

Analysis and Recommendations Pursuant to Executive Order JML 24-13

Office of Conservation Working Group

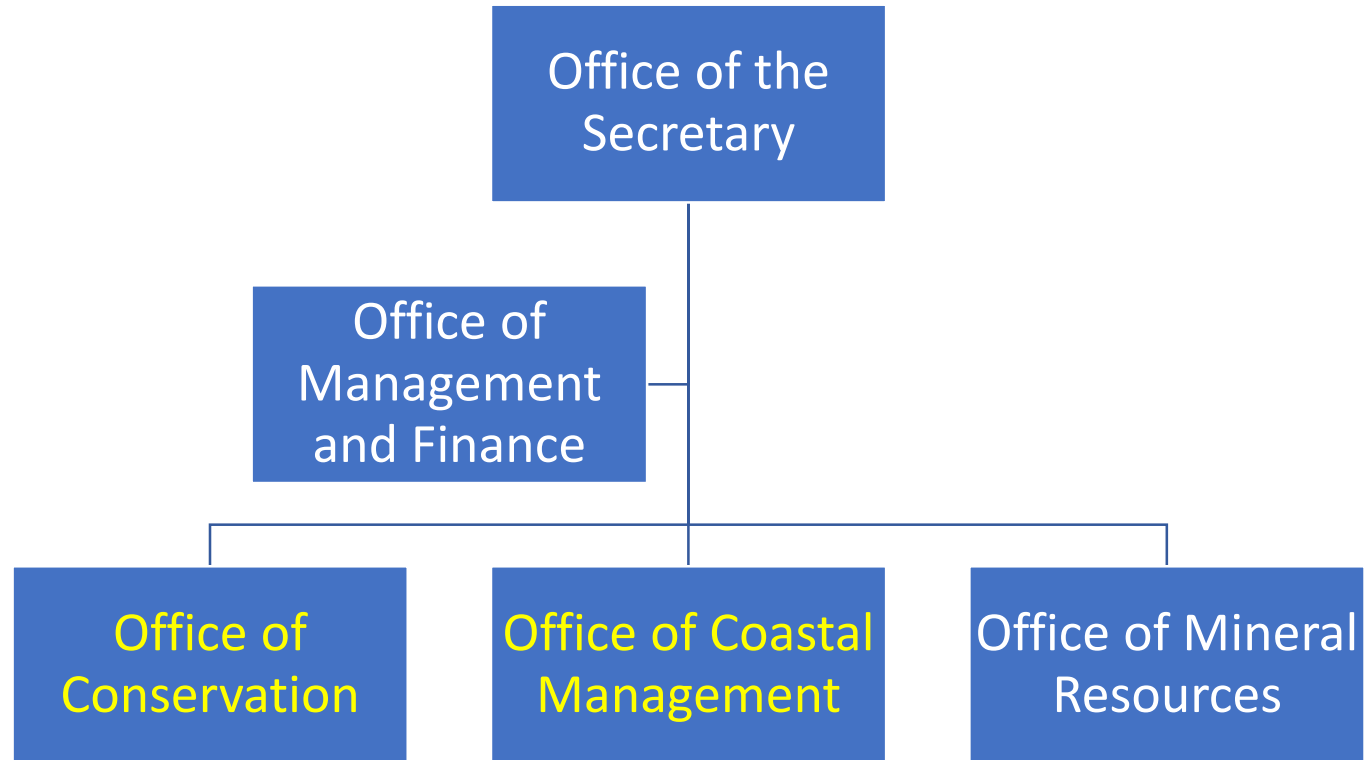


Overview

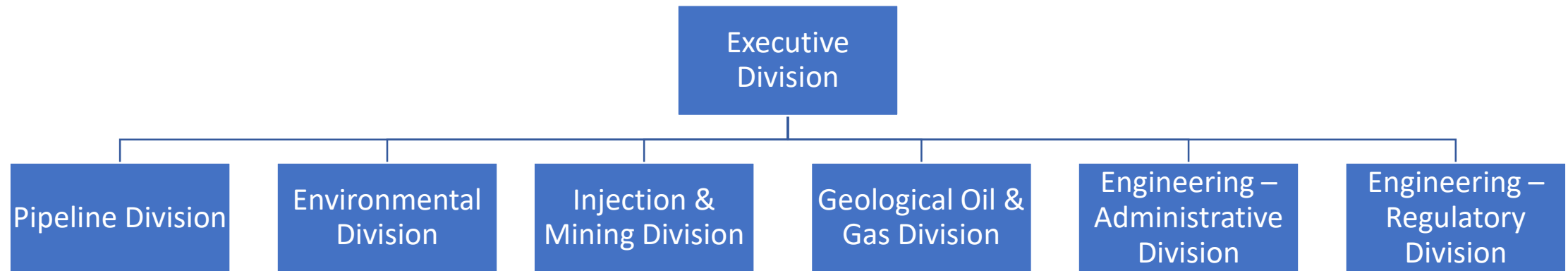
- EO JML 24-13: “Office of Conservation: Re-establish the office within DENR, and transfer all responsibility for *permitting, compliance, and regulatory* functions for natural resources-related programs in the Executive Branch and maintaining any conflicts by rule or policy.”
- Focus on permitting, compliance, and regulatory functions within DENR.
- Certain divisions/program activities are a mix of functions and do not allow for clear organization along functional lines
- Utilization of outside partnerships to expand agency capacity



