

7.3.2

Streamlining Environmental Assessment through GIS

Presenter

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Using GIS to streamline the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process is an innovative and exciting method to save time and money in the extremely complicated transportation planning process. The GIS Section of AHTD's Environmental Division is responsible for mapping and analysis of environmental constraints according to the NEPA guidelines. Some projects and methods to enhance the analysis process are GLOS (General Land Office): Mapping the Past for the Future, the Statewide Jobs Database and GPS/GIS Integration. Examples of current databases used in the constraints mapping process are SSURGO Soils, Endangered Species, WRP Easements and USACE Lake Project Boundaries. The Historic Bridge Management System, although not housed in the GIS Section, is another innovative way to use GIS to manage significant items in an efficient and unique manor.