



## **INVESTING IN AMERICA: Biden-Harris Administration Awards \$125 Million in Grants to Improve Safety on America's Roadways by Preventing Deadly Wildlife-Vehicle Crashes**

Friday, December 20, 2024

*Investments will help reduce wildlife vehicle collisions that result in thousands of serious injuries, hundreds of fatalities, and more than \$10 billion in medical costs and property damage each year*

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today announced \$125 million in grants for 16 wildlife crossing projects in 16 states, including one Native American Tribe. The funding is available through the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program, a new grant program in its second round of awards that was created by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The purpose of the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program is to improve safety for motorists and wildlife by reducing vehicle collisions with wildlife while also improving habitat connectivity and supporting the survival of threatened or endangered species. The funding supports studies and projects that construct wildlife crossings over and below busy roads, add fencing to direct animals to the crossings, and monitor performance of crossing systems. Overall, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law makes a total of \$350 million available over five years through FY 2026 under the Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program.

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## Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) Grant Selections for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

State		Project Description	WCPP Funding Amount
AK	Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities	<b>Glenn Highway Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Mitigation Study</b> - The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities will receive \$626,659 to conduct a study that will develop a comprehensive solution to preventing vehicle collisions with moose along Glenn Highway, Alaska's busiest highway. The plan will emphasize installation of wildlife crossings between the Airport Heights and Glenn/Parks highway interchanges and will include options for enhancing habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species.	\$626,659
AZ	Arizona Department of Transportation	<b>Arizona Statewide Wildlife Connectivity Assessment Tool and Action Plan</b> - The Arizona Department of Transportation will receive \$565,800 to develop an online GIS mapping tool that will help identify wildlife-vehicle collision hotspots, analyze data about collisions, identify wildlife corridors for habitat connectivity, develop and prioritize projects, and build cost estimates to support future wildlife mitigation projects.	\$565,800
FL	Florida Department of Transportation	<b>US-27 Venus Wildlife Crossing</b> - The Florida Department of Transportation will receive \$6.1 million to reconstruct a 0.38-mile stretch of US-27 in southern Highlands County near the community of Venus. The project includes raising the roadway, building a wildlife crossing underpass using a new box culvert, and adding two miles of fencing to guide animals to the crossing. The project will reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions with the endangered Florida panther, white-tailed deer, black bear, American alligator, and other small terrestrial and aquatic species.	\$6,124,522
GA	Georgia Department of Transportation	<b>Georgia Statewide Best Practices and Decision-making Tools for Wildlife Crossing and Safety Considerations</b> - The Georgia Department of Transportation will receive nearly \$2.2 million to develop an institutional framework that will integrate wildlife-vehicle reduction measures and habitat connectivity goals into transportation project planning and construction.	\$2,150,044
ID	Idaho State Department of Transportation	<b>US-30 Rocky Point Wildlife Crossing Project</b> - The Idaho Department of Transportation will receive nearly \$20.9 million to construct three wildlife underpasses with eight-foot-tall fencing along six miles of US-30 at Rocky Point in rural Bear Lake County. The project will reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions along a mule deer migration route and support habitat connectivity.	\$20,876,000
MA	Massachusetts Department of Transportation	<b>I-90: Mass Pike Appalachian Trail Pedestrian-Wildlife Shared Use Crossing</b> - The Massachusetts Department of Transportation will receive \$1.7 million to fund pre-construction design and permitting for a wildlife crossing project along the Appalachian Trail over Interstate 90 through western Massachusetts. The project includes replacing an existing bridge crossing near Becket in an area with a	\$1,717,000

