



State Wildlife Action Plans: One year Later National Conservation Training Center

Using State Wildlife Action Plans to Link
Transportation and Conservation Planning:

It's **Eco-Logical!**

Joseph Burns

National Transportation Liaison, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Mark Van Putten

President, ConservationStrategy® LLC

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Eco-Logical

**An Ecosystem Approach for
Developing Infrastructure Projects.**



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Eco-Logical

SAFETEA-LU & Executive Order 13274 :

“....promote environmental stewardship;...and streamline environmental reviews....”



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Why Eco-Logical

*Transportation Workload
Dramatically Increasing in
volume and complexity.*

*How can the transportation
agencies respond fast
enough to ensure adequate
stewardship?*





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Eco-Logical

**Linking transportation planning
and conservation planning**

**Enhances Coordination
Across Agency & Across-Program**



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State Action Plans provide direction.



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Three Scales of Transportation Planning

1. **Systems-Level**
2. **State-Wide**
3. **Regional**

**State Wildlife Action Plans
can guide all three.**



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What Have We Learned?

**Transportation Planning
&
Conservation Planning
are integrally related to
Land Use Planning.**



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Eco-Logical Examples

Washington – I-90

Colorado – Short-Grass Prairie & STEP-UP

Florida – ETDM

North Carolina- Ecosystem Enhancement Program

California – Riverside County

Oregon – Oregon Bridges Project

Montana – I-90



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Non-Transportation Examples

Arizona: Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan

Oregon: Agate Desert Conservation Plan

Louisiana: Coastal Protection & Restoration Author.

Missouri: Middle Mississippi River Restoration

Chesapeake Bay Restoration Program

Everglades Restoration Program



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Eco-Logical:

Definition:

**To link conservation planning
with transportation planning.**



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Road to Success

We can be successful
in our Conservation mission,

When we are successful
in our Transportation partnerships!



Goals of Eco-Logical

- ★ Conservation
- ★ Connectivity
- ★ Predictability
- ★ Transparency



Integrated Planning

- ★ Build & strengthen partnerships
- ★ *Identify Management Plans*
- ★ *Integrate Plans*
- ★ Assess Effects
- ★ Establish & prioritize opportunities
- ★ Document Agreements
- ★ Design projects w/in regional ecosystem framework
- ★ Balance predictability & adaptive management



Ecosystem-based mitigation

- ★ Focus on “disappearing conservation opportunities”
- ★ “to help assure that regional conservation goals and objectives are completed”
- ★ “[existing mitigation approaches] might not always offer the most effective methods for deriving the greatest environmental benefit and achieving goals of connectivity, conservation, predictability and transparency”



Permission for what?

- ★ SAFETEA-LU spending of \$210 billion in “contract authority” for 2005-2009
- ★ Over 5,000 earmarks in SAFETEA-LU costing approximately \$15 billion
- ★ Section 6001 planning requirements



For more information

Mark Van Putten

ConservationStrategy® LLC

mvp@conservationstrategy.com

www.conservationstrategy.com