



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Mission

The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM’s) mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

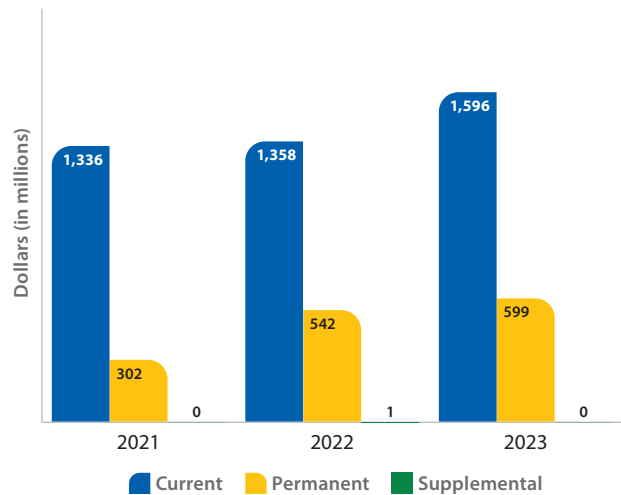
Budget Overview

The 2023 BLM budget for current appropriations is \$1.6 billion, including \$1.4 billion for the Management of Lands and Resources appropriation and \$128.7 million for the Oregon and California Grant Lands appropriation, BLM’s two operating accounts. Included in the budget are significant investments in support of the Administration’s commitment to address climate change, including major investments to improve the health of the public lands, make them more resilient, and support the accelerated deployment of clean energy generation and transmission projects. The budget also invests in remediating and reclaiming abandoned wells and mine sites, which will improve human health, safety, and the environment and help create good-paying union jobs. BLM estimates the budget will support 10,592 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2023.

Management of Land and Resources

The 2023 budget emphasizes clean energy deployment and the restoration and conservation of BLM-managed lands, with a focus on increasing the resilience of those lands to climate change. This work supports Interior’s core mission and contributes to President Biden’s goal to conserve 30 percent of the Nation’s land and water by 2030, which will help address the climate crisis, improve equitable access to the outdoors, and strengthen the economy. BLM’s capacity to improve the health

BLM Funding



of public lands will be further enhanced with funding for ecosystem restoration and hazardous fuels management provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) (Public Law 117-58).

The 2023 budget request provides new tools to help BLM meet the monumental challenge of restoring and conserving BLM lands to encourage greater resource health and increase their resilience and adaptability to climate change. For example, the budget will enable BLM to help establish and support the Civilian Climate Corps, which will leverage the skills of young adults and veterans to improve public lands, build a new generation of land and natural resource managers, and provide a pathway to good-paying jobs.

The budget proposes \$299.4 million for Land Resources. At a request level of \$110.1 million for



- **The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was established in 1946 through consolidation of the General Land Office and the U.S. Grazing Service.**
- **The bureau administers more land than any other Federal agency by managing and conserving resources for multiple use and sustained yield on nearly 245 million surface acres of public land. Those uses include development of renewable and conventional energy resources; solid mineral exploration and development; timber production; domestic livestock grazing; outdoor recreation; fish and wildlife conservation; and the conservation of natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.**
- **BLM is responsible for the management of 700 million acres of onshore subsurface mineral estates.**
- **BLM manages the National Conservation Lands, including 28 national monuments, 23 national conservation areas and similarly designated areas, and 260 wilderness areas.**
- **In 2021, with approximately 10,500 employees and 12,500 volunteers, BLM worked to conserve and protect the natural and cultural resources on public lands and provide recreational and interpretative opportunities and programs.**

Rangeland Management, BLM will administer the grazing program and strive to improve the health and condition of rangelands through vegetative treatments and the eradication of invasive plant species. The budget proposes \$14.8 million for Public Domain Forest Management. BLM will increase efforts to restore forest structure and composition for fire and climate resilience and improve the carbon storage capacity of these forest lands by planting seedlings. With a request of \$21.4 million for Cultural Resources Management, BLM will support the management of cultural and paleontological resources to benefit the public and advance scientific knowledge. The budget proposes \$153.1 million for Wild Horse and Burro Management. Excess wild horse and burro populations undermine the health of public rangelands and adversely affect other uses of the lands and the species that depend on them. The Department looks forward to continued dialogue and support from Congress to achieve appropriate population-management levels and a fiscally sustainable program.

