

U.S. GEO Report Highlighting Geospatial Provisions in FY2023 House Appropriations

HOUSE

Agriculture Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8239

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220623/114947/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-Agriculture.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220623/114947/HMKP-117-AP00-20220623-SD002.pdf

NASS

p. 12

For the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$211,023,000, of which \$66,361,000 is for the Census of Agriculture. The Committee includes a total of \$4,787,000 for pay increases. In addition, the Committee maintains \$2,000,000 to expand the existing geospatial program to provide more information on the impact of critical weather events.

Agricultural Resource Service (ARS)

p. 20

Remote Sensing for Soil Organic Carbon Research.—The Committee supports research into best practices for measuring the soil carbon deficit on farm, agricultural, and prairie land though **remote sensing including through satellite technology, drone deployment, and aircraft systems along with innovative remote sensing techniques**. The Committee encourages ARS to coordinate research efforts with other relevant federal agencies involved in the <u>remote sensing of soil organic carbon including, but not limited to, the United States Geological Survey, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.</u>

Risk Management Agency (RMA)

Pages 51-52

For Conservation Operations, the Committee provides an appropriation of \$1,023,777,000. The Committee provides \$16,751,000 for the Snow Survey and Water Forecasting Program; \$10,747,000 for the Plant Materials Centers, of which \$1,000,000 is for climate smart agriculture; and \$86,560,000 for the Soil Surveys Program. The Committee provides \$883,746,000 for Conservation Technical Assistance, which includes \$50,000,000 for equity conservation cooperative agreement and \$25,000,000

for climate smart agriculture, and \$1,000,000 is for Phragmite control. The Committee provides \$3,000,000 for a cost-share program for the construction and repair of perimeter fencing.

NRCS

p. 57

For the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations (WFPO), the Committee provides an appropriation of \$115,000,000. Project Delays.—The Committee is concerned about delays with some WFPO projects and the impact such delays have on local communities. NRCS is urged to balance the needs of addressing the project backlog, remediation of existing structure, and new projects by prioritizing those projects that mitigate the greatest flood risks to public safety.

RUS

p. 74

ReConnect.—The Committee provides an <u>additional \$450,000,000 for the ReConnect program to increase access to broadband connectivity in unserved and underserved rural communities</u>, targeting areas of the country with the largest broadband coverage gaps, including those with **mountainous terrain**.

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Commerce, Justice, Science Subcommittee

Bill – H.R. 8256

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220628/114966/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-CJSBill.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220628/114966/HMKP-117-AP00-20220628-SD004.PDF

p. 30

Hydrographic Survey Priorities/Contracts \$32,000,000

p. 31

Seafloor Mapping.—The Committee provides \$176,702,000 for Navigation, Observations, and Positioning, \$7,702,000 above the level provided in fiscal year 2022. Within the increase, the Committee encourages NOS to partner with States to provide accessible, high resolution integrated ocean and coastal mapping of U.S. near shore waters to support navigation, infrastructure, habitat mapping, restoration projects, resource management, emergency response, coastal resiliency, and hazard studies. The Committee further encourages NOAA to partner with relevant cooperative institutes in this effort.

p. 31

Geospatial Modeling Grants.—The Committee provides no less than \$6,000,000 for the competitive Geospatial Modeling Grants program.

p. 31

Integrated Ocean Observing System.—The Committee continues to support the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) and provides \$44,000,000, an increase of \$3,000,000 over the fiscal year 2022 enacted level. The Committee supports IOOS' effort to expand its use of underwater gliders and encourages NOAA to fill critical gaps in the **current surface mapping system** and to ensure streamlined

access to data for weather forecasting, detection of ecological phenomena and safe maritime operations.

p. 33

Coastal Zone Management.—The Committee provides \$52,000,000 for Coastal Zone Management and Services, including **no less than \$4,000,000 for implementation of the Digital Coast Act, Public Law 116–234**. Within this Program, Project, or Activity (PPA), the recommendation also includes no less than \$2,500,000 for Regional Ocean Data Portals that continue to be supported through IIJA.

p. 42

Flood Mapping Technologies.—The Committee recognizes that innovative, science-based flood mapping technologies help communities and businesses to better prepare for and mitigate flood-related disasters. Weather-based technologies provide real-time information on soil moisture, watersheds, precipitation, and stream levels to ensure communities in flood susceptible areas have the proper resources to respond before flooding disasters occur, and to help minimize impacts and associated damages. The Committee encourages NOAA to continue to support advancing weather and flood mapping technologies and enhanced data collection, and to partner with interested Federal agencies, Tribes, institutions of higher education, and State centers to become more resilient to flood disasters, such as with Joint Technology Transfer Initiative (JTTI) activities.

Pages 45-46

National Mesonet Program.—The recommendation includes not less than \$24,700,000, an increase of \$2,000,000 above the fiscal year 2022 level, for the continuation and expansion of the National Mesonet Program. Investments going forward should sustain coverage of data types and areas now included within the National Mesonet Program, expand in situ and **remote sensing capabilities** to provide weather measurements in high-risk areas, such as vulnerable communities, and enhance coverage by the National Mesonet Program in non-contiguous States and Territories and other data sparse areas. The Committee encourages the National Mesonet Program to continue to proactively work with other Federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Geological Survey, to identify observations and platforms of opportunity in areas with sparse instrumentation that may be transferred to the National Mesonet Program. Of the funds provided, up to \$1,000,000 may be used for Meteorological Assimilation Data Ingest System activities, and up to \$600,000 may be used for costs associated with the National Mesonet Program Office.

p. 84

Violent Gun Crime Reduction.—In July 2021, the Department launched five cross-jurisdictional firearms trafficking strike forces to help reduce violent crime by addressing illegal gun trafficking in significant firearms trafficking corridors across the country, as part of the Department's broader Violent Crime Reduction Initiative, announced on May 26, 2021, which supports local communities in preventing, investigating, and prosecuting gun violence and other violent crime. The Committee recognizes that ATF is utilizing every available resource, including NIBIN and firearms tracing, to identify, investigate, and produce evidence to prosecute violent offenders. The Committee encourages ATF, within the funds provided, to improve its **geospatial collaboration and information sharing** with State, local, and Federal partners, in compliance with section 759 of the Geospatial Data Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–254), and to include resource requirements in future year budget requests on both technology and personnel to more fully develop this type of investment.

