

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Important update of the HIGHWAY 10 ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY PLAN (KM 74 TO 121)

A renewed vision that incorporates the conservation and restoration of natural areas of interest along the highway – August 2026



WHY ACT?

Highway 10 (H10) is one of the main obstacles to ecological connectivity in the Appalachian Mountains in southern Quebec. It fragments natural habitats, which limits wildlife movement, increases the risk of collisions with motor vehicles and affects species' ability to adapt to climate change.

To address this issue, Appalachian Corridor has updated its Highway 10 Ecological Connectivity Plan to provide an integrated vision of ecological conservation and restoration in the ecological corridors touching the highway, as well as the installation of wildlife crossings in priority areas.

AN IMPORTANT UPDATE

The Highway 10 Ecological Connectivity Plan has been enhanced to provide a more complete vision of actions to take over the next several decades to protect the ecological network over the long term. While the previous plan mainly focused on wildlife crossings, this version updates knowledge of the ecological network and the road ecology of Highway 10 while expanding the scope of the plan.

The new components

CONSERVATION

Identification of properties whose conservation would be a priority for ecological connectivity in the study area

RESTORATION

Identification of areas with restoration potential in the ecological corridors

ACTION PLAN

Definition of priority actions and partners to call on to ensure the Plan is implemented

Partenaires financiers

KEY POINTS

98 ha

of natural areas to be restored in the corridors touching H10

7 priority areas

along H10 targeted for new wildlife crossings and optimization of current structures

955 ha

of priority properties for conservation in the corridors

7 crossings

at minimum for small- and medium-size wildlife

4 crossings

at minimum for large wildlife

80%

potential reduction in collisions with wildlife

\$2.7M

estimated annual savings

A ROADMAP FOR THE NEXT 20 YEARS

The four main focuses of the action plan

Improve H10's permeability for wildlife

→ Optimize existing structures, set up new wildlife crossings, install fences and reduce collisions with wildlife.

See to the conservation of natural areas of interest for ecological connectivity

→ Integrate conservation priorities into land-use planning and implement conservation approaches in the natural areas of priority properties.

Carry out restoration projects for ecological connectivity

→ Carry out planting projects, restore riparian buffer strips and improve habitat quality in the ecological corridors.

Rally local actors and make sure the plan is implemented

→ Strengthen consultation, develop partnerships and support those involved in implementing the plan.

AN INTEGRATED VISION TO CONSERVE, RESTORE AND RECONNECT NATURAL AREAS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIVITY OF THE NORTHERN GREEN MOUNTAINS

Partenaires financiers