

Law Enforcement

Law Enforcement		2004 Actual	2005 Enacted	Uncontrollable & Related Changes (+/-)	Program Changes (+/-)	2006 Budget Request	Change from 2005(+/-)
Operations	\$(000)	51,549	54,110	1,026	1,453	56,590	2,480
	FTE	478	480			486	6
Maintenance	\$(000)	2,098	1,505	-	-483	1,022	-483
	FTE	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost Allocation Methodology	\$(000)	[2,478]	[30]	-	-	[30]	-
Total, Law Enforcement	\$(000)	53,647	55,615	1,026	970	57,612	1,997
	FTE	478	480			486	6

Program Overview

The Service's Law Enforcement Program investigates wildlife crimes and monitors wildlife trade to help achieve the DOI Resource Protection mission goal. The Service has long recognized that the work of its special agents, wildlife inspectors, and forensic scientists is essential to conserving wildlife and safeguarding the Nation's natural resources. Law Enforcement provides critical support to Service efforts to recover

endangered species, conserve migratory birds, restore America's fisheries, combat invasive species, safeguard wildlife habitat, and promote international wildlife conservation.

Use of Cost and Performance Information

The Office of Law Enforcement, which has traditionally assisted other Service programs in meeting their performance goals, began working in 2004 to identify enforcement-specific strategic goals and performance measures. Ongoing and planned activities to ensure performance-based management of Law Enforcement resources include:

- Complete consultations on draft strategic plan with other Service programs, State and Federal law enforcement partners, and stakeholders in the conservation community.
- Finalize strategic plan, including strategic goals and objectives, performance indicators, and key strategies.
- Review and revise Service investigative and inspection priorities to ensure that enforcement efforts focus on those wildlife crimes that represent the greatest threat to wildlife resources.
- Add data collection capabilities to LEMIS to provide performance information needed to monitor program progress in meeting strategic goals.
- Begin collection and analysis of baseline performance data.
- Undertake "infrastructure" improvements needed to implement strategic plan (e.g., development and implementation of a system for classifying the risk level of wildlife shipments).
- Continue comprehensive workforce planning project with completion of contractor-supported "study" phase and initial implementation of recommended actions.

The enforcement of laws enacted to conserve wildlife and wildlife habitat contributes significantly to Service efforts to "sustain biological resources on DOI managed or influenced lands and waters" (DOI Resource Protection End Outcome Goal 2) and "create [and maintain] habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish" (DOI Resource Protection End Outcome Goal 2- Strategy 1). These laws include more than 17 wildlife-specific and cultural resource protection statutes, related environmental laws (such as the Clean Water Act), and a host of criminal statutes that address such activities as smuggling, money laundering, conspiracy, and wire fraud.

The Law Enforcement program works to meet DOI Management Excellence goals (particularly in the areas of workforce skills [End Outcome Goal 1], modernization [End Outcome Goal 3], and customer value [End Outcome Goal 3]). Significant progress is also being made in implementing the President's Management Agenda (including expanded electronic government, strategic management of human capital, and budget and performance integration).

Protecting U.S. Wildlife

Service Law Enforcement helps to “sustain biological communities” by protecting the Nation’s fish, wildlife, and plants from unlawful exploitation and industrial hazards. Service special agents investigate crimes involving such federally protected resources as endangered and threatened animals and plants native to the United States, migratory birds, eagles, and marine mammals.

Law Enforcement efforts focus on disrupting and dismantling criminal enterprises profiteering in U.S. wildlife and plants. Such enterprises include organized networks exploiting species that range from paddlefish, eagles, and black bears to mussels, coral, and ginseng as well as commercial guides and outfitters who provide illegal hunting opportunities to clients nationwide.

The Law Enforcement program also addresses other potentially devastating threats to wildlife, including habitat destruction, environmental contaminants, and industrial hazards. Service special agents help maintain “habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish” by participating in the development and policing of habitat conservation plans and investigating violations of laws that safeguard wildlife and wildlife habitat. Examples include wetland easement infringements, damage to refuge lands, un-permitted development, and oil and chemical spills and other releases of toxins in the environment.