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Defense Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8236

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220622/114945/BILLS-117na-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220622/114945/HMKP-117-AP00-20220622-SD005.pdf

p. 6

\$646,962,000 for the procurement of two Global Positioning System satellites; \$318,727,000 for the Global Positioning System IIIF; \$359,720,000 for the Global Positioning System III Operational Control Segment;

p. 49

NATIONAL DISASTERS

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to provide a briefing to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees not later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act on how the Department of Defense may more effectively and efficiently apportion National Guard forces when faced with **domestic wildfires**, **floods and hurricanes**, especially those that may place a heightened risk to highly populated areas prone to such disasters.

p. 79

READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

The Committee recommendation includes \$175,000,000 for the Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) and notes the importance of REPI and Sentinel Landscape Partnerships to the successful land and wildlife conservation activities on land buffering military installations. The Committee recognizes the important role the Department of Defense plays as a federal partner in multistate watershed restoration projects and the importance of the REPI program in advancing a critical military goal of limiting encroachment and land use conflicts. The Committee also is aware of the importance of deploying stormwater best management practices on and around military bases to mitigate flooding and runoff, especially in stormwater-stressed ecosystems. The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to prioritize REPI projects that leverage other federal and non-federal funding sources to deploy best management practices on lands conserved through REPI to enhance resilience and improve water quality in watersheds where the Department of Defense has restoration partnership obligations and where land subsidence compounds the threat of sea level rise and associated flooding.

Pages 172-173

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account is executed by the Chiefs of the National Guard and reserve components with priority consideration given to the following items: acoustic hailing devices; containerized ice making systems; aviation status dashboard; crash-worthy, ballistically tolerant auxiliary fuel systems; degraded visual environment systems; gamma radiation protection; integration of aluminum mesh secondary combustion ignition prevention technology for combat and logistics vehicle fuel tanks; KC–135 aircraft emergency response refuel equipment kits; **land surveying systems**; lightweight, rapidly deployable, computer-based artillery call for fire training and simulation; modular small arms ranges and small arms training simulators and tools; radiological screening portals; small unmanned aerial systems and tethered drones; software defined radios; UH–72A/B mission equipment modernization; and **upgraded commercial-off-the-shelf ground mapping** for C– 130 aircraft.

p. 276

Section 8029 provides for competitions between private firms and Department of Defense depot maintenance activities.

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Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8255

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220628/114966/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-EWBill.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220628/114966/HMKP-117-AP00-20220628-SD005.pdf

p. 25

Remote Sensing/Geographic Information System Support.—The fiscal year 2020 Act included funding for a pilot effort to identify modernization initiatives and recommendations for the procurement of advanced integrated GPS and optical surveying and mapping equipment. The Committee understands that the pilot effort has been completed. The recommendation includes \$2,100,000 to implement the results of this effort. The Committee is concerned that the Corps does not appear to have a mechanism in place to modernize this type of equipment throughout its Districts, but may encourage contracting out related services at a higher cost. The Corps is directed to provide to the Committee prior to the obligation of any funds a briefing on this effort, to include proposed avenues to modernize this type of equipment at Districts nationwide

p. 25

Research and Development, Flood and Coastal Systems.—The Committee recognizes the importance of ensuring the integrity of the nation's flood control systems and employing the most effective technologies to identify potential deficiencies in these systems. The Committee encourages the Corps to utilize partnerships to research and develop advanced technology to automate assessment and inspection of flood control systems for the purpose of identifying levee deficiencies, such as slope instability, settlement and seepage, and ensuring the safety of the surrounding areas and communities.

p. 66

Levee Safety.—The Committee provides additional funding for the **National (Levee) Flood Inventory, including \$3,150,000 to expedite work on non-federal levees** in meeting the requirements of section 131 of WRDA 2020. The fiscal year 2022 Act directed a briefing on this effort. The Committee is still awaiting this briefing and the Corps is directed to provide it not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act.

p. 84

Of the additional funding provided under the heading "Water Conservation and Delivery", not less than \$10,000,000 shall be for planning or pre-construction activities related to projects for the repair of critical Reclamation canals where operational conveyance capacity has been seriously impaired by factors such as **land subsidence**, especially those that would imminently jeopardize Reclamation's ability to meet water delivery obligations in drought prone states.

