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FY 2005 Sample Program Evaluations					
Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
BIA	Indian Irrigation	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Arch Wells, Acting Deputy Director Trust Services or John Anevski, Chief, Division of Dams and Irrigation 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-219-0941
BIA	Indian Dams	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Arch Wells, Acting Deputy Director Trust Services or John Anevski, Chief, Division of Dams and Irrigation 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-219-0941
BIA	Indian Economic Development	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Jerry Gidner, Deputy Director Tribal Services or Ray Brown, Chief, Division of Credit 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-513-7632
BIA	Indian Housing Improvement	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Jerry Gidner, Deputy Director Tribal Services or Ray Brown, Chief, Division of Credit 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-513-7632
BIA	Office of Indian Education Programs	Serving Communities	In FY 2005, the program was assessed by the US Department of Education. They reviewed the BIA Title I, II, and IV programs for both programmatic and financial management.	Awaiting final written report from the Department of Education.	Edward Parisian, Director, OIEP or Dalton Henry, Chief, Branch of Research and Policy 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-208-5820
BIA	Indian Irrigation Program	Serving Communities	GAO is currently performing an audit of the Irrigation Program and House Surveys and Investigations Committee is performing an investigation regarding the Navajo Indian Irrigation Project.	Both reviews were initiated in FY 2005 but are not scheduled to be completed until December.	Arch Wells, Acting Deputy Director Trust Services or John Anevski, Chief, Division of Dams and Irrigation 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-219-0941
BIA	Real Estate Services	Serving Communities	In FY 2005, GAO conducted an audit regarding Off Reservation Fee to Trust cases. Seven meetings were held with Central Office and field offices where GAO reviewed the Off Reservation Fee to Trust case files.	Awaiting final written report.	Arch Wells, Acting Deputy Director Trust Services or John Anevski, Chief, Division of Dams and Irrigation 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240 202-219-0941
BLM	Mining Law Administration (PART)	Resource Use	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Rem Hawes Budget Analyst 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 Rem_Hawes@blm.gov

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
BLM	Resource Management Land Use Planning (PART)	Resource Use	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Rem Hawes Budget Analyst 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 Rem_Hawes@blm.gov
BLM	Range Program	Resource Use	Assess the Grazing Renewal Permit Process and evaluate Rangeland Health Assessment Standards on public lands. This is a follow-up to FY 2000 reviews.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Soil, Water, and Air Program	Resource Protection	Determine methods and ways to improve assessment and monitoring of the Riparian Program. The evaluation will focus on policy conformance, project planning, Management Information System documentation, and the use of funding.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Rights-of-Way	Resource Use	Assess the effectiveness and sufficiency of the Rights-of-Way Training Program.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Quality Assurance Team Review of the Application for Permit to Drill Process	Serving Communities	Assess whether APDs are being processed in a timely manner; if not, what is causing the delays.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	3809 Surface Management	Resource Use	Determine if Notices and Plans of Operations are being processed in conformance with applicable laws, regulations, and BLM policy.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Mineral Materials Program Inspection and Enforcement	Resource Use	Determine if Inspection and Enforcement/Production Verification is being performed in accordance with the BLM policy and that actions are being taken where noncompliance occurs.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Acquisition Management	Serving Communities	Review Field Office compliance with applicable laws, the FAR as supplemented, and BLM policies and procedures (IM No. 2003-119). Determine the extent to which in-process reviews are being conducted to ensure quality; (2) determine the extent to which acquisition oversight is occurring; (3) determine the progress being made toward implementation of acquisition reforms; (4) identify best practices to be shared with other BLM organizations and the DOI; (5) identify areas of positive performance and continuous improvement opportunities; and (6) provide onsite assistance to Acquisition and Assistance staff.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
