

YEAR-END CAMPAIGN

American Wildlands needs to raise \$120,000 by December 31st in order to 1) fully implement our 2008 conservation priorities outlined below, and 2) receive an additional \$12,000 as a “reward” for meeting our campaign goal. We are asking all of our members, patrons, and potential supporters alike to help us meet this goal.

Priority Linkage Area Conservation—Corridors of Life Program

In 2008, American Wildlands will initiate a multi-year plan to provide the strategic leadership and coordination needed amongst numerous conservation partners to ensure that the more than 100 critical habitat connections, or “linkages,” we recently identified across the U.S. Northern Rockies are maintained or restored for wildlife and their movements (see back page). In each area, we will address one or more of the following threats: [a] *public lands*: energy development, motorized access and forest/rangeland management; [b] *private lands*: conversion of agricultural lands to suburban development/subdivision, fencing, predator-livestock conflicts; and [c] *highways/railroads*: wildlife mortality and habitat fragmentation.

For each area, we will [1] develop the rationale why a specific linkage warrants increased conservation attention; [2] identify potential collaborative partners, such as other conservation NGOs, local community groups, and agencies; [3] work with those partners to develop and implement a conservation plan that addresses the threats to, and opportunities for, conserving each linkage; and [4] provide AWL’s expertise regarding the latest science; GIS modeling, analysis and mapping; and land and wildlife management laws, policies and best management practices.

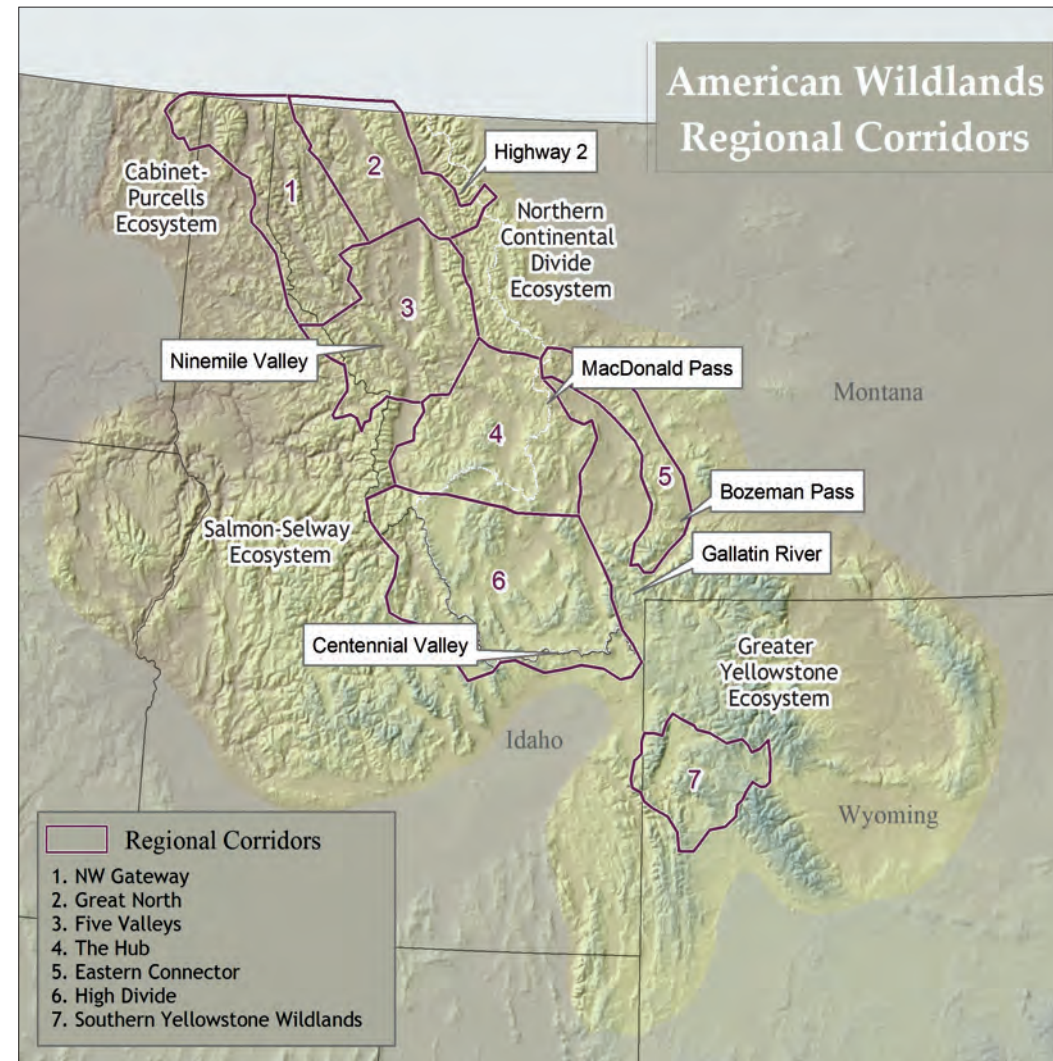
Ultimately, our success will be measured by the ability for wildlife to travel through these habitat linkage areas, as well as the ability for local people to make deliberate choices about managing their land in a manner that conserves the wildlife and rural landscapes of the region.

