

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE**  
**PRINT 117-8**  
**OFFERED BY MR. BEYER OF VIRGINIA**

At the end of the bill, add the following:

1 **DIVISION H—WILDLIFE COR-**  
2 **RIDORS CONSERVATION ACT**  
3 **OF 2021**

4 **SEC. 11101. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

5 This division may be cited as the “Wildlife Corridors  
6 Conservation Act of 2021”.

7 **SEC. 11102. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
10 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
11 gress” means—

12 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural  
13 Resources of the Senate;

14 (B) the Committee on Environment and  
15 Public Works of the Senate;

16 (C) the Committee on Appropriations of  
17 the Senate;

18 (D) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
19 merce of the House of Representatives;

1 (E) the Committee on Natural Resources  
2 of the House of Representatives;

3 (F) the Committee on Appropriations of  
4 the House of Representatives; and

5 (2) CONNECTIVITY.—The term “connectivity”  
6 means the degree to which the landscape or seascape  
7 facilitates native species movement.

8 (3) CORRIDOR.—The term “corridor” means a  
9 feature of the landscape or seascape that—

10 (A) provides habitat or ecological  
11 connectivity; and

12 (B) allows for native species movement or  
13 dispersal.

14 (4) DATABASE.—The term “Database” means  
15 the National Wildlife Corridors Database established  
16 under section 11308(a).

17 (5) FEDERAL LAND OR WATER.—The term  
18 “Federal land or water” means any land or water,  
19 or interest in land or water, owned by the United  
20 States.

21 (6) FUND.—The term “Fund” means the Wild-  
22 life Corridors Stewardship Fund established by sec-  
23 tion 11401(a).

24 (7) HABITAT.—The term “habitat” means  
25 land, water, and substrate occupied at any time dur-

1       ing the life cycle of a native species that is nec-  
2       essary, with respect to the native species, for spawn-  
3       ing, breeding, feeding, growth to maturity, or migra-  
4       tion.

5           (8) INDIAN LAND.—The term “Indian land”  
6       means land of an Indian Tribe, or an Indian indi-  
7       vidual, that is—

8           (A) held in trust by the United States; or

9           (B) subject to a restriction against alien-  
10       ation imposed by the United States.

11       (9) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe”  
12       has the meaning given the term “Indian tribe” in  
13       section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-  
14       cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

15       (10) NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE.—  
16       The term “National Coordination Committee”  
17       means the National Coordination Committee estab-  
18       lished under section 11306(a).

19       (11) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDOR.—The  
20       term “National Wildlife Corridor” means any Fed-  
21       eral land or water designated as a National Wildlife  
22       Corridor under section 11201(a).

23       (12) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDOR SYS-  
24       TEM.—The term “National Wildlife Corridor Sys-

1       tem” means the system of National Wildlife Cor-  
2       ridors established by section 11201(a).

3           (13) NATIVE SPECIES.—The term “native spe-  
4       cies” means—

5           (A) a fish, wildlife, or plant species that is  
6       or was historically present in a particular eco-  
7       system as a result of natural migratory or evo-  
8       lutionary processes, including subspecies and  
9       plant varieties; or

10          (B) a migratory bird species that is native  
11       to the United States or its territories (as de-  
12       fined in section 2(b) of the Migratory Bird  
13       Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703(b))).

14          (14) REGIONAL OCEAN PARTNERSHIP.—The  
15       term “regional ocean partnership” means a regional  
16       organization of coastal or Great Lakes States, terri-  
17       tories, or possessions voluntarily convened by Gov-  
18       ernors to address cross-jurisdictional ocean matters,  
19       or the functional equivalent of such a regional ocean  
20       organization designated by the Governor or Gov-  
21       ernors of a State or States.

22          (15) REGIONAL WILDLIFE MOVEMENT COUN-  
23       CIL.—The term “regional wildlife movement council”  
24       means a regional wildlife movement council estab-  
25       lished under section 11307(a).

1           (16) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”  
2 means—

3           (A) the Secretary of Agriculture, acting  
4 through the Chief of the Forest Service, con-  
5 cerning land contained within the National For-  
6 est System;

7           (B) the Secretary of Commerce;

8           (C) the Secretary of the Interior; and

9           (D) the Secretary of Transportation.

10          (17) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
11 means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through  
12 the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife  
13 Service.

14          (18) TRIBAL WILDLIFE CORRIDOR.—The term  
15 “Tribal Wildlife Corridor” means a corridor estab-  
16 lished by the Secretary under section  
17 11303(a)(1)(C).

