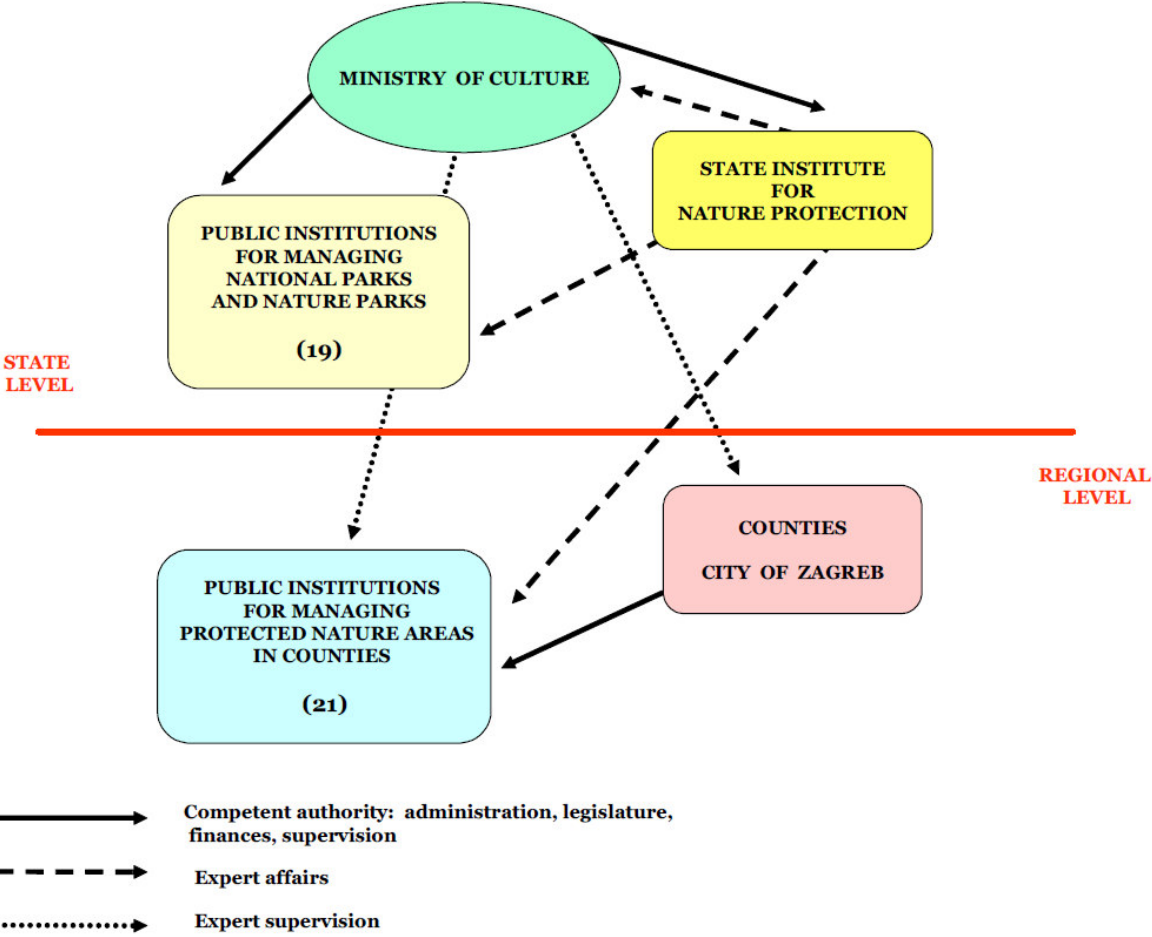


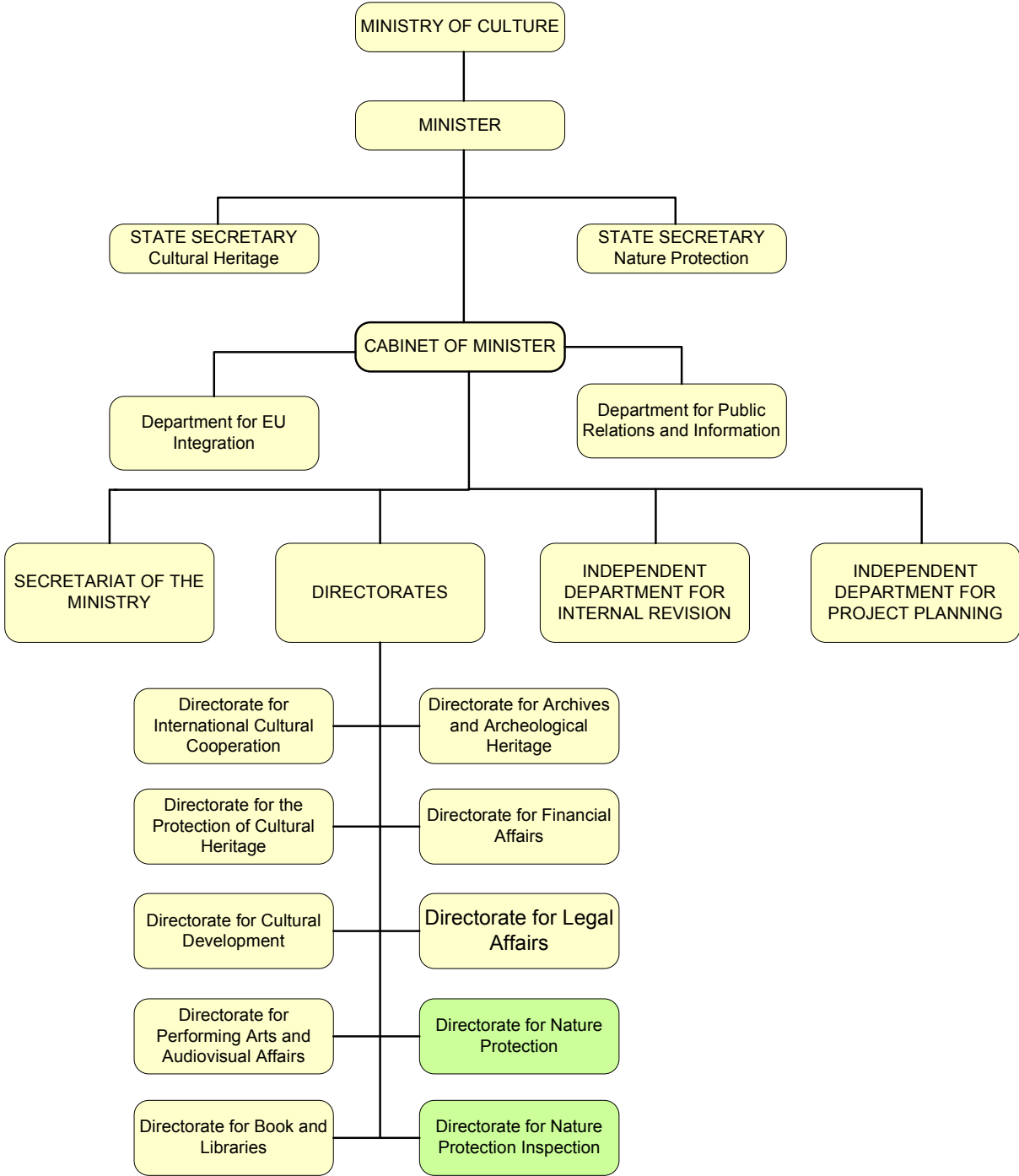
Institutions responsible for CBD PoWPA implementation in Croatia

