

Efficient
Transportation
Decision
Making

Web Training Guidelines

- Please put your phone on mute while not speaking
- Please do not put us on hold
- We are covering a lot of material in an hour and half. Please write down your question and ask it at the end. I will stay on until every question is answered.





Agenda

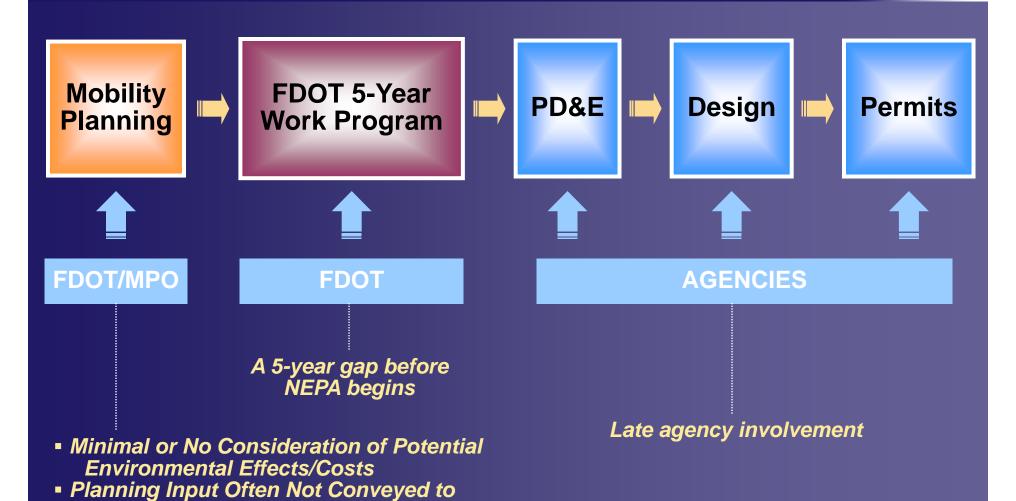
- Introductions
- What is ETDM?
- Why do ETDM?
 - History
 - SAFETEA-LU
 - ProcessImprovements

- What are the Keys to Success?
 - Process
 - People
 - Types of Projects
 - Technology
- What have we achieved?





Previous Project Delivery Process





Project Development



Environmental Streamlining Objectives

(TEA 21 Section 1309 June 98-2003)

- Effective/Timely Decision Making Without Compromising Environmental Quality
- Full and Early Participation of Agencies and Public
- Earlier Awareness of Potential Environmental Issues and Consideration of Avoidance, Minimization, Mitigation Measures
- Less duplication of effort —build on each step, don't "prove the negative"
- Meaningful Dispute Resolution Mechanisms
- Integrating Review and Permitting Processes
- Early NEPA Reviews/Approvals





What is ETDM?

Efficient Transportation Decision Making Process

- A way of planning and developing major capacity transportation improvement projects
- Enables agencies and the public to provide early input to FDOT and MPOs about potential effects of proposed transportation projects
- Developed by interagency group to help Florida make transportation decisions more quickly without sacrificing the quality of the human and natural environments





Memorandum of Understanding







Efficient Transportation Decision Making

"It is our vision to improve transportation decision making in a way that protects our natural and human environmental resources. It is our goal that we, as environmental resource and transportation agencies, establish a systematic approach that integrates land use, social, economic, environmental, and transportation considerations. This approach will include the active participation of Federal, State and Local agencies, and the public. It will lead to decisions that provide the highest quality of life and an optimal level of mobility for the public we serve."





Goals of The ETDM Process

- Earlier identification and consideration of potential environmental and sociocultural effects of major transportation improvements
- More efficient planning and project development
 - Build on input at each stage
 - Don't continue to invest time and money if fatally flawed
 - Don't continue to address if a non-issue
- Where appropriate, obtain permits earlier





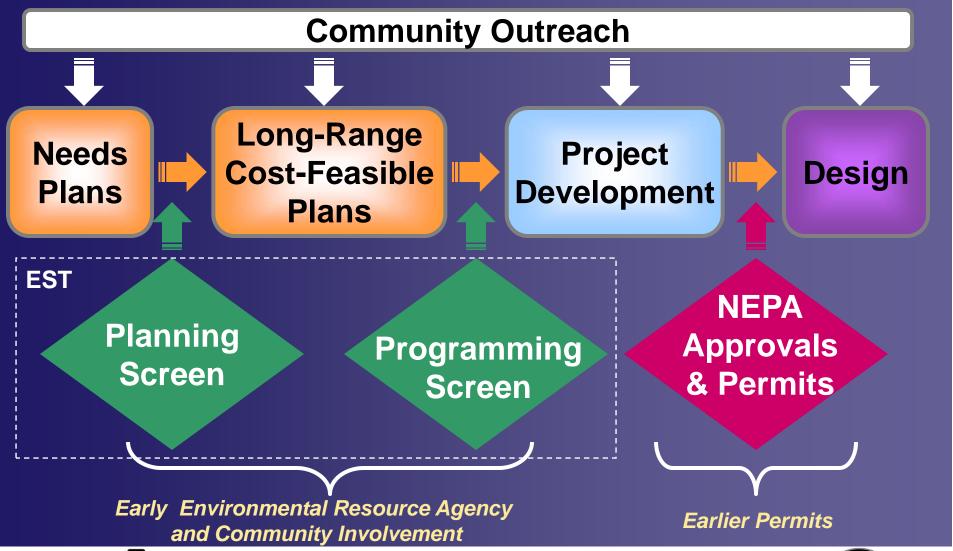
Projects Requiring ETDM Screening

- Major Transportation Projects
 - Roadway Projects
 - Where capacity is added to an existing road in the form of additional through lanes
 - New Roadways
 - Major Interchanges, Interchange modifications
 - Major Bridges, Bridge replacements, Bridge Projects involving additional lanes
 - Public Transportation Projects
 - Major capital improvements including Intermodal Centers, Rail, Transit Centers





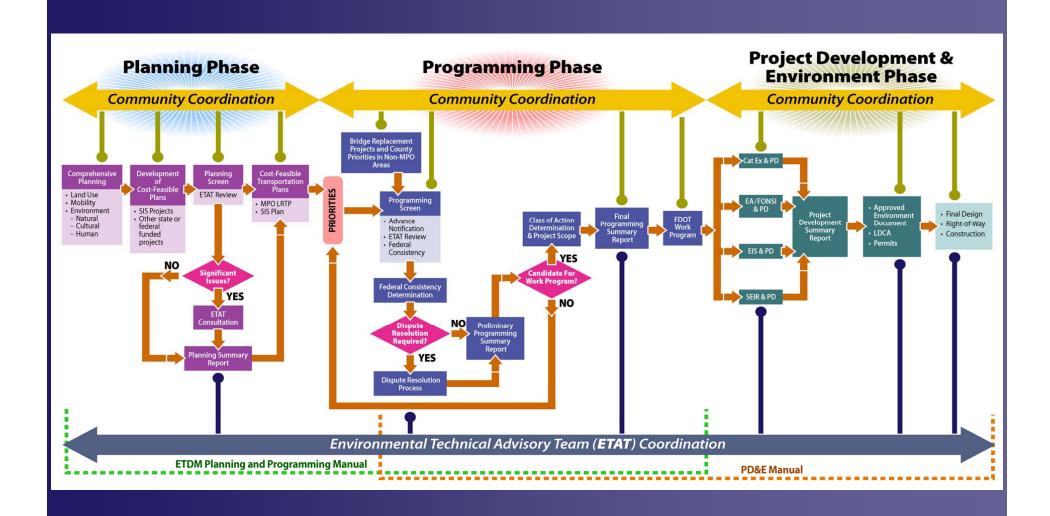
ETDM Process







ETDM Process







Why do ETDM

- One agency voice that is authorized to officially speak on behalf of the agency
- Documentation of decisions including the elimination of non-viable alternatives, agreement on the "purpose and need" of the project.
- Projects enter the FDOT Work Program and MPO TIP with better definition of issues, feasibility, and potential costs.
- MPO & FDOT LRTP processes enhanced by earlier understanding of projects' potential environmental & sociocultural effects and their associated costs and acceptability
- Agencies and affected community have ready access to quality data and an additional mechanism to feedback





SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Requirement – August 10, 2005

SAFETEA-LU Section 6002 Requirement	ETDM Process Satisfies Requirement
Identification of the Project Lead Agency and Participating Agencies and definition of agency roles in the process	✓
Participating Agency Invitation and review deadlines	✓
Cooperating Agencies	✓
Project Initiation	✓
Administrative and Policy Procedures	✓
Purpose and Need	✓
Range of Alternatives	✓
Comment Deadlines	✓
Coordination and Scheduling	✓
Methodologies and Level of Detail	✓
Performance Measurement	✓
Issue Resolution	✓
Assistance to State Agencies	✓
Limitation on Claims	✓





Why do ETDM? (continued)

- Project "diary" follows project through all phases
- No re-education at the permitting stage since the agency has been involved with the project since it's initial review
- Focuses project scopes on key technical issues
- Review and permitting processes integrated
- Early NEPA reviews/approvals where appropriate
- Expected reduction in late project challenges and litigation
- Can use the EST for smaller projects that will NOT go out for a review





Grandfathering

In a letter dated December 13, 2005, FHWA approved the ETDM process under the provisions of SAFETEA-LU, citing "The ETDM process meets the statutory requirements of Section 6002 and may be used for the development of federal aid projects."

Florida is the only state environmental process that has been grandfathered





Keys to Success

- Environmental Technical Advisory Team
 - Agency Reviewers
 - ETDM Coordinators
 - Community Liaison Coordinators
- Early and Continuous Agency Involvement
 - Planning Screen
 - Programming Screen
- Effective use of Technology
 - Environmental Screening Tool





Agencies Participating in the ETDM Process

More than 30 state, federal, and local agencies and tribal governments

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Federal Transit Agency (FTA)

US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE)

US Coast Guard (USCG)

US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)

US Forest Service (USFS)

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)

National Park Service (NPS)

Seminole Tribe

Miccosukee Tribe

Florida County Governments

Florida's Regional Planning Councils (RPCs)

26 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)

Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA)

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)

FL Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS)

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FFWCC)

Northwest Florida Water Management District (NWFWMD)

South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)

Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)

St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD)

Suwannee River Water Management District (SRWMD)





Key Players and Roles

- Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT)
 - Each FDOT District has an ETAT
 - Comprised of representatives from 23 resource agencies
 - ETAT member speaks for agency –responsible for interaction with FDOT
- Role Shifts from planning phase through permit approval
 - Planning Screen: Recommendations
 - Programming Screen: NEPA Scoping
 - Program Development: Coordination
 - Approval/Permits: Coordination





Key Players and Roles

- ETAT Representatives
 - Well versed in the statutory authority
 - Knowledgeable of the agency actions required at each phase
 - Able to perform and understand comprehensive environmental impact analyses
 - Respected within the agency
 - Access to key decision makers
 - Create solutions and function as a problem solver
 - Effective in dispute resolution
 - Single point of contact





Changes To FDOT Internal Processes

- Integration of Planning and Environmental Units
- Development of a "team" approach within many districts
 - ETDM Coordinators
 - EMO Administrators
 - Project Development Engineers
 - Permit Coordinators
- Involves more interaction between Design & Project Development staff in terms of project scoping, project commitments, and ensuring commitments carried through





Key Players and Roles

- ETDM Coordinators
 - Coordinate activities of the process:
 - Initiate project screens
 - Notify ETAT of review readiness
 - Monitor timeliness
 - Prepare summary reports
 - Coordinate dispute resolution





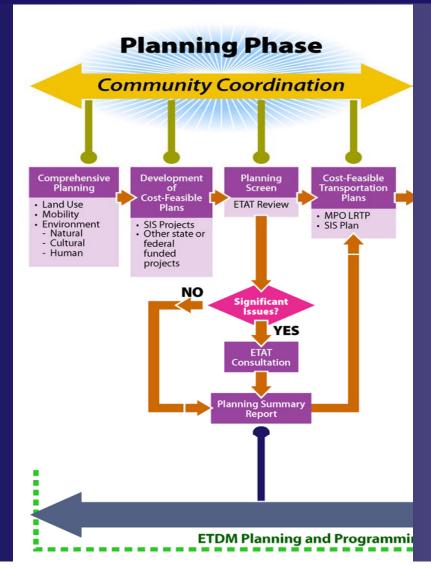
Key Players and Roles

- Community Liaison Coordinators (CLCs)
 - Prepare sociocultural effects inventory
 - Review GIS analysis results
 - Solicit and respond to public comment
 - Assist with summary reports





Planning Phase



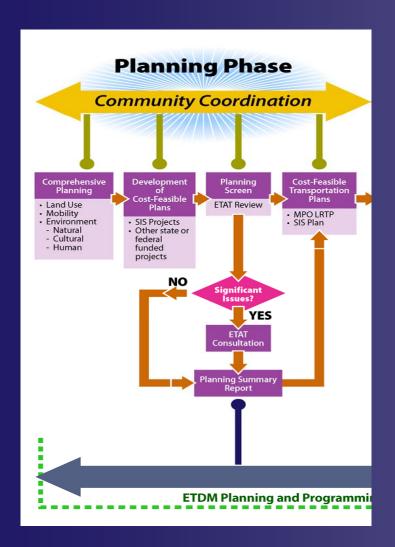
ETAT

- Review purpose and need
- Review direct impacts
- Recommend avoidance/ minimization
- Suggest mitigation strategies
- Provide SACIA commentary
- Assess degree of effect
- Coordinate to reduce conflicts





