

Attachment 1
List of Reporting Requirements,
Briefing Requirements,
Directives
and other Provisions of Special Note
Public Law 118-42
Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024

This list provides highlighted reporting and briefing requirements, directives, and other provisions of special note for the Wildland Fire Management (WFM) program. However, the list is not exhaustive, and it does not reflect land management directives that may be of interest to the WFM program but not directly involve the WFM program. In addition, the list summarizes and paraphrases language from these documents, including characterizations of policies, programs, and strategies. For more and definitive information, examine the original documents (web hyperlinks are included, below). References below to a House or Senate Committee are to be interpreted, pursuant to the Joint Explanatory Statement, as references to the Interior Appropriations Subcommittees of both the House and Senate.

[Joint Explanatory Statement \(JES\) for Division E of P.L. 118-42](#) (or 2024 JES-Division E)

- Procurement of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – Briefing due by June 7, 2024 (90 days post-enactment) (Interior/OWF and USDA FS): Directs the Department of the Interior (Interior) Office of Wildland Fire (OWF) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service (FS) to evaluate the provision of supplies during this fire season and provide a briefing to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on any issues related to cost trends, supply chain or other challenges to providing the appropriate materials, the standard list of PPE, any trends of regions with higher than average replacement needs, regions with current higher than average outstanding replacement needs, and how replacement of such is managed by the two agencies. (See also the House and Senate requirements for reports on PPE, below.)
- Oregon/Washington State Office (BLM): Reminds the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to follow and implement the directives included in the House and Senate Reports (see below), including on the Western Oregon Operating Plan fire protection agreement.
- Park Protection (NPS): Notes that the appropriation for National Park Service (NPS) park protection includes \$950,000 for veterans' fire corps.
- Aviation Resources (Interior): Directs Interior to consider including Container Aerial Fire Fighting Systems as well as other innovative wildfire technologies now available in the United States. (See also a related House directive, below.)
- Lake Tahoe Basin (USDA FS only): Directs USDA FS to support the implementation of Public Law 106-506, as amended, and restoration efforts in the greater Lake Tahoe fireshed, at no less than the FY 2023 enacted levels for hazardous fuels, vegetation and watershed, and forest cooperative health

efforts.

- Research Funding Directives (USDA FS only): Provides USDA FS the following amounts to support research priorities:
 - \$4,000,000 for cooperative research to develop new understandings and innovative solutions to address wildfire impacts on forested source water, downstream clean water, and water treatability;
 - \$3,000,000 for university-led research and partnerships to better understand fires in the wildland-urban interface, improve workforce development for wildfire management professionals, and improve the safety and efficiency of wildland firefighting techniques; and
 - \$1,500,000 to continue Forest Products Laboratory university partnerships to optimize biomass commercialization, including lumber standards, mass timber construction, and durability.

- Fuels Management (USDA FS only): Provides USDA FS the following amounts for specific purposes within the fuels management appropriation:
 - \$15,000,000 for the Community Wood Energy Program;
 - \$30,000,000 for Wood Innovation Grants; and
 - \$6,600,000 for the Southwest Ecological Restoration Institutes.

- Firefighting Techniques (USDA FS): Directs USDA FS to update its procedures and deployment protocols and to consider including Container Aerial Fire Fighting Systems (see also the related Interior provision, above, and the House directive, below) as well as other innovative wildfire technologies now available in the United States.

- Wildland Fire Suppression Operations (USDA FS only): Directs USDA FS to continue to perform a post-fire season audit of the fire suppression program and to complete the Annual Report and Large Fire Review timely.

[House Report \(H. Rept.\) 118-155](#)

According to 2024 JES-Division E, H. Rept. 118-155 carries the same weight as 2024 JES-Division E unless the JES expressly indicates otherwise. H. Rept. 118-155 contains several provisions and requirements of either direct or indirect relevance to Interior's WFM program. Among them are the following:

- Wildfire Prevention Testing and Technology (BLM and USDA FS): Encourages BLM and USDA FS to conduct more frequent fuel content and soil moisture testing in consultation with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration toward developing more accurate wildfire modeling and artificial intelligence solutions.

