

program; and sections 7001 through 7004 of the House bill, which House relate to authorization of the Basic Pilot system.

TITLE VII—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MANAGEMENT OF LANDS AND RESOURCES

The conference agreement provides \$125,000,000 for management of lands and resources instead of \$135,000,000 proposed by the Senate; there was no House proposal. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the American public. While maximizing jobs, the Bureau should consider projects on all Bureau managed lands including deferred maintenance, abandoned mine and well site remediation, road and trail maintenance, watershed improvement, and high priority habitat restoration.

CONSTRUCTION

The conference agreement provides \$180,000,000 for construction as proposed by the Senate instead of \$325,000,000 proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the American public. While maximizing jobs, the Bureau should consider priority road, bridge, and trail repair or decommissioning, critical deferred maintenance projects, facilities construction and renovation, and remediation of abandoned mine and well sites on all Bureau managed lands.

WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

The conference agreement provides \$15,000,000 for wildland fire management as proposed by the Senate; there was no House proposal. The funds should be used for high priority hazardous fuels reduction projects on Federal lands.

**UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

The conference agreement provides \$165,000,000 for resource management, as proposed by the Senate; there was no House proposal for this account. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the American public. While maximizing jobs, the Service should consider priority critical deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects, trail maintenance, and habitat restoration on National Wildlife Refuges, National Fish Hatcheries, and other Service properties.

CONSTRUCTION

The conference agreement provides \$115,000,000 for construction instead of \$110,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$300,000,000 as proposed by the House. The

conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the American public. While maximizing jobs, the Service should consider priority construction, reconstruction and repair, critical deferred maintenance and capital improvement projects, road maintenance, energy conservation projects and habitat restoration on National Wildlife Refuges, National Fish Hatcheries and other Service properties.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

Appropriates \$146,000,000 for operation of the national park system instead of \$158,000,000, as proposed by the Senate. The House bill included all National Park Service funding under the construction account. Eligible projects to be funded within this account include but are not limited to repair and rehabilitation of facilities and other infrastructure, trail maintenance projects and other critical infrastructure needs. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects by the National Park Service be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the Park System and its visitors.

CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE

No funds are included for the Centennial Challenge program in the conference agreement. The House bill included \$100,000,000 for this program. No funding was included by the Senate.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

\$15,000,000 has been included for historic preservation grants for historically black colleges and universities as authorized by the Historic Preservation Fund Act, as amended. Projects will be selected competitively but the agreement waives matching requirements for grants made with these funds. The House bill included \$15,000,000 for this activity under the "Construction" account. The Senate bill did not fund this program.

CONSTRUCTION

Appropriates \$589,000,000 for Construction as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,700,000,000 as proposed by the House. Eligible projects include but are not limited to major facility construction, road maintenance, abandoned mine cleanup, equipment replacement, and preservation and rehabilitation of historic assets. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects by the National Park Service be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the Park System and its visitors. Funding for historically black colleges and universities has been provided under the Historic Preservation Fund account.

**UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
SURVEYS, INVESTIGATIONS, AND RESEARCH**

The conference agreement provides \$140,000,000 for Surveys, Investigations and

Research instead of \$135,000,000 proposed by the Senate and \$200,000,000 proposed by the House. The Survey should consider a wide variety of activities, including repair, construction and restoration of facilities; equipment replacement and upgrades including stream gages, seismic and volcano monitoring systems; national map activities; and other critical deferred maintenance and improvement projects which can maximize jobs and provide lasting improvement to our Nation's science capacity.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

OPERATION OF INDIAN PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes \$40,000,000 for the operation of Indian programs as proposed by the Senate; there was no House proposal for this account. While maximizing jobs, the Bureau should fund workforce development and training programs and the housing improvement program.

CONSTRUCTION

The conference agreement provides \$450,000,000 for construction instead of \$522,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$500,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides flexibility to the agency in determining the allocation of this funding among various program activities and sub-activities. The conferees encourage that selection of individual projects be based on a prioritization process which weighs the capacity of proposals to create the largest number of jobs in the shortest period of time and which creates lasting value for the American public. While maximizing jobs, the Bureau should consider priority critical facility improvement and repair, repair and restoration of roads, school replacement, school improvement and repair and detention center maintenance and repair.

INDIAN GUARANTEED LOAN PROGRAM

The conference agreement includes \$10,000,000 for construction as proposed by the Senate; there was no House proposal for this account.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICES

INSULAR AFFAIRS

ASSISTANCE TO TERRITORIES

The conference agreement provides no funding for Assistance to Territories as proposed by the House instead of \$62,000,000 proposed by the Senate. The managers note that the territories receive funding under many of the infrastructure programs elsewhere in this bill.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides \$15,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate in this title and as proposed by the House as part of Title I, section 1107. In order to provide adequate oversight of the Department of the Interior, these funds are available through September 30, 2012.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS

CENTRAL HAZARDOUS MATERIALS FUND

The conference agreement does not provide funding for the central hazardous materials fund as proposed by the House instead of \$20,000,000 proposed by the Senate.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The amended bill includes \$7,220,000,000 for the Environmental Protection Agency instead of \$9,420,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$7,200,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. For each account, the amended bill includes provisions to fund the Agency's program oversight and management costs. The Conferees have included an Administrative Provision which makes available until September 30, 2011 the funds provided for Agency