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CONTACT:

Trisha White, 2011 ICOET Outreach Chair
202.460.8684 or twhite@defenders.org

International Conference on Ecology and Transportation heads to Seattle

Raleigh, NC – Over 500 transportation professionals and researchers from around the world will convene at The Westin Seattle from August 21 – 25, 2011 for the International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET). Washington Secretary of Transportation Paula Hammond kicks off the conference on Monday, August 22 at 8:30 am.

Held every two years, ICOET provides a forum for ecologists, highway planners, resource managers, and engineers from around the world to gather and share quality research and best management practices, address current issues, and find solutions to transportation and ecological concerns. This year's conference theme is "Sustainability in Motion." Conference attendees, representing professionals from over 20 countries and Tribal Nations, have the option to attend over 20 educational sessions with 88 technical paper presentations and 80 poster presentations. Focus areas for the conference include wildlife, fisheries, wetlands, water quality and overall ecosystems as it relates to surface transportation development. Each topic area focuses on planning and building transportation systems that protect natural ecosystems and support our economy and local communities. New for this year's program are four facilitated sessions designed to engage conference participants in discussion of current and emerging issues faced by the transportation industry.

ICOET is administered by the Center for Transportation and the Environment located in North Carolina. It is supported by over a dozen partners, including WSDOT, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Humane Society of the United States, Defenders of Wildlife, Road Ecology Center of the University of California at Davis, and other state DOTs.

For more information, visit www.ICOET.net. Advance conference registration is required.

The Center for Transportation and the Environment is a national university transportation center located at the Institute for Transportation Research and Education at North Carolina State University. CTE is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.