# Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program

## Total funding: \$350M over 5 years



### If you have questions, please contact:

Renee Callahan

ARC Solutions reallahan@arc-solutions.org

#### **Bart Melton**

National Parks Conservation Association bmelton@npca.org

#### Susan Holmes

Wildlands Network susan@wildlandsnetwork.org

#### Additional resources:

- The Wonderful World of Wildlife Crossings
- H.R. 3684 Summary of wildlife-related text
- Highway Crossings for Wildlife
- Wildlife Crossing FAQs
- Roadways & Wildlife infographic

**Rural & Federal-Aid Requirements.** At least 60% of grant funds are to be awarded for projects located in rural areas. Projects are to be treated as Federal-aid projects.

**Annual Report to Congress.** An annual report describing WCPP activities undertaken during the prior fiscal year is due to Congress by December 31 of each calendar year.

Source: H.R. 3684, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, § 11123. (Authors Note: The Act's legislative text is broadly quoted and / or paraphrased throughout this summary document; all direct quotation marks are omitted.)

The Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program (WCPP) was established under the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (Act) to provide grants for projects that seek to:

- . Reduce the number of wildlife-vehicle collisions
- 2. While improving habitat connectivity for terrestrial and aquatic species.

Eligible Applicants. Entities eligible to apply for a grant under the WCPP include:

- A state highway agency or equivalent
- A metropolitan planning organization
- A unit of local government
- A regional transportation authority
- A special purpose district or public authority with a transportation function, including a port authority
- An Indian tribe including a Native village and a Native Corporation
- A Federal land management agency
- A group of any of the above entities

**Eligible Partners.** Eligible Partners include all eligible applicants identified above <u>PLUS</u> foundations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, and other Federal, tribal, regional or state government entities.

**Selection Criteria.** In addition to its primary goal of reducing wildlife-vehicle collisions while improving connectivity, secondary selection criteria include:

- Leveraging the investment of Federal funds by encouraging non-Federal contributions, including projects spearheaded by public-private partnerships
- Supporting local economies and improving local visitation opportunities
- Integration of innovative technologies including next-generation design techniques and other
  approaches aimed at increasing the project's efficacy in reducing crashes while improving
  aquatic and terrestrial connectivity
- Inclusion of educational and outreach opportunities
- Incorporation of evaluative monitoring and/or research opportunities that will aid in identifying best management practices
- Other relevant criteria, as deemed appropriate