Planning Phase



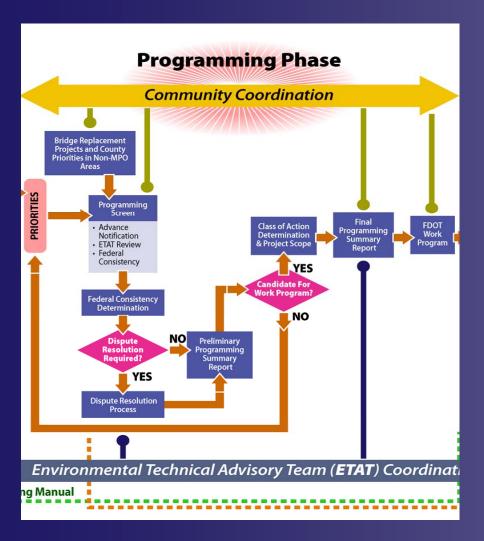
Community Outreach

- Inventory community characteristics
- Conduct public outreach
- Conduct public meetings on LRTP
- Document community concerns
- Identify sociocultural effects
- Make Planning Summary
 Report available





Programming Phase



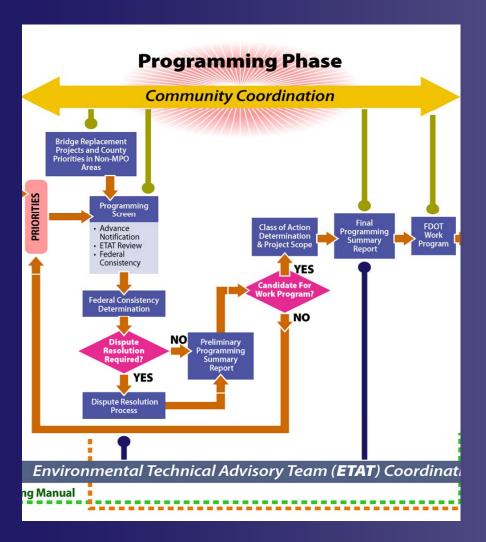
ETAT

- Update direct impact assessment
- Provide AN comments
- Document degree of effect
- Provide scope for technical studies
- Participate in dispute resolution, if necessary
- FHWA/FDOT determines class of action
- Federal Consistency Review and Determination





Programming Phase

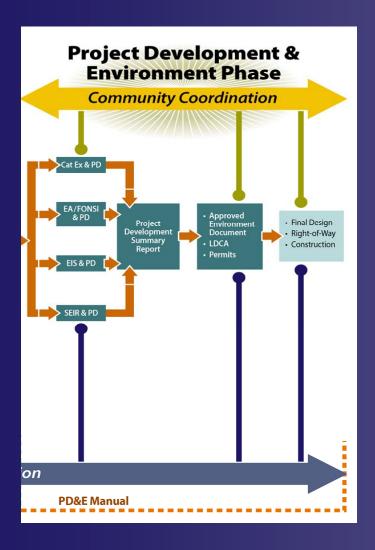


- Community Outreach
 - Continued public outreach
 - Conduct work program public hearings
 - Make Programming
 Summary Report
 available





Project Development



- FDOT's PM develops scope of services
 - Alternatives already screened
 - Focused technical studies
 - Unnecessary to prove the negative
- Permits and conditions identified
- Agencies support hearings
- ETAT Coordination on specific issues
- Agencies review environmental documents





Environmental Screening Tool

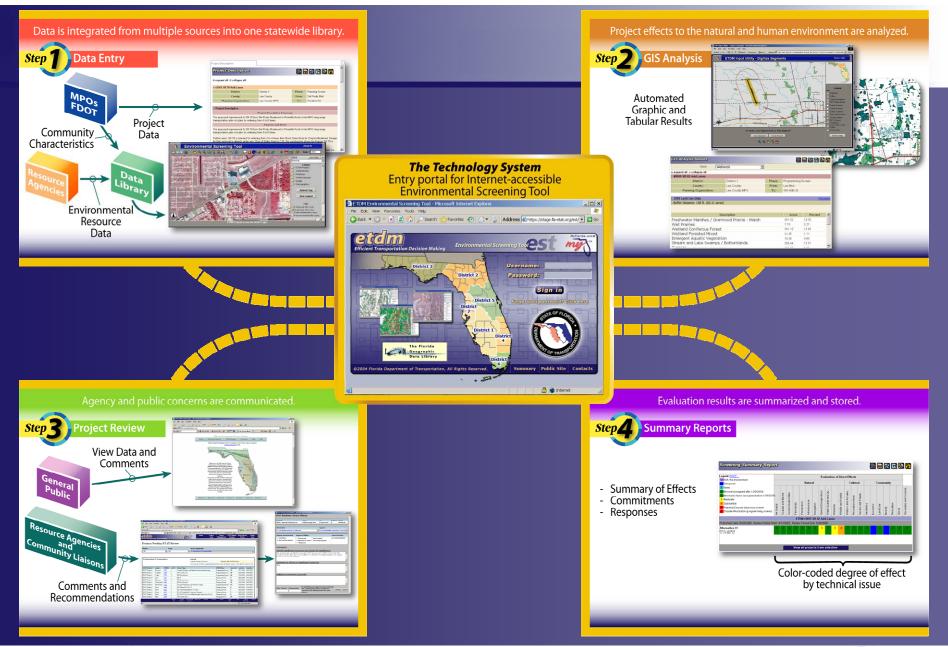
Supports the ETDM Process

- Integrate Data From Multiple Sources
- Analyze Environmental Effects
- Communicate Information
- Store And Report Results
- Maintain ProjectRecords











