MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

CONFERENCE REPORT
TO ACCOMPANY
H.J. Res. 31

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The Conferences expect the agencies to move forward with all projects specifically identified and funded through this agreement; to utilize funding in a timely manner; and to seek congressional approval for reprogramming unobligated balances if applicable. The Conferences expect the agencies to provide timely information on project status and available balances. Agencies are directed to continue their longstanding process of identifying and prioritizing potential Federal land acquisition projects in anticipation of program appropriations as consistent with previous years. Within 30 days of the submission of the fiscal year 2020 budget or by March 1, 2019, whichever comes first, each agency is directed to submit to the Committees a prioritized list of projects for fiscal year 2020 consideration.

The Conferences believe increasing access to our public lands for hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities is important and again include funding for these projects. The agencies are expected to work with their respective regions, State offices, and/or management units to identify potential recreation access projects and to inform the Committees on project selections prior to proceeding.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The following are the procedures governing reprogramming actions for programs and activities funded in the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The Conferences remind the agencies funded in this Act that these reprogramming guidelines are in effect, and must be complied with, until such time as the Committees modify them through bill or report language.

Definitions.—“Reprogramming,” as defined in these procedures, includes the reallocation of funds from one budget activity, budget line-item, or program area, to another within any appropriation funded in this Act. In cases where either the House or Senate Committee report displays an allocation of an appropriation below that level, that more detailed level shall be the basis for reprogramming.

For construction, land acquisition, and forest legacy accounts, a reprogramming constitutes the reallocation of funds, including unobligated balances, from one construction, land acquisition, or forest legacy project to another such project.

A reprogramming shall also consist of any significant departure from the program described in the agency’s budget justifications. This includes proposed reorganizations, especially those of significant national or regional importance, even without a change