One stop source of environmental information for transportation professionals

New sections on SAFETEA–LU, and Environmental Considerations in Planning
  - Online form to submit success stories in implementing the environmental provisions of SAFETEA–LU

Soon posting new sections on 4f and Noise

Soon posting revised topic sections: updated by technical experts

Launching case law summary database this spring

Annual Center work plan posted on the website
Transportation and Environmental Ideas (TERI) Database

- Comprehensive list of environmental research needs
- Links to completed reports and ongoing research databases
- Ideas prioritized by SCOE
- Strategic foundation for environmental research for transportation professionals
- Coordination with SCOR, USDOT, Federal Resource Agencies, NCHRP, TRB, state DOT research contacts, Universities
Programmatic Agreements Library

- Summarizes agreement information, contains a link to the full agreement, and provides a search mechanism
- Types of Agreements:
  - NEPA
  - Section 106
  - Endangered Species
  - Section 4 (f)
  - Land Management
  - Transportation Enhancements

40 new agreements recently posted
PRACTITIONER HANDBOOKS

- Series of documents to provide practical advice on a range of environmental issues that arise during the planning, development, and operation of transportation projects.
- Primarily intended for use by project managers and others who are responsible for coordinating compliance with a wide range of regulatory requirements.
- Handbooks include: key issues to consider; a background briefing; and practical tips for achieving compliance.
- Key regulations, guidance materials, and sample documents for each Handbook are posted on the Center’s website.
Maintaining a Project File and Preparing an Administrative Record for a NEPA Study

Responding to Comments on an Environmental Impact Statement

Managing the NEPA Process for Toll Lanes and Toll Roads

Tracking Compliance with Environmental Commitments/Use of Environmental Monitors

Utilizing Community Advisory Committees for NEPA Studies

Consulting under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Defining Purpose and Need and Determining the Range of Alternatives for Transportation Projects

Developing and Implementing an Environmental Management System in a State Department of Transportation

Using the SAFETEA-LU Environmental Review Process

Using the Transportation Planning Process to Support the NEPA Process (under development)
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- A team of highly qualified and experienced experts on-call and ready to assist transportation and environmental agency officials in improving environmental performance and program delivery.

- Thirty five (35) technical experts are currently available for assignments in a variety of subject matters. Each expert’s biography is listed on the Center’s webpage.

- Hiring experts in four new topical areas:
  - Climate Change
  - GIS
  - Environmental Information Management
  - Sustainability
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EMSTAP)

- Four states applied for and are receiving EMS technical assistance in developing and/or advancing EMS initiatives
- Guided by a work group comprised of FHWA and State DOT EMS professionals
CONTEXT SENSITIVE SOLUTIONS

- Two CSS Peer Exchanges—potential topics include:
  - Share information and experiences on the how states incorporate CSS;
  - Collaboratively identify best practices that are transferable;
  - Discuss innovative strategies, actions, tools and technologies for advancing CSS implementation;
  - Develop work plans to advance CSS; and
  - Collaboratively identify areas for research.

- CSS Executive Training
  - Discuss the role of executives in leading and supporting organization-wide CSS integration
  - Discuss how integrating CSS into agencies as the way of doing business can assist states with: community acceptance, environmental compatibility, functionality, financial feasibility, timeliness of delivery, sustainable decisions and investments, and developing and implementing multi-modal projects.
  - Discuss state specific challenges and barriers to CSS integration
  - Assess organizational strengths and gaps CSS integration
  - Develop agency specific work plans to advance CSS integration
OTHER INITIATIVES

- Developing a national webinar on the transportation planning and environmental processes and the consideration of environmental factors in planning: Spring 2008.

- Published *Above and Beyond: the Environmental and Social Contributions of America’s Highway Programs*, an update to the *Taking the High Road Report*
AASHTO Standing Committee on Environment

- SCOE annual meeting in Monterey, CA July 13-17, 2008
  - Meeting jointly with Maintenance Subcommittee and Asset Management
- National State DOT Stormwater conference in San Diego, CA June 2008
- National State DOT Air Practitioners Conference in NY, October, 2008.