



Florida Department of
TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Project Delivery, Endangered Species Act and Mitigation

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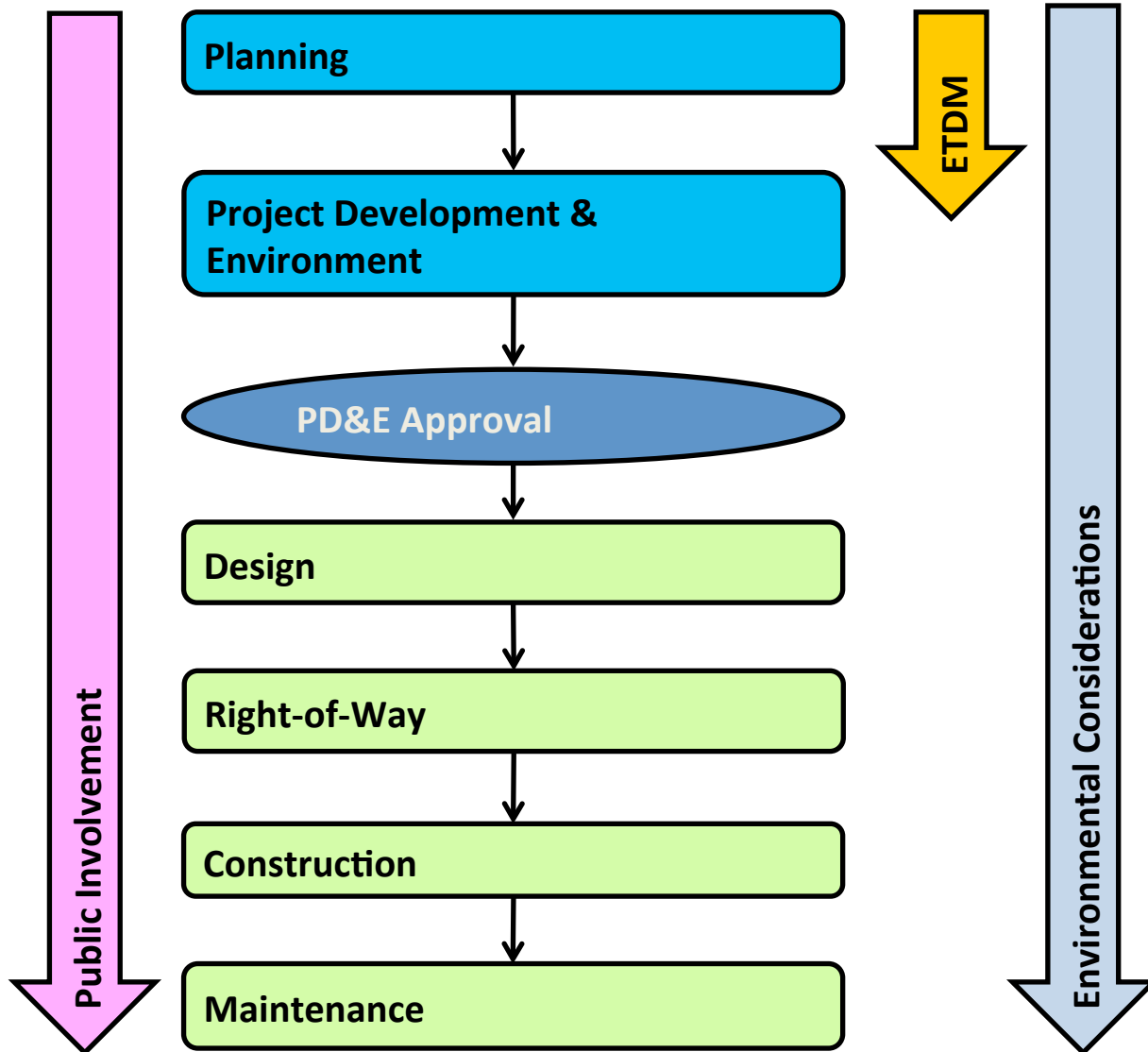
Outline

- How is FDOT setup?
- Transportation Project Delivery Process
 - Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM)
 - Agency liaisons
 - Project Development & Environment Process
- Analysis
- Mitigation