The budget proposes \$239.1 million for Wildlife and Aquatic Habitat Management. At a request level of \$158.5 million for Wildlife Habitat Management, BLM will continue support for implementation of greater sage-grouse and sage steppe habitat conservation efforts, which include

reviewing and updating greater sage-grouse management in land-use plans to address population declines, new science, and climate change and improve the resilience of long-term conservation strategies. The budget request also provides strong support for the Native Plant Materials Development program and the National Seed Strategy to help ensure the availability of plant materials needed to support large-scale restoration of wildlife habitat and native plant communities. The 2023 request will also enable BLM to enhance efforts to identify and protect important seasonal habitats to improve connectivity and address habitat fragmentation, including conducting restoration projects aimed at improving the long-term resilience of wildlife and plant populations to the impacts of climate change and improving the carbon sequestration capacity of BLM-managed landscapes. With a request level of \$80.7 million for the Aquatic Habitat Management program, BLM will advance the conservation and restoration of its myriad aquatic resources by controlling invasive species, improving the connectivity of water resources, and implementing other measures to improve the resistance and resilience of aquatic habitat resources to climate change, drought, and other stressors.

The 2023 budget proposes \$92.6 million for Recreation Management, including \$24.4 million for

Wilderness Management and \$68.3 million for Recreation Resources Management. In Wilderness Management, BLM will continue to monitor wilderness study areas to ensure that their suitability for designation as wilderness is not impaired, work to complete priority wilderness management plans, and advance Administration priorities aimed at conserving and restoring land to combat climate change. In Recreation Resources Management, BLM will emphasize many priorities, such as increasing access to recreation opportunities for all Americans—including communities that have disproportionately less access to the public lands—and improving infrastructure at developed recreation sites to make it more resilient to climate change and other impacts. The budget request also provides strong support for BLM’s National Conservation Lands. A 2023 request of \$68.3 million for National Monuments and National Conservation Areas will strengthen management and operational capacity at these special units, including those the President designated in Proclamations 10285 and 10286. The funding will improve visitor experiences and better ensure the units’ protection and conservation as they contend with stressors as varied as high recreational use, invasive species, and climate change.

The budget proposes \$249.9 million for Energy and Minerals Management. Effectively combating

and mitigating climate change for the long term depends on moving our Nation away from its heavy reliance on fossil fuels. BLM plays a vital role in promoting and facilitating the development of renewable energy by providing sites for the environmentally sound development of renewable energy on public lands. The 2023 budget includes \$49.7 million for BLM’s Renewable Energy program, which—along with funding in the Resource Management Planning, Assessment, and Monitoring program—will enable BLM to increase and accelerate renewable energy development on public lands. The funds will support the siting, leasing, and processing of renewable energy rights-of-way applications and the oversight of projects and transmission lines connecting to renewable energy projects. BLM’s Renewable Energy Coordination Offices (RECOs) will guide and execute this important work, including coordinating with other Federal agencies to streamline the review process for clean energy projects. The 2023 request for the Renewable Energy program includes staffing support for a national RECO at the BLM headquarters level as well as State and regional RECOs. BLM expects renewable energy demand and workload to increase significantly as more utilities and States seek to diversify or require increased renewable energy in their electric power portfolios. The 2023 request will better ensure that BLM has the manpower and resources to support this workload.

Wildlife Habitat Work FY 2021

BLM-managed lands provide vital habitat for thousands of wildlife species. BLM works closely with State fish and wildlife agencies, Tribal organizations, conservation groups, and private landowners to identify habitat priorities and monitor progress toward meeting management objectives.

