Integrating conservation data with transportation planning: No Silos Allowed

Lori Hennings
Senior Natural Resource Scientist
What is Metro?

- Elected regional government
- Manages growth, transportation, regional parks and solid waste
- Serves as MPO for Portland region
- Allocates federal transportation funds to 25 cities and 3 counties
Metro’s role in transportation

- Land use planning
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Selects projects to receive fed funds
  - All selected projects must be part of RTP
- Major transportation projects (planning, pre-NEPA)
2035 Regional Transportation Plan
Managing Growth

- One million more people expected in 30 years*
- Aging population and changing demographics
- Growing congestion
- Climate change
- Energy costs

* 7-county Portland-Vancouver region
2040 Growth Concept

- Adopted in 1995
- Features a dual light rail and highway vision for connecting centers
- Town centers, transit-oriented development...
- Reserves process to help update
Update on Regional Growth Management Efforts

Choices for the Future

1. Urban Form:
   Urban and Rural Reserves

2. Transportation:
   2035 RTP Update
   - High Capacity Transit (HCT) System Plan
   - Regional Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO) Plan
   - Regional Freight Plan

3. Investments:
   Investing in Communities
   - Investment Incentives and Tool Kits
   - Regional Infrastructure Strategy
2035 Regional Transportation Plan

RTP Goals and Outcomes

Goals for planning and investing in our transportation system

- Vibrant Communities and Efficient Urban Form
- Economic Competitiveness and Prosperity
- Transportation Choices
- Efficient Management of the Transportation System
- Safety and Security
- Environmental Stewardship
- Human Health
- Equity
- Fiscal Stewardship
- Accountability
Transportation tools for the environment

- **Green Streets guidebook series**
  - Creating livable streets: Street design guidelines for 2040
  - Green streets: Innovative solutions for stormwater and stream crossings
  - Trees for green streets: An illustrated guide

- **Regional Transportation Options**
  - Promotes carpool, vanpool, transit, bike, walk
  - “Drive less, save more” campaign
  - Reduces 44 million vehicle miles per year
Portland Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled Per Person, Compared With Cities Of Similar* Population Size

Source: "Highway Statistics", published by the FHWA, 1990-2002, Urbanized Areas, Selected Characteristics, Table HM-72. Portland data for 1999 and 2000 was in error due to a report software problem. The corrected figures appear above, as per direct correspondence with Oregon's DOT, Highway Performance Monitoring System office. Note: For data consistency over time, some figures were included that were above or below the 250,000 population range criteria.
Transportation tools for the environment

- **Nature in Neighborhoods**
  - Regulatory and voluntary components
  - Statewide land use Goals 5, 6, 7
  - Regionally significant fish and wildlife habitat inventory
Integrating transportation, land use, and ecology
Wildlife Crossings Guidebook
Mapping the region’s anchor habitats and wildlife corridors
Wildlife corridors: Planning is important

I-205 habitat fragmentation

Cedar Mill Creek, 1994

1997
Lori Hennings
Metro
503-797-1940
Lori.hennings@oregonmetro.gov

www.oregonmetro.gov