Bozeman Pass Demonstration Project—Safe Passages Program

In 2008, American Wildlands will fully launch a multi-year, four phase demonstration project on the Bozeman Pass section of Interstate 90 (east of Bozeman, MT). This project will establish ample local support for the concept of wildlife safe passages, which we believe will lead to an increased willingness by the state transportation department to institute more safe passage measures on this 28 mile stretch of highway. The first two phases of this project will be initiated in 2008:

Phase 1: Establish increased community and agency commitment to safe passages measures through a series of citizen-assisted information gathering and dissemination projects, and initiate a community working group to plan and begin implementing a suite of first tier mitigation measures (primarily a public and motorist information campaign). These projects include an “I-Spy on the Pass” motorist data collection project, a high school roadkill monitoring project, and a Kid’s Billboard Art Contest.

Phase 2: Fully implement the first tier measures, and develop a plan for pursuing a set of second tier measures—such as retro-fitting existing road and railroad underpasses or culverts to serve as wildlife crossing underpasses.



Ultimately, American Wildlands will be successful if the public, elected officials and community leaders support the concept of wildlife safe passages enough to encourage or pressure the state transportation department to provide more safe passages measures on Bozeman Pass—such as wildlife crossing overpasses or underpasses, as well as innovative animal detection systems and other motorist information to help avoid collisions with wildlife. We believe this demonstration project will provide a model for similar efforts elsewhere in the state, region and nation.

Influencing Highway Planning in Western Montana—Safe Passages Program

In 2008, American Wildlands will engage in two highway planning processes in order to [1] facilitate an increased commitment by the Montana Department of Transportation to plan and construct highway crossing structures for wildlife,

and [2] capitalize on funding opportunities provided by the federal SAFETEA-LU legislation, which authorizes the Federal programs for highways and highway safety between 2005-2009. With just two years until these funding opportunities potentially expire, now is the time for AWL to capitalize on these opportunities.

Specifically, AWL will facilitate two assessments—one short term and one more comprehensive—to determine where priority habitat linkage areas intersect with highways, and where wildlife/vehicle collisions frequently occur, in Montana. First, we will push the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and Montana’s wildlife agency to conduct a multi-year assessment, the results of which will help inform and guide state highway planning for years to come.

Meanwhile, we will conduct our own “rapid assessment” regarding the same information, with the goal of having MDT incorporate these findings into its upcoming *State Transportation Improvement Program* schedule, as well as use AWL’s data to secure SAFETEA-LU funding for Montana’s highway safety and project planning activities. Our rapid assessment will also help inform our own highway mitigation projects in key habitat linkage areas (as outlined above).

For more information on these projects, visit www.wildlands.org.

Help make these conservation objectives happen!

We have a year-end fundraising goal of \$120,000—funds that will enable us to implement the conservation objectives outlined on this page, and more. We now ask you—our loyal members—to increase your annual gift to American Wildlands to help us secure \$120,000 by December 31, 2007.

To help motivate you and further leverage your support, American Wildlands has been offered a “reward” gift of \$12,000 to be received upon the successful and timely completion of this campaign. The Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation has issued a challenge grant of \$12,000 to be received if—and only if—we meet our goal of \$120,000.

We hope you will be inspired by the commitment of the Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation and our patron donors to increase your contribution to AWL so we can meet our goal, receive our reward gift and be better able to fill our role as a leading player in the effort to conserve the ecological integrity and magnificent wildlands and wildlife of the Northern Rockies.

Thank you for your consideration and your support!

A Partial List of American Wildlands’ FY 2007 Accomplishments

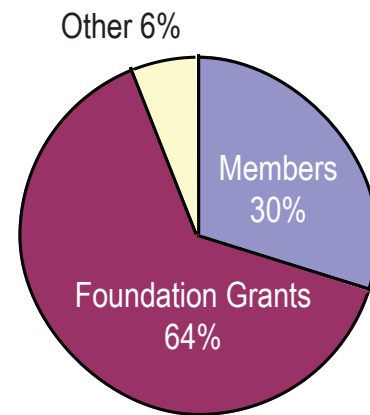
Corridors of Life

To help focus and prioritize our work, we conducted a Priority Linkage Assessment in four of our seven regional corridors (see map inside). Based on the expert opinion of five dozen state and federal biologists, we identified more than 100 critical habitat linkage areas, as well as the threats to, and opportunities for, conserving these wildlife corridors. These results will serve as the scientific foundation of AWL’s work for years to come. Additionally, we know that the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Montana and Idaho State wildlife agencies, Montana and Idaho Departments of Transportation, as well as numerous conservation groups, all want to use these results to help inform, guide and strengthen their own work.

