

SAVING OUR PLANET'S
LAST WILD MOUNTAIN REGION
BEGINS WITH



You have an **unprecedented opportunity** to conserve the world's most intact remaining large mountain region.

WILL YOU JOIN US?



The time is now.

We all value fresh, clean water and share the thrill of seeing animals like grizzly bears, elk and caribou thriving in their natural habitat.

But human development is rapidly encroaching on that habitat. Too often, short-sighted and inadequate government policies and practices, and unsustainable economies, are degrading and breaking up the landscape.

A heartbreaking 1 million species globally are threatened with extinction, many within decades, and just 3% of the world's land remains ecologically intact – with dire consequences on nature that also infringe on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

And here, in our beloved Rocky Mountains, irreversible losses have already occurred in our lifetime.

Melting glaciers contribute less and less to our rivers and watersheds. Climate-exacerbated wildfires are devastating some ecosystems and human communities alike, while long-term droughts endanger native fisheries, and ranches that also depend on the region's healthy, wild rivers. Deforestation, extraction and human development diminish habitat for grizzly bears, wolverines and caribou. Highways and railways cut off movement and migration routes needed for many species' long-term survival.

A recent UN climate report stated:

“It's now or never.”



But from Yellowstone to the Yukon, hope is being reignited.

There's a mountain landscape that's still largely wild, right in your North American backyard. In fact, it's the most intact large mountain landscape on the planet. And that's not by accident. It's because people like you, from all backgrounds, came together to make sure it stayed that way.



“This intact landscape is so important – it’s a gift. We absolutely have to preserve it for future generations – to do whatever we can to enable it to survive, especially with so many people coming to mountain communities now.”

SUE M., MONTANA

An approach to conservation at the scale nature needs.

In 1993, a group of scientists, conservationists and dreamers, like you, recognized the need to keep the Yellowstone to Yukon region wild.



New research showed that animals use habitats on much larger scales than previously thought.

They set an unprecedented goal: to approach conservation at a scale that nature needs.

To think beyond the traditional park system, to change how land is managed and conserved across a 2,100-mile Rocky Mountain landscape, stretching from Yellowstone in Wyoming to the Arctic Circle in Yukon.

The bold and ambitious vision of an interconnected system of wild lands and waters stretching from Yellowstone to Yukon, harmonizing the needs of people with those of nature was formed.

And thanks to people like you, it's working.

People make this vision happen.

This landscape and the wildlife that reside here are simply too precious to lose.

Some 700 partners and a community of people who care about nature have banded together to achieve the Yellowstone to Yukon vision. Coming from different backgrounds and countries, they unite to collaborate and to transcend borders; to understand the needs of wildlife through new science, and to creatively find solutions to complex issues.

The science and knowledge, tools and approaches Y2Y has been gathering, developing and sharing have already become a model and inspiration for others.

With your help, we can build on that momentum to achieve on-the-ground and higher-level enabling policies here and around the world – at the scale that nature needs.



Y2Y is a collaborative effort between a U.S. non-profit organization and a Canadian public charity that together connect and protect habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive.

We collaborate with our diverse partners to implement and inspire local, regional, and global conservation and management solutions for generations to come. We connect groups, resources and ideas to advance conservation of the Yellowstone to Yukon region and inspire people to take action.

The wolf that changed the conversation...



Between 1991 and 1993, Pluie, a wolf radio-collared in southern Alberta, set out on a journey that covered an area 10 times the size of Yellowstone National Park and 15 times that of Banff National Park! As it turned out, she was not alone.

New technology traced the epic journeys of wide-ranging animals, such as Pluie, and the seasonal migrations of species like elk, mule deer and eagles.

It became clear – restricting animals like these to “islands” of habitat such as Yellowstone National Park was actually decreasing their ability to survive the future.

This wake-up call inspired a movement and changed the course of conservation.

