

Nature Undivided



Presented by: Gary M. Tabor VMD MES

President, Center for Large Landscape
Conservation

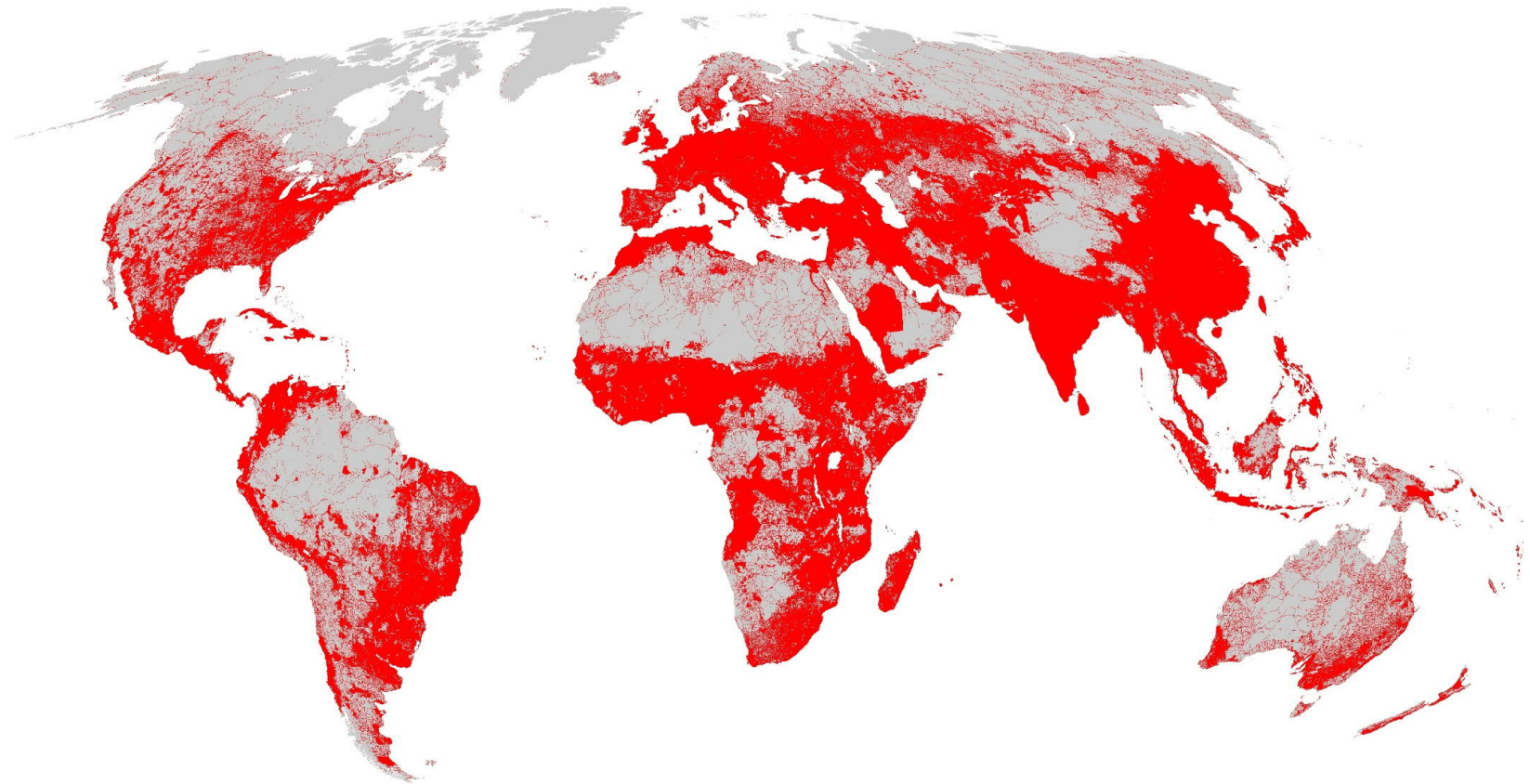
Chair, Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group

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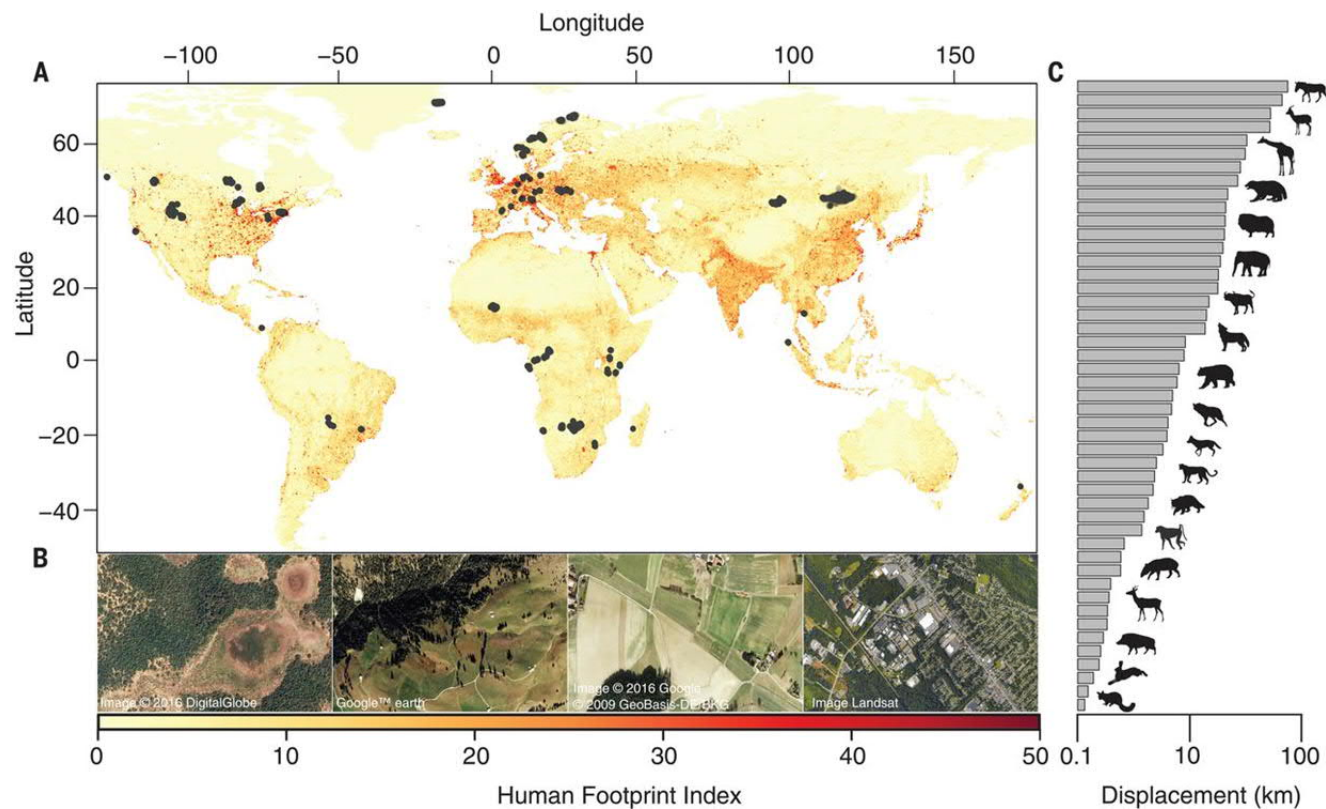
More than 50% of the Planet is Now Human Dominated Landscapes