Supported **1,248** projects to protect or enhance more than **2.2** million acres of game habitat through a **38-year** partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation



Completed **85** big game winter range and migration corridor restoration and enhancement projects in FY 2021



Implemented **1,320** recovery actions for listed species in FY 2021 and contributed to the delisting, downlisting, or preclusion from listing of **33** species since 2010



Increased the availability of native seeds for habitat restoration to support healthy and robust populations of bees, butterflies, birds, and other native pollinators essential to food crops and healthy wildlands



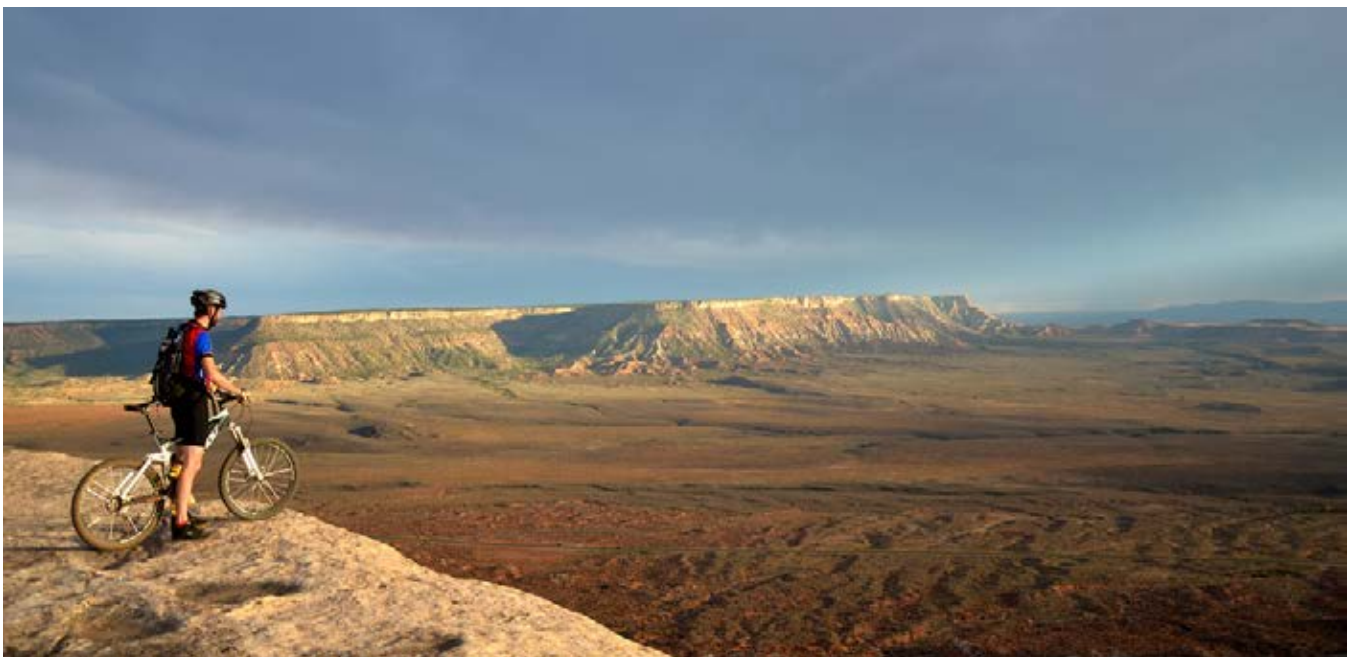
Treated or improved **325,000** acres of grasslands and shrublands and removed or updated **410** miles of fence to improve habitat connectivity for wildlife in FY 2021

The BLM budget reflects a shift in the cost of oil and gas inspections from appropriations to cost recoveries, allowing for a reduction of \$51.0 million in BLM’s discretionary request. Establishing oil and gas inspection fees, similar to those in place for offshore oil and gas operations, will shift the burden from taxpayers to industry, which most directly benefits from this BLM program. The proposal supports Executive Order (EO) 14008, Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, by eliminating fossil fuel subsidies that may slow our Nation’s movement to clean energy.

