

**QUARTER 1 2006**

**ANIMAL VEHICLE CRASH MITIGATION USING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY**

**PHASE II**

SPR 3(076) & Misc. Contract & Agreement No. 17,363

for

Oregon Department of Transportation  
Research Unit  
200 Hawthorne SE, Suite B-240  
Salem OR 97310

and

Federal Highway Administration  
400 Seventh Street SW  
Washington, DC 20590

and

Departments of Transportation of California, Kansas, Maryland, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Wyoming

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## ***Monthly report Animal-vehicle pooled fund study***

### ***January 2006***

#### General

1. The work plan for phase II was finalized. All funders and project partners agreed on the terms and definitions. The file is downloadable from:  
<http://www.coe.montana.edu/wti/wwwshare/draft%20ads/work%20plan/>
2. WTI received the 2006 research permit from Yellowstone NP.
3. The progress reports for phase II (1 Jan 2006 – 31 Aug 2008) will only be sent to the funders and project partners for phase II.
4. WTI presented on the reliability of the animal detection system at the TRB conference in Washington DC.

#### **Task 1: Site survey            0%**

1. We are waiting for more favorable weather conditions so that STS can conduct the survey.

#### **Task 2: Modifications to system            0%**

1. The results of the site survey have to be evaluated by the TAC. The modifications will only take place if the TAC decides to proceed based on the results of the site survey (incl budget).
2. MDT removed 1 bracket from 1 post and is customizing a new bracket based on the old parts.

#### **Task 3: Confirmation of system modifications            0%**

#### **Task 4: System reliability 0%**

#### **Task 5: System effectiveness 0%**

#### **Task 6: System acceptance 0%**

#### **Task 7: Information to project partners            3% (month 1 out of 32)**

#### **Task 8: System removal 0%**

Marcel Huijser

## ***Monthly report Animal-vehicle pooled fund study***

### ***February 2006***

#### General

5. WTI presented on the results for phase 1 at the NW Transportation Conference, February 7-9, 2006, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon.
6. WTI proceeded updating and finalizing the final report for phase 1.

#### **Task 1: Site survey            0%**

2. We are waiting for more favorable weather conditions so that STS can conduct the survey.

#### **Task 2: Modifications to system            0%**

3. The results of the site survey have to be evaluated by the TAC. The modifications will only take place if the TAC decides to proceed based on the results of the site survey (incl budget).

#### **Task 3: Confirmation of system modifications            0%**

#### **Task 4: System reliability 0%**

#### **Task 5: System effectiveness 0%**

#### **Task 6: System acceptance 0%**

#### **Task 7: Information to project partners            6% (month 2 out of 32)**

#### **Task 8: System removal 0%**

Marcel Huijser

## **Monthly report Animal-vehicle pooled fund study**

### **March 2006**

#### General

1. WTI received old newspaper clippings from Switzerland about the Swiss animal detection system, providing proof that an animal detection system was installed as early as 1993, and that this was public knowledge. These facts relate to the potential invalidity of patents on the concept of an animal detection system. Further action with regard to this topic falls outside of the project's work scope and potential further initiatives are up to the TAC.
2. WTI has posted the scans of the newspaper articles on the following website: <http://www.coe.montana.edu/wti/wwwshare/draft%20ads/Newspaper%20articles/>
3. WTI provided a translation of the 2 newspaper articles from German into English (see attachment A).
4. A sentence from one of the two articles reads: "The system is activated by heat sensitive infrared sensors which detect body heat radiating from animals up to two hundred meters away. A signal then activates a 300 light-point fiber optic sign with a roe deer symbol to warn drivers". I think this language is much more explicit than the previous article we received as it now specifically mentions: sensors, infrared sensors that detect body heat from animals, warning signals for drivers, and the fact that the sensors activate the warning signals once an animal is detected. Thus, in my opinion, this article talks explicitly about the concept of operation of an animal detection system in a public document.
5. WTI proceeded updating and finalizing the final report for phase 1. The TAC provided comments on the summary which was the only newly written section. The report was ready for final formatting by mid-March.

#### **Task 1: Site survey            0%**

3. We are waiting for more favorable weather conditions so that STS can conduct the survey.

#### **Task 2: Modifications to system            0%**

4. The results of the site survey have to be evaluated by the TAC. The modifications will only take place if the TAC decides to proceed based on the results of the site survey (incl budget).

**Task 3: Confirmation of system modifications 0%**

**Task 4: System reliability 0%**

**Task 5: System effectiveness 0%**

**Task 6: System acceptance 0%**

**Task 7: Information to project partners 9% (month 3 out of 32)**

**Task 8: System removal 0%**

Marcel Huijser