

## Press Release

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## President Bush's Environmental Record Gets a Bronx Cheer

**San Francisco, CA:** Tonight, President Bush prepares to address the Republican National Convention in New York City and lay out his agenda for the next four years. However, no amount of red, white, and blue confetti and balloons can hide the Bush administration's anti-green record. Almost from its first hours in power, the administration has actively overturned and undermined some of our nation's most important environmental laws and regulations.

For example, Bush's Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton has wreaked havoc upon the National Park System by pushing motorized thrillcraft such as snowmobiles and jetskis into some of our most sacred parks such as Yellowstone National Park and Assateague Island National Seashore. Moreover, the Secretary has done nothing to address the growing problem of out of control off-road vehicle use in places such as Mojave National Preserve and Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

"It appears President Bush believes GOP stands for Gluttony Over environmental Protection," said Sean Smith Bluewater Network's public lands director and former Republican. "Sadly, the Republican Party under Bush has alienated many voters by straying from its historic conservation roots put down by President Teddy Roosevelt."

Another critical area where the Bush Administration has put up roadblocks to environmental progress is global warming. First, Bush pulled the U.S. out of international negotiations to ratify the Kyoto Protocol. Then his administration blocked information on the real nature of the problem by censoring critical government reports and blocked all efforts to implement real policy solutions in the U.S..

"Bush is blocking climate solutions just when it's more critical than ever to reduce emissions. It really is a crime against our children's and grandchildren's futures," said Elisa Peters, Bluewater Network's global warming campaign director.

When it comes to pollution on the seas, Bush's record is a dead zone. The administration gutted new air pollution standards for large ships and still has not responded to Bluewater Network's petition to stop cruise ship dumping. Neither has Bush acted on ocean protection measures recommended by a national commission that he hand-picked.

"Bush sees only oil platforms and shipping lanes where most of America looks for clean beaches and blue waters," said Teri Shore, Clean Vessels Campaign Director.

Like the economy and civil rights, the environment is likely to be an important issue this November and the candidates' position may play a critical role in swing states such as Florida and Colorado.