- Sequoias Protection – Report due by September 5, 2024 (180 days post-enactment) (NPS and USDA FS): Directs NPS and USDA FS to expedite projects to reduce the risk of wildfire-related mortality of giant sequoias. Also directs the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, the Giant Sequoia Lands

Coalition, and local stakeholders, to provide the Committee with a report no later than 180 days after enactment that includes: current hazardous fuels reduction projects in the groves and estimated acres treated; hazardous fuels reduction projects planned for fiscal years 2025, 2026, and 2027 and estimated treated acres; other high priority groves in need of hazardous fuels reduction work; and, funding needed to complete current and planned projects, delineated by fiscal year.

- PPE – Report due date not specified (annual report) (USDA in coordination with Interior): Directs USDA FS, in coordination with Interior, to submit an annual report that outlines the specific costs, by FS Region, for fully equipping individual firefighters on Type 1 Interagency Hotshot Crews, Smokejumpers, Helicopter Rappelers, Type 2 Initial Attack Handcrews, and other initial attack resources, such as fire engine modules and initial attack modules, with the necessary PPE needed to safely engage in wildfire suppression. The report must detail the criteria or standards for determining what constitutes firefighters being fully equipped, the types of personal protective equipment and unit level equipment required for the duration of fire assignments, and any relevant regulations or guidelines to which USDA FS must adhere. (See also the JES requirement for a briefing (above) and the Senate requirement for a report on PPE (below). Because this is a USDA FS directive, USDA will determine the due date.)
- Vacant Grazing Allotments (BLM and USDA FS): Directs BLM and USDA FS to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire. (See also a related Senate directive, below.)
- Forestry Management (BLM): Expresses concern that BLM’s focus on old-growth forests encourages a strategy that prioritizes well-known pinyon and juniper forests and neglects active management across fire-prone, overgrown federal lands and backcountry. Strongly encourages BLM and USDA FS to continue prescribed burning, grazing on forest lands, and other active management strategies.
- Housing Needs – Report due by September 5, 2024 (180 days post-enactment) (BLM): Directs BLM to provide a report on the housing needs of BLM employees living and working in rural communities. The report must include information on barriers and provide recommendations, as needed.
- National Seed Strategy/Plant Conservation Program (BLM): Encourages BLM to address the research agenda identified in the Seed Strategy, support interagency Native Plant Materials Development Program, the Seeds of Success, the Plant Conservation Alliance, and several regional native plant materials development programs.
- Western Oregon Fire Protection (BLM): Directs BLM to maintain or enhance the current level of fire protection for western Oregon forestlands through its agreement with the State of Oregon and make a timely and full payment to the State of Oregon for costs incurred pursuant to the agreement. Encourages BLM to utilize available funding provided by Congress in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to increase treatments in dry, fire-prone forests in southwest Oregon, consistent with the direction for reserve forests in the 2016 Resource Management Plan. (See also a related Senate report

requirement, below.)

