



NWF NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION



SOUTHWEST MONTANA
SAGEBRUSH
PARTNERSHIP

FENCING FOR WILDLIFE

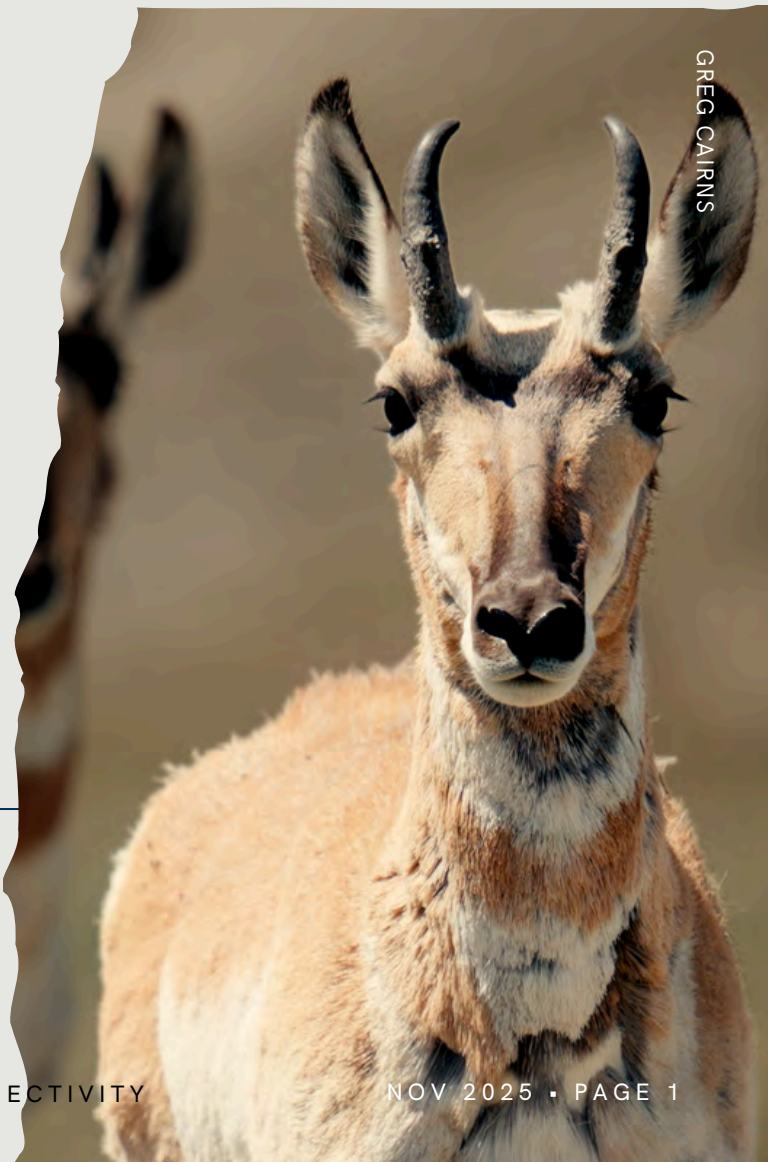
2025 Impact Report

In Southwest Montana's High Divide and Greater Yellowstone Ecosystems, NWF's Fencing for Wildlife Program works with landowners, agencies, and partner organizations to enhance and restore connectivity for wildlife through wildlife-friendlier fencing projects.

Despite significant challenges, 2025 has been a hugely successful year for allowing wildlife to roam freely!

Collin Peterson, Wildlife Project Coordinator
Simon Buzzard, Wildlife Connectivity Manager

