

# Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y)



## What is Y2Y?

Y2Y connects and protects habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive. We work in Canada, the United States and at the global level by taking a scientific and collaborative approach to conservation. We have worked with more than 465 partners, including conservation groups, landowners, businesses, scientists, agencies, and many Indigenous governments, communities and organizations. Today, Y2Y is recognized as one of the planet's leading mountain conservation initiatives.

The Y2Y Initiative works at a scale that matters to nature in a region that still provides intact habitat at a scale that nature needs. The Yellowstone to Yukon region is:

- 502,000 miles<sup>2</sup> (1.3 million km<sup>2</sup>) or equivalent in size to twice that of Texas or Alberta.
- Home to a full suite of wildlife that have been present since the ice age.
- The source of clean, safe drinking water for millions of people.
- Big and intact enough to provide the space for plants and animals to shift their ranges as the climate changes.

## How is Y2Y different from other conservation initiatives?

Y2Y is the only organization dedicated to securing the long-term ecological health of this entire region and our continental-scale perspective makes Y2Y's approach unique. We highlight and focus on local, regional, national and global issues that have implications for the region, and work with key people to connect and protect this landscape while helping to ensure its human communities can thrive.

## How has Y2Y's work progressed in the past 25-plus years?

For more than two decades, the actions of Y2Y, our partners, and others in the region, have resulted in a **more than 80 percent increase in key protected area growth**. Y2Y has specifically contributed to the protection of wildlife corridors through the acquisition of more than **550,000ac (~222,000ha) of private land** with partners and the addition of **more than 117 wildlife-crossing structures** on busy roads. In Banff National Park alone, crossing structures have reduced collisions by **more than 80 percent**, saving lives and keeping animals moving.

## Our Vision

An interconnected system of wild lands and waters stretching from Yellowstone to Yukon, harmonizing the needs of people and nature.

## Our Mission

Connecting and protecting habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive.

## How can I get involved with Y2Y?

- Sign-up for our e-newsletter at [y2y.net/join](http://y2y.net/join)
- Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or YouTube.
- Make an online gift at [www.y2y.net/donate](http://www.y2y.net/donate).
- Host a fundraiser. Contact us to get the details.

Here are some of the ways you are helping make a difference for people and nature:

**HABITAT:** Y2Y's work identifies core wildlife habitat under risk of development and finds ways to protect it. We help heal damaged landscapes to increase and improve habitat available for wildlife. Since 1993, the actions of Y2Y, our partners and others in the region, have resulted in more than 80 percent increase in key protected area growth. This includes supporting a growing number of Indigenous-led conservation efforts.

**CONNECTIVITY:** By working with willing property owners, Y2Y has helped advance more than 550,000 acres (~222,500 ha) of private land conservation in key wildlife linkages. Y2Y advocates for infrastructure to keep wildlife connected. The Yellowstone to Yukon region now has more wildlife underpasses, overpasses and fencing than anywhere else in the world.

**COMMUNITIES:** Since 1993, Y2Y has helped bring more than \$60-million of new conservation funding into the Yellowstone to Yukon region to keep conservation moving forward on the ground, and long supported the proven education programs and tools that keep communities and animals safe.

**SCIENCE, KNOWLEDGE & POLICY:** Y2Y collaborates on and delivers the best available science and knowledge to empower decision-makers and expand understanding of species in a way that helps us develop effective conservation strategies in support of our mission and vision. Y2Y has also engaged in the creation of global guidelines for habitat connectivity, area-based conservation targets and their use in law and policy to implementation.

- Yellowstone to Yukon region
- Protected areas before 1993
- Protected in 1993 and after

A peer-reviewed paper published in *Conservation Science and Practice* shows not only is the uniquely collaborative Yellowstone to Yukon vision working, but it is also achieving conservation goals at an accelerated rate.

Map: Wapiti Studios

Each year we move closer to achieving our bold mission thanks to YOU, our community of supporters and partners.

### Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

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