



Specialty License Plate Audit Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc. State Wildflower Audit Report 201920-04

September 4, 2019

Introduction and Background

The purpose of this audit was to determine compliance with applicable laws and policies related to the annual reporting by the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc. (Foundation) for the State Wildflower specialty license plate. The Foundation is required to submit a Specialty License Plate Revenue, Expenditure, and Compliance Affidavit, or state single audit, to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (Department) within nine months after the end of the Foundation's fiscal year. The affidavit submitted by the Foundation for the 2018 Fiscal Year ended September 30, 2018, was used for this audit.

Specialty license plates are license plates available to the general public with unique designs that promote philanthropic and other causes and require payment of an additional annual use fee. Section 320.08056, Florida Statutes (F.S.), authorizes the issuance of all specialty license plates and specifies the annual use fee for the more than 120 specialty license plates Florida offers.

Section 320.08062, F.S., grants the Department the authority to examine all records relating to the use of specialty license plate funds. The Office of Inspector General included the examination of specialty license plate recipient organizations in its annual work plan.

For every State Wildflower specialty license plate sold or renewed, a \$15 annual use fee is charged and distributed, as required by statute, to the Foundation. Section 320.08058(27), F.S., specifies a maximum of 15 percent of total proceeds may be used by the Foundation for administrative costs and marketing cost. The remaining funds shall be used for native Florida wildflower research programs, wildflower educational programs, and wildflower grant programs to municipal, county, and community-based groups in the state of Florida.

The State Wildflower specialty license plate was established in 1999. There were 13,775 active State Wildflower specialty license plates as of September 2018. The Foundation reported receipts of \$216,473.58 in specialty license plate fees for the 2018 Fiscal Year.



Results of Audit

The Foundation materially complied with applicable laws and policies related to the annual reporting for the State Wildflower specialty license plate.

Purpose, Scope, and Methodology

The purpose of this audit was to determine the Foundation's compliance with applicable laws and policies related to the annual reporting by the Foundation for the State Wildflower specialty license plate.

The scope of this audit included specialty license plate revenues and expenditures reported on the Foundation's affidavit for the 2018 Fiscal Year, and specialty license plate revenue and expenditures reported in the Foundation's financial records for the 2018 Fiscal Year.

The methodology for the audit of the State Wildflower specialty license plate included:

- Reviewing Florida Statutes, Department policies, and Foundation policies;
- Reconciling the Department's distribution of specialty license plate fees to revenues reported on the affidavit filed by the Foundation;
- Reconciling the expenditures reported on the affidavit to the Foundation financial records;
- Reviewing the use of funds by the Foundation to ensure there is adequate supporting documentation, and the expenditures are for purposes authorized by statute;
- Reviewing timing, availability, and content of reports such as affidavits, single audits, or subrecipient monitoring; and
- Comparing expenditures to statutory requirements for annual allocation limits and reviewing reasonableness of balances.



Distribution, Statement of Accordance, and Project Team

Distribution

Terry L. Rhodes, Executive Director
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Lisa Roberts, Executive Director, Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc.

Melinda M. Miguel, Chief Inspector General
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Statement of Accordance

Section 20.055, Florida Statutes, requires the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles' Inspector General to review, evaluate, and report on policies, plans, procedures, accounting, financial, and other operations of the Department and to recommend improvements. This audit engagement was conducted in accordance with applicable *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* published by the Institute of Internal Auditors and *Principles and Standards for Offices of Inspector General* published by the Association of Inspectors General. Pursuant to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, public records held by the Department's Inspector General are available upon request for inspection or copying.

Project Team

Engagement conducted by:
Jill Sittig, Auditor

Under the supervision of:
David Ulewicz, Audit Director

Approved by:


David Ulewicz, Acting Inspector General