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		high number of vehicle collisions with deer. The project will offer separate and distinct areas for wildlife, pedestrians and hikers and include fencing to help funnel wildlife to the crossings.	
MD	Maryland State Highway Administration	<b>Maryland Statewide Planning, Design and Technology to Reduce WVCs</b> - The Maryland State Highway Administration will receive \$387,424 to develop a comprehensive plan designed to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions in the state. Funds will be used to map wildlife-vehicle collision hotspots and high-risk areas, incorporate wildlife passage designs in highway infrastructure projects, improve incident recording practices, and educate the public about wildlife-vehicle collisions and habitat connectivity.	\$387,424
ME	Maine Department of Transportation	<b>Caribou Wildlife and Aquatic Habitat Crossings Project</b> - The Maine Department of Transportation will receive \$9.3 million to construct a wildlife crossing using a pre-cast concrete arch culvert to provide passage for moose, deer, and other large wildlife in the city of Caribou. The project will improve safety by reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions in the area, remove two existing barriers for wildlife and fish passage, and improve habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species.	\$9,344,000
MI	Michigan Department of Transportation	<b>Michigan Statewide Wildlife Vehicle Collision Hot Spot Analysis</b> - The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) will receive \$467,376 to collect ecological and transportation data needed to identify roadways that present the greatest risk to motorists and wildlife. MDOT will work with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to complete a statewide analysis of hotspots and identify key crossing locations for wildlife that pose a risk to motorist safety.	\$467,376
MO	Missouri Department of Transportation	<b>MoDOT I-70 WVC Mitigation and Habitat Connectivity Project</b> - The Missouri Department of Transportation will receive \$900,000 to design and construct multiple wildlife vehicle mitigation projects along Interstate 70 and Interstate 64 in the state. Projects include adding wildlife fencing and making improvements to existing structures. The overall goal is to improve driver safety by reducing wildlife vehicle collisions while addressing wildlife habitat connectivity.	\$900,000
MT	Montana Department of Transportation	<b>US-93: Darby, Montana to Idaho Wildlife Crossing Feasibility Study</b> - The Montana Department of Transportation will receive \$424,242 to study and develop plans that reduce wildlife vehicle collisions along 30 miles of US-93 from the Idaho border to Darby, Montana. Wildlife- vehicle collisions along this stretch of roadway account for nearly half of all crashes in this area.	\$424,242

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NC	North Carolina Department of Transportation	<b>US-64 Red Wolf Crossings Project</b> - The North Carolina Department of Transportation will receive \$25 million to install multiple wildlife underpass structures and fencing along US-64 within the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in Dare County. The project will reduce wildlife- vehicle collisions, support the Red Wolf Recovery Program, and increase habitat connectivity for wildlife within the refuge, including the endangered red wolf, black bear, and white-tailed deer.	\$25,000,000
NM	Pueblo of Santa Ana	<b>Sandia-Jemez Mountain Wildlife Corridor Crossings Project</b> - The Pueblo of Santa Ana will receive nearly \$6.4 million to design wildlife overpasses, underpasses, and other features along nearly eight miles of US-550 and 19 miles of Interstate 25. Species impacted by wildlife-vehicle collisions along these roadways include mule deer, elk, pronghorn (antelope), black bears, and mountain lions.	\$6,372,354
NV	Nevada Department of Transportation	<b>Coyote Springs Tortoise Crossings Project</b> - The Nevada Department of Transportation will receive \$16.8 million to build 61 wildlife crossings along US-93 and install 68 miles of barrier fencing aimed at reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions while connecting critical habitat for the federally- threatened Mojave desert tortoise. The 34-mile segment is the last remaining unfenced section dividing critical tortoise habitat in the state without protected crossings.	\$16,835,292
NY	New York State Department of Transportation	<b>New York Statewide Planning Study to Reduce WVCs and Improve Habitat Connectivity</b> - The New York State Department of Transportation will receive \$323,850 to conduct a two-phase study about wildlife-vehicle collisions and ways to improve habitat connectivity. The first phase will locate and map hot spots of wildlife-vehicle collisions, identify habitat improvement zones along state roadways, and designate wildlife corridors. The second phase will develop a standardized decision-making process for improving roadway safety and habitats for humans and animals.	\$323,850
OR	Oregon Department of Transportation	<b>Mariposa Preserve Wildlife Overcrossing Project</b> - The Oregon Department of Transportation will receive nearly \$33.2 million to build a wildlife crossing along Interstate 5 within southwest Oregon's Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. The project includes construction of a wildlife overpass bridge and fencing to direct wildlife to the structure within the Mariposa Preserve. Species impacted in this area include deer, bear, elk, cougars, and other large-bodied animals attempting to cross the highway.	\$33,182,188

**Federal Highway Administration's Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program  
FY 2022- FY 2023 Grant Selections**