State and regional levels of responsibility



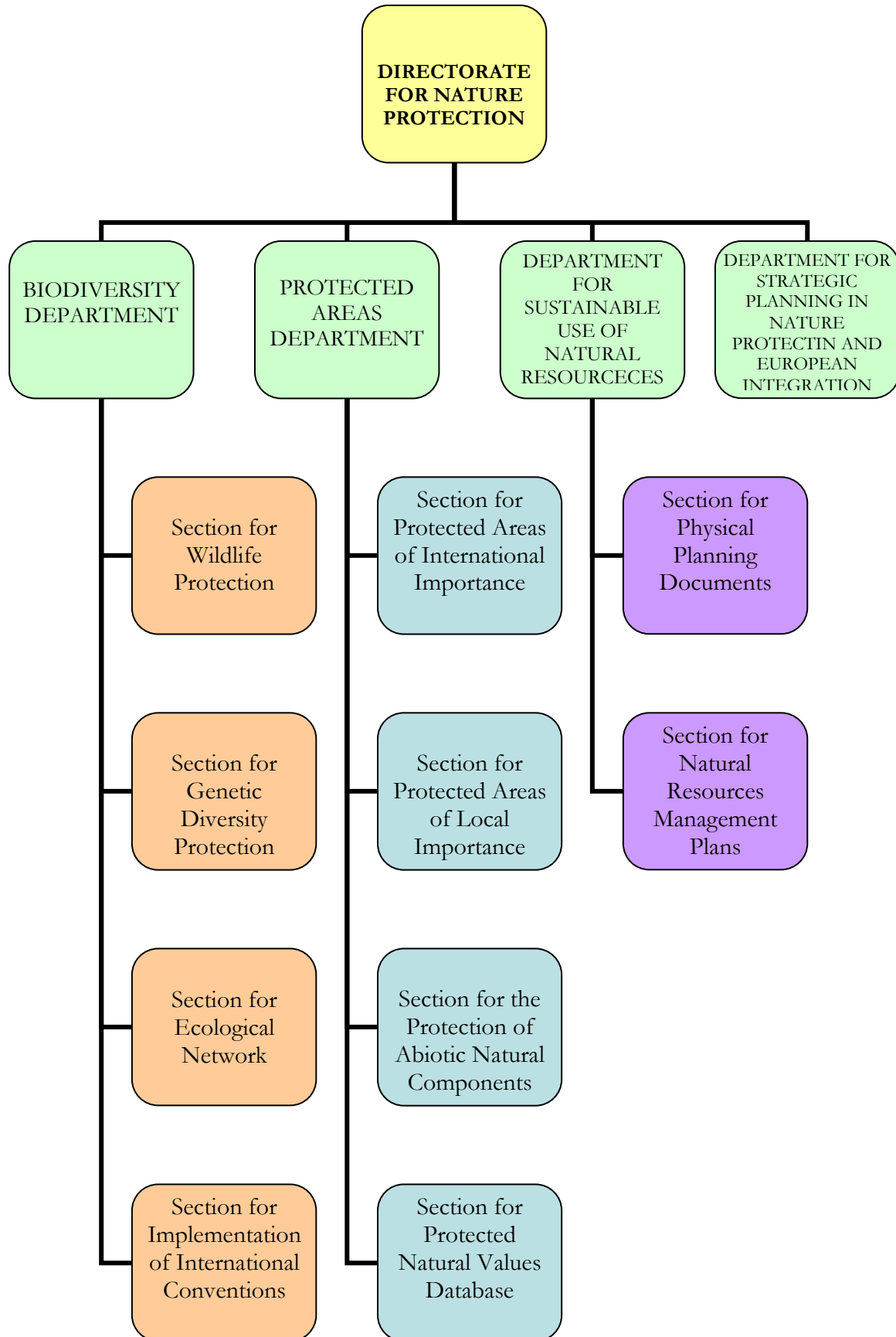
Ministry of Culture (MC)

Organigram



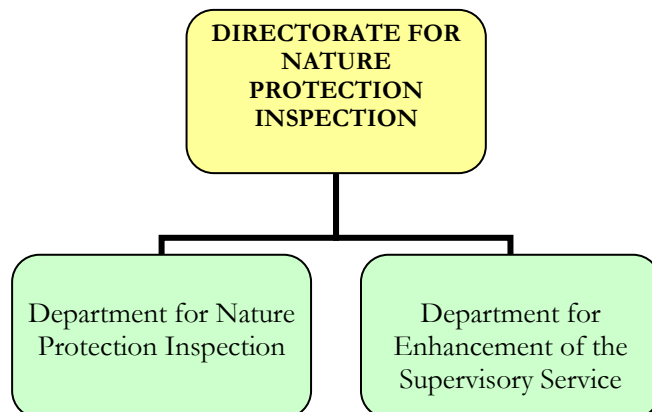
Directorate for Nature Protection

Organigram



Directorate for Nature Protection Inspection

Organigram



Ministry of Culture (MC)

