

MAY 2007

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

TEAM SERVICES & STATE INFORMATION

ENVIRONMENT TECHNICAL SERVICES TEAM



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**



Dear Environmental Colleague:

The roles and responsibilities of environmental disciplines within the transportation industry are rapidly changing. Environmental compliance has been a long standing FHWA priority area in the National Performance Plan, and Environmental Streamlining and Stewardship continues to be an important strategic objective and one of the Vital Few goals. Across the country, transportation industries are adding environmental knowledge and expertise to design, construction, maintenance and operations units to provide assurance that projects and programs are delivered on time and within budget. Also, trends towards incorporating strategic and program level environmental analysis and information are becoming apparent. Environmental stewardship is a cornerstone of sound asset management practice and is essential to the efficient use of tax dollars and human resources.

Who We Are

The FHWA Resource Center's Environment Technical Service Team (TST) is comprised of a substantial team of subject matter experts representing diverse natural and social science and engineering disciplines and experiences. These scientists and engineers are located in five Resource Center locations around the country, but deliver services without concern for geographic boundaries. The Environment TST is committed to providing high-level technical assistance and quality workshops and seminars to our customers and partners.

What We Can Do

The Environment TST actively promotes the effective integration of the environmental disciplines into all of FHWA's business practices. But, we are more than just a multidisciplinary team – we seek to find new solutions that are born out of the interaction of people with different perspectives and experiences. This is probably the most important contribution the Environment TST makes to America's future.

It has been shown that an Interdisciplinary Approach optimizes the probability of success. Interdisciplinary approaches to problem solving goes much further than multidisciplinary approaches. Interdisciplinary approaches encourage subject matter experts to learn from, educate, and develop synergy with other disciplines. In fact, peer reviewed literature suggests that teams and organizations which integrate the widest range of interrelated skills for problem solving tend to have better chances of success than teams comprised of individuals representing a narrower range of expertise.

The entire Environment TST is dedicated to this interdisciplinary approach. As a team comprised of a wide variety of skill sets and professional backgrounds, we have the breadth and depth of knowledge – that is our strength and the advantage we can provide to you.

The Environmental TST will no longer offer standard training in subject areas covered by NHI training courses. These include NEPA, Section 106, Public Involvement, Context Sensitive Solutions, Environmental Justice and Highway Traffic Noise. We will continue to offer tailored, technical assistance services in these area but not structured training courses.

When you bring the Environment TST into your project, you will get the assistance of a trusted partner. Call us and tell us about the goal you are trying to achieve. We'll discuss solutions, including just-in-time, custom training; peer reviews; technical and research forums; interdisciplinary problem-solving; developing noteworthy practices; development and delivery of workshops; and conference presentations.

The Environment TST is comprised of subject matter experts on environmental analysis techniques, compliance with environmental laws, regulations, guidance, and executive orders, record keeping and documentation. Some recently delivered subjects include:

Organizational Performance

Issue-specific Conflict Resolution
Multiple Agency & Interdisciplinary Teams
Winter Operations and Anti-Icing
Linking Planning with Project Development

Integrated Processes
Program Audits and EMS
Construction and the Environment
Geographic Information Systems

Statutes and Regulatory Compliance

National Environmental Policy Act
National Historic Preservation Act
Environmental Justice and Civil Rights Act
Section 4(f) of the DOT Act of 1966
Indirect and Cumulative Effects

Clean Water Act
Coastal Barriers, and Coastal Zone
Endangered Species Act
Assessing Induced Growth
Information (Data) Quality Act

Natural Sciences and Engineering

Wetlands, streams, lakes, and coasts
Geomorphology and Hydrology
Habitat and Road crossings for biota
Underwater Construction Impacts
Vegetation
Migratory Birds

Water Quality, Storm water
Biology
Sediment Toxicity
Climate Change
Soil Erosion & Sediment Control
Ecosystem and Watersheds

Social Sciences and Public Involvement

Community Integrity and Cohesion
Environmental Justice
Noise Impacts to Humans
Socio-Economics

Cultural Resources
Native American Consultation
Aesthetics
Context Sensitive Solutions

The Environment Team publishes *The Environmental Quarterly* newsletter and keeps its website populated with examples of current projects and best practices from our work with our customers. Please check out our website at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/resourcecenter/teams/environment>.

