

環境省の地方支分部局である地方環境事務所について、自治体支援機能を含む地方支分部局としての機能発揮を促進するため、名称を「地方環境局」に改める等の措置を講ずる。

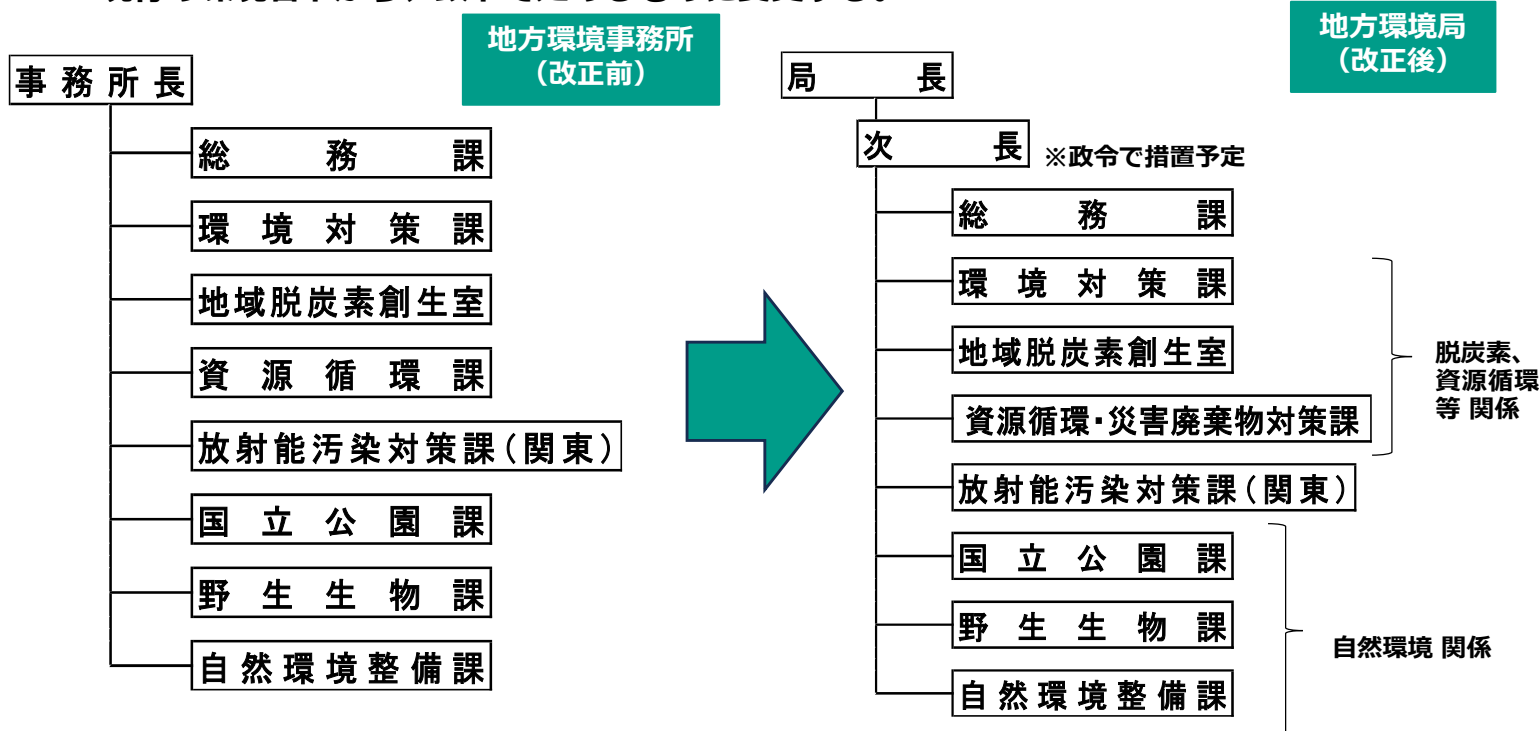
■ 背景

- 平成17年（2005年）に環境省の地方支分部局として設置された地方環境事務所（平成17年当時の定員：369名）は、当初国立公園管理、環境保全活動の促進等を担当していた。設置から20年が経過する中で、地域脱炭素に係る地方公共団体の伴走支援、災害廃棄物処理に係る地方公共団体支援、除染や除去土壌の中間貯蔵事業等を担うようになり、その業務・規模を拡大してきた（全国8か所、令和7年度末時点の定員：1,159名）。
- その一方で、その名称が「事務所」であることにより、ブロック単位の地方支分部局であることが対外的に理解されづらく、各府省や地方公共団体等との円滑な連絡・調整等に支障が生ずる場合もある。
- このため、今回、災害廃棄物処理対策に係る地方公共団体支援機能の強化、クマ対策を含む広域的野生鳥獣保護管理・外来生物対策、地域の資源循環等の体制強化を行うことと合わせ、ブロック単位の地方支分部局にふさわしい「地方環境局」という名称に改めること等により、自治体への支援機能を含め、地方支分部局としての効果的な機能発揮を促進する。



■ 主な改正内容

- 環境省の地方支分部局である地方環境事務所の名称を「地方環境局」に改める。
- 地方環境局長を支える幹部職として次長を置くことができるよう、地方環境局の内部組織を現行の環境省令から、政令で定めるものに変更する。



※北海道、東北、福島、関東、中部、近畿、中国四国、九州の各地方環境事務所を局へ名称変更

※上記は各地方環境事務所（福島を除く）の組織図の例

自治体への支援機能を含め、地方支分部局としての効果的な機能発揮

＜施行期日＞ 令和8年7月1日

Outline of the Bill Partially Amending the Act on Establishment of the Ministry of the Environment

With respect to the Regional Environment Office, which is a local branch office of the Ministry of the Environment, in order to promote the fulfillment of its functions as those offices, including functions to support local governments, measures will be taken, such as changing its name to "Regional Environment Bureau", etc.