18          (19) UNITED STATES.—The term “United  
19 States”, when used in a geographical sense,  
20 means—

21           (A) a State;

22           (B) the District of Columbia;

23           (C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

24           (D) Guam;

25           (E) American Samoa;

1 (F) the Commonwealth of the Northern  
2 Mariana Islands;

3 (G) the Federated States of Micronesia;

4 (H) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

5 (I) the Republic of Palau;

6 (J) the United States Virgin Islands; and

7 (K) the territorial sea (within the meaning  
8 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation  
9 and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.))  
10 and the exclusive economic zone (as defined in  
11 section 3 of that Act (16 U.S.C. 1802)) within  
12 the jurisdiction or sovereignty of the Federal  
13 Government.

14 (20) WILDLIFE MOVEMENT.—The term “wild-  
15 life movement” means the passage of individual  
16 members or populations of a fish, wildlife, or plant  
17 species across a landscape or seascape.

18 **TITLE I—NATIONAL WILDLIFE**  
19 **CORRIDOR SYSTEM ON FED-**  
20 **ERAL LAND AND WATER**

21 **SEC. 11201. NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.**

22 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a system  
23 of corridors on Federal land and water, to be known as  
24 the “National Wildlife Corridor System”, which shall con-

1 sist of National Wildlife Corridors designated as part of  
2 the National Wildlife Corridor System by—

3 (1) statute;

4 (2) rulemaking under section 11202; or

5 (3) a land management plan developed or re-  
6 vised under section 202 of the Federal Land Policy  
7 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712).

8 (b) STRATEGY.—Not later than 18 months after the  
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop  
10 a strategy for the effective development of the National  
11 Wildlife Corridor System—

12 (1) to support the fulfillment of the purposes  
13 described in section 11202(b);

14 (2) to ensure coordination and consistency  
15 across Federal agencies in the development, imple-  
16 mentation, and management of National Wildlife  
17 Corridors; and

18 (3) to develop a timeline for the implementation  
19 of National Wildlife Corridors.

20 **SEC. 11202. ADMINISTRATIVE DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL**  
21 **WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.**

22 (a) RULEMAKING.—

23 (1) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.—Not  
24 later than 2 years after the date of enactment of  
25 this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-

1       retaries, pursuant to the land, water, and resource  
2       management planning and conservation authorities  
3       of the Secretaries, shall establish a process, by regu-  
4       lation, for the designation and management of Na-  
5       tional Wildlife Corridors on Federal land or water  
6       under the respective jurisdictions of the Secretaries.  
7       Where a National Wildlife Corridor crosses federal  
8       land or water under the jurisdiction of several secre-  
9       taries, then the Secretary must obtain concurrence  
10      from the applicable Secretaries before a National  
11      Wildlife Corridor may be designated.

12               (2) FEDERAL LAND AND WATER MANAGE-  
13      MENT.—The Secretaries shall consider the designa-  
14      tion of National Wildlife Corridors in any process re-  
15      lating to the issuance, revision, or modification of a  
16      management plan for land or water under the re-  
17      spective jurisdiction of the Secretaries insofar as a  
18      corridor is consistent with the purpose of the plan.

19               (b) CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION.—The regulations  
20      promulgated by the Secretary under subsection (a)(1)  
21      shall ensure that, in designating a National Wildlife Cor-  
22      ridor, the Secretaries—

23                       (1) base the designation of the National Wild-  
24      life Corridor on—

25                               (A) coordination with existing—



- 1 (i) National Wildlife Corridors;
- 2 (ii) corridors established by States;
- 3 and
- 4 (iii) Tribal Wildlife Corridors; and
- 5 (B) the best available science of—
- 6 (i) existing native species habitat; and
- 7 (ii) likely future native species habi-
- 8 tats;
- 9 (2) determine that the National Wildlife Cor-
- 10 ridor supports the connectivity, persistence, resil-
- 11 ience, and adaptability of the native species for
- 12 which it has been designated by providing for—
- 13 (A) dispersal and genetic exchange between
- 14 populations;
- 15 (B) range shifting, range expansion, or
- 16 range restoration, such as in response to cli-
- 17 mate change;
- 18 (C) seasonal movement or migration; or
- 19 (D) succession, movement, or recoloniza-
- 20 tion following—
- 21 (i) a disturbance, such as fire, flood,
- 22 drought, or infestation; or
- 23 (ii) population decline or previous ex-
- 24 tirpation;
- 25 (3) consult the Database; and

1           (4) consider recommendations from the Na-  
2           tional Coordination Committee under section  
3           11306(e)(2)(C).

