



# WILDLIFE CORRIDOR STORIES

## How animals survive in fragmented landscapes

### WILDLIFE CORRIDOR STORIES

Narratives about creating, restoring, or utilizing protected land pathways that connect fragmented habitats, enabling wildlife to travel safely, find food, and mate.

### TYPES

Manmade or Naturally-occurring.  
Manmade created to allow animals pass through fragmented habitats, while Naturally occurring are those that are part of natural landscape.

### WHY

To protect;  
-threatened species -water resources  
-room for wildlife to roam  
-recreation opportunities etc.

### IMPACT

-Improve biodiversity and ecosystem health  
-Empower communities to engage in conservation efforts around them



### Warm Up Question

- If an animal needs to travel far, what might stop it?
- Roads, cities, farms, fences



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# FLORIDA WILDLIFE CORRIDOR FOUNDATION

## CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

### Habitat Fragmentation

Occurs when roads, cities, and farms break habitats into smaller pieces

## KEY STRATEGIES

- Bridging isolated natural areas with opportunity areas to create and connect habitat.
- Conservation partners working with landowners to ensure these areas remain undeveloped. -Reducing road mortality for species etc.

## WHY STRATEGIES WORK

- Increased gene flow, eg.connected corridors, such as the Osceola-Ocala link, increase genetic exchange
- Climate resilience

## Level 1



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

- Players learn that isolated solutions fail; systems only function when interconnected.
- It force players to make meaningful trade-offs with limited actions or resources



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

It reinforces foresight and planskey higher-order cognitive skills. Humans do not control ecosystems; they enable them.

# NORTH CASCADES GRIZZLY BEAR & SALMON CONNECTIVITY (CANADA/INDIGENOUS-LED)

## CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

### Habitat Fragmentation

Habitat fragmentation threatens gene flow and species recovery for grizzly bears and salmon.

## KEY STRATEGIES

-Action plans include mapping corridors, habitat restoration, programs.

-The Joint Nations Grizzly Bear Initiative and the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) lead efforts to restore connectivity through an Indigenous-led stewardship strategy that integrates traditional ecological knowledge with western science.

## WHY STRATEGIES WORK

-Indigenous knowledge contributes context-specific understanding of animal behaviours and seasonal movements, which helps design corridors that wildlife will actually use.

-Shared stewardship with governments and NGOs builds trust and resources for long-term management.

## Level 2



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

- Players could unlock restoration actions by building social capital between communities and conservation partners.
- Success would be measured by tracking both improvements in species populations and stronger cooperation, participation



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

Players learn that combining different knowledge systems through coordinated actions is necessary to solve complex, system-level challenges.

# NEPAL COMMUNITY FOREST TIGER CORRIDORS

## CONSERVATION CHALLENGE Habitat Fragmentation and Land-Use Pressure

Occurs when natural wildlife habitats are being broken into smaller, disconnected areas due to human activities such as farming, settlement, and infrastructure development, making it harder for animals to move.

## KEY STRATEGIES

This provides a network of community forests cooperates to form a tiger corridor across the Terai landscape, with local groups managing forests and monitoring wildlife.

## WHY STRATEGIES WORK

- Local communities directly manage forest blocks, providing real-time habitat protection and monitoring that supports tiger movement and reduces poaching.
- Capacity building and awareness campaigns help sustain collective action for long-term corridor health.

## Level 3



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

Just as a puzzle game uses basic rules to solve intricate levels, raising awareness, building capacity, and networking communities can collectively address large-scale conservation challenges.



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

In puzzle games, players must complete steps in the correct order. Similarly, conservation success depends on first building understanding, then skills, and finally coordination across the landscape.

# MAASAI COMMUNITY CORRIDOR NEAR NAIROBI NATIONAL PARK- KENYA

## CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

### Habitat fragmentation due to urban expansion

Urban expansion limits lion and other wildlife movement from Nairobi National Park into wider landscapes, isolating populations and increasing human-wildlife conflict.

## KEY STRATEGIES

Engaging Maasai pastoralists through incentive-based programs to keep land unfenced has proven effective in maintaining open wildlife corridors.

## WHY STRATEGIES WORK

The corridor persists because compensation schemes and community willingness reduce the trade-off between livestock protection and open space

## Level 4



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

Players learn to weigh short-term security choices, such as fencing, against long-term ecological and social benefits enabled by open corridors.



## LESSON RELATED TO GAMEPLAY

Players learn to adapt strategies as environmental and social events influence outcomes and community well-being.