Watson et al. 2016, Conservation Letters

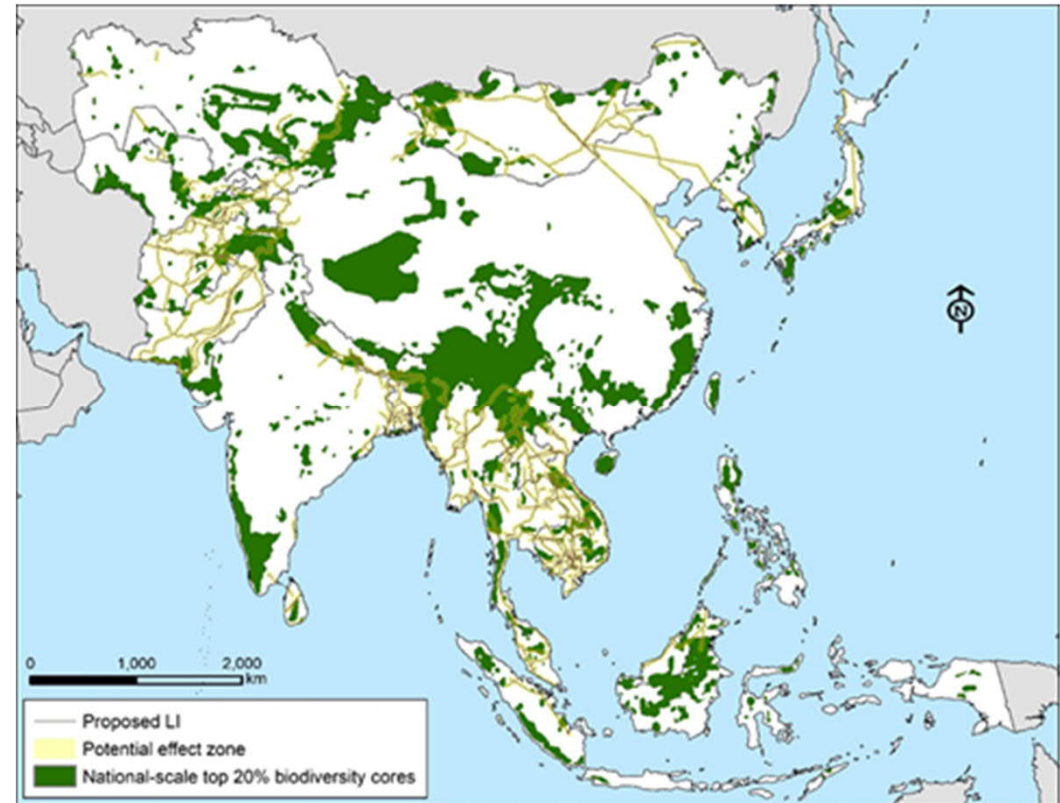
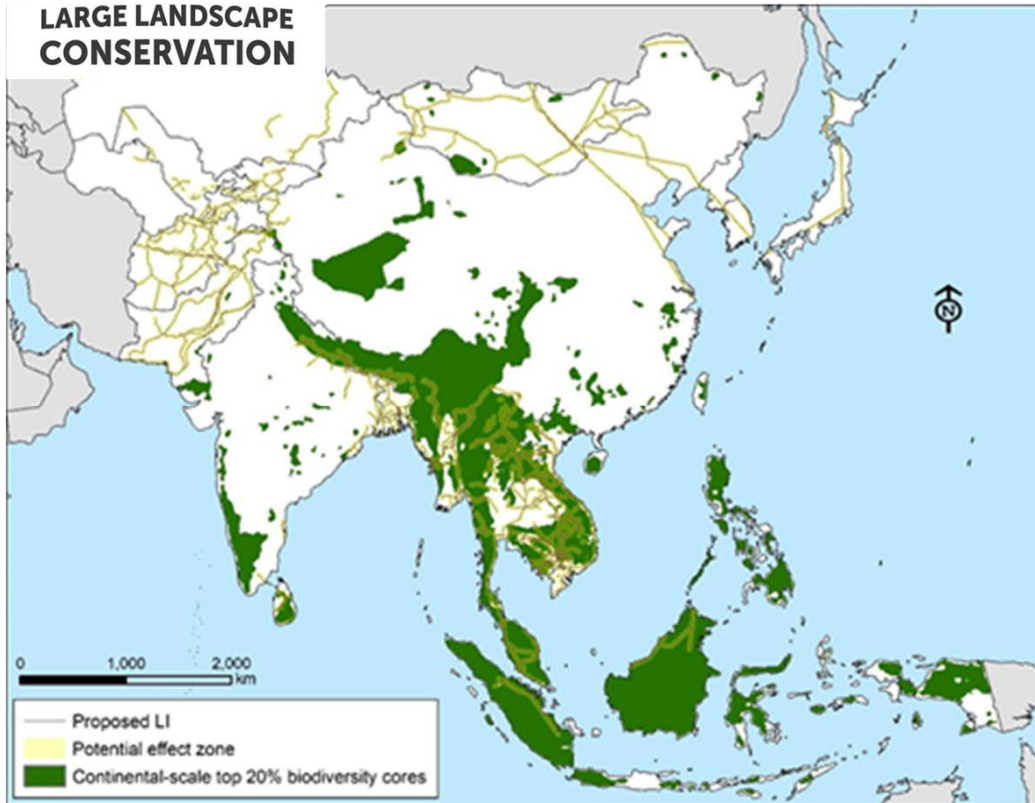
Terrestrial movement of wildlife has been reduced by 30% to 50%

Less ability to find food, shelter, mates, disperse, etc.



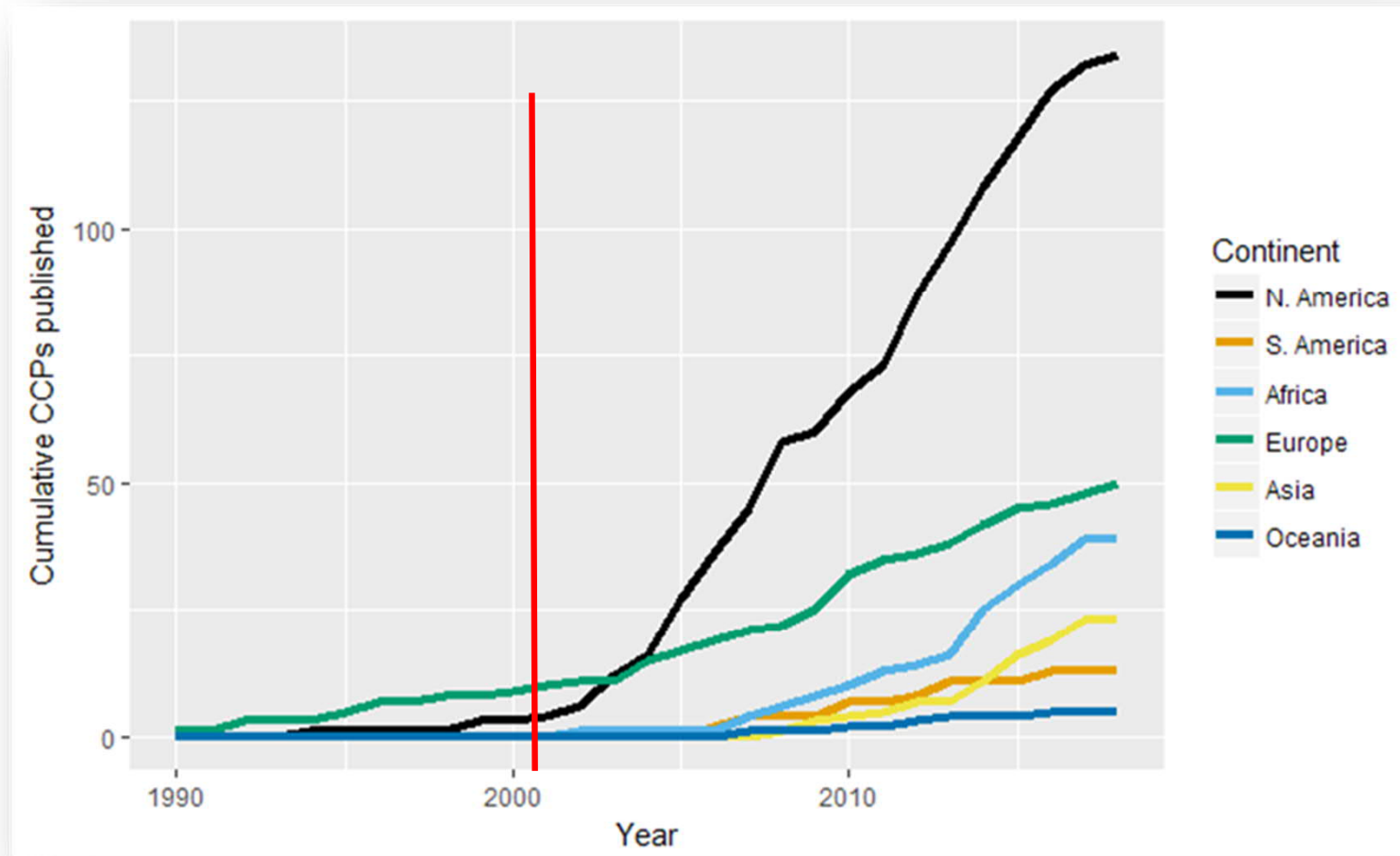
Marlee A. Tucker et al. Science 2018: 359: 466-469

CENTER
for
**LARGE LANDSCAPE
CONSERVATION**



Overlap of proposed linear infrastructure from major initiatives with top 20% core biodiversity areas at a continental (left) and national (right) scale © Tyler Creech, CLLC