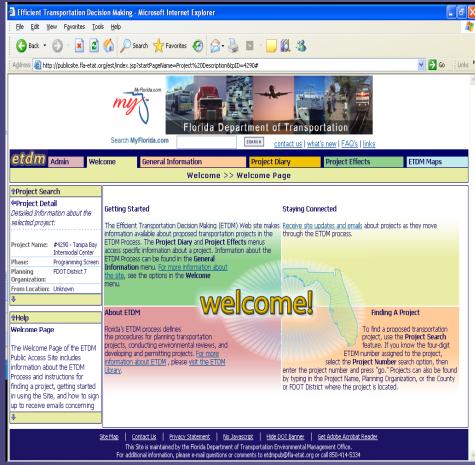


Environmental Screening Tool

Secure Site

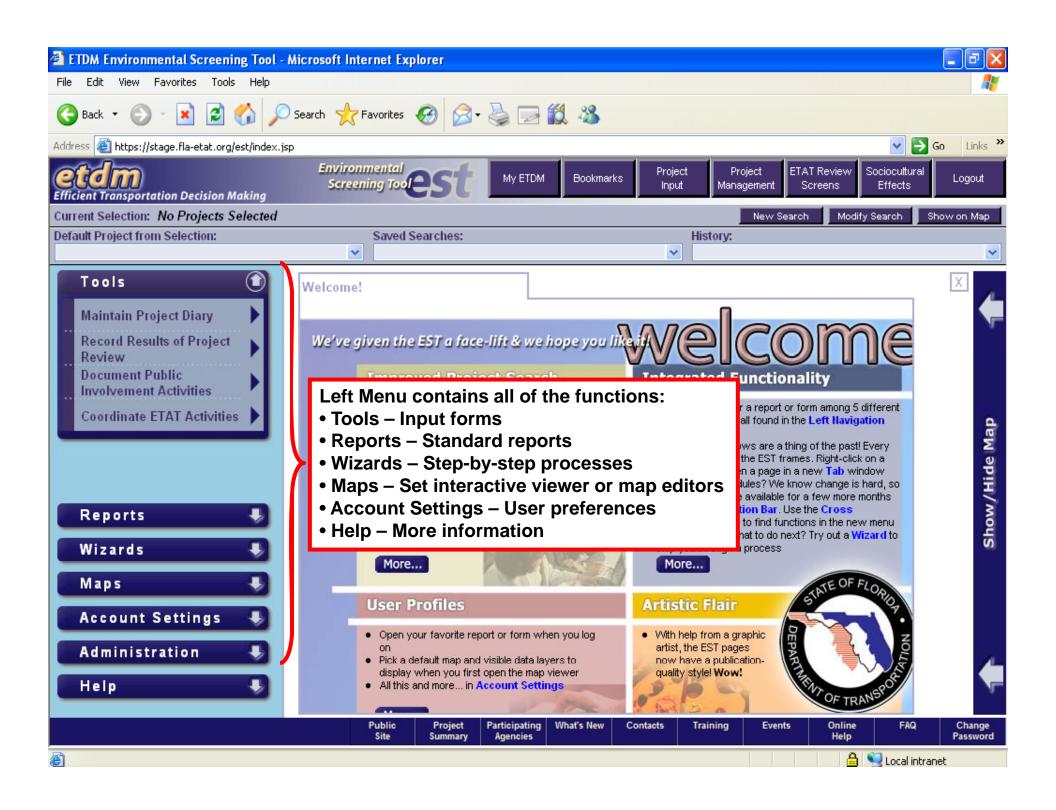


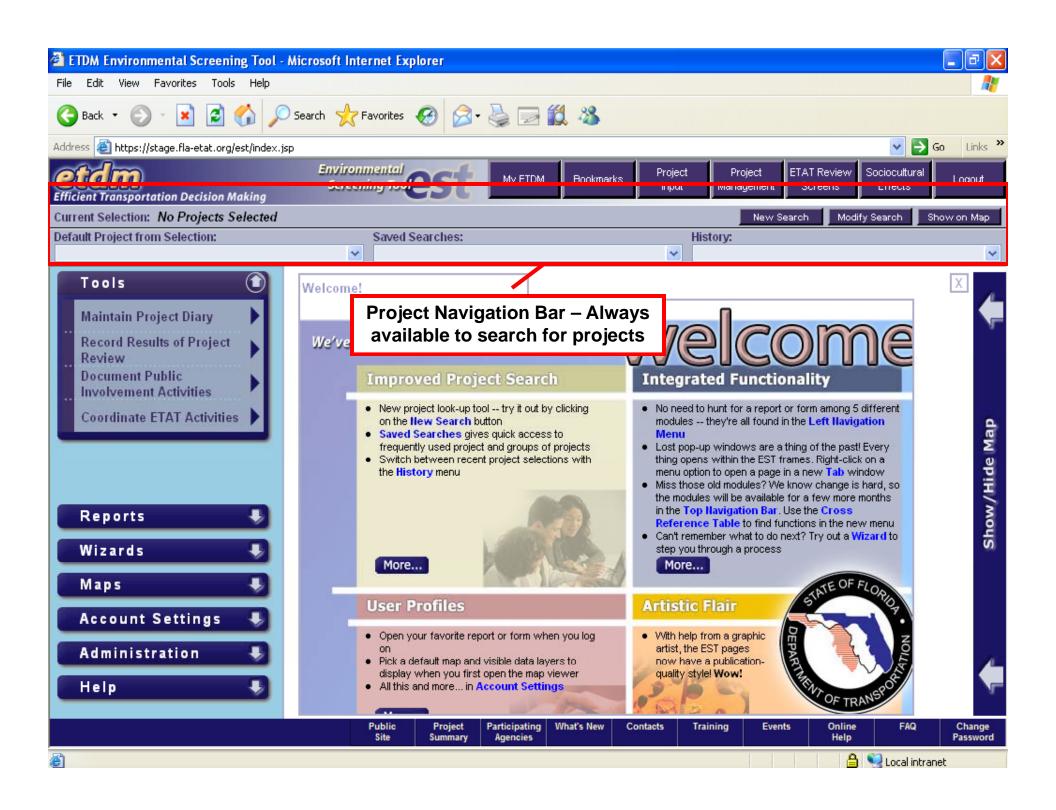
Public Access Site

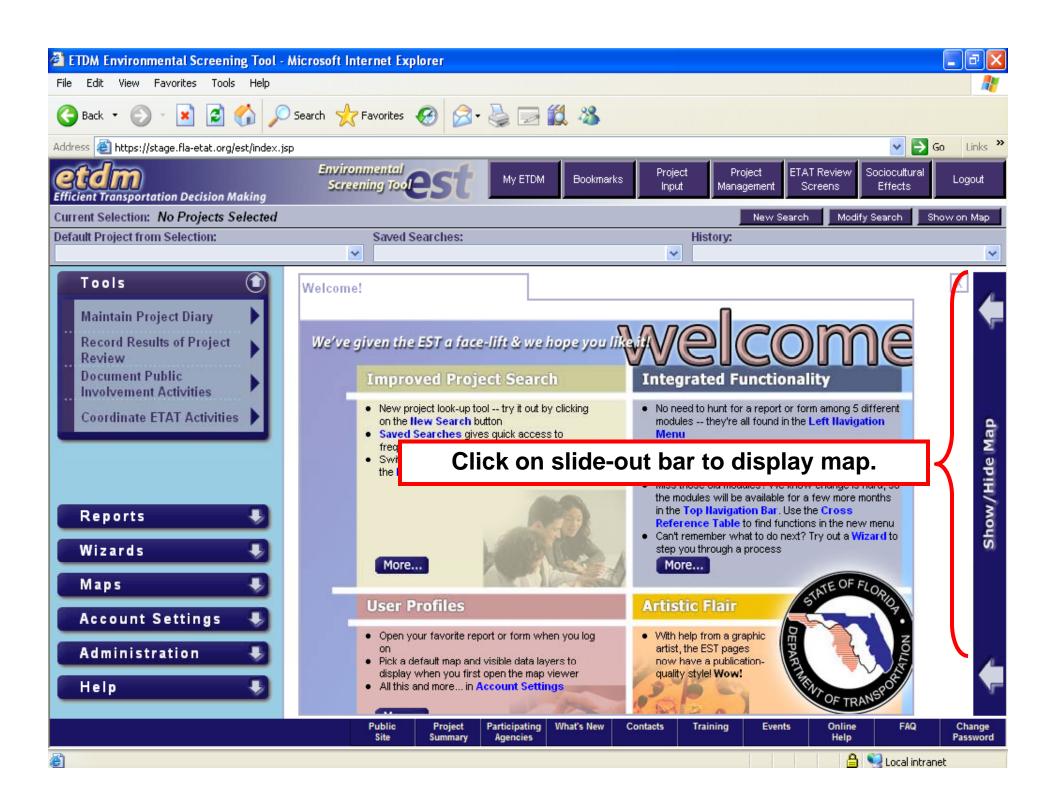


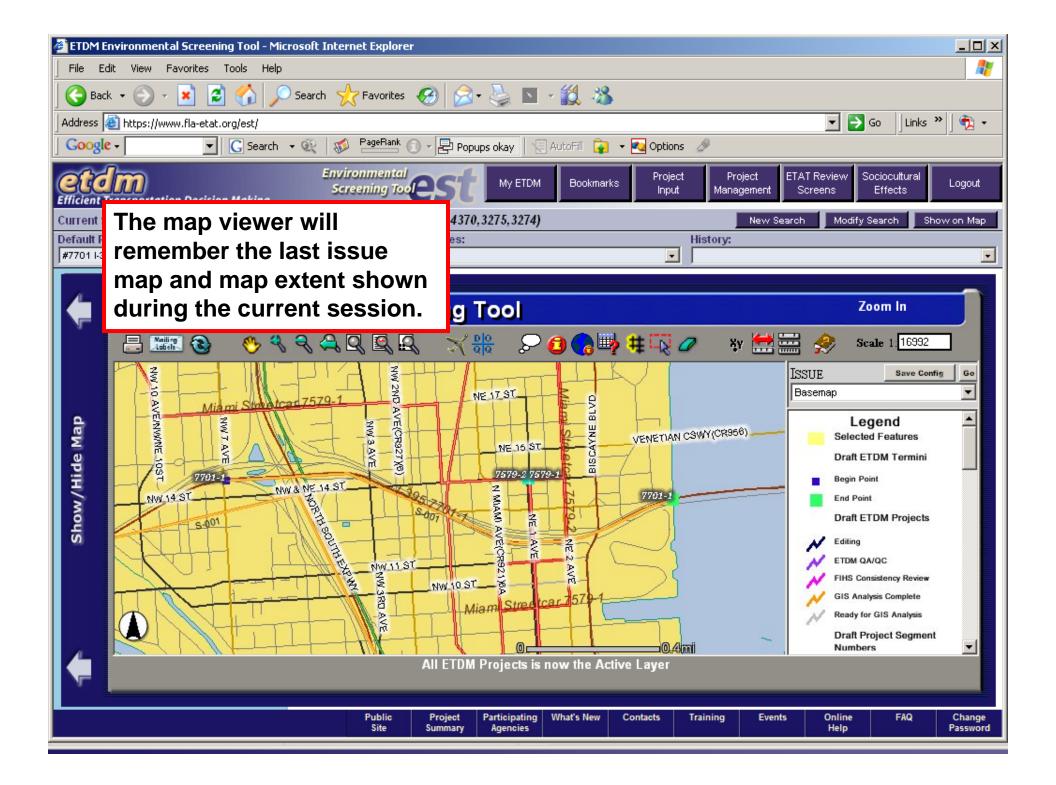
Environmental Screening Tool











Performing Reviews





Programming Screen Initiates

- Programming Screen notification constitutes
 Advance Notification (AN) and initiates Federal
 Consistency Review and consistency with Local
 Government Comprehensive Plan
- ETAT and Federal Consistency Reviewers use the EST to submit comments
 - Identify Technical Studies
 - Permits and Conditions
 - Basis for project scope
 - Department makes commitments
- State Clearinghouse reviews comments and completes the consistency determination for Florida's Coastal Management Program





Step 1. Send Notifications

- ETDM Coordinator sends electronic notifications to:
 - State Clearinghouse Coordinator
 - ETAT Members
 - State Federal Consistency Reviewers
- May be the same for an agency

- Other Interested Parties
- Includes project identifier, instructions, and links to AN and website
- Initiates 45-day comment period





Issues Agencies Comment On

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Coastal and Marine
- Contaminated Sites
- Economic
- Farmlands
- Floodplains
- Historic and Archaeological Sites
- Infrastructure
- Land Use

- Mobility
- Navigation
- Recreation Areas
- Relocation
- Secondary and Cumulative Effects
- Section 4(f) Potential
- Social/Community Concerns
- Special Designations
- Water Quality and Quantity
- Wetlands
- Wildlife and Habitat

Through Agency Operating Agreements, agencies are tied to specific issues above. Meaning, comments are expected from the agencies on the issues they manage, regulate, or consult on.





Sample Notification

To: ETAT Representatives, Federal Consistency Reviewers, AN Recipients

From: ETDM Coordinator Date: 05/19/2008 05:16PM

Subject: Notice: ETDM Programming Screen has begun

The ETDM Programming Screen has begun for the following project. This notice also constitutes the Advance Notification in accordance with Presidential Éxecutive Order 12372. Please review instructions below and then proceed to the Environmental Screening Tool to submit your comments at:

www.fla-etat.org

ETDM #: 10033

PROJECT NAME: Test: Sarah Non-Viable 3/13/2008

ALTERNATIVE: 1,3

SCREENING: Programming Screen

COUNTY: Franklin

DISTRICT: 3

Project Sponsor: FDOT District 3

<Click to view the Advance Notification Package> Link: http://publicsite.flaetat.org/est/AN Package.isp?pkg=231

The review period starts today 19-May-08, and will end in 45 days, on 03-Jul-08.

The following Water Management District(s) should review this project:

NORTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

The following agencies have been identified as potentially exempted from this project screening event. These agencies should review the Advance Notification Package and participate in the review screening at their own discretion.

Federal Highway Administration, Federal Rail Administration, Federal Transit Administration, National Park Service

Your review of this project should include:

- * Review of Project Description and Purpose and Need Statement * Commentary on potential direct and secondary effects. Consider:
- Standardized analyses provided in the EST
- Studies and other data about the area
- Your professional knowledge about potential effects in the area
- * Assignment of degree of effect
- * Scoping recommendations for technical studies in future project development phase to address:
- Moderate or substantial effects
- Areas where data is insufficient to determine potential effect

Your commentary and input will be used to determine the Class of Action for the NEPA study.

For those involved in Sociocultural Effects Evaluations, please review the 'Sociocultural Effects Evaluation- Guidelines for the ETDM Process' document at http://www.dot.state.fl.us/emo/pubs/sce/sce.htm.

If you have any technical questions, need assistance, or require additional training, the following three options are available to you:

- 1) Contact the ETDM Help Desk at 850-414-5334 or help@fla-etat.org
- 2) Contact [Insert Contact Name] at [Insert Contact Phone] or [Insert Contact E-mail
- 3) Contact Sarah Van Wart at null or marcelo_bosio@urscorp.com

NOTICE TO MPO ETDM Coordinators and CLCs: Some projects may not fall within your geographic jurisdiction; however, the Department would not want to prevent you from commenting on a project if you believe that it may impact your organization. Therefore, you are being notified of any project entering a review cycle within your FDOT District.

