

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

WHERE THE WILD THINGS WANT TO BE: HABITAT PROTECTION REGULATIONS



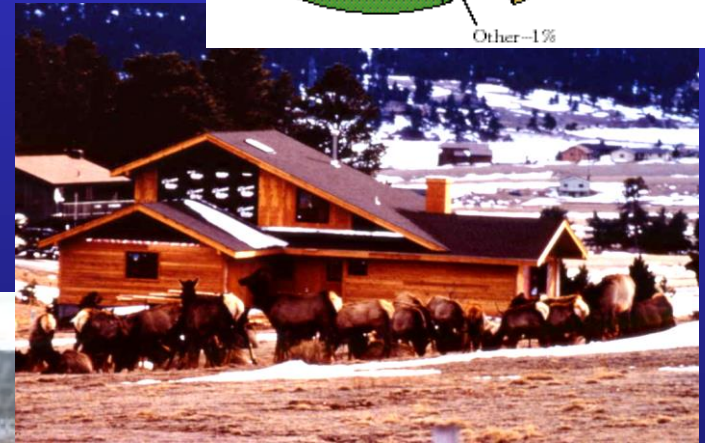
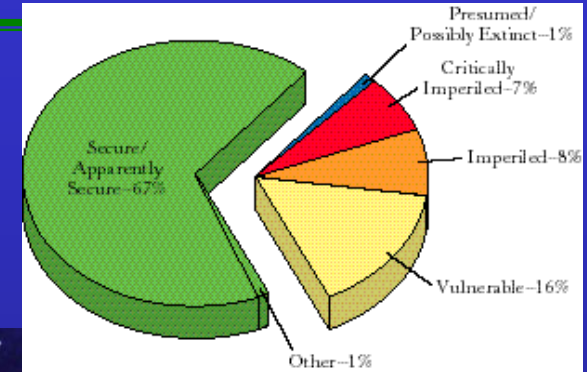
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MARCH 2018

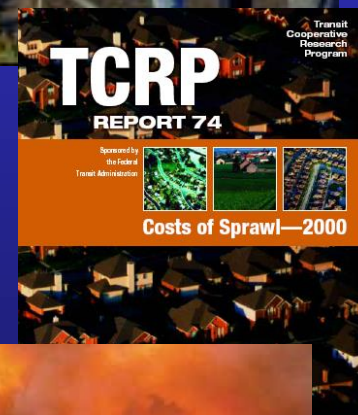
WHY WORRY ABOUT WILDLIFE?

- Alarming loss of habitat
- Major population growth in West
- Federal/state pullback



WHY PROTECT?

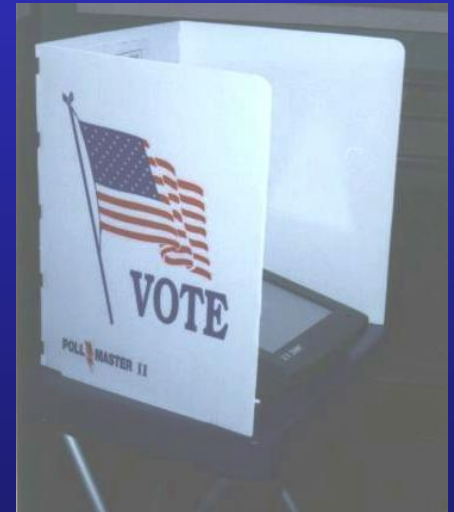
1. Attracting/Retaining Businesses
2. Direct Expenditures (e.g., tourism)
3. Curbing Sprawl Costs
4. Green Infrastructure Value
5. Avoiding Natural Disaster Costs
6. Enhanced Property Values
7. Health And Social Benefits
8. Public's Willingness to Pay



Public's Willingness to Pay

814 conservation measures proposed at local level from 1999-2003

- 631 passed (78%)
- \$15 billion total funds approved
- \$8.7 billion specifically for
- land conservation



Polls continue to show bipartisan support for open space and habitat protection.