Law Enforcement works with industries and professional groups whose activities affect U.S. wildlife resources and their habitat to reduce hazards and secure voluntary compliance. These efforts range from outreach to professional guides taking clients into grizzly bear areas to partnerships with electric utilities to prevent raptor electrocutions. Other examples include working with irrigation districts to protect threatened bull trout; educating veterinarians about the link between euthanasia practices and wildlife poisonings; and conducting oilfield compliance checks to safeguard migratory birds.

Combating Global Wildlife Trafficking

The United States remains one of the world’s largest markets for wildlife and wildlife products – both legal and illegal. Global trafficking represents a threat to the continued viability of thousands of animal and plant species around the world. Law Enforcement’s trade monitoring efforts at U.S. ports of entry provide a front-line defense against illegal international wildlife trade. Service wildlife inspectors process a growing number of declared shipments each year and intercept contraband that includes caviar, coral, bear bile, elephant ivory, sea turtle eggs, live birds, and exotic reptiles. They conduct proactive enforcement blitzes that target specific trade problems, such as the smuggling of sea turtle products or bushmeat. Wildlife inspectors also increasingly enforce trade embargoes linked to wildlife disease, such as the ban on African rodents imposed after the 2003 monkeypox outbreak.

Service special agents and inspectors work together to investigate businesses and individuals engaged in global wildlife trafficking. According to a 2003 United Nations report, wildlife criminals increasingly include “networks...that consist of organized criminal enterprises and a myriad of subsidiary actors and associates” profiteering at the expense of global species. Defendants in recent Service smuggling cases include globally connected suppliers of rare reptiles and orchids; art dealers trafficking in elephant ivory and artifacts made from endangered species; and eight of the 10 major caviar importers operating on the East Coast (companies that did millions of dollars worth of black market business each year).

Service Law Enforcement also prevents the introduction of injurious species via international trade and travelers. Special agents and wildlife inspectors enforce Federal prohibitions that outlaw the importation and interstate transport of injurious wildlife. This work involves detecting and destroying shipments of prohibited species at the Nation’s ports of entry and investigating and bringing charges against those responsible for bringing them into the country or selling them in interstate commerce.

Facilitating Legal Wildlife Trade

Service Law Enforcement's mandate to enforce wildlife trade laws encompasses a concomitant responsibility to deal fairly and efficiently with the businesses, organizations, and individuals that import and export wildlife. The speed and efficiency of the agency's wildlife inspection operations affect the ability of businesses to engage profitably in legal wildlife trade; the international movement of wildlife for purposes that range from scientific research to public entertainment; and the ease with which individual Americans can travel internationally with wildlife or wildlife items.

Service officers provide guidance to individuals and businesses to help them obey wildlife laws and expedite their import/export transactions. Customer service efforts also include using technology to speed trade, streamline communication, and improve public access to information about laws and regulations.

Management Excellence

Law Enforcement's success in protecting the Nation's wildlife, stemming global wildlife trafficking, and facilitating legal trade depends on how well it manages its human capital and other resources. The program instituted an ongoing strategic planning/performance management effort that links mission goals and performance measures as well as a sustained commitment through workforce planning to building and maintaining a highly skilled, efficiently deployed staff. Law Enforcement also leverages technology to support its investigative and inspection efforts and maintains professional accountability by responding to public concerns and resolving systemic issues involving the integrity of law enforcement operations.

Critical Support Functions

Law Enforcement efforts to meet the DOI and programmatic goals receive critical support from the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory and the program's Intelligence Unit. Service forensic scientists support officers in the field by identifying species, analyzing evidence of wildlife crimes, providing on-site crime scene analysis, and supplying expert witness testimony in court. The Office of Law Enforcement's Intelligence Unit collects and analyzes information on wildlife trafficking to support Service investigations, inspections, and smuggling interdiction efforts. It also coordinates intelligence sharing with other law enforcement agencies.

