**Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities** 

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS PLAN

Australia's natural landscapes are a home for our native plants and animals, support our agriculture, provide places for recreation and have important cultural values. However, as Australia has developed many of these landscapes have become damaged or fragmented, which threatens these important environments. Climate change and invasive pests are putting further pressure on the health of our landscapes. Wildlife corridors can help to address these problems.

## What are wildlife corridors?

Wildlife corridors are connections across the landscape that link up areas of habitat, while supporting multiple land uses such as conservation, farming and forestry. Corridors can be of different sizes, ranging from small corridors created by local communities to large corridors that stretch across many different landscapes.

An example of a small wildlife corridor might be a revegetated area along a creek that links two patches of forest, allowing wildlife to move between these patches to find food and shelter and to support breeding. Large-scale corridors might span tens or hundreds of kilometres across multiple landscape types and jurisdictions and typically require collaboration between a wide range of groups working in partnership to manage them. Many smaller wildlife corridor projects may be undertaken as part of a larger corridor initiative, each making an important contribution to connecting the landscape.

## What is the National Wildlife Corridors Plan?

The National Wildlife Corridors Plan is an Australian Government initiative to support landscape connectivity—the capacity of the environment to allow natural ecological movement and functions in the landscape.

The Corridors Plan lays the foundation for a new, collaborative, whole-of-landscape approach to conserving Australia's native plants, animals and other organisms. It will help Australians reconnect with the environment and make our landscapes healthier through a long-lasting network of wildlife corridors.

The role of the Australian Government is to enable and coordinate the efforts of all participants in wildlife corridor initiatives.

## **How can I participate in the Corridors Plan?**

Building and managing wildlife corridors will require the cooperation of landholders, communities, industry and governments and will provide more opportunities for Australians to help protect our natural environment and create a more sustainable future.

Communities can nominate an area to be recognised as a National Wildlife Corridor. Nominated corridors that meet certain criteria and are declared as National Wildlife Corridors by the Environment Minister may receive priority for Australian Government investment through a range of funding programs, such as the Biodiversity Fund and Caring for our Country.

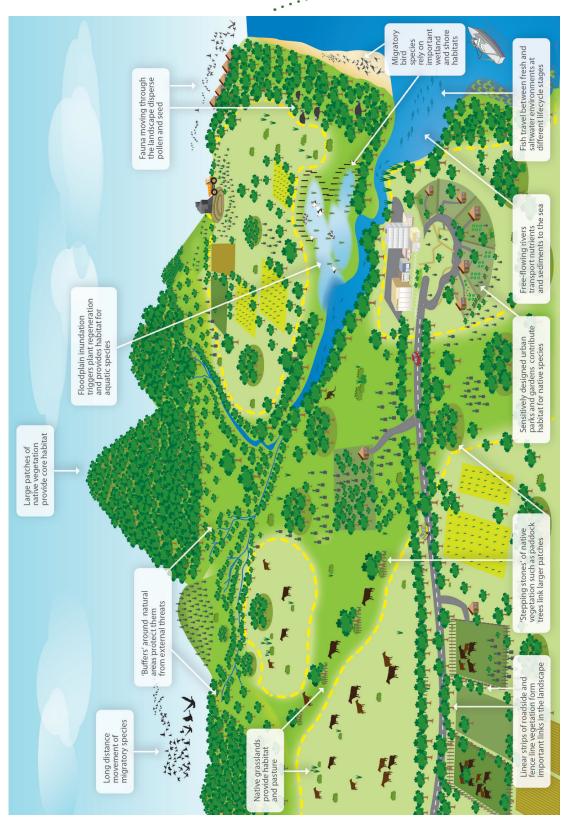
Other public and private sources of funding could also make valuable contributions to creating connected, healthy landscapes that support and sustain our environment and communities.

For further information on the National Wildlife Corridors Plan please visit www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/wildlife-corridors or call 1800 803 772









Elements of connectivity within the landscape that can contribute to wildlife corridors.