BLM	Personal Property Program	Serving Communities	(1) Are the BLM Property Management Programs achieving their intended results? (2) Are resources used consistent with the BLM's mission? (3) Are resources protected from waste, fraud, and mismanagement? (4) Are laws and regulations followed? (5) Is reliable and timely property management information maintained, reported and used for decisionmaking?	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	Improper Payments Risk Assessment	Serving Communities	Assess programs exceeding \$100 million in annual outlays to identify and carefully consider the risks of making improper payments for the programs reviewed and remediate where warranted. The programs to be assessed are (1) Management of Land and Resources; (2) Oregon and California Grant Lands; and (3) Fire Management	Completed assessment; no additional actions required.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BLM	General Management	Serving Communities	Evaluate effectiveness of internal/external communications, management and leadership. Provide technical assistance to the Field.	Actions are planned in response to each recommendation and will be monitored through completion.	Kamilah Rasheed Bureau Management Control Coordinator 1849 C Street N.W. (LS1000) Washington, D.C. 20240 kamilah_rasheed@blm.gov
BOR	Reclamation Reform Act	Resource Protection	Program risks were reviewed and updated. All "high" risks were reviewed in 2005. Analysis and final report due in 2006.	Analysis and report will be accomplished in FY 2006.	Roseann Gonzales, PM Richard Rizzi, POC, rrizzi@do.usbr.gov 303-445-2938
BOR	Dam Safety Program	Resource Protection	An annual review of the program was completed in accordance with Directives and Standards FAC 01-06, Annual Reporting for Dam Safety, Security and Related Operations.	A report was completed and approved by the Commissioner	Fred Ore, PM and POC 202-513-0583
BOR	Cultural Resources	Resource Use	Reclamation completed a review of the Upper Colorado Regions Cultural resources program.	Analysis and development of an action plan will be accomplished in FY 2006.	Roseann Gonzales, PM. Tom Lincoln, POC. tlincoln@do.usbr.gov 303-445-3311
BOR	Water Conservation Program	Resource Use	Data collection portion of the review using Survey/Tracker was conducted in FY 2005.	Further analysis is underway.	Roseann Gonzales PM. Kathy Holley, POC. kholley@do.usbr.gov 303-445-2930
BOR	Sensitive Automated Information Systems	Resource Protection	37 system reviews were completed on Reclamation's IT portfolio systems.	Non-material weaknesses were incorporated into the POA&M.	Randy Feuerstein, PM. Pam Hajny, POC. phayny@do.usbr.gov 303-445-3009
BOR	Acquisition Management	Resource Protection	Three regional reviews were conducted in FY 2005.	A report was filed with the Department.	Liz Harrison, PM Roger Molinar, POC ksmiley@do.usbr.gov 303-445-2450
BOR	Personal Property Management	Resource Protection	Annual review conducted.	A report was filed with the Department.	Liz Harrison, PM Roger Molinar, POC rmolinar@do.usbr.gov 303-445-3133

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
BOR	Improper Payments	Resource Protection	A risk assessment was conducted. No programs require reporting to the President or Congress.	A report was filed with the Department.	Liz Harrison, PM Ef Escalante, POC eescalante@do.lusbr.gov 303-445-3420
DOI	Central Utah Project Completion Act Office (CUPCA)	Resource Protection	A program-wide Definite Plan Report was completed during FY 2005. The report presented a detailed analysis of the program status with particular emphasis on economic evaluation. The report was reviewed by the Bureau of Reclamation, Western Area Power Administration, Fish and Wildlife Service, and other Federal and State entities.	Comments were received from the reviewing agencies, were addressed, included in the final report, and adjustments made to the CUPCA program.	Olivia Ferriter Chief of Staff Assistant Secretary – Water and Science 1849 C Street N.W. Washington, DC 20240
DOI	Central Utah Project Completion Act Office (CUPCA)	Resource Protection	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Olivia Ferriter Chief of Staff Assistant Secretary – Water and Science 1849 C Street N.W. Washington D.C. 20240
FWS	Endangered Species	Resource Protection	GAO Report (GAO-05-211, April 6, 2005): "Endangered Species: Fish and Wildlife Service Generally Focuses Recovery Funding on High-Priority Species, but Needs to Periodically Assess Its Funding Decisions"	We collected information regarding recovery implementation actions and species priority numbers through the recently completed FY 2005 Recovery Data Call, and are in the process of collecting more specific information through the new Recovery On-line Activity Reporting database. We will provide this information to the public through the FY 2005-2006 Recovery Report to Congress.	On the GAO website: http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05211.pdf Martha BalisLarsen Endangered Species Program Martha_BalisLarsen@fws.gov 703-358-2314
FWS	Fisheries and Habitat Conservation – Fisheries Program	Resource Protection – Watersheds and Landscapes Resource Protection - Sustain Biological Communities Recreation	Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council's Independent Review of the Fisheries Program	Final report was received from the SFBPC on August 26, 2005. An Action Plan is in preparation, which will provide strategies to implement the Council's recommendations. Action Plan anticipated to be completed December 2005.	Julie Jackson Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Julie_Jackson@fws.gov 703-358-2079

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
