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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SELECTED FUNDS OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Gen. Joe Spraggins Executive Director State of Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources Biloxi, Mississippi

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the selected funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 334500000, and 334520000 of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements. These financial statements will be consolidated into the State of Mississippi's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.



Gen. Joe Spraggins Executive Director State of Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 3345200000 of MDMR as of June 30, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000 of MDMR present only the financial position and changes in financial position of that portion of the governmental activities of the selected funds of MDMR and the State of Mississippi that is attributable to the transactions of 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of MDMR or the State of Mississippi as of June 30, 2019, or the changes in financial position of each entity for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matter

Management has omitted the Management Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of the financial reporting for placing the financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the financial statements is not affected by the missing information.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 9, 2019, on our consideration of MDMR's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of MDMR's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering MDMR's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Baltimore, Maryland December 9, 2019



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES SELECTED FUNDS BALANCE SHEETS June 30, 2019

| | Fund 5000000 | <u>5:</u> | Fund 345000000 | 3 | Fund 34500000 | | Fund 334520000 | Total |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|----|------------------|----|-------------------|------------------|
| Assets: | | | | | | | | |
| Equity in State Treasury Funds | \$ 11,870 | \$ | - | \$ | 5,955,462 | \$ | 22,365,983 | \$ 28,333,315 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | - | | - | | 38,582 | | - | 38,582 |
| Accounts Receivable | - | | 31,855 | | 213,203 | | - | 245,058 |
| Due From Federal Government | - | | 1,701,417 | | - | | - | 1,701,417 |
| Due From State Government | - | | 277,372 | | - | | - | 277,372 |
| Due From Component Units | - | | 55,310 | | - | | - | 55,310 |
| Due From Other State Funds | | | 191,293 | | - | | 12,223 | 203,516 |
| Total Assets | \$ 11,870 | \$ | 2,257,247 | \$ | 6,207,247 | \$ | 22,378,206 | \$ 30,854,570 |
| Liabilities and Fund Balances: | | | | | | | | |
| Due to Equity in State Treasury Funds | \$ - | \$ | 874,826 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ 874,826 |
| Accounts Payable | - | | 338,258 | | 316,296 | | 143,239 | 797,793 |
| Warrants Payable | 11,870 | | 56,354 | | 14,268 | | 353,340 | 435,832 |
| Funds Held for Others | - | | - | | 20,397 | | - | 20,397 |
| Due To Other Governments | - | | 16,260 | | 48,278 | | 922,145 | 986,683 |
| Due To Other State Funds | - | | 69,717 | | 22,661 | | 500 | 92,878 |
| Due To Component Units of the state | - | | 209,827 | | - | | 203,202 | 413,029 |
| Unearned Revenue | - | | 294,726 | | - | | | 294,726 |
| Total Liabilities | 11,870 | | 1,859,968 | | 421,900 | _ | 1,622,426 | 3,916,164 |
| Fund Balances: | | | | | | | | |
| Restricted | | | 397,279 | | 5,785,347 | | 20,755,780 | 26,938,406 |
| Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | \$ 11,870 | \$ | 2,257,247 | \$ | 6,207,247 | \$ | 22,378,206 | \$ 30,854,570 |

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES SELECTED FUNDS STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE Year Ended June 30, 2019

