

What services does EPG provide?

EPG's technical services include:

- Surveys for threatened and endangered species
- Cultural resources surveys, testing, and data recovery
- Hazardous wastes investigations and remediation
- Air quality and noise modeling
- Section 404 permitting for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Social and economic impact analyses
- Environmental analyses for material sources
- Public meetings and hearings
- State Historic Preservation Office consultation for historic preservation
- Endangered species consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Partnering with government agencies
- Coordination with Native American groups
- Mitigation monitoring during and after construction
- Review and approval of federally funded local government projects
- Community outreach

How do I contact EPG?

Environmental Planning Group

Arizona Department of Transportation

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What are EPG's and ADOT's mission statements?

EPG's Mission

The purpose of the Environmental Planning Group (EPG) is to provide environmental clearances, technical assistance, and education to ADOT and its customers in support of ADOT's mission.

ADOT's Mission

To provide products and services for a safe, efficient, cost-effective transportation system that links Arizona to the global economy, promotes economic prosperity and demonstrates respect for Arizona's environment and quality of life.

What are the primary environmental laws?

There are dozens of environmental laws on the federal, state, and local level; the primary laws include:

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act
- Clean Air Act
- Clean Water Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Arizona Native Plant Law
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
- Farmland Protection Policy Act
- Executive Order 12898: Environmental Justice

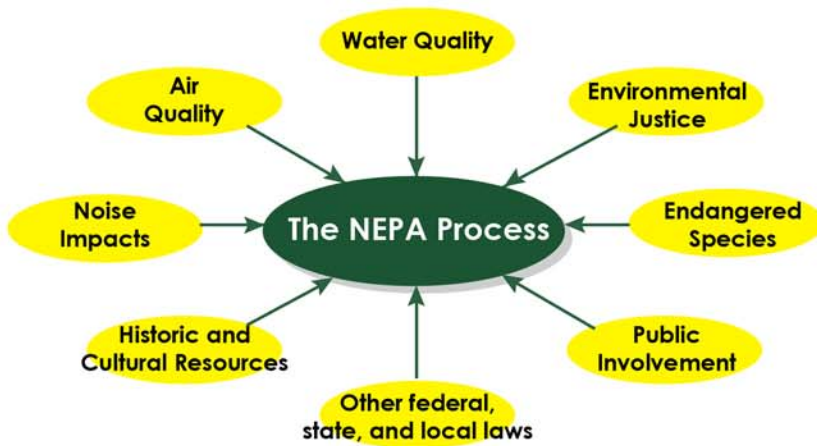


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Who is ADOT EPG?

ADOT EPG consists of multi-disciplinary professionals including biologists, archaeologists, planners, and noise, air quality and hazardous waste experts. EPG is committed to the proper treatment of natural resources, socioeconomic issues and cultural resources during all engineering design and construction projects. The group provides assistance to ensure that each project complies with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and related environmental laws taking into account a variety of issues, as shown below:



Bighorn Sheep

Why consider environmental impacts?

Transportation projects, from freeway construction to multi-use pathways, help shape Arizona's natural and social environments. The state's roadway system has expanded in recent decades to accommodate the transportation needs of a booming economy and population growth. ADOT projects are designed to serve public transportation needs and to enhance community development, while preserving the environmental resources that make Arizona an attractive place for its residents and businesses.



S.R. 179 at Oak Creek

How does EPG assist with public outreach and agency coordination?

ADOT encourages public input, including comments on project design, location, and environmental and social impacts throughout all stages of project development, which includes:

- Public meetings
- Direct mail and flyers
- Project newsletters
- Web sites
- News media



Native American Art,
Santan Freeway - Loop 202

How does EPG ensure compliance with environmental regulations?

Avoidance, minimization, and compensation are typical methods of mitigating project impacts. Environmental mitigation measures include:

- Hazardous waste remediation
- Aesthetic treatments such as landscaping, the creation of natural looking rock cuts, and the addition of murals and sculptures
- Noise abatement by construction of noise walls and/or berms, depression of freeways
- Data recovery of cultural resources
- Native plant salvage and revegetation
- Erosion control including the use of silt fences and rip rap
- Habitat enhancements for natural drainageways
- Wildlife crossings

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