30 years of connectivity conservation planning

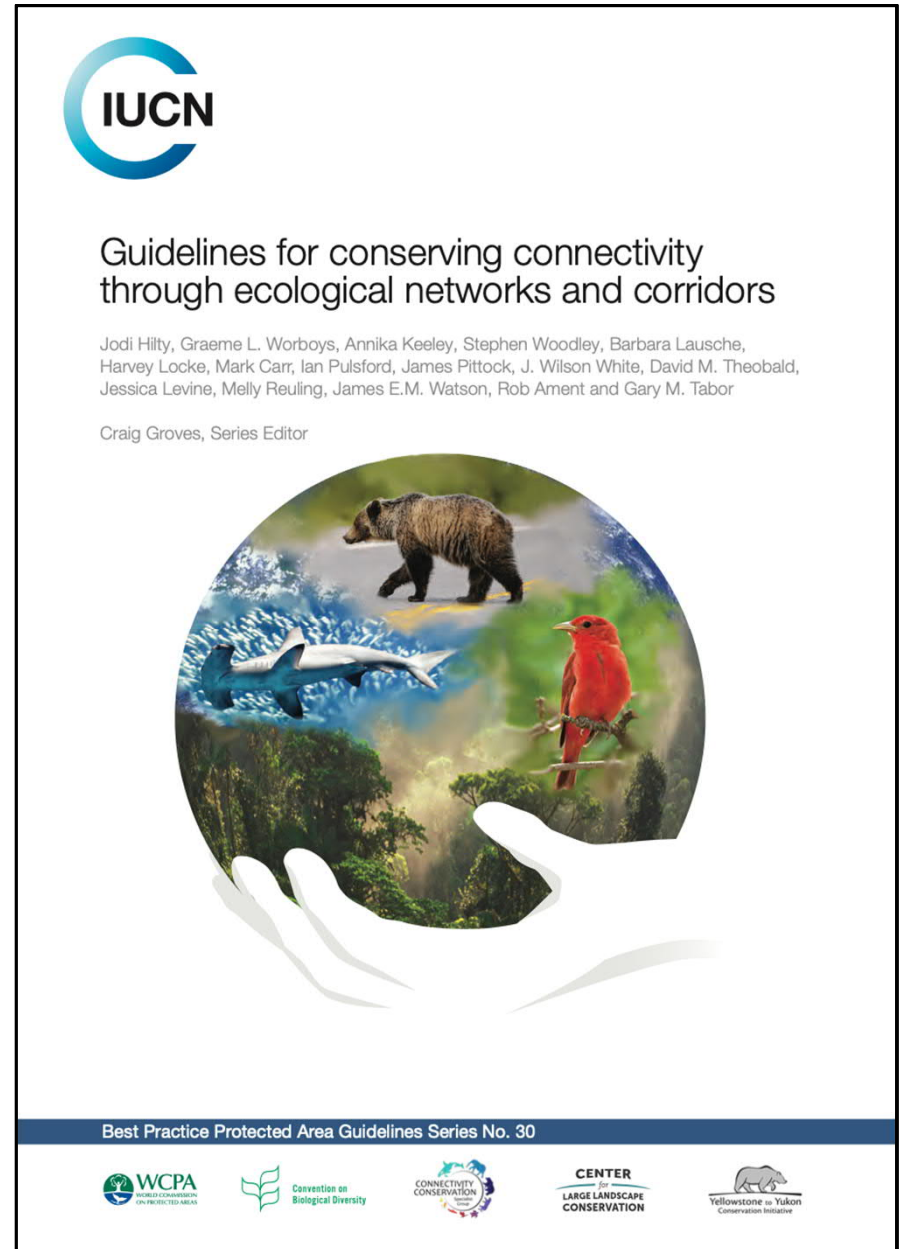


Authors: Keeley, Beier, Creech, Jones, Jongman, Stonecipher, and Tabor
Environmental Research Letters – Oct 1 2019

What is Needed - Consistent Practice Measurable Targets

IUCN Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors

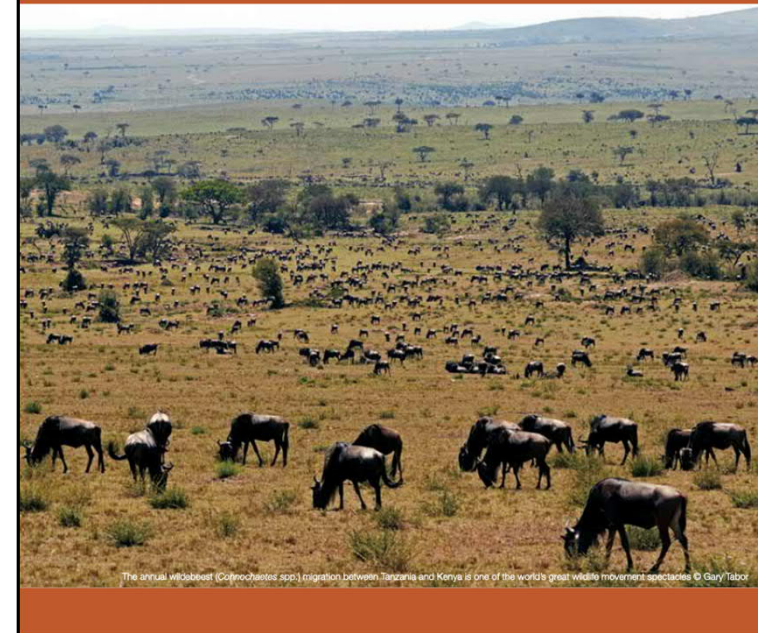
<https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49061>



- 1 million species at risk of extinction
- Anthropogenic activities expanding
- Climate change
- While protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) are essential, need connectivity
- The need: clarify and standardize a shift to large conservation networks.
- Ecological networks for conservation: designed, implemented and managed so ecological connectivity is maintained and enhanced where present, or restored where it has been lost

Introduction: The need for connectivity

1



CONNECTIVITY IS THE SAFETY NET OF NATURE

What is connectivity?

Connectivity is the degree to which landscapes and seascapes allow species movement and natural ecological processes.



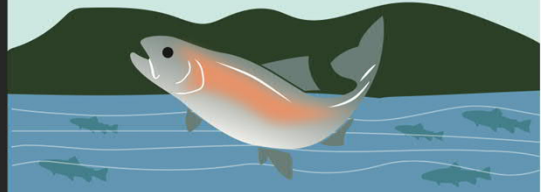
What does connectivity do?

Allows species to migrate or disperse to feed, breed, and respond to climate change. Allows natural communities to thrive by maintaining ecosystem functions like pollination and stream flows.



What do we want?

Connected lands and waters: wildlife corridors, landscape linkage areas, free flowing and connected rivers, interconnected coastal and marine zones, and climate-resilient ecosystems.



Why do we care?

Connected lands and waters benefit nature and people. As the climate changes and development increases, we must act now to save and restore natural connections across all lands and waters.



LEARN MORE: conservationcorridor.org/ccsg

CENTER for LARGE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION



LA CONNECTIVITÉ LE FILET DE SÉCURITÉ DE LA NATURE

Qu'est-ce que la connectivité?

La connectivité c'est la qualité des liens naturels entre les paysages qui permettent aux espèces de se déplacer et aux processus écologiques de se réaliser.



À quoi sert la connectivité?

Elle permet aux espèces de migrer ou de se disperser pour se nourrir, se reproduire et réagir aux changements climatiques. Elle permet aux communautés naturelles de prospérer et maintenir les fonctions écosystémiques (comme la pollinisation et l'accouplement naturel des rivières).



Que voulons-nous?

Nous voulons relier des milieux naturels terrestres et aquatiques, des corridors fauniques, des écosystèmes de paysages interconnectés, des zones côtières et marines connectées et des écosystèmes résilients aux changements climatiques.



Pourquoi c'est important?

Des cours d'eau, des milieux humides et des corridors interconnectés sont bénéfiques à la nature et à l'humain. Le climat change et les pressions de développement augmentent; nous devons agir maintenant pour maintenir ou rétablir des liens entre les milieux terrestres et aquatiques.



POUR EN SAVOIR PLUS : conservationcorridor.org/ccsg

连通性是大自然的安全屏障

什么是连通性?

“连通性”是指陆地景观与海洋景观允许物种运动和自然生态变化的程度。



连通性有什么用?

让物种得以迁徙或分散开来,以觅食、繁殖并应对气候变化,可使自然群落通过维持生态系统功能(如授精和河流)而生机勃勃。



我们想做什么?

形成互连的陆地与水域,野生动物走廊,景观连接带,自由流动且水系相通的河流,相互连通的沿海和海洋区域,以及富有气候弹性的生态系统。



为什么我们关注连通性?

互相连接的陆地和水域有益于大自然与人类。随着气候变化和发展的增长,我们现在必须采取行动,以保存并恢复自然连接和生态系统的韧性。



了解更多: conservationcorridor.org/ccsg

الترايط شبكة أمان الطبيعة

ما هو الترايط?

هو الذي يربط بين المساحات الأرضية والبحرية المتصلة والعمليات البيئية الطبيعية.



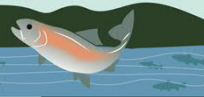
ما هي فوائد الترايط?

يسمح للأحياء بالتنقل والتكاثر والبحث عن الطعام. كما يسمح للأنواع بالعثور على شركاء التزاوج والتكاثر. كما يساعد على الحفاظ على وظائف النظام البيئي.



ماذا نريد أن نحقق?

أرض موحدة مترابطة، مساحات بحرية مترابطة، مناطق ربط للأنظمة البيئية، الممرات الطبيعية المترابطة، مناطق ساحلية وبحرية مترابطة، أنظمة بيئية متكيفة مع التغيرات المناخية.



لماذا نعتني?

مع تغير المناخ وتزايد التطور، فإن الوقت الآن تصدق. التغيرات المناخية تزداد وتزيد الضغط على المناطق البرية والمائية، وذلك يعود للتلوث على الطبيعة والبيئة.



للمزيد من المعلومات: conservationcorridor.org/ccsg

CONECTIVIDAD ES LA RED DE SEGURIDAD DE LA NATURALEZA

¿Qué es conectividad?

La conectividad es el grado en que los paisajes terrestres y marinos permiten el movimiento de especies y procesos ecológicos naturales.



¿Qué hace la conectividad?

Permite a las especies migrar o dispersarse para buscar alimento, reproducirse y adaptarse al cambio climático. También permite prosperar a las comunidades naturales manteniendo funciones ecosistémicas como la polinización y los caudales de ríos y quebradas.



¿Qué queremos?

Tierras y aguas conectadas: corredores de vida silvestre, áreas de conectividad del paisaje, los corredores que tienen libremente, zonas costeras y marinas interconectadas y ecosistemas resilientes al clima.



