

Introduction to Environment and Conservation Elements

John Aber, Principal Planner
Coconino County

Mark Ogonowski, Urban Wildlife Planner
Arizona Game and Fish/Coconino County

Bob Caravona, Comprehensive Planning Manager
City of Flagstaff

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Environment Element contains analyses, policies and strategies *to address anticipated effects*, if any, of plan elements on

- **Air quality**
- **Water quality**
- **Natural resources**
 - associated with proposed development under the general plan.

“The policies and strategies to be developed under this element shall be designed to have *community-wide applicability* and *shall not require* the production of an additional environmental impact statement...”



Conservation Element an element for the *conservation, development and utilization* of **natural resources** including:

- Forest
 - Soils
 - Rivers and other waters
 - Harbors fisheries
 - Wildlife
 - Minerals, and
 - Other natural resources
- Conservation may also cover:
 - Land reclamation
 - Flood control
 - Pollution prevention and control of streams and waters
 - Regulation land use in stream channels and other areas required for the accomplishment of the conservation plan
 - Prevention, control and correction of soil erosion
 - Protection of watersheds



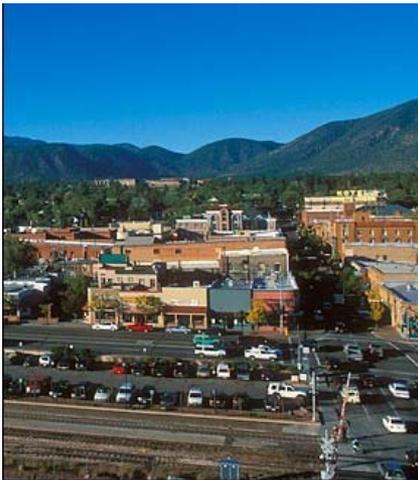
Overlap

Analysis and Implication

Environment Element

Seeks policy **effects**
upon:

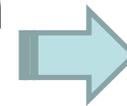
- Air quality
- Water quality
- **Natural resources**



Conservation Element

State statutes appears
to ask of **Natural
resources**, “How do
we use these natural
resources?”

- Conserve?
- Develop?
- How use and in what
manner?



Environment and Conservation

*“In the Flagstaff region,
where the environment is
such an important part of
the character and
economy of the
community, it would be
difficult, if not impossible
to consider Environmental
Planning separately from
Conservation – the two
topics are inextricably
linked.” (Introduction)*

Current Regional Plan

Natural / Cultural Resource and the Environment Chapter

Included topics:

- Soils
- Topography
- Geology
- Climate
- Seismic Conditions
- Storm water system
- Wild fire
- Noxious Weeds
- Historic preservation
- Dark skies



Included topics

(not in State Statute for Environment and Conservation Element):

- Soils
- Topography
- Geology
- Climate
- Seismic Conditions
- Storm water system
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Lacks pertinent topics:

- Air quality
- Water quality
- Ecosystems
- Wildlife
- Native plant communities



Proposed Chapter: Environment and Conservation

Environmental Quality Section

- Introduction
- Relationship to Vision and Guiding Principles
- Climate
- Ecosystem (health/status/condition)
- Noxious and Invasive Weeds
- Wildlife
- Environmentally Sensitive Lands
- Soils
- Water Quality
- Air Quality
- Dark Skies
- Natural Quiet



Proposed Chapter: Environment and Conservation

Environmental Quality Section

What are we missing in the outline?

- Introduction
- Relationship to Vision and Guiding Principles
- Climate
- Ecosystem Health
- Noxious and Invasive Weeds
- Wildlife
- Environmentally Sensitive Lands
- Soils
- Water Quality
- Air Quality
- Dark Skies
- Natural Quiet

To plan our meetings, are there subject areas which you feel need greater in depth conversations? Are there certain experts you would like to be present to ask questions?

Draft Introduction: Central message

Healthy environment = Healthy community

Can we all agree on this statement?

This is one of the basic ideas prevalent throughout the existing plan and is consistent with Open House and Focus groups.

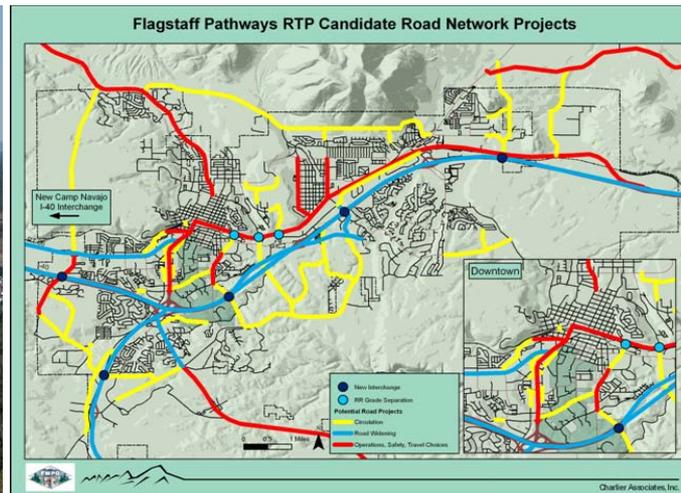
Is this consistent with your thoughts?

Is there a conflict with these ideas?



Draft Introduction: Issues to discuss

1. Is there a balance to growth and the environment?
2. Are all lands available to development?
3. Is protecting the environment good business?
4. Community absolutes



STEPS FORWARD: Environment and Conservation

Approach to meetings:

Review and comment upon on a subsection-by-subsection basis

- a. Text
- b. Goals
- c. Policy

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Environment and Conservation Chapter