4           (c) DESIGNATION OF FEDERAL LAND OR WATER RE-  
5           QUIRING RESTORATION OR CONNECTION OF HABITAT.—

6           The Secretaries may designate as a National Wildlife Cor-  
7           ridor land or water that—

8           (1) is necessary for the natural movements of  
9           one or more native species;

10          (2) requires restoration, including—

11                 (A) land or water that is degraded; and

12                 (B) land or water from which a species is  
13           currently absent—

14                         (i) but may be colonized or recolo-  
15                         nized by the species naturally; or

16                         (ii) to which the species may be re-  
17                         introduced or restored based on habitat  
18                         changes; and

19          (3) is fragmented or consists of only a portion  
20          of the habitat required for the connectivity needs of  
21          one or more native species.

22          (d) NOMINATION FOR DESIGNATION.—

23                 (1) IN GENERAL.—In establishing the process  
24                 for designation under subsection (a)(1), the Sec-  
25                 retary shall include procedures under which—

1 (A) any State, Tribal, or local government,  
2 or a nongovernmental organization engaged in  
3 the conservation of native species and the im-  
4 provement of the habitats of native species, may  
5 submit to the Secretaries a nomination to des-  
6 ignate as a National Wildlife Corridor an area  
7 under the respective jurisdiction of the Secre-  
8 taries; and

9 (B) the Secretaries shall consider and, not  
10 later than 1 year after the date on which the  
11 nomination was submitted under subparagraph  
12 (A), respond to any nomination submitted  
13 under that subparagraph.

14 (2) SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION.—A nomina-  
15 tion for designation under paragraph (1)(A) shall in-  
16 clude supporting documentation, including—

17 (A) the native species for which the Na-  
18 tional Wildlife Corridor would be designated;

19 (B) summaries and references of, with re-  
20 spect to the designation of a National Wildlife  
21 Corridor—

22 (i) the best science available at the  
23 time of the submission of the nomination  
24 for designation documenting why the cor-  
25 ridor is needed; and

1 (ii) the most current scientific reports  
2 available at the time of the submission of  
3 the nomination for designation;

4 (C) information with respect to how the  
5 nomination was coordinated with potential part-  
6 ners;

7 (D) a description of supporting stake-  
8 holders, such as States, Indian Tribes, local  
9 governments, scientific organizations, non-  
10 governmental organizations, and affected vol-  
11 untary private landowners; and

12 (E) any additional information the Secre-  
13 taries, in consultation with the National Coordi-  
14 nation Committee, determine is relevant to the  
15 nomination.

16 **SEC. 11203. MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL WILDLIFE COR-**  
17 **RIDORS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretaries shall, consistent  
19 with other applicable Federal land and water management  
20 requirements, laws, and regulations, manage each Na-  
21 tional Wildlife Corridor under the respective administra-  
22 tive jurisdiction of the Secretaries in a manner that con-  
23 tributes to the long-term connectivity, persistence, resil-  
24 ience, and adaptability of native species for which the Na-  
25 tional Wildlife Corridor is identified, including through—

1           (1) the maintenance and improvement of habi-  
2           tat connectivity within the National Wildlife Cor-  
3           ridor;

4           (2) the implementation of strategies and activi-  
5           ties that enhance the ability of native species to re-  
6           spond to climate change and other environmental  
7           factors;

8           (3) the maintenance or restoration of the integ-  
9           rity and functionality of the National Wildlife Cor-  
10          ridor;

11          (4) the mitigation or removal of human infra-  
12          structure that obstructs the natural movement of  
13          native species; and

14          (5) the use of existing conservation programs,  
15          including Tribal Wildlife Corridors, under the re-  
16          spective jurisdiction of the Secretaries to contribute  
17          to the connectivity, persistence, resilience, and  
18          adaptability of native species.

19          (b) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS SPANNING  
20          MULTIPLE JURISDICTIONS.—In the case of a National  
21          Wildlife Corridor that spans the administrative jurisdic-  
22          tion of two or more of the Secretaries, the relevant Secre-  
23          taries shall coordinate management of the National Wild-  
24          life Corridor in accordance with section 11301(b) to ad-  
25          vance the purposes described in section 11201(b).

1 (c) ROAD MITIGATION.—In the case of a National  
2 Wildlife Corridor that intersects, adjoins, or crosses a new  
3 or existing State, Tribal, or local road or highway, the rel-  
4 evant Secretaries shall coordinate with the Secretary of  
5 Transportation and State, Tribal, and local transportation  
6 agencies, as appropriate, to identify and implement vol-  
7 untary environmental mitigation measures—

8 (1) to improve public safety and reduce vehicle  
9 caused native species mortality while maintaining  
10 habitat connectivity; and

11 (2) to mitigate damage to the natural move-  
12 ments of native species through strategies such as—

13 (A) the construction, maintenance, or re-  
14 placement of native species underpasses, over-  
15 passes, and culverts; and

16 (B) the maintenance, replacement, or re-  
17 moval of dams, bridges, culverts, and other  
18 hydrological obstructions.

