



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to encourage the Department to respect and protect the environment while providing transportation systems.

Legal Authority

Idaho Code 40-314(3) - the Board may exercise any powers or duties deemed necessary to fully implement and carry out the provisions of Title 40 of the Idaho Code.

The Idaho Transportation Department has adopted an Environmental Ethic to guide its work and accomplish its mission, as well as to implement the principles and priorities of the statewide transportation vision, in a manner that employs a Context Sensitive Solutions approach. The Idaho Transportation Department Environmental Ethic is as follows:

“The Idaho Transportation Department respects and values the many facets of Idaho’s natural and human environment and will protect and enhance those assets while providing high quality, fiscally-responsible transportation systems for the citizens of Idaho.”

Context Sensitive Solutions:

The Idaho Transportation Department shall apply the principles of Context Sensitive Solutions to all Department projects, plans and/or programs.

The Context Sensitive Solutions approach can be summarized by the following principles:

- To address integration of the transportation system, the Purpose and Need of the project plan, and/or program will: consider the safety and mobility needs for improvement; ensure financial feasibility and sustainability; and address all modes of travel.
 - To utilize a collaborative public involvement process involving citizens and affected agencies early and continuously throughout the process to find the balance among safety, mobility, community and environmental goals, plans and/or programs that results in improvements to quality of life.
 - To consider the total context and design of plans, projects and/or programs with nature by using an interdisciplinary team that: tailors planning and design to project needs; applies flexibility inherent in design standards, funding tools, and transportation and land use plans; so as to incorporate environmental considerations as an integral part of good design that will preserve or enhance the asset value within the statewide transportation system.
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It is the responsibility of all Idaho Transportation Department employees to recognize and consider these essential principles and to appropriately include them in the transportation planning and decision-making processes to assure accountability throughout the Department.

Approved by the Board on:

Signed

Jerry Whitehead
Board Chairman

Date July 10, 2013