Project Name	Applicant	Project Location	State	Awarded Amount	Project Description
Arizona Interstate-17 Mitigation of Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions and Habitat fragmentation from Munds Park to Kelly Canyon	Arizona Department of Transportation	Munds Park, AZ	AZ	\$ 23,992,588	The Arizona Department of Transportation will receive \$24 million to construct the I-17 Munds Park to Kelly Canyon Wildlife Overpass Project. The Project includes 16.8 total miles of new wildlife fencing tying in existing culverts, escape ramps, and double cattle guards in order to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) along I-17 and increase habitat connectivity for local species, particularly elk.
Gaviota Pass Wildlife Connectivity and Vehicle Collision Reduction Project	California Department of Transportation	Goleta, CA	CA	\$ 8,000,000	The California Department of Transportation will receive \$8 million to reduce wildlife vehicle collisions and connect animal habitats between protected State Park lands on either side of US 101. Improvements include increasing the size of an existing culvert and installing 2.5 miles of fencing, allowing wildlife to safely cross the highway and move to the adjacent Los Padres National Forest.
The Interstate 25 Greenland Wildlife Overpass Project	Colorado Department of Transportation	Denver, CO to Colorado Springs, CO	CO	\$ 22,000,000	The Colorado Department of Transportation will receive \$22 million to build a dedicated, overpass on I-25 between Denver and Colorado Springs, the state's two most populous cities. Once completed, the Greenland Wildlife Overpass will be one of the largest overpass structures in North America, spanning six lanes of interstate highway. It will help reduce vehicle collisions with big game species such as elk and mule deer along I-25 and connect vital habitats on both sides of the highway from the Great Plains to the Rocky Mountains.
Joint Project to Evaluate & Protect Movement of People & Wildlife across Connecticut	Connecticut Department of Transportation	Statewide	CT	\$ 363,104	The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) will receive approximately \$360,000 to collaboratively develop a statewide plan identifying critical habitat blocks, wildlife corridors, and priority road-segments needing wildlife crossings. CTDOT will evaluate their current public facing roadkill reporting tool and conduct a spatial analysis to assist in this effort to reduce the thousands of wildlife-vehicle collisions and hundreds of injuries across Connecticut.
Kentucky's Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Reduction Plan and US-60/ I-64 Corridor Study	Kentucky Transportation Cabinet	Statewide	KY	\$ 1,200,000	The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) will receive \$1.2 million to develop Kentucky's first WVC Reduction Plan in parallel with a pilot corridor study focused on the US-60/I-64 Corridor that will evaluate segments of US 60 and I-64 between the Louisville Metropolitan Area and Frankfort, Kentucky. The statewide plan includes a study to correlate WVC data from different sources along with wildlife habitat data and roadway data to identify priority areas to reduce WVCs and improve habitat connectivity across the state.

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Missouri statewide wildlife vehicle collision reduction analysis and hotspot mitigation measure feasibility study	Missouri Department of Transportation	Statewide	MO	\$ 320,000	The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) will receive \$320,000 to collaboratively develop a statewide plan to identify hot spots and mitigation measures. MoDOT will perform a WVC hotspot analysis to identify high WVC road segments, then rank priority areas and conduct feasibility studies to develop site-specific recommendations for cost effective WVC mitigation recommendations to ensure the safety of the traveling public and help promote habitat connectivity in the State.
I-90 Missoula to Garrison Wildlife Crossing Feasibility Study	Montana Department of Transportation	Missoula, MT to Garrison, MT	MT	\$ 424,242	The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) will receive \$424,242 to complete a feasibility study for installing wildlife crossings across 68 miles on I-90 between Missoula and Garrison, Montana. By identifying key wildlife migration corridors, the study will help MDT determine the need, type, and feasibility of constructing one or more wildlife crossings that will effectively accommodate both wildlife and motorists, and ultimately reduce the number of WVCs.
US 93: Ninepipe and Post Creek Program-Wildlife Overcrossing Project	Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes	Lake County	MT	\$ 8,591,680	The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will receive \$8.6 million to construct a wildlife overpass spanning US Highway 93 within the Ninepipe National Wildlife Management Area in Montana, an area with high rates of WVCs. The proposed project will help reduce WVCs and improve habitat connectivity for grizzly bears which will reduce crash-related mortality and improve outcomes for grizzly bears.
Wildlife Crossing of Heartland Expressway	Nebraska Department of Transportation	Gering, NE	NE	\$ 400,000	The Nebraska Department of Transportation will receive \$400,000 to conduct a feasibility study to address WVC concerns with big game species along Nebraska Highway 71. The proposed feasibility study would help identify possible solutions for lowering the WVCs along the corridor and reconnecting the bighorn sheep habitats on both sides of the highway.
Mescalero Apache Tribe US 70 Wildlife Vehicle Collision Mitigation Feasibility Project	Mescalero Apache Tribe	Bent, NM to Mescalero, NM	NM	\$ 480,000	The Mescalero Apache tribe will receive \$480,000 to conduct a feasibility study to evaluate solutions for reducing the number of WVCs along US-70, the roadway corridor that has the most crashes in the State of New Mexico. The study will help meet the goals of the New Mexico Wildlife Corridor Action Plan by identifying the existing infrastructure, natural resources, and geospatial crash data along the US-70 corridor, as well as evaluating the engineering requirements needed to mitigate WVCs and improve connectivity for elk and mule deer.

