State of Idaho

Legislative Services Office

Management Report

A communication to the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee

OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

FY 2008, 2009, AND 2010

Report MR19510
Date Issued: November 9, 2011

Serving Idaho's Citizen Legislature

Idaho Legislative Services Office
Legislative Audits Division

Don H. Berg, Manager

OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF MANAGEMENT REVIEW
We conducted a management review of the Office of Species Conservation covering the fiscal years ended June 30, 2008, 2009, and 2010. Our review covered general administrative procedures and accounting controls to determine that activities are properly recorded and reported.

The intent of this review was not to express an opinion, but to provide general assurance on internal controls and to raise the awareness of management and others of any conditions and control weaknesses that may exist and offer recommendations for improvement.

CONCLUSION
We did not identify any significant conditions or weaknesses in the general administrative and accounting controls of the Office.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
There are no findings and recommendations in this report or the prior report.

AGENCY RESPONSE
The Office has reviewed the report and is in general agreement with its contents.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION
The following financial data is for informational purposes only.

OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION – FY 2010

Fund #	Fund Name	Beginning Cash/ Appropriation	Receipts/ Transfers In	Disbursements/ Transfers Out	Ending Cash/ Appropriation
0001	General Fund	$484,500	$12,322	$463,136	$33,686
0348	Federal	8,193,974	15,694,318	7,157,720	16,730,572
0349	Miscellaneous Revenue	10,000	28,000	37,283	717
	Total	$8,688,474	$15,734,640	$7,658,139	$16,764,975

OTHER INFORMATION

We discussed other issues which, if addressed, would improve internal control, compliance, and efficiency.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the State of Idaho and the Office of Species Conservation and is not intended to be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We appreciate the cooperation and assistance given to us by the administrator, Nate Fisher, and his staff.

ASSIGNED STAFF

Lori Hendon, CPA, Managing Auditor
Jolene Crumley, Staff Auditor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agency Response 1

Appendix 2

AGENCY RESPONSE

OFFICE OF SPECIES CONSERVATION

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
Governor

NATHAN A. FISHER
Administrator

P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0195

304 North Eighth Street, Suite 149
Boise, Idaho 83702

October 19, 2011

Mr. Don Berg
Manager – Legislative Audits
Legislative Services Office
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0054

Dear. Mr. Berg:

The Governor's Office of Species Conservation has reviewed the Management Report for fiscal years 2008-2010. We are pleased with the conclusions of your staff regarding our fiscal administrative procedures. The Legislative Services Office report confirms my belief that my staff administers an efficient and thorough federal assistance program.

Your staff auditor assigned to our agency Jolene Crumley is to be commended for her professionalism and flexibility while conducting her review.

Thank you the opportunity to respond and we look forward to working with your office in the future.

Sincerely,

Nathan A. Fisher
Administrator

PHONE: (208) 334-2189 | FAX: (208) 334-2172

APPENDIX

HISTORY
The Office of Species Conservation was created by Senate Bill 1490 of the 55th Idaho Legislature.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY
Authority for the establishment and operation of the Office is contained in Idaho Code, Title 67, Chapter 8.