19 (d) COMPATIBLE USES.—A use of Federal land or  
20 water that was authorized before the date on which the  
21 Federal land or water is designated as a National Wildlife  
22 Corridor may continue if the applicable Secretaries deter-  
23 mine that the use is compatible with the wildlife move-  
24 ments of the species for which the National Wildlife Cor-

1 ridor was designated, consistent with applicable Federal  
2 laws and regulations.

3 **TITLE II—WILDLIFE CORRIDORS**  
4 **CONSERVATION**

5 **SEC. 11301. COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION.**

6 (a) COLLABORATION.—The Secretaries may partner  
7 with and provide funds to States, local governments, In-  
8 dian Tribes, the National Coordination Committee, vol-  
9 untary private landowners, and the regional wildlife move-  
10 ment councils to support the purposes described in section  
11 11201(b).

12 (b) COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent prac-  
13 ticable and consistent with applicable law, the Secretary  
14 or Secretaries, as applicable, shall develop the strategy  
15 under section 11201(b), designate National Wildlife Cor-  
16 ridors under section 11202, and manage National Wildlife  
17 Corridors under section 11203—

- 18 (1) in consultation and coordination with—
- 19 (A) other relevant Federal agencies;
  - 20 (B) States, including—
    - 21 (i) State fish and wildlife agencies;
    - 22 and
    - 23 (ii) other State agencies responsible
    - 24 for managing the natural resources and
    - 25 wildlife;

- 1 (C) Indian Tribes;
- 2 (D) units of local government;
- 3 (E) other interested stakeholders identified  
4 by the Secretary, including applicable voluntary  
5 private landowners;
- 6 (F) landscape- and seascape-scale partner-  
7 ships, including—
- 8 (i) the National Fish Habitat Part-  
9 nership;
- 10 (ii) the National Marine Fisheries  
11 Service;
- 12 (iii) regional fishery management  
13 councils established under section 302(a)  
14 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Con-  
15 servation and Management Act (16 U.S.C.  
16 1852(a));
- 17 (iv) relevant regional ocean partner-  
18 ships;
- 19 (v) the Climate Science Centers of the  
20 Department of the Interior; and
- 21 (vi) the Landscape Conservation Co-  
22 operative Network;
- 23 (G) the National Coordination Committee;
- 24 and



1 (H) the regional wildlife movement coun-  
2 cils.

3 **SEC. 11302. EFFECT.**

4 (a) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER CONSERVATION  
5 LAWS.—Nothing in this title amends or otherwise affects  
6 any other law (including regulations) relating to the con-  
7 servation of native species.

8 (b) JURISDICTION OF STATES AND INDIAN  
9 TRIBES.—Nothing in this title or an amendment made by  
10 this title affects the jurisdiction of a State or an Indian  
11 Tribe with respect to fish and wildlife management, in-  
12 cluding the regulation of hunting, fishing, and trapping,  
13 in a National Wildlife Corridor or a Tribal Wildlife Cor-  
14 ridor.

15 **SEC. 11303. TRIBAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.**

16 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—

18 (A) NOMINATIONS.—An Indian Tribe may  
19 nominate a corridor within Indian land of the  
20 Indian Tribe as a Tribal Wildlife Corridor by  
21 submitting to the Secretary, in consultation  
22 with the Director of the Bureau of Indian Af-  
23 fairs (referred to in this section as the “Sec-  
24 retary”), an application at such time, in such

1 manner, and containing such information as the  
2 Secretary may require.

3 (B) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 90  
4 days after the date on which the Secretary re-  
5 ceives an application under subparagraph (A),  
6 the Secretary shall determine whether the nomi-  
7 nated Tribal Wildlife Corridor described in the  
8 application meets the criteria established under  
9 paragraph (2).

10 (C) PUBLICATION.—On approval of an ap-  
11 plication under subparagraph (B), the Sec-  
12 retary shall publish in the Federal Register a  
13 notice of the establishment of the Tribal Wild-  
14 life Corridor, which shall include a map and  
15 legal description of the land designated as a  
16 Tribal Wildlife Corridor.

17 (2) CRITERIA.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18  
19 months after the date of enactment of this Act,  
20 the Secretary shall establish criteria for deter-  
21 mining whether a corridor nominated by an In-  
22 dian Tribe under paragraph (1)(A) qualifies as  
23 a Tribal Wildlife Corridor.

1 (B) INCLUSIONS.—The criteria established  
2 under subparagraph (A) shall include, at a min-  
3 imum, the following:

4 (i) The restoration of historical habi-  
5 tat for the purposes of facilitating  
6 connectivity.