# STORY SCRIPTS HINTS AND LEVELS

Level	Real-World Case	Core Mechanic	Learning Outcome (Environmental Education Alignment)	Post-Level Story (Reward Narrative)	Optional In-Game Hint	Trigger
Level 1	Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation	Basic routing; habitat connection	Learner recognizes habitat connectivity as essential for species survival (ELF: ecological systems; UNESCO ESD: biodiversity)	<i>"In Florida, panthers once roamed freely from wetlands to forests. Roads and cities cut their paths apart. By protecting connected land, people rebuilt a route not for speed, but for survival. One safe passage can mean a species continues."</i>	<i>"Animals don't need the shortest path just one that stays connected."</i>	Story: On level completion Hint: Player stalls or selects disconnected tiles repeatedly
Level 2	North Cascades Grizzly Bear & Salmon Connectivity (Canada, Indigenous-led)	Multi-species routing; shared corridors	Learner understands interdependence between species and ecosystems, including Indigenous stewardship (Systems thinking; UNESCO ESD: cultural diversity & knowledge systems)	<i>"In the North Cascades, grizzly bears and salmon depend on the same rivers and valleys. Indigenous Nations protect these routes, knowing that when salmon return, forests grow stronger and bears follow."</i>	<i>"When one species moves, another may benefit. Watch how paths overlap."</i>	Story: On successful routing of both species Hint: Player solves for only one species
Level 3	Nepal Community Forest Tiger Corridors	Bottlenecks; pressure management	Learner identifies human-wildlife coexistence as a conservation strategy (ELF: socio-ecological systems; UNESCO ESD: sustainable livelihoods)	<i>"In Nepal, tigers pass through forests managed by local communities. These corridors are narrow and shared with people but cooperation keeps both safe. Protection is not absence of humans, but agreement."</i>	<i>"Some paths are tight. Reducing pressure matters more than expanding space."</i>	Story: On relieving all bottlenecks Hint: Player attempts to widen paths instead of redistributing flow
Level 4	Maasai Community Corridor near Nairobi National Park (Kenya)	Crossings; timing-based access	Learner understands negotiated land use and temporal access as conservation tools (ELF: decision-making; UNESCO ESD: shared responsibility & governance)	<i>"Near Nairobi National Park, wildlife migrates across Maasai land. Livestock, fences, and seasons shape movement. Corridors survive through trust, timing, and shared land not walls."</i>	<i>"Movement isn't blocked forever. Some crossings work only at the right moment."</i>	Story: On correct timing of crossings Hint: Player repeatedly fails crossing activation

# Infograph



## Adapting Real Corridor Stories to Puzzle Levels

Short stories and hints reinforce learning while aligning with puzzle mechanics

**POST-LEVEL REWARD STORY:** Appears after level completion

**OPTIONAL IN-GAME HINT:** Player-triggered clue that hints at puzzle solutions

### LEVEL 1 Florida Wildlife Corridor

**Basic routing** | **POST-LEVEL REWARD STORY**

“In Florida, panthers once roamed freely from wetlands to forests. Roads and cities cut their paths apart. By protecting connected land, people rebuilt a route—not for speed, but for survival. One **safe passage** can mean a **species continues**.”

Story reinforces why connectivity matters

### LEVEL 2 North Cascades, Canada

Multi-species routing; shared corridors

**Multi-species routing;** | **POST-LEVEL REWARD STORY**

“In the North Cascades, grizzly bears and salmon depend on the same rivers and valleys. **Indigenous Nations** protect these routes, knowing that when salmon return, forests grow stronger—and bears follow.”

“When one species moves, another may benefit. Watch how paths overlap.”

Story explains shared corridors across species

### LEVEL 3 Nepal Tiger Corridors

Bottlenecks; balance pressure

**Bottlenecks routing** | **OPTIONAL IN-GAME HINT**

“In Nepal, tigers pass through forests managed by local communities. These corridors are narrow and shared with people—but cooperation keeps both safe. Protection is not the absence of humans, but agreement.”

“Some paths are tight. Reducing pressure matters more than expanding space.”

**DURING PLAY:** Optional hint – Only after multiple failed attempts

**AFTER SUCCESS:** Reward story – Only after level completion

### LEVEL 4 Maasai Corridor, Kenya

**Controlled crossings** | **OPTIONAL IN-GAME HINT**

“Near Nairobi National Park, wildlife migrates across Maasai land. Livestock, fences, and seasonal changes shape movement. Corridors survive through trust, timing, and shared land—not walls.”

“Some crossings work only at the right moment.”

✓ Story Scripts: Rewarding, real-world | ✓ Hint Text: Optional, puzzle-helpful

# Infograph



# Practical Example

Imagine a deer trying to cross a highway—  
scary, right?

That's where wildlife corridors come in.  
Wildlife corridors are natural pathways that  
connect habitats, allowing animals to move  
safely, find food, reach mates, and establish  
new homes.

Without these corridors, wildlife can become  
trapped in isolated areas, which can lead to  
inbreeding and even extinction. With well-  
connected corridors, however, animals are  
more likely to thrive—and ecosystems stay  
healthier.



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