Eco-Logical Webinar Series	Establish and Prioritize Ecological Actions Step 5 of the Integrated Ecological Framework	
Step 5 of the IEF	How are transportation agencies and resource partners advancing their organizations' goals by jointly identifying key mitigation actions? How can state Departments of Transportation and resource agencies collaborate with regional partners to implement mitigation priorities?	October 29, 2013
Speakers	 Norris Dodd (<u>ndodd@azdot.gov</u>), Arizona Department of Transportation Carolyn Campbell (<u>carolyn.campbell@sonorandesert.org</u>), Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection 	
Recording	No recording is available for this webinar.	All photos courtesy of the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
Slides	http://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/ecological/eco_webinar_series.asp	
	Key Themes High	nlighted Resources

Consider the benefits of proactively implementing ecological priorities. Establishing the priority of environmental interventions such as wildlife crossings allows transportation agencies to choose the most effective mitigation actions during project development. However, these agencies and their partners can also proactively implement key actions from these efforts to achieve other goals (e.g. reduced liability for wildlife collision injuries).

Engage local stakeholders early to address future growth and

development conflicts. Working with land use planners, property owners, and the development community early in the prioritization and project development processes can streamline project development, maximize the impact of the environmental action or mitigation, and ensure buy-in and engagement from appropriate stakeholders.

Pursue creative funding sources and partnerships for monitoring and performance evaluation of environmental actions. It is helpful to maintain and draw upon relationships with partners to fund and implement monitoring activities. Agencies and their partners may be able to tailor their characterization of these activities to draw from grants and other funding not usually used in transportation. In addition, innovative funding options such as grant opportunities, research funding, and local initiatives can be instrumental in testing and promoting innovative technologies and designs for use in future mitigation or environmental projects.

Overviews

- » AZDOT, <u>A Decade of Proactive Progress in</u> <u>Resolving Arizona Highway-Wildlife Conflicts</u>, 2013
- » Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, <u>Visionary Conservation Planning and</u> <u>Community Support Bring Funding to Wildlife</u> <u>Linkage Infrastructure in Pima County, Arizona</u>, 2013

Wildlife Linkage Reports

- » <u>Arizona's Wildlife Linkages Assessment</u>
- » Pima County Wildlife Connectivity Assessment
- » <u>Other County-level Stakeholder Workshops and</u> <u>Assessments</u>

More Examples

- » <u>North Central Texas Regional Ecological</u> <u>Framework</u>
- » <u>Tioga County Soil and Water District</u>

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