7 (ii) The management of land for the  
8 purposes of facilitating connectivity.

9 (iii) The management of land to pre-  
10 vent the imposition of barriers that may  
11 hinder current or future connectivity.

12 (3) REMOVAL.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—An Indian Tribe may  
14 elect to remove the designation of a Tribal  
15 Wildlife Corridor on the Indian land of the In-  
16 dian Tribe by notifying the Secretary.

17 (B) EFFECT OF REMOVAL.—An Indian  
18 Tribe that elects to remove a designation under  
19 subparagraph (A) may not receive assistance  
20 under subsection (c) or (d)(1) or section 11305.

21 (b) COORDINATION OF LAND USE PLANS.—Section  
22 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of  
23 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “Indian tribes by” and in-  
2 serting the following: Indian tribes—

3 “(1) by”;

4 (B) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by  
5 striking the period at the end and inserting “;  
6 and”; and

7 (C) by adding at the end the following:

8 “(2) for the purposes of determining whether  
9 the land use plans for land in the National Forest  
10 System would provide additional connectivity to ben-  
11 efit the purposes of a Tribal Wildlife Corridor estab-  
12 lished under section 11303(a)(1) of the Wildlife Cor-  
13 ridors Conservation Act of 2021.”; and

14 (2) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(g) TRIBAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.—On the estab-  
16 lishment of a Tribal Wildlife Corridor under section  
17 11303(a)(1) of the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act of  
18 2021, the Secretary shall conduct a meaningful consulta-  
19 tion with the Indian tribe that administers the Tribal  
20 Wildlife Corridor to determine whether, through the revi-  
21 sion of one or more existing land use plans, the Tribal  
22 Wildlife Corridor can—

23 “(1) be expanded into public lands; or

1           “(2) otherwise benefit connectivity (as defined  
2           in section 11102 of that Act) between public lands  
3           and the Tribal Wildlife Corridor.”.

4           (c) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary shall  
5           provide to Indian Tribes technical assistance relating to  
6           the establishment, management, and expansion of a Tribal  
7           Wildlife Corridor, including assistance with accessing wild-  
8           life data and working with voluntary private landowners  
9           to access Federal and State programs to improve wildlife  
10          habitat and connectivity on non-Federal land.

11          (d) **AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE.**—An Indian Tribe  
12          that has a Tribal Wildlife Corridor established on the In-  
13          dian land of the Indian Tribe shall be eligible for a grant  
14          under the wildlife movements grant program under section  
15          11305, subject to other applicable requirements of that  
16          grant program.

17          (e) **SAVINGS CLAUSE.**—Nothing in this section au-  
18          thorizes or affects the use of private property or Indian  
19          land.

20          **SEC. 11304. PROTECTION OF INDIAN TRIBES.**

21          (a) **FEDERAL TRUST RESPONSIBILITY.**—Nothing in  
22          this title amends, alters, or waives the Federal trust re-  
23          sponsibility to Indian Tribes.

24          (b) **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.**—

1           (1) EXEMPTION.—Information described in  
2 paragraph (2) shall not be subject to disclosure  
3 under section 552 of title 5, United States Code  
4 (commonly known as the “Freedom of Information  
5 Act”), if the head of the agency that receives the in-  
6 formation, in consultation with the Secretary and  
7 the affected Indian Tribe, determines that disclosure  
8 may—

9                   (A) cause a significant invasion of privacy;

10                   (B) risk harm to human remains or re-  
11 sources, cultural items, uses, or activities; or

12                   (C) impede the use of a traditional reli-  
13 gious site by practitioners.

14           (2) INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—Information  
15 referred to in paragraph (1) is information received  
16 by a Federal agency—

17                   (A) pursuant to this title relating to—

18                           (i) the location, character, or owner-  
19 ship of human remains of a person of In-  
20 dian ancestry; or

21                           (ii) resources, cultural items, uses, or  
22 activities identified by an Indian Tribe as  
23 traditional or cultural because of the long-  
24 established significance or ceremonial na-  
25 ture to the Indian Tribe; or

1 (B) pursuant to the Native American  
2 Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25  
3 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

4 **SEC. 11305. WILDLIFE MOVEMENTS GRANT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a  
6 wildlife movements grant program (referred to in this sec-  
7 tion as the “grant program”) to encourage wildlife move-  
8 ment in accordance with this subsection.

9 (b) GRANTS.—Beginning not later than 2 years after  
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, based  
11 on recommendations from the National Coordination  
12 Committee under section 11306(e)(2)(C), shall make  
13 grants to one or more projects that—

14 (1) are a regional priority project identified by  
15 a regional wildlife movement council;

16 (2) satisfy the purposes described in section  
17 11201(b); and

18 (3) increase connectivity for native species.

