



NO COMPARISON: Gore vs. Bush on the Environment

ISSUE	BUSH	GORE
WATER	More than 4,400 miles of Texas rivers—one-third of those monitored—are so polluted they fail to meet federal standards for recreational and other uses. Despite the harm, Texas ranks 46 th among states for water resources protection, yet Bush continues to condemn federal regulations.	Gore supports strengthening the Clean Water Act and investments in clean water to achieve fishable and swimmable waters nationwide. He also vows, if elected, to veto Congressional attacks on clean water.
AIR POLLUTION	Bush opposes mandatory, federal emissions reduction programs.	Gore supports strong mandatory Clean Air Act protections. He favors a comprehensive clean air strategy that includes tightening fuel economy standards and phasing out older power plants that can't meet modern air pollution standards.
PUBLIC LANDS PROTECTION	Bush generally opposes federal involvement in wilderness and park protection. Bush would increase logging and road construction in national forests.	Gore supports wilderness and parks protections. He was instrumental in helping to create the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument in Utah. Through the Land Legacy initiative, Gore supports purchasing more land for national parks, wildlife refuges and forests.
OIL DRILLING	Bush supports the current moratorium on oil drilling off the Florida and California coasts. However, he would open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling.	Gore pledged to protect beaches and wilderness by expanding the current moratorium on oil drilling off the coasts of California and Florida and ban companies from new drilling under existing leases. He opposes opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to drilling.
CLIMATE CHANGE	Bush acknowledges that global warming is occurring. However, he opposes the Kyoto Protocol to reduce global warming emissions.	Gore is a leader in the effort to combat climate change. He supports emissions reductions and development of new technologies that make reductions possible. He is credited with salvaging the U.S. role in the 1997 Kyoto climate change negotiations that produced the Kyoto Protocol.
ENDANGERED SPECIES	Bush generally opposes the federal Endangered Species Act, arguing that states should decide if and how to protect species.	Gore supports efforts to strengthen the ESA. He also supports the broader use of public investment to protect habitat.