This directory is divided into two parts. The first part provides contact information for the Environment TST members and descriptions of many of our service offerings. The second part is a state directory with background information on FHWA Division Office environmental contacts and their respective state partners. This directory can be used for information sharing and mentoring among the field offices on similar environmental program successes or issues.

I hope you will use the information provided here to help you in your day-to-day activities and as you plan your office work plan for next year. Please feel free to contact me or any member of my staff to discuss how we can meet your needs and in accomplishing our FHWA mission.

Sincerely,

Don Cote
Team Leader
Environment Technical Services Team
don.cote@dot.gov
(720) 963-3210



ENVIRONMENT TECHNICAL SERVICES TEAM

Don Cote, Team Leader
(720) 963-3210 don.cote@dot.gov

Bob Carl, Program Assistant
(720) 963-3211 bob.carl@dot.gov

K. Lynn Berry, Community Impact Specialist
(404) 895-6212 klynn.berry@dot.gov

David Gamble, Environmental Program Specialist
(410) 962-0982 dave.gamble@dot.gov

David Grachen, Environmental Program Specialist
(404) 562-3668 david.grachen@dot.gov

Kimberly Majerus, Biology/Water Quality Specialist
(708) 283-4346 kimberly.majerus@dot.gov

Kevin Moody, Environmental Program Specialist
(404) 562-3618 kevin.moody@dot.gov

Mary Ann Rondinella, Environmental Program Specialist
(720) 963-3207 maryann.rondinella@dot.gov

Deborah Scherkoske, Environmental Program Specialist
(410) 962-0051 deborah.scherkoske@dot.gov

Brian Smith, Biology/Water Quality Specialist
(708) 283-3553 brian.smith@dot.gov

Stephanie Stoermer, Environmental Program Specialist
(720) 963-3218 stephanie.stoermer@dot.gov

David Sullivan, Environmental Program Specialist
(404) 562-3669 david.sullivan@dot.gov

William VanPeeters, Biology/Water Quality Specialist
(415) 744-0116 william.vanpeeters@dot.gov

Katiann Wong-Murillo, Environmental Program Specialist
(415) 744-2612 katiann.wong-murillo@dot.gov

Rodney Vaughn, Environmental Program Specialist
(720) 963-3238 rodney.vaughn@dot.gov

Brian Yanchik, Biology/Water Quality Specialist
(410) 962-0104 brian.yanchik@dot.gov

**Please visit our website at:
www.fhwa.dot.gov/resourcecenter/**

AVAILABLE OFFERINGS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

FHWA RESOURCE CENTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WORKSHOPS

NAME	WORKSHOP LEAD*
Section 4(f)	Dave Gamble, David Grachen, Stephanie Stoermer, Katiann Wong-Murillo, Deborah Scherkoske
Section 7 – (Basic) Endangered Species Act	Kimberly Majerus, Kevin Moody, Brian Yanchik
Section 7 – Biological Assessments	William VanPeeters, Brian Yanchik, Kevin Moody
Section 7 – (Advanced) Interagency	Brian Yanchik
Section 106 – Historic Preservation	Stephanie Stoermer, David Grachen, Mary Ann Rondinella, Deborah Scherkoske
Section 10/404 – Clean Water Act	Kimberly Majerus, Kevin Moody, Brian Smith, William VanPeeters
American Indian Best Practices	David Grachen, Stephanie Stoermer
Collaborative Problem Solving (Introduction)	Don Cote, Mary Ann Rondinella, Katiann Wong-Murillo, Rod Vaughn
Community Impact Assessment	K. Lynn Berry, David Grachen, Katiann Wong- Murillo
Context Sensitive Solutions	K. Lynn Berry, MaryAnn Rondinella, Rod Vaughn
Environmental Justice	K. Lynn Berry, Katiann Wong-Murillo
GIS for Environmental; Streamlining and Stewardship for Transportation (GIS4EST)	Kimberly Majerus, Rod Vaughn
Highway Traffic Noise	MaryAnn Rondinella, Stephanie Stoermer
Indirect and Cumulative Impacts	Dave Gamble, MaryAnn Rondinella, Brian Smith, David Sullivan, Katiann Wong-Murillo
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	ALL TEAM MEMBERS
Public Involvement	K. Lynn Berry, David Grachen, Katiann Wong-Murillo, Rod Vaughn, Deborah Scherkoske
Soil Erosion / Sediment Control	Kevin Moody, Brian Smith, David Sullivan
Wetland Delineation	Brian Smith, William VanPeeters
Wetland Functional Assessment	Kevin Moody, Brian Smith, William VanPeeters, Brian Yanchik