19 (c) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—A person that is eligible  
20 to receive a grant under the grant program is—

21 (1) a voluntary private landowner or group of  
22 landowners;

23 (2) a State fish and wildlife agency or other  
24 State agency responsible for managing natural re-  
25 sources and wildlife;

- 1           (3) an Indian Tribe;
- 2           (4) a unit of local government;
- 3           (5) an agricultural cooperative;
- 4           (6) water, irrigation, or rural water districts or
- 5           associations, or other organizations with water deliv-
- 6           ery authority (including acequias and land grant
- 7           communities in the State of New Mexico);
- 8           (7) institutions of higher education;
- 9           (8) an entity approved for a grant by a regional
- 10          wildlife movement council; and
- 11          (9) any group of entities described in para-
- 12          graphs (1) through (8).

13          (d) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In administering the grant

14          program, the Secretary shall use the criteria, guidelines,

15          contracts, reporting requirements, and evaluation metrics

16          developed by the National Coordination Committee under

17          subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 11306(e)(2).

18          **SEC. 11306. NATIONAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE.**

19          (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—Not later than 18 months

20          after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall

21          establish a committee, to be known as the “National Co-

22          ordination Committee”.

23          (b) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.**—The Secretary shall

24          provide administrative support for the National Coordina-

25          tion Committee.



1 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—The National Coordination Com-  
2 mittee shall be composed of—

3 (1) the Secretary (or a designee);

4 (2) the Secretary of Transportation (or a des-  
5 igned);

6 (3) the Secretary of Agriculture (or a designee);

7 (4) the Secretary of Commerce (or a designee);

8 (5) the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
9 (or a designee);

10 (6) the Executive Director of the Association of  
11 Fish and Wildlife Agencies (or a designee);

12 (7) two representatives of intertribal organiza-  
13 tions, to be appointed by the Secretary;

14 (8) the chairperson of each regional wildlife  
15 movement council (or a designee); and

16 (9) not more than three representatives of non-  
17 governmental, science, or academic organizations  
18 with expertise in wildlife conservation and habitat  
19 connectivity, to be appointed by the Secretary in a  
20 manner that ensures that the membership of the  
21 National Coordination Committee is fair and bal-  
22 anced.

23 (d) CHAIRPERSON.—The National Coordination  
24 Committee shall select a Chairperson and Vice Chair-

1 person from among the members of the National Coordi-  
2 nation Committee.

3 (e) DUTIES.—The National Coordination Com-  
4 mittee—

5 (1) shall establish standards for regional wild-  
6 life movement plans to allow for better cross-regional  
7 collaboration; and

8 (2) shall, with respect to the wildlife movements  
9 grant program under section 11305—

10 (A) establish criteria and develop guide-  
11 lines for the solicitation of applications for  
12 grants by regional wildlife movement councils;

13 (B) develop standardized contracts, report-  
14 ing requirements, and evaluation metrics for  
15 grant recipients; and

16 (C) make recommendations annually to the  
17 Secretary for the selection of grant recipients  
18 on the basis of the ranked lists of regional pri-  
19 ority projects received from the regional wildlife  
20 movement councils under section 11307(c)(4)  
21 that are consistent with the purposes described  
22 in section 11201(b).

23 (f) APPLICABILITY OF FACA.—Except as otherwise  
24 provided in this section, the Federal Advisory Committee

1 Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the National Coordina-  
2 tion Committee.

3 **SEC. 11307. REGIONAL WILDLIFE MOVEMENT COUNCILS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after  
5 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall es-  
6 tablish not less than 4 regional wildlife movement councils  
7 with separate geographic jurisdictions that encompass the  
8 entire United States.

9 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each regional wildlife move-  
11 ment council shall be composed of—

12 (A) the director of each State fish and  
13 wildlife agency within the jurisdiction of the re-  
14 gional wildlife movement council (or a des-  
15 ignee);

16 (B) balanced representation from Tribal  
17 governments within the jurisdiction of the re-  
18 gional wildlife movement council;

19 (C) to serve as a Federal agency liaison  
20 and nonvoting, ex officio member—

21 (i) the Director of the United States  
22 Fish and Wildlife Service (or a designee);

23 or

1 (ii) the director of any applicable re-  
2 gional office of the United States Fish and  
3 Wildlife Service (or a designee);

4 (D) not more than three representatives of  
5 nongovernmental, science, or academic organi-  
6 zations with expertise in native species con-  
7 servation and the habitat connectivity needs of  
8 the region covered by the regional wildlife move-  
9 ment council; and

10 (E) not more than three voluntary rep-  
11 resentatives of private landowners with property  
12 in the applicable region, not less than one of  
13 whom shall be a farmer or rancher.