In response to direction in EO 14008 and in light of the Secretary of the Interior’s broad stewardship responsibilities, the Department conducted a review of its oil and gas program and published a report of its findings in November 2021. The report identifies key reforms necessary to ensure that the programs provide a fair return to taxpayers, discourage speculation, reduce environmental impacts, hold operators responsible for remediation, and create a more inclusive and just approach to managing public lands and waters. The Department’s report makes a number of specific recommendations to restore balance to these programs, including adjusting royalty rates, pursuing adequate financial assurance for decommissioning

liabilities, and prioritizing leasing in areas with known resource potential while avoiding conflicts with other uses. The Department is in the process of implementing administrative changes consistent with the report’s findings and recommendations, including—where necessary—updating regulations and agency policy guidance documents that apply to existing leases as well as any new leases that may be issued. The Administration is committed to the responsible and sustainable development of Federal energy resources as the Nation transitions to a low-carbon economy, and such reforms are a critical component of this effort.

The budget proposes \$115.8 million for Oil and Gas Management. The request will support continued progress in addressing legacy wells on the Alaska North Slope. BLM will also support an interagency working group to advance the Administration’s policy on the economic revitalization of coal, oil, gas, and power plant communities as set forth in EO 14008. BLM plans to continue to inventory, plug, and reclaim orphan well sites in the lower 48 States using funding provided in the BIL. The request for Energy and Minerals also includes \$16.6 million for Coal Management and \$16.7 million for Other Mineral Resources Management.



Mountain biking in Utah.

BLM Photo.



Children rafting on Gunnison River, CO.

BLM Photo.

In addition to the previously described Energy and Minerals program-specific measures to reduce carbon emissions and support the transition away from fossil fuels, the 2023 BLM budget includes \$7.7 million to replace its automotive fleet with electric vehicles and build the necessary charging infrastructure to support them.

The budget proposes \$88.9 million for Realty and Ownership Management, including \$26.7 million for Alaska Conveyance and \$62.2 million for Cadastral, Lands and Realty Management. Through its survey and boundary work, the Cadastral program will provide important support to bureauwide efforts to conserve lands and bolster resilience to climate change.

The budget proposes \$187.8 million for Resource Protection and Maintenance. The \$97.0 million

request for the Resource Management Planning program strengthens support for the Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring Strategy to ensure that BLM's investments in conservation and climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience are guided by the best available science. BLM will continue to support new and ongoing land-use planning efforts, including national monument plans, to promote opportunities for economic growth in underserved communities while protecting public health and the environment. The \$62.2 million request for the Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management program will accelerate BLM's progress in remediating abandoned hardrock mine lands. The widespread existence of hardrock mines on BLM lands poses substantial threats to human health and safety and the environment, particularly as population growth in the West places more people in contact

with public lands and the legacy of old mining sites. This work, and the remediation of Alaska legacy wells in the Oil and Gas Management program, will create good-paying jobs and mitigate environmental, health, and public safety risks. The request includes \$28.6 million for BLM's Resource Protection and Law Enforcement program, which will continue to focus on ensuring the safety of public land users and employees and deterring, detecting, and investigating illegal activities.

The budget provides \$76.4 million for Transportation and Facilities Maintenance. In Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements, BLM will focus on the highest ranked projects to support critical health or safety and mission-essential projects, with an emphasis on access to public lands and recreational opportunities. BLM will also use mandatory funds provided through the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address its deferred maintenance backlog.

The budget includes \$176.6 million for Workforce and Organizational Support. The request includes funding to support implementation of Administration priorities related to diversity, human resources recruitment and hiring, and the Justice40 initiative, and it allocates up to \$1.0 million to support activities of the nascent BLM Foundation.

Oregon and California Grant Lands

The budget includes \$128.7 million for the Oregon and California Grant Lands account. The Western Oregon Resource Management program will support timber sales and conduct active forest management treatments to increase forest health and resiliency to climate change and other stressors and enhance the capacity of forested areas to act as carbon sinks.

Fixed Costs

Fixed costs of \$38.1 million are fully funded.



Desert Renewable Energy Project, CA.

