

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW FOR INNOVATION & VISIONARY ENHANCEMENT

Project Overview and Legislative Update

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OVERVIEW



Purpose

Transparency

Efficiency
and Coordination

Clear and
Intuitive Governance

Sustainability



Framing Issues

Overly Complex
and Antiquated
Governance

Fiscal Cliffs

Lack of Strategic
Execution

Creep



Legislative Improvements

House Bill No. 806 by Rep. Brett
Geymann

House Bill No. 810 by Rep. Brett
Geymann and Jacob Landry



Administrative Review

Natural Resources
Steering Commission

Timeline

Reporting



PURPOSE



Transparency



Efficiency and Coordination



Clear and Intuitive Governance



Sustainability



PURPOSE

TRANSPARENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY



Outcome-Based Programs: Develop outcome-based programs to foster a results-oriented approach to management.



Future Reports and Continuous Improvement: Commit to ongoing evaluation and improvement.

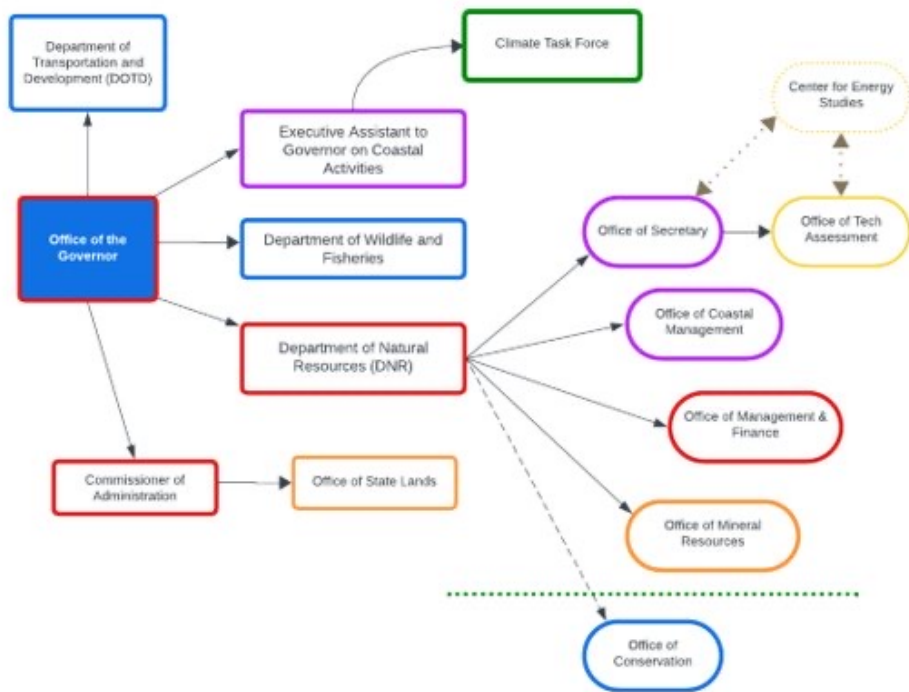


Sustainability: Fiscal cliff for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 and funding for coastal in 2031 improvement by preparing the agency for the future considerations



PURPOSE

EFFICIENCY AND COORDINATION



Efficiency and Coordination

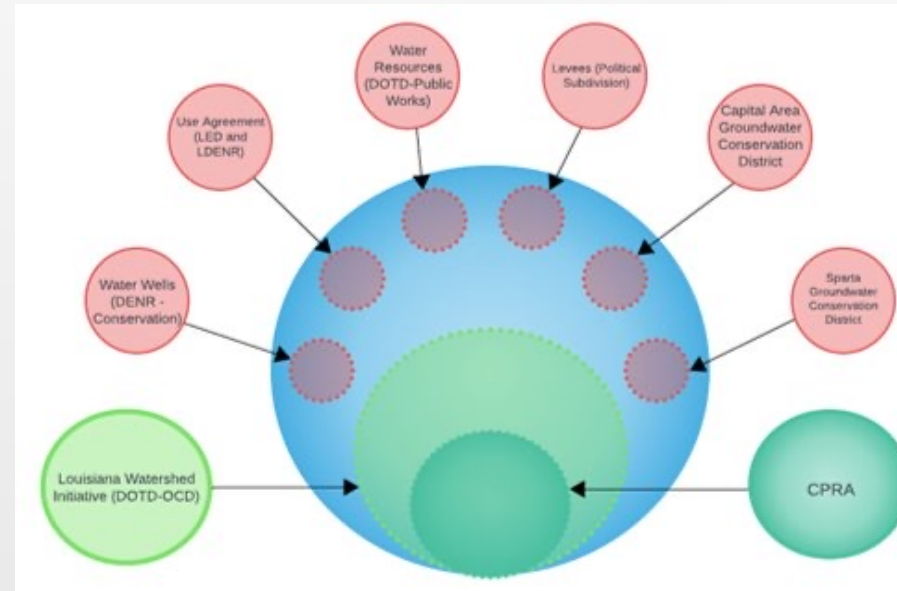
Improve efficiency and coordination through streamlining functions, optimizing staff, and establishing coordination across agencies.

