



**CARES Act Flash Report**

# August 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 August 31, 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. This report includes the DOI's progress as of August 31, 2020 (see Figure 1), a new highlighted recipient, and updated information on the DOI's accomplishment of CARES Act milestones (see page 3).

**Figure 1: Funding Status as of August 31, 2020**

<b>Business Area</b>	<b>Appropriation/ Transfer (\$)</b>	<b>Expenditures To Date (\$)</b>	<b>Obligations To Date (\$)</b>
BIA	453,000,000	365,740,096 (80.7%)	408,279,478 (90.1%)
OS*	144,600,000	844,354 (0.6%)	2,165,940 (1.5%)
FWS	3,585,000	725,977 (20.3%)	1,127,929 (31.5%)
NPS	5,197,000	1,102,863 (21.2%)	1,491,760 (28.7%)
BLM	3,753,000	968,230 (25.8%)	1,457,575 (38.8%)
OWF	265,000	0 (0%)	122,340 (46.2%)
BIE	69,000,000	54,394,088 (78.8%)	57,917,311 (83.9%)
BIE (Education)	153,750,000	95,017,142 (61.8%)	102,553,995 (66.7%)
OIA	55,000,000	1,356,397 (2.5%)	42,627,375 (77.5%)
BOR (Water)	12,000,000	4,282,614 (35.7%)	4,398,068 (36.7%)
BOR (Policy)	8,100,000	1,692,639 (20.9%)	1,692,639 (20.9%)
OIG	1,000,000	537,966 (53.8%)	537,966 (53.8%)
BOR (CUPCA)	500,000	0 (0%)	27,507 (5.5%)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$909,750,000</b>	<b>\$526,662,366 (57.9%)</b>	<b>\$624,399,884 (68.6%)</b>



### Top 5 Recipients

- Navajo Nation Tribal Government (\$12,577,400)
- Government of Guam (\$12,039,565)
- Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (\$9,521,410)
- Cherokee Nation (\$9,131,601)
- Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands (\$7,863,776)

### Example CARES Act Program

The VI Department of Education (VIDOE) recently announced that public schools will be virtual through December. Parents can request laptops and MiFi\* internet devices for their children from the VIDOE. CARES Act funding has enabled the VIDOE to order 12,000 Chromebooks, which it plans to distribute so that all students will have equal access to technology. Parents will also be able to borrow desks and chairs intended to give every child proper workspace at home. September 8 was the start date for VI public schools.

\* MiFi is a brand of wireless router that acts as a mobile WiFi hotspot. It can be connected to a cellular network to provide internet access.

### 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 August 31, 2020**

Award Type	Total Value (\$)	Percentage of Total Value
Grant/financial assistance award	596,777,463	95.6
Contracts and supplies	15,466,522	2.5
Other (e.g., equipment, personnel)	12,155,898	1.9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$624,399,884</b>	<b>100%</b>

### COVID-19 vs. CARES Act Expenditures

As of August 31, 2020, CARES Act charge card expenditures totaled \$3.8 million, and COVID-19-related purchases (not charged to CARES Act funds) totaled \$10.4 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 August 31, 2020**

Bureau	CARES Act (\$)	COVID-19 (\$)	Total (\$)
BIA	1,381,547	3,165,165	4,546,712
BLM	606,903	1,230,654	1,837,557
BOR	754,895	8,016	762,911
FWS	183,248	1,138,253	1,321,500
NPS	836,477	4,256,767	5,093,244
Other*	0	636,817	636,817
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$3,763,070</b>	<b>\$10,435,671</b>	<b>\$14,198,741</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 Recipient – U.S. Virgin Islands

The U.S. Virgin Islands (VI) is an island territory of the United States in the Caribbean that is home to more than 105,000 people. The territory comprises three large islands—St. Croix, St. John, and St. Thomas—and many islets and cays. Two-thirds of the island of St. John is national park, making it a unique destination for visitors from around the world. The three large islands have confirmed COVID-19 cases, and the VI Government has created a website dedicated to COVID-19 awareness with key information from the VI Department of Health. As of August 31, 2020, the VI has performed 16,397 tests, of which 1,139 were positive. After a 78 percent increase in positive cases in 1 week on St. Thomas, Governor Albert Bryan announced a “stay-at-home” restriction for VI residents for 1 month starting August 17 and closed the islands to visitors.



## 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.

## 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 August 31, we have identified \$10,435,671 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 County 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. **A July 7 injunction prevents the ANCs from receiving the funds while tribal nations appeal the ruling.**

**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 these reviews on performance goals and is 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 submit bureau reports by August 24. As of August 28, reports were still being provided.**

## 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 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 is the Financial Business Management System Business Integration Office Director for the monthly DATA Act file submissions. 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