

Environment

POLICY PROPOSALS

1. Turn responsibility for environmental regulation and land management back to the states and the private sector.
2. Properly define the waters covered under the Clean Water Act to provide clarity and protection for property owners.
3. Improve the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
4. Require congressional approval for more stringent National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

QUICK FACTS

1. The federal government owns and controls 640 million acres of land in the United States, an area larger than California and Mexico combined.
2. The federal government has a poor track record in recovering endangered species. In the 45-year history of the ESA, fewer than 3 percent of the listed domestic species have been “recovered” and delisted, less than one per year.
3. From 1980 to 2018, several air pollutants showed dramatic declines, including a 91 percent decline in sulfur dioxide and a 99 percent decrease in lead.

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SOLUTIONS
Pocket Cards 2020

Environment

A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

- We all want a clean environment for ourselves and for future generations.

LOCAL STEWARDSHIP

- Our land and resources are best cared for by the people closest to them—not by the federal government.
- The state of our air and water has improved dramatically over the past several decades through innovation and investment in new technologies.
- Meanwhile, federal management of national sites often leads to bureaucratic mismanagement and stagnation. Catastrophic wildfires and species overpopulation devastate national parks, while nuclear cleanup efforts go unaddressed.