

A Planning Primer

Timothy P. Duane, J.D., Ph.D.
University of California, Berkeley
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A Planning Primer

- *Key Lesson: planning is a social process*

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- *Institutional arrangements influence*
 - *Who engages in the planning process*
 - *The criteria they use to make decisions*
 - *How conservation science is incorporated*
 - *The power relationships among the actors*
 - *Whether decisions are implemented*

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- Key Lesson: planning is a social process
- Institutional arrangements influence
 - Who engages in the planning process
 - The criteria they use to make decisions
 - How conservation science is incorporated
 - The power relationships among the actors
 - Whether decisions are implemented
- *Land use planning is primarily local*

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- *A typical view of planning by non-planners:*
 - *Rationale, science-based analysis is conducted to inform planning decisions*
 - *“Politics” intervenes to ignore the science*

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- A typical view of planning by non-planners:
 - Rationale, science-based analysis is conducted to inform planning decisions
 - “Politics” intervenes to ignore the science
- *A more nuanced view of planning politics*
 - *Stakeholders behave in predictable ways*
 - *The formal planning process is important, but it plays a particular role in a social setting*
 - *“Politics” is more than just log-rolling power*

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- *Institutional setting of federal regulation:*
 - *Formalized, transparent decision-making*
 - *Narrow criteria for decisions (e.g., listing a species vs. critical habitat under the ESA)*
 - *Executive branch (i.e., non-elected) experts*

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- Institutional setting of federal regulation:
 - Formalized, transparent decision-making
 - Narrow criteria for decisions (e.g., listing a species vs. critical habitat under the ESA)
 - Executive branch (i.e., non-elected) experts
- *Institutional setting for local land use:*
 - *Broad criteria for decisions (values/interests)*
 - *Legislative branch (i.e., elected) generalists*
 - *Instant feedback from the voters each week*

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- *Institutional structure of local authority*
 - *Federal government is one of limited, enumerated powers under the Constitution*

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 - Federal government is one of limited, enumerated powers under the Constitution
 - *General “Police Power” resides with the State*
 - *Local agencies (municipalities, counties, etc.) are considered subdivisions of the State*

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- Institutional structure of local authority
 - Federal government is one of limited, enumerated powers under the Constitution
 - General “Police Power” resides with the State
 - Local agencies (municipalities, counties, etc.) are considered subdivisions of the State
 - *Some states have established regional agencies with substantive land use authority*
 - *Some states have established specific substantive criteria for land use decisions*

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- *Instead, land use planning usually has to comply only with procedural requirements*

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- In general, though, there are no clear substantive criteria for land use decisions
- Instead, land use planning usually has to comply only with procedural requirements
- *In addition, “takings” concerns are critical:*
 - *Federal constitutional jurisprudence*
 - *State measures going beyond Constitution*
 - *Local political acceptability of regulation*

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- *Which brings us back to the key lesson: planning is a social (i.e., political) process*

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- Which brings us back to the key lesson: planning is a social (i.e., political) process
- *Understanding the conditions under which conservation science will be incorporated into local land use planning requires us to understand how humans make decisions*

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- Which brings us back to the key lesson: planning is a social (i.e., political) process
- Understanding the conditions under which conservation science will be incorporated into local land use planning requires us to understand how humans make decisions
- *Humans consider a wide range of values and interests when making decisions, and conservation values compete with others*