Applications of the Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Technique and a Geographic Information System in East Park County, Wyoming. (A03-vance204031-Poster)

Authors:

- B.M.Hoobler State of Wyoming
- G.F.Vance University of Wyoming

Abstract:

We evaluated the use of Land Evaluation Site Assessment (LESA) combined with a Geographic Information System (GIS) to assist land-use planners in making decisions regarding the conversion of agricultural lands. Land-use conversion from agriculture to subdivisions, recreational sites, and other purposes has occurred on prime farmland and lands of local and state-wide importance, resulting in the loss of important agricultural lands. LESA is a systematic evaluation technique developed by the USDA-NRCS to evaluate productivity of agricultural land and its suitability for conversion to nonagricultural use. For this study, we identified an area in northwestern Wyoming that is potentially susceptible to development pressures. Factors used to produce land evaluation scores included land capability classification, soil productivity, and soil potential. A GIS-derived soils map and official soil series descriptions provided necessary information for the land evaluation component of this research. Site assessment included distance from city limits, major roads, and municipal water supplies. The results of this study provide preliminary information for applying LESA to land-use planning within northwestern Wyoming utilizing a GIS platform.

Corresponding Author Information:

George Vance University of Wyoming Department of Renewable Resources Laramie, WY 82071-3354 phone: 307 766-2297 fax: 307 766-6403 e-mail: gfv@uwyo.edu

Presentation Information:

Presentation Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2002 Presentation Time: 9:00-11:00 am Poster Board Number: 138

Keywords:

GIS, Land Evaluation, Site Assessment, Farmland Protection