FWS	Fisheries and Habitat Conservation – Div. of Engineering, Branch of Environmental & Facility Compliance (EFC)	Resource Protection – Watersheds and Landscapes Resource Protection - Sustain Biological Communities	DOI/OIG, EPA/OIG, & KPMG Audit of DOI's (& FWS's) Management of Hazardous Material Sites	DOI has agreed to develop guidance on development & maintenance of a database of all DOI sites. FWS concurred with the OIG recommendations The FWS Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) will continue to maintain (and possibly expand) existing databases & reporting and maintain budgetary limits.	Julie Jackson Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Julie_Jackson@fws.gov 703-358-2079
FWS	Fisheries and Habitat Conservation – Division of Habitat and Resource Conservation: National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)	Resource Protection – Watersheds and Landscapes	GAO Report: Environmental Information: Status of Federal Programs That Support Ecological Indicators (GAO-05-376) Assess whether NWI should produce wetland trend data in future for use as national ecological indicator(s).	DOI affirmed continuity of the NWI program to produce wetlands data, particularly wetlands status and trends reports	On the GAO website: http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05376.pdf Julie Jackson Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Julie_Jackson@fws.gov 703-358-2079
FWS	Division of Federal Assistance	Resource Protection – Watersheds and Landscapes Resource Protection - Sustain Biological Communities Recreation	Biennial audit of expenditures and obligations of administration expenses, conducted to fulfill the requirements of subsections 111(b) and 121(b) of P.L.106-408, the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs Improvement Act of 2000	The DOI Office of Inspector General (OIG) engaged Allmond & Co. of Landover, MD, to perform the first audit. Federal Assistance received the final report on October 12, 2005. The OIG contracting process for the next biennial audit is well under way. A response to the report is being prepared.	Tom Jeffrey Division of Federal Assistance Tom_Jeffrey@fws.gov 703-358-1840
FWS	Migratory Birds Program	Management Excellence - Accountability	Risk Assessments for Improper Payments. Assessments are required by P.L. 1007-300, the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002.	None. No weaknesses identified.	Phil Koscheka Division of Migratory Bird Management Phil_Koscheka@fws.gov 301-497-5814
MMS	National Energy Policy: Inventory of Federal Energy Programs and Status of Policy Recommendations (GAO-05-379)	Resource Use	The May 2001 National Energy Policy (NEP) report contained over 100 recommendations that it stated, taken together, provide a national energy plan that addressed the energy challenges facing the Nation. The audit was meant to update the status of all recommendations across the Federal Government.	The GAO final report was published in the third quarter of 2005. Many of MMS's comments to the draft report were included. MMS has no recommendations or corrective actions from this report.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
MMS	Western Administrative Service Center (WASC) in Lakewood, Colorado, and the Program Offices Serviced by WASC	Resource Use	The AMAR will: (1) assess the effectiveness of administrative functions, including those delegated to the programs, while measuring policy implementation, and compliance; (2) ensure that the most cost-effective management controls are in place for all of our administrative functions and processes; and (3) determine the overall customer satisfaction of the offices that are being serviced by WASC. The functional areas included facility management, finance, information technology, personnel, physical and personnel security, procurement, property, and safety.	This review identified 22 control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified. The corrective actions will be implemented by December 29, 2006.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Annual Risk Assessment of Erroneous Payments	Management Excellence	An internal Finance Division review of all programs and activities was conducted to identify those which may be susceptible to significant erroneous payments in accordance with the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-300). The DFR included a review of disbursements made during the period October 1, 2003, through June 30, 2005, to identify duplicate payments made and to ensure no duplicate payments remain uncollected. The DFR also included a review of disbursements made during the period July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005, to determine the effectiveness of internal controls and provide reasonable assurance that erroneous payments are identified and corrected.	The Department prescribed the steps to be performed. Data from the accounting system was downloaded and was analyzed to identify possible duplicate payments. Data for the period July 1, 2004, through March 31, 2005, was reviewed and summarized and was analyzed to determine the effectiveness of internal controls. This review identified two control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified. Corrective actions scheduled for completion by 10/31/2005.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Use of Government Charge Card	Management Excellence	An internal Finance Division review was conducted on the travel and purchase business lines of the DOI Integrated Charge Card for the period of July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2005.	MCR internal review program identified the steps to be performed in the MCR. Charge card transactions for the period July 1, 2004, through March 31, 2005, were downloaded and analyzed. This review identified six control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified. Corrective actions scheduled for completion by October 31, 2005	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