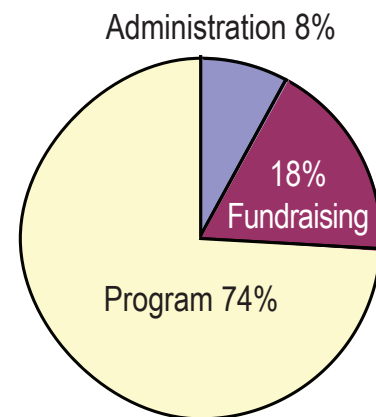
AWL’s campaign to mitigate a proposal to build a military training center on national forest lands in the middle of a key wildlife corridor on MacDonald Pass has influenced the Forest Service to postpone making a decision while it addresses the concerns of AWL and others. We presented new wildlife use data from field research we conducted, as well as organized local citizens to voice their concerns.

With continued support from AWL, the Ninemile Valley Wildlife Workgroup (northwest of Missoula): [1] received a grant to help fund wildlife movement survey work and a student wildlife inventory project in the valley; and [2] erected eight

Where Our Money Comes From...



Where We Spend Our Money...



motorist road signs (“Watch for Wildlife”) in key wildlife crossing locations on county roads.

Safe Passages

AWL co-hosted a “Road Ecology for Conservationists” workshop for practitioners of wildlife/highway issues that brought together 75 people from across the U. S. and Canada. Leading road ecologists, conservation biologists, and transportation professionals delivered 26 presentations about the latest in highway wildlife mitigation science, successes in public-private partnerships, opportunities for participation in transportation planning, and recent innovations in road ecology.

AWL further established a solid working relationship with the Great Northern Environmental Stewardship Area working group (GNESA) to address wildlife crossing issues on Montana Highway 2 and an adjacent railroad, between Glacier National Park and the Bob Marshall Wilderness. With direct AWL assistance, GNESA has initiated field research to determine wildlife use of the Highway 2 corridor to help inform where safe passage mitigation measures are needed.

AWL was invited onto the transportation subcommittee of the Western Governors Association’s Wildlife Migration Corridor Working Group.

Living Waters

AWL played a lead role in convening and coordinating, as well as providing scientific, policy and strategy expertise to, a Big Sky, MT working group, whose participants include conservation groups, ski resorts, developers and businesses. This group is tasked with producing the technical report and funding strategy to place much of Big Sky on a centralized water treatment system, thereby reducing septic system effluent seeping into the Gallatin River.

Community GIS Services

AWL expanded the number and size of our Geographical Information System (GIS) contracts, as well as the number of conservation NGOs we worked with, such that we increased our annual GIS income by close to 50%—a testament to the quality of our GIS mapping and analysis.



American Wildlands
KEEPING THE U.S. NORTHERN ROCKIES ECOLOGICALLY CONNECTED

Linking Together the “String of Pearls” of the Northern Rockies’ Best Habitat



Investing in Conservation Results Your generous support will make a difference!

As the well-known naturalist and conservationist Aldo Leopold once wrote, “*A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community.*” For American Wildlands, the “thing” that will keep the grand nature of the U.S. Northern Rockies “right” is keeping the region’s best habitats ecologically connected to each other, as part of a greater whole and intact natural system. With that as our goal, American Wildlands is *the* regional organization working to maintain connections between key habitats in this world-renowned region for healthy populations of native wildlife. For 30 years, American Wildlands has used science, respectful advocacy and community engagement to pursue our vision of a region with interconnected habitats that support bears, wolves, cougars, wolverine, elk, moose, bighorn sheep and the other magnificent Rocky Mountain wildlife.

We enter our 30th anniversary year having spent the past eighteen months [1] redoubling our commitment to maintaining and restoring habitat connections and wildlife movement corridors by

focusing on our *Corridors of Life* and *Safe Passages* programs, [2] restructuring our conservation programs to be more comprehensive and strategic in their ability to affect and leverage improvements on the ground, and [3] increasing our organizational capacity in order to meet the critical challenges and opportunities we face as we pursue this vision.

The three projects highlighted inside this brochure constitute American Wildlands’ primary conservation objectives for 2008. Each one is strategically designed to make the most of AWL’s scientific, policy and technical expertise by leveraging our 30 years of experience to help inform, guide and strengthen the work of our conservation partners: state and federal land, wildlife and transportation agencies; advocacy groups; land trusts; local community groups; collaborative working groups; individuals and others. Working from our offices in the heart of the region (Bozeman, Missoula and soon-to-be-in Dillon, Montana), American Wildlands’ staff and Board of Directors looks forward to continuing to work with you to keep the U.S. Northern Rockies a place of ecological integrity, stability, and beauty.