14 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—

15 (A) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary shall  
16 ensure that the membership of each regional  
17 wildlife movement council is fair and balanced  
18 in terms of expertise and perspectives rep-  
19 resented.

20 (B) EXPERTISE.—Each regional wildlife  
21 movement council shall include experts in eco-  
22 logical connectivity, native species ecology, and  
23 ecological adaptation.

24 (3) CHAIRPERSON.—Each regional wildlife  
25 movement council shall select a Chairperson from

1 among the members of the regional wildlife move-  
2 ment council.

3 (c) DUTIES.—Each regional wildlife movement coun-  
4 cil shall—

5 (1) not later than 2 years after the date of es-  
6 tablishment of the regional wildlife movement coun-  
7 cil and in accordance with any standards established  
8 by the National Coordination Committee, prepare  
9 and submit to the Secretary and the National Co-  
10 ordination Committee a regional wildlife movement  
11 plan that maintains natural wildlife movement by  
12 identifying research priorities and data needs for the  
13 Database that is revised, amended, or updated not  
14 less frequently than once every 5 years;

15 (2) provide for public engagement, including en-  
16 gagement of Indian Tribes, at appropriate times and  
17 in appropriate locations in the region covered by the  
18 regional wildlife movement council, to allow all inter-  
19 ested persons an opportunity to be heard in the de-  
20 velopment and implementation of a regional wildlife  
21 movement plan under paragraph (1);

22 (3) solicit applications for wildlife movement  
23 grants under section 11305 in accordance with the  
24 criteria and guidelines established by the National  
25 Coordination Council under section 11306(e)(2)(A);

1           (4) in accordance with the criteria and guide-  
2 lines established under section 11306(e)(2)(A), sub-  
3 mit to the National Coordination Committee an an-  
4 nual list of regional priority projects, in ranked  
5 order, for wildlife movements grants under section  
6 11305 to maintain wildlife movements in the area  
7 under the jurisdiction of the regional wildlife move-  
8 ment council; and

9           (5) submit to the Secretary and the National  
10 Coordination Committee, and make publicly avail-  
11 able, an annual report describing the activities of the  
12 regional wildlife movement council.

13       (d) COORDINATION.—If applicable, to increase habi-  
14 tat connectivity between designated Federal land and  
15 water and non-Federal land and water, a regional wildlife  
16 movement council shall coordinate with—

17           (1) Federal agencies;

18           (2) Indian Tribes;

19           (3) regional fishery management councils estab-  
20 lished under section 302(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens  
21 Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16  
22 U.S.C. 1852(a));

23           (4) migratory bird joint ventures partnerships  
24 recognized by the United States Fish and Wildlife  
25 Service with respect to migratory bird species;

- 1 (5) State fish and wildlife agencies;
- 2 (6) regional associations of fish and wildlife
- 3 agencies;
- 4 (7) nongovernmental organizations;
- 5 (8) applicable voluntary private landowners;
- 6 (9) the National Coordination Committee;
- 7 (10) fish habitat partnerships;
- 8 (11) other regional wildlife movement councils
- 9 with respect to crossregional projects;
- 10 (12) international wildlife management entities
- 11 with respect to transboundary species in accordance
- 12 with trade policies of the United States; and
- 13 (13) Federal and State transportation agencies.

14 (e) **APPLICABILITY OF FACa.**—Except as otherwise  
15 provided in this section, the Federal Advisory Committee  
16 Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the regional wildlife  
17 movement councils.

18 **SEC. 11308. NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS DATABASE.**

19 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after  
20 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the  
21 United States Geological Survey (referred to in this sec-  
22 tion as the “Director”), in consultation with the National  
23 Coordination Committee and the regional wildlife move-  
24 ment councils, shall establish a database, to be known as  
25 the “National Wildlife Corridors Database”.

1 (b) CONTENTS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Database shall—

3 (A) include maps, data, models, surveys,  
4 and descriptions of native species habitats, wild-  
5 life movements, and corridors that have been  
6 developed by Federal agencies that pertain to  
7 Federal land and water;

8 (B) include maps, models, analyses, and  
9 descriptions of projected shifts in habitats, wild-  
10 life movements, and corridors of native species  
11 in response to climate change or other environ-  
12 mental factors;

13 (C) reflect the best scientific data and in-  
14 formation available; and

15 (D) in accordance with the requirements of  
16 the Geospatial Data Act of 2018 (Public Law  
17 115–254), have the data, models, and analyses  
18 included in the Database available at scales  
19 useful to State, Tribal, local, and Federal agen-  
20 cy decisionmakers and the public.