The Government reorganization following the elections in 2003 led to the Nature Protection Directorate being moved from the Ministry of Environment to the Ministry of Culture. In 2008 inspection was taken out from the Nature Protection Directorate and established as a separate Directorate for Nature Protection Inspection. A separate State Institute for Nature Protection (subordinate to the Ministry of Culture), created in 2002, also undertakes expert activities related to nature protection. The roles of these two entities are considered below.

The Nature Protection Directorate

The Nature Protection Directorate within the Ministry of Culture does the following:

- Researches, studies, monitors, registers documents and promotes the natural heritage.
- Maintains the central information and documentation service, and central registers of protected natural areas.
- Establishes the characteristics of and evaluates protected natural areas.
- Prescribes measures for establishing public needs programs in the nature protection sector.
- Harmonizes and monitors programs for financing nature protection.
- Establishes and monitors institutions that perform nature protection tasks.
- Assesses the conditions for nature protection activities by legal and natural persons.
- Establishes conditions for educating and training of experts in nature protection.
- Monitors the transport, import and export of protected natural objects.
- Establishes the conditions for managing and use of protected natural areas and objects.
- Undertakes inspection activities related to nature protection.

The Directorate is headed by a Director who reports to the Minister of Culture through the State Secretary for Nature Protection.

The Directorate comprises four Departments:

- Department for Biological Diversity
- Department for Protected Areas
- Department for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources
- Department for Strategic Planning in Nature Protection and European Integration

The Department for Biodiversity:

- Undertakes administrative and other activities related to the conservation of species, habitats, genetic material and landscape.
- Monitors the status of biodiversity and landscape.
- Revises the National Strategy and Action Plan for the Protection of Biological and Landscape Diversity.
- Background studies for species protection.
- Issues permits for use, breeding, nursing, keeping, transboundary transport and trade, and research.
- Issues permits for import, export or transit of protected species, according to international agreements that Croatia is Party of.
- Develops red lists of endangered species and habitats.
- Develops red books of endangered species.
- Works on issues dealing with introducing and spreading of invasive species.
- Ensures implementation of measures defined in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
- Implements preliminary assessments of ecological network area, which is at the same time protected according to IUCN PA categories, and of activities that are undertaken in two or more county areas.
- Issues permits for activities and permits for starting the procedures of the main activity assessment.
- Implements the main activity assessment and assesses other possibilities that are favorable for the protected area.
- Issues permits for implementation of the activity or forbids the activity.
- Responsible for identifying overriding public interest.
- Implementation of international documents and regulations in nature protection.
- Coordinates activities of protected species transport.
- Monitoring of and reporting on implementation of measures defined within international obligations in nature protection.
- Implements projects in nature protection.

Department for Protected Areas:

- Leads the procedure of protected area establishment.
- Issues confirmation within the procedure of protected area establishment.
- Approves preliminary protection.
- Takes part in development of national parks and nature parks physical plans.
- Confirms protected area management plans and conservation measures.
- Confirms annual programs of protection, maintenance, promotion and use of national parks and nature parks.
- Monitors and controls legal and expert aspects of work of PA public institutions.
- Controls financing of the annual programs of protection, maintenance, promotion and use of national parks and nature parks.
- Monitors and controls legal and expert aspects of work of PA public institutions at county level.
- Takes part in development of by-laws on protected areas.
- Approves documents developed by public institutions of national parks and nature parks.
- Issues permits for scientific work on protected areas.
- Defines terms of compensation needed for mitigation of damages in nature.
- Implements national and international documents and agreements.
- Coordinates programs and projects dealing with nature protection.
- Approves educational and capacity building programs for the staff of public institutions of national parks a nature parks.
- Confirms management plans on use of natural resources on protected areas.
- Approves activities on protected areas.