Thank you,

ETDM Coordinator



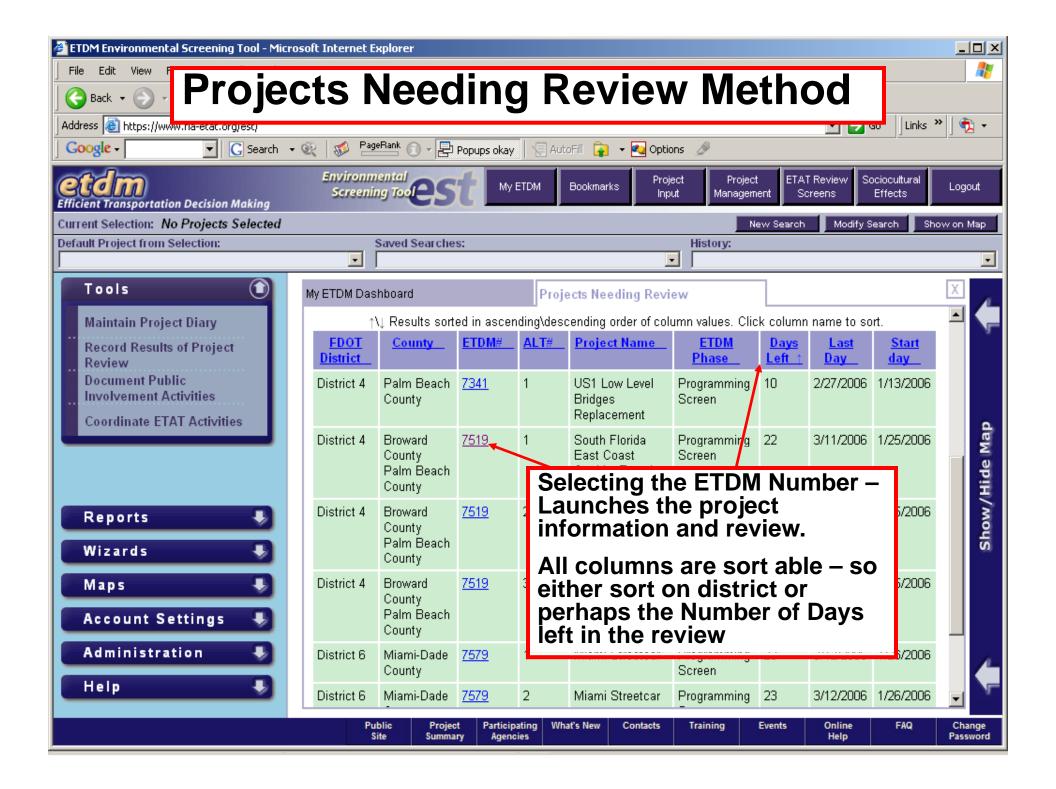


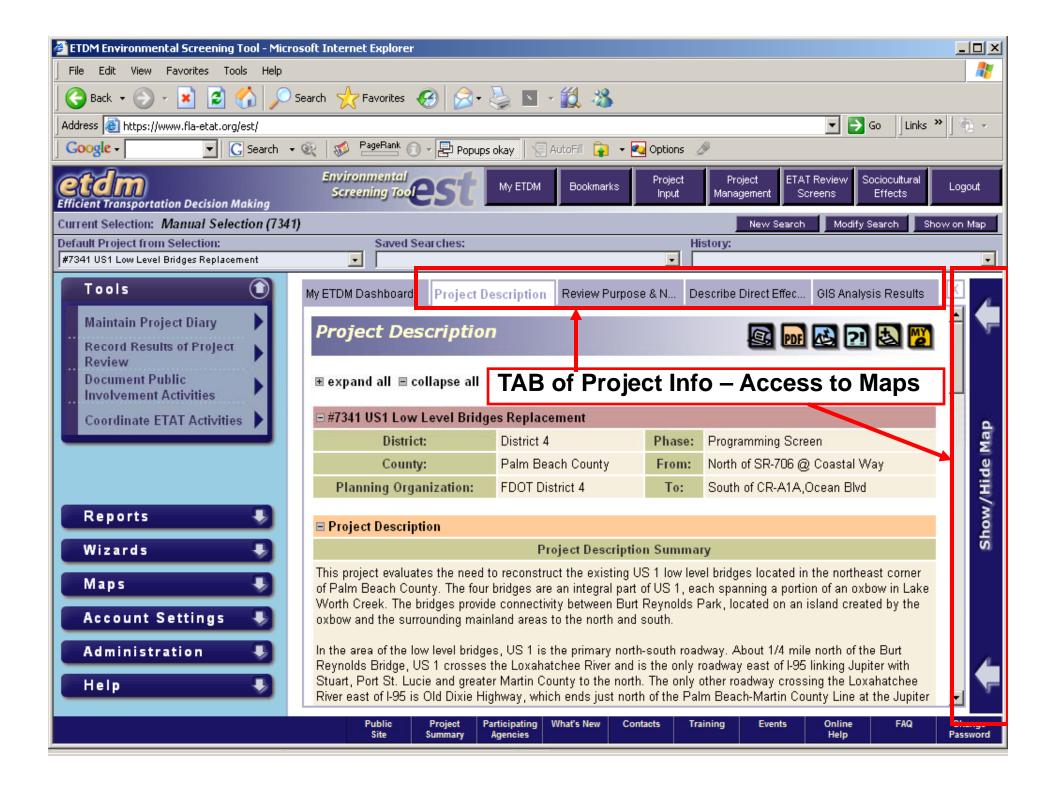
Step 2. Review Project

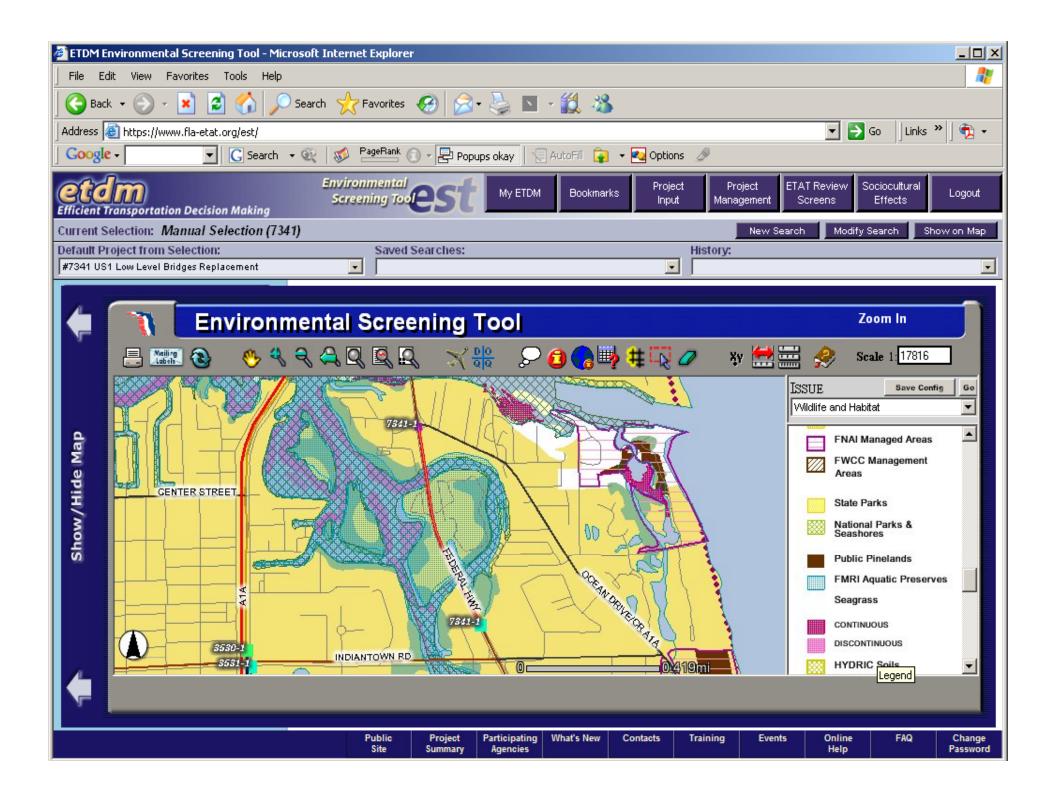
- Upon receipt of notification:
 - Review project Information provided in AN Package and on EST website
 - Coordinate activities and project commentary within agency
 - Submit comments or request extension within 45 days
 - ETAT and State Federal Consistency Reviewers submit comments on EST
 - Other interested parties submit comments via email, written correspondence, or public workshops

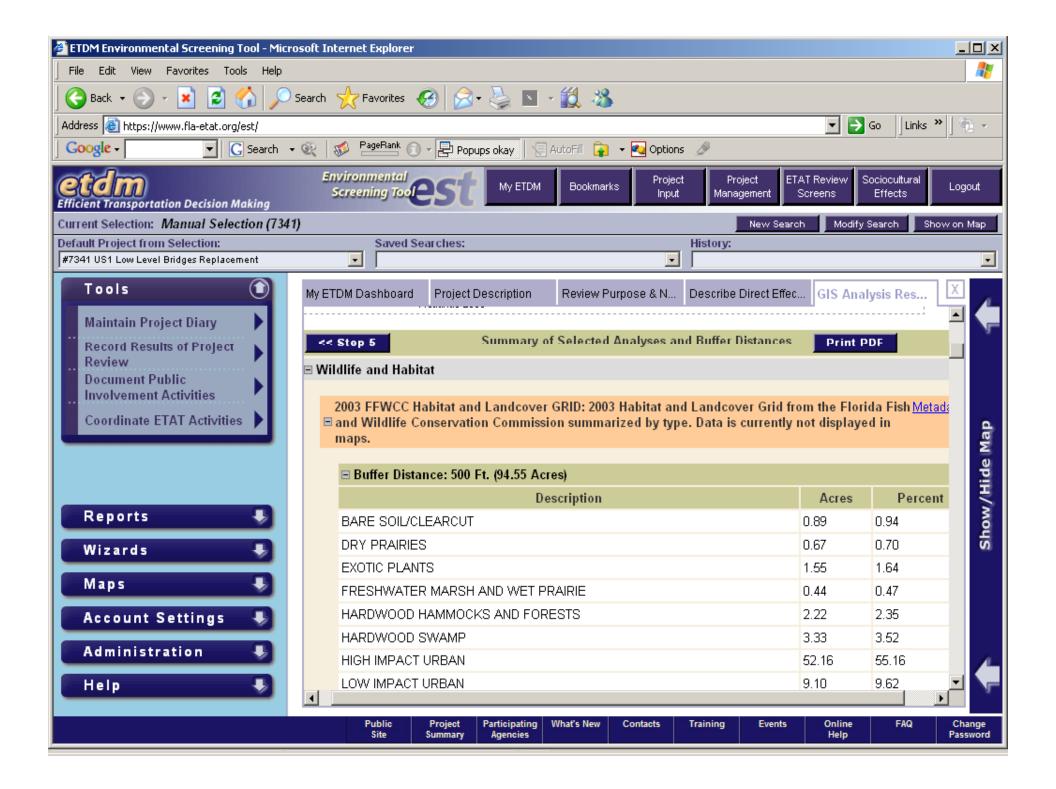


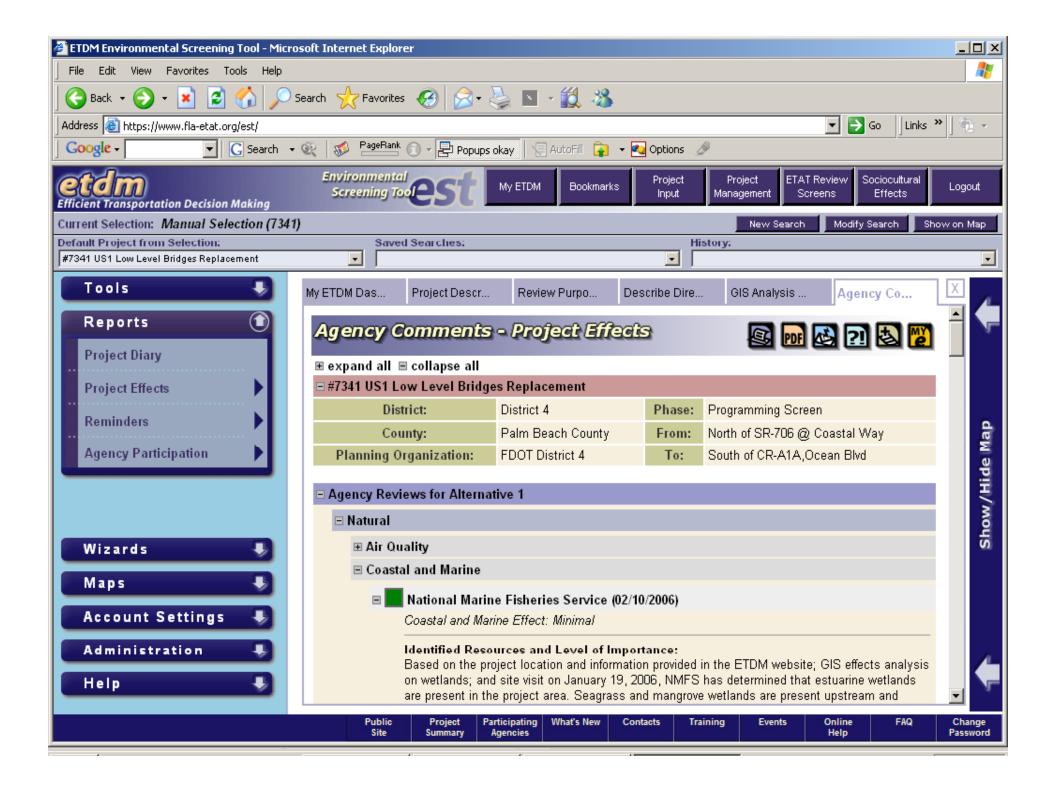










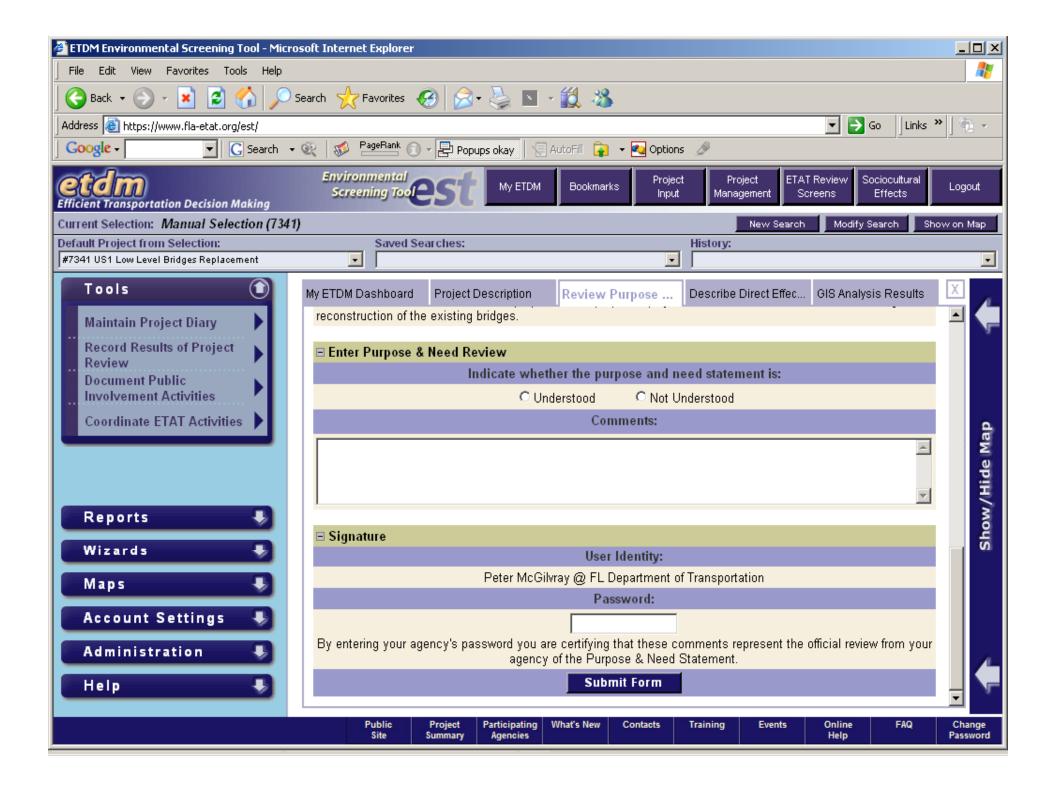


Step 2. Review Project (continued)

- ETAT specific responsibilities
 - Comment on purpose and need
 - Describe project effects to resources under agency authority
 - Recommend avoidance/ minimization
 - Suggest mitigation strategies
 - Assess degree of effect
 - Coordinate to reduce conflicts





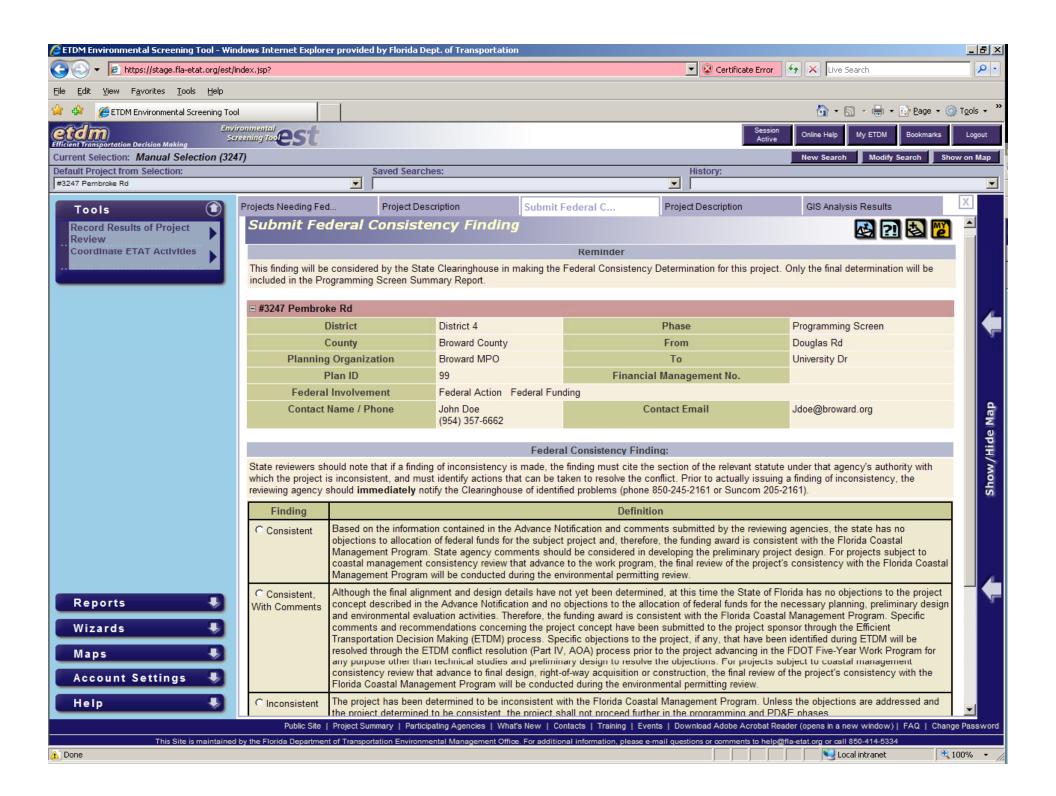


Step 2. Review Project (continued)

- Federal Consistency Reviewer specific responsibilities
 - Review projects for consistency with the Florida Coastal Management Program, as pertains to agency authority
 - For inconsistency findings:
 - Cite relevant statutes
 - Identify actions to resolve the conflict
 - Immediately notify the State Clearinghouse of identified problems







Step 2. Review Project (continued)

- For agencies with different ETAT and Federal Consistency Review personnel
 - Ensure Federal Consistency Review and ETAT comments are not in conflict

Recommendation:

Consider assigning the commenting responsibilities to the same individual





Degree of Effect

N/A

Not Applicable or No Involvement

Enhanced

Positive effect on resources

None

No effect on resources

Minimum

Little adverse effect on resources

Moderate

Resources are affected; avoidance, minimization options available

Substantial

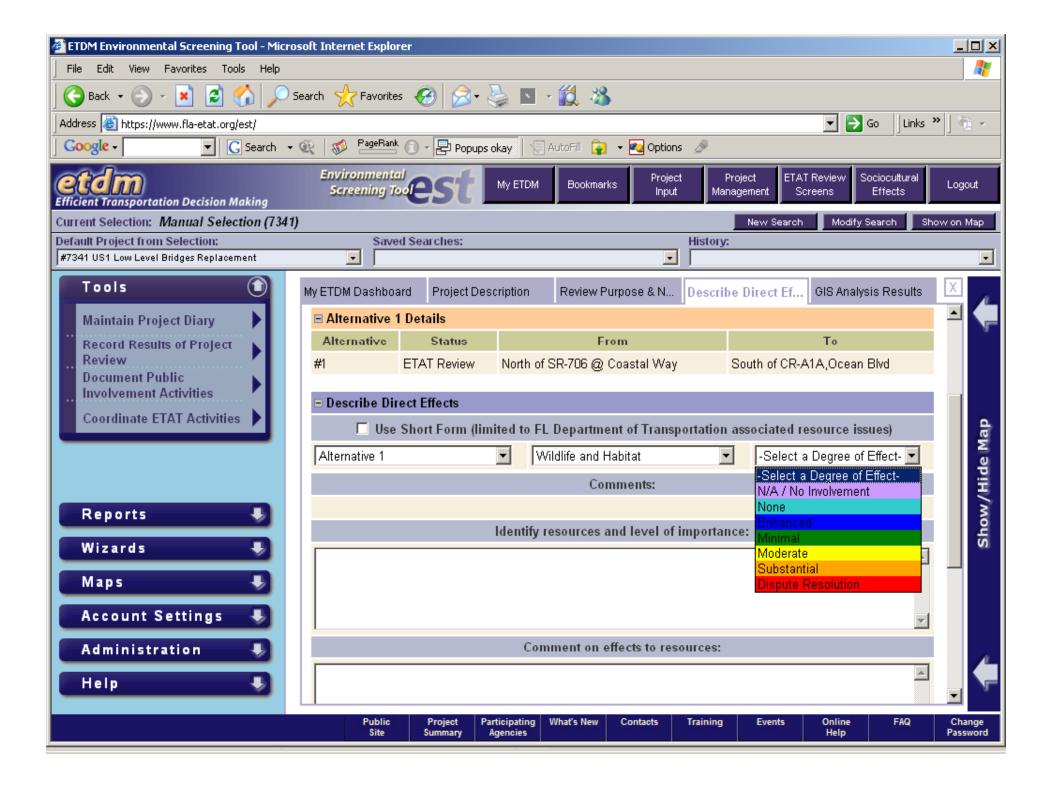
Substantial interaction required; avoidance, minimization, mitigation

Dispute

Does not conform to agency requirements







Step 3. Summarize Reviews

- State Clearinghouse Coordinator submits
 Consistency Determination within 15 days
- FDOT District ETDM Coordinator summarizes ETAT comments and publishes Preliminary Programming Screen Summary Report within 60-days
- Reviewers receive email when summary report is available

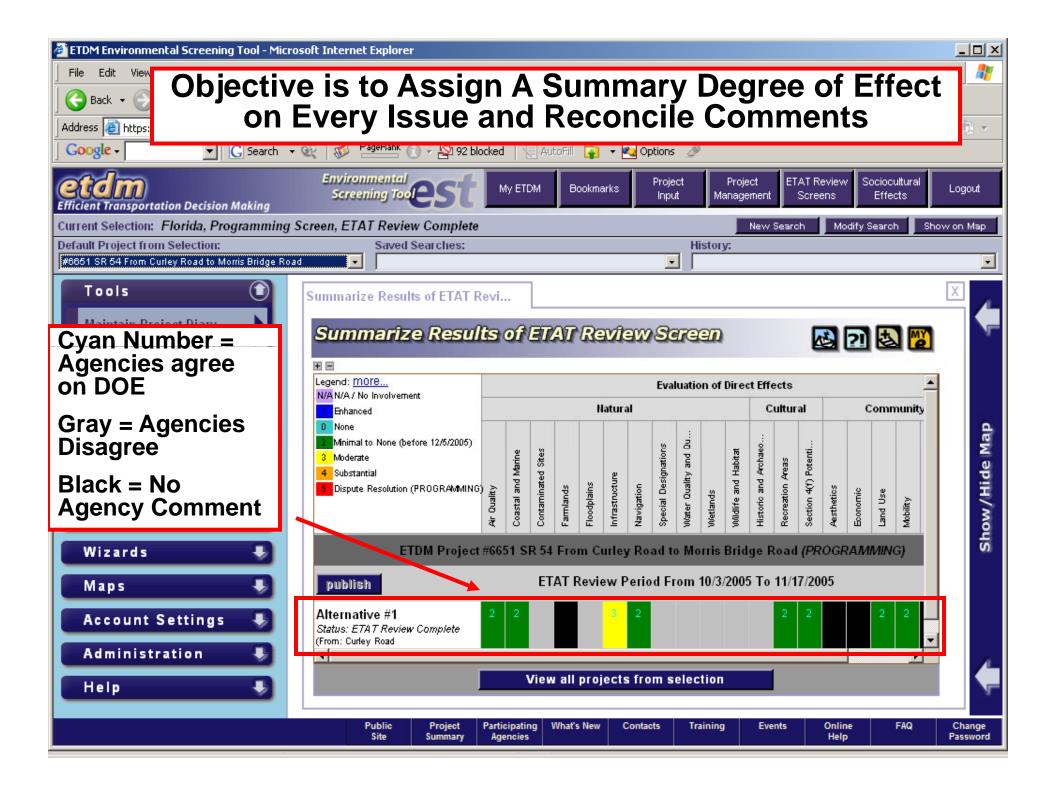


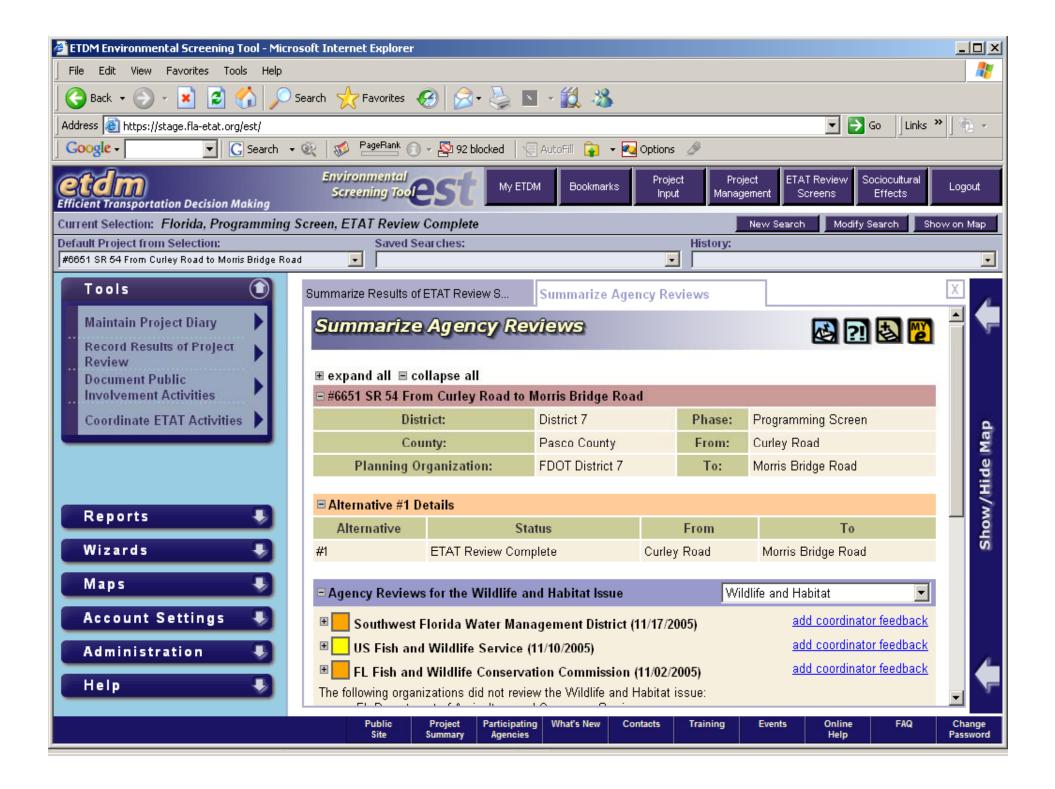


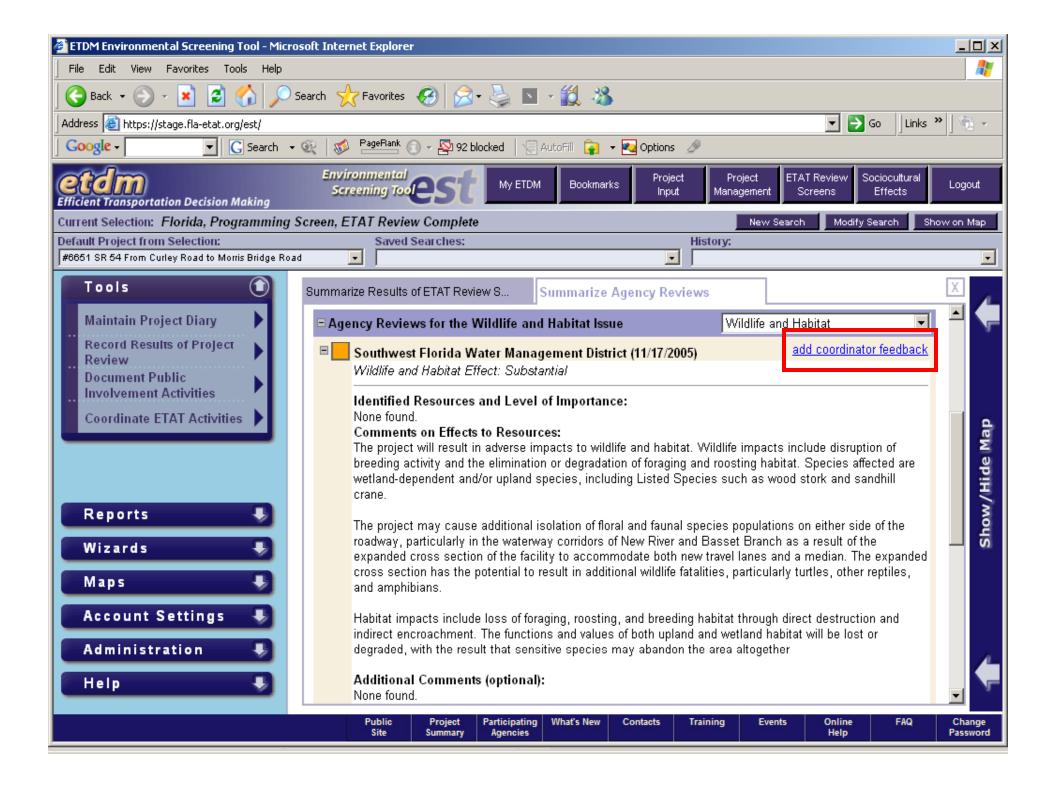
Creating a Summary Report

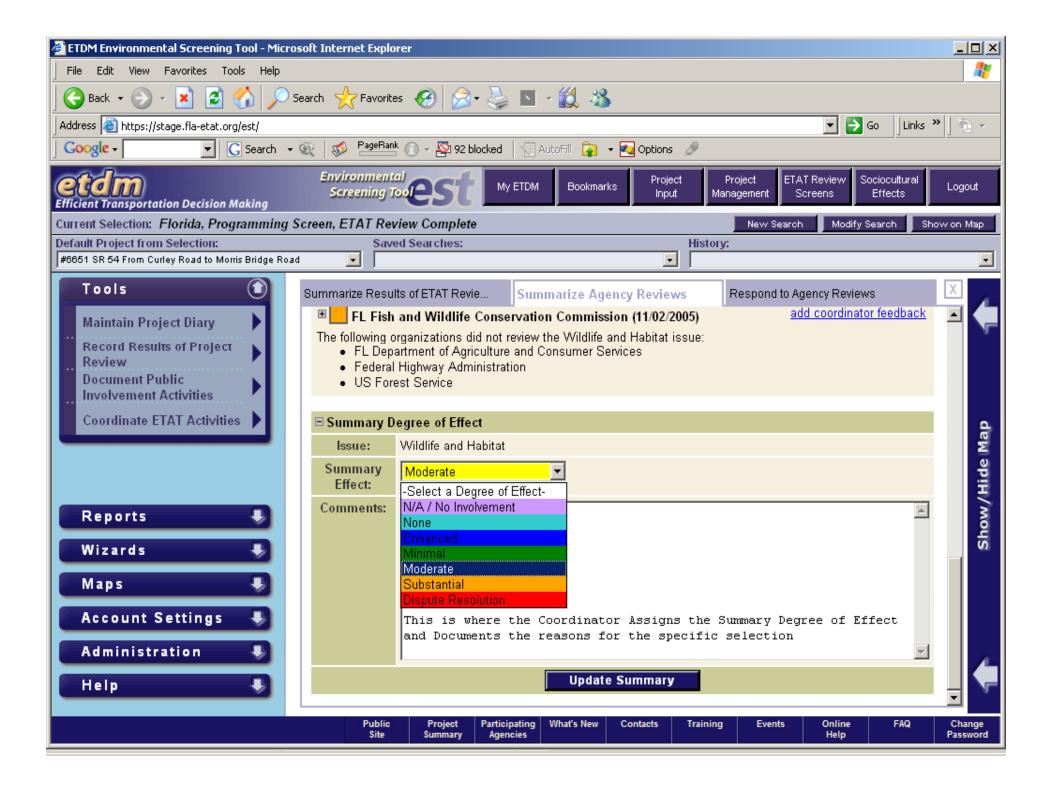


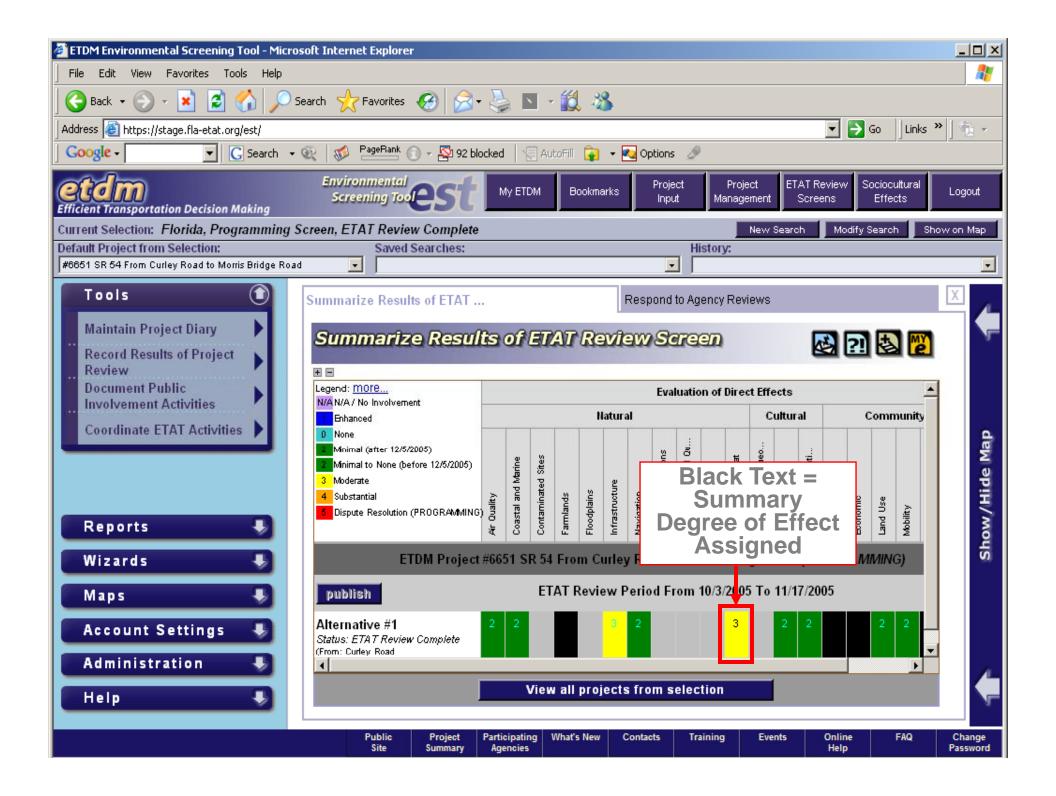


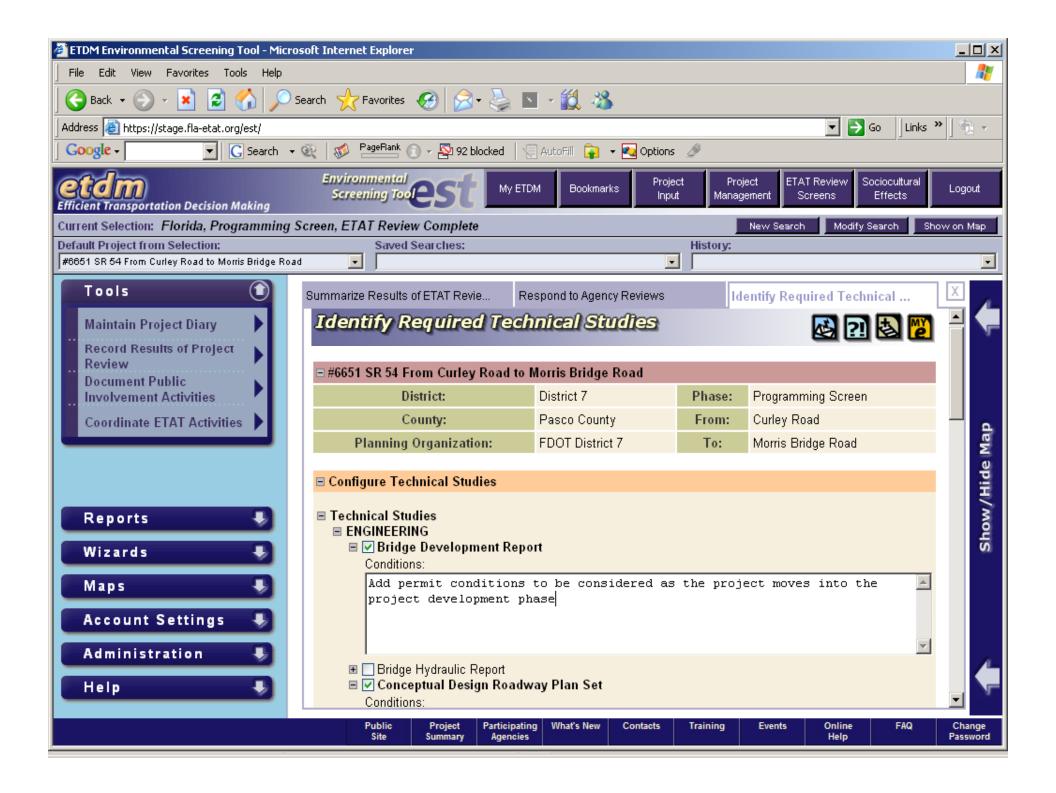


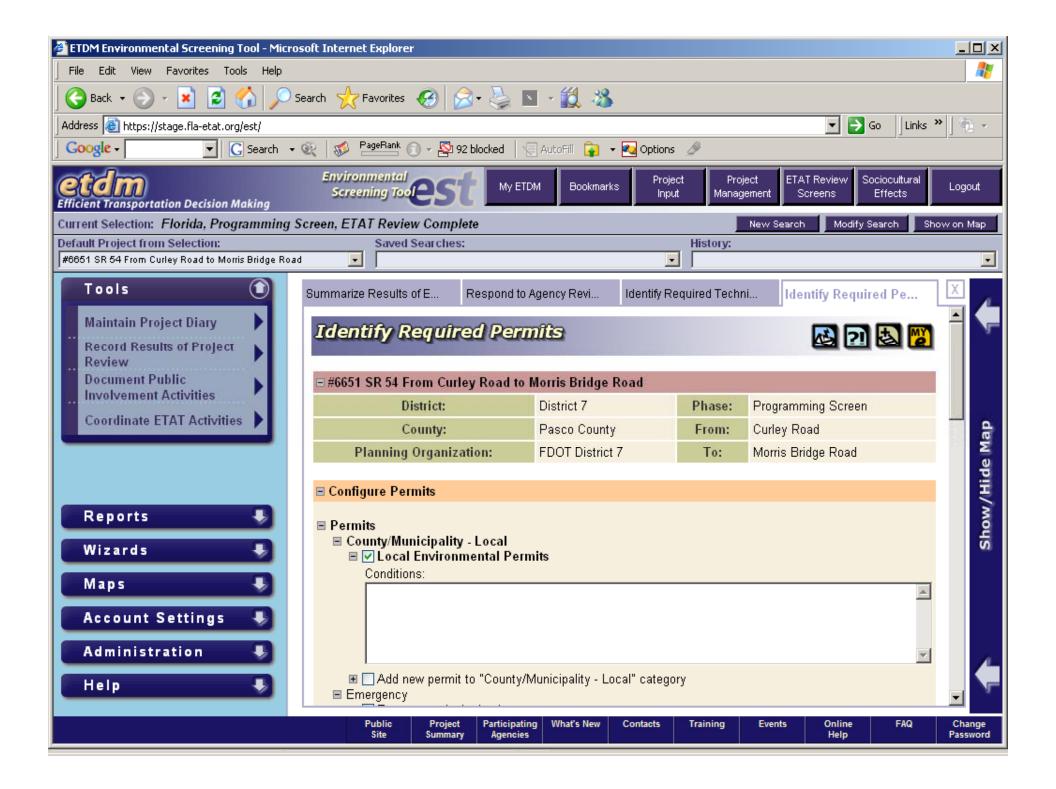


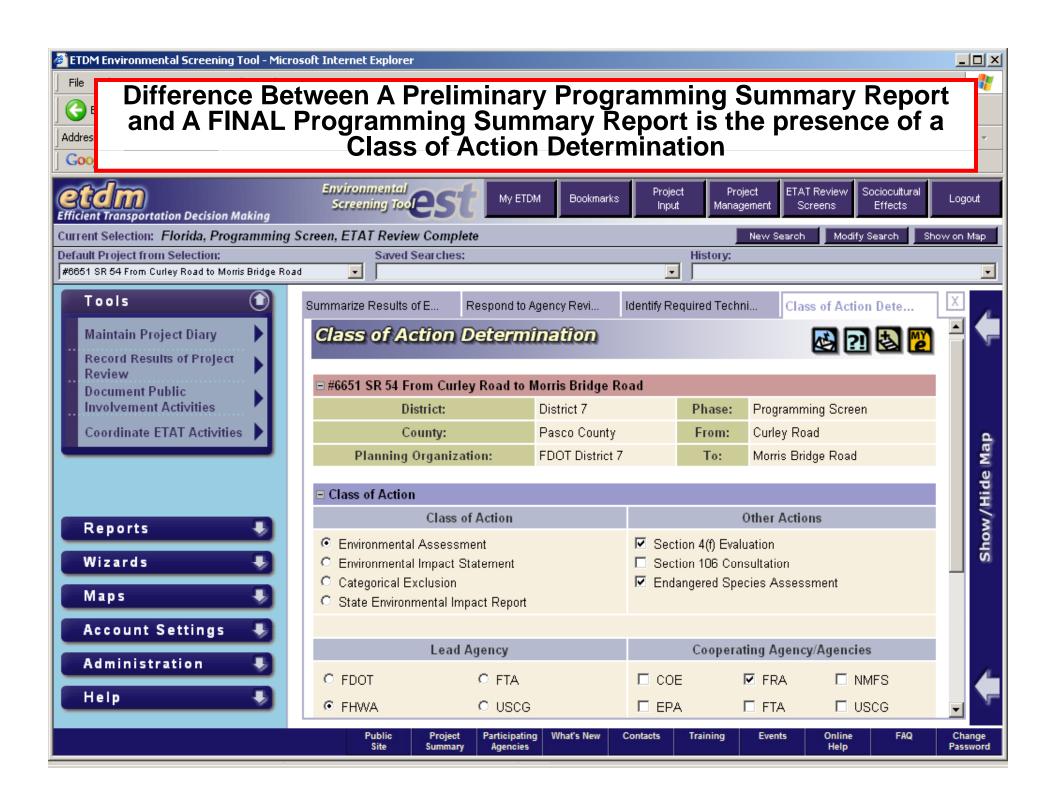


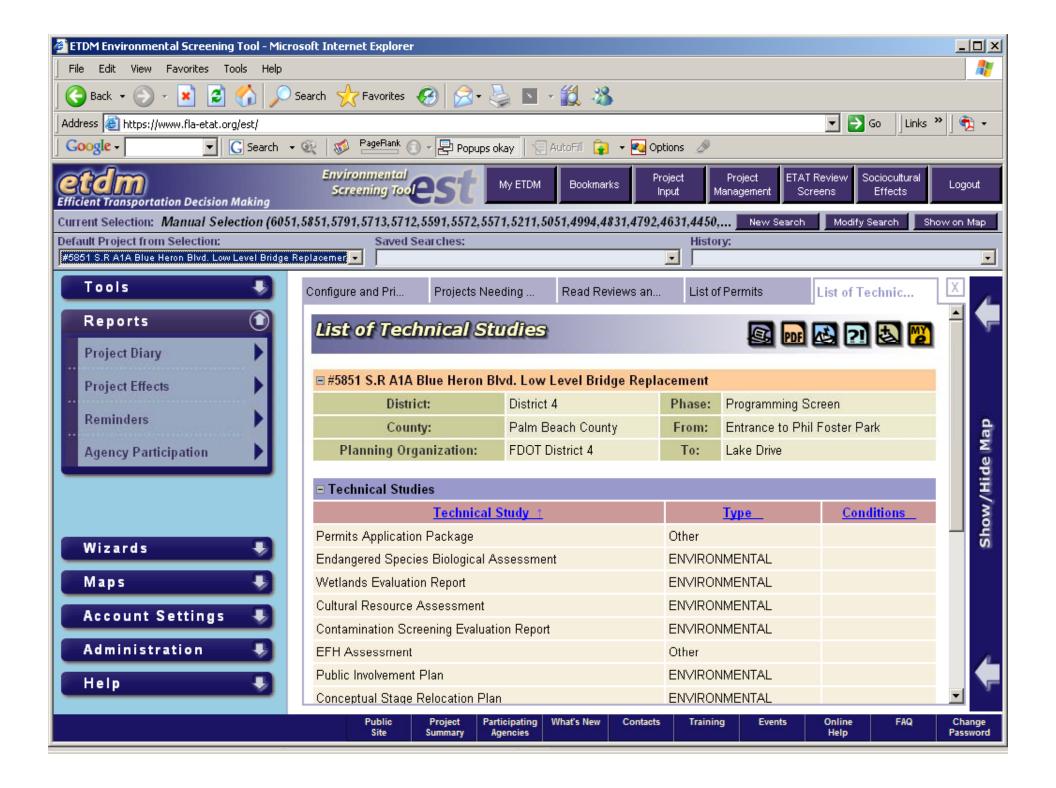


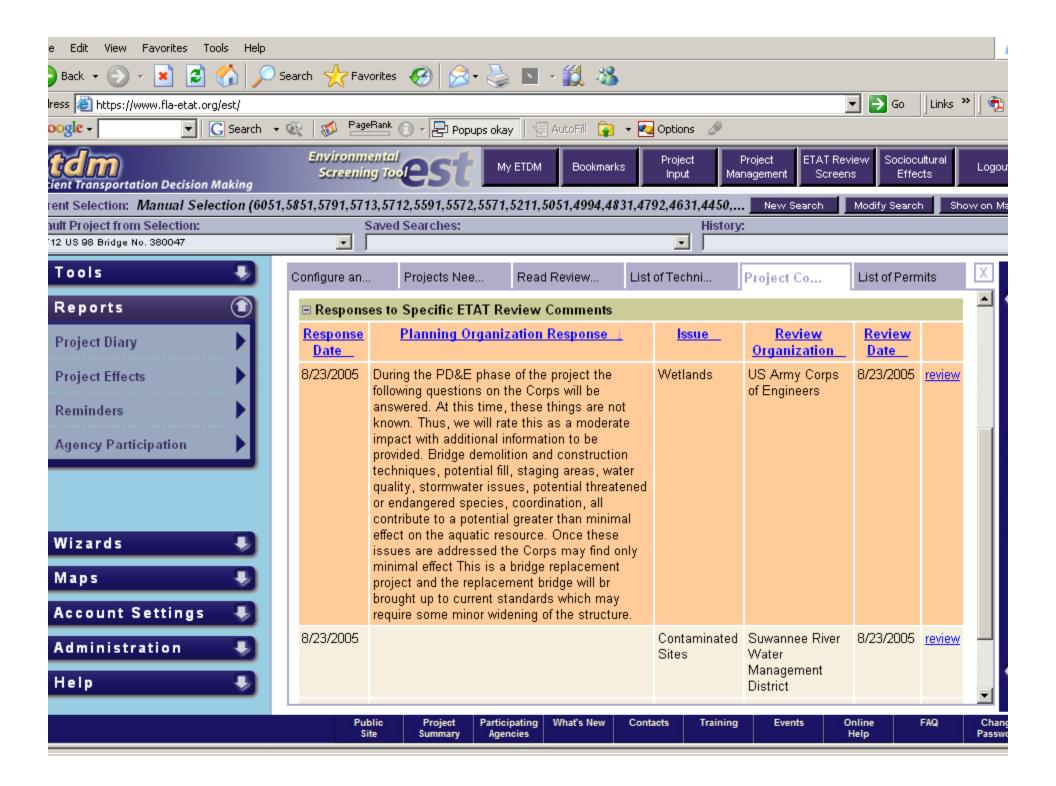


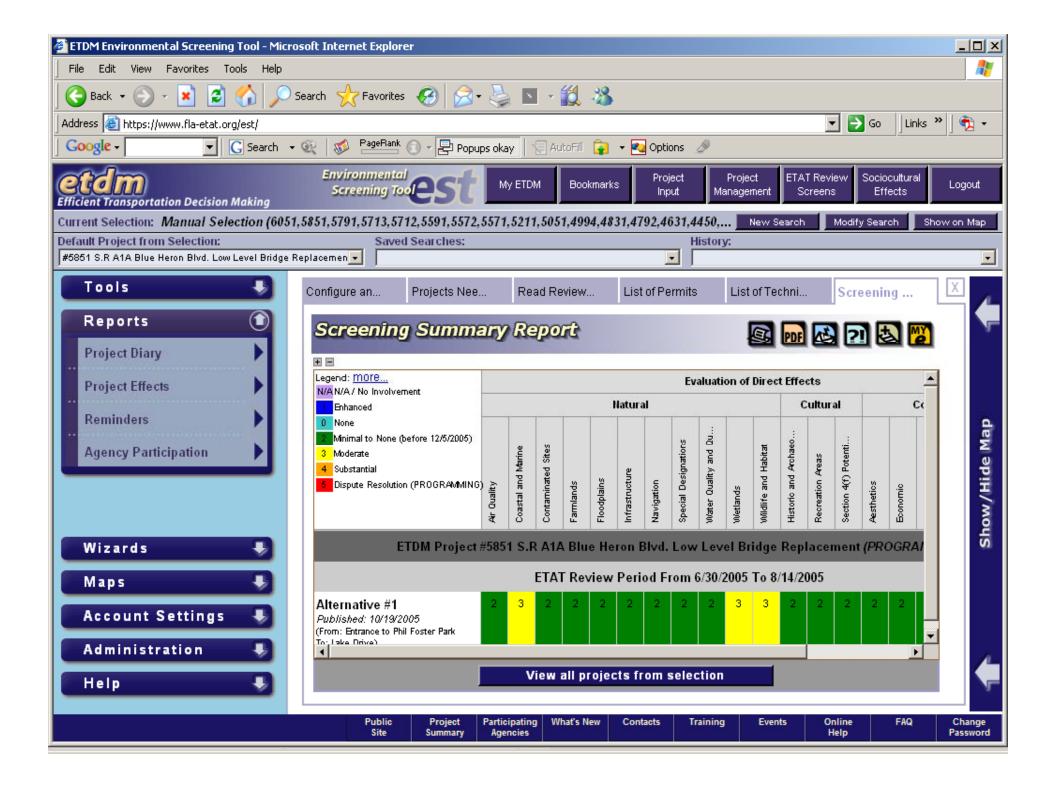