- Tribal Firefighter Compensation – Report due by July 7, 2024 (120 days post-enactment) (BIA): Directs BIA to examine firefighter pay and provide a report to the Committee, after consultation with Tribes, on potential solutions and costs. (Also requires a similar report for Tribal law enforcement personnel.)
- Joint Fire Science Program (Interior and USDA FS): Urges the prioritization of research related to workforce health and wellbeing of wildland firefighters. (See also related Senate directives, below.)
- Wildfire Recovery and Mudslides (Interior and FEMA): Directs Interior’s Natural and Cultural Resources Recovery Support function, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to provide technical assistance, resources, and coordination to States, local, Tribal, and territorial governments when responding to wildfire recovery. Directs the Department to include feedback for preventative solutions addressing mudslides after wildfires.
- Container Aerial Fire Fighting Systems (Interior and USDA): Directs Interior to use \$3.5 million of Wildland Fire Management funding to support the deployment of Container Aerial Fire Fighting Systems for maximum fire-retardant air support for firefighter safety and full deployment of aerial support. Provides similar direction to USDA FS.
- Wildfire Smoke – Briefing due by June 7, 2024 (90 days post-enactment) (EPA only): Requests a briefing from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on wildfire smoke monitoring and standards, and what resources may be required to integrate smoke and health data with existing wildfire data at the National Interagency Fire Center.
- Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) – Report due by December 4, 2024 (270 days post-enactment) (USDA FS and interagency partners): Includes \$1,000,000 for USDA FS and its interagency partners (unnamed) to conduct a coverage analysis including factors such as recent National Fire Danger Rating System upgrades and proposals to determine a more appropriate network coverage. The analysis is to include how newer remote sensing technologies could augment or replace the fixed RAWS network and provide a 10-year budget plan. Directs USDA FS to report the findings of the analysis to the Committee.
- Wildfire Forecasting and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Modeling Research (USDA FS only): Strongly encourages USDA FS to work with an existing partnership with a public university in a “western state with proximity to the National Interagency Fire Center” to develop AI-based wildfire activity forecasting and modeling tools.

[Senate Report \(S. Rept.\) 118-83](#)

According to 2024 JES-Division E, S. Rept. 118-83 carries the same weight as 2024 JES-Division E unless the JES expressly indicates otherwise. S. Rept. 118-83 contains several provisions and requirements of either direct or indirect relevance to Interior's WFM program. Among them are the following:

- Facilities (Interior and USDA FS): Encourages Interior and USDA FS to leverage the Legacy Restoration Fund (established by the Great American Outdoors Act, or "GAOA") to meet identified housing and fire facility needs. (BLM is allocating GAOA funding during FY 2024 for some wildland fire facilities, including a barracks replacement. See also a related USDA FS directive and briefing requirement, below.)
- PPE – Report due by September 30, 2024 (Interior/OWF and USDA FS): Directs Interior/OWF and USDA FS to evaluate the provision of supplies during this fire season and report on any issues related to cost trends, supply chain, or other challenges to providing the appropriate materials. (Does not provide a due date for the report. The Department's Office of Budget interprets such language to mean by the end of the fiscal year.)
- Western Oregon Fire Protection/Oregon and California Grant Lands – Report due by September 30, 2024 (BLM): Directs BLM to develop a new agreement with the State of Oregon addressing financial oversight and accountability that maintains or enhances the current level of fire protection for western Oregon forestlands through the Western Oregon Operating Plan agreement. Further directs BLM to aggressively target hazardous fuels treatments and report annually on the amount spent, as well as the scope of hazardous fuels management required across BLM-managed lands, including Oregon and California Grant Lands. (Does not provide a due date for the report. The Department's Office of Budget interprets such language to mean by the end of the fiscal year. See also a related House directive, above.)
- Range Management (BLM): Directs BLM, to the greatest extent practicable, to make vacant grazing allotments available to a holder of a grazing permit or lease when lands covered by the holder of the permit or lease are unusable because of drought or wildfire. (See also a related House directive, above, and a related Senate directive, below.)
- Grazing Allotments (BLM): Directs BLM to prioritize management of active allotments that are not meeting land health standards or do not have current assessments and reduce the backlog of active grazing permits that require analysis and new management decisions under the National Environmental Policy Act. (See also related House and Senate directives, above.)
- Strategic Workforce Planning – Briefing due by May 8, 2024 (60 days post-enactment) (BLM): Directs BLM to brief the Committee on its strategic workforce planning effort.
- Landslide Hazards – Briefing due by May 8, 2024 (60 days post-enactment) (USGS): Encourages the

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to prioritize efforts to predict and reduce the risk of post-wildfire landslides. States that no less than \$500,000 for the Landslide Hazards Program is for collaborating with local and regional entities in Alaska. Directs USGS to brief the Committee on what resources are needed to aid the development and deployment of early warning technologies to affected communities.