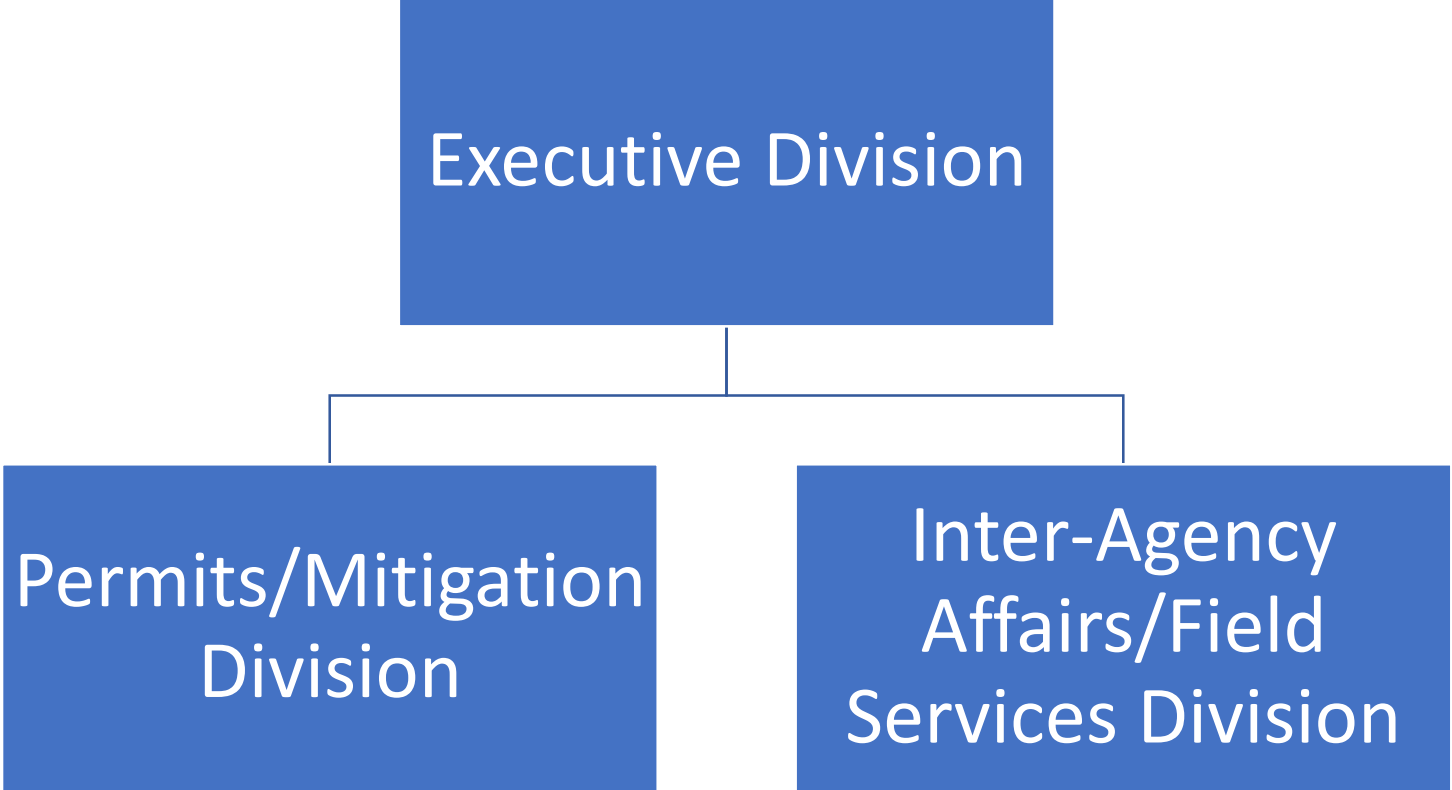
DENR Overview



Office of Conservation Overview

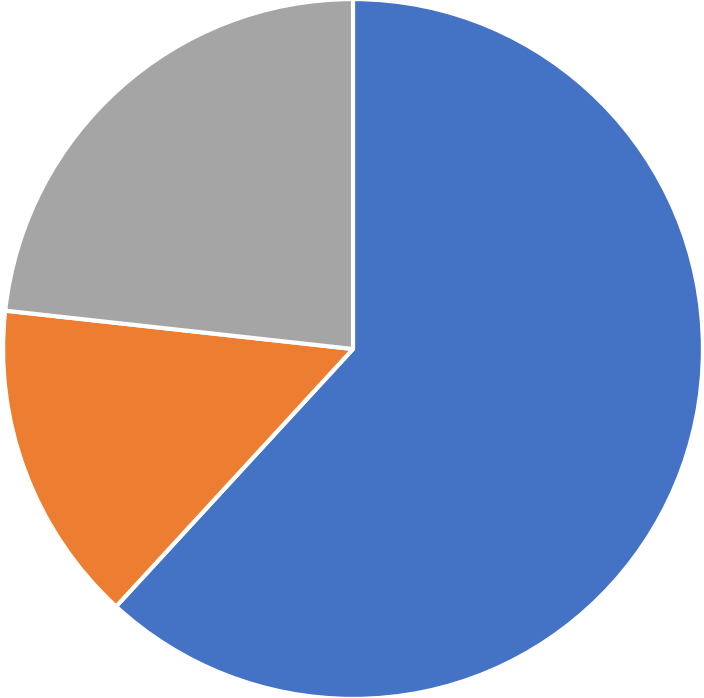


Office of Coastal Management Overview



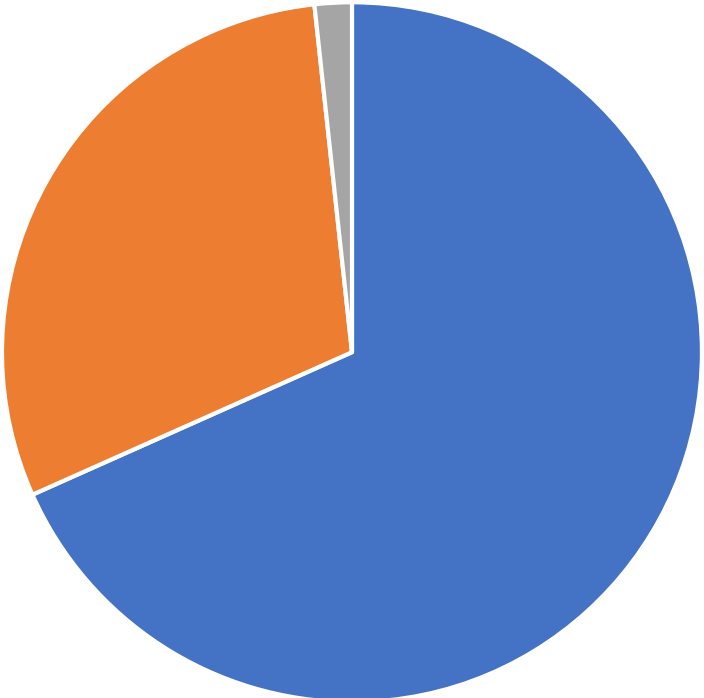
Budget Overviews

OC Budget



■ Stat Ded ■ Federal Funds ■ SGF

OCM Budget



■ Stat Ded ■ Federal Funds ■ SGF



Issues Presented

- Self-generated funding deficit with decreased regulated activities – department-wide approach necessary
- Functions/workflow considerations in reorganization of agency
- Efficiencies and agency capacity considerations regarding reorganization and work-flow changes
 - Technological approaches
 - Partnering with outside organizations
 - Differences in training and expertise for similar functional job types
- Federal Primacy Programs



Analysis of Issues

- No one right answer to functional re-alignment of agency
 - Need to fully understand and plan for challenges
- Technological approaches for tracking workflow, ensuring better interface between agency and public and regulated community
- Coordination between offices and divisions is key
- Different types of inspectors are not easily interchangeable
- Partnering with outside organizations (such as Center for Energy Studies) holds promise for increasing agency capacity



Proposed Office Structure

- Specific structure of a new Office of Conservation (“OC”) is highly dependent on choices made regarding the reorganization
- Options for reorganizing enforcement & water management programs may look radically different
- Whether State seeks and receives primacy for USACE 404 permitting program would also have significant impact on the structure of a new OC



Necessary Changes

- Solar permitting/decommissioning program belongs in new OC
- The following programs likely do not fit within a permitting-focused OC:
 - Pipeline Safety
 - 411 Public Safety Program
 - Oilfield Site Restoration
 - Fuel Team
 - Voluntary Surface Water CEAs
 - Fishgear Compensation/Underwater Obstruction



For NRSC Review and Approval

- How to reorganize the enforcement functions found in OC and OCM between OC, OCM, & Enforcement
- Consideration of how to reorganize the groundwater resources management & water well drillers program between OC & Office of Land & Water
- How can partnerships between DENR & outside organizations such as the Center for Energy Studies be implemented to increase agency capacity?



Further Research Necessary

- Based on specific decisions surrounding re-organization, research and analyze specific potential new organization charts and consider funding and budgeting across the department
- Additional research into non-DENR permitting, compliance, and regulatory programs