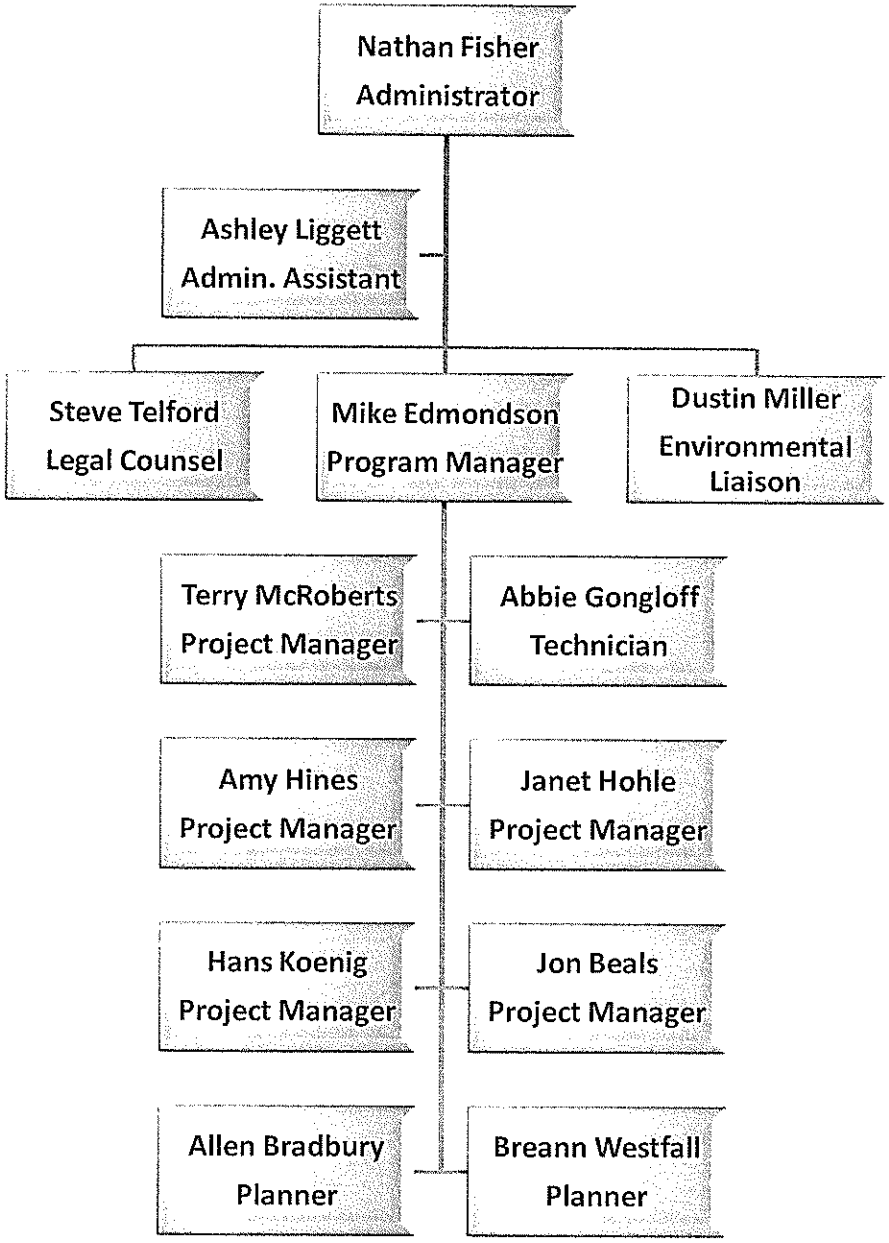
PURPOSE
The Governor's Office of Species Conservation was established within the Executive Office of the Governor. The Office of Species Conservation is dedicated to planning, coordinating, and implementing the State's actions to preserve, protect, and restore species listed as threatened, endangered, or a candidate under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). This work will be done in coordination with the State's natural resource agencies and with input from the citizens of Idaho, while taking into consideration the economic vitality of the State.

The Administrator of the Office of Species Conservation is appointed by the Governor and designated to:

1. Coordinate the State's implementation and response to federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) species recovery plans.
2. Coordinate all State departments and divisions with duties and responsibilities affecting ESA listed species.
3. Provide input and comment to federal and State agencies and tribes on issues relating to ESA listed species.
4. Cooperate and consult with State agencies regarding ESA agreements.

FUNDING
The Office of Species Conservation is funded with General Fund annual appropriations, federal grants received from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Bonneville Power Administration, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and miscellaneous non-federal revenue received from third-parties for short-term projects. The Office of Species Conservation has acquired federal funds related to wolves, ground squirrels, slickspot peppergrass, snails, caribou, salmon, steelhead, sage grouse, and miscellaneous aquatic species.

ORGANIZATION
The Office of Species Conservation consists of an administrator, an attorney, an administrative assistant, an environmental liaison, an anadromous fisheries program manager, five project managers, a planner, and one technician. The Office of Species Conservation has offices located in Boise, Moscow, and Salmon.


Nathan Fisher
Administrator
Ashley Liggett
Admin. Assistant
Steve Telford
Legal Counsel
Mike Edmondson
Program Manager
Dustin Miller
Environmental Liaison
Terry McRoberts
Project Manager
Abbie Gongloff
Technician
Amy Hines
Project Manager
Janet Hohle
Project Manager
Hans Koenig
Project Manager
Jon Beals
Project Manager
Allen Bradbury
Planner
Breann Westfall
Planner