- Tribal Forestry – Report due by September 30, 2024 (BIA and OWF): Directs BIA to continue to coordinate with OWF to submit a report describing how Interior determines the use of wildfire suppression and rehabilitation resources and prioritizes Indian forest land. The Committee reminds BIA of the directive in the explanatory statement accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117–103) to provide a report within one year summarizing the fire detection deficits across Tribal lands and their efforts to prioritize early detection strategies and fire mitigation as part of the Natural Resources Management Program. (Does not provide a due date for the report. The Department’s Office of Budget interprets such language to mean by the end of the fiscal year. The original directive requested a report in 2023.)
- Hazardous Fuels Funding Distribution – Briefing due by May 8, 2024 (60 days post-enactment) (Interior): Directs Interior to brief the Committee on the proposed distribution of hazardous fuels funding to its component bureaus, the allocation methodology, and how it takes into account areas with special designations, such as the Oregon and California Grant Lands.
- Wildfire Smoke Research and Communications (EPA only): Encourages EPA to expand its efforts to identify methods to reduce smoke exposure during wildfire episodes and improve wildfire smoke monitoring and prediction; to expand its support for wildfire smoke monitoring, including improving instrumentation, technical assistance, and outreach, using the resources provided in this bill with a focus on traditionally underserved or under-monitored communities.
- Cross-Boundary Collaboration in Fuels Management (quarterly reporting) (USDA FS only): Directs USDA FS to report to the Committee quarterly on implementation of any memoranda of understanding and new or expanded cross-boundary agreements intended to address initial attack or expand wildland fire suppression capacity.
- Civilian Conservation Corps (USDA FS only): Directs USDA FS to continue to expand advanced wildfire training offerings at Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers.
- Fire Research (USDA FS only): Supports continued research on post-fire restoration and reforestation on multiple fires, including the 2021 Bootleg Fire, to develop principles and decision support systems to aid in the effective evaluation and selection of postfire restoration alternatives. Directs USDA FS to utilize existing funding to continue to support external opportunities with academic institutions in current projects developing remote sensing capabilities that deploy acoustic technologies for wildfire monitoring. Supports short-term and long-term research through the Pacific Northwest Research Station focused on mountain birds and for ongoing study of the impact of reduced snowpack on the Northern Waterthrush.

- Joint Fire Science Program (Interior and USDA FS): States that the Committee expects the program to focus on understanding smoke impacts, identifying drivers of fire costs, analyzing fire behavior, and quantifying fire's effects on resources and communities. (See also a related House directive, above.)
- Community Wildfire Defense Grants – Report due by May 8, 2024 (60 days post-enactment) (USDA FS only): The Committee is concerned that the current eligibility requirements for these grants does not allow critical water infrastructure for wildfire suppression. Directs USDA FS to report to the Committee on updates to this program.
- Legacy Restoration Fund – Briefing due by June 7, 2024 (90 days post-enactment) (USDA FS): Directs USDA FS to ensure that the most critical projects are prioritized, including fire facilities and housing for firefighters and other staff. Directs USDA FS to brief the Committee on a plan to delineate between funding for new construction and funding for maintenance and repair of existing facilities in future budget submissions. (See also a similar Senate directive for Interior, above.)
- Wildland Firefighter Housing – Report (due date unspecified) (USDA FS only): Directs USDA FS to report to the Committee on the housing needs necessary to support a professional firefighting capacity with a predominantly permanent workforce. Based on this analysis, the report is to detail maintenance and reconstruction needs for existing housing and new housing needed to recruit and retain firefighters in areas where it is difficult to find housing, including the estimated associated maintenance and construction costs and highlighting any current barriers in law, regulation, or policy, such as requirements to offer housing at market rates or the current process for determining prices for federal housing.