¿Por qué debería importarnos?

Las tierras y las aguas conectadas benefician a la naturaleza y a las personas. A medida que el clima cambia y el desarrollo urbano aumenta, se hace más urgente actuar para salvar y restaurar los corredores naturales a través de todos los paisajes terrestres y acuáticos.



APRENDI MÁS: conservationcorridor.org/ccsg

- Many terrestrial protected areas within human-dominated systems are isolated from one another.
- Island biogeography and metapopulation theory
- Spatially distinct subpopulations can be reconnected by movement of individuals = genetic exchange and possible re-establishing of populations.
- Improving or sustaining connectivity between protected areas and OECMs = key for conservation of biodiversity.
- Common approaches for modeling connectivity

The scientific basis for connectivity

2



Movement ecology is critical for many species. Invertebrates range widely to complete their life cycles. Painted lady butterflies (*Vanessa cardui*) migrate thousands of kilometers each year. © Adobe Stock



Connected Landscape Structure = Higher Levels of Ecological Function

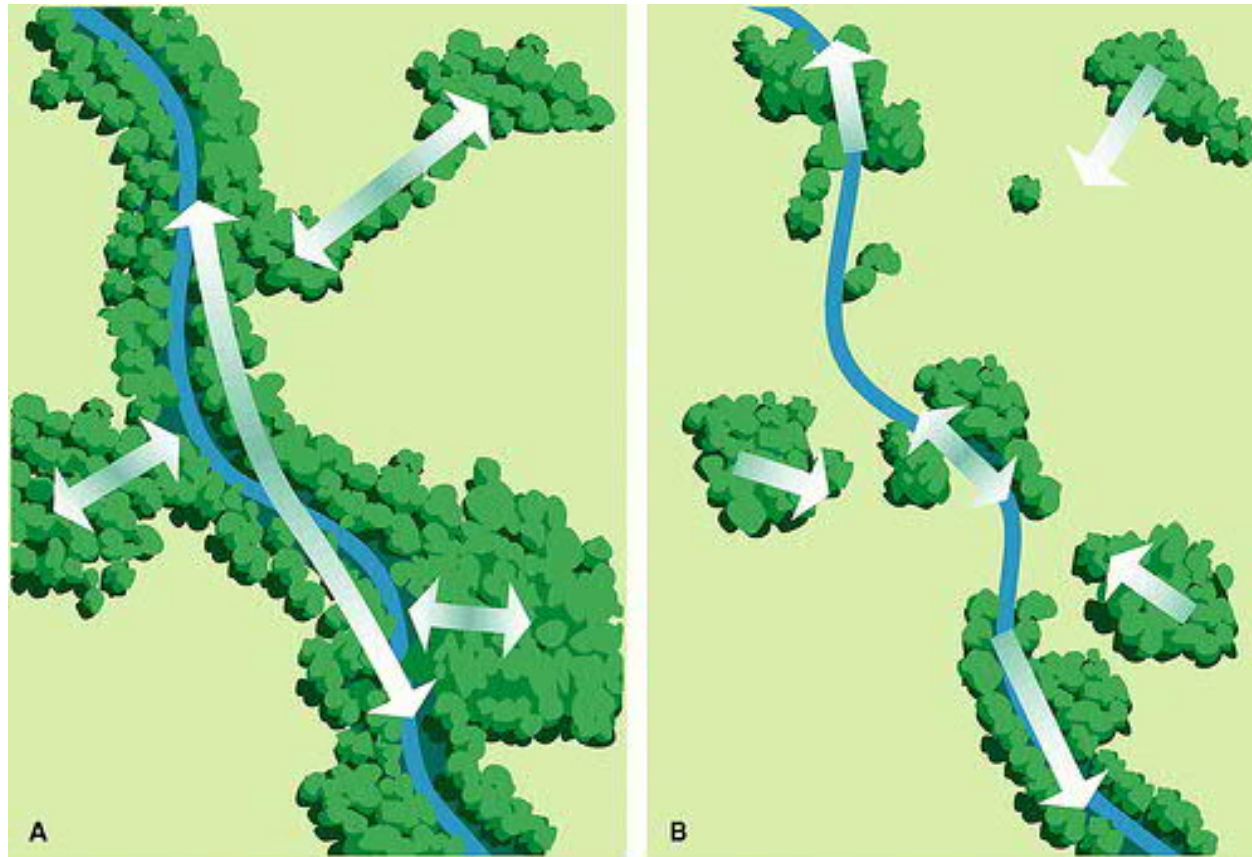


Fig. 2.38 -- Landscapes with (A) high and (B) low degrees of connectivity. A connected landscape structure generally has higher levels of functions than a fragmented landscape.
In Stream Corridor Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices (10/98)
by the Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group (FISRWG) (15 Federal agencies of the U.S.)

Making sense of the predominant and interchangeable terms used in connectivity conservation

Towards a common language of connectivity conservation

3



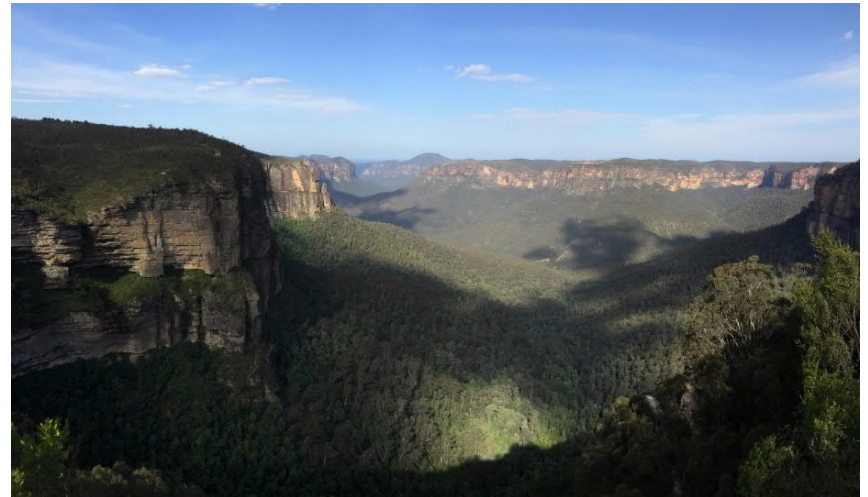
Connectivity is important for all domains: terrestrial, freshwater, marine, coastal and aerial. Here, a great egret (*Ardea alba*) patiently hunts in Elkhorn Slough State Marine Reserve, California, USA © Emily Pomeroy / Emily Rose Nature Photography



WHAT is Connectivity Conservation?

There are different terms and practices used around the world!

- Areas of connectivity conservation
- Biological corridors
- Climate corridors
- Conservation lands networks
- Conservation management networks
- Linkage zones
- Permeability areas
- Territorial systems of ecological stability
- Marine protected area networks
- Transboundary conservation areas
- Wildlife corridors



WHAT is Connectivity Conservation?

Connectivity Conservation

“Ecological connectivity is the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth.”

Photo: Laury Cullen IPE

Definitions:

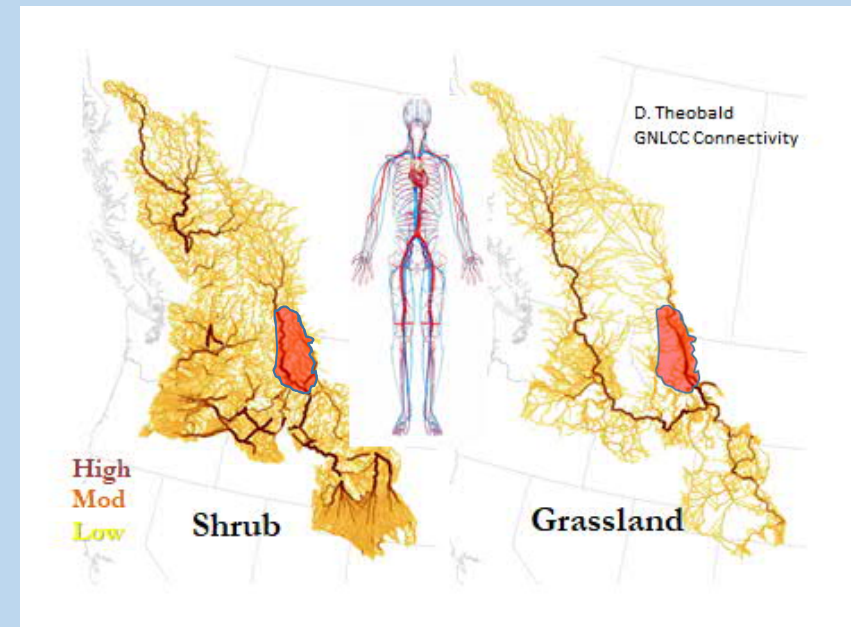
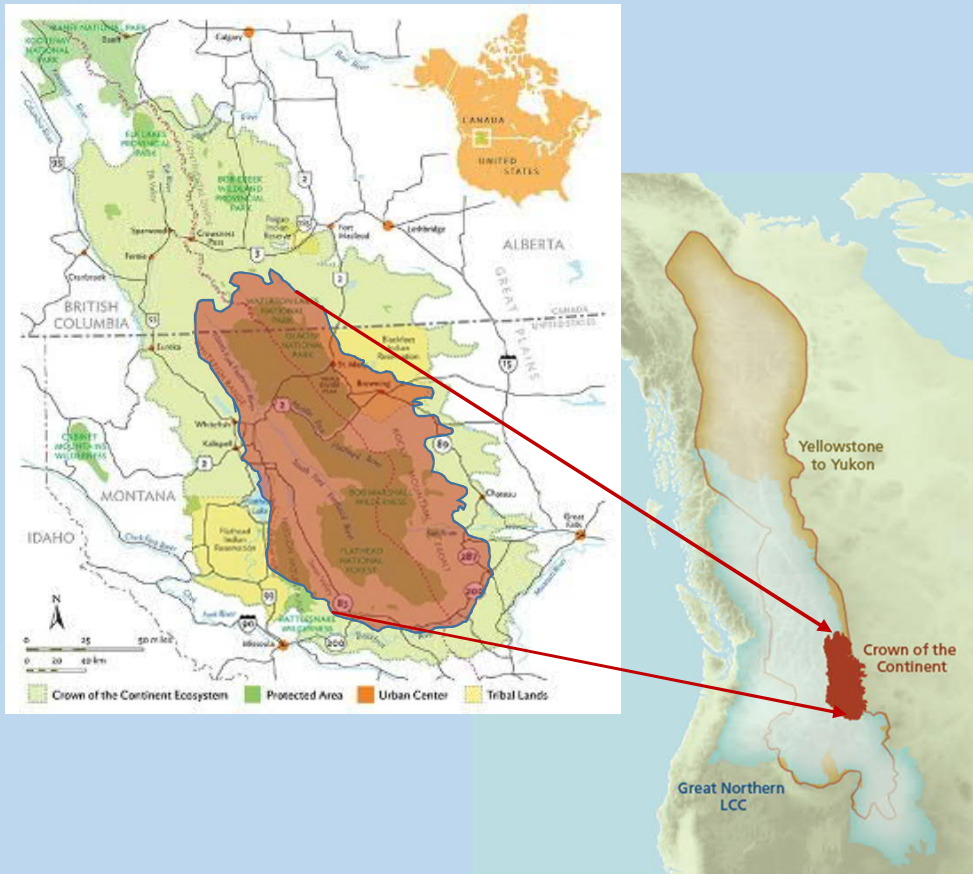
“Ecological connectivity is the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth” (CMS, 2020).

and

“The movement of populations, individuals, genes, gametes and propagules between populations, communities and ecosystems, as well as that of non-living material from one location to another.”



Connectivity: Circulatory System of Nature



Waterton Lakes Canada – Glacier National Park US International Peace Park – World's First International Peace Park

Also known as Crown of the Continent Ecosystem

Conservation Happens on ALL Lands and Waters

21st Century Conservation - Advancing Conservation Outside of Protected Areas –
Known as the “Matrix”

- Wildlife Movement Ecology
- Seasonal and Long Distance Migration
- Dispersal
- Local Connectedness
- Pollination
- Nutrient Cycling
- Trophic Structure and Dynamics
- Stream Flows
- Hyporheic Zone Dynamics
- Fire Behavior
- Disturbance Regimes
- Ecological Succession
- Wildlife Behavior Patterns
- Mycorrhizal Networks
- Climate Resilience

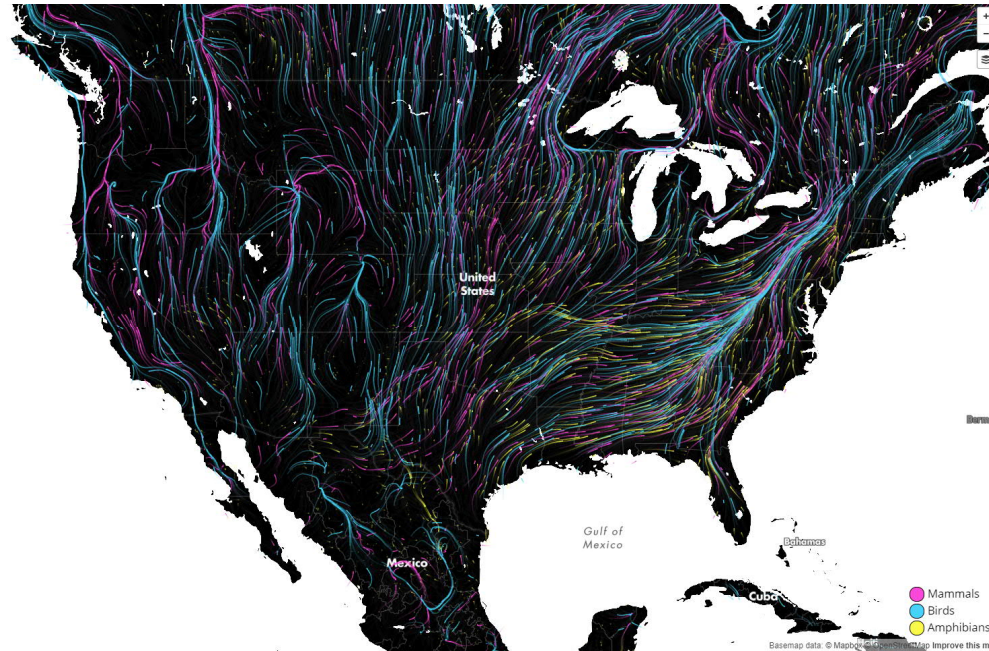


Image Courtesy of Australia Ministry of Environment and Energy



Climate connectivity: Linking Biodiversity and Climate

Connect current to future ranges: use species distribution models to predict location of future habitat, then design corridors that connect current and future habitat patches

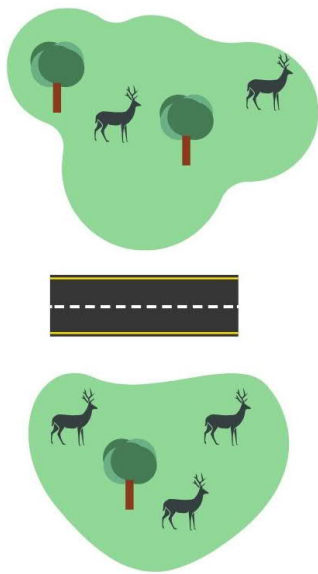


Animals react to climate change in only three ways:

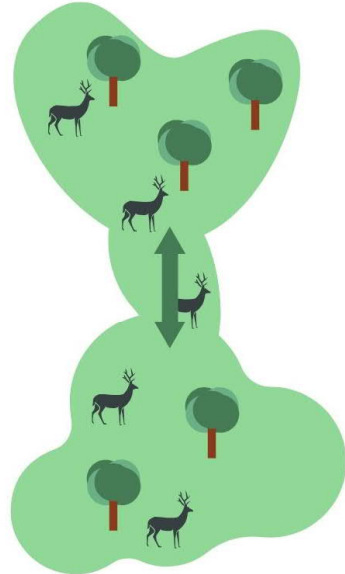
1. Move
2. Adapt
3. Die

Source: The Nature Conservancy. <http://maps.tnc.org/migrations-in-motion/#4/48.08/-125.11>

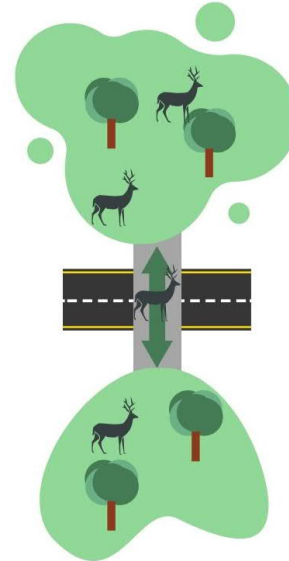
Corridor vs. Crossing vs. Network - What's the Difference?



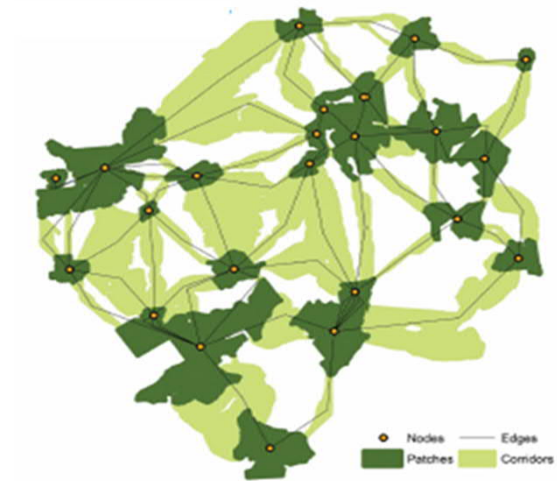
No connectivity



Connectivity via corridor



Connectivity via crossing



Network of core areas and corridors

What Is a Corridor?

Ecological corridors, or 'corridors,' are parts of the landscape that allow animals to move between larger areas of intact habitat. Animals need corridors to reach daily and seasonal needs like food, water, and mates.

What Is a Crossing?

Wildlife crossings are human-built infrastructure, like bridges or tunnels, designed to help wildlife safely cross roads. Crossings reconnect habitat (including corridors) that has been (or will be) bisected and fragmented by roads, railways, and pipelines.

What Is an Ecological Network?

Ecological network for conservation is a system of core habitats (protected areas, OECMS, and other intact natural areas) connected by ecological corridors.

Ecological Corridor

A clearly defined geographical space that is governed and managed over the long-term to maintain or restore effective ecological connectivity

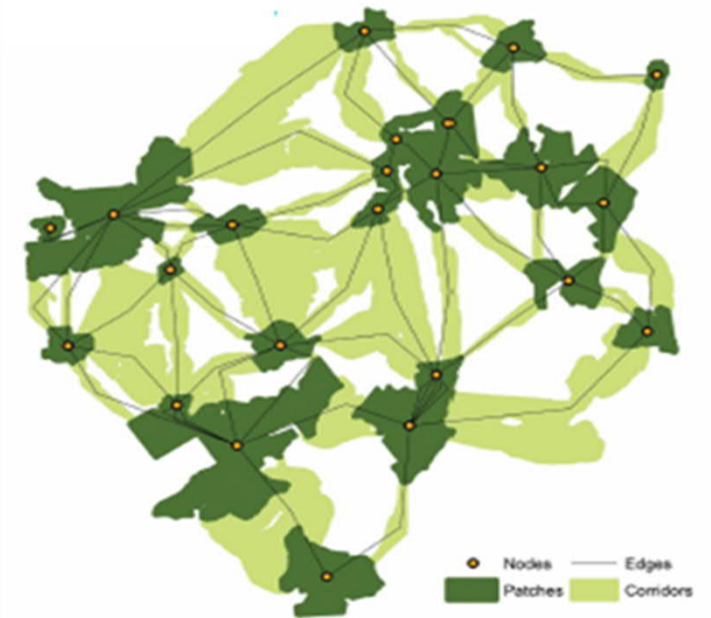
	Protected areas	OECMs	Ecological corridors
MUST conserve <i>in situ</i> biodiversity	●	●	
MAY conserve <i>in situ</i> biodiversity			●
MUST conserve connectivity			●
MAY conserve connectivity	●	●	

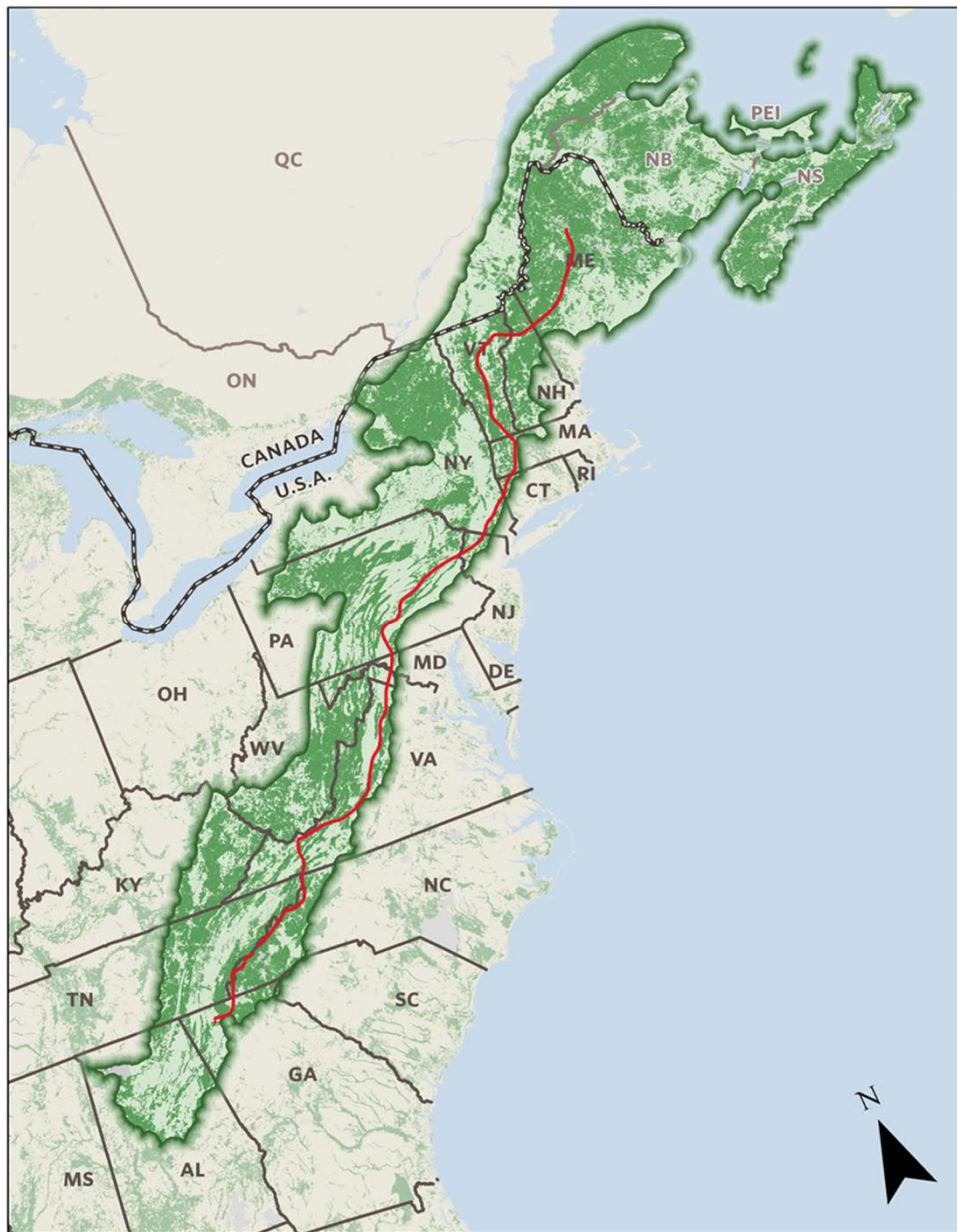
The Architecture for Large Scale Conservation



Ecological networks for conservation

4





Second 100 Year Vision for the Appalachian Trail

Appalachian Mountain Landscape: Eastern Climate Corridor

- Appalachian Trail – 3525 kms long (2190 miles)
- Watershed for 190 million people
- Globally important landscape
for carbon, biodiversity and water
- Climate Refugia

Emergent Conservation Strategies

- Tenure, Governance, Cultural Values
- Corridor legislation;
- Land use plans and zoning for landscapes;
- Marine spatial plans and zoning for seascapes;
- Covenants and easements;
- Incentives and disincentives;
- Regulatory controls for public health and safety;
- Development controls and building standards; and
- Written voluntary conservation agreements with specific landowners or rightsholders.

Planning and
implementing
ecological corridors

5



Arabian oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*), Dubai, UAE © Peter J Hudson



Applications and benefits of ecological corridors in different environments

6

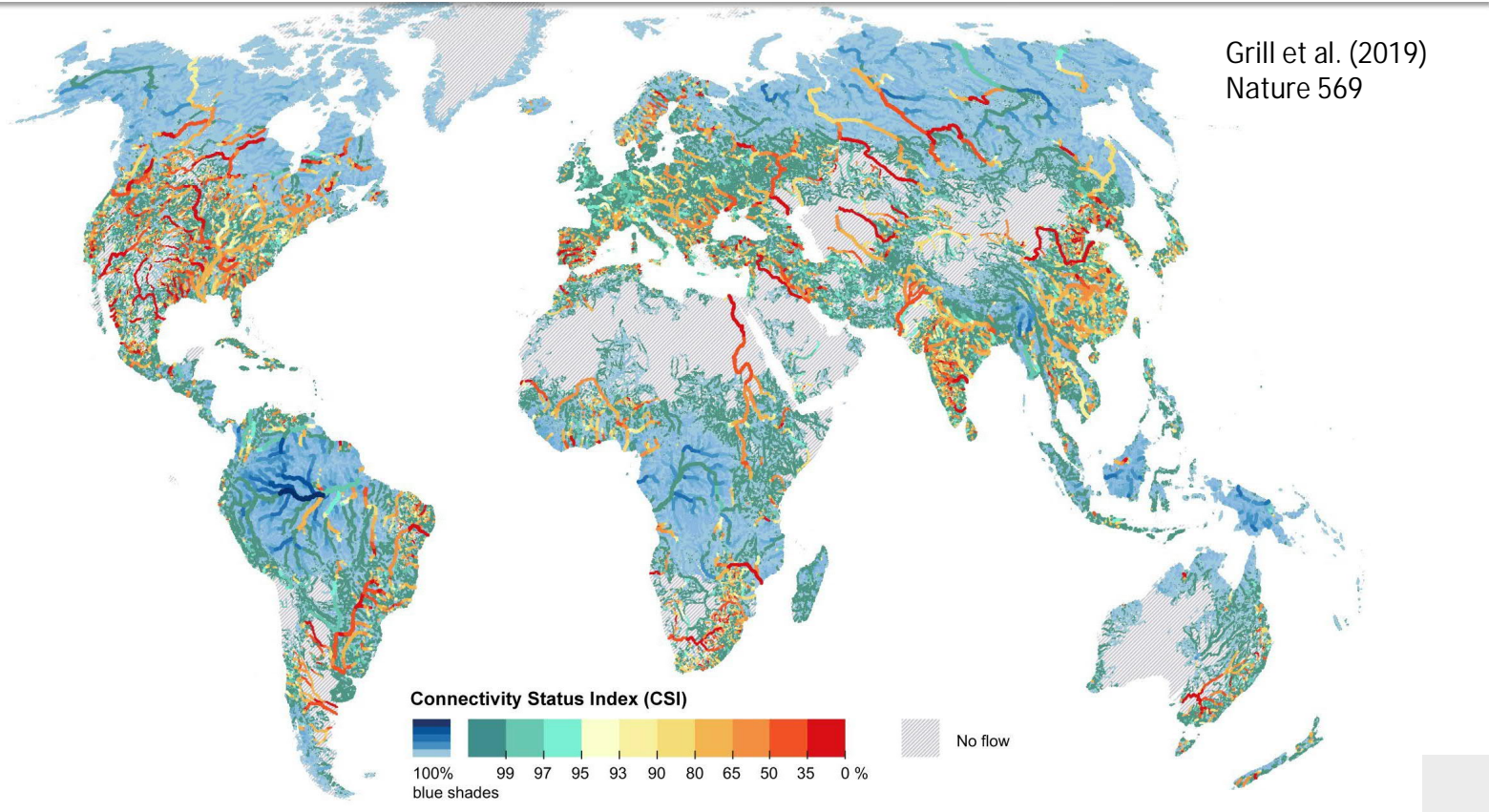
Connectivity is relevant across a range of environments from terrestrial and marine to freshwater and airspaces.



White-tipped tree frog (*Litoria rifrafrenata*), a tropical rainforest inhabitant on Cape York, Australia © Ian Pulsford



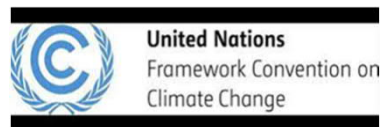
Freshwater Global Connectivity Status (CSI)



The emergence of connectivity conservation law and policy

7

- Connectivity conservation a basic requirement to achieve many conventions and agreements
- Many places developing legislation and guidance



Indian Rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*), Kaziranga National Park, Assam, India © Grégoire Dubois



Global Policy 2021

Unanimous Adoption: UN General Assembly Resolution on Connectivity

Nature Knows No Borders



During the adoption of the resolution, along with the general support of all Member States, 60 Member States co-sponsored the resolution of Kyrgyzstan: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bhutan, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, India, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Singapore, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia and Zimbabwe

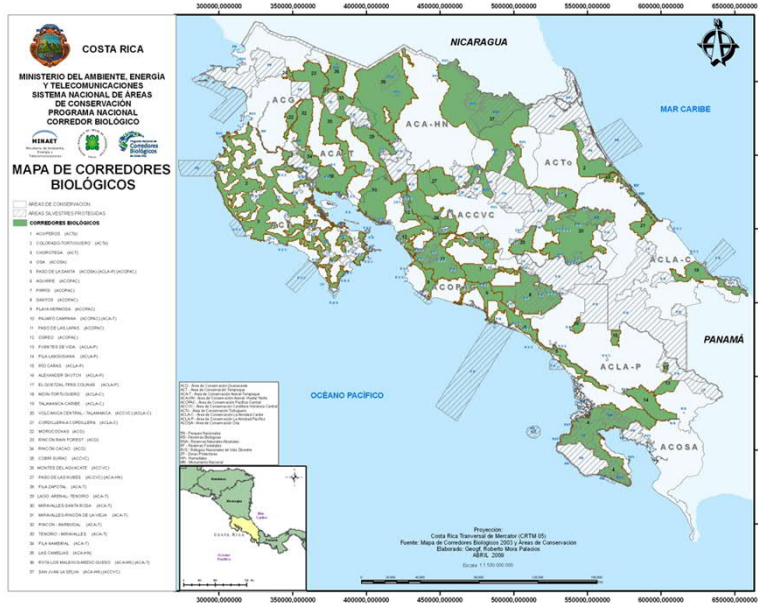


G7 Climate and Environment Ministers' Meeting Communiqué

London, United Kingdom
20 – 21 May 2021

We commit to champion ambitious and effective global biodiversity targets, including conserving or protecting at least 30 percent of global land and at least 30 percent of the global ocean by 2030through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and **well-connected systems of protected areas**

National Policy



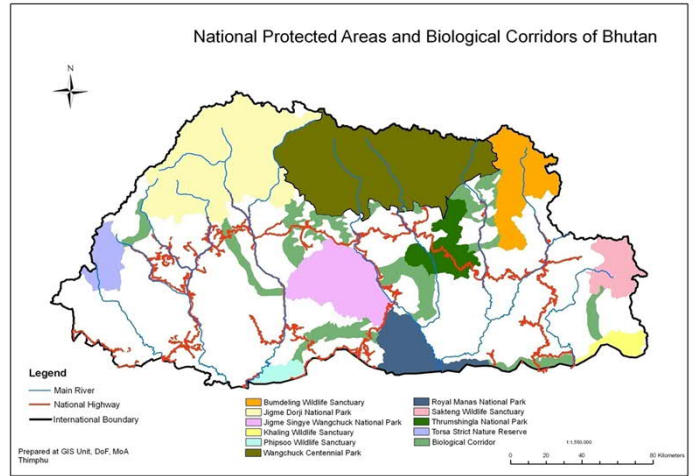
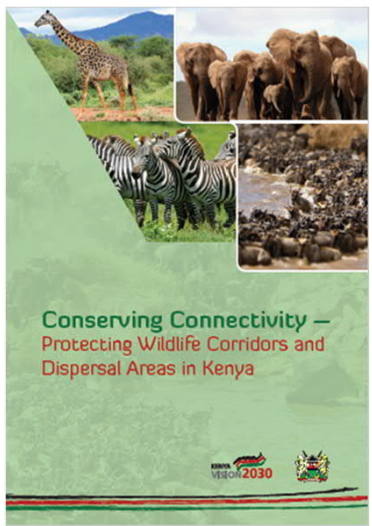
Costa Rica

Canada

Pathway to Canada Target 1



Kenya Bhutan



Tanzania

Tanzania

THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT
 (Cap. 283)

REGULATIONS

(Made under section 22(2) and 121(f))

**THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION (WILDLIFE
 CORRIDORS, DISPERSAL AREAS, BUFFER ZONES AND
 MIGRATORY ROUTES) REGULATIONS, 2017**

A principal recommendation of these Guidelines is that the designation 'ecological corridor' be recognized in regional, national, and subnational law and policy, such as:

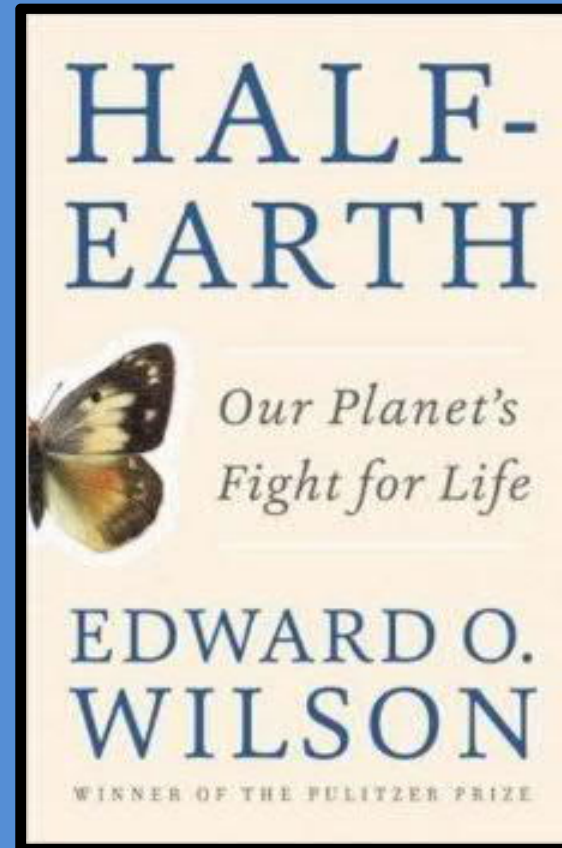
- Bhutan
- Costa Rica,
- Croatia,
- India,
- Kenya,
- Malaysia,
- The Netherlands



Can We Save Nature in a Crowded World?



