

Region 5 Barrier ID: W045 (Priority Barrier).

Barrier Name: Wildlife infrastructure plan for SR-94.

Linear Infrastructure: SR-94.

Geographic Area: East of San Diego, south of Jamul.

Length: 23.63 km (14.69 mi).

Target Species: Mountain lion (*Puma concolor*), deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), American badger (*Taxidea taxus*).

Connectivity Concerns: State Route 94 (SR-94), among other roads, cuts through the heart of this core area, potentially impeding wildlife movement across otherwise intact landscapes. New residential development and a casino under construction in Jamul, CA will increase traffic and potentially impact the wildlife value and connectivity of adjacent conserved lands. Wildlife mortalities caused by vehicle strikes also occur regularly along this stretch.

Remediation Goals: Proposed road improvements associated with these new land uses provide an opportunity to mitigate the potential barrier effects of SR-94. The majority of the recommendations for infrastructure improvement focus on increasing the diameter, and thus the openness ratio (cross-sectional area divided by length), of the undercrossing itself, removing vegetation and debris blocking the undercrossing, restoring habitat in the approach to the undercrossing, and installing fencing to both (1) keep animals off the highway and (2) funnel wildlife to the undercrossings. Monitoring wildlife movement should help inform placement of new undercrossings and evaluate their effectiveness post-construction.



Figure: SR-94 east of San Diego, south of Jamul is a Region 5 priority wildlife connectivity barrier.