



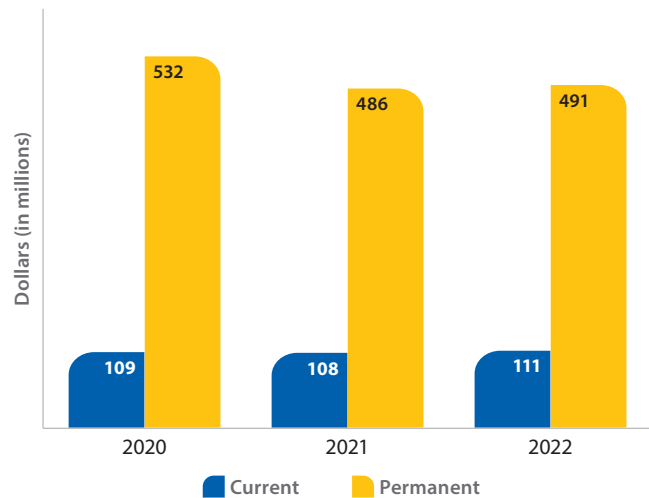
# BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTRATION

**Mission**—The mission of the Bureau of Trust Funds Administration (BTFA) is to manage the trust beneficiaries’ financial assets. BTFA provides fiduciary guidance, management, and leadership for Tribal Trust and Individual Indian Money (IIM) accounts.

**Budget Overview**—The 2022 budget includes \$110.7 million in current appropriations to support the execution of the Federal trust responsibilities to Native American Tribes, individuals, and communities. BTFA estimates staffing will total 430 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2022, including staff in the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (LBBP). BTFA was established within the Office of the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs (AS-IA) in 2020 to house the ongoing trust management functions of the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians (OST) in anticipation of the sunsetting of OST. For the remainder of 2021 and in 2022, BTFA will continue to work with Tribes through formal consultations and in other forums, such as the Tribal Interior Budget Council, and with Congress to chart a path forward for BTFA and for the eventual termination of OST in accordance with the American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994. In 2022, BTFA proposes a budget restructuring—as further detailed in BTFA’s budget justification—to facilitate the eventual closure of OST.

BTFA is responsible for the financial management of Indian trust funds, including receipting, investing, disbursing, and reporting of trust funds on behalf of individual Indians and Tribes. BTFA manages approximately \$5.67 billion, held in roughly 3,800 trust accounts for more than 250 Indian Tribes and about 402,000 open IIM accounts. In addition,

## BTFA Funding



BTFA provides litigation and document production support for lawsuits related to those accounts.

BTFA manages trust funds, which include payments from judgment awards, settlements of claims, land use agreements, royalties on natural resource use, other proceeds derived directly from trust resources, and financial investment income. BTFA has the responsibility to plan and execute the historical accounting of Tribal Trust accounts and IIM accounts. That work is accomplished by the Office of Trust Analysis and Research (OTAR), which also works to resolve the ownership of residual balances in Youpee Escheat accounts and special deposit accounts and to distribute account balances to Tribes, individual Indians, and non-trust entities.

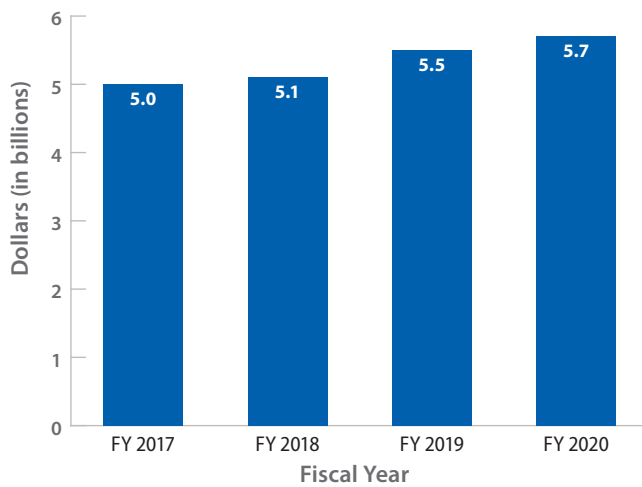
OTAR provides litigation support resulting from the settlement of *Cobell v. Salazar* and other Tribal

## BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTRATION Facts



- **BTFA will continue to meet Interior’s core responsibilities for sound financial trust management on behalf of individual Indians and Tribes.**
- **The bureau provides services to American Indians and Alaska Natives in 574 federally recognized Tribes in the 48 contiguous States and Alaska.**
- **BTFA will continue to manage approximately \$5.67 billion of trust funds, held in roughly 3,800 trust accounts for approximately 250 Indian Tribes and about 402,000 open Individual Indian Money accounts.**

**BTFA Managed Trust Fund Balances**



lawsuits, in coordination with the Department of Justice. As of April 2021, 26 pending cases were filed in various Federal courts by Indian Tribes or individual Indians regarding the Federal Government’s fiduciary trust duties.

The Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations is responsible for the expenditure of the \$1.9 billion Trust Land Consolidation Fund authorized by the settlement agreement in *Cobell v. Salazar*, confirmed by the Claims Resolution Act of 2010. The program, which was authorized for 10 years, ends in November 2022. Until then, the LBBP will work to reduce land ownership fractionation in Indian Country by continuing implementation efforts at scheduled locations and effectively managing administrative costs. Recognizing the importance to maintain the momentum of the LBBP effort, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) budget proposes to reestablish a modified Indian Land Consolidation

program in 2022 and includes \$150.0 million for this program to further reduce land ownership fractionation in Indian Country. The program will also support Executive Order 14008 by enhancing the ability of Tribal governments to plan for and adapt to climate change and to build stronger Tribal communities.

**Trust and Program Operations**—The 2022 budget includes \$109.2 million for Trust and Program Operations, of which \$23.5 million is for Field Operations. Field Operations staff serve as the primary point of contact for trust beneficiaries—Tribes, individual Indians, and Alaska Natives—seeking information and services in conjunction with their trust assets.

The budget provides \$17.2 million for Accounting Operations, which conducts all fiduciary accounting activities, including receipting, disbursing, and reconciling, related to the trust funds managed by the Department. To manage the expected workload for historical accounting of Tribal Trust and IIM accounts, the budget includes \$17.5 million for Settlement Support, which funds OTAR.

The request includes \$8.3 million for Information Resources funding to develop, maintain, and operate the trust information technology enterprise architecture; provide day-to-day computer support to BTFA personnel nationwide; and develop and maintain applications in support of the BTFA mission. In 2022, the program will continue work to complete the mobile/virtual workforce initiative, which will help staff work in remote locations, and to consolidate data centers. The program will also

work to migrate from a data-centric environment to the cloud, including Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), and to provide beneficiaries online account access.

The budget provides \$13.0 million for Trust Records. This program operates the American Indian Records Repository and provides records management training and services to BTFA, Tribes, BIA, the Bureau of Indian Education, and AS-IA. Included in the request is \$2.7 million for the digitization of trust records to continue ongoing work to meet new Federal records retention requirements and to modernize records operations.



Research floor at the American Indian Records Repository.

BTFA requests a \$500,000 increase to establish a Trust Operation Management function in Trust Operations. This increase will fund dedicated personnel to coordinate efforts among the various programs under Trust Operations. The dedicated resource will allow for enhanced continuity in program delivery to Tribes and beneficiaries.

The budget requests \$22.9 million for Business Management, which includes BTFA's communication, policy, and training functions and its budget, finance, and administration entities. This amount includes \$9.7 million for DOI's Office of Hearings and Appeals and the Office of the Solicitor for litigation support. The budget provides \$6.3 million for the Office of Strategic Oversight and Planning, which oversees and evaluates the Indian fiduciary trust programs and manages a comprehensive system of internal controls of BTFA operations, and the BTFA Strategic Planning and Project Management Office.

The BTFA budget includes \$600,000 as part of a Departmentwide Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility budget initiative to address identified high-priority needs in support of Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government, and Executive Order 13988, Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation. As part of this initiative, the Department, bureaus, and offices will jointly conduct a review of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility program across Interior to identify gaps, challenges, and best practices and to examine Department and bureau roles, responsibilities, and governance.

**Fixed Costs**—Fixed costs of \$1.2 million are fully funded.

**SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS**  
(all dollar amounts in thousands)

*Comparison of 2022 Request with 2021 Enacted*

	2021 Enacted		2022 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Federal Trust Programs.....	417	108,399	420	110,672	+3	+2,273
Subtotal, Current.....	417	108,399	420	110,672	+3	+2,273
Permanent						
Tribal Special Fund.....	0	332,000	0	335,000	0	+3,000
Tribal Trust Fund.....	0	154,000	0	156,000	0	+2,000
Trust Land Consolidation Fund.....	29	0	10	0	-19	0
Subtotal, Permanent.....	29	486,000	10	491,000	-19	+5,000
<b>TOTAL, BUREAU OF TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTRATION.....</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>594,399</b>	<b>430</b>	<b>601,672</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>+7,273</b>

**HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES**  
*By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity*

**APPROPRIATION: Federal Trust Programs**

	2020 Actual	2021 Enacted	2022 Request	Change
Executive Direction.....	1,697	1,494	1,501	+7
Trust and Program Operations.....	109,843	106,905	109,171	+2,266
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o rescission).....	111,540	108,399	110,672	+2,273
Rescission of Prior-Year BA.....	-3,000	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/rescission).....	108,540	108,399	110,672	+2,273

*Detail of Budget Changes*

	2022 Change from 2021 Enacted
TOTAL APPROPRIATION.....	+2,273
Executive Direction.....	+7
Fixed Costs.....	+7
Trust and Program Operations.....	+2,266
Trust Operations Management.....	+500
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility.....	+600
Fixed Costs.....	+1,166
Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Fixed Costs.....	[+1,173]