■ Background

○ **Regional Environment Office**, which was established as local branch offices of the Ministry of the Environment in **2005 (authorized staffing as of 2005: 369 people)**, was initially in charge of national park management, promotion of environmental conservation activities, etc. As approximately 20 years passed since its establishment, **it has expanded its scope and scale of operations** by engaging in support for local governments in regional decarbonization, support for local governments for disaster waste disposal, decontamination and interim storage of removed soil, etc.

(8 locations nationwide, authorized staffing as of the end of fiscal 2025:1159 people).

○ On the other hand, the fact that the name includes "**Office**" makes it difficult for people to accept externally that it is a **region-based local branch office**, and **there are cases where smooth communication and coordination, etc. with the Cabinet Office and Ministries, and local governments, etc. are hindered.**

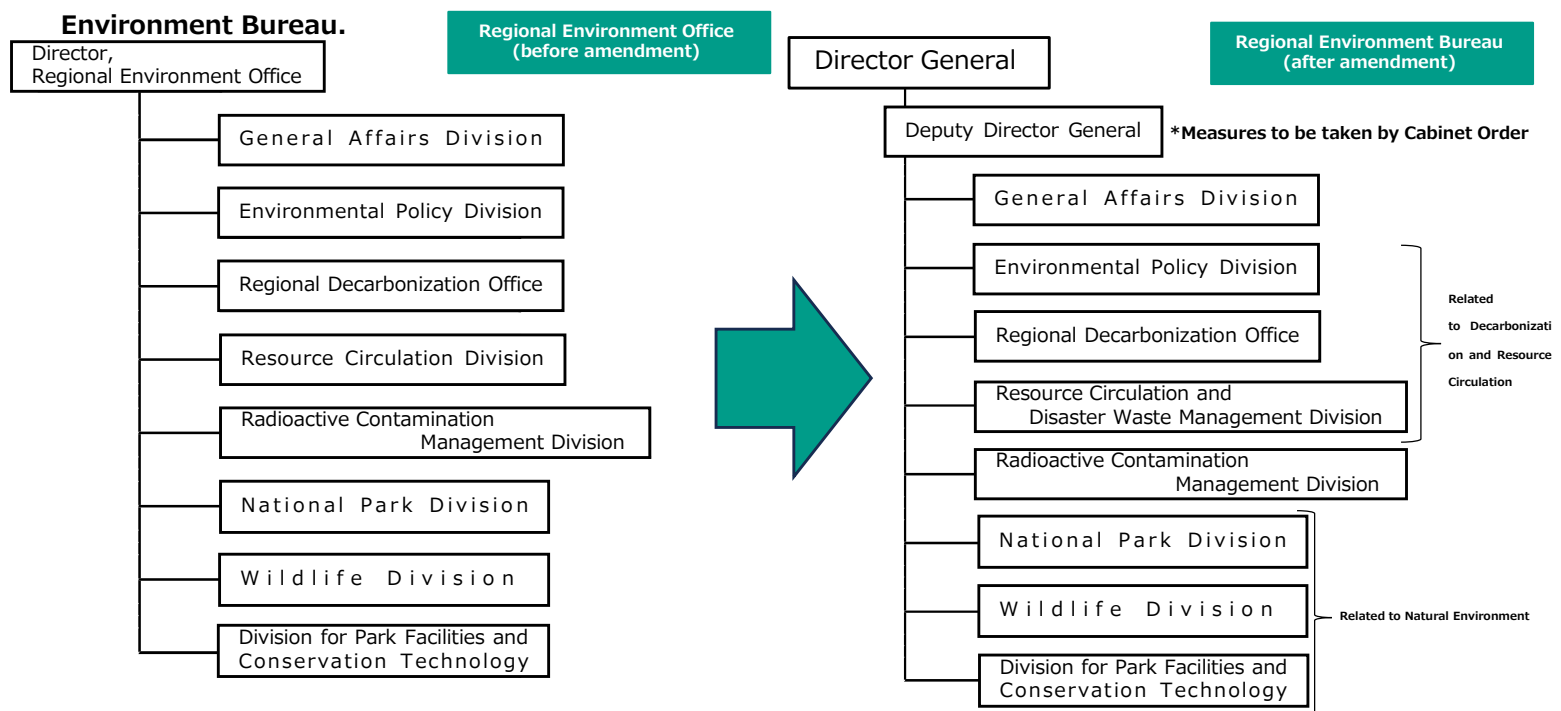
○ For this reason, the Government will **promote the effective functioning of the local branch office, including the support function for local governments, by changing its name to "regional environment bureau"**, which is suitable for a region-based local branch office, along with **strengthening the support function** of local governments for **disaster waste management measures**, and strengthening the wide-area wildlife protection and management system, including **measures against bears**, measures against alien species, and regional recycling of resources, etc.



■ Main contents of the revision

○ **The name of Regional Environment Office, which is a local branch office of the Ministry of the Environment, is to be amended to "Regional Environment Bureau."**

○ **The internal organization of the Regional Environment Bureau is to be prescribed by the Cabinet Order rather than by an Order of the Ministry of the Environment under current system so that a Deputy Director can be appointed as a senior official to support the Director General of the Regional Environment Bureau.**



* Each Regional Environment Office of Hokkaidō, Tōhoku, Fukushima, Kantō, Chūbu, Kinki, Chūgoku-Shikoku, and Kyūshū is renamed Bureau.

* The above is an example of an organization chart for each Regional Environment Office (excluding Fukushima).

Exercising effective functions as a local branch office, including support functions for local governments.

<Effective Date> July 1, 2026