- ▶ **Collaboration and Data Sharing:** Foster collaboration and information sharing across agencies to improve agency decision making.
- ▶ **Emergency Response & Risk Management:** Establish a dedicated emergency response function of DENR to bring a focus on preparedness, risk management, and financial security related to natural resources.
- ▶ **Infrastructure Consideration:** Manage natural resources and associated infrastructure in a way that complements the state's overall infrastructure needs.



PURPOSE GOVERNANCE

- ▶ **Strategic Planning:** Revise and develop strategic plans for natural resources management.
- ▶ **Organization and Alignment:** Align and streamline DENR functions.
- ▶ **Scope, Standardization, and Guidelines:** Create uniform guidance to ensure consistency and clarity in agency decision making.
- ▶ **Clarifying Relationships:** Clarify and optimize relationships with various government and quasi-governmental entities.



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FRAMING ISSUES



DENR was founded in 1976 to promote the sustainable and responsible use of the natural resources of Louisiana so they are available for the enjoyment and benefit for the present and into the future.



Lack of engagement or expertise in finance and banking sector with respect to natural resources management.

An impending fiscal shortfall in Fiscal Year 2025 also necessitates a reorganization to improve efficiency and create sustainability within natural resources management.



Since 1976, DENR has not undergone a major reorganization or modernization, while other agencies have done so multiple times. This has resulted in bureaucratic hurdles and fractured management of natural resources across state government, which has hindered effective operations.



DRIVE is meant to provide a balanced approach to compliance, management, enforcement, and implementation as it relates to the state's natural resources. The proposed reorganization and integration of DENR will address the improper alignment of goals and resources and create a wholistic analysis and approach to natural resources management.



BACKGROUND AND PROJECT HISTORY

- ▶ On February 2, 2024, Governor Landry issued Executive Order JML 24-13, directing DENR to investigate consolidation and reorganization of the State's natural resources management regime.
- ▶ DENR consulted with multiple stakeholders, both internal to government and non-governmental, and considered public comments.
- ▶ On February 23, 2024, DENR issued a request for executive action to Governor Landry, requesting Governor Landry to identify needed legislative changes.
- ▶ On March 11, 2023, Governor Landry addressed a letter to DENR creating the Natural Resources Steering Commission and directing several legislative changes to be made.



LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

MARCH 11, 2024, LETTER TO DENR

Create	Create Offices of Enforcement, Energy, and Land & Water within DENR.
Re-create	Re-create the Office of Conservation and Energy Office.
Establish	Establish a Natural Resources Trust Authority.
Align	Align the sunsets of all natural resources-related boards and commissions to coincide with the sunset of DENR.
Transfer	Transfer the Fisherman's Gear Fund, Oilfield Site Restoration, and Oyster Lease Damage Evaluation to the new Office of Enforcement.



LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

MARCH 11, 2024, LETTER TO DENR

Move	Move LOSCO from Dept. Of Public Safety to the new Office of Enforcement.
Grant	Grant authority over water resources management as to quantity to the Office of Land & Water.
Grant	Grant authority over rights of way, surface leases, and water bottom permits and leases to the Office of Land and Water.
Remove	Remove certain CPRA board members to reduce overlap.



LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

2024 REGULAR SESSION

▶ **House Bill 806**

- ▶ Authored by Rep. Brett Geymann.
- ▶ Provides for Membership of the CPRA Board.
- ▶ Removes DOTD secretary, LED secretary, Commissioner of Administration, Commissioner of Agriculture, Commissioner of Insurance, & GOHSEP from CPRA board.
- ▶ Scheduled for hearing Tuesday April 16 in House Natural Resources.
 - ▶ Reported favorably (10-1)



LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

2024 REGULAR SESSION

▶ **House Bill 810**

- ▶ Authored by Rep. Brett Geymann and Jacob Landry.
- ▶ Provides for the organization, duties, and responsibilities of the Dept. Of Energy and Natural Resources.
- ▶ Creates offices of Energy, Enforcement, and Land & Water.
- ▶ Creates Natural Resources Trust Authority.
- ▶ Transfers LOSCO to DENR.
- ▶ Removes "firewall" between Commissioner of Conservation and DENR Secretary.
- ▶ Grants authority over certain functions involving state lands and waterbottoms to DENR.
- ▶ Scheduled for hearing Tuesday April 16 in House Natural Resources.
 - ▶ Reported with Amendments (New Effective Date July 1, 2024)



PROPOSED HB 810 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



PROPOSED HB 810 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Office of Secretary - Support function for DENR focused on intra and intergovernmental affairs, including state legislature and legal.

Management and Budget - The backbone of DENR with Human Resources, Fiscal, Natural Resources Trust Authority and other operational services.