November 2025



GREG CAIRNS



RECONNECTING HABITAT

24 Miles of Wildlife-Friendlier Fencing

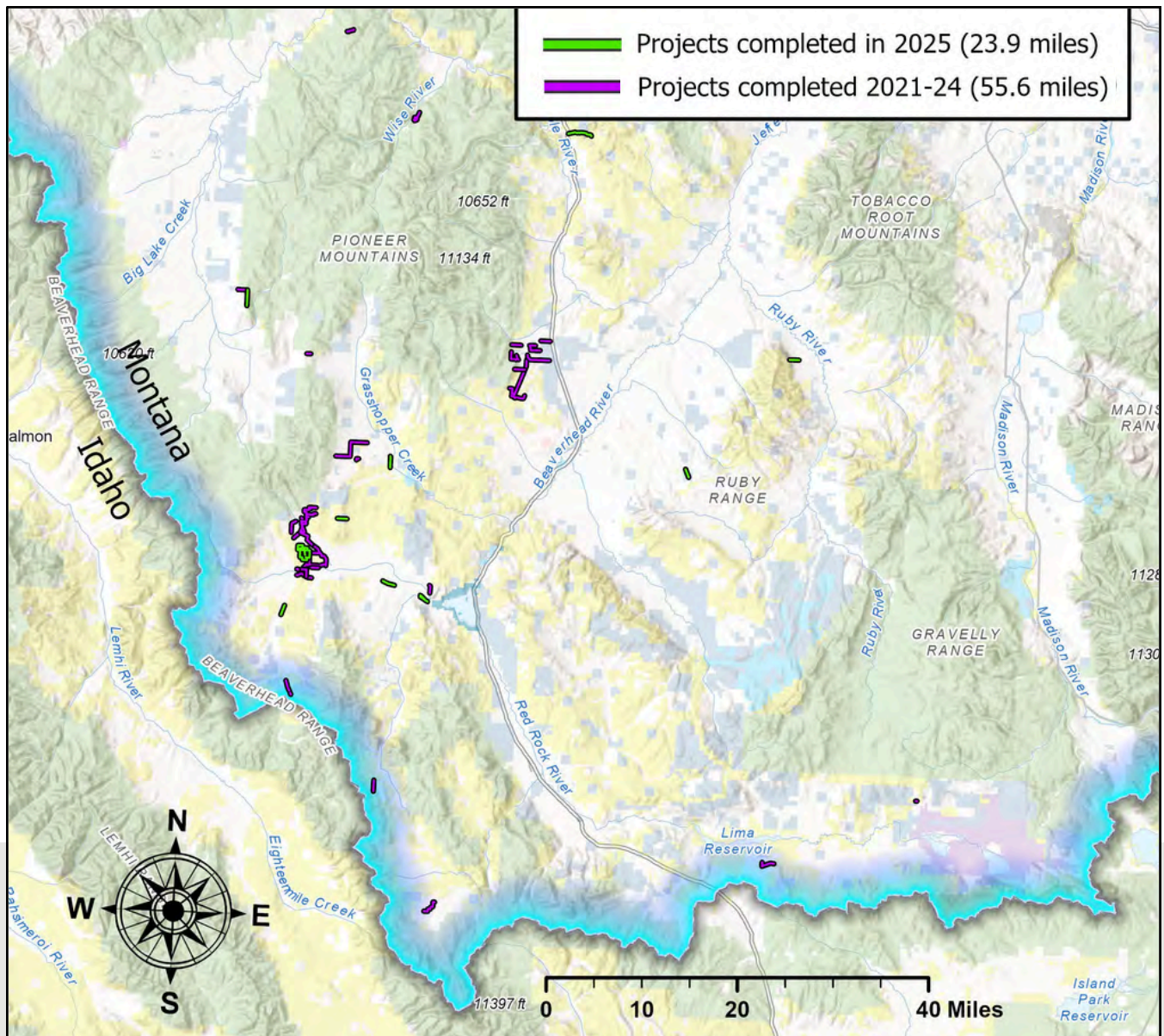
ACHIEVEMENTS	2025	SINCE 2021
Fencing removed or replaced with wildlife-friendlier fencing	23.9 mi.	79.5 mi.
Woven wire replaced *	18.4 mi.	32.7 mi.
Fences on public land or public land boundaries	11.4 mi.	41 mi.

Our fencing program has evolved from a seasonal endeavor to a year-round initiative. Our goal is to complete 25 miles of fence modifications or removals in 2026.

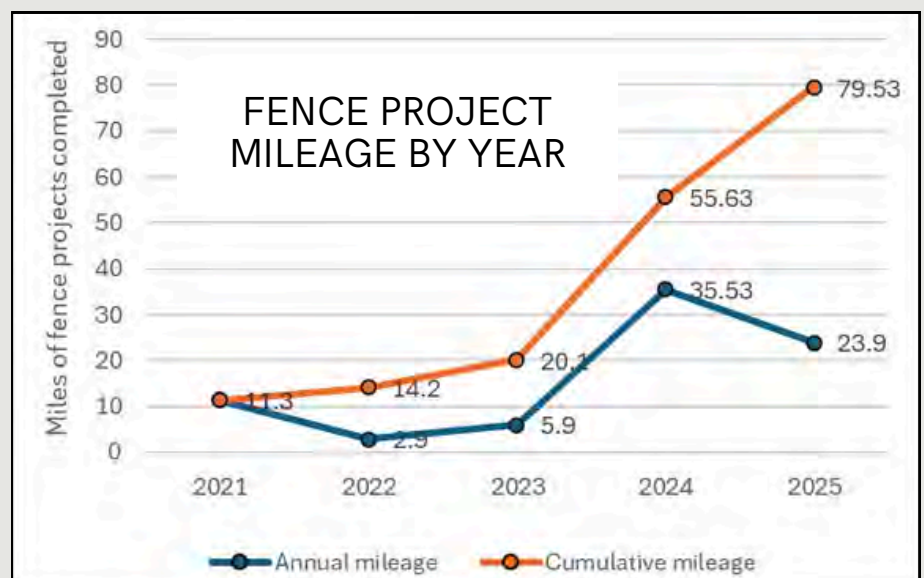
* We target woven wire fences because they are the most lethal to ungulates, and the most difficult for pronghorn to pass.



COMPLETED FENCING PROJECTS IN SW MONTANA



We continue to expand into new landscapes, such as the Ruby Valley, Sweetwater Hills, Centennial Valley, and Silverbow County.



PARTNERSHIPS

NWF is a member of the Southwest Montana Sagebrush Partnership, taking a collaborative approach to conservation by working with numerous agencies, non-profits, volunteers, youth crews, and landowners.



VOLUNTEERS

In 2025, we led **3 volunteer fence-pull events**, resulting in **6.6 miles** of fencing removed from the landscape.

We worked with **92 volