



Workshop Invitation

Linking Conservation and Transportation Planning

August 15-16, 2006

U.S. Department of Transportation Office
12300 W. Dakota Avenue, Lakewood, Colorado

Summary: The FHWA Project Development and Environmental Review Office, the FHWA Colorado Division, Colorado DOT, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, NatureServe, and Defenders of Wildlife are hosting a workshop to improve linkages between conservation and transportation planning.

This workshop will emphasize the use of information, tools and methods that can be shared between the transportation community, and the resource and regulatory agencies at the local, State, regional, and national levels. We will feature information, tools and methods that are being used locally, as well as internationally.

The workshop will be structured to allow discussion of the necessity to integrate conservation and transportation planning, including how various data, methods and tools presented during the workshop might be successfully used to improve processes.

Workshop participants will be expected to facilitate moving forward the goals of this initiative. Workshop participants will also be expected to work toward future efforts in developing products and results, and demonstrating their use. Possible approaches can include considerations of cooperative funding and partnerships that will facilitate demonstration, delivery, and use into the future.

Audience: This workshop is oriented towards transportation planners and environmental staff involved in transportation and conservation planning.

Maximum workshop size: 40 'active' participants with an additional 10 'observers'.

Workshop Content (see agenda for details):

The workshop will include an overview of:

- transportation efforts currently underway
- major conservation approaches in use
- data sources available for conservation planning

- software tools being utilized for conservation planning

Products from the Workshop will include the following:

1. Workshop materials
2. A compilation of materials on a variety of conservation decision support tools and methods
3. Predictive modeling documentation
4. NatureServe Vista case study presentation (with example analyses and output results)
5. Summary of concepts on information sharing and coordination across agencies (data management, programmatic approaches)
6. Workshop summaries with cumulative lessons learned
7. Presentation for discussion forums and conferences
8. Summary of future efforts/phases

Goals for the Future:

The Workshops will seek to set the stage for use of consistent scientific methods, data collection and compilation techniques, analyses, and products - useful for coordination/consultation between resource and regulatory agencies towards linking conservation and transportation planning. Future efforts will continue to pursue this goal.

Registration:

Fill out the workshop registration form, due Friday, July 14, 2006 and send it to Rebecca Price at NatureServe, Rebecca_price@natureserve.org.