Energy - Direct relationship with the federal Department of Energy focused on research, policy, power, strategy, public engagement, innovative partnerships, and other forward looking activities.

Conservation - office focused on permitting, regulatory, and compliance of operations.

Enforcement - focused on enforcement of out of compliance operators.

Land & Water - Programmatic and management function, land, water, minerals, storage, power.

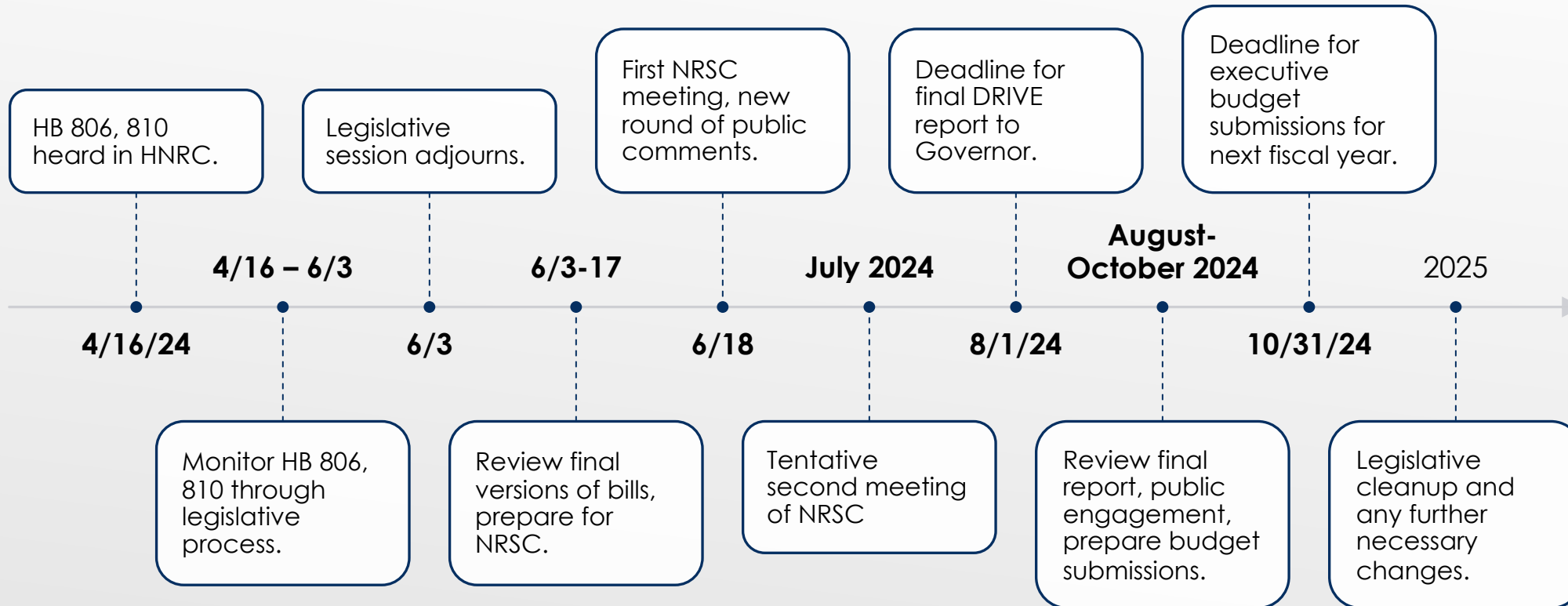


NATURAL RESOURCES STEERING COMMISSION

- ▶ *Created by Governor Landry in March 11, 2024, letter to DENR.*
- ▶ **Members:** Gordon Dove (Chair), Tyler Gray, Ben Bienvenu.
- ▶ **Purpose:** Comprehensively review and coordinate all aspects of natural resources management throughout the State in accordance with the goal of organizational alignment, efficiency and coordination, emergency response, scope, standardization of policies and guidelines, clarifying relationships, collaboration and data sharing, strategic planning, outcome-based programs, future planning, continuous improvement, infrastructure consideration, and demand-oriented energy planning.
- ▶ **First Committee Meeting:** June 18, 2024. 9:00 am in Baton Rouge, LA. Location TBD.
 - ▶ Initial presentation of proposed natural resources management structure, public comment.
- ▶ Additional meeting tentative in July for final presentation of proposed natural resources management structure and public comment.



TIMELINE



REPORTING

- ▶ All reports, letters, and public comments posted on Governor's website.
 - ▶ <https://gov.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/form/home/52>.
 - ▶ "Interact" "Action on Executive Order JML 24-13."
- ▶ Upcoming reports:
 - ▶ June 2024 – all materials presented to NRSC.
 - ▶ July 2024 – public comments and any materials from second NRSC meeting.
 - ▶ August 2024 – final report from NRSC to Governor containing recommendations for DRIVE.
 - ▶ October 31, 2024 – DENR executive budget submissions.



QUESTIONS?

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