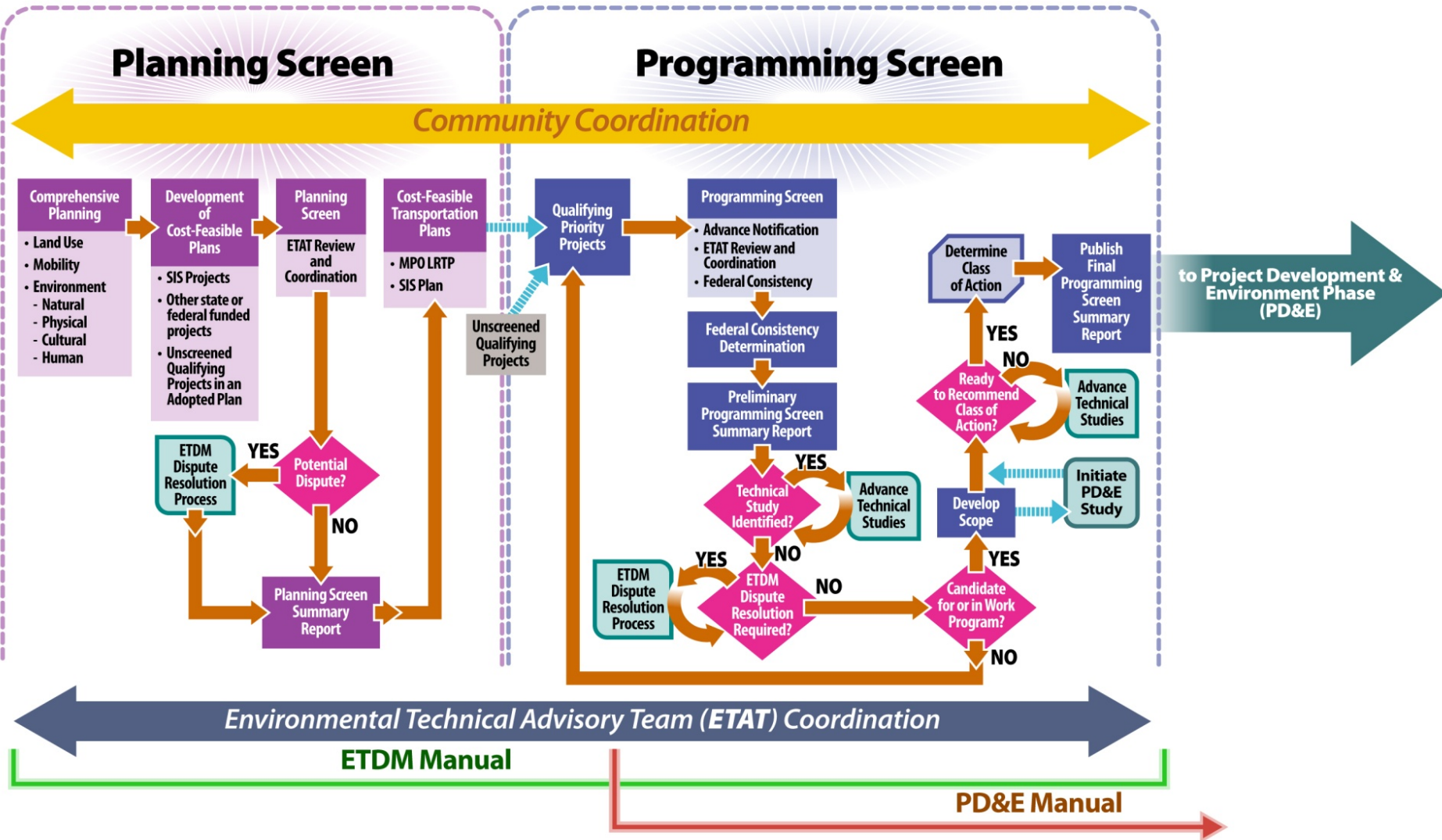
FDOT Staffing

- State Environmental Management Office
 - Natural Sciences Section
- District Environmental Management
 - Seven Districts and Turnpike
 - Specialists in every District

Transportation Project Delivery



Efficient Transportation Decision Making (ETDM)



ETDM Participants

- Environmental Technical Advisory Team (ETAT)
 - Composed of state, federal, local agencies and tribal governments
 - Represent regulatory and resource agency liaisons for FDOT projects
 - Wildlife and habitat agencies
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
 - National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
 - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC)

Agency Liaisons

- Determined via interagency agreement
- NMFS – Currently two liaisons
- FWC – Currently two liaisons
- USFWS – Currently three liaisons
 - New agreement calls for five liaisons

