds) totaled \$11.4 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 September 30, 2020**

Bureau	CARES Act (\$)	COVID-19 (\$)	Total (\$)
BIA	1,583,968	3,633,851	5,217,819
BLM	556,357	1,682,009	2,238,365
BOR	852,380	8,316	860,696
FWS	235,333	1,165,816	1,401,149
NPS	932,359	4,146,292	5,078,651
Other*	0	781,944	781,944
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$4,160,398</b>	<b>\$11,418,227</b>	<b>\$15,578,625</b>

\* 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.

### Highlighted Vendor – Regency Consulting, Inc.

Using CARES Act appropriations and transferred ED funds, the BIA and BIE have issued more than 85 contracts and modifications totaling \$8 million to Regency Consulting, Inc., an Indian small business economic enterprise. The contracts are for Regency to provide more than 9,000 Chromebook and Dell Latitude 5410/5511 Touch laptops, as well as monitors and docking stations, to tribal schools. The two schools receiving the most laptops are Tuba City Boarding School (a BIE-operated school receiving 1,000 laptops) and Cheyenne Eagle-Butte School (a Cheyenne River Sioux tribally operated school receiving 810 laptops). All laptops will be delivered to the schools by October 30, 2020.



## 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 September 30, we have identified \$11,418,227 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.**
- June 30** 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. On August 11, 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 August 24. **The last bureau report was received on September 2, and the quarterly status review was held on September 3. The fourth quarter bureau reports are due on October 16.**
- Reporting Milestones Accomplished by Submitting Data to USASpending.gov and Pandemic.oversight.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 has met this requirement for the first quarter.**
- 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 has met the requirement for the first quarter.**

<sup>†</sup> All dates 2020