CorridorDesigner Workshop
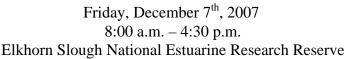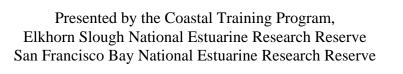
Featuring Presentations by:
Paul Beier, Northern Arizona University
Jeff Jenness, Jeff Jenness Enterprises
Dan Majka, The Nature Conservancy

Agenda

Friday, December 7th, 2007
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve

Presented by the Coastal Training Program,
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Workshop Goal: provide an overview of current ecological knowledge and practice regarding terrestrial wildlife corridor design, and demonstrate newly developed software using ArcGIS tools on real world examples.

8:00 a.m. - Welcome, Introductions

The Big Picture & Pre-Modeling Steps
Thinking about your particular landscape (exercise)
The Big Picture: overview of linkage design; exercise on focal species; importance of collaboration; exercise on thinking like a mountain.
- Break -
Pre-modeling steps: Least-cost modeling and its alternatives; determining what to connect; what to do with species for which you cannot build a corridor model.
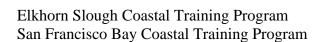Overview of data on CD

Habitat & Patch Modeling
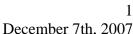What modeling is…and what it isn't
Habitat modeling: Selecting GIS variables; exercise on habitat factors
Estimating habitat suitability. Combining the influence of multiple habitat factors
Exercise (assigning weights)
- Break -
ArcGIS and CorridorDesigner tutorial and Q & A

12:00 - Lunch

Habitat & Patch Modeling, continued
>Patch modeling: Scaling patches to ecological characteristics. Determining breeding *&* population patches
>Patch modeling exercise
>Demonstration of patch modeling in CorridorDesigner

Corridor Modeling
>Corridor modeling: cost distance, choosing corridor slices, combining corridors
>Outrageous stunt to wake you up after lunch
>**-** Break -
>Demonstration of corridor modeling in CorridorDesigner
>- Break -

Evaluating Corridors
>Evaluating corridors: How well does the best linkage serve the focal species? Comparing the proposed corridor to alternatives
>Demonstration of corridor evaluation tools and Q&A

Additional Topics in Corridor Design
>Sensitivity analysis
>Modifying habitat suitability models: modeling critical habitat factors, corridor dwellers in patchy landscapes, adjusting models for unforeseen disasters
>- Break -
>Parameterizing species models. Recruiting experts, using the literature
>Prioritizing which potential linkages merit a linkage design
>Discussion

4:30 p.m. – Program Ends