- Defines terms of nature protection within location permits for buildings and construction works on protected areas.
- Defines terms of nature protection within concessions and concession approvals on protected areas.
- Defines and establishes protection for minerals, stalactites and stalagmites, and fossils.
- Defines terms under which protection of minerals, stalactites and stalagmites, and fossils can be given to an individual or legal person.
- Defines terms under which research of minerals, stalactites and stalagmites, and fossils can be undertaken.
- Defines content, ways and terms of keeping minerals, stalactites and stalagmites, and fossils, outside the sites they originate from.

The Department for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources:

- Monitors the status of the use of natural resources.
- Issues nature protection measures in the process of drafting spatial planning documents and natural resource management plans.
- Issues permissions for interventions in nature and defines appropriate assessment of interventions in nature of all activities that could impact ecological balance.
- Participates in the process of drafting planning documents based on the sectoral legislation (agriculture, forestry, hunting, fishing, exploitation of mineral resources, tourism, etc.).

Department for Strategic Planning in Nature Protection and European Integration:

- Coordinates and implements activities related to EU accession process with regard to nature protection.
- Coordinates drafting and implementation of strategic documents, especially drafting and monitoring of progress towards implementation of the National Program for the Integration of the Republic of Croatia into the European Union (NP/IEU).
- Background studies for implementation of EU assistance and cooperation programs and projects and monitoring of their implementation.
- Reports on project implementation, coordinates and participates in preparation and implementation of projects related to the use of assistance programs and other EU programs, including pre-accession and accession programs.

Directorate for Nature Protection Inspection

- Undertakes inspection related to nature protection legislation.
- Supervises the use and exploitation of protected natural areas and resources.
- Supervises the quality and effectiveness of nature protection measures, and ensures enforcement of the supervisory measures.
- Supervises the work of the ranger services in nature protection public institutions.
- Undertakes administrative and expert supervision of nature protection public institutions.
- Organizes education of inspection and ranger services.

The Directorate is headed by a Director who reports to the Minister of Culture through the State Secretary for Nature Protection.

The Directorate comprises two Departments:

- Department for Nature Protection Inspection
- Department for Enhancement of The Supervisory Service

Department for Nature Protection Inspection

- Undertakes administrative and legal activities related to nature protection.