2004 Program Performance Accomplishments

By working to achieve its strategic goals, the Law Enforcement program helped "sustain biological communities" and safeguard wildlife habitat. Law Enforcement also contributed to DOI Management Excellence, by meeting the President's Management Agenda mandates and enhancing customer service to the wildlife trade community. Significant accomplishments include:

Protect the Nation's fish, wildlife, and plants from unlawful exploitation and industrial hazards

- Brought criminal charges against, or secured successful prosecutions of, businesses and individuals involved in the illegal take of black bears for the medicinal parts trade; the illegal harvest and sale of paddlefish caviar; the unlawful collection of Hawaiian coral; the interstate
- transport and attempted export of unlawfully collected mussel shells; trafficking in protected U.S. reptiles; unlawful sale of undersized conch; interstate trafficking in striped bass; and the unlawful operation of a deer breeding facility at a commercial hunting preserve.
- Successfully investigated cases involving the shooting of an endangered whooping crane; the removal of endangered Pima pineapple cacti; the killing of Utah prairie dogs; the deaths of wolves in Idaho and Nebraska; the destruction of Hawaiian stilts eggs; the deliberate poisonings of bald eagles and other protected birds; and the shooting of raptors for predator control.
- Secured \$10 million in fines from the transport company responsible for an oil spill that killed 450 federally protected birds and damaged some 90 miles of Massachusetts coastline.
- Resolved a complex contaminants investigation, securing funds for damage assessments, wildlife rehabilitation, pesticide monitoring, and habitat conservation from a water management district.

- Negotiated plea agreements with mining companies in Arizona and New Mexico that will improve protections for migratory birds.
- Worked successfully with electric utilities across the country to obtain the voluntary retrofitting of power lines that represent a known electrocution hazard to eagles.

FY 2004 Investigative Caseload	
African Elephant Conservation	59
Airborne Hunting	8
Archeological Resources	3
Eagle Protection	122
Endangered Species Act	5,023
Lacey Act	1,763
Marine Mammal Protection Act	168
Migratory Bird Stamp	395
Migratory Bird Treaty	2,110
National Wildlife Refuge	130
Other Federal Laws	109
Permit/License Investigations	12
Rhino/Tiger	9
State Laws	216
Wild Bird Conservation Act	87
Total	10,250
Data compiled 12/16/04	

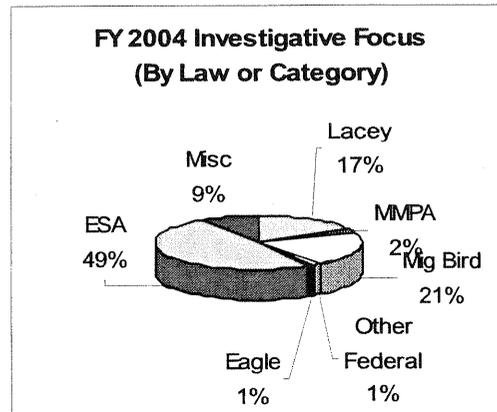
Prevent the unlawful import/export and interstate commerce of foreign fish, wildlife and plants

- Interdicted smuggled wildlife at ports of entry nationwide. Key seizures included 21,000 queen conch shells unlawfully imported from Haiti; elephant ivory carvings disguised as wood; 234 pieces of live CITES-listed coral and clams; bear bile, harp seal capsules, and other Asian medicinals made from protected wildlife; psitticine birds smuggled across the border from Mexico; and shipments of live reptiles bound for the pet trade.

FY 2004 Violation Statistics	
# Violations	8,477
Jail (Years)	172
Probation (Years)	404
Net Fines	2,294,443
Civil Penalties	856,402
Data compiled 12/16/04	

- Took the lead in enforcing new trade bans on the importation of Asian birds and civit cats, helping protect the American people from wildlife-linked disease.
- Improved inspection operations in New York City (the Nation's largest port of entry for wildlife) by equipping officers with a new X-ray inspection van that allows rapid examination of large shipments.
- Broke up multiple organized smuggling rings that were using express mail shipments to traffic in endangered reptiles from southeast Asia.
- Secured conviction of a caviar company president whose profiteering involved \$1.8 million worth of smuggled roe.
- Brought Federal felony charges against multiple defendants who were smuggling protected parrots in from Mexico.
- Completed prosecutions in a multi-year, multi-state probe of wildlife dealers and taxidermists involved in the illegal take and sale of exotic big cats for the trophy and meat trades.