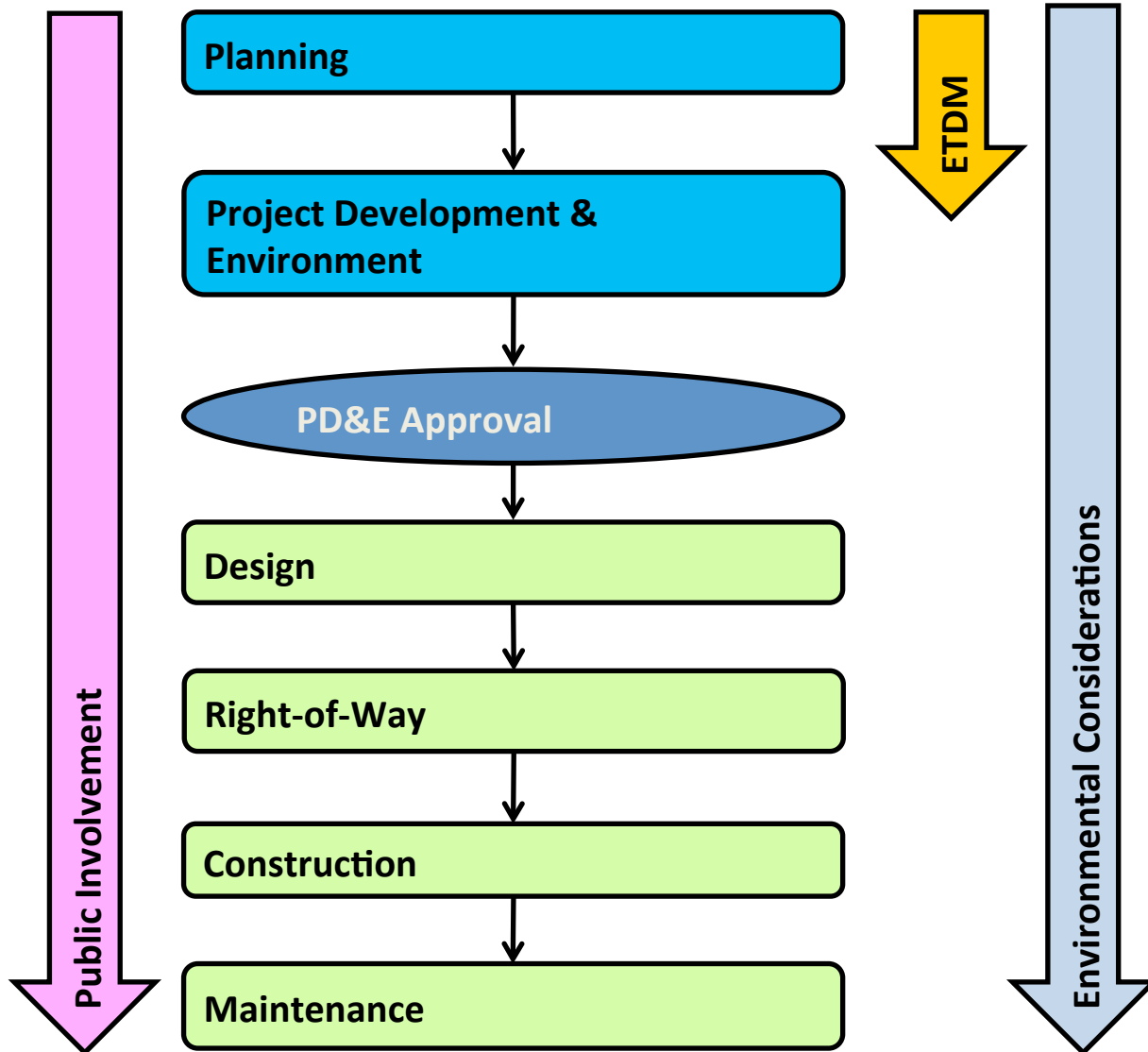
What do the liaisons do?

- Review FDOT projects in Environmental Screening Tool
 - Provide comments on what FDOT has stated
 - Provide comments on what FDOT didn't know
 - Identify species to analyze
 - Identify potential avoidance and minimization
 - Identify potential opportunities for mitigation
- Essentially help FDOT scope the project area and develop the PD&E study
- During the PD&E study continue to provide assistance and of course are available for consultation as required by ESA

USFWS Liaisons

- Liaisons in all three offices
 - Panama City
 - Jacksonville
 - Vero Beach
- NEW: one liaison dedicated to the development of Programmatic Agreements/ approaches as well as training for FDOT
- NEW: one liaison dedicated to assist the other three with work load

Transportation Project Delivery



Project Development & Environment Process

- Follows FDOT PD&E Manual and is how FDOT prepares NEPA or State Funded Project Delivery documentation
- Environmental Document
- Technical reports
- How we analyze engineering and the environment
- How we seek public input
- How we determine impact(s) and look for mitigation opportunities where necessary
- Consider the human, natural and physical environment
- How we develop the concepts to advance to design
- Lay the groundwork for final design and permitting

Types of analysis

- Natural
- Wetlands
- Wildlife and Habitat
- Physical
- Noise and Vibration
- Air Quality
- Contamination
- Cultural and Historic
- Social



ESA Consultation Today

- Species and habitat consultation currently occurs on a project-by-project basis
 - Lots of documentation
 - Lots of coordination and consultation
 - Particularly on mitigation
 - Commitments
- Programmatic agreements/approaches coming?

Mitigation...



- Creation
 - Wetlands
- Enhancement/Restoration
 - Wetlands
 - Critical Habitat
- Preservation
 - Listed species conservation
- Crossings...
- Sources
 - Use banks
 - Financial contributions
 - FDOT built
 - Partnerships

Wildlife Crossing Guidelines

- Considerations:
 - Capacity improvement, add travel lanes
 - Science based
 - Look for financial partnerships
 - Road kills in the area
 - Public lands or perpetual conservation easement on both sides
 - Private property access maintained
- Guidelines are currently under review

Where we're headed

- Currently beginning discussions regarding programmatic approaches to species and habitat
- Modification of FDOT SOPs
- Development of consistent Modified Special Provisions
- Review of current Wildlife Crossing Guidelines
- Looking at species specific Programmatic Agreements



Questions?

