

## Conservation Planning Tool (CPT) The Nature Conservancy's Tool for Ecoregional Data Management



CPT is a relational database built in Microsoft Access, which serves as the Conservancy's primary tool for managing and rolling-up the tabular data needed to conduct ecoregional assessments. CPT was first released in June 2001. There have been several reviews and updates and the current version, CPT 1.5, includes several Marine and Freshwater components that were incorporated in FY04.

### **Data in the CPT includes:**

- Portfolio sites
- Targets (including names, goals, occurrences, viability, etc.)
- Ownership and administrative areas
- Threats and strategies
- Stratification units
- Participants and experts
- General information about the ecoregion

### **CPT will help you to:**

- Organize your data
- Share your data
- Store and archive your data
- Identify key data gaps
- Standardize your data for statewide, national, and global roll-ups
- Import/export your data to other systems (e.g. GIS, CAP workbook)

➤ The Nature Conservancy's Ecoregional Assessment standards<sup>1</sup> *recommend* a data management system to ensure that data gathered by an ecoregional assessment is not lost, has a platform to access, analyze, update and report on the information gathered in the assessment process.

➤ CPT manages the core tabular data needed to develop a robust and standardized ecoregional plan. CPT does not currently handle spatial data, but tables can be joined to spatial datasets using visual basic, avenue and other scripts and programming.

➤ CPT is flexible enough for you to add additional data fields to the core tables, so you can meet the specific needs of your planning effort. As the Conservancy gains experience using CPT, feedback will be collected from users and a version 2.0 will be developed. Version 2.0 is expected to have a GIS interface and will be built using the Conservancy's data standards<sup>2</sup>.



📄 To obtain a copy of CPT, a tutorial package or to provide feedback on data management, please contact Marjorie Bennett ([mbennett@tnc.org](mailto:mbennett@tnc.org)), Kurt Eckerstrom ([keckerstrom@tnc.org](mailto:keckerstrom@tnc.org)) or Leonardo Sotomayor ([Isotomayor@tnc.org](mailto:Isotomayor@tnc.org)).

📄 Note that CPT runs on Access 2000 and higher (Access 2002, Office XP), but does not run on Access 97.

<sup>1</sup> See The Nature Conservancy's Ecoregional Assessment Standards (November, 2004) at [http://sites-conserveonline.org/gpg/files/era\\_and\\_vision\\_standards\\_01nov2004.pdf](http://sites-conserveonline.org/gpg/files/era_and_vision_standards_01nov2004.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> See The Nature Conservancy's Data Standard version 1.0, August 2004 at [http://www.conserveonline.org/2004/09/g/ERA\\_Data\\_Standard\\_Version\\_1.0](http://www.conserveonline.org/2004/09/g/ERA_Data_Standard_Version_1.0)