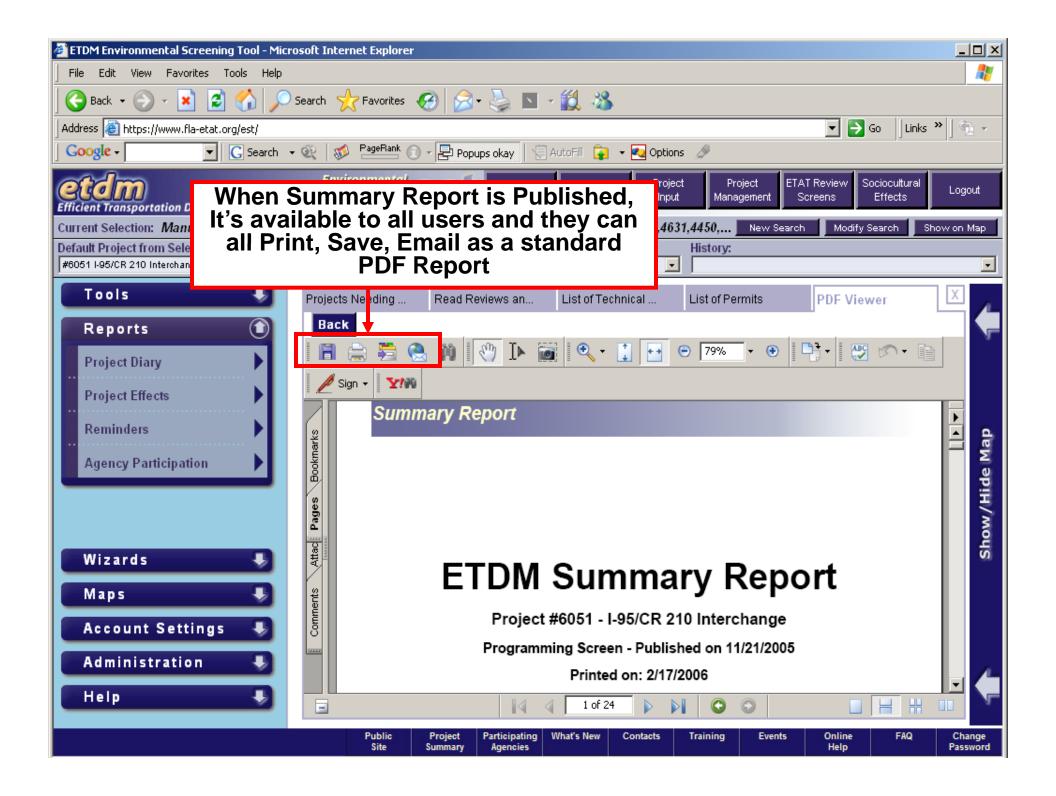


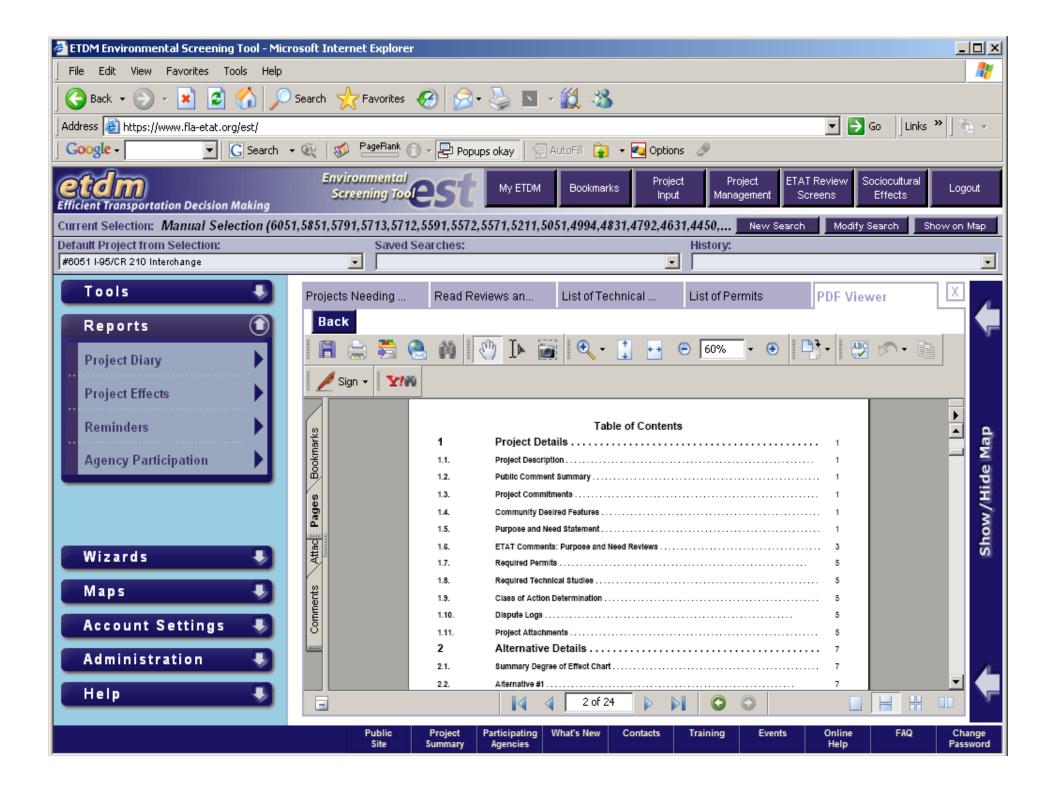




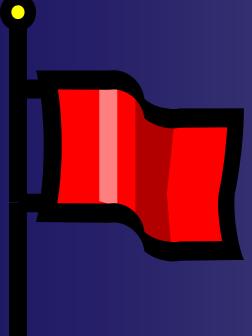








Triggers for Dispute

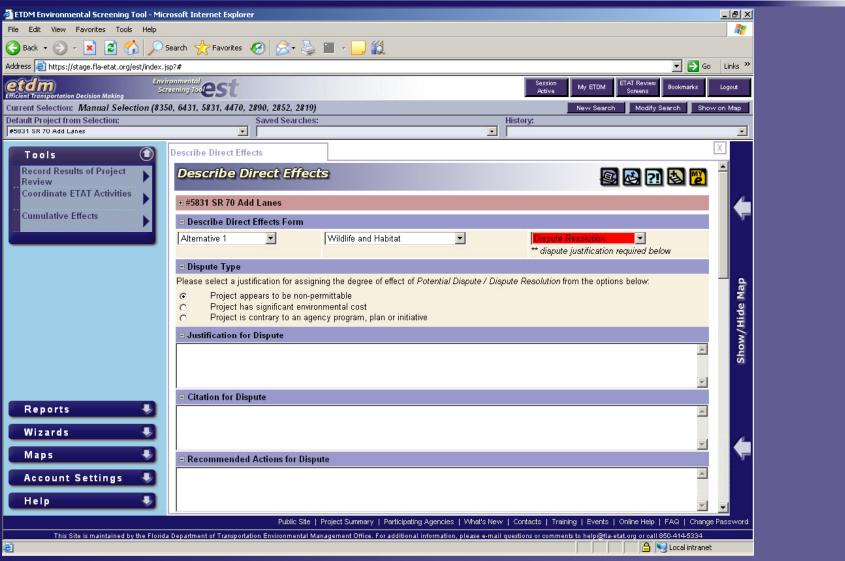


- Project is contrary to:
 - ♦ State goals/policies
 - State/federal agency programs/plans
- Project cannot be permitted
- Project has significant environmental costs:
 - funding, quality of life impacts, etc.
- Project is inconsistent with comprehensive plan