MMS	Acquisition Management Control Assessment	Resource Use	An internal acquisition compliance review of the Western Administrative Service Center's Procurement Branch in Lakewood, Colorado, was conducted during the Administrative Management Assistance Review (AMAR) using OMB Circular A-123 guidance. Corrective action plans were developed, implemented, and tracked for deficiencies identified in the course of the (AMAR). The final assessment addressed the requirements listed in the December 20, 2004, memo from the Department's Office of Property and Acquisition Management (PAM). The Administration and Budget (A&B) submitted the summary findings of any applicable OIG audits, NFRs prepared by third parties and GAO reports, and any corrective action plans based on those findings. The A&B also reported any business-related best practices that may be beneficial to the other Bureaus. The A&B reviewed all MMS warranted GS-1102s and GS-1105s training certificates to determine if they have completed the required GSA schedule training. The A&B incorporated training completion status and warrant suspension actions taken in the assessment report submission.	The team collected data from interview sessions with supervisors/ managers, employees, and subject matter experts during May 2-5, 2005, in Lakewood, Colorado. The team also conducted reviews of files and records. This review identified two required actions and recommended eight actions. This review identified no control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Property Management Annual Management Control Assessment	Resource Use	An internal property compliance review of the Western Administrative Service Center (WASC) in Lakewood, Colorado, and the Program Offices serviced by WASC was conducted during the AMAR using the current DOI Property Management Review Guidelines to ensure that the requirements of OMB Circular A-123 are being met. As appropriate, corrective action plans were developed, implemented, and tracked for deficiencies identified in the course of the review/assessment. Surveys/interviews with program customers, property employees, and property managers were included and addressed as part of the review process. The assessment report included the requirements listed in the December 20, 2004, memo from PAM	The team collected data from interview sessions with supervisors/ managers, employees, and subject matter experts during May 2-5, 2005, in Lakewood, Colorado. The team also conducted review of files and records. This review identified no control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
MMS	Interagency Contracting Franchise Funds Provide Convenience, But Value to DOD is Not Demonstrated (GAO-05-456)	Resource Use	Under the FY 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, GAO was required to report on DOD's use of franchise funds. GAO audited the operations of MMS' GovWorks and the Department of the Treasury's FedSource, citing the fact that DOD paid these franchise funds more than \$1.2 billion for purchases of goods and services. GAO focused on 17 projects, representing \$249 million in FY 2003 DOD funding, reviewing processes and procedures and contract files, and interviewing GovWorks officials and DOD customers.	There were two recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior for the GovWorks program to implement. Several milestones for each of these recommendations had already been completed by MMS/GovWorks as of the publication of this report and the balance will be completed during FY 2006. Corrective actions that were implemented include issuing a formal performance improvement plan, requiring training of contracting officers, and strengthening of acquisition policies.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Royalty Management Program	Resource Use	Risk Assessment - Identified and analyzed relevant risks to the achievement of MRM's objectives, forming a basis for how the risks should be managed. Risks are directly related to specific organizational objectives.	This AMCR was merged into one comprehensive report that specified the 3-year MRM internal review plan. No material weaknesses were identified.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Royalty Management Program	Resource Use	Organizational Analysis - Determined if MRM's current organizational structure can be improved to increase the overall effectiveness and efficiency of its operations as the MRM works to meet its assigned goals. The organizational objectives at the different management levels were identified.	This AMCR was merged into one comprehensive report that specified the 3-year MRM internal review plan. No material weaknesses were identified.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Royalty Management Program	Resource Use	Process Documentation - Documented processes, identified pinch points, and ensured appropriate internal controls were in place for organizational processes performed on a day-to-day basis by MRM employees.	This AMCR was merged into one comprehensive report that specified the 3-year MRM internal review plan. No material weaknesses were identified.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