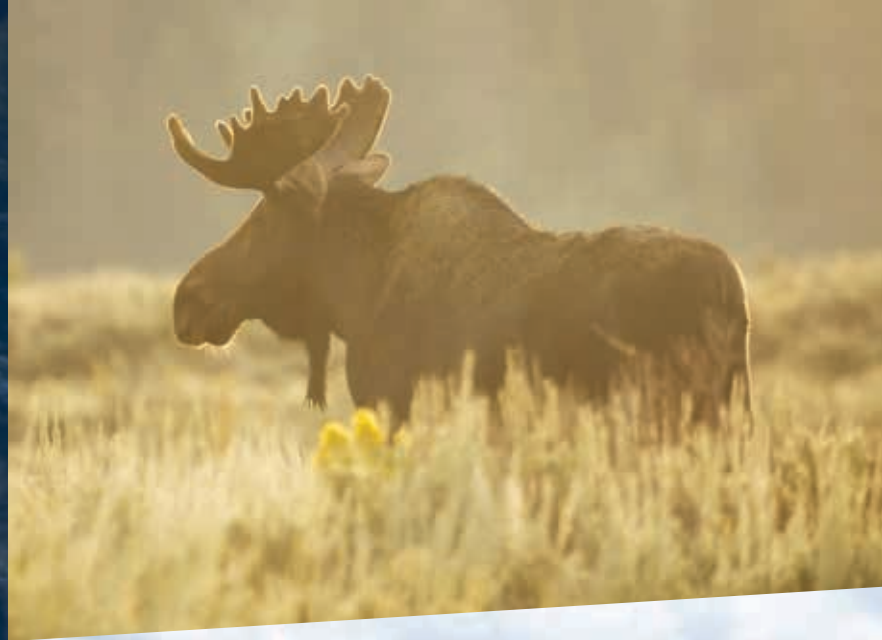


Photo credit: K. Orndahl (bottom right).

The Y2Y Vision: It's big, it's bold – and thanks to people like you, it's working!



Today, the remarkable Yellowstone to Yukon landscape provides some of the highest biodiversity and largest intact wildlife habitat on the planet – and its wildest experiences.

The bold vision formed in 1993 is an integral part of that success.

A peer-reviewed scientific paper¹, shows not only is the uniquely collaborative Yellowstone to Yukon vision working, but that conservation would not have happened at the same rate without it.

This vision is working because people cared enough to do something to save nature. Imagine what can be done together in the next 30 years with YOUR help!

“We’ve watched through the years how the overpasses have taken off and become a success. We appreciate how they’re building out the plan in collaboration with private landowners. And the policy work is ALL so important. Y2Y is the convener of all these activities and it’s paying off.”

SCOTT SATTERFIELD & LAURA BROWN

¹Hebblewhite et al. 2021. CSP

Since 1993:*



Overall protection has increased by **80.5%**



The average size of new protected areas has grown by **56%**



117** wildlife highway crossing structures have been built, with more in the works



Bear numbers have more than **tripled** in U.S. designated grizzly recovery zones



Protected areas are being created nearly **twice as quickly**, far outpacing other regions and North America as a whole



Grizzly bear ranges have **started to expand** in the U.S., more than doubling in size

*This information displayed reflects a study that evaluated conservation progress in the Yellowstone to Yukon region from 1993 – 2018.

** 126 as of 2024

Photo credits: K. Bellefeuille, Banff National Park (top inset); V. van Zalinge (top left inset).

Nature: a climate solution.

The natural world plays an essential role in addressing the climate challenge.

That role includes taking carbon out of the atmosphere through photosynthesis and storing it. An intact and connected landscape allows for the movement of wildlife and the flow of water, and for natural processes like flood and drought control.

A third of the Earth is under the guardianship of Indigenous Peoples. Half of the forests are on their territories and 80% of biological diversity is on their lands.

If you care about the climate and wildlife, then you must care for habitat. And Indigenous-led conservation is a critical piece in restoring people's relationship with nature.

The Yellowstone to Yukon vision is a proven model to help get the balance between humans and nature right.

You can help to accelerate and scale it.

A world that is climate-resilient and filled with iconic wildlife, clean rivers, and communities with equal opportunities and rights to thrive is possible.

But we must act now.



Our journey is a special one, in a special place.
Where else can you walk in an iconic landscape for
hours, undisturbed... and see a mountain caribou,
a grizzly bear and a bald eagle all on the same day?

