



**Department of the Interior  
Office of Inspector General**

# **AUDIT REPORT**

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program  
Grants Awarded to the State of Louisiana,  
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries,  
From July 1, 2004, Through June 30, 2006**

**Report No. R-GR-FWS-0017-2007**

**April 2008**



# United States Department of the Interior

**OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**  
12030 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 230  
Reston, VA 20191

April 29, 2008

## AUDIT REPORT

### Memorandum

To: Director  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

From: Christina M. Bruner *Christina M. Bruner*  
Director of External Audits

Subject: Audit on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program Grants Awarded to the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, From July 1, 2004, Through June 30, 2006 (No. R-GR-FWS-0017-2007)

This report presents the results of our audit of costs incurred by the State of Louisiana (State), Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (Department), under grants awarded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). FWS provided the grants to the State under the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program (the Program). The audit included claims totaling approximately \$25.6 million on 60 grants that were open during the Department's State fiscal years (SFYs) ended June 30, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (see Appendix 1). The audit also covered Department compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and FWS guidelines, including those related to the collection and use of hunting and fishing license revenues and the reporting of program income.

We found that the Department complied with applicable grant accounting and regulatory requirements. We did not identify any reportable conditions. We therefore do not require a response to this audit report.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact the audit team leader, Lawrence Kopas, or me at 703-487-5345.

cc: Regional Director, Region 4, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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# Introduction

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## Background

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (Acts)<sup>1</sup> established the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program. Under the Program, FWS provides grants to States to restore, conserve, manage, and enhance their sport fish and wildlife resources. The Acts and federal regulations contain provisions and principles on eligible costs and allow FWS to reimburse States up to 75 percent of the eligible costs incurred under the grants. The Acts also require that hunting and fishing license revenues be used only for the administration of the State's fish and game agency. Finally, federal regulations and FWS guidance require States to account for any income they earn using grant funds.

## Objectives

Our audit objectives were to determine if the Department:

- claimed the costs incurred under the Program grants in accordance with the Acts and related regulations, FWS guidelines, and the grant agreements;
- used State hunting and fishing license revenues solely for fish and wildlife program activities; and
- reported and used program income in accordance with federal regulations.

## Scope

Audit work included claims totaling approximately \$25.6 million on the 60 grants that were open during SFYs ended June 30, 2005 and June 30, 2006 (see Appendix 1). We performed our audit at Department headquarters in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and visited two wildlife management areas and one fish hatchery (see Appendix 2). We performed this audit to supplement, not replace, the audits required by the Single Audit Act Amendment of 1996 and by Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133.

## Methodology

We performed our audit in accordance with the "Government Auditing Standards" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives. We tested records and conducted auditing procedures as necessary under the circumstances. We believe that the evidence obtained from our tests and

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<sup>1</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 669 and 777, as amended, respectively.

procedures provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based on our audit objectives.

Our tests and procedures included:

- examining the evidence that supports selected expenditures charged to the grants by the Department;
- reviewing transactions related to purchases, direct costs, drawdowns of reimbursements, in-kind contributions, and program income;
- interviewing Department employees to ensure that personnel costs charged to the grants were supportable;
- conducting site visits to inspect equipment and other property;
- determining whether the Department used hunting and fishing license revenues solely for administration of the Department; and
- determining whether the State passed required legislation assenting to the provisions of the Acts.

We also identified the internal controls over transactions recorded in the labor and license fee accounting systems and tested their operation and reliability. Based on the results of initial assessments, we assigned a level of risk to these systems and selected a judgmental sample of transactions recorded in these systems for testing. We did not project the results of the tests to the total population of recorded transactions or evaluate the economy, efficiency, or effectiveness of Department operations.

## **Prior Audit Coverage**

On December 22, 2003, we issued “Report on Costs Claimed by the State of Louisiana, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, under Federal Assistance Grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2002 (No. R-GR-FWS-0023-2003).” We followed up on all recommendations in the report and found that the Department of Interior, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget considered them to be resolved and implemented.

We reviewed Louisiana’s Comprehensive Annual Financial and Single Audit Reports for SFYs ended June 30, 2005 and June 30, 2006. The Program was not selected for compliance testing in the single audit. The audits identified findings at six other State agencies on movable equipment that could not be located. Our Information Technology and equipment reviews of Department movable equipment did not identify similar findings.

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## **Results of Audit**

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We found that the Department complied with applicable grant agreement provisions and requirements of the Acts, regulations, and FWS guidance. The report contains no reportable findings or recommendations, and no further action is necessary.

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**  
**FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF REVIEW COVERAGE**  
**JULY 1, 2004 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Claimed Costs</b>
F-3-51	\$ 442,401	\$ 326,765
F-3-52	283,067	183,038
F-18-35	8,000	7,996
F-18-36	8,000	7,952
F-23-33	78,750	56,358
F-53-18	60,000	65,595
F-53-19	125,000	44,561
F-60-17	1,179,675	1,010,164
F-60-18	1,179,675	944,052
F-60-19	940,000	1,078,349
F-61-18	682,500	740,744
F-61-19	542,667	593,326
F-64-17	35,880	35,973
F-64-18	10,675	8,480
F-65-17	433,333	693,501
F-65-18	433,333	635,058
F-69-16	36,000	36,157
F-95-7	1,417,440	1,097,420
F-95-8	1,064,000	964,735
F-96-6	80,000	79,967
F-96-7	40,000	42,850
F-97-6	477,466	506,977
F-97-7	569,897	588,600
F-106-4	349,821	358,816
F-106-5	351,104	389,115
F-107-3	92,404	115,202
F-107-4	104,810	108,288
F-108-2	3,335,000	177,598
F-110-2	194,475	193,514
F-112-1	880,125	880,125

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES**  
**FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF REVIEW COVERAGE**  
**JULY 1, 2004 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2006**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>Grant Amount</b>	<b>Claimed Costs</b>
F-117-1	240,000	0
F-118-1	200,000	0
F-119-1	408,000	0
F-120-1	130,815	173,802
F-121-1	174,000	0
F-122-1	82,189	0
F-123-1	194,577	87,308
F-124-1	128,341	117,788
F-124-2	185,884	138,745
F-125-1	393,600	0
F-126-1	285,000	0
F-127-B-1	36,530	0
F-128-B-1	228,332	0
F-129-B-1	151,125	0
F-130-DR-1	55,409	53,428
F-130-DR-2	55,827	51,725
F-131-R-1	108,552	20,776
F-132-DB-1	326,667	0
F-133-DB-1	332,750	0
F-134-DB-1	150,432	0
F-135-DB-1	200,000	0
FW-3-33	132,000	163,461
FW-3-34	132,000	165,217
W-1-31	1,175,337	1,362,301
W-1-32	1,240,260	1,259,586
W-10-59	50,000	53,518
W-10-60	50,000	63,566
W-55-19	3,505,250	5,014,517
W-55-20	3,669,000	4,802,447
W-66-2	241,909	52,563
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$29,699,284</b>	<b>\$25,552,024</b>

**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES  
SITES VISITED**

**Headquarters**

Baton Rouge

**Wildlife Management Areas**

Red River Wildlife Management Area  
Sherburne Wildlife Management Area

**Fish Hatchery**

Booker Fowler Fish Hatchery



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