MMS	Mineral Revenues – A More Systematic Evaluation of the Royalty-in-Kind Pilot is Needed (360167) (GAO-03-296)	Resource Use	To determine the extent to which MMS has taken royalties in kind since 1995 and to review the status of MMS's efforts to implement management control over its Royalty-in-Kind (RIK) Program. This audit is Phase 1 of a two-phase process. A report for Phase Two of this review was published in late April 2004 with no additional findings.	The MMS has two recommendations in tracking. MRM staff provided a briefing to GAO on the RIK Business Plan on July 21, 2004. Following the briefing, GAO communicated to MMS by e-mail that the first recommendation to establish Royalty-in-Kind (RIK) program strategic objectives was considered complete. The second recommendation, "identify key performance measures," will be implemented during the first 2 years of the 5-year plan. The GAO was briefed on the 2004 RIK revenue performance measures. Also, GAO requested a comparative analysis of the administrative costs of Royalty-in-Kind as compared to the Royalty-in-Value process. The MMS has completed the cost comparison and await response.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS	Offshore Accident Investigation Reports	Resource Use	MMS Accident Investigation reports contain information on the circumstances surrounding OCS incidents, the root causes of accidents offshore, and recommendations to prevent recurrence. This review examined the accident investigation reports completed during the period from October 1, 2002, through September 30, 2004, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the appropriateness of the level of investigation for the given incidents; • Examine the reports with respect to thoroughness (adequacy of the findings, conclusions, recommendations, citation of regulatory violations) and timeliness; • Determine the degree to which valid recommendations were implemented and the means by which recommendations and their implementation are tracked; and • Examine the process by which MMS initiates adverse actions regarding the citation of regulatory violations associated with the incident. 	This review identified nine control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified. <p>Most of the corrective actions relate to policy and guidance and training of inspectors within the Offshore program. Policy and guidance will be revised by July 2006 and the training program for investigators fully implemented by April 2007.</p>	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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MMS	Oil Spill Financial Responsibility	Resource Use	The Oil Pollution Act (OPA) requires a party responsible for an offshore facility to demonstrate the ability to pay for cleanup and damages resulting from a potential oil spill. The MMS Oil Spill Financial Responsibility (OSFR) regulations implement this OPA requirement. With approximately \$10 billion of coverage (whether through self-insurance, commercial insurance, indemnification, or bonding) on over 9,000 offshore facilities in both Federal and State waters, the OSFR program requires extensive efforts to maintain accurate lease status data, determine worst-case spill potential, coordinate with affected States, and carry out enforcement activities. This review assessed controls in place to ensure the program is operating efficiently and achieving intended results.	<p>This review identified 11 control weaknesses and corrective actions. No material weaknesses were identified.</p> <p>Three of the control weaknesses have been closed. Of the remaining weaknesses, five relate to policy, guidance or standing operating procedures (complete by December 2005) and three address correcting or obtaining historical data (complete by December 2006).</p>	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
MMS/BLM	Natural Gas Flaring and Venting – Opportunities to Improve Data and Reduce Emissions (GAO-04-809)	Resource Use	GAO conducted a review of natural gas flaring and venting from oil and gas production in the United States and the rest of the world to: (1) describe the data collected and reported; (2) report on the basis of available information, the extent of flaring and venting and the contribution to greenhouse gases; and (3) identify opportunities for the Federal Government to reduce flaring and venting.	<p>GAO recommended the Secretary of the Interior direct MMS and BLM to consider the cost and benefit of requiring that companies do the following: (1) Use flaring and venting meters to improve oversight; and (2) Flare rather than vent the natural gas, when possible.</p> <p>The MMS executed cost and benefit analyses related to the requirements that would be placed on offshore oil-producing companies. The analyses were completed in June 2005. The results supported a requirement to use meters on the larger platforms, and a regulatory change is being proposed. The second study determined that it was not cost effective to require flaring in lieu of venting, but MMS will solicit input on the topic in consideration of making additional regulatory changes at a future date. The response to GAO on this topic was signed by MMS on July 12, 2005, and has been sent through PFM to GAO, with a request to close these recommendations.</p>	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236