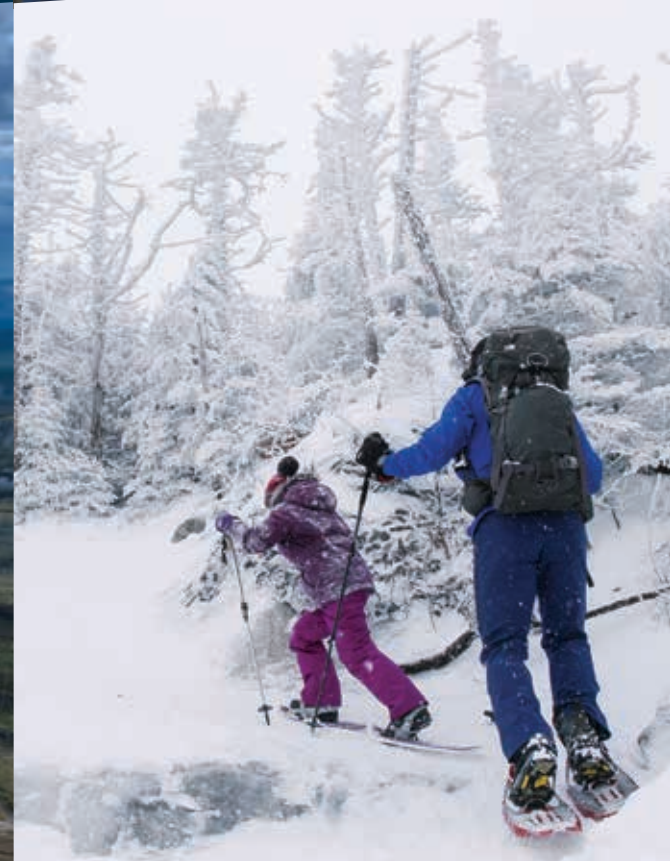


Photo credits: P. Mather, Yukon's Wind River (above); National Park Service / Jacob W Frank, Bunsen Peak (top right).

Getting the balance right...

How you can help people and nature thrive

When you partner with Y2Y, you support the science and Indigenous knowledge that shows which habitat best safeguards fresh water, stores carbon and benefits wildlife and people, as well as the work to protect it. You also help connect these spaces by restoring movement pathways.

Some of the most important places to tackle the climate challenge are found here in the Yellowstone to Yukon region – many are still unprotected. You can help change that.

Y2Y is overlaid across at least 75 Indigenous territories. By joining forces with Y2Y, you are supporting Indigenous-led conservation, and you are helping mobilize diverse sectors of communities to let decision-makers know that they value nature and support its protection.

The spaces in between protected areas are treasured by many. This is where we find agricultural lands, towns, roads, extractive industries, public lands and a multitude of recreational activities.

It's easy to see how the needs of people, wildlife and nature could be at odds with each other. But your investment in Y2Y bridges those gaps. You help bring people together from all walks of life – hunters, ranchers, scientists, bureaucrats, developers and more – to find creative solutions to address the needs of people and nature, not just on a local scale, but regionally and even globally.

This type of conservation, connection and inspiration must be done in our own backyard – and it must be done on a global scale.

The opportunity to do this is before us.

For the first time ever, both Canada and the United States, and more than 65 other countries, are committed to conserving 30% of land and water by 2030 (globally known as 30x30, and as “America the Beautiful” in the U.S.). They are committed to connectivity and to working with Indigenous communities to achieve these ends.

This initiative represents a time-limited opportunity to do more.

Let's get started.





"I give because I stand for environmental values. Throughout my life, I have tried to stand for environmental values. Many people take wildlife, clean water and air for granted. It is imperative that values like wildlife protection are not lost. My hope is that my current donations and legacy giving will assist Y2Y to continue their work of protecting the very special place that is the Yellowstone to Yukon corridor."

BOB, ALBERTA

Photo credits: J. McAllister (above), B. Wick (top right).





Here's what we can do together...

PROTECT

Protect 30 percent of the Yellowstone to Yukon region.

Through your investment, we will advance protection of close to 20,000 km² (50 million acres) of valuable habitat. Your investment will help:

- Ensure that the 14 million acres of Indigenous-led protections committed to by governments become officially designated protected areas
- Secure commitments for another 35 million acres of Indigenous-led protected area proposals
- Safeguard existing protected areas so that they are maintained and well-managed into the future

CONNECT

Safeguard four key wildlife corridors by restoring animal movement across the busiest roads and advancing private land conservation.

Your partnership will maintain and restore corridors for wildlife so they can safely cross private land and busy roads to meet their needs. Here's how:

- Advance voluntary private land conservation in four key corridors in the southern Y2Y region through small but ecologically significant parcels totalling 40 km² (10,000 acres)
- Support the construction of wildlife overpasses and underpasses, which ensure safe crossing places for wildlife across four key busy highways in the U.S.-Canada transboundary region
- Progress policies, programs and funding that strengthen and sustain the conservation of ecological corridors for the future



COMMUNITIES

Ensure communities incorporate tools and approaches that support what nature and people need at the Yellowstone to Yukon scale.

Your support will help ensure cultures and systems within communities across the Y2Y region to be vibrant, inclusive and support nature conservation. Your gift will:

- Improve recreation management to minimize impacts on nature while supporting people to enjoy the landscapes that they love
- Create respectful and inclusive spaces to acknowledge, support, and share Indigenous knowledge, relationships, and cultural connections with the natural world
- Help mountain communities understand, embrace, and adopt practices that promote co-existence between people and wildlife
- Assist decision-makers to plan development that limits sprawl, prioritizes wildlife habitat connectivity, and supports communities that are in harmony with nature and social well-being

Photo credit: A. Jacob.



“If we all help a little more, we’ll get this job done. Y2Y isn’t just saving one bear here or there or one parcel of land here or there... it’s the cumulative effect of all that work together. They’ve shown that it works. There’s more we can all do to help so we can get this job done.”

ANONYMOUS DONOR

You can help ensure grizzly bears roam these lands for years to come. Y2Y partnerships in the Cabinet-Purcell mountain region have provided a collaborative model that is already working. Your support will help expand that success and model to other places in the region.



MINI CASE STUDY:

Reconnecting Grizzly Bears

Healthy grizzly bear populations are a good sign of a healthy ecosystem – where they are thriving, most other species that share their habitat will benefit too.

An estimated 50,000 grizzly bears once ranged across the lower 48 states. Today, fewer than 2,000 remain. Those that do must navigate some of the fastest growing human communities on the continent. For grizzly bears to have a future here, isolated populations like those in Yellowstone must be safely connected to more robust populations of northern grizzlies in Canada.

Since Y2Y initiated the Cabinet-Purcell Collaborative in 2006, this transboundary network of more than 60 conservation and community groups, government agencies, scientists and individuals has been making sure that grizzlies and other wildlife have high-quality habitat and can move as they need to in key areas between the mountains.

It's working:

The vulnerable Cabinet-Yaak grizzly population along the U.S.-Canada border has grown from around 10 to more than 60 individuals. These strategic partnerships have largely secured three pathways through the “Cabinet-Purcell Mountain Corridor”, which stretches from British Columbia (B.C.) down into Montana. Studies now show that northern grizzly populations are starting to make their way south, expanding their range. Y2Y has expanded this effective collaborative approach south too, to western Montana. We're taking it to scale.

How you can help save grizzlies:

Y2Y is focused on saving the top 20 corridors in the U.S./Canada transboundary region that science tells us are critical if grizzly populations and other wildlife species are to reconnect and thrive.

You can support Y2Y and its partners:

- Work with willing landowners to improve land management and to purchase key parcels of land to improve connectivity in a landscape increasingly impacted by development;
- Make sure residents and visitors have the education and tools they need to live safely with wildlife; and
- Research the best places for bears to cross busy roads, and work with transportation agencies and other groups on initiatives like wildlife crossing structures for them to do so.





MINI CASE STUDY:

Making Highways Wildlife-Friendly

Keeping wildlife habitat connected in a way that also keeps animals off busy roads, and drivers and passengers safe, is a win-win situation.

Just north of the Canada-U.S. border, Highway 3 cuts across the Rocky Mountains through the southern portion of Alberta and B.C. At the dividing line between Banff National Park and Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park, it also connects Alberta with Montana.

Wildlife, from herds of elk to wolverine to grizzly bears, need to cross this road to move between the two key parks. Nine thousand vehicles travel this artery every day, bringing an increased likelihood of wildlife-vehicle collisions that result in human and wildlife deaths.

The costs are high. Human fatalities and injuries, vehicle damage and higher insurance premiums will continue. And if the problem isn't addressed, wolverines, grizzly bears and other large carnivore populations in the U.S. will become cut off from their larger populations to the north. The risk: extinction.

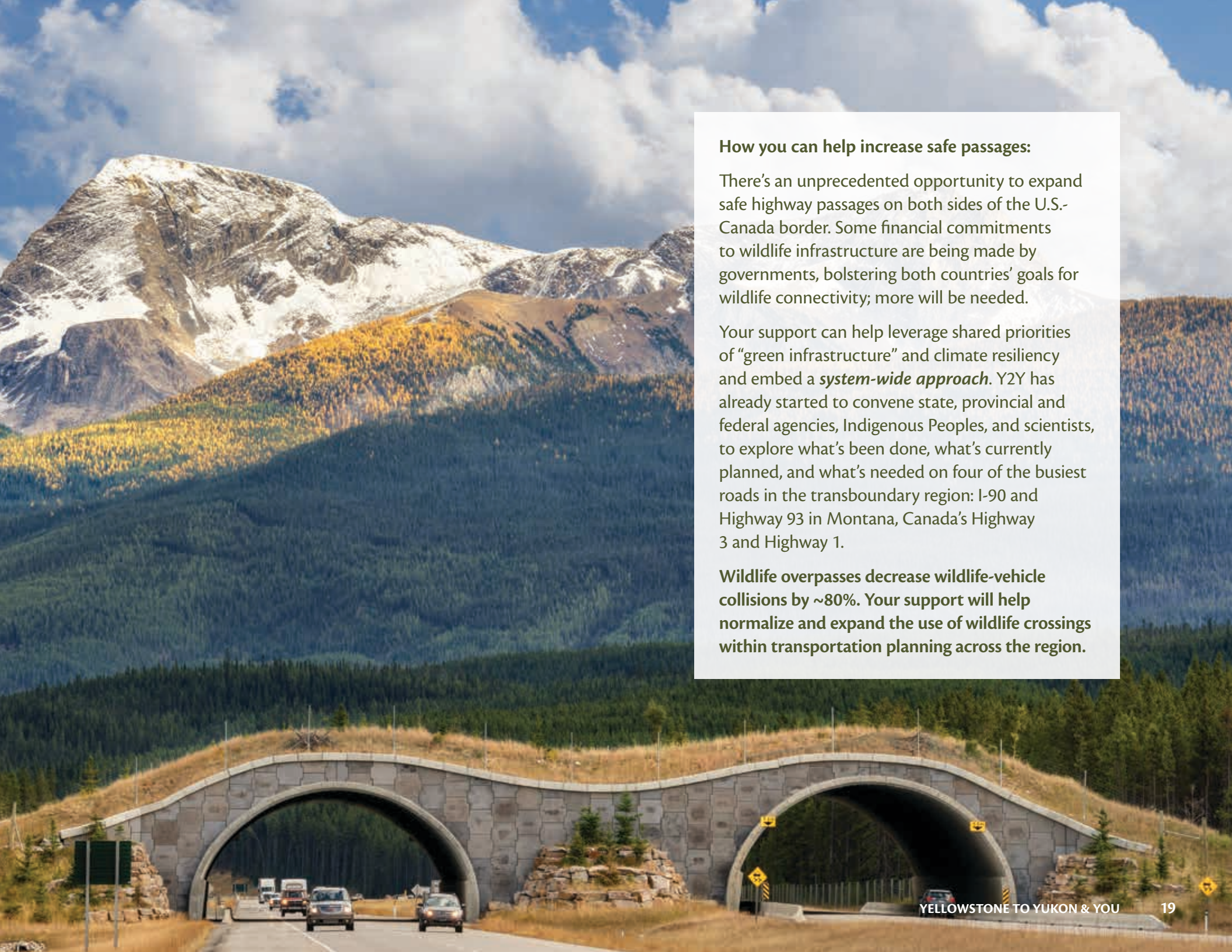
Y2Y is working with local conservation partners, transportation companies and agencies, and the public to study wildlife-vehicle collisions and plan for future crossing locations along Highway 3 – and we are taking similar approaches in other states, provinces and territories right across the transboundary region.

It's working:

The "Reconnecting the Rockies" project on the B.C. side of Highway 3 will provide a network of nine wildlife over- and underpasses over the next few years, adding to the 126 wildlife crossing structures across the Yellowstone to Yukon region.

We have also been engaged on the Alberta side of Highway 3, where fencing and a new underpass are already making a difference. And on Alberta's Highway 1, with tremendous support, the first overpass outside of a national park has just been completed between Calgary and Banff.

With 126 wildlife crossing structures currently in place, the Yellowstone to Yukon region has the largest network of wildlife crossings in the world. But to ensure this mountain ecosystem includes the animals we love, many more are needed.



How you can help increase safe passages:

There's an unprecedented opportunity to expand safe highway passages on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border. Some financial commitments to wildlife infrastructure are being made by governments, bolstering both countries' goals for wildlife connectivity; more will be needed.

Your support can help leverage shared priorities of "green infrastructure" and climate resiliency and embed a *system-wide approach*. Y2Y has already started to convene state, provincial and federal agencies, Indigenous Peoples, and scientists, to explore what's been done, what's currently planned, and what's needed on four of the busiest roads in the transboundary region: I-90 and Highway 93 in Montana, Canada's Highway 3 and Highway 1.

Wildlife overpasses decrease wildlife-vehicle collisions by ~80%. Your support will help normalize and expand the use of wildlife crossings within transportation planning across the region.



MINI CASE STUDY:

Indigenous-led Conservation

Indigenous-led conservation is a critical path forward to conserving land and wildlife.

Indigenous Peoples play a critical role in protecting biodiversity, and well-stewarded lands can help reduce the impacts of climate change. That's why we at Y2Y believe that Indigenous-led conservation is key to conserving the Yellowstone to Yukon region, including culturally significant plants and animals.

Throughout the region, Y2Y team members are building relationships with Indigenous governments, people and organizations. These collaborations are built on trust, mutual goals and respect.

It's working:

Indigenous-led efforts in northeastern B.C.'s Peace Region have brought a mountain caribou herd back from the brink of local extinction. West Moberly and Sauleau First Nations have blended short-term solutions, such as creating a 'maternal caribou pen' for the Klinse-za herd, with long-term habitat protection through a large new Indigenous-led Protected and Conserved Area. It's giving the nearly-extinct mountain caribou herd a new lease on life, while also providing a home that is only slightly smaller than Yellowstone National Park to a host of other wildlife.

Photo credits: R. Dickie (bottom left), Northern Focus (facing).



A photograph of a deer with antlers standing on a rocky, grassy hillside. The background shows a vast, hazy mountain range under a blue sky. The deer is facing right, looking towards the horizon.

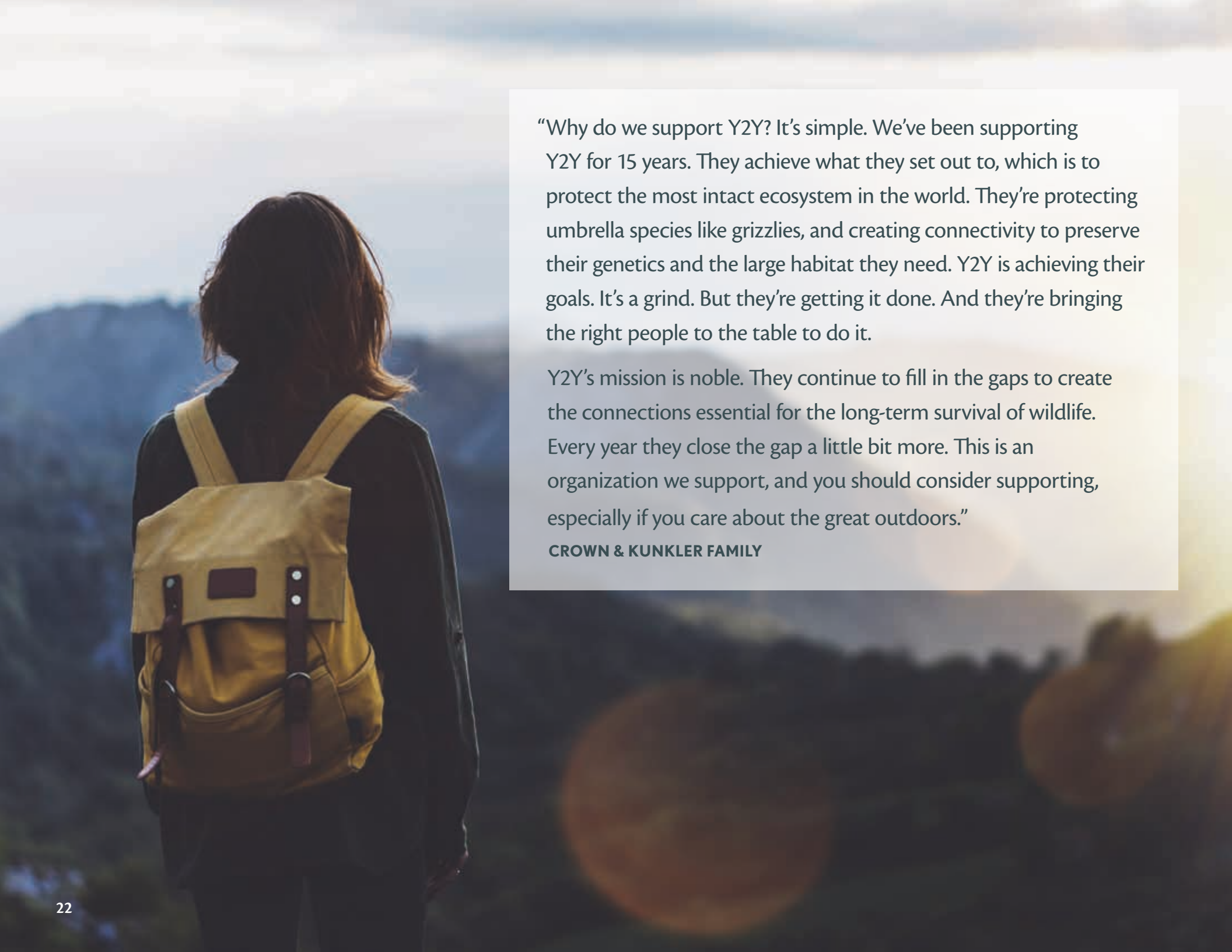
How you can support Indigenous-led conservation:

Your investment will enable Y2Y to continue to play a lead role in generating the public and political receptivity and support needed to ensure that Indigenous-led initiatives succeed.

In Canada, governments have clearly stated that new parks and protected areas will only move forward through Indigenous leadership. Indigenous communities who have long awaited to conserve their land, and whose conservation priorities align with Y2Y's, are looking to partner. Your support will keep these regions wild and help address the climate challenge.

South of the border, the Blues to Bitterroots Program – a one-of-a-kind collaboration led by the Nez Perce Tribe – is creating connections from the Blue Mountains in Oregon, through central Idaho, to the Bitterroot mountains of Montana. Success here will mean that wildlife populations rise and more species thrive.


By supporting Indigenous-led efforts you will help save some of the most important habitat, you are giving wildlife a chance to thrive, and you are helping tackle the climate challenge.

A person with long dark hair, seen from behind, wearing a black long-sleeved shirt and a yellow canvas backpack. They are standing on a trail, looking out over a vast, hazy mountain range under a bright sky. The scene is captured in a cinematic style with soft lighting.

“Why do we support Y2Y? It’s simple. We’ve been supporting Y2Y for 15 years. They achieve what they set out to, which is to protect the most intact ecosystem in the world. They’re protecting umbrella species like grizzlies, and creating connectivity to preserve their genetics and the large habitat they need. Y2Y is achieving their goals. It’s a grind. But they’re getting it done. And they’re bringing the right people to the table to do it.

Y2Y’s mission is noble. They continue to fill in the gaps to create the connections essential for the long-term survival of wildlife. Every year they close the gap a little bit more. This is an organization we support, and you should consider supporting, especially if you care about the great outdoors.”

CROWN & KUNKLER FAMILY



It's too precious to lose... Y2Y ~~OU~~ can save our planet's wildest mountain ecosystem

Your meaningful investments will help us double down on what works, and innovate new solutions and partnerships to save the Yellowstone to Yukon region while there's still time.

You're the reason why species like caribou and wolverine have real hope of survival, and grizzly bears are returning to many of their historic haunts.

And while there's still so much work to do, we can make a real difference *within our lifetimes*.

We at Y2Y invite you to have a conversation about how you can help save this precious mountain region and the life that depends on it.

We want to hear about your love of nature, wildlife and wilderness experiences. And, we want to help you make a meaningful gift to express that passion.

Please contact our Development Team at 1-800-966-7920 or info@y2y.net

Just imagine what could happen if
more bold and audacious people gave
bold and audacious gifts to save this
incredible and threatened landscape?

CONTACT US

Canada

Unit 200, 1350 Railway Avenue
Canmore, AB T1W 1P6

United States

P.O. Box 157
Bozeman, MT 59771-0157

Toll Free: 1-800-966-7920

Email: info@y2y.net

Y2Y.net    

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