- Began administrative and logistic preparations for stationing nine new wildlife inspectors along the Nation's northern and southern borders.
- Hosted a CITES "Experts" meeting that convened officials from across the globe to identify ways to improve intelligence sharing and international enforcement cooperation.
- Trained wildlife officers in Tanzania and Ecuador and provided instruction on a regional basis for officers from Caribbean nations, Southeast Asia, and sub-Saharan Africa.
- Completed in-depth intelligence report analyzing U.S. wildlife trade to assist Law Enforcement managers in better planning and targeting wildlife interdiction efforts.



Facilitate the expeditious movement of legal wildlife

- Processed more than 147,000 wildlife shipments, successfully handling a trade that has nearly doubled in the last five years.

FY 2004 Total Wildlife Inspection Activity	
Total Designated Ports	116,472
Total Non-Designated Ports	19,826
Non-Staffed Ports	12,005
Total Shipments	148,303
Total Value	\$1.748 billion
Data compiled 1/15/05	

- Increased use of "e-Decs" (the program's electronic declarations system), so that 46 percent of all declarations were submitted electronically.
- Improved on-line payment capability within e-Decs, introducing new options to meet industry needs and expedite processing of wildlife shipments.
- Prepared, posted, and distributed 18 public bulletins to alert wildlife import/export customers to new trade requirements, CITES trade bans, and changes in import/export procedures.
- Provided compliance briefings to brokers, businesses, and other groups involved in wildlife trade to help them avoid delays in shipment clearance.

Wildlife Inspection Activity – Details			
Number of Shipments			
Designated Ports	FY 2004	Non-Designated Ports	FY 2004
Anchorage, AK	14,839	Agana, GU	771
Atlanta, GA	2,502	Blaine, WA	2,429
Baltimore, MD	3,143	Brownsville, TX	166
Boston, MA	1,772	Buffalo, NY	2,402
Chicago, IL	6,204	Champlain, NY	4,136
Dallas/Fort Worth, TX	5,251	Denver, CO	469
Honolulu, HI	4,163	Detroit, MI	999
Los Angeles, CA	22,441	El Paso, TX	552
Miami, FL	8,905	Houston, TX	1,132
New Orleans, LA	751	Laredo, TX	729
New York/Newark, NJ	36,809	Nogales, AZ	394
Portland, OR	1,064	Pembina, ND	1,835
San Francisco, CA	4,848	San Diego, CA	829
Seattle, WA	3,780	St. Paul, MN	926
		Sweetgrass, MT	808
		Tampa, FL	1,249
Totals	116,472	Totals	19,826

- Pursued rulemaking process and began staffing port operations and conducting industry liaison in Memphis and Louisville to prepare for the designation of those ports.

Create a strong management system and culture to improve program performance

- Undertook an intensive strategic planning effort to formalize program goals and identify objective performance measures for Service Law Enforcement.
- Examined workforce skill issues and began developing staffing models to ensure the effective and efficient deployment of enforcement officers and support staff.
- Integrated the program's field activity report system with the Service's ABC system, eliminating the need for dual recordkeeping and supporting budget/performance integration at the program level.
- Improved the Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS) by adding subsystems for intelligence gathering, violation notices, and tracking travel expenditures, training, and property.
- Began work to ensure Service integration in the interagency International Trade Data System, which will support all U.S. trade enforcement endeavors.
- Completed initial work to ensure integration of LEMIS with the Department's Incident Management, Analysis and Reporting System (IMARS).
- Partially staffed Professional Responsibility Unit (PRU); drafted professional responsibility policy for Service law enforcement officers; and developed training module supervisors and managers.

2005 Planned Program Performance

In 2005, the Law Enforcement program will contribute to accomplishing the DOI Resource Protection Mission Goal by protecting U.S. wildlife resources, preventing global wildlife trafficking, facilitating legal wildlife trade, and striving for continued management excellence. Accomplishments will include:

Protect the Nation's fish, wildlife, and plants from unlawful exploitation and industrial hazards

- Investigate the unlawful exploitation of federally protected species with particular emphasis on detecting and deterring criminal activities that threaten native animal and plant populations.
- Disrupt and dismantle criminal enterprises seeking to profit at the expense of U.S. wildlife resources.
- Sustain and bolster enforcement partnerships with State, Federal, and tribal agencies by providing law enforcement training, investigative support, and intelligence sharing.