Pages 94-95

Critical Minerals and Materials.—The recommendation provides not less than \$235,000,000 for research, development, demonstration, and commercialization activities on the development of alternatives to, recycling of, and efficient production and use of critical minerals and materials, including not less than \$165,000,000 from EERE, not less than \$50,000,000 from FECM, and not less than \$20,000,000 from the Office of Science. The Department is directed to support university initiatives focused on enhancing current abilities to extract critical minerals and materials from sources and enhanced recovery and reuse to maximize limited resources. The Committee appreciates the work of the Critical Materials Institute, an Energy Innovation Hub established in 2013 and led by Ames **Laboratory**, to develop solutions across the materials life cycle as well as reduce the impact of supply chain disruptions price fluctuations associated with these valuable resources. Section 7002 of the Energy Act of 2020 requires the establishment of a Critical Materials Consortium. The Committee reminds the Department that section 7002 requires the Department to leverage the personnel and expertise of an Energy Innovation Hub to manage the Consortium. The Committee is concerned about the Department's pace in establishing the Critical Materials Consortium. The Department is directed to provide to the Committee not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act a briefing on the status of the Consortium and the role the Critical Materials Institute will play in these efforts moving forward. The Committee supports the development of a Critical Materials Supply Chain Research Facility, as authorized by section 7002(h) of the Energy Act of 2020. However, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of approval of mission need and the unclear responsibilities among program offices for supporting construction of this facility. The fiscal year 2022 Act directed the Department to provide a report detailing the mission and cost of developing the Critical Materials Supply Chain Research Facility. The Committee is still awaiting this report and directs the Department to provide the report not later than 15 days after enactment of this Act and prior to the obligation of any funds for the facility. **The** Committee notes the significant workforce needs in critical minerals and materials that are of national security interest, including industries in the domestic battery materials supply chain. The Department is directed to prioritize activities for workforce training and development initiatives to meet these needs. The Department is directed to provide to the Committee not later than 180 days after enactment of this Act a report assessing workforce needs in critical minerals and materials industries, primary impediments to meeting these needs, and existing federal efforts supporting workforce initiatives to ensure that the United States remains competitive to meet global demand.

p. 140

Mineral Sustainability.—The Department is directed to conduct research and development to develop and assess advanced separation technologies for the extraction and recovery of rare earth elements and other critical materials from coal and coal byproducts. Further, the Department is directed to determine and mitigate any potential environmental or public health impacts that could arise from the recovery of rare earth elements from coal-based resources. The recommendation provides up to \$6,000,000 for the Department, in collaboration with the Department of Commerce and U.S. Geological Survey, to pilot a research and development project to enhance the security and stability of the rare earth element supply chain. The Department is encouraged to support research; exploration development; extraction and material product and development; manufacturing; and recycling for critical rare earth minerals.

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Financial Services & General Government Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8254

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220624/114951/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-FSGG-U1.pdf

GSA

p. 93

SEC. 528. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the General Services Administration to award or facilitate the award of any contract for the provision of **architectural**, **engineering**, and **related services in a manner inconsistent with the procedures in chapter 11 of title 40, United States Code**, and **subpart 36.6** of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

OMB

p. 157

SEC. 740. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used to begin or announce a study or public-private competition regarding the conversion to contractor performance of any function performed by Federal employees pursuant to **Office of Management and Budget Circular A–76** or any other administrative regulation, directive, or policy.

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https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220624/114951/HMKP-117-AP00-20220624-SD002.pdf

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)

Pages 44-45

The Committee recommends \$300,000,000 for the HIDTA Program.

Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP).— The Committee recognizes the effectiveness of ODMAP in facilitating information sharing and supporting efforts by public health and public safety officials to mobilize rapid response to a suspected overdose event. The Committee encourages ONDCP, in consultation with the HIDTA Directors, to prioritize discretionary funds towards programs that promote public health and public safety collaboration, including ODMAP.

p. 63

Spectrum Coordination.—The Committee remains concerned about ongoing, public disputes among Federal agencies that disrupt spectrum reallocation initiatives, harm efforts to deploy new commercial wireless technologies, and undermine U.S. competitiveness with peer nations. The Committee is encouraged that the FCC and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) have launched a new Spectrum Coordination Initiative to improve Federal coordination on spectrum management issues, including committing to update the 20-year Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies. The Committee expects the FCC to take further action to help eliminate the potential for future interagency spectrum disputes, including promptly implementing the relevant recommendations from the GAO report entitled "Spectrum Management: Agencies Should Strengthen Collaborative Mechanisms and Processes to Address Potential Interference" (GAO–21–474), developing engineering tools and techniques to resolve disputes in an evidence-based manner, and working with agencies to implement receiver hardening and other techniques to mitigate out-of-band interference concerns.

p. 63

Broadband Maps.—The Committee has provided significant funding for implementation of the Broadband DATA Act (P.L. 116–130) and remains highly interested in the FCC's progress in meeting the requirements of the Act. The FCC is directed to provide an updated spend plan and status report on Broadband Data Act spending no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, including an updated timeline for release of the broadband maps required by the Act.

p. 64

Broadband Access.—The Committee believes that deployment of broadband in rural and economically disadvantaged areas is a driver of economic development, jobs, and new educational opportunities. The Committee supports FCC efforts to judiciously allocate USF funds for these areas.

