

Office of Regulatory Assistance Sunset Review

Proposed Final Report

Presented by Karen Barrett

Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee

January 4, 2007

Today's Presentation to JLARC

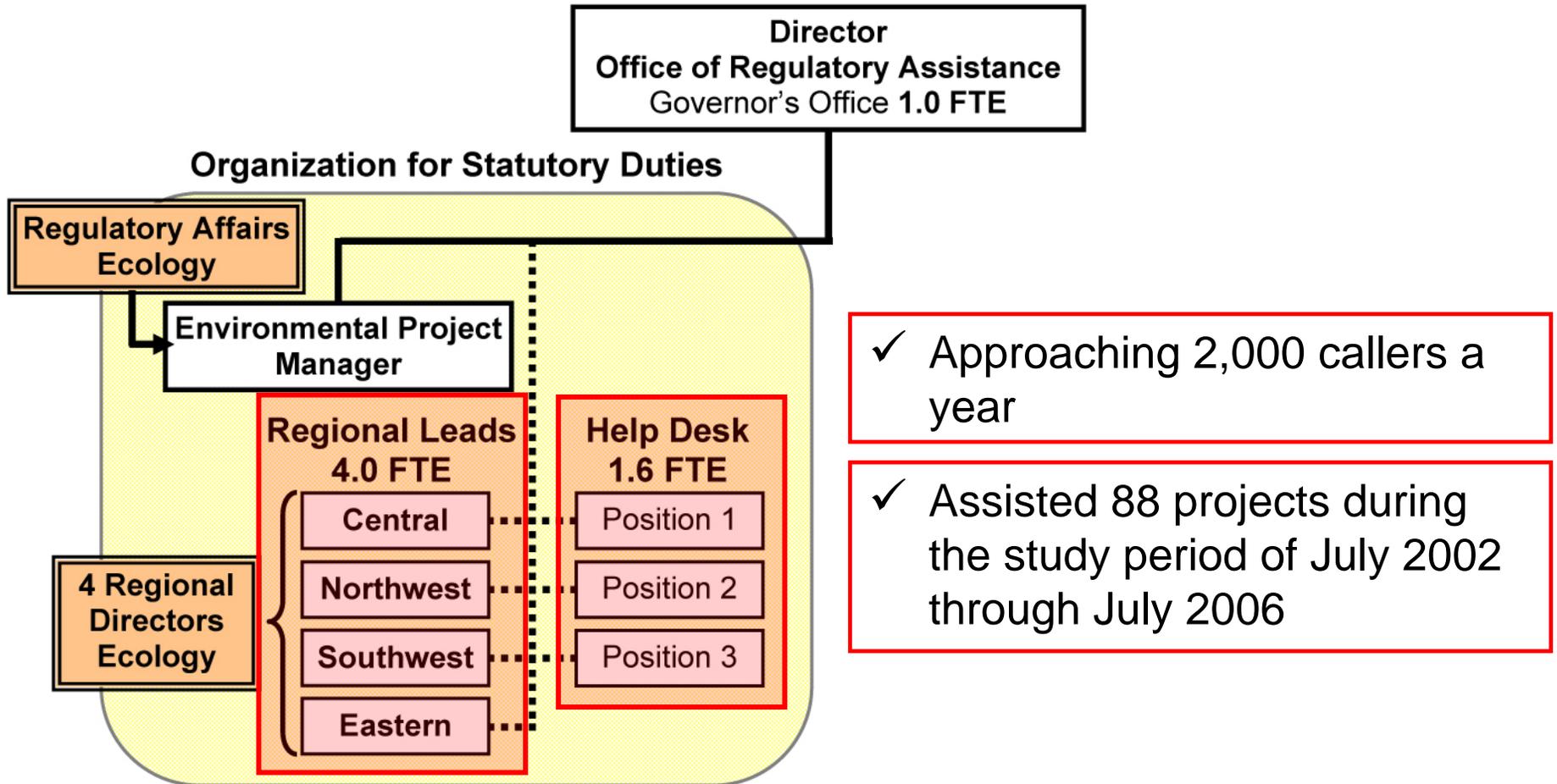
1. Sunset Review Assignment
2. Conclusions in Brief
3. Response to Recommendations

Review Assignment Had Four Parts

Guided by **criteria from the Sunset Act**, JLARC reports back the degree to which it found ORA:

- 1. Complied with legislative intent** (statutory directives and requirements; Chapter 43.42 RCW)
- 2. Reached its own performance goals and targets** (front-end data plan; started July 2002)
- 3. Operated in an efficient and economical manner** (environmental regulation and permitting help)
- 4. Undertook activities otherwise duplicated** (by another state agency or the private sector)

Reminder: Focus was Execution of Statutory Duties as Assigned to this Organization



Sunset Review: Conclusions in Brief

1. ORA can demonstrate it **fully or partially complied with eight out of ten statutory duties.**
2. ORA has been **doing its work but has not invested adequate time to record and track** sufficient details and **outcomes.**
3. Performance data shows **the public has increasingly used this discretionary service. However, we cannot yet evaluate the Office's efficiency** in providing regulatory assistance.
4. JLARC **does not have evidence indicating ORA duplicates others' activities.** Some stakeholders report ORA adds value to the process.

Response to Recommendation

1. The Legislature should **repeal the June 30, 2007, sunset date (Chapter 43.131 RCW)** which has the effect of reauthorizing ORA, and **consider establishing a future sunset review in 2011.**

OFM and ORA: Concur

“A new sunset date will allow ORA to develop a collection plan and new performance measures in line with our current activities.” – Director’s Reply

Response to Recommendation

2. ORA should **develop an implementation plan by next March** to remedy the agency's lack of information about its activities, **and report** to the Legislature on **the results of this plan by June 2008** to demonstrate its performance and compliance with statutory duties.

OFM and ORA: Concur

“In addition, our implementation plan will include an updated approach for documenting how the office meets its statutorily required duties.” – Director's Reply

Study Contact and Web Information

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The full **sunset report** is available from this Internet site:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/JLARC/recentreports.htm>

And more about the **Office of Regulatory Assistance**:

<http://www.ora.wa.gov/>