Selecting a Red Flag







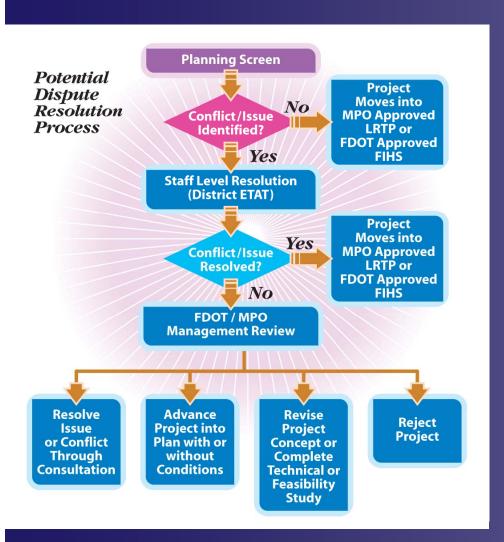
Informal Dispute Resolution

- Staff level consultation and document resolution
 - Recommend environmental or technical studies for ETAT reviews
 - Advance the project with "flags" or recommendations for Project Development
- Resolved or initiate Formal Dispute Resolution





Handling Planning Disputes

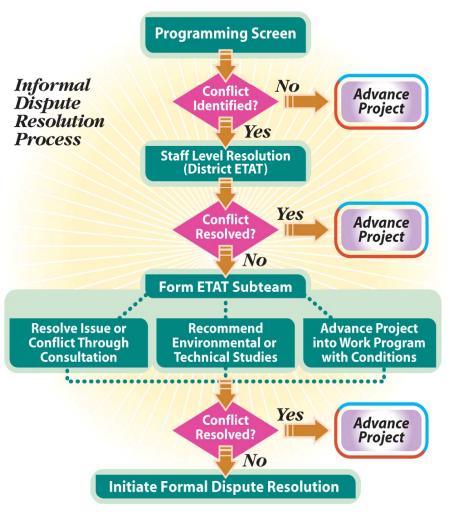


- Considered a "Potential Dispute" at the planning phase
- Provides valuable information to the project sponsor decision makers
- Does not stop the project from moving forward





Handling Programming Disputes



All issues must be resolved before Final Design





Formal Dispute Resolution

- Develop Issue Paper
- Reviewed at Local Agency Heads
- Reviewed at Statewide Agency Heads
- Results
 - Modify Project Concept
 - Advance Project
 - Reject Project





Florida's Process

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public web site

http://etdmpub.fla-etat.org

How Can the Public Get Involved?

- Contact your MPO or FDOT District Office
- Attend Public Meetings
- Visit the ETDM Public Web site @

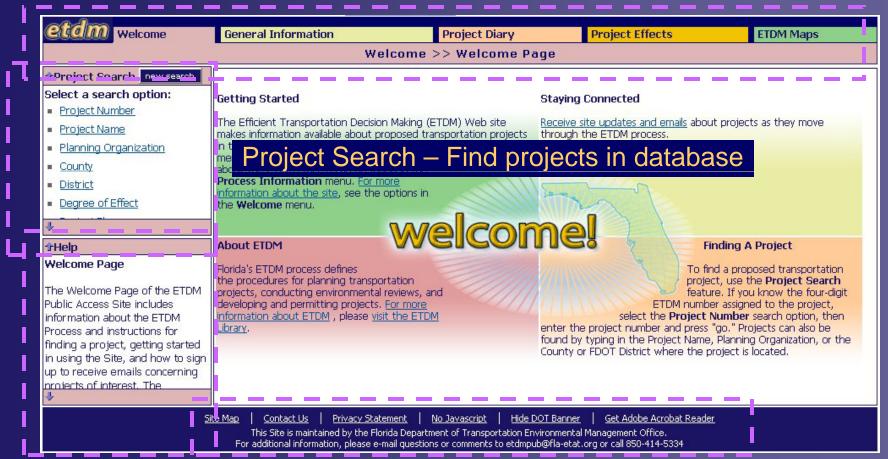
http://etdmpub.fla-etat.org Search MyFlorida.com SEARCH contact us I what's new I FAQ's I links Information F.D.O.T. State Environmental Management Office Directions Meetings NEW Welcome to the Florida Department of Transportation's Environmental Management Office website. Office Overview Office Contacts Our Vision: Or find link at Environmental management and project development principles are integrated into all programs and functional areas of the Department in tdoor support of the overall goals of the state. Transportation improvements and programs are planned, developed, and www.dot.state.fl.us/emo ping on State implemented in a holistic approach that balances natural and physical environmental values tion Council It is the mission of the Environmental Management Office to protect Programs and enhance a sustainable human and natural environment while Community Impact Assessment developing safe, cost effective, and efficient transportation systems. ETDM Public Access Site ETDM Process Manager, Environmental Management Office Native American Coordination Scenic Highway Program





Finding Your Way Around

Top Menu Bar – open new pages



Help – describes current page

Bottom menu – quick links





Get Involved

Provide Contact Information Please fill out your information: First Name: Optional Last Name: Check the options below to indicate the type of notices you would like to receive: Address: Yes, send me an email when general ETDM information is updated, such as manuals and guidance. Yes, send me an email when the ETDM Web site is updated. City: Yes, send me an email when new information is available about ETDM projects, as indicated below: State: Optional Watch the project that I currently have selected in the Project Selection box. Watch all projects that meet the following criteria below: Zip: Optional Specify all regions of interest: **Email Address:** District 1 - Charlotte County To select multiple Regions, District 1 - Collier County Degrees of Effect, or Issues Select hold down the ctrl key as District 1 - Desoto County you click on your selections. District 1 - Glades County notices to District 1 - Hardee County Specify ETAT Review Summary Preferences: receive Degree of Effect(s) Issue(s) --All--N/A / No Involvement Aesthetics Enhanced Air Quality None Coastal and Marine Minimal Contaminated Sites Agree to FDOT Disclosure: Please view the FDOT Privacy Statement. Check the box if you agree to this statement. **Privacy Statement** I agree. Click to save Save Preferences





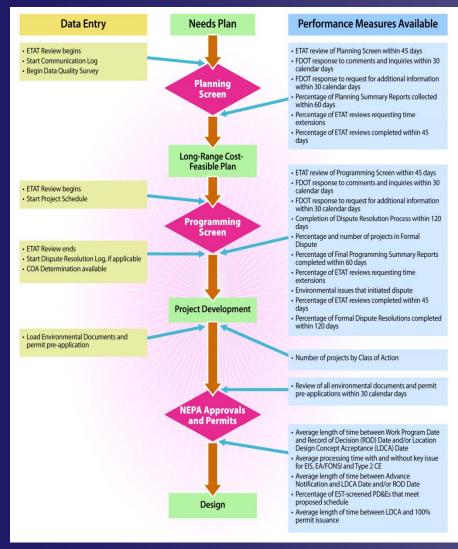
Technology Support

- Training
 - Hands-on workshops
 - Web-based classes
- User Support
 - On-line self help
 - Help desk
- Maintenance
 - Application version control
 - Data update procedures





Performance Measures



- Measuring
 - Timelines
 - Review Periods
 - Quality of Comments or Input
 - Quality of Information
- Tools for Tracking
 - EST Performance
 Measures Module
 - Surveys of ETAT and Districts





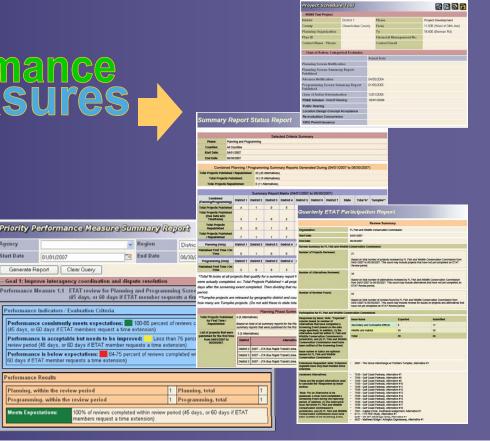
Performance Measure Reporting

Information Sources















What Has Been Accomplished To Date?



Current Project Status

- Approximately 343 project screenings
 - 180 Planning Screenings
 - 163 Programming Screenings (152 different projects)
- 63 Class of Action Determinations
 - 43 Categorical Exclusions
 - 9 Environmental Assessments
 - 6 Environmental Impact Statements
 - 5 State Environmental Impact Reports





Expected vs. Realized Benefits

Expected Benefit	<u>Realized</u>	<u>Examples</u>
Early agency and community involvement; Earlier/Better Awareness of Potential Issues	YES	45 projects Identified this benefit
Early identification of potential avoidance and mitigation strategies/options	Some	SR 46, Sharpes Ferry, 8001, 8002
Less duplication of effort -Attention focused on key technical issues during PD&E	Some	SW 107 Ave,Okbee Rd. US 17/92
Meaningful dispute resolution on projects addressed before programming (a design phase)	Some	7341, 7740, 8127,3313,
Fewer projects or alternatives subject to detailed reviews	Some	7341, 7740, 8127,3313,
Agencies and affected community have access to quality comprehensive data	YES	FGDL – 500 Data layers
Earlier project approvals	Some	I-95 Managed Lanes, Esc Bay Bridge
Integrating Environmental review and permitting information processes	Starting	D4 has begun
Timely Decision Making	Some	I-95 Managed Lanes





Project Benefits

Specific Project Breakdown of ETDM Benefits Reported by Districts

Benefit of Using the ETDM Process	# of Projects Reported
ETAT provided early issue identification and coordination on issue resolution, thereby avoiding project time delays	28
ETAT coordination and involvement in project was early and continuous allowing for project to stay on schedule	20
Scope of environmental technical studies was reduced or need for study eliminated	15
ETAT technical reviews and comments on project studies was timely or expedited	15
The number of late project issues was reduced or eliminated, thereby avoiding late project time delays	15
ETAT assistance allowed for focused technical studies; thereby reducing unnecessary study and saving time	14
Project scope and design concept was modified	9
ETAT was always available to assist on project issues and field reviews, thereby avoiding project time delays	9
Duplication of project information and technical studies was reduced or eliminated, thereby reducing unnecessary study and saving time	9
ETAT participated in cooperative problem-solving on projects allowing for project to stay on schedule	8
The amount of interagency conflicts was reduced or eliminated, thereby avoiding project time delays	8
Reduce number of alternatives	8
ETAT cooperation, upon request, reduced time review periods and expedited project delivery	7
Project was dropped from further study	6
ETAT cooperation and working relationships contributed to problem solving on project, thereby avoiding project time delays	6
Downgraded project Class of Action	5
Project delivery time and production schedule was expedited due to ETAT technical assistance on project	3
ETAT assisted in reducing the number of project alternatives for additional study	2
ETAT Assisted in expediting project permits	1





ETDM Benefits Realized

- Due to early interagency coordination there has been a reduction in number of project reasonable alternatives being carried forward for study.
- Downgrades in project's Class of Action to satisfy NEPA has resulted, thus saving time and money.
- Better project scopes of services have resulted, where unnecessary technical studies are eliminated, thereby saving time and money.
- Early screening of projects has identified and eliminated projects that are "fatally flawed."
- Interagency relationships, communication and trust has greatly improved.
- Increased knowledge of each agency's mission and jurisdictional requirements has improved.
- The frequency of the Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) has been reduced.
- The EST makes the process open and transparent in nature.
- Communication today among partnering agencies is collaborative and nonadversarial.
- Established expedited review times allows FDOT to maintain project schedules.
- Partnering agencies raising new issues late in project development has been reduced.





ETDM Benefits Realized

- Availability and access to agency technical experts, when needed, at FDOT's request is a major benefit of ETDM.
- The EST provides project details, GIS analyses, agency comments, commitments, recommendations, project summaries, decision history, etc. All of which is stored, tracked, and managed electronically leading to a substantial reduction in paperwork.
- ETDM allows for early mitigation opportunities; early Purpose and Need Statements; early range of alternatives to be developed, reviewed, and accepted prior to project development.
- The ETDM process facilitates linking transportation planning and NEPA.
- The public has continuous input throughout the ETDM process through public outreach initiatives and a public ETDM website.
- The permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers has greatly improved.
- The Army Corp of Engineers has developed programmatic language for a regional general permit (SAJ-92) that may be used for linear transportation projects if the project was screened through ETDM





Benefits Converted to Estimated Time and Cost Savings

District Estimated Benefits Realized Since October 2004 Implementation

Cost Savings: \$16.3 M

Cumulative Time Savings: 48 years







Thank You for the Opportunity to Present Questions??



Peter McGilvray

OF PLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPOR