

Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning
Arizona Workshop
Background on Presenters
November 2006

Arnold Burnham is currently the Manager of the Regional and Statewide Planning Section of the ADOT Transportation Planning Division. Arnold started with the Arizona Department of Transportation in 1977 working with traffic forecasting models for the MAG area. Worked in various sections within the Transportation Planning Division including the Long Range Planning, Local Government, Data, and Rail Planning Sections. Worked in the Priority Planning Section from 1991 to 2006, manager from July 1997 to July 2006. He has been the manager of the Regional and Statewide Planning Section since July of this year. Arnold received a Bachelor of University Studies degree from the University of New Mexico in 1973 and a Master of Science degree in Transportation Planning from the University of Arizona in 1977.

Fil Chavez is the Sole Proprietor of PM:A/Planning & Management: Applied, a management consulting firm established in 1979, specializing in the organizational and professional development of individuals and groups in both public agencies and private businesses. Fil has been providing project facilitation services since 1982 and partnering facilitation services for the transportation industry since 1994. He has assisted ADOT with many partnering situations where external entities were involved including local and federal governmental agencies, special interest groups, elected officials, homeowners association, and property owners with interests affected by and affecting the planning, designing, building, and maintaining of roadway facilities. Fil has assisted ADOT with several environmental and transportation issues including one which involved a community group -- the Friends of SR 82, and various environmental groups -- the Patagonia Preserve, the Audubon Society, the Appleton Whittell Research Ranch; this project resulted in a national and state award-winning process. Fil credits these successes to his soul-mate and full partner in life, Mary. Fil has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, a Master of Arts in Urban Studies, and was one of twenty 1973-1974 National Urban Fellows.

Pat Comer is Chief Terrestrial Ecologist for NatureServe. Pat directs the Terrestrial Ecology Department of NatureServe. He and his staff, along with ecologists from across NatureServe's network, develop standards, methods, and data for ecosystem conservation across the Americas. He has extensive experience with natural resource management and biodiversity conservation planning. Pat serves as consulting ecologist in the development of the science methodologies applied in the NatureServe Vista decision-support tool.

Patrick J. Crist is Science Applications Manager for NatureServe, an international information technology non-profit organization specializing in the conservation of biodiversity (www.natureserve.org). His main role at NatureServe is managing development of conservation planning methodology for incorporation in the NatureServe Vista decision support software and managing field applications of the software with a variety of clients. From 1995-2001 he was the National Program Coordinator for the USGS Gap Analysis

Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning
Arizona Workshop
Background on Presenters
November 2006

Program (GAP); a nationwide biodiversity assessment program. He began his GAP career as the New Mexico GAP coordinator. He has a B.S. in landscape architecture from California Polytechnic (1984), an M.L.A. in landscape architecture and regional planning from the University of Pennsylvania (1992), and Ph.D. in Natural Resources (2003) from the University of Idaho.

Michael Culp is a Project Development Specialist with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Office of Environment and Planning (HEP) where he works on policy and compliance issues related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), integration of the NEPA and transportation planning processes, and integrated planning activities. He has 13 years of experience with FHWA, focusing primarily on planning and environmental programs and policy. Michael holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas and an M.A. in Transportation Policy from George Mason University.

Shara Howie is currently a Sector Relations Manager for NatureServe's Conservation Services Division and works out of the Western Regional Office of NatureServe located in Boulder, Colorado. Shara has over 12 years of experience supporting the development and maintenance of conservation data and data management systems. Shara has years of experience as a project manager supplying U.S. and Canadian federal agencies and other organizations with conservation data, analyses and other conservation services in collaboration with NatureServe's international network of member programs (Natural Heritage Programs). Shara is currently working on projects with Parks Canada, the Canadian Wildlife Service, Federal Highways Administration, the National Park Service, and The Nature Conservancy. In the past, Shara worked extensively with the Department of Defense, EPA and other federal agencies, and she specializes in the facilitation of data sharing between organizations. Before joining NatureServe in 2001, Shara worked for The Nature Conservancy's Science Division for 10 years and the Smithsonian's Botany Department for 3 years. Shara has a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from George Mason University.

Kimberly Majerus is a natural resource and GIS analyst with the FHWA-Resource Center near Chicago, Illinois and partners with FHWA HQ and Divisions to deliver technical assistance and customized sessions to support state DOTs and MPOs nationwide. A 20 year career includes the Illinois Dept of Transportation and Corps of Engineers as project manager, environmental unit head, and GIS coordinator. B.S. and M.S. degrees earned at University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign.

Sabra Schwartz is currently the Program Supervisor for Arizona's Heritage Data Management System (housed within the Arizona Game and Fish Dept.). She started working with the HDMS in 1989, after receiving her B.S. in biology from Northern Arizona University. Except for two years spent working in the Penguin Encounter at Sea World of

Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning
Arizona Workshop
Background on Presenters
November 2006

Florida, she has spent her entire career with the HDMS in Arizona, starting as data manager. Sabra enjoys surfing with her two kids.

Jeff Sorensen is the Arizona Game and Fish Department's statewide program manager for native fish and invertebrate conservation. He was the lead planner for the development of Arizona's State Wildlife Action Plan (or "Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy"), and continues to be actively involved in its implementation and outreach with Department cooperators.

Trisha White is the Director of Defenders of Wildlife's Habitat & Highways Campaign at their national headquarters in Washington, DC. The Habitat & Highways campaign seeks to reduce the impact of surface transportation infrastructure on wildlife and encourages state and local authorities to incorporate wildlife conservation into transportation and community planning. In partnership with Surface Transportation Policy Project (STPP), Trisha released a report, *Second Nature: Improving Transportation Without Putting Nature Second* which has since been awarded the 2004 NRCA Award of Achievement for best publication.

- Sponsor and steering committee, International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET)
- Member, FHWA Europe Scan tour on wildlife mortality
- Founding Member, TRB Ecology and Transportation Task Force
- Founding Member, TransWild Alliance
- Board, Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project

Prior to Defenders, Trisha spent three years with World Resources Institute's Biological Resources program, and one year as environment policy consultant to USAID's Global Environment Center. In 2000, she received her Masters degree in Environment & Resource Policy from George Washington University.