- Continue work with electric utilities, oil companies, and related industry groups to reduce the impact of their activities on migratory birds and other Federal trust resources.
- Expand compliance outreach to companies and industry groups involved in wind power production and wireless communication to obtain voluntary efforts to protect migratory bird resources.
- Enhance wildlife forensics by organizing and hosting national scientific meeting to share research results and promote use of new wildlife forensics techniques.

Prevent the unlawful import/export and interstate commerce of foreign fish, wildlife and plants

- Monitor wildlife shipments to prevent illegal trade and keep U.S. borders closed to injurious wildlife.
- Begin designated port operations at Louisville and Memphis, increasing opportunities to detect and deter wildlife smuggling via international express mail shipments.
- Deploy additional inspectors along U.S. land borders to improve monitoring of North American wildlife trade.
- Break up smuggling rings exploiting foreign wildlife and plants.
- Provide training and investigative assistance to global enforcement partners.
- Complete comprehensive, in-depth intelligence study to document patterns and trends in illegal wildlife trafficking.
- Begin development of a risk assessment system that will help Law Enforcement better use its inspection resources to intercept smuggled wildlife.

Facilitate the expeditious movement of legal wildlife

- Open Louisville and Memphis as designated ports for wildlife trade to respond to the phenomenal increase in cargo moving via international express mail.
- Begin operating Houston as a designated port for the import/export of wildlife, under 50 CFR14.12, in accordance with recent rulemaking. This has been a staffed port for many years; designating it as a port of entry will improve service and reduce costs for import/export customers in Texas and surrounding States.
- Promote increased use of e-Decs to ensure that businesses benefit from this user friendly trade facilitation tool.
- Continue dialogue with industry groups to reduce delays and expedite clearance of shipments.
- Ensure full Service integration in International Trade Data System, which promises improved customer service to global trade community.

Create a strong management system and culture to improve program performance

- Finalize Law Enforcement Strategic Plan; address implementation needs; and begin collecting baseline performance data.
- Ensure that performance standards for Law Enforcement staff reflect accountability for accomplishment of strategic goals.
- Complete formal workforce planning project and begin implementing recommendations.
- Modify LEMIS to collect additional data needed to monitor and measure accomplishment of program's strategic goals and streamline reporting requirements for officers in the field.
- Continue work on IMARS development and IMARS/LEMIS integration.
- Implement Service professional responsibility policy and finalize training program for supervisors and managers on administrative investigations.

Program Performance Summary: Law Enforcement Operations

The Law Enforcement program supports the DOI Mission Goal: Resource Protection by contributing to the end outcome goal of sustaining biological communities on DOI managed and influenced lands and waters. The program also supports Intermediate Strategy 2: manage populations to self-sustaining levels for specific species.

The program plays a key role in providing critical support functions to the Service programs that contribute directly to Resource Protection. Through the efforts of special agents and their partnerships with state and local agencies and private groups, Law Enforcement brings critical expertise in protecting regional migratory bird populations and reducing human impacts on the breeding activities of rare ground-nesting shore birds, such as piping plovers and least turns. In the area of imperiled species, the Law Enforcement program provides input in the development of habitat conservation plans and plays an important role in reviewing, evaluating, and monitoring incidental take permits to ensure compatibility with current laws and permittee compliance.

This involvement demonstrates the effective use of enforcement as a conservation tool and lays the groundwork to minimize the adverse impacts associated with land development activities on imperiled species.

The program supports efforts to protect native wildlife including the Nation's fisheries resources by targeting illegal take and commercialization of native fish stocks. In the international arena, Law Enforcement agents and wildlife inspectors monitor legal international wildlife trade, and interdict illegal importations of federally protected fish, wildlife, and plants. In addition, core investigative and inspection activities also include cases involving habitat destruction and environmental contaminants and efforts to prevent the introduction of invasive species via international trade and travelers. This work helps "create" and maintain "habitat conditions for biological communities to flourish" in the United States.