21 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—Subject to subsection (d), the  
22 Director, in collaboration with the National Coordination  
23 Committee, the regional wildlife movement councils, and  
24 the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
25 pheric Administration, shall—



1           (1) design the Database to support State, Trib-  
2           al, local, voluntary private landowner, and Federal  
3           agency decisionmakers and the public with data that  
4           will allow those entities—

5                   (A) to prioritize and target natural re-  
6                   source adaptation strategies and enhance exist-  
7                   ing State and Tribal corridor protections;

8                   (B) to assess the impacts of proposed en-  
9                   ergy, water, transportation, and transmission  
10                  projects, and other development activities, and  
11                  to avoid, minimize, and mitigate the impacts of  
12                  those projects and activities on National Wild-  
13                  life Corridors;

14                  (C) to assess the impact of new and exist-  
15                  ing development on native species habitats and  
16                  National Wildlife Corridors; and

17                  (D) to develop strategies that promote  
18                  habitat connectivity to allow native species to  
19                  move—

20                           (i) to meet biological and ecological  
21                           needs;

22                           (ii) to adjust to shifts in habitat; and

23                           (iii) to adapt to climate change;

24           (2) establish a coordination process among Fed-  
25           eral agencies to update maps and other information

1 with respect to landscapes, seascapes, native species  
2 habitats and ranges, habitat connectivity, National  
3 Wildlife Corridors, and wildlife movement changes as  
4 information based on new scientific data becomes  
5 available; and

6 (3) not later than 5 years after the date of en-  
7 actment of this Act, and not less frequently than  
8 once every 5 years thereafter, develop, submit a re-  
9 port to the Secretary and the appropriate commit-  
10 tees of Congress, and make publicly available a re-  
11 port, that, with respect to the Database—

12 (A) outlines the categories for data that  
13 may be included in the Database;

14 (B) outlines the data protocols and stand-  
15 ards for each category of data in the Database;

16 (C) identifies gaps in native species habitat  
17 and National Wildlife Corridor information;

18 (D) prioritizes research and future data  
19 collection activities for use in updating the  
20 Database; and

21 (E) evaluates and quantifies the efficacy of  
22 the Database to meet the needs of the entities  
23 described in paragraph (1).

1 (d) PROPRIETARY INTERESTS AND PROTECTED IN-  
2 FORMATION.—In developing the Database, the Director  
3 shall—

4 (1) as applicable, protect proprietary interests  
5 with respect to any licensed information, licensed  
6 data, and other items contained in the Database;  
7 and

8 (2) protect information in the Database with  
9 respect to the habitats and ranges of specific native  
10 species to prevent poaching, illegal taking and trap-  
11 ping, and other related threats to native species.

## 12 **TITLE III—FUNDING**

### 13 **SEC. 11401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

14 (a) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDOR SYSTEM.—  
15 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out title  
16 I for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter—

17 (1) to the Secretary, \$7,500,000;

18 (2) to the Secretary of Agriculture, \$3,000,000;

19 (3) to the Secretary of Commerce, \$3,000,000;

20 and

21 (4) to the Secretary of Transportation,  
22 \$3,000,000.

23 (b) TRIBAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS.—There is au-  
24 thorized to be appropriated to carry out title II

1 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year there-  
2 after.

3 (c) WILDLIFE MOVEMENTS GRANT PROGRAM AND  
4 REGIONAL WILDLIFE MOVEMENT COUNCILS.—

5 (1) WILDLIFE MOVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to  
7 be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out  
8 the wildlife movements grant program under  
9 section 11305 \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2022  
10 and each fiscal year thereafter.

11 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—Amounts appro-  
12 priated under subparagraph (A) may be used to  
13 complement or match other Federal or non-  
14 Federal funding received by the projects funded  
15 by those grants.

16 (C) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—Not  
17 more than 5 percent of amounts appropriated  
18 under subparagraph (A) may be used for ad-  
19 ministrative support.

20 (2) REGIONAL WILDLIFE MOVEMENT COUN-  
21 CILS.—

22 (A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to  
23 be appropriated to the Secretary to provide sup-  
24 port for the regional wildlife movement councils

1 to carry out section 11307 \$1,000,000 for fiscal  
2 year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter.

3 (B) EQUAL DIVISION.—Amounts appro-  
4 priated under subparagraph (A) shall be pro-  
5 portionally divided between each regional wild-  
6 life movement council.

7 (d) NATIONAL WILDLIFE CORRIDORS DATABASE.—  
8 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary  
9 to carry out section 11308—

10 (1) \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2020; and

11 (2) \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2021 and each  
12 fiscal year thereafter.