The Environment Technical Service Team is working with NHI, FHWA Headquarters, numerous State DOTs, and several regulatory agencies to deploy a sequence of web-based, classroom, and field workshops in transportation-related wetland impact, permitting, indirect and cumulative impacts and mitigation issues.

We assist on SAFETEA-LU rollouts; peer and process reviews; sensitive species research and consultations; and emerging issues with climate change. We also partner with other technical teams to provide workshops. We offer Executive Briefings and Conference presentations on many environmental topics upon request. All workshops and webinars can be customized and tailored to your special needs.

Currently, the NEPA 101 web seminar can be found on the NHI website. A self-paced tutorial on Section 4(f) can be found at www.section4f.com. A blended webinar on Public Meetings is currently under development for Fall 2007.

For additional information regarding these prospective offerings, please contact: don.cote@dot.gov

NHI (National Highway Institute)

The professionals on the Resource Center's Environment TST also serve as instructors for many NHI Environmental Training Courses.

To learn more about scheduling an NHI course, please contact the NHI at:
 4600 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 800
 Arlington, VA 22203
 Phone: (877) 558-6873
 Fax: (703) 235-0593

Or visit NHI's website at <http://www.nhi.fhwa.dot.gov>

*** For more information or to schedule any of the FHWA Resource Center offerings listed in the chart at left, please contact any person listed.**

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

SECTION 4(f) WORKSHOP

Workshop Length: ½ Day to 2 Days

Participate in a comprehensive overview of Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966. Content includes Section 4(f) applicability, relevant terminology, and preparation of related documentation. The nexus between Section 4(f) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the implications of the recent amendment to Section 4(f) will be covered. Case studies drawn from actual projects heighten the interactive learning experience. This workshop can be tailored to accommodate the needs of the course host.

Upon successful completion of the *Section 4(f) Workshop*, participants will be able to:

- Explain key sections of Section 4(f)
- Determine when Section 4(f) applies
- Define key Section 4(f) terms
- Outline the Section 4(f) process

Who should attend: Intended for practitioners with some familiarity with Section 4(f). This offering is suitable for environmental staff and planners, as well as local, state, and Federal employees involved in the project development process.

SECTION 7 – ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (BASIC)

Workshop Length: 2 Days

Gain an advanced understanding of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the procedures and responsibilities associated with Section 7 of the Act.

Upon successful completion of *Section 7- Endangered Species Act*, participants will be able to:

- Explain specific key sections of the Act
- Clarify ESA terms
- Describe the roles and responsibilities under Section 7
- Identify best practices/problems encountered during the Section 7 consultation process

Who should attend: Suitable for semi-experienced environmental staff and planners, as well as local, state, and Federal employees involved in the project development process.

SECTION 7 - INTERAGENCY COOPERATION (ADVANCED)

Workshop Length: 1 to 2 Days

Sharpen Section 7 knowledge and consultation skills by participating in advanced discussions focused on the role of interagency cooperation in the ESA consultation process. Tailored to the needs of the sponsoring state, topics may include ESA definitions, prohibited acts, biological assessments/biological opinions, and incidental take statements.

Upon successful completion of *Section 7- Interagency Cooperation*, participants will be able to:

- Identify and explain respective agency roles in the Section 7 consultation process
- Identify potential opportunities to streamline and improve interagency coordination

Who should attend: Intended for practitioners who are looking for advanced technical assistance with Section 7.