At this time, the Office of Law Enforcement is working to finalize its Strategic Plan. Efforts in FY 2005 will include consultation with law enforcement partners (such as State wildlife agencies) and stakeholders in the conservation community. This process will assist the program in refining and finalizing goals, objectives, and strategies. Once the strategic planning exercise has been completed, the program will modify specific subsystems within the Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS) to collect new data needed to monitor program performance. Collection of new data elements for assessing progress in meeting strategic goals will be implemented as the relevant LEMIS capabilities become available. Although only partial data sets will be available to document performance results for FY 2006, the completion of baseline measures for the program's performance indicators and the linkage of performance data with funding information will occur during FY 2007-2008.

Justification of 2006 Program Changes

Law Enforcement		2006 Budget Request	Program Changes (+/-)
Operations	\$(000)	56,590	+1,453
	FTE	486	+6
Maintenance	\$(000)	1,022	-483
	FTE	-	-
Total, Law Enforcement	\$(000)	57,612	+970
	FTE	486	+6

The FY 2006 budget request for the Law Enforcement program is \$57,612,000 and 486 FTE, a net program increase of \$970,000 and 6 FTE from the 2005 enacted level. The following narrative provides details on the Law Enforcement Operations net increase request of \$1,453,000. Funding for the Ports of Entry in Louisville, KY and Memphis, TN has been reduced by \$205,000 and the funding for the Port of Entry at Atlanta, GA has been eliminated. The Law Enforcement Maintenance account is also reduced by \$483,000.

Specifically, the funding increase will be used to:

- Establish and staff a fully functional Professional Responsibility Unit to ensure prompt and thorough responses to complaints about the actions of Service special agents, wildlife inspectors, and refuge officers (+555,000);
- Implement the mandatory department-wide Incident Management, Analysis and Reporting System (IMARS) and ensure program efficiency and cost-savings by integrating it with Law Enforcement's existing information system (+500,000);
- Improve Law Enforcement's computer forensic capabilities, better positioning the program to support the DOI Resource Protection mission goal (+240,000); and
- Increase mobility and field presence of agents (+703,000).

Law Enforcement Operations - Ensuring Professional Responsibility (+\$555,000)

In July 2002, Secretary Norton pledged to improve the professionalism and accountability of Department law enforcement programs and ordered DOI enforcement bureaus to implement specific management reforms. This increase will allow the Service to comply with the Secretary's mandate requiring each enforcement bureau to establish an internal affairs unit to investigate complaints about the job performance and conduct of law enforcement officers.

This increase will fund a four person Professional Responsibility Unit (a supervisory Special Agent in Charge, two senior level special agents, and an administrative support position) which will investigate misconduct complaints involving all Service law enforcement personnel (a force numbering more than 800 officers). This unit will also support Service efforts to improve the professionalism, accountability, and "customer value" of its law enforcement programs by training managers and supervisors involved in processing public complaints; developing an Early Warning System to identify and "head off" potential problems; and identifying and resolving systemic issues that affect the professional integrity and mission-effectiveness of Service law enforcement operations.

Law Enforcement Operations - Meeting the DOI IMARS Mandate (+\$500,000)

This increase will implement IMARS for the Service Law Enforcement Program, ensure department-wide access to wildlife law enforcement data, and integrate this mandatory departmental system with the existing Law Enforcement Management Information System (LEMIS).

IMARS implementation and IMARS/LEMIS integration will allow the Service to comply with the Secretary's law enforcement reforms, which require all Department enforcement bureaus to implement a uniform system for reporting law enforcement information. Systems integration will improve DOI-wide access to information without sacrificing the Law Enforcement Program's ability to meet its unique data needs. It also represents the most cost-effective and beneficial way for Service Law Enforcement to meet the Secretary's IMARS mandate

IMARS will allow all DOI law enforcement bureaus to identify, collect, analyze, manage, and report information related to incidents involving DOI lands, facilities, and trust resources. Beyond such generic functions, however, LEMIS provides unique capabilities (including access to more than two decades of investigative information) that directly support Service enforcement of U.S. laws and treaties that protect wildlife resources. The funding increase will be used to create a direct interface between the two systems so that LEMIS can function as a complementary IMARS module while continuing to meet unique Service mission-essential needs (such as those related to analyzing and disseminating wildlife crime intelligence).

