APPENDIX B: EXCERPT FROM THE TABLE OF PENALTIES

Nature of Offense (General Misconduct)	Penalty for First Offense	Penalty for Second Offense	Penalty for Third Offense	Remarks
1. Attendance-related offenses. a. Absence without leave (AWOL). This includes tardiness and unauthorized delay in returning from lunch and break periods, or in returning after leaving work station on official business; unauthorized departure or absence from duty station.	Written Reprimand to 5- day suspension	5- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	Refer to 370 DM 630 for leave requirements and guidance. Penalty depends primarily on length and frequency of unacceptable absences. Removal may be appropriate for a first or second offense if the
b. Failure to follow established leave procedures; failure to provide administratively acceptable documentation to support absence(s).	Written Reprimand to 5- day suspension	5- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	absence is prolonged, the failure to adhere to leave procedures is flagrant, or the circumstances are otherwise particularly burdensome.
c. Excessive unauthorized absences (e.g., more than 5 consecutive workdays).	5-day suspension to removal	14-day suspension to removal	Removal	particularly burdensonic.
2. Improper or unauthorized release of sensitive and administratively-controlled information or employee records; failure to safeguard classified material.				Refer to 5 USC 552a and 43 CFR 2.52 for Privacy Act provisions regarding the misuse of personal information; also refer to 18
a. Information is not compromised and release is unintentional.	Written Reprimand to 5- day suspension	5- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	USC 798 and 18 USC 1905. Deliberate disclosures of Privacy Act information must be referred to OIG.
b. Information is compromised and release is unintentional.	Written Reprimand to 30- day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	Removal	
c. Release of restricted information is deliberate.	30-day suspension to removal	Removal		

3. Misconduct of a sexual nature that includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual remarks, indecent comments/jokes, offensive sexual banter, unwanted sexual advances, or unwelcome physical touching.	Written Reprimand to removal	14- day suspension to removal	Removal	Refer to the Department's Zero Tolerance Policy; penalty may include mandatory training. More severe discipline is appropriate for egregious misconduct.
4. Failure to provide equal opportunity regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, political affiliation, sexual orientation or handicapping condition.	Written Reprimand to removal	14-day suspension to removal	Removal	Refer to 5 CFR 2635.101(13).
5. Unauthorized possession/sale (actual or attempted) of Government property or property of others; improper acceptance of Government funds/reimbursement.	Written Reprimand to removal	14-day suspension to removal	30-day suspension to removal	Referral to OIG may be appropriate.
6. Loss, misuse of, damage to or failure to safeguard Government property, records, or information (e.g., willful or negligent damage to Government resources; carelessness in performance of duty resulting in waste of public funds).	Written Reprimand to 14- day suspension	14- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	Refer to 5 CFR 2635.101(9). For misuse of Government vehicles, see item 5 under Violations of Statute. Referral to OIG may be appropriate.
7. Failure to comply with safety regulations, instructions or prescribed safe practices; failure to use proper safety equipment; failure to report accident or injury.	Written Reprimand to 14- day suspension	14- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	
8. Sleeping or loafing while on duty; inattention to duty; willful idleness while on duty.	Written Reprimand to 5- day suspension	5- to 14-day suspension	14-day suspension to removal	Seriousness of offense is greater if persons/property endangered.
9. Failure or delay in carrying out instructions; failure or carelessness in performing assigned work; failure to take/complete officially-directed training.	Written Reprimand to 14- day suspension	14- to 30-day suspension	30-day suspension to removal	Refer to 370 DM 430 to deal with unacceptable performance and performance-based actions.
10. Insubordination; disregard of directive; refusal to comply with a proper order.	5-day suspension to removal	30-day suspension to removal	Removal	Refer to 43 CFR 20.502. An "insubordination" charge requires a showing that the employee deliberately disregarded supervisory directives. In some instances (e.g., refusal to report for an ordered reassignment) removal may be appropriate.
11. Falsification/misrepresentation of official Government records or documents including, but not limited to, time and attendance records, travel vouchers, job applications, performance appraisals, claims for benefits, and other employment-related documents.	Written Reprimand to removal	30-day suspension to removal	Removal	Refer to 43 CFR 20.510. Referral to OIG may be appropriate.

12. Misrepresentation, falsification, exaggeration, concealment or withholding of material fact in connection with an official Government investigation, inquiry or other administrative proceeding.	14-day suspension to removal	30-day suspension to removal	Removal	Refer to 43 CFR 20.510. Referral to OIG may be appropriate.
13. Refusal to testify or cooperate in connection with any administrative investigation, inquiry, or other proper proceeding (when criminal charges are not anticipated).	5-day suspension to removal	14-day suspension to removal	30-day suspension to removal	
14. Prohibited/improper use of Government property (e.g., office equipment; supplies; facilities; credentials; records; communication resources; cellular phones; official time); misuse of the Internet/electronic mail; using the Internet/electronic mail for unauthorized purposes.	Written Reprimand to 14- day suspension More severe discipline (including removal) may be appropriate for first/second offense if misconduct involves using the Department's Internet/electronic mail system for prohibited reasons, including gambling, accessing/sending prohibited sexually-related material, or other egregious acts of misuse.	14- to 30-day suspension More severe discipline (including removal) may be appropriate for first/second offense if misconduct involves using the Department's Internet/electronic mail system for prohibited reasons, including gambling, accessing/sending prohibited sexually-related material, or other egregious acts of misuse.	30-day suspension to removal	Refer to 5 CFR 2635.704 and 705(a); 410 DM 2 (Limited Personal Use of Government Personal Property). Consider issue of employee notice regarding agency policy.