SECTION 106 - HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND TRANSPORTATION DECISION-MAKING

Workshop Length: ½ Day to 1 Day

Achieve an advanced understanding of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and the procedures and responsibilities associated with Section 106 of the Act and 36 CFR 800, the regulations implementing Section 106. Provides an enhanced step-by-step overview of the Section 106 process as it applies to Federal Aid highway projects. Tailored to the needs of the course sponsor, topics may include Section 106 public involvement requirements, tribal consultation, creative mitigation, Transportation Enhancement projects, agreement documents, and the interrelationship of Section 106 and Section 4(f).

Upon successful completion of *Section 106: Historic Preservation and Transportation Decision-making*, participants will be able to:

- Understand and explain key sections of 36 CFR 800
- Clarify key Section 106 terms
- Describe the roles and responsibilities under Section 106
- Outline the Section 106 consultation process

Who should attend: Personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop provides enhanced background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

SECTION 404/SECTION 10 – CLEAN WATER ACT

Workshop Length: 1 to 2 Days

Gain an advanced understanding of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' permitting process, with an emphasis on compliance with permitting requirements under the Clean Water Act, Section 404 and the Rivers and Harbors Act, Section 10.

Upon successful completion of *Section 404/Section 10- Clean*

Water Act, participants will be able to:

- Explain permit process terminology
- Outline the Section 404 and Section 10 permitting processes
- Identify key information required by the process
- Identify opportunities to successfully merge the transportation development process and the Corps' permitting process to reduce duplication of environmental documentation

Who should attend: Experienced environmental staff and planners; local, state, and Federal employees involved in the project development process.

AMERICAN INDIAN BEST PRACTICES

Workshop Length: 1 Day

Achieve an understanding of the legal requirements for consultation with federally-recognized American Indian tribes as well as how to approach consultation with the tribes. Focused instruction provides an overview of the applicable laws, regulations, and executive orders, definitions, cultural sensitivity, and current best practices.

Upon successful completion of *American Indian Best Practices*, participants will be able to:

- Understand and explain the need for consultation with federally-recognized American Indian tribes
- Explain key terms
- Describe the roles and responsibilities under Section 106
- Discuss best practices for the consultation process

Who should attend: Personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop provides enhanced background information for managers, planners, and project engineers.

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

Workshop Length: 2 Days

Enhance knowledge and skills through focused discussions regarding the biological and regulatory aspects of preparing biological assessments under the Endangered Species Act.

Who should attend: Intended for practitioners with some familiarity with Section 7.

COLLABORATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING (INTRO)

Workshop Length: ½ Day

Learn about the principles of collaborative problem-solving that are essential to streamlining the environmental review process for transportation projects. Building on *Collaborative Problem Solving: Better Outcomes for All*, the FHWA/U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution guidance document, this offering emphasizes the benefits of collaborative approaches

Upon successful completion of *Collaborative Problem Solving*, participants will be able to:

- Understand and explain the principles of collaborative problem-solving
- Identify opportunities to employ collaborative problem-solving

Who should attend: Transportation agency managers and personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop will focus on collaborative problem solving in a transportation-related setting provides enhanced background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Workshop Length: 1-2 Days

Gain an expanded understanding of Community Impact Assessment (CIA), an iterative process of understanding potential impacts of proposed transportation activities to affected communities and their respective sub-populations throughout transportation decision-making. Assessments generally focus on socio-economic and cultural impacts. Typical issues of concern include safety; mobility/access management; pedestrian level of service; bicycle compatibility index; community cohesion; displacement of people, social capital; businesses, and farms; adverse employment effects; tax and property losses; noise impacts; access to public facilities and services; aesthetic values; destruction or disruption of man-made and natural resources; disruption of desirable community growth; nondiscrimination and other community issues.

Upon successful completion of *Community Impact Assessment*, participants will be able to:

- Understand and explain the role of Community Impact Assessments
- Explain key terms
- Discuss typical issues of community concern
- Become aware of best practices and solutions

Who should attend: Personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop provides enhanced background information for managers, planners, and project engineers.

CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS (CSS)

Workshop Length: ½ to 1 Day

Achieve an increased understanding of Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS), a collaborative, interdisciplinary approach that involves all stakeholders in developing a transportation facility that fits its

physical setting and preserves aesthetic, historic, and environmental resources, while maintaining safety and mobility. The CSS approach considers the total context in which a transportation improvement project will exist. Focused discussions provide the regulatory/statutory/cultural framework behind the CSS movement; a description of the fundamental principles involved, and an overview of the primary methods for achieving a context sensitive approach. Tort liability and risk management, performance measurement, CSS in Planning and Safety are also addressed. Case studies and best practices will be provided to heighten the interactive learning experience.

Executive briefings or facilitated strategic planning for program-wide CSS implementation are also available.

Upon successful completion of *Context Sensitive Solutions*, participants will be able to:

- Understand and explain the concept of CSS
- Explain how CSS fits into studies conducted for NEPA compliance
- Explain how CSS relates to Community Impact Assessment
- Explain key CSS terms

Who should attend: Personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop provides enhanced background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Workshop Length: ½ Day to 1 1/2Days

This course provides increased understanding in applying the fundamental principles of E.O. 12898, ***Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations***, and its relationship to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Relevant examples and case studies are provided for extended training sessions.

Upon successful completion of *Environmental Justice* participants will be able to:

- Define environmental justice
- Explain the principles of environmental justice
- Employ proactive strategies and innovative techniques from planning through the NEPA process

Who should attend: Personnel involved in project development activities. Workshop provides expanded background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

GIS4EST (GIS for Environmental Streamlining and Stewardship for Transportation)

Workshop Length: ½ Day to 2 Days

Gain an understanding of national geo-spatial and GIS activities and case study examples. Content highlights the benefits of GIS as a tool and its uses within states and state departments of transportation. Focuses on uses of GIS data and tools to fulfill environmental responsibilities within transportation and facilitates discussion of existing GIS activities within the host state and potential next steps. Workshops can be customized. Note: this workshop does NOT providing training on GIS software.

Upon successful completion of *GIS4EST*, participants will be able to:

- Identify GIS concepts
- Understand the role of GIS in transportation decision-making
- Recall case study examples of how to use GIS tools for environmental responsibilities in project delivery

Who should attend: Transportation and environmental staff with a role at the federal, regional, state, county/parish, and/or local levels who can benefit from an understanding of the role of GIS in the transportation decision-making process.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC NOISE

Workshop Length: 1 to 2 Days

Achieve an expanded understanding of highway traffic noise, FHWA traffic noise regulations, and the noise analysis and abatement requirements for federally-funded or approved transportation projects. The workshop addresses acoustics; regulations; noise measurements; highway traffic noise predictions; noise mitigation; construction noise; and how to document noise analyses effectively. This offering can be tailored to provide more in-depth coverage of specific noise issues upon request.

Upon successful completion of *Highway Traffic Noise* participants will be able to:

- Define key concepts related to highway traffic noise
- Understand acoustical terms and their relationship to traffic noise analysis
- Explain the requirements of FHWA traffic noise regulations
- Identify various noise abatement methods for specific issues

Who should attend: Suitable for all personnel involved in project development activities.

INDIRECT AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

Workshop Length: 1 ½ to 3 Days

Learn effective practices that improve the ability of the FHWA and State DOTs to perform, analyze, and document indirect and cumulative impact analyses for transportation projects. To foster a better understanding of the various contexts in which the terms are applied, an overview of the definitions and terminology of indirect and cumulative impacts under NEPA, Section 404, the National Historic Preservation Act and the Endangered Species Act is provided. The workshop also includes a review of the factors affecting transportation-related induced growth, including the mitigating factors that may affect the scope and level of detail

required in an analysis. Study methods and data requirements are also presented, including case law and court decisions regarding reasonableness, availability and reliability, uncertainty, and mitigation.