Pages 72-73

Health Information Privacy.—The Committee is concerned by reports of app developers, data brokers, and re-sellers that are collecting and selling personal health information and **geolocation information** related to health services. The collection and sale of this private information risks substantial harm to consumers, including health and safety injuries. The Committee directs the FTC to investigate reports and instances of such practices to the maximum extent of its authorities, issue warning letters to entities engaged in the collection and sale of this information as appropriate, and dedicate enforcement resources to address these urgent issues. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the FTC shall report to the Committee on actions the FTC has taken to address these practices in the past two years, an assessment of the extent of these practices, and any legislative recommendations that might help mitigate harms to consumers. Additionally, the Committee expects the fiscal year 2024 budget request for the FTC to include dedicated resources for investigating and responding to instances in which health-related information and location data is collected and sold by data brokers.

p. 88

Section 528. The Committee includes a new provision prohibiting the use of funds for any contracts inconsistent with the Brooks Act and part 36.6 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

p. 101

The Public Buildings Reform Board (Board) was created under the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 to identify opportunities for the Government to significantly reduce its **inventory of civilian real property** and reduce cost to the Government.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION The Committee recommends \$4,000,000 funds for the Board.

p. 125

Section 740. The Committee continues a provision that prohibits the use of funds to begin or announce a study or a public-private competition regarding the conversion to contractor performance of any function performed by civilian Federal employees pursuant to **OMB Circular A–76** or any other administrative regulation, directive, or policy.

p. 165

Section 528. Language is included **prohibiting the use of funds for any contracts inconsistent with the chapter 11 of title 40, United States Code, and subpart 36.6** of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations.

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Homeland Security Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8257

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220624/114951/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-HomelandSecurity.pdf

Pages 11-12

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for operations and support, including the transportation of unaccompanied alien minors; the provision of air and marine support to Federal, State, local, and international agencies in the enforcement or administration of laws enforced by the Department of Homeland Security; at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the provision of such support to Federal, State, and local agencies in other law enforcement and emergency humanitarian efforts; the purchase and lease of up to 7,500 (6,500 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; the purchase, maintenance, or operation of marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems

p. 13

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for procurement, construction, and improvements, including **procurement of marine vessels**, **aircraft**, **and unmanned aerial systems**, **\$547,539,000**, of which \$402,180,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025; and of which \$145,359,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2027.

p. 42

\$350,000,000 for necessary expenses for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis, in addition to and to supplement any other sums appropriated under the National Flood Insurance Fund, and such additional sums as may be provided by States or other political subdivisions for cost-shared mapping activities under section 1360(f)(2) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4101(f)(2)), to remain available until expended.

p. 44

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112–141, 126 Stat. 916), and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–89; 128 Stat. 1020), \$225,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2024, which shall be derived from offsetting amounts collected under section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)); of which \$18,500,000 shall be available for mission support associated with flood management; and of which \$206,500,000 shall be available for flood plain management and flood mapping

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https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220624/114951/HMKP-117-AP00-20220624-SD003.pdf

p. 12

Rural Broadband Access.—To expand rural broadband infrastructure in unserved rural areas and tribal lands along the southwest and northern borders, the Committee encourages the Secretary to identify opportunities for public-private partnerships with broadband providers to incorporate affordable public accessible broadband into current and future tactical infrastructure projects. The Committee reminds

the Department of the briefing requirement on these efforts that was required by the explanatory statement accompanying the fiscal year 2022 funding Act.

p. 20

Border Barrier Mitigation Activities.—As noted in House Report 117–87, the Committee continues to be concerned about the impacts of **border barrier construction** on sensitive lands and wildlife along the southwest land border, including in national wildlife refuges, national forests, national monuments, and wilderness areas. To address these concerns, the bill provides authority to use up to \$100,000,000 of **prior year funds appropriated for border barrier construction** that become available during fiscal year 2023 or future years for mitigation activities, including land acquisition, **related to the construction of border barriers on federal land**. Authority is also provided to allow for the transfer of funds to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Park Services for the same activities.

p. 28

Border Technology Procurement.—The Committee recommends \$100,000,000 for border security technology, which shall only be available for autonomous surveillance, cross border tunnel threats, mobile surveillance, aerostats, **geospatial capabilities**, mesh networks, and search and rescue capabilities.

p. 28

Innovative Technology.—The Committee recommends a total of \$60,000,000 for innovation technologies, to include \$40,000,000 within Operations and Support (O&S) and \$20,000,000 under Procurement, Construction, and Improvements (PC&I). CBP is encouraged to review the following technologies: **geospatial search and rescue**; unmanned maritime vessels; **remote sensing**; mesh networking; satellite communications; vehicle communications in LTEdenied areas; and aerostats. CBP is directed to update the Committee on the planned obligation of these funds not fewer than 15 days prior to any obligation of funds. Funding shall not exceed \$5,000,000 for any individual project.

p. 44

Maritime Domain Awareness.—The Committee encourages the Coast Guard to consider and test the use of commercial spacebased radio frequency data and **geospatial technology** in its Maritime Domain Awareness Activities and operations.

Pages 63-64

Environment-Based Mitigation.—The Committee recognizes that environment-based mitigation measures—such as the creation of wetlands, conservation easements, and **natural flood plains** to slow the flow of rivers, creeks, and streams—are innovative tools for mitigating the severity of **future floods** in areas such as the Tittabawassee River Watershed in the Great Lakes Bay Region. In addition to **flood protection**, mitigation measures offer both aesthetic and recreational value and provide a variety of environmental and conservation benefits, including erosion control, species habitat, and improved air and water quality. The Committee urges FEMA to continue to coordinate with the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as state, local, and tribal governments and business and nonprofit stakeholders, on developing and supporting conservation and environment-based flood mitigation measures to **reduce the impact of floods** on communities, lives, and livelihoods.

p. 64

Natural Hazard Mitigation Infrastructure.—The Committee is aware that rehabilitation or establishment of natural infrastructure, including but not limited to marshes, wetlands, mangroves, dunes, and other geologies similar to the Driftless Area, can improve resiliency, reducing damage from **flooding and coastal storm surges and providing effective floodplain management**. Such natural infrastructure can also have long-term beneficial impacts on **topography**, soils, water quality, wetlands, **floodplains**, coastal resources, aquatic resources, and public health and safety in coastal areas. The Committee urges FEMA to continue to engage with other federal and non-federal stakeholders to develop and support conservation and environment-based flood mitigation measures and to utilize mitigation grant funds for natural infrastructure projects, consistent with the directive under this heading in House Report 117–87.

