



Press Release

1101 Wilson Boulevard, 15th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209
tel 703-908-1800
www.natureserve.org

Contact: Rob Riordan, NatureServe / 703-908-1831
e-mail: rob_riordan@natureserve.org

November 6, 2009
For Immediate Release

NatureServe Vista 2.5 Released; Available for Free Public Download

A Powerful Tool for Integrating Conservation with Land Use and Resource Planning

Arlington, Virginia – NatureServe today announced the release of NatureServe Vista 2.5, a powerful, flexible, and free decision-support system that helps users integrate conservation with land use and resource planning of all types.

With version 2.5, the fourth generation of the software, NatureServe Vista now integrates interoperability with NOAA's N-SPECT software (a non-point source pollution and erosion comparison tool), as well as other hydrologic models to support integrated land-water assessment and planning. NatureServe Vista, which operates on an ESRI ArcGIS platform, also now supports ArcMap 9.2 and 9.3.

Planners, resource managers, scientists, and conservationists can use NatureServe Vista to:

- conduct conservation planning and assessments
- integrate conservation values with other planning and assessment activities, such as land use, transportation, energy, natural resource, and ecosystem-based management.
- evaluate, create, implement, and monitor land use and resource management scenarios designed to achieve conservation goals within existing economic, social, and political contexts.

Users can register to download NatureServe Vista 2.5 absolutely free at www.natureserve.org/vista. The newly updated website includes free supporting resources such as a user manual, demos, and downloads for companion tools and guides.

Additional support services are available for a fee, including live and on online help desk technical support, training programs, and consulting tailored to fit your needs and resources. NatureServe offers expertise in GIS mapping, data management, and all aspects of the conservation planning process, from data development to advanced scientific analyses. Those interested in customized consultant services should contact Patrick Crist, Director of Conservation Planning and EBM Tools, at 703-797-4810.

Development of version 2.5 was made possible by the generous support of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation along with additional support from The Nature Conservancy and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment.



###

NatureServe is a non-profit conservation group dedicated to providing the scientific basis for effective conservation action. Representing a network of 82 natural heritage programs and conservation data centers in the United States, Canada, and Latin America, NatureServe is a leading source for detailed scientific information about threatened plants, animals, and ecosystems. Visit us online at www.natureserve.org.