| | Fund 2245000000 | Fund 5345000000 | Fund 334500000 | Fund 334520000 | Total |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Revenues: | | | | | |
| Federal Grant Revenue | \$ - | \$ 5,935,326 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 5,935,326 |
| Other Grant Revenue | - | 1,020,635 | 359,458 | - | 1,380,093 |
| State Appropriation | 1,065,130 | - | - | - | 1,065,130 |
| Rental of State Property | - | - | - | 10,000,000 | 10,000,000 |
| Gas and Other Fuel Tax | - | - | 3,050,000 | - | 3,050,000 |
| Licenses, Fees, and Permits | - | 1,243 | 1,182,358 | 2,298 | 1,185,899 |
| Interest Income | - | 400.754 | 123,830 | 439,971 | 563,801 |
| Other Income | | 168,751 | 23,290 | 9,800 | 201,841 |
| Total Revenues | 1,065,130 | 7,125,955 | 4,738,936 | 10,452,069 | 23,382,090 |
| Expenditures: | | | | | |
| Subsidies | - | 239,856 | 142 | 6,202,885 | 6,442,883 |
| Salaries and Benefits | 1,065,130 | 2,409,845 | 4,439,241 | 1,069,709 | 8,983,925 |
| Travel | - | 48,603 | 44,718 | 37,468 | 130,789 |
| Contractual Services | - | 1,011,207 | 845,398 | 929,223 | 2,785,828 |
| Commodities | - | 1,686,948 | 429,599 | 236,627 | 2,353,174 |
| Capital Outlay | - | 466,131 | 357,188 | 25,642 | 848,961 |
| Total Expenditures | 1,065,130 | 5,862,590 | 6,116,286 | 8,501,554 | 21,545,560 |
| Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | | 1,263,365 | (1,377,350) | 1,950,515 | 1,836,530 |
| Other Financing Sources (Uses): | | | | | |
| Indirect Cost | - | (662,210) | 694,952 | - | 32,742 |
| Transfers In | - | 423,527 | 1,154,092 | - | 1,577,619 |
| Transfers (Out) | | (69,921) | (185,382) | (1,287,984) | (1,543,287) |
| Total Financing Sources (Uses) | - | (308,604) | 1,663,662 | (1,287,984) | 67,074 |
| Total Expenditures and | | | | | |
| Financing Sources (Uses) | | 954,761 | 286,312 | 662,531 | 1,903,604 |
| Net Change in Fund Balances | - | 954,761 | 286,312 | 662,531 | 1,903,604 |
| Fund Balances - Beginning of Year | | (557,482) | 5,499,035 | 20,093,249 | 25,034,802 |
| Fund Balances - End of Year | \$ - | \$ 397,279 | \$ 5,785,347 | \$ 20,755,780 | \$ 26,938,406 |

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Background Information

Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR), an agency of the State of Mississippi, follows fund accounting pursuant to applicable state statutes. These funds represent funds selected for audit by the State of Mississippi, Office of the State Auditor, and the accompanying presentation does not purport to present the financial position and changes in financial position of MDMR.

Financial Reporting Entity

MDMR is a state agency in the State of Mississippi's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The selected governmental funds presented in these financial statements are part of the larger entity that in whole comprises the financial reporting entity of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources.

Purpose of Funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000

Fund 2245000000 – Appropriations Fund or General Fund receives appropriations each year from the Legislature.

Fund 53450000000 – MDMR Federal Clearing Fund is a reimbursable fund used to recover funds spent on federal grants. Only grant programs that are 100% reimbursement programs are included in this fund, thus facilitating the reconciliation of the account and creating improved transparency of the status of reimbursements from the federal government. Funds that are not true federal grants or reimbursements are contained in the Seafood Fund.

Fund 33450000000 – Seafood Fund accounts for the operating funds that support a majority of MDMR operations not funded by federal grants. Funding sources include off-road fuel taxes, nonfederal grants, contracts, license sales, permitting, etc.). This fund also holds the balances of MDMR's "Obligated Funds," which are received for specific legislative or contractual purposes that are restricted only for those uses (examples include Coastal Preservation, Shell Retention and Artificial Reef).

Fund 33452000000 – Tidelands Trust Fund accounts for the lease of Mississippi water bottoms.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying fund financial statements have been prepared in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) in the United States of America, as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes cash on hand and demand deposits. All short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to cash (generally with a maturity of three months or less) are considered cash equivalents. At June 30, 2019, \$38,901 was held by MDMR as cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist of amounts due from the Federal or State government in which the revenue is earned but not received by June 30, 2019. Accounts receivables is reported net of allowances for uncollectible accounts, where applicable. The Department deemed all accounts receivable fully collectible and did not record an allowance as of June 30, 2019.

Account Classifications

The account classifications used in the financial statements conform to the board classifications recommended in *Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting*, as issued by the Government Finance Officers Association.

Fund Accounting

The financial activities of the funds audited are recorded in individual funds used to report financial position and changes in financial position. Fund accounting demonstrates the legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions relating to certain government functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts, segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with specific regulations, restrictions or limitations.

Basis of Accounting/Measurement Focus

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Management considers revenue to be available if collected within 60 days. Expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires MDMR to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenditures, and other changes in fund balances during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Revenue Recognition

Grant revenue is recognized when the related and allowable liability is paid. Other revenues in the funds are generally recognized when the revenue is received or appropriated by the State of Mississippi Legislature.

Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue represents grant revenue received prior to all eligibility requirements being met. Unearned revenue is reported as a liability until the eligibility requirements are met.

Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers received from other funds are reported as Other Financing Sources rather than revenue, and interfund transfers sent to other funds are recorded as Other Financing Uses. In the selected governmental funds financial statements, transactions for services rendered by one fund to another are treated as revenues of the recipient fund and expenditures of the disbursing fund.

As of June 30, 2019, Fund transfers consisted of:

| Fund 5345000000 | | | |
|--|---------------|-------------|--|
| Description | Transfers In | | |
| Other State Fund | | | |
| Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality | \$ | 423,527 | |
| | Transfers Out | | |
| Other Agency funds - NERR UCF | \$ | 9,231 | |
| Other State funds- Indirect Cost | | 60,690 | |
| Total | \$ | 69,921 | |
| Fund 3345000000 | | | |
| Description | T | ransfers In | |
| Other State Agency | · | | |
| Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality | | | |
| - Oyster Project | \$ | 3,200 | |
| Other State Agency - Secretary of State | | 50,000 | |
| Other Agency Funds- NERR UCF and Marine Patrol | | 78,939 | |
| Other State Agency | | | |
| Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality | | 44,966 | |
| Other State Agency- Office of the Treasury | | 976,987 | |
| Total | \$ | 1,154,092 | |
| Fund 3345000000 | | | |
| Description | Tra | ansfers Out | |
| Other Agency funds - Cost Allocation | \$ | 185,382 | |
| Fund 3345200000 | Tra | ansfers Out | |
| Description | | ansiers out | |
| • | _ | | |
| Other State Agency- Office of the Treasury Other State funds | \$ | 1,090,834 | |
| | | 197,150 | |
| Total | \$ | 1,287,984 | |

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Balances - Governmental Funds

MDMR presents defined fund balance categories to demonstrate the nature and extent of the constraint placed on the selected funds' fund balances. The classifications used in the selected governmental funds financial statements are based on the following methodology:

<u>Unassigned</u> – The residual classification for the general fund and includes all amounts not contained in the other classifications. The unassigned classification is also used to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amount had been restricted, committed or assigned.

Nonspendable – This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

<u>Restricted</u> – This classification includes amounts that may only be spent for the specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers, constitutionally or through enabling legislation. Restrictions may be changed or lifted only with the consent of resource providers.

<u>Committed</u> – This classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by enabling legislations by the State legislature.

MDMR considers restricted amounts to have been spent when the expenditure is incurred for purposes determined for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available.

NOTE 2 – CASH AND OTHER DEPOSITS

Custodial risk is the risk that in the event of bank failure, a government's deposits may not be returned. MDMRs' deposit policy for protection of custodial risk is handled under a statewide collateral program. The collateral for public entities' deposits in financial institutions is held by the depository bank in the name of the State Treasurer under a program established by the State of Mississippi Legislature and is governed by Section 27-105-5, Miss. Code Ann. (1972). Under this program, the entities' funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the State Treasurer. Financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that institution would be liquidated by the State Treasurer to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

NOTE 3 – DUE FROM AND DUE TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS

At June 30, 2019, due from and due to other governments balances consisted of:

| Fund 5345000000 | | | ue From |
|--|----------|----|--|
| Federal Government U.S. Department of Commerce U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Department of Homeland Security U.S. Department of Treasury | | \$ | 396,057 704,634 109,840 475,868 |
| U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | Total | \$ | 15,018 1,701,417 |
| | Total | Φ | 1,701,417 |
| Component Unit University of Michigan Mississippi State University | | \$ | 52,231 3,079 |
| | Total | \$ | 55,310 |
| Other State Governments Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission AFDO Mississippi Department of Homeland Security Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council | Total | \$ | 209,837 15,017 34,690 17,828 |
| | Total | \$ | 277,372 |
| Other State Agency Mississippi Department of Environment Quality | | \$ | 191,293 |
| Fund 5345000000 | | | Due To |
| Other State Governments City of Moss Point Hancock County Tourism Washington State | T | \$ | 5,748 8,806 1,706 |
| | Total | \$ | 16,260 |
| Other Agency Funds Fund 33450- Cost Allocation | | \$ | 69,717 |
| Component Unit University of Michigan Mississippi State University Auburn University | | \$ | 174,143 10,463 25,221 |
| | Total | \$ | 209,827 |

