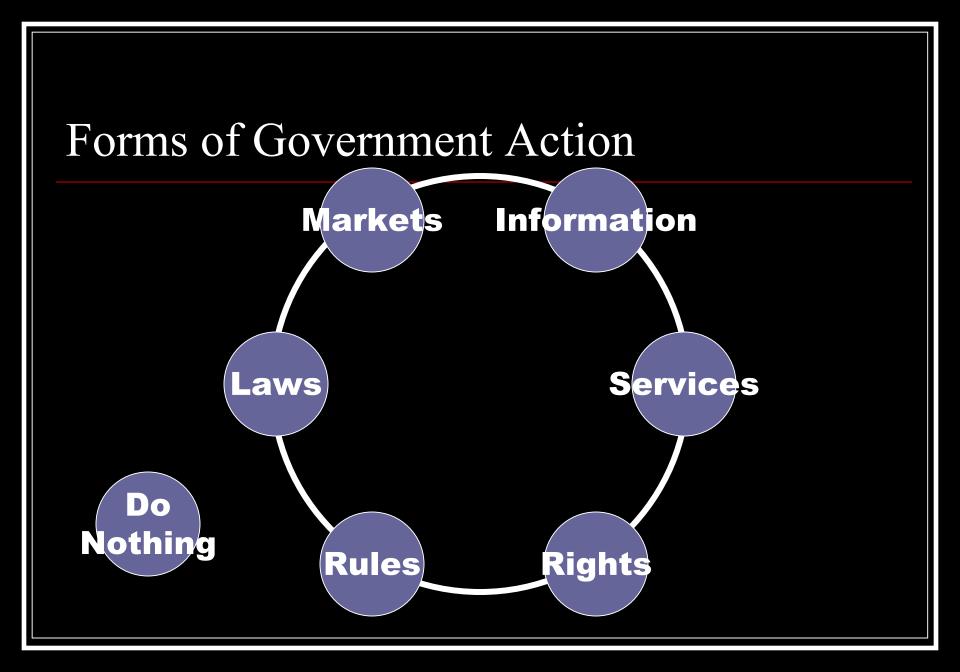# Administrative Rationalism

"Command & Control Regulation"

Managerial Model

- Environmental problems are fundamentally "technical in nature"
  - problems can be segmented and dealt with piecemeal: air, water, solid waste, pesticides, land use, endangered species, etc.
- We can distinguish between technical and political issues in policy-making
- A professionalized bureaucracy will be politically neutral and produce the best public policy decisions
  - Based on scientific problem-solving

Forms of Government Action

Markets   Information

Laws

Services

Do Nothing

Rules   Rights

Command & Control Regulation

- Industry = polluting enemy

- Government must protect the public

- Government agencies are captured by industry

  - ➔ Congress to create laws mandating action
    - Create legal mechanisms to ensure enforcement
  - Create a new agency dedicated to the environment

"Command & Control" Regulation

- **Government sets standards**
  - Performance & technological standards
    - There are "safe" levels of pollutants & environmental damage
- **Government compels compliance via law**
  - Non-compliance is a crime
- **Government monitors compliance**
- **Government enforces rules**

National Environmental Policy Act (1969)

- **All Federal agencies must submit EIS**
  - Scientific-technical review of projects
  - Allows legal challenges for compliance
- **Creates CEQ**
  - 3 member panel appointed by President