Five Basic Biological Principles For Wildlife Conservation At Site Level

#1: Maintain buffers between human activity and core areas of habitat

#2: Facilitate wildlife movement across areas dominated by human activities

#3: Minimize human contact with large native predators

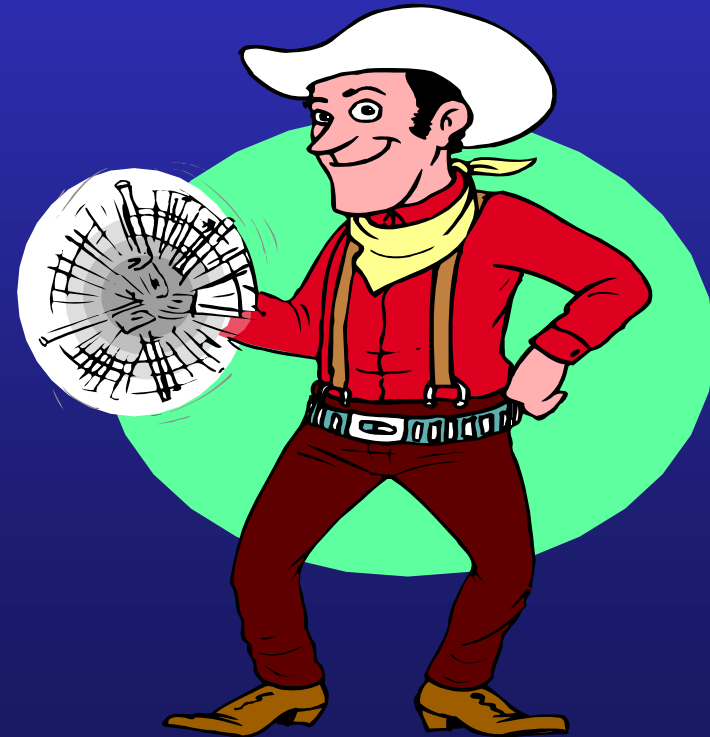
#4: Control number of mid-size predators (e.g., pets)

#5: Mimic features of natural landscape in built areas

Key Elements of Successful Habitat Protection Programs

- LESSON #1: REGULATIONS ARE AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT

“In the West, a six-shooter and a smile are more persuasive than a smile alone” --Teddy Roosevelt



Key Elements of Successful Programs

REGULATORY:

1. Zoning/Subdivision/PUDs:
location, density, uses
2. Targeted Development Standards (e.g.,
riparian setbacks, wildlife-friendly
fencing, vegetation protection)
3. Mitigation Requirements (e.g., on- and
off-site, mitigation banks)



ALTERNATIVE REGULATORY TOOLS NOT EXAMINED



Key Elements of Successful Habitat Protection Programs:

LESSON #2: NEED A WELL-ROUNDED IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY.

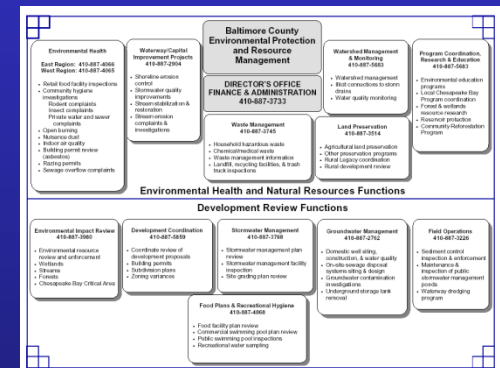


“If the only tool you have is a hammer, everything begins to look like a nail”—Mark Twain

Key Elements of a Successful Program

PROGRAM STRUCTURE/ ADMINISTRATION:

1. Staffing (e.g., biologists)
2. Coordination - internal
3. Partnerships with other organizations
4. Intergovernmental relationships



Key Elements of a Successful Program

PLANNING:

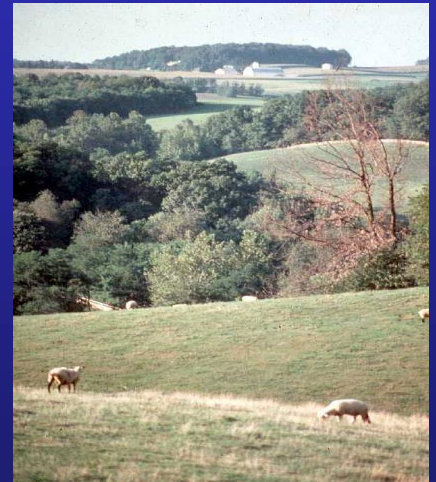
1. Inventories/
mapping of resources
2. Comp plan elements
3. Measurable results (acres protected,
habitat acquired)
4. Regional coordination
5. Capital improvements related to plan



Supplemental Elements

ACQUISITION/ FUNDING:

1. Dedicated funding for acquisition
2. General revenue track record
3. Code provisions for land dedication or impact fees
4. TDR/PDR program



Supplemental Elements

RESTORATION

1. Habitat Restoration
2. Exotic Species
3. Mitigation Programs



Supplemental Elements

EDUCATION/ VOLUNTEERS





Sanibel-Captiva Conservation Foundation Program Schedule 2004



*Nature Center, 3333 Sanibel-Captiva Road (1 mile west of Tarpon Bay Road), (239) 472-2379
 Trails, Education Center, Nature Shop and Bookstore, 8300 Gulf, children under 17 free, members free
 Hours: Open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (Dec-April)
 Native Plant Nursery (239) 472-1932, Open 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday (Dec-April)*

Beach Nesters and Resters Program
 Docents discuss the importance of beaches and shorebirds to all island inhabitants, some of whom use them for nesting, resting and feeding.
Where: Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. from January through March.
Where: Begins at the Sanibel Inn and proceeds to the beachfront at Beach Hut near the pool.
Fee: Free (donations welcome to the beachhead).

Birding with Bev and Randon
 Join experienced birders Bev Potomus and Randon Edly for bird watching along the Center Tract trails and in the Sanibel Gardens Preserve.
Where: Every Friday at 7:30 a.m. from January through March.
Where: Meet in S.C.C.F.'s Nature Center parking lot on the first, third, and fifth Friday of the month (meet at the entrance to Sanibel Gardens Preserve on Island Inn Road on the second and fourth Friday of the month (drive from Tarpon Bay Road and park in the Bayley Tract lot).
Fee: Free and open to all levels of birders; take binoculars.

Buck Key Kayaking Adventure
 Naturalist-led kayak outings in cooperation with Captiva Kayak Company. The cultural and natural history of the area is discussed along the way.
Where: Call for times and dates.
Where: Begins at Captiva Kayak Company.
Fee: \$35.00 person, *.

Butterfly House Tours
 Learn about the life cycles of Florida's native butterflies and their connections with native, host plants.
Where: Every Tuesday and Friday at 10 a.m.
Where: S.C.C.F.'s Butterfly House.
Fee: \$1.00 for non-members.

The Cultural History of Florida's Native Plants
 Take a guided tour through a garden filled with 90 species of Florida's native plants. Learn how Calusa Indians in the past as well as Seminole and Caribbean cultures today have relied on Florida's heritage of native plants for food, shelter, and medicine.
Where: Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. from January 14 through April 1.
Where: Edley's nursery garden.
Fee: Free for members and children, \$3.00 for non-members.

Designing a Native Landscape
 Designing a Native Landscape asks the homeowner to design a landscape using native plants. The class covers basic design techniques, adapted for each individual in the class, and allows the homeowner to create a backyard habitat.
Where: February 4 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Where: S.C.C.F.'s Conference Room.
Fee: \$10.00 person; contact Bob DeGroot, 472-1932.

Dolphin & Wildlife Adventure
 Cruises
 Narrated by Conservation Foundation docents, this Captiva Cruising is an excellent way to enjoy dolphins, other wildlife, and learn the eco-history of Pine Island Sound and the islands.
Where: Daily at 4:00 p.m.
Where: Boat departs from South Sea Resort.
Fee: \$25.00 adults, \$10.00 children 3-12 (under 3 free). Reservations only, 472-5103.

Florida Master Naturalist Training
 This course is offered in conjunction with the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. It is appropriate for both novices and experienced educators.

Supplemental Elements

LANDOWNER
OUTREACH

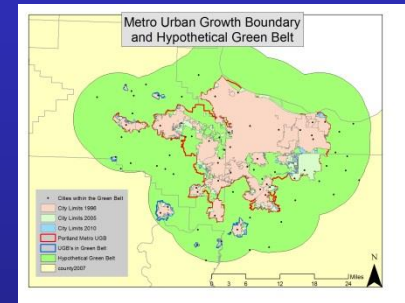
LEADING BY
EXAMPLE



Key Elements of Successful Habitat Protection Programs

Lesson #3: An “Inside” Game Plan:

1. Designated growth areas and pro-infill development policies
2. Affordable housing programs
3. Urban natural area activities for lower-income residents



IMPLEMENTATION

DIFFERENT STROKES FOR
DIFFERENT FOLKS—TAILORING
TO COMMUNITY SIZE, NEEDS,
AND POLITICS