Upon successful completion of *Indirect and Cumulative Impacts* participants will be able to:

- Define what indirect and cumulative impacts are, as reflected in NEPA and related environmental laws
- Understand and identify appropriate ways to analyze and document indirect and cumulative effects

Who should attend: Suitable for all personnel involved in project development activities. This offering provides additional background material for managers, planners, and project engineers.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

Workshop Length: 1 Day to 2 ½ Days

Gain a better perspective of the vital role that NEPA plays in the FHWA Project Development Process. The NEPA workshop emphasizes important environmental topics including innovative mitigation and enhancement; significance; streamlining; reasonable alternatives; logical termini; purpose and need; interagency coordination; and public involvement. It also includes background on NEPA, processing environmental documents, and, if desired, a brief overview of Section 4(f). The workshop promotes balanced decision-making, breaking down barrier, and employing the inherent flexibilities of 23 CFR 771 and SAFETEA-LU to improve the overall project development process. This training will be customized to meet the needs of the respective audience, including the incorporation of several optional modules covering such topics as indirect and cumulative impacts, environmental justice, and/or Section 106. Flexible course format encourages the integration of State-specific case studies as well as topical presentations delivered

by State-officials.

Upon successful completion of the *National Environmental Policy Act* workshop participants will be able to:

- Explain the relationship of NEPA to 23 CFR 771 as well as to other environmental laws
- Apply NEPA terms and principles
- Describe the roles and responsibilities under NEPA
- Outline the NEPA process
- Identify ways to streamline the NEPA process

Who should attend: Suitable for all personnel involved in project development activities. This workshop provides expanded background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Workshop Length: 1 to 2 Days

Gain insight into the critical role of public involvement and the importance of providing the public with an opportunity to influence transportation decisions. Successful public involvement employs multiple techniques for different segments of the affected community, and addresses the public's procedural, psychological, and substantive needs. Learn how to uncover the public's real, underlying needs (rather than stated positions) so that solutions can be found to meet those needs. Based on the fundamental premise that public involvement is more than just a required hearing, or one meeting near the end of the process, this course promotes sensitivity to the public's values, styles of communication, barriers to participation, and requirements for full, meaningful, effective input.

Upon successful completion of *Public Involvement* participants will be able to:

- How to enhance the role of public involvement in the transportation decision-making process

- Apply the statutory requirements for public involvement for NEPA, Section 106, and other laws
- Employ proactive strategies and innovative techniques to insure adequate public involvement from planning through the NEPA process

Who should attend: Suitable for all personnel involved in project development activities. This session provides expanded background for managers, planners, and project engineers.

SOIL EROSION/SEDIMENT CONTROL

Workshop Length: 1 to 2 Days

Acquire an advanced understanding of soil erosion and sediment processes, planning, site evaluation, interagency coordination and improve compliance with NPDES Phase II permit requirements. Discussion of pre-construction analysis of impacts, risk assessment, effective specification and special provision, operating procedures and interdisciplinary coordination incorporated. Includes exercises for design, installation, construction, and inspection of erosion and sediment control measures, as well as discussion of common problems and maintenance issues will be part of the learning experience. A field trip is strongly recommended.

Who should attend: Federal, State, and local highway design, construction, inspection, and maintenance staff and anyone else involved in development and compliance of environmental commitments. In addition, consultants and members of the construction industry are encouraged to attend to provide their perspectives, learn each other's responsibilities, and explore an array of options to control erosion and sedimentation.

WETLAND DELINEATION

Workshop Length: 3 to 5 Days

This is the more basic of two field oriented courses offered in this subject. This course offers the basics of wetland identification and understanding tools used for identification and recognition of wetland landscape relationships and basic impact assessment. Requires 1-2 days of field exercises.

WETLANDS FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT

Workshop Length: 2 to 3 Days

This is the more advanced of two field oriented courses offered in this subject. Learn about assessing wetlands impacts and mitigation planning based on hydro-geomorphic principles of wetlands analysis in this introductory course. A brief overview of recent changes in wetlands regulations is provided. Both classroom and field exercises demonstrating the wetlands assessment and analysis techniques, wetland ecology and mitigation planning are included. The field trip is strongly recommended.

Who should attend: Both courses above are suitable for all personnel involved in project development activities and in preparing technical reports. These workshops provide good hands on training for managers, biologists, and project engineers.

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