

News!

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HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE MARKS UP FY2010 BILL

On Wednesday the House Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee approved a \$32.3 billion spending bill, boosting spending for numerous Interior and EPA programs. While the bill calls for \$25 million less than President Obama requested, it still increases overall spending by \$4.7 billion over the FY09 allocation.

The Interior portion of the bill includes \$10.97 billion, a boost of \$897 million over FY09 but \$7 million less than the administration's request. Substantial increases are provided for the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The bill would provide \$1.13 billion to the Bureau of Land Management, an increase of \$86 million over 2009 but \$24 million less than the administration request. The National Park Service would receive \$2.75 billion under the bill, an increase of \$27 million over what the administration requested. That includes \$25 million for public-private partnership projects, what was called the Centennial Challenge by the Bush administration. "We're hoping the authorizers will finally come up with something," Dicks said. "That's an authorizing issue. We keep putting it in there just because there's so much money that's already been raised in the private sector, so we want to match some of that, to keep the interest."

Cultural agencies would benefit with appropriations increases of \$15 million for the National Endowment of the Arts and Endowment for the Humanities and \$43 million more for the Smithsonian Institution and \$44 million for the National Gallery of Art.

The bill also includes \$17 million for the Heritage Partnership Program (National Heritage Areas), a \$1 million increase over the President's proposal.

The bill includes the President's Budget request for SHPOs and THPOs and increases over the Administration's request of \$10 million and \$3 million for the Save Americas Treasures and Preserve America program, respectively.

FY10	House Interior Subcommittee Re-	President's Request
SHPOs	\$46.5 million	\$46.5 million
THPOs	\$8 million	\$8 million
SAT	\$30 million	\$20 million
PA	\$6 million	\$3 million

A list of House SAT proposed earmarks can be found on pages 18-20 at: http://appropriations.house.gov/pdf/2010_IN_Sub_Disclosure.pdf

The proposed 37 earmarks would go to 21 States. Nearly 55% of the proposed earmarks were awarded to members on the Appropriations Committee or in House Leadership.



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NPS APPROVES NEW THPO

In late May, the National Park Service approved the Jicarilla Apache Nation as the newest Tribal Historic Preservation Office. Their one million acre reservation is located in Northern New Mexico on the Continental Divide. Today the tribe numbers around 1,800 and income from their wool production operation is supplemented by income from hundreds of oil and gas wells.

The Jicarilla Apache Nation now brings the total number of THPOs to 80. The House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee and the Administration have both requested \$8 million for THPOs in FY2010, representing a \$1 million increase from their FY2009 level.



SENATE EXPECTS TO VOTE ON TOURISM BILL THIS SUMMER

Amidst health care, energy and Supreme Court nomination debates this summer the Senate may also take-up S.1023, legislation that would create a nonprofit corporation to promote visits to the United States. The effort would be funded by private industry contributions matched by up to \$100 million a year from a new \$10 fee that would be assessed on foreign travelers by the Department of Homeland Security.

The goal of the bill is to lure back foreign tourism which has never fully recovered from the September 11th attacks. Introduced by Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) in May, Senator Harry Reid (D-NV) has become the bill's leading champion and is hoping the legislation will help revive tourism in Las Vegas and across the country.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 8-11, 2009 – NCSHPO Summer Board Meeting, Big Bend, Texas

October 13-17, 2009 – National Preservation Conference, Nashville, TN

October 14-15, 2009 – NCSHPO Winter Board Meeting, Nashville, TN