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MMS	PART 2005: Regulatory & Compliance	Resource Use	OMB is completing a PART review of the OCS Regulatory and Compliance program. The preliminary report indicates that the "program has been found to be a balanced regulatory program, effective in providing access to mineral resources while minimizing impacts upon the environment."	Revised many performance measures and targets in consultation with OMB during the course of the review. Awaiting final recommendations, anticipated to be published with the President's FY 2007 budget request in February 2006.	Jim Witkop, Audit Liaison Officer, 1849 C Street N.W. Room 4252 Washington, D.C. 20240 202-208-3236
NPS	Concessions Management	Recreation	The NPS Concessions Management Program was assessed during FY 2005 using OMB's PART process. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Currently, the concessions management program is in the final negotiating stage with our OMB examiner on recommendations from this year's PART evaluation. Anticipated in February 2006. A final copy of the OMB report will be available from the NPS program contact.	Jo Pendry, Chief Concessions Management National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202-513-7156
NPS	External Programs – Financial Assistance (Heritage Partnership Program, and Statutory Aid)	Recreation	The Heritage Partnership Program was assessed during FY 2005 using OMB's PART process. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Currently, the Heritage Partnership Program is negotiating with OMB on recommendations for programmatic improvement. Final recommendations are expected by February 2006. A copy of the final report and recommendations will be available from the NPS program contact	Brenda Barrett, Director, Heritage Partnership Programs National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202-354-2222
NPS	External Programs - Technical Assistance	Recreation	External programs, which include RTCA, Federal Lands to Parks, were assessed during FY 2005 using OMB's PART process. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Chris Brown, Chief Division of Designations National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202-354-6939
NPS	Visitor Services	Recreation	NPS programs that relate or contribute to visitor services were assessed during FY 2005 using the OMB PART process. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Nancy Kaufman, Deputy Associate Director for Partnerships, Interpretation, Education, Volunteers, and Outdoor Recreation National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202-513-7157
NPS	Interpretation and Education	Management Excellence	Servicewide Volunteers in Parks Program Assessment is currently underway. The project is expected to be completed by March 2006.	Data will be reviewed and recommendations will be made based on those findings during FY 2006. Once the report is made available to the NPS, it can be obtained from the program contact.	Corky Mayo, Chief Interpretation and Education National Park Service 1201 Eye Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202-513-7137

TABLE 2-2

FY 2005 Sample Program Evaluations					
Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
NPS	WASO Contracting Office (WCP)	Management Excellence	<p>WCP conducted Acquisition Management Reviews (AMR's) at parks in the Intermountain Region, Denver Service Center, and the Harpers Ferry Center. Only the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area report has been issued in final. The report directed the park to submit a plan of action and milestones for corrections</p> <p>The number of AMR's conducted by regional offices on their parks doubled from FY 2004 to FY 2005.</p> <p>NPS AMR policy/procedures are being finalized. Draft policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clarifies AMR's would be a basis for awarding, retaining warrants; • identified circumstances for initiating an AMR; • identified three disciplines that would be reviewed: grants and agreements, contracts, simplified acquisition/charge card purchase business line; and five components for each discipline: internal controls, functional operations, strategic areas, program organization, customer service; • clarifies required follow-up action for rating results. 	Plan of action and milestones requested as appropriate; administrative termination of warrants where authority was underutilized. Copies of final recommendations/reports produced can be obtained from the program contact.	Heidi Ernst, Chief Contracting National Park Service 12795 W. Alameda Parkway Denver, CO 80225 303-987-6714
OSM	Coal Regulatory Program	Resource Use	An OIG review determined the adequacy of inspection and bond release activities; potential for regulatory program cost savings; and OSM reporting of GPRA performance measures. A report was issued October 2004.	OSM has implemented the recommendations contained in the report. OSM is currently developing a new performance measure to address accomplishments under the regulatory program.	Ruth Stokes, Planning, Analysis and Budget rstokes@osmre.gov 202-208-2611
OSM	Sensitive Automated Information Systems	Resource Protection, Resource Use, Serving Communities	AMCR conducted to certify that all prescribed controls or alternative controls are in place and effective for systems in each Region, at Denver Financial Management, and at Headquarters.	No material weaknesses identified.	Eldrich Frazier, Chief Information Officer efrazier@osmre.gov 202-208-2919