p. 64

Urban Area Flooding.—The fiscal year 2020 funding Act supported a pilot grant program to help local government grants enhance the **mapping of urban flooding**. The Committee reminds FEMA of the requirement to provide a briefing on this program as required by House Report 117–87.

p. 65

Response and Recovery Disaster Assessment Technologies.—The Committee is aware of commercial technologies that integrate real-time and near realtime data and **high-resolution imagery to create an integrated multi-dimensional digital environment** that supports rapid damage assessments and more effective reporting systems. Within 120 days of the date of enactment of this Act, the Office of Response and Recovery (OR&R) is directed to brief the Committee on the benefits and feasibility of **integrating hiresolution imagery and three-dimensional simulation capabilities into its emergency response tools**.

p. 68

Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis Program 350,000,000 [Budget Request] 350,000,000 [Recommendation]

p. 87

Advanced Modeling and 3D Simulation Technologies.—Within the funds provided, the Committee encourages research on advanced modeling and three-dimensional (3D) simulation technologies that may support FEMA's disaster resilience, mitigation, and recovery operations, along with facilitating SLTT and private sector involvement. S&T, in coordination with FEMA, is directed to provide a briefing within 90 days of the date of enactment of this Act that details efforts to integrate hi-resolution imagery and 3D simulation capabilities into emergency response tools.

p. 89

Positioning, Navigation, and Timing Services.—The federal government has determined that the disruption or manipulation of positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) services has the potential to adversely affect the national and economic security of the United States. In response, Executive Order (EO) 13905—Strengthening National Resilience Through Responsible Use of Positioning, Navigation, and Timing Services—was published on February 18, 2020. The EO directs relevant departments and agencies, through DHS, to develop contractual language based on sector specific PNT profiles to be incorporated into federal contracts for products, systems, and services that integrate or use PNT services. The goal of this directive is to encourage the private sector to develop new robust and secure PNT services. The Committee directs the Department to complete the requirements for federal contracts specified in EO 13905 and provide an implementation briefing to the Committee not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

p. 108

CBP

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

The Committee includes language providing funds for procurement, construction, and improvements, to include **procurements to buy, maintain, or operate aircraft and unmanned aircraft systems**. The Committee provides three-year and five-year availability of funds for these activities.

p. 112

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

The Committee includes language providing funds for grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, including for terrorism prevention; nonprofits organizations, public transportation, bus and railroad security; port security; firefighter assistance; emergency management; **flood hazard mapping and risk analysis**; catastrophic preparedness, warning systems, community projects emergency food and shelter; alternatives to detention case management; education, training, exercises, and technical assistance; and other programs. The Committee provides two-year availability of funds for certain purposes.

p. 113

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

The Committee includes language making funds available for mission support associated with flood management and programs and activities under the National Flood Insurance Fund, **including flood plain management and flood mapping**. The Committee includes provisions making funds available for interest on Treasury borrowings and limiting amounts available for operating expenses, commissions and taxes of agents, and flood mitigation activities associated with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968. The Committee includes language permitting additional fees collected to be credited as an offsetting collection and available for floodplain management; providing that not to exceed four percent of the total appropriation is available for administrative cost; and making funds available for the Flood Insurance Advocate.

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Interior Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8262

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220629/114967/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-Interior.pdf

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https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220629/114967/HMKP-117-AP00-20220629-SD003.PDF

Pages 8-9

MARIJUANA ON PUBLIC LANDS

The Committee is aware that trespassers illegally grow marijuana on public lands in California. These unlawful activities harmfully impact the public, water, soil, and wildlife. The Committee supports Forest Service efforts to develop tools to detect and eradicate grow sites. The Committee directs the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to continue to cooperate with state, local, and tribal governments on survey, reclamation, and prevention efforts to the maximum extent possible. The Committee also supports the Department of the Interior's use of drones to conduct statewide remote-

sensing surveys of federal public lands to identify grow sites and allow for the development of cost estimates for reclamation.

p. 34

Global Positioning System Modernization.—The recommendation provides \$1,500,000 for the sustainment of recently acquired Global Positioning System (GPS) data collection devices used by the Service for facilities planning, lands administration, visitor safety, and infrastructure protection. The Committee is aware that the NPS requires ongoing sustainment of the Service's field data collection devices to include cyclic hardware and software refresh to comply with the Department's Information Technology security requirements. The funds provided will allow the Service to maintain compliance on field data collection devices. Within appropriate procurement requirements, the NPS is encouraged to procure additional devices from U.S. manufacturers.

p. 42

Energy and Mineral Resources.—The Committee provides \$133,010,000 for Energy and Minerals, \$37,787,000 above the enacted level and \$14,000,000 below the budget request. Program elements of this mission area follow below. The Committee recommends \$83,552,000 for the Mineral Resources Program which includes \$10,848,000 to support the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative, Earth MRI which is supplemented by funding provided in Public Law 117-58 and outlined in the spend plan included in the Survey's fiscal year 2023 budget justification; \$16,274,000 for mine waste research and assessments and directs the Survey to provide a briefing within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the feasibility of conducting field experiments on mineralization of slag and other industrial wastes; and \$6,670,000 for supply chain research to build upon analyses of mineral dependencies. This funding level allows the Survey to work with Federal and State partners to modernize the Nation's understanding of the subsurface and improve the topographic, geological, and geophysical mapping of the United States. The Committee encourages the Survey to allocate funds for research and development of sustainable nontraditional critical metal recovery and recycling technologies. The Survey is directed to brief the Committee within 90 days of enactment of this Act on the funding requirement and any benefits associated with a new cooperative USGS Mineral Resources Program with state geological surveys to map and characterize industrial minerals such as onshore and offshore sand and gravel, crushed stone, and ingredients of cement, which are needed close to construction of roads, bridges, and buildings to minimize cost and transportation impacts.

p. 44

The Survey is directed to provide a briefing to the Committee within 120 days of enactment of this Act on the funding requirement and any benefits associated with **creating a new Sinkhole Hazards Program to conduct sinkhole research**, hazard mitigation, hazard assessments, including developing maps that depict zones that are at a greater risk of sinkhole formation.

