

ARTEMIS Clearinghouse

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Objective:

To develop the cost/benefit information component of a national database on animal-vehicle crash mitigation options.

Background:

It is estimated that there are 500,000 animal-vehicle accidents each year in the United States. More than 120 human fatalities and several thousand injuries can be attributed to these collisions. Many innovative countermeasures are currently being tested and evaluated by state departments of transportation and other organizations. Even traditional countermeasures such as signing, fencing and animal crossings can vary greatly in effectiveness based on the methods being tested. Many agencies attempting to deal with this challenge do not have a good source of information regarding mitigation options and their effectiveness.

Project Components:

The original scope of the ARTEMIS Clearinghouse project included a searchable document library; a cost/benefit database; and a webpage containing a search engine, a discussion forum, current news articles, and relevant links to other websites. WTI has coordinated with other national related activities in an effort to maximize resources, build synergy, and ultimately create a better product.

Project Partners:

US Department of Transportation (Research and Special Programs Administration), Center for Transportation and the Environment, USDA Forest Service, and Utah State University College of Natural Resources.

Findings:

In order to meet project deliverable requirements the initial ARTEMIS Database is finalized and exists at <http://wtigis.coe.montana.edu/projects/animal/index.php>. However, this database will not be maintained. WTI is working together with USDA Forest Service and Utah State University College of Natural Resources to incorporate the data in ARTEMIS with other sources to create a wildlife crossing toolkit. This toolkit will be housed at <http://www.wildlifecrossings.info/>. Additionally, these and other efforts will be incorporated into the Wildlife Fisheries and Transportation Web Gateway <http://www.itre.ncsu.edu/cte/gateway/index.html> maintained by the Center for Transportation and the Environment.