30%
by
2030

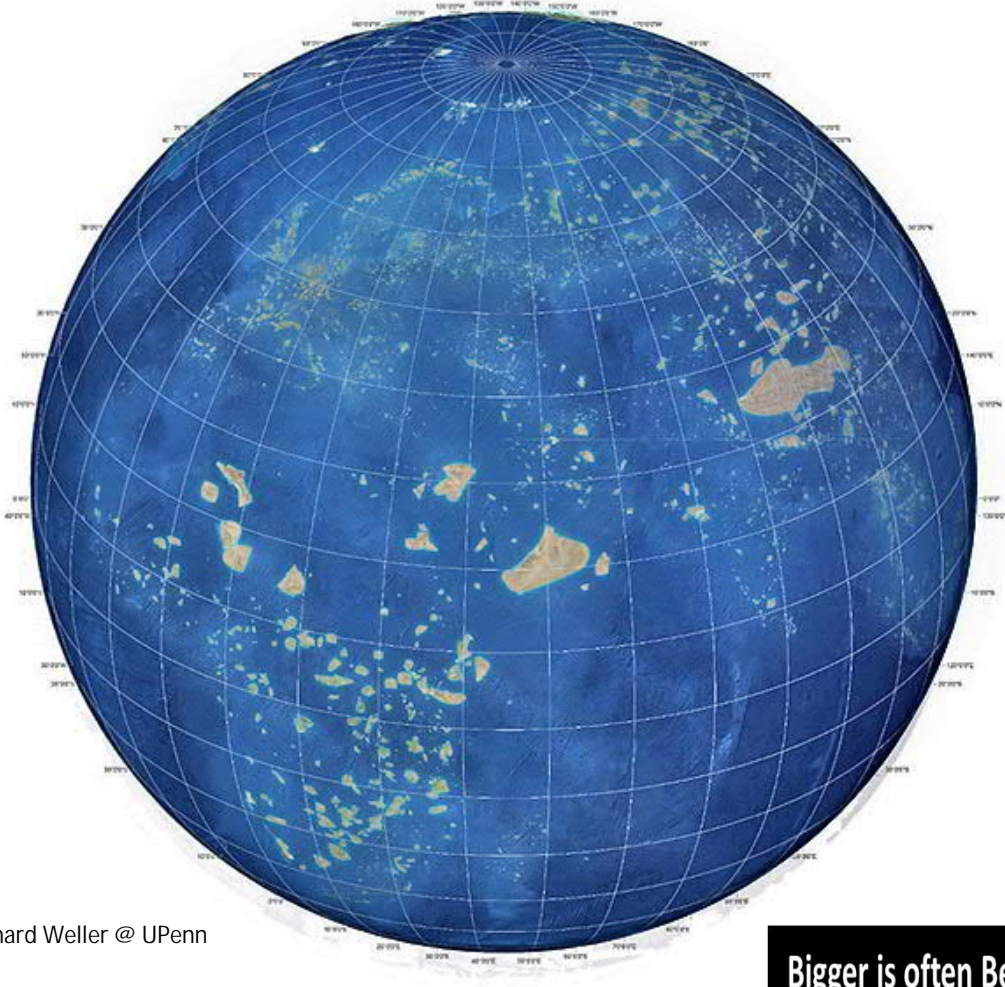


Protecting 30% of all land and waters by 2030

Currently 15.4% Terrestrial Protected Areas



- Aichi Target 11: “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and **well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures**, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”



© Richard Weller @ UPenn

Bigger is often Better but Well-Connected is More Effective

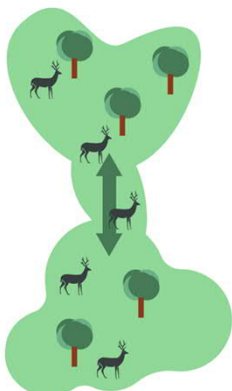
Tools & Reporting

Protected Planet: World Database on Protected areas

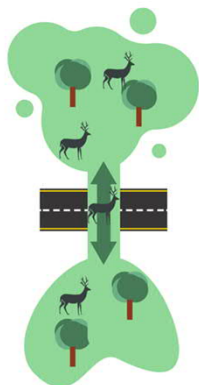
- Area-based commitments



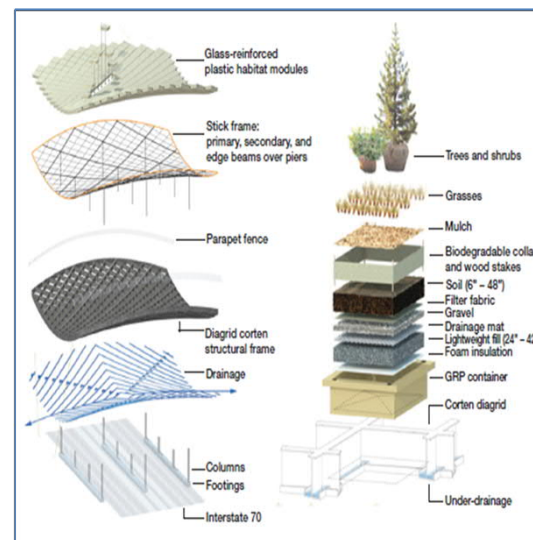
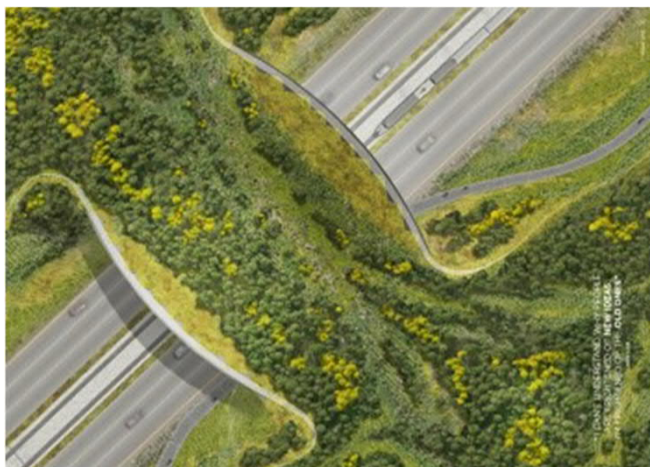
Our Next Guidance: Greener Road, Rail, Canal Designs



Connectivity via corridor

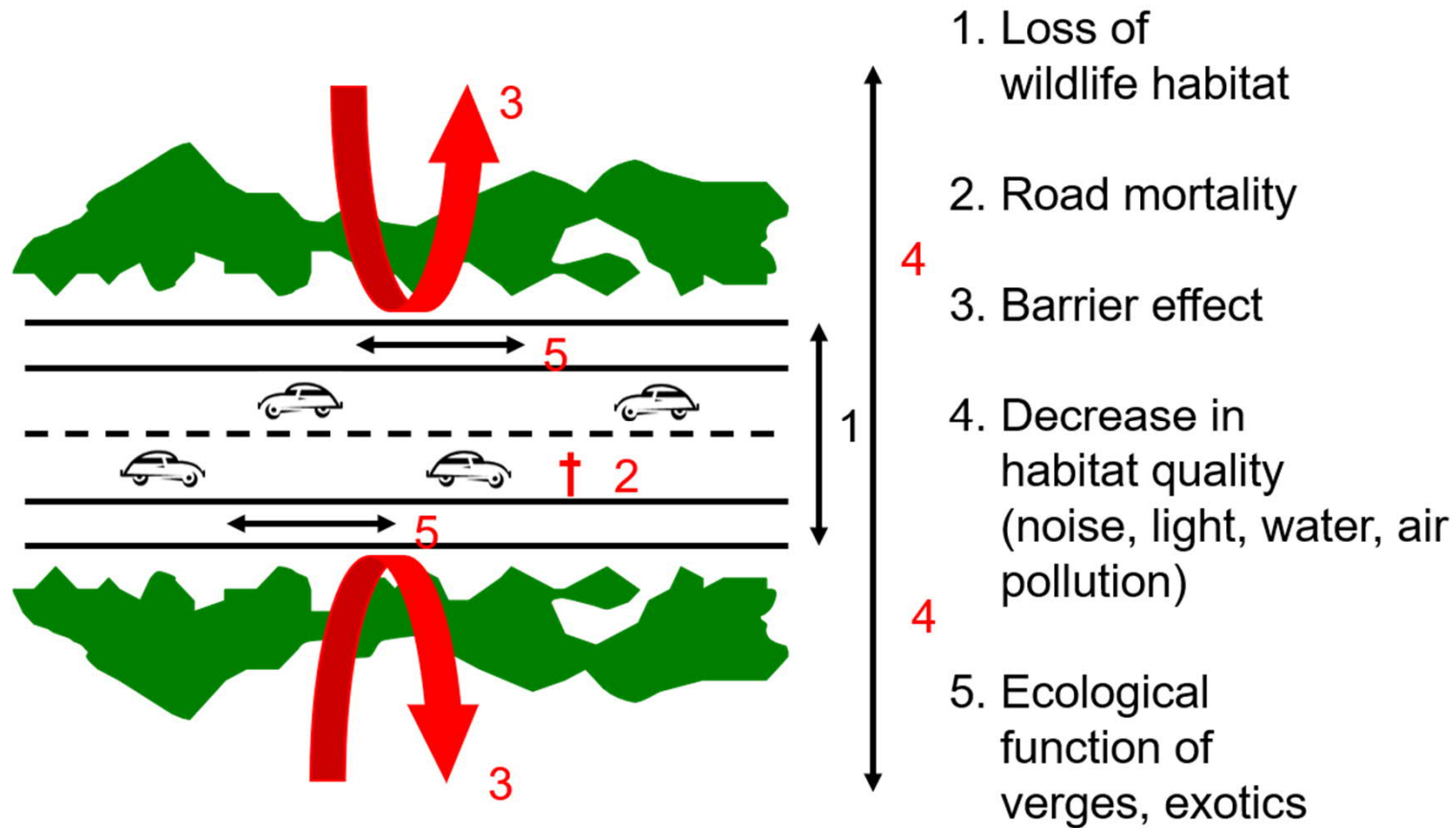


Connectivity via crossing



CENTER
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LARGE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION

Ecological impacts of roads and rails



Courtesy Marcel Huijser, Western Transportation Institute – Montana State University

"sex across the highway."

The New York Times

Home on the Range: A Corridor for Wildlife



The Rockies are among the last refuges of animals like the bighorn sheep.

Florian Schulz/Visions of the Wild

May 23, 2006



Les choses ne sont pas toujours ce qu'elles paraissent.

Le cerf ne traverse pas la route - la route traverse la forêt.