NOTE 3 –Due From and Due To Other Governments (continued)

| Fund 3345000000 | | 1 | Due To |
|--|----------|----|----------|
| Other State Governments | | | |
| Department of Marine Resources | | | |
| Grants Administrative fees | | \$ | 48,278 |
| Other State Agency | | | |
| Department of Finance and Administration | | \$ | 21,447 |
| Office of the State Auditor | | | 99 |
| Fund 33450- cost allocation | | | 1,115 |
| | Total | \$ | 22,661 |
| Fund 22452000000 | | Г | Due To |
| Fund 33452000000 | | | <u> </u> |
| Other State Governments City of Moss Point | | \$ | 5,748 |
| City of Pass Christian | | Ψ | 4,905 |
| MS Gulf Coast Community College | | | 3,664 |
| City of Moss Point | | | 11,587 |
| City of Moss Point | | | 11,819 |
| City of Gautier | | | 2,880 |
| City of Diamondhead | | | 2,896 |
| City of Gautier | | | 10,109 |
| City of Long Beach | | | 218 |
| City of Long Beach | | | 218 |
| Diamondhead Property Owner Association | | | 6,390 |
| City of Moss Point | | | 4,825 |
| City of Gulfport | | | 290,904 |
| MS Gulf Fishing Bank | | | 200 |
| City of Moss Point | | | 37,000 |
| City of Biloxi | | | 2,680 |
| Hancock County | | | 51,460 |
| City of Pass Christian | | | 125,573 |
| City of Gautier | | | 11,509 |
| City of Pascagoula | | | 2,530 |
| City of Bay St. Louis | | | 3,650 |
| City of Long Beach | | | 228,921 |
| Hancock County | | | 82,294 |
| City of Moss Point | | | 5,475 |
| Jackson County | | | 650 |
| City of Pass Christian | | | 27 |
| Harrison County | | | 12,600 |
| City of Diamondhead | T | | 1,414 |
| | Total | \$ | 922,145 |

NOTE 3 – Due From and Due To Other Governments (continued)

| Fund 33452000000 (continued) | | Due To | | | |
|---|-------|--------|---------|--|--|
| Other State Agency | | | | | |
| Mississippi State Port Authority Gulfport | | \$ | 500 | | |
| Component Unit | | | | | |
| University of Southern Michigan | | \$ | 185,118 | | |
| Mississippi State University | | | 18,084 | | |
| | Total | \$ | 203,202 | | |

All amounts due to MDMR are expected to be collected in fiscal year 2020.

NOTE 4 – Contingencies and Commitments

Federal Grants

MDMR receives federal grants for specific purposes that are subject to audit by the grantor agencies. Entitlements to these resources are generally conditional upon compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and applicable federal regulations, including the expenditures of resources for allowable purposes. Any disallowance of program uses of funds may be a liability of MDMR's.

Litigation

MDMR is party to various legal proceedings that arise in the normal course of governmental operations. If an unfavorable outcome of the litigation is determined to be likely and probable, MDMR will record a liability to reflect the estimated outcome of the litigation.

NOTE 5: RETIREMENT PLAN

MDMR contributes to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS), a cost-sharing multiemployer defined benefit pension plan. PERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by state law and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That information may be obtained by writing to Public Employees' Retirement System, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, Mississippi 39201-1005 or by calling (601) 359-3589 or 1-800-444-PERS.

PERS members are required to contribute 9.00% of their annual covered salary and the Agency is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The current rate is 15.75% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of PERS members are established and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. MDMR retirement contribution, as of June 30, 2019 for funds selected for audit, was \$1,049,943.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director and Management State of Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources Biloxi, Mississippi

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the selected funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000 of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (MDMR) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019 and the related notes to the financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 9, 2019, which was unmodified for the selected funds. These financial statements will be consolidated into the State of Mississippi's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR).

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the selected funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000, we considered MDMR's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the selected funds 224500000, 5345000000, 334500000, and 334520000, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of MDMR's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of MDMR's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.



Joe Spraggins, Executive Director and Management State of Mississippi, Department of Marine Resources

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether MDMR's funds 2245000000, 5345000000, 3345000000, and 33452000000 are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of MDMR's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering MDMR's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

CliftonLarson Allen LLP

Baltimore, Maryland December 9, 2019