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Pennsylvania Wildlife Crossings Strategic Plan and Analytical tools	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	Statewide	PA	\$ 840,000	The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania will receive \$840,000 to develop a comprehensive statewide strategic plan with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pennsylvania Game Commission and others to address the wide-ranging challenges and opportunities associated with the safe management and stewardship for wildlife crossings across the state.
South Dakota Statewide Rural Wildlife Crossing Study	South Dakota Department of Transportation	Statewide	SD	\$ 400,000	The South Dakota Department of Transportation will receive \$400,000 to develop a statewide plan with a study on WVCs at specific locations on State highways in rural areas. This study will offer solutions to mitigate the impact of WVCs and ensure the public's safety while preserving wildlife populations, improving habitat connectivity and developing a better understanding of wildlife movement.
Construction of Ocelot Underpass Crossings at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Los Fresnos, TX	TX	\$ 1,778,400	The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will receive \$1.8 million to protect the endangered ocelot by installing multiple wildlife underpass crossings on the Steve Thompson Drive at Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge contains the largest continuous tract of thorn-scrub habitat in the U.S., which serves as a corridor for the endangered ocelot, that is intersected by the wildlife drive. Adding underpasses will reduce the risk of WVCs and help protect this species from extinction.
US-89 Wildlife Safety Corridor Project	Utah Department of Transportation	Kanab, UT	UT	\$ 5,497,000	The Utah Department of Transportation will receive approximately \$5.5 million to construct three wildlife underpasses and extend existing wildlife fencing along US-89. These underpasses will reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions and reconnect mule deer habit and critical ranges.
Prioritizing Wildlife Crossing Locations in Virginia	Virginia Department of Transportation	Statewide	VA	\$ 604,318	The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will receive approximately \$600,000 to collaboratively develop a statewide plan to identify roads with the highest risk of large mammal collisions in the State. Through a collaboration with Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Virginia Department of Forestry, VDOT will build on their Wildlife Corridor Action Plan to create several models and GIS layers to allow for better identification of wildlife crossing sites and provide site-specific recommendations.



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Sharkeyville Brook Wildlife Crossing	Vermont Agency of Transportation	Statewide	VT	\$ 1,620,000	The Vermont Agency of Transportation will receive \$1.6 million to design a wildlife crossing to reduce WVCs and reestablish wildlife connectivity in the heart of the Green Mountains, between some of the largest and least fragmented forest blocks in the northeastern U.S. The proposed underpass will reduce WVCs, improve road safety, and increase habitat connectivity for large animals such as black bears, white-tailed deer, and moose, as well as small aquatic animals such as salamanders and wood turtles.
Habitat Connectivity in the South Cascades of Washington State to Benefit Tribally Significant Wildlife Species via SR 12 Overpass Planning and Scoping	Puyallup Tribe of Indians	Lewis County	WA	\$ 216,250	The Puyallup Tribe of Indians will receive \$216,250 to complete the planning and scoping of wildlife crossing structures in partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and United States Forest Service, and support from the Medicine Creek Treaty Tribes. This project location addresses an area of high concern for WVCs due to large numbers of elk-vehicle collisions on SR 12 across the 24-mile project corridor.
Red Cabin Creek Wildlife Overpass on SR 20, Washington State	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians of Washington	Hamilton Junction	WA	\$ 8,495,000	The Stillaguamish Tribe in Washington State will receive \$8.5 million to design and construct a wildlife overpass with fencing on rural State Route 20 in Skagit County. The Red Cabin Creek Wildlife overpass at Milepost 76.2 will span two lanes of traffic and is aimed at helping multiple species, including an elk herd whose home range and core habitats straddle the highway.
US 189 Habitat Connectivity Corridor Expansion	Wyoming Department of Transportation	Statewide	WY	\$ 24,358,000	The Wyoming Department of Transportation will receive approximately \$24 million to implement strategies to mitigate WVC fatalities and improve wildlife connectivity for pronghorn and mule deer along US 189 in southwest Wyoming. The proposed project includes a wildlife crossing overpass, several underpasses, and the installation of high barrier wildlife fencing to improve motorist safety and improve habitat access for mule deer and pronghorn.
<b>Total Amount Awarded</b>				<b>\$109,580,582</b>	