Pages 44-45

Streamgages are crucial to early warning and flood damage reduction efforts across the United States. The Committee recommends \$114,035,000 for the Groundwater and Streamflow Information Program which includes \$28,215,000 for Federal Priority streamgages that meet one or more strategic, long-term Federal information; \$30,000,000 for the Next Generation Water Observing System; \$214,000, the budget request, for Klamath Basin water availability activities; and \$500,000 for the Ohio River Super Gages. No funding is provided for the Hydrologic science talent pipeline. The Committee supports efforts by the USGS through the Next Generation Water Observing System (NGWOS) to enhance monitoring of streamflow, temperature, and salinity to help address saltwater intrusion in cities. The

USGS is encouraged to leverage these efforts in collaboration with the research being conducted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center.

p. 46

Core Science Systems.—The Committee recommends \$330,922,000 for Core Science Systems, \$67,120,000 above the enacted level and \$17,876,000 below the budget request. Program elements of this mission area follow below.

p. 46

National Land Imaging.—The Committee recommends \$120,745,000 for National Land Imaging, which provides \$92,274,000 for Satellite Operations and program increases of \$1,500,000 for biologic carbon sequestration, and an increase of \$500,000 for the Remote Sensing State Grants Program for a total of \$1,715,000, as well as \$3,454,000 for tools supporting conservation planning, monitoring, and projection. The **National Civil Applications Center is funded at no less than the enacted level of \$4,847,000**. The Committee acknowledges the importance of the Remote Sensing State Grants Program in providing technology, expertise and actionable data and analysis from satellites to address critical issues while also engaging students to pursue careers in technology.

p. 46

National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program.—The recommendation includes \$45,121,000 for the National Geologic Mapping Program to advance mapping to support the USGS Earth Map and Earth MRI initiatives, enhance drinking water protection, hazards resilience, infrastructure design, natural resource management, and a wide range of fundamental research applications.

Pages 46-47

National Geospatial Program.—The recommendation includes \$104,056,000 for the National Geospatial Program, which includes \$1,500,000 for the 3D National Topography Model as requested, \$43,905,000 for 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) comprised of \$1,250,000 for Tribal lands and \$7,000,000 for Federal lands in Western States as much of the remaining areas to be mapped to complete the national map represent states with sparse population density, high federal land ownership, and/or other mitigating factors. The Committee encourages USGS to consider acquiring Quality Level 2 or Quality Level 1 elevation data from private sector mapping firms for western states such as Nevada. These states are leading our nation in future energy development and natural resources conservation, particularly water; high quality elevation data is critical to growing our nation's economy, furthering our energy independence, responsibly managing our water resources, as well as avoiding and managing wildfires. The recommendation also includes \$10,000,000 for the Federal climate data portal, \$7,722,000 for Alaska mapping and map modernization, \$730,000 for geospatial and geologic research and collection on tribal lands, \$1,900,000 for the United States Board on Geographic Names, and \$1,500,000 for the National Digital Trails project. The Committee supports the continued collaboration with partners to leverage the resources provided for 3DEP to achieve the goal of national coverage by 2026. The National Hydrography Database (NHD) represents the Nation's drainage networks and provides information integral to a myriad of mission-critical activities which rely on hydrography data. The USGS is partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop an authoritative 3D Hydrography program. The Committee encourages the Survey to prioritize efforts in the Great Lakes and other regions which have a statewide strategy, have complete 3DEP data, conform to Survey specifications, and have identified community and partner engagement and interests. The Committee is aware of topoBuilder, a public web application released by the National Geospatial Program that enables users to request customized USGS-style topographic maps

that utilize the best available data from the The National Map and provides an additional \$250,000 above the enacted level for this effort. The Committee understands State and Federal agencies can use high accuracy lidar from the 3DEP program to identify the location, size, and shape of sinkholes quickly and remotely, and encourages the Survey to consider the short-term and long-term mechanisms that cause sinkholes, including extreme storm events, prolonged droughts causing shifts in water management practices, aquifer depletion, and other major changes in water use, and to develop maps depicting the zones that are at a greater risk of forming sinkholes. The Committee understands any funding awarded outside the Federal sector will undergo a competitive review process.

p. 57

Forestry.—The recommendation includes \$68,418,000 for Forestry, \$8,141,000 above the enacted level and \$4,901,000 above the budget request. Within this amount, the Committee recommends \$35,940,000 for Forestry Program (TPA), which includes a general program increase, and \$32,478,000 for Forestry Projects, which includes additional funds for **Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar)**.

p. 103

Lead Service Lines.—The Committee recognizes that there is a mismatch in the current funding allocation dedicated to lead service line replacement in the State Revolving Funds with a State's actual lead service line replacement needs. Therefore, the Committee encourages the expeditious completion of the 2022 Drinking Water Infrastructure Needs Survey Assessment, in particular, the portion that requires an assessment of the costs of replacing all lead service lines, in time for the allocation of fiscal year 2023 funds. Further, the Committee supports the Agency's work to identify whether a service line has lead and the need to develop a consistent standard among water systems to inventory and map locations of lead service lines. Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs the Agency to provide a briefing on both issues. The Agency should identify the most promising technologies used to identify lead service lines and discuss ways to develop voluntary guidelines to harmonize standards for creating lead service line maps. The briefing should include an outreach strategy for both issues.

p. 108

Forest Inventory and Analysis.—The recommendation includes \$37,700,000 for Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA), \$15,503,000 above the enacted level and the budget request. The recommendation also includes a significant increase for Forest and Rangeland Research Salaries and Expenses above the requested level to facilitate the implementation of this essential work. The Committee is aware that full implementation of options C and D described within the most recent FIA Strategic Plan, including increasing data collection to a 5-year remeasurement cycle, will require additional resources. However, the Committee expects the increases provided will allow the Service to expand the capacity in the areas described in the Strategic Plan and for specific activities such as standardizing FIA field protocols and analysis nationally to ensure credible and consistent data and analysis; expanding investments in and integration of remote sensing and satellite technologies and programs with field data; improving online tools that support real-world applications of the data; and assessing landscape-scale or regionalscale net carbon stocking. The Committee further encourages the service to begin accelerating data collection on the base grid to a 5-year remeasurement cycle nationwide across all forest types, including all privately owned forests. Within the increase provided for Forest Inventory and Analysis, the Committee provides an increase above enacted for the Timber Products Output survey to ensure a sustainable timber supply for climate-friendly building materials. The Committee recognizes that reductions in federal timber harvests since the 1980s have negatively impacted rural economies and resulted in a loss of economically viable uses for private and state timber that is not within an economic

hauling distance, exacerbating the impact of the federal timber harvest reductions. Timber resources are under-utilized and being lost to catastrophic wildfires and accelerated mortality due to climate change. In addition, the Committee notes escalating trade tensions have significantly reduced U.S. wood product exports from the Pacific Northwest (PNW) region, as an example. The Committee directs Forest Service Research and Development to work with academic partners to leverage FIA program data and information to conduct economic analyses focused on ensuring a sustainable timber supply for the growing demand for climate-friendly building materials, with the goal of helping revitalize depressed rural communities with economic activity. The Service should identify, within specific regional geographies, investments relative to forestry industry infrastructure that can sustainably supply growing demand while increasing rural jobs and improving forest health. The Service is also encouraged to identify underserved geographies, including tribal timberlands, that could support and benefit from investments in processing capacity.

Pages 114-115

Communications Sites.—Federal agencies are charged with ensuring that federal lands are made available to support the communications networks this nation relies on while also protecting the natural beauty, habitats, and environment of these lands. Through the Forest Planning process and site-specific project analysis, the Forest Service provides multiple locations to expand the national broadband network to make progress toward national broadband investment objectives. The Committee calls upon the Forest Service to continue to work with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to simplify and standardize permitting regulations and requirements to ensure both timely action and responsible stewardship. The bill includes language to permit the Forest Service to collect funds to cover the costs of administering the communications site program.

p. 115

Old Growth Forests.—Executive Order 14072 outlines the importance of mature and old-growth forests on Federal lands for the health, prosperity, and resilience of communities and the role they play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Committee supports the Forest Service's collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management to define, identify, and complete an inventory of old growth and mature forests on Federal lands by leveraging the use of Forest Service FIA program data; coordinate conservation and wildfire risk reduction; and develop policies, with public comment, to institutionalize climate-smart management and conservation strategies that address threats to these Federal lands.

p. 119

Prescribed Fire Management.—To improve the management of our national wildlands and reduce the occurrence of costly wildfires, the Committee directs the Forest Service to continue conducting collaborative research to **develop remote sensing capabilities that include acoustic technologies for wildfire monitoring**. Within 180 days of enactment of this Act, the Committee directs the Forest Service to provide a briefing on ongoing efforts to utilize funding provided in fiscal year 2022 to investigate and develop this technology prior to its application in the field and any future funding needs associated with this research.

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Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8295

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220630/114968/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-LHHS.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220630/114968/HMKP-117-AP00-20220630-SD003.PDF

p. 24

The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces Federal minimum wage, overtime pay, recordkeeping, and child labor requirements of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). WHD also has enforcement and other administrative responsibilities related to the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, the Employee Polygraph Protection Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the **Davis Bacon Act, and the Service Contract Act**. The Committee recommends \$312,678,000 for WHD, which is \$61,678,000 above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level and \$5,000,000 above the fiscal year 2023 budget request. The increase will support additional investigators to combat wage theft and protect workers. The Committee urges WHD to explore and expand strategic enforcement approaches to the agency's work to make the most of this increase.

p. 34

Artificial Intelligence.—The Committee notes the continued development of artificial intelligence and encourages BLS to examine this trend's impact on the economy.

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Legislative Branch Subcommittee

Bill – H.R. 8237

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220622/114945/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220622/114945/HMKP-117-AP00-20220622-SD006.pdf ...

Military Construction and VA Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8238

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220623/114947/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-MilconVA.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220623/114947/HMKP-117-AP00-20220623-SD003.pdf

p. 9

New Construction Technologies.—The Committee is encouraged by reports that **three dimensional (3D) construction** could provide military civil engineers with a faster means of building facilities when deployed and reduce supply lines and the number of personnel needed for construction and related activities and **urges the Department to study, develop, and utilize 3D construction capabilities as appropriate**.

p. 16

Stormwater Management Projects.—The Committee recognizes that resilient built and natural infrastructure on and around military bases are essential in maintaining military readiness. The Committee also recognizes the increasing variability of the frequency and intensity of precipitation

globally and the need to mitigate flooding and runoff. The Committee supports the implementation of stormwater best management practices, but recognizes there is currently no dedicated, authorized DOD entity that prioritizes stormwater management projects on and off military installations. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to conduct a feasibility study and submit a report no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act assessing the potential creation of a program that prioritizes stormwater management projects in order to enhance resilience and improve water quality in stormwater-stressed ecosystems, where the Department has restoration partnership obligations, and where land subsidence and the expansion of non-permeable surfaces exacerbate flooding on and around military bases. Additionally, the Committee applauds states and localities that utilize current precipitation data to inform the design of stormwater management features that are built to address current and future needs.

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State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8282

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220629/114967/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-SFOPS.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220629/114967/HMKP-117-AP00-20220629-SD002.pdf

Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee

Bill - H.R. 8294

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220630/114968/BILLS-117-FC-AP-FY2023-AP00-THUD.pdf

Report

https://docs.house.gov/meetings/AP/AP00/20220630/114968/HMKP-117-AP00-20220630-SD002.pdf

p. 11

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology coordinates, facilitates, and reviews the Department's research and development programs and activities; coordinates and develops positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) technology; maintains PNT policy, coordination, and spectrum management; manages the nationwide differential global positioning system (GPS); and oversees and provides direction to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), the Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office, the University Transportation Centers (UTCs) program, the John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, and the Transportation Safety Institute.

p. 13

PNT and GPS backup technologies.—The Committee supports the findings in DOT's January 2021 "Complementary PNT and GPS Backup Technologies Demonstration Report" (DOT–VNTSC– 20–07) and provides \$15,000,000 to continue developing safety-critical PNT standards, a vulnerability and performance testing framework, and monitoring capabilities to address interference and resiliency concerns.

p. 41

Aggregates sustainability.—Aggregates are essential to the construction of highways, bridges, tunnels, and all types of public works projects and sustainable access to these materials is crucial in reducing costs, congestion, and emissions. The Department is directed to continue working with **U.S. Geological Survey** and stakeholders to ensure information on the availability of aggregates meets the nation's infrastructure needs. The Committee reminds DOT of the requirement in the House Report 117–99 to provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on how it can best address the challenge of the lack of sustainable aggregates resources in communities across the nation. The Department is encouraged to work with relevant Federal agencies, as well as state, tribal, and local transportation and planning agencies to further these efforts.

Pages 65-66

Automated track inspection program (ATIP).—The ATIP uses track geometry measurement vehicles to automatically measure track conditions which supplement the work of the FRA inspectors to ensure railroads are compliant with the FRA track safety standards. The Committee recommendation supports the inspection of passenger rail routes, commuter rail routes, routes that carry energy products and other hazardous materials, and to enhance the ATIP's inspection capabilities. The Committee notes that funds provided for the ATIP in fiscal year 2023 are available to inspect tracks and analyze data from the ATIP operations and inspections.

p.66

Positive train control (PTC).—Since December 29, 2020, FRA-certified and interoperable PTC systems have been in operation across the country on nearly 58,000 route miles which carry passengers or certain hazardous materials, as required by the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (P.L. 110–432). The Committee understands the FRA has an ongoing role in the oversight, approval, and enforcement of PTC regulations, including performance monitoring, compliance audits, and approval of safety-critical modifications and upgrades. Should new passenger rail service be initiated or railroads seek to voluntarily implement PTC, the FRA would provide technical support and conduct the necessary oversight and approvals of PTC safety plans. In addition, the FRA will be evaluating implementation and safety plans from certain class II and class III railroads subject to the December 31, 2023, deadline to equip locomotives with PTC systems. The Committee recommendation provides funding to support the FRA's work on these activities in fiscal year 2023.

p. 104

PHMSA

The Committee recommendation provides \$30,150,000 for the operational expenses account. Of the total funds provided, \$2,000,000 shall be for pipeline safety information grants to communities as authorized by section 60130 of title 49, Untied States Code, and \$2,500,000 shall be for emergency response grants as authorized by section 60125(b) of title 49, United States Code.

p. 107

The PHMSA oversees the safety, security, and environmental protection of approximately **2,800,000** miles of pipelines, **165** liquefied natural gas facilities, and **403** underground natural gas storage facilities through analysis of data, damage prevention, education and training, development and enforcement of regulations and policies, research and development, grants for safety programs, and emergency planning and response to accidents. The pipeline safety program is responsible for a national regulatory program to protect the public against the risks to life and property in the transportation of natural gas, petroleum, and other hazardous materials by pipeline and facilities that liquefy natural gas and store natural gas underground.

p. 108

The Committee recommendation provides \$187,800,000 for the pipeline safety account to continue pipeline safety operations, research and development, and grants. Of the total funds provided, \$29,000,000 is from the oil spill liability trust fund, \$151,400,000 is from the pipeline safety fund, \$400,000 is from the liquefied natural gas siting account within the pipeline safety fund, and \$7,000,000 is from the underground natural gas storage facility safety account within the pipeline safety fund. The following table provides funding levels for activities within this account.

p. 108

Research and development.—Between 2002 and 2021, the PHMSA reported 12,793 pipeline incidents, which resulted in 276 deaths, 1,144 injuries, and \$10,130,468,788 in reported damages. Over this 20-year time frame an average of 640 incidents occurred each year.

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