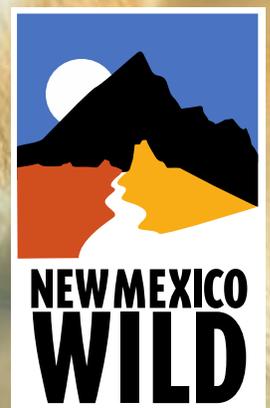


Wildlife Corridors Campaign

Protecting wildlife and humans alike by giving wildlife room to roam.



Wildlife Corridors Campaign

Linking natural areas will allow wildlife to migrate as they deal with habitat disruption and will protect the biodiversity in an era of climate change. It also helps protect humans from the thousands of wildlife-vehicle collisions that occur each year in New Mexico. With the recent enactment of new state laws, we're making progress on establishing these corridors. Your help can make that happen sooner.



Wildlife Corridor Campaign

Giving wildlife a path to survival

New Mexico Wild has worked for more than two decades to protect water, wildlife, and wildlands in our state by promoting the value of roadless wilderness areas. Of course, most of our lands and waters are crisscrossed by roads, dams, cities, wells, and other human development. This makes it increasingly important to provide wildlife access between natural areas of the state as they look for the food, water and habitat they need to survive and even thrive.

Corridors contribute to sustainable wildlife populations in three ways. First, they allow colonization in new areas when food sources or other natural resources are lacking in their core habitat. Second, corridors allow seasonal migration away from barriers caused by human development. Finally, corridors promote interbreeding, allowing animals to find new mates in neighboring regions

so that genetic diversity can increase.

The values of wildlife corridors are even more important in New Mexico which is at an unusual ecological crossroads. Much of the state is categorized as “New Mexico Highlands” but that designation represents 36 habitat types from Chihuahuan Desert Scrub to Rocky Mountain Alpine Forb Tundra. The north-south linkage between the Gila National Forest in Southern New Mexico and the Rio Grande and San Juan Forests of Southern Colorado are vital to protecting wildlife corridors for many species.



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Wildlife Corridors Campaign

Wildlife corridors protect both animals and humans

From 2002 to 2016, the New Mexico Department of Transportation reported 15,213 animal-vehicle collisions with 738 resulting in serious injury or death of a motorist. The toll on wildlife is staggering as well.

New Mexico recently passed a ‘Wildlife Corridors Act’ to begin to address this challenge. The Act calls for the New Mexico Department of

Fish and Game and the Department of Transportation to develop a Wildlife Corridors Action Plan. The plan will identify key roads and other barriers impacting wildlife movement and migration and create a list of priority projects designed to improve and protect such corridors. New Mexico Wild played an important role in getting this legislation passed and will play a key role as future plans are developed.



What work will happen as a result of the Wildlife Corridors Campaign

New Mexico's natural legacy has been compromised by over-harvesting our forests, over-grazing our land, drilling in sensitive areas and fragmentation of habitat from development. We have an opportunity to mitigate some of that harm by giving wildlife the migration corridors they need to find food, water, and shelter. Here is what New Mexico Wild can do to assist with this effort:



- ❖ **Apply our expertise with the state legislature to strengthen and expand the wildlife corridor legislation and appropriations.**
- ❖ **Work with our federal delegation to pass complementary federal legislation.**
- ❖ **Advocate for Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service plans that recognize the importance of corridors.**
- ❖ **Use our grassroots organizing capacity to build broad, diverse coalitions in local communities to support the new law.**
- ❖ **Promote the benefits of wildlife corridors for animals and humans alike to the the public at large.**
- ❖ **Investigate opportunities for cross border corridor collaboration with Mexico and Colorado.**
- ❖ **Provide web-based access to wildlife corridor maps, project areas, and key metrics of plans, challenges, and successes.**

Our fundraising goals and budgets for the Wildlife Corridor Campaign

With the recent state legislation on wildlife corridors, now is the time to assist the state agencies, Federal public land managers, and private landowners in establishing wildlife corridors across the state.

New Mexico has an opportunity to be a leader among states in this important work. Your support will make a difference!

Wildlife Corridor Campaign Funding Needs

Support coordination with partners and agencies on wildlife corridors	$\$15,000 \times \text{three years} = \$45,000$
Increase advocacy efforts at state and federal levels	$\$20,000 \times 3 \text{ years} = \$60,000$
Public awareness campaigns	$\$50,000$
TOTAL	3 years = \$155,000



New Mexico Wild

The New Mexico Wilderness Alliance (New Mexico Wild) is a non-profit 501c(3) grassroots membership organization dedicated to the protection, restoration, and continued enjoyment of New Mexico's wildlands and wilderness areas. Founded in 1997, we achieve our mission through administrative protection, federal wilderness designation, and ongoing stewardship. We have a membership of individuals from all corners of New Mexico and across the nation. Our organizing efforts span the state and involve many diverse groups, including ranchers, sportsmen, land grants, acequia communities, tribal and religious leaders, scientists, youth, and community leaders.

We have a proven track record of building diverse coalitions to protect our public lands and leading successful campaigns that have been called "national models."

Our Wildlife Corridors Campaign helps us continue to build on past work at a scale to assure stronger protection for our natural world. Your support of the campaign will be appreciated by New Mexicans today and our grandchildren tomorrow.

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