OSM	Smart Pay Program	Management Excellence	AMCR conducted to review the SmartPay purchase business line cardholders within the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, and to reduce the number of cardholders by determining if those individuals with less than 10 transactions in a calendar year can justify the need for having the purchase business line when the cardholder does not utilize it.	No material weaknesses identified.	Esther Horst, Division of Financial Management ehorst@osmre.gov 303-236-0330
OSM	Space Management	Management Excellence	AMCR conducted to analyze the physical measurements of each OSM office to include specialty rooms such as the computer rooms, storage rooms, conference rooms, etc., and parking requirements for vehicles.	No material weaknesses identified. Improvements were recommended and are being implemented.	Darlene Carter, Division of Administration dcarter@osmre.gov 202-208-2593

TABLE 2-2

FY 2005 Sample Program Evaluations					
Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
USGS	Biological Information Management & Delivery	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Kate Kase, Program Coordinator for Biological Information Management & Delivery Program 703-648-4216 katekase@usgs.gov
USGS	Biological Research and Monitoring	Resource Protection	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Kevin Whalen, Program Review Coordinator 703-648-4062 kwhalen@usgs.gov
USGS	Geologic Mapping	Serving Communities	The program was assessed for Budget Year 2007 using PART. Once recommendations for programmatic improvement are final, an action plan to implement those improvements will be developed.	Recommendations under development.	Peter Lyttle, Program Coordinator for National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program 703-648-6943 plyttle@usgs.gov
USGS	NRC Review Economic Benefits of Improved Seismic Monitoring	Serving Communities	Published "Improved Seismic Monitoring – Improved Decision-Making: Assessing the Value of Reduced Uncertainty" June 2005.	The National Research Council report concludes that full deployment of the USGS Advanced National Seismic System offers the potential to substantially reduce earthquake losses and their consequences by providing critical information for land-use planning, building design, insurance, warnings, and emergency preparedness and response. In the committee's judgment, the potential benefits far exceed the costs—less than 2 percent of the estimated losses. It is reasonable to conclude that mitigation actions—based on improved information and the consequent reduction of uncertainty—would yield benefits amounting to several times the cost of improved seismic monitoring.	William Leith, Program Coordinator for Earthquake Hazards Program 703-648-6786 wleith@usgs.gov
USGS	NRC Study reviews the entire Federal and non-Federal water research establishment, rather than a review of the USGS research programs.	Serving Communities	Published "Confronting the Nation's Water Problems", October 2004.	USGS is responding to the following findings and recommendations: the need for reviewing and revising the research portfolio on a regular basis; balance between short-term and long-term research efforts; the importance of interdisciplinary research; the problems of declining attention to social science topics such as water demand, water law, and other institutional topics. The report places high emphasis on "legacy monitoring systems."	Glenn Patterson, National Coordinator for Cooperative Water Program 703-648-6876 gpatter@usgs.gov

TABLE 2-2

FY 2005 Sample Program Evaluations					
Bureau	Title of Program	Strategic Plan Mission Area	Purpose of Program Evaluation	Actions Taken in Response to Evaluation	For Copy Contact
USGS	NRC Review: Geography Science into K-12 Curriculum	Serving Communities	Published "Learning to Think Spatially: GIS as a Support System in the K-12 Curriculum," June 2005.	Five of the six recommendations in the report related directly to the redesign, development and implementation of GIS software and GIS science for K-12 students. Activities that might address these recommendations now fall under the purview of the USGS Geospatial Information Office (and not the Geography Discipline). However, the first recommendation in the report related to encouraging the development of spatial thinking standards and course materials to train K-12 students in spatial thinking. The USGS geographic research program will support this recommendation by incorporating tools and resources for K-12 teachers into its web sites. The geographic science education Web module will include puzzles and games related to geography, a history of major events related to geography, short flash movies on geographic subjects, and resources for teachers that will include photos, maps, graphs, presentations, and posters.	Dave Kirtland, Acting Chief Scientist for Geography 703-648-4712 dakirtland@usgs.gov
USGS	The following Program participated in the GAO review: Biological Resources Discipline, Earth Resources Observation System Data Center, National Stream Water Quality Accounting Network, National Water Quality Assessment Program, and National Streamflow Information Program	Serving Communities	GAO Report "Environmental Information: Status of Federal Data Programs That Support Ecological Indicators," Report No. GAO-05-376.	There were no formal recommendations included in this report for USGS or the Department.	Tim Miller, Chief, Office of Water Quality 703-648-6868 tmliller@usgs.gov