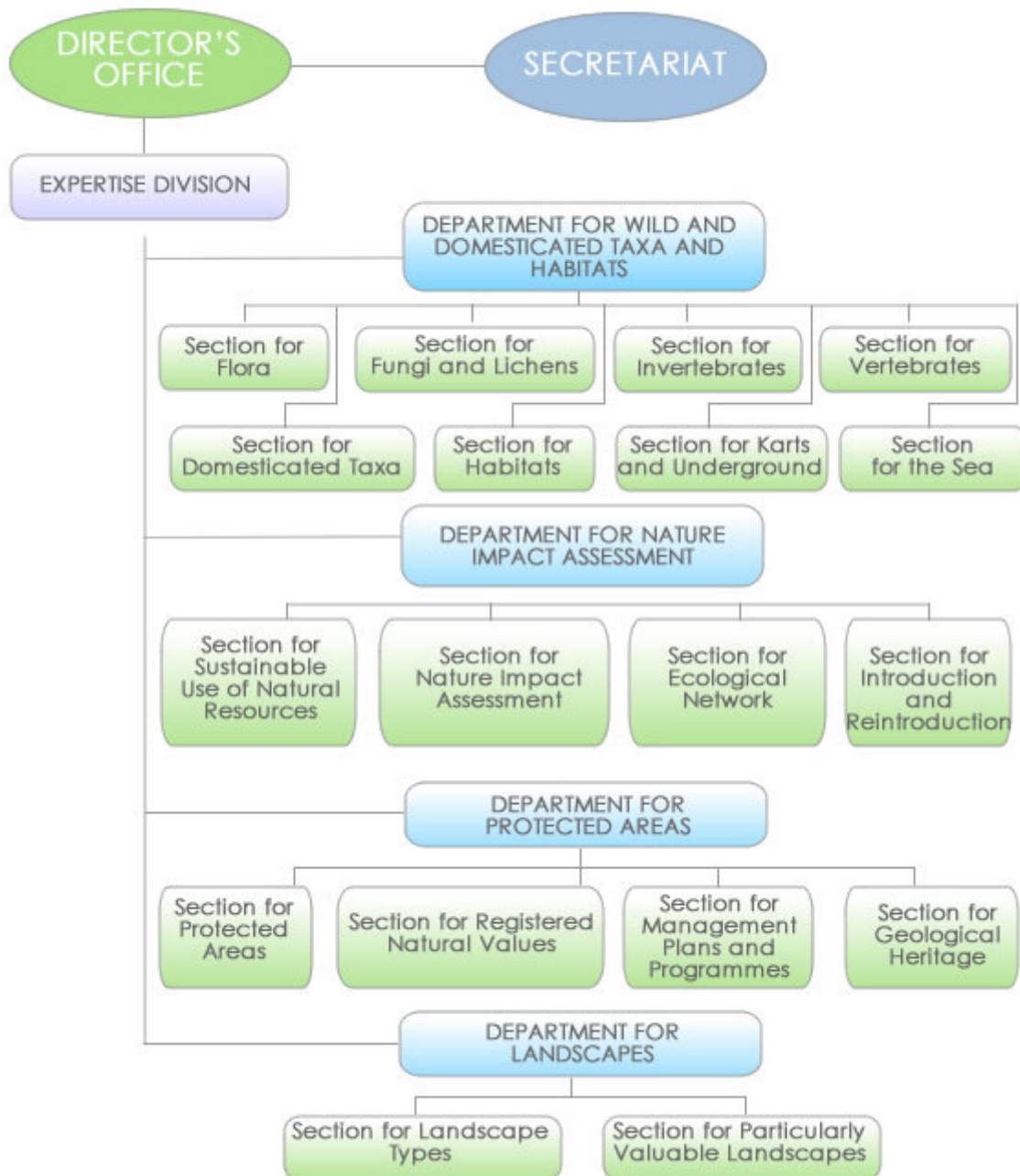
- Gives opinions on inspection enforcement.
- Inspects the implementation of nature protection legislation.
- Supervises the use of protected areas, state of quality and implementation of nature protection measures.
- Supervises the activities related to protected species, cross-border transportation, and handling and breeding of protected species.
- Supervises implementation of inspection measures and secures their implementation.
- Proposes nature protection measures.
- Supervises GMOs based on GMO Act.

Department for Enhancement of the Supervisory Service

- Supports ranger services in their administrative activities.
- Coordinates activities in cooperation with nature protection inspection and other inspections.
- Organizes and implements education, prepares expert exams and expert literature for the expert exam.
- Assists in handling complicated supervision cases.
- Enables linking and comparison between different ranger services.
- Prepares legal templates for inspection and ranger service activities.
- Drafts guidelines, legal positions, opinions and explanations related to implementation of nature protection legislation.

The State Institute for Nature Protection

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The State Institute for Nature Protection

The State Institute for Nature Protection is a public institution established by Government Regulation on Establishing the Institute in 2002 (Official Gazette No. 126/02). It is subordinate to the Ministry for Culture, governed by a management board, and managed by a government appointed director.

The Institute undertakes activities related to nature protection. Broadly, it:

- Collects and analyses data relating to nature protection.

- Produces databases on flora, fungi, animal species, habitats, ecosystems and landscapes.
- Monitors the status of areas of biological and landscape diversity and proposes measures for their protection.
- Prepares expert justifications for protecting and preserving natural areas and values.
- Develops the expert basis for establishing conditions for nature protection, managing protected areas and using natural resources.
- Undertakes statistical analysis, interprets the results and produces reports on the state and protection of nature.
- Prepares and implements projects and programs in the area of nature protection.
- Participates in implementing international agreements on nature protection to which the Republic of Croatia is a signatory.
- Organizes and implements educational and promotional activities in the area of nature protection.
- It is a reference centre for biological diversity.