Law Enforcement Operations - Enhancing Computer Forensics Capabilities (+\$240,000)

Criminals engaged in wildlife trafficking now routinely use computers. They broker deals by e-mail; store business records as electronic files; and turn to the internet to reach new customers and promote their products. As a result, Service special agents serving search warrants increasingly need to seize desktops, laptops, and servers instead of file cabinets, telephone logs, and accounting ledgers. Today, a typical search warrant

location will involve between two to five computers. However, the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory staff include only one computer evidence examiner and a supervisor who conducts examinations part time. These specialists currently face a backlog of some 46 computers – work that will require 18 months to complete, not including additional computers likely to be seized in future investigations.

The requested increase will be used to create a centrally located field computer seizure and analysis unit staffed with two computer forensics specialists to support Service special agents on the job. This expanded technical capability will enhance the Service's ability to examine and extract evidence from computers, facilitating wildlife crime investigations and Service efforts to protect wildlife resources and sustain biological communities.

Law Enforcement Operations – Provide Increased Field Agent Mobility and Presence (+\$694,000)

This requested increase is tied to priority investigative workload and will allow greater field agent mobility and presence in priority investigations. Agents engaged in high priority investigations will be able to minimize the amount of time spent in the office, thereby maximizing enforcement effectiveness. Funding will support additional priorities to interview subjects and witnesses, testify in court, work with U.S. Attorneys and Regional Solicitors, develop and control informants, conduct surveillances and raids, and secure and serve warrants.

Law Enforcement Operations – Everglades (+9,000)

This account was reduced by \$9,000 due to the combined impact of two rescissions in FY 2005. The Service requests the restoration of this amount to support on-the-ground law enforcement activities relating to threatened and endangered species in the Everglades.

Law Enforcement Operations – Port of Entry, Atlanta, GA (-\$340,000)

Atlanta is the Service's only designated port created with a dependence on outside funding. In FY 2001, the City of Atlanta determined that it had met its obligation with the Service to establish the designated wildlife port and ceased making annual payments. Despite this setback, the Service, believing the volume of international flights and cargo entering the United States at this location warranted an active enforcement presence, has continued to maintain an inspection presence by reducing services at other ports. Specific funding provided by Congress in FY 2005 will be used to enhance operations at the port and to relocate the office to an area more accessible to brokers and the import/export community.

Specific funding for the Atlanta Port of Entry is not included in the President's FY 2006 budget as the office relocation will be completed in 2005. Operations at the Atlanta Port of Entry will be based on fulfilling high priority Law Enforcement needs and a careful review of workload trends at all Ports of Entry where the Service has personnel.

Law Enforcement Operations – Port of Entry, Louisville, KY (-\$53,000)

As mandated by Congress in FYs 2004 and 2005, the Port of Louisville became the Service's 15th designated port for wildlife trade on January 5, 2005. This designation will help the Service address new trade monitoring needs associated with the phenomenal increase in cargo and undeclared wildlife moving via international express mail companies. This modest reduction will support highest priority operations at this Port.

Law Enforcement Operations – Port of Entry, Memphis, TN (-\$152,000)

As mandated by Congress in FYs 2004 and 2005, the Port of Memphis became the Service's 16th designated port for wildlife trade on January 5, 2005. This designation will help the Service address new trade monitoring needs associated with the phenomenal increase in cargo and undeclared wildlife moving via international express mail companies. This modest reduction will support highest priority operations at this Port.

Law Enforcement Maintenance – Deferred Maintenance (+\$2,000)

The fiscal year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act (P.L. 108-447) included two across the board reductions,

netting a 1.3 percent reduction to all Service programs. An increase of \$2,000 will restore funding to the 2004 enacted level and will allow deferred maintenance projects at the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory to move forward.

Law Enforcement Maintenance – Vehicle Replacement (-\$485,000)

The 2006 budget proposes a reduction of \$485,000 in the law enforcement program to recognize expected savings to be achieved through improved fleet management within the Service and across the Department of Interior.

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