Photo by Tom Brewster.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS ^{1/}

(dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2023 Request with 2022 CR

	2022 CR		2023 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Management of Lands and Resources	5,433	1,221,140	5,651	1,427,939	+218	+206,799
Land Acquisition	0	-5,400	0	0	0	+5,400
Oregon and California Grant Lands	617	114,783	658	128,696	+41	+13,913
Range Improvements	23	9,430	25	9,430	+2	0
Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures (<i>indefinite</i>)	131	27,413	140	34,270	+9	+6,857
Minus SCDF Offset	0	-28,000	0	-34,270	0	-6,270
Miscellaneous Trust Funds (<i>indefinite</i>)	77	19,890	82	30,000	+5	+10,110
Subtotal, Current	6,281	1,359,256	6,556	1,596,065	+275	+236,809
Permanent						
Working Capital Fund	33	0	34	0	+1	0
Land Acquisition	14	62,285	14	70,602	0	+8,317
Miscellaneous Permanent Payment Accounts	0	36,955	0	33,836	0	-3,119
Permanent Operating Funds						
Expenses, Road Maintenance Deposits	7	4,300	7	4,300	0	0
Federal Land Disposal Account	0	28	0	0	0	-28
Forest Ecosystem Health and Recovery Fund	55	11,829	56	12,000	+1	+171
Lincoln County Land Sales	6	69	6	115	0	+46
NPR-2 Lease Revenue Account	0	5	0	5	0	0
Operations and Maintenance of Quarters	3	850	3	850	0	0
Oil and Gas Permit Processing Improvement Fund	286	56,168	291	55,436	+5	-732
Recreation Enhancement Act, BLM	167	27,000	170	27,959	+3	+959
Southern Nevada Public Land Management	51	336,132	52	387,833	+1	+51,701
Stewardship Contract Excess Receipts	0	19	0	48	0	+29
Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration	28	4,363	28	4,500	0	+137
White Pine County Special Account, 85% Federal Share	0	19	0	78	0	+59
Subtotal, Permanent Operating Funds	603	440,782	613	493,124	+10	+52,342
Miscellaneous Trust Funds (<i>indefinite</i>)	0	1,650	0	1,650	0	0
Helium Fund	45	51,615	46	51,673	+1	+58
Offsetting Collections	0	-51,615	0	-51,673	0	-58
Subtotal, Permanent	695	541,672	707	599,212	+12	+57,540
Allocation and Reimbursable						
Allocation	2,494	0	2,961	0	+467	0
Reimbursable	362	0	368	0	+6	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable	2,856	0	3,329	0	+473	0
TOTAL, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	9,832	1,900,928	10,592	2,195,277	+760	+294,349

^{1/} Current funding amounts include supplemental appropriations. For further details see Highlights of Budget Changes tables for each account.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Management of Lands and Resources

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Land Resources				
Rangeland Management	105,921	105,921	110,069	+4,148
Public Domain Forest Management	10,135	10,135	14,821	+4,686
Cultural Resources Management	19,631	19,631	21,438	+1,807
Wild Horse and Burro Management	115,745	115,745	153,100	+37,355
Subtotal, Land Resources	251,432	251,432	299,428	+47,996
Wildlife and Aquatic Habitat Management				
Aquatic Habitat Management	55,656	55,656	80,687	+25,031
Wildlife Habitat Management	132,848	132,848	158,460	+25,612
Subtotal, Wildlife and Aquatic Habitat Management	188,504	188,504	239,147	+50,643
Recreation Management				
Wilderness Management	18,264	18,264	24,383	+6,119
Recreation Resources Management	58,465	58,465	68,253	+9,788
Subtotal, Recreation Management	76,729	76,729	92,636	+15,907
Energy and Minerals Management				
Oil and Gas Management	90,947	90,947	115,819	+24,872
Oil and Gas Inspection and Enforcement	48,925	48,925	51,020	+2,095
Subtotal, Oil and Gas Program	139,872	139,872	166,839	+26,967
Coal Management	15,868	15,868	16,581	+713
Other Mineral Resources Management	12,303	12,303	16,719	+4,416
Renewable Energy	30,561	30,561	49,713	+19,152
Subtotal, Energy and Minerals Management ..	198,604	198,604	249,852	+51,248
Realty and Ownership Management				
Alaska Conveyance	25,797	25,797	26,654	+857
Cadastral, Land and Realty Management	54,328	54,328	62,227	+7,899
Subtotal, Realty and Ownership Management	80,125	80,125	88,881	+8,756
Communication Site Management				
Communication Site Management	2,000	2,000	2,000	0
<i>Offsetting Collections—Communication Site Management</i>	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	0
Subtotal, Communication Site Management ..	0	0	0	0
Resource Protection and Maintenance				
Resource Management Planning	67,125	67,125	97,026	+29,901
Resource Protection and Law Enforcement	27,616	27,616	28,565	+949
Abandoned Mine Lands and Hazardous Materials Management	38,500	38,500	62,178	+23,678
Subtotal, Resource Protection and Maintenance	133,241	133,241	187,769	+54,528

