



OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

RECOVERY

RECOVERY OVERSIGHT ADVISORY

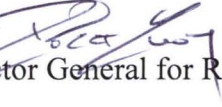
Summary of Recovery Oversight Office Outreach Efforts
between October 2010 and February 2011



**OFFICE OF
INSPECTOR GENERAL**
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JUN 15 2011

To: Chris Henderson
Senior Advisor to the Secretary for Economic Recovery and Stimulus

From: Robert A. Knox 
Assistant Inspector General for Recovery Oversight

Subject: Recovery Oversight Advisory – Summary of Recovery Oversight Office Outreach Efforts between October 2010 and February 2011
Report No. RO-F-MOA-058-2011

This advisory summarizes outreach activities of the Recovery Oversight Office (ROO) between October 2010 and February 2011. As part of our ongoing efforts to oversee and ensure the accountability of funding appropriated to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act), ROO conducted a number of interviews, teleconference calls, and visits to project work sites and bureau contracting offices to gather project information and discuss fraud prevention with key project officials. In total, we conducted 42 visits in 15 states, discussed fraud with over 165 individuals, and addressed 58 Recovery Act projects totaling approximately \$155,703,045.

Background

A key focus of the Recovery Oversight Office is prevention, detection, and reporting. To that end, beginning in October 2010 through February 2011, ROO conducted a series of outreach activities to discuss fraud prevention with key project officials, and to gather information concerning the implementation and status of Recovery Act projects. We spoke with contractors, grantees, and program officials from 6 bureaus, about 58 Recovery Act projects totaling approximately \$155,703,044.85. In late March, we issued a survey to officials from each site to gather information about the fraud prevention component of their visit with ROO staff.

Findings

We found no significant issues in almost half of our visits. In the remaining meetings, we encountered minor issues, not uncommon to contract administration, that were being adequately handled by procurement staff.

In the survey issued after the site visits, 93 percent of survey respondents indicated they felt that the fraud prevention information presented during the visit improved their knowledge or ability to reduce fraud, waste, and mismanagement. The remaining 7 percent of respondents did not address this question, so we cannot say whether the information had a positive or negative impact on their knowledge.

Sites visited:

Bureau	State	No. of Projects	Total Funds
Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	North Carolina	1	\$ 1,586,831.00
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	Colorado Florida	6	\$23,531,059.57
Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	Arizona Arkansas Colorado Florida North Carolina Ohio Tennessee Wisconsin	16	\$37,446,000.24
National Park Service (NPS)	California Colorado Florida Kentucky Maryland New Mexico North Carolina Ohio Virginia West Virginia	23	\$34,354,045.36
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	California Colorado	6	\$36,703,952.49
U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)	Colorado Ohio Pennsylvania Wisconsin	6	\$22,081,156.19
Total		58	\$155,703,044.85

We will post this advisory on our Web site (www.doioig.gov/recovery/) and on Recovery.gov. Information contained in this advisory may also be included in our semiannual reports to Congress. We performed our work in accordance with the applicable Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation adopted by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. Please contact me, if you have any questions.

cc: Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
 Director, Office of Executive Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs
 Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget
 Acting Director, Office of Financial Management
 Director, Office of Acquisition and Property Management
 Departmental GAO/ OIG Audit Liaison
 Audit Liaison, Office of the Secretary

Report Fraud, Waste, and Mismanagement



Fraud, waste, and mismanagement in Government concern everyone: Office of Inspector General staff, Departmental employees, and the general public. We actively solicit allegations of any inefficient and wasteful practices, fraud, and mismanagement related to Departmental or Insular Area programs and operations. You can report allegations to us in several ways.



By Internet: www.doioig.gov

By Phone: 24-Hour Toll Free: 800-424-5081
Washington Metro Area: 703-487-5435

By Fax: 703-487-5402

By Mail: U.S. Department of the Interior
Office of Inspector General
Mail Stop 4428 MIB
1849 C Street, NW.
Washington, DC 20240