Reclamation Manual
Directives and Standards

Reprogramming Requirements

Excerpt from PUBLIC LAW 115-224 – September 21, 2018. Generally, this provision is included in each year’s appropriation bill. However, it is best to check the most current appropriations bill to ensure thresholds, percentages, and flexibilities allowed below are currently available.

Sec. 201.
(a) None of the funds provided in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources, or provided by previous or subsequent appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in title II of this Act for Water and Related Resources that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2019, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that--

(1) initiates or creates a new program, project, or activity;
(2) eliminates a program, project, or activity;
(3) increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;
(4) restarts or resumes any program, project or activity for which funds are not provided in this Act, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate;
(5) transfers funds in excess of the following limits, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate:
   (A) 15 percent for any program, project or activity for which $2,000,000 or more is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;
   or
   (B) $400,000 for any program, project or activity for which less than $2,000,000 is available at the beginning of the fiscal year;
(6) transfers more than $500,000 from either the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category or the Resources Management and Development category to any program, project, or activity in the other category, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate; or
(7) transfers, where necessary to discharge legal obligations of the Bureau of Reclamation, more than $5,000,000 to provide adequate funds for settled contractor claims, increased contractor earnings due to accelerated rates of operations, and real estate deficiency judgments, unless prior approval is received from the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) Subsection (a)(5) shall not apply to any transfer of funds within the Facilities Operation, Maintenance, and Rehabilitation category.
(c) For purposes of this section, the term transfer means any movement of funds into or out of a program, project, or activity.

(d) The Bureau of Reclamation shall submit reports on a quarterly basis to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing all the funds reprogrammed between programs, projects, activities, or categories of funding. The first quarterly report shall be submitted not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.