

Region 2 Barrier ID: W012 (Priority Barrier).

Barrier Name: I-80 Truckee River Canyon, bisects Sierra Nevada.

Linear Infrastructure: I-80.

Geographic Area: Nevada and Sierra County, Truckee River Canyon near Nevada border.

Length: 18.29 km (11.37 mi).

Target Species: Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*), mountain lion (*Puma concolor*), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), Rocky Mountain elk (*Cervus canadensis nelsoni*).

Connectivity Concerns: I-80 has become a barrier for most wildlife who rarely attempt to cross at grade. The canyon has linear barriers that include the Interstate, the Truckee River, and railroad tracks. I-80 bisects the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range at an elevation that is important for climate refugia. The Loyalton-Truckee Deer Herd, Verdi Sub-Herd migrates between Truckee and Verdi along and across I-80. Terrain is steep and there are river crossings and two existing box culverts that do provide areas to safely move under I-80.

Remediation Goals: Expand existing infrastructure such as culverts and river crossings, create new overpass and wildlife exclusion fencing where feasible.



Figure: I-80 from the intersection with Stampede Meadows Road to Mystic is a Region 2 priority wildlife connectivity barrier.