

There is a future where wildlife doesn't have
to compete with cars to cross the road.

Together we can plan for it.

California Climate Resilience Plan | Wildlife Connectivity

Last year, California passed a climate resilience budget package with nearly \$10 billion in new conservation investments. The package included \$353 million for the Wildlife Conservation Board, support for wildlife corridors, and \$768 million to the California Natural Resource Agency for actions to protect biodiversity and wildlife habitat. In addition, the Governor's 2022-2023 budget proposal includes \$400 million for the California Department of Transportation for climate resilient infrastructure projects.

If enough of this funding is allocated to land protection and wildlife crossing infrastructure on strategic segments of the State Highway System, we can reconnect the wildlife linkages that California's transportation infrastructure has severed. As the effects of climate change worsen, animals and plants will need to travel farther to find the conditions they need to survive. That's why we need to address habitat fragmentation, and for the first time, the state has allocated the resources to do it.

TNC has identified these actions and funding priorities to address barriers on the State Highway System to reconnect California's wildlife:

1. Protect land in strategic locations
2. Perform assessments, plan, design, permit and engineer wildlife crossing infrastructure projects to remove the biggest barriers to wildlife movement; and
3. Implement projects based on geographic and infrastructure needs. Projects could include wildlife fencing, wildlife under-crossings/overcrossings, or strategic retrofits/upgrades to existing structures.

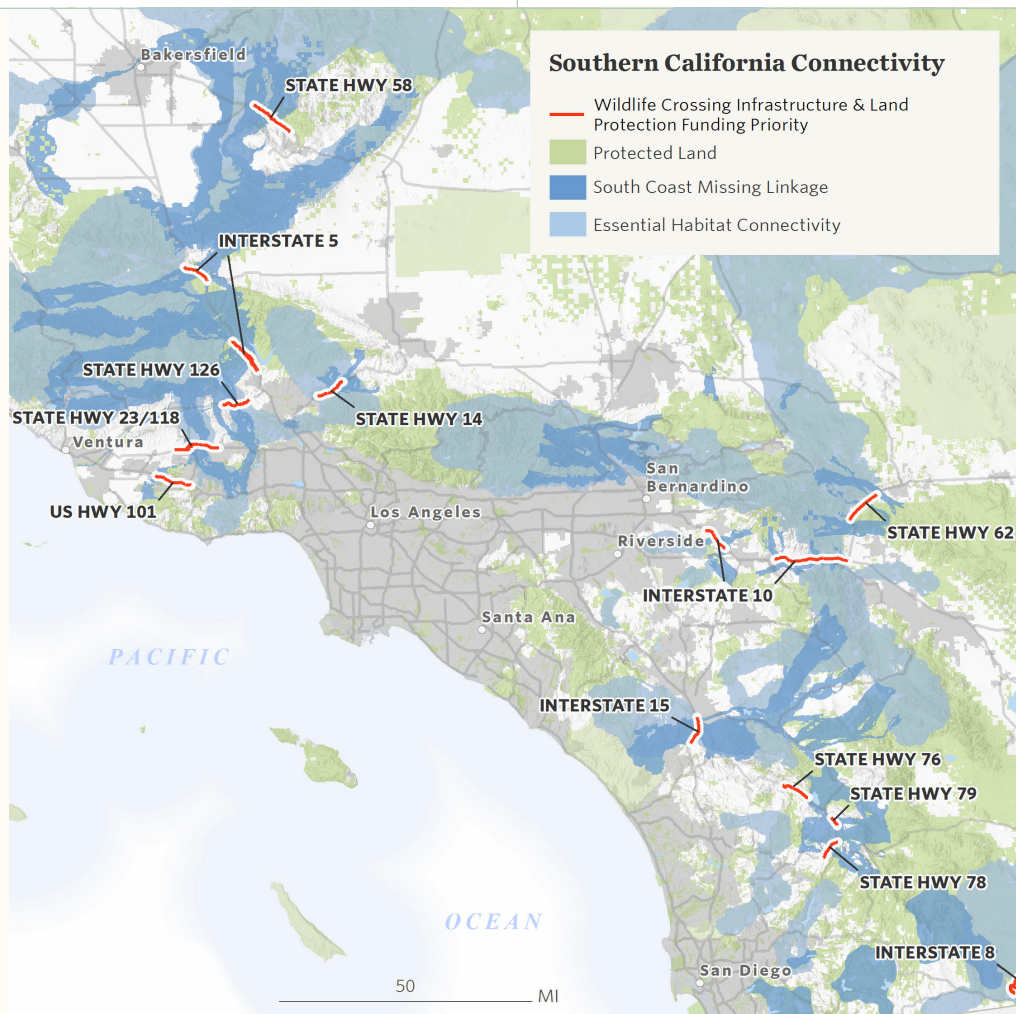
Priority Investments for Wildlife Crossings

The following investments would protect multiple species and native populations on the brink of extinction ranging from large mammals such as black bears, mountain lions, bobcats, and big horn sheep, to smaller species such as lizards, snakes, bats, raptors, birds and insects. The majority of the following projects are listed as California Department of Fish and Wildlife 2020 Priority Wildlife Barriers and they fall within the California Essential Habitat Connectivity Project.

- **Interstate 15:** \$35M to continue protecting land, planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across Interstate 15 by restoring an existing bridge and constructing a new wildlife crossing over/under the interstate to enhance wildlife movement in the Santa Ana-Palomar Linkage, Riverside County.
- **Highway 58:** \$25M to continue assessments, planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across Hwy-58 by restoring existing infrastructure, constructing new underpasses and retrofitting an existing vehicular overpass to enhance wildlife movement in the Tehachapi Linkage, Kern County.
- **Interstate 5:** \$25M to perform assessments, protect land and build capacity to progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across Interstate 5 to enhance wildlife movement in the Tehachapi Linkage, Kern County and Los Angeles County. (continues...)

Priority Investments For Wildlife Crossings (continued)

- **Interstate 5:** \$25M to protect land and progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across I-5 by implementing a new wildlife crossing structure to enhance wildlife movement in the Sierra Madre-Castaic Linkage, Los Angeles County.
- **Highway 101:** \$20M to protect land and progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure at Highway 101 - Conejo Grade and implementing improved/new wildlife crossings along SR 118, 23 and 126 in the Santa Monica-Sierra Madre Linkage, Los Angeles County.
- **State Route 14:** \$15M to perform assessments, protect land and build capacity to progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across SR-14 to enhance wildlife movement in the San Gabriel-Castaic Linkage, Los Angeles County.
- **Interstate 10:** \$20M to perform assessments, protect land and progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across Interstate 10 to enhance wildlife movement in the San Bernardino-San Jacinto Linkage, Riverside County.
- **Highway 62:** \$10M to continue planning, designing, engineering and constructing new wildlife overcrossing structures to enhance wildlife movement in the San Bernardino-Little San Bernardino Linkage, San Bernardino County and Riverside County.
- **Interstate 8:** \$10M to perform assessments, protect land and progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across I-8, to enhance wildlife movement in the Las Californias area, San Diego County and Imperial County.
- **Highway 76/78/79:** \$15M to perform assessments, protect land and progress planning, designing, engineering and constructing wildlife crossing infrastructure across the roadways to enhance wildlife movement in the Palomar-Anza Borrego Linkage, San Diego County.



Statewide Connectivity Current Status

- Area of Focus
- Protected Land
- Wildlife Movement Barrier Priority
- Essential Habitat Connectivity