APPROPRIATION: Management of Lands and Resources (continued)

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Transportation and Facilities Maintenance				
Annual Maintenance and Operations Cost.....	43,000	43,000	44,348	+1,348
Deferred Maintenance and Capital Improvements	34,669	34,669	32,007	-2,662
Subtotal, Transportation and Facilities Maintenance.....	77,669	77,669	76,355	-1,314
National Monuments and National Conservation Areas	45,819	45,819	68,304	+22,485
Workforce and Organizational Support				
Administrative Support	51,875	51,875	57,138	+5,263
Bureauwide Fixed Costs	90,480	90,480	92,515	+2,035
Information Technology Management	26,077	26,077	26,934	+857
Subtotal, Workforce and Organizational Support.....	168,432	168,432	176,587	+8,155
Mining Law Administration				
Mining Law Administration	39,696	39,696	39,696	0
Offsetting Collections—Mining Law Administration	-39,696	-39,696	-39,696	0
Subtotal, Mining Law Administration	0	0	0	0
Offsetting Collections—Oil & Gas Inspection Fees	0	0	-51,020	-51,020
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o rescission and supplemental).....	1,220,555	1,220,555	1,427,939	+207,384
Rescission of Prior-Year BA	-13,000	-607	0	+607
Disaster Relief Act (P.L. 117-43).....	0	+1,192	0	-1,192
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ rescission and supplemental).....	1,207,555	1,221,140	1,427,939	+206,799

APPROPRIATION: Land Acquisition

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o rescission)	0	0	0	0
Rescission of Prior-Year BA	-5,400	-5,400	0	+5,400
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ rescission)	-5,400	-5,400	0	+5,400

APPROPRIATION: Oregon and California Grant Lands

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Western Oregon Construction and Acquisition	335	335	369	+34
Western Oregon Information and Data Systems	1,798	1,798	1,887	+89
Western Oregon National Landscape Conservation System	779	779	817	+38
Western Oregon Resources Management	101,229	101,229	114,500	+13,271
Western Oregon Transportation and Facilities Maintenance	10,642	10,642	11,123	+481
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	114,783	114,783	128,696	+13,913

APPROPRIATION: Range Improvements

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	9,430	9,430	9,430	0

APPROPRIATION: Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
Adopt-a-Horse Program	1,100	550	550	0
Commercial Film and Photography Fees	133	290	290	0
Copy Fee Account	393	3,000	720	-2,280
Cost Recoverable Realty Cases	1,288	1,000	1,000	0
Energy and Minerals Cost Recovery	2,504	3,000	2,900	-100
Recreation Cost Recovery	606	720	700	-20
Repair of Damaged Lands	4,915	3,910	3,910	0
Rights-of-Way Processing	18,972	11,630	21,100	+9,470
Timber Contract Expenses	101	100	100	0
Trans-Alaska Pipeline	2,118	3,800	3,000	-800
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o oc)	32,130	28,000	34,270	+6,270
<i>Offsetting Collections—Service Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures</i>	<i>-32,130</i>	<i>-28,000</i>	<i>-34,270</i>	<i>-6,270</i>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ oc)	0	0	0	0
Rescission of Prior-Year BA	-20,000	-587	0	+587
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ oc and rescission)	-20,000	-587	0	+587

APPROPRIATION: Miscellaneous Trust Funds

	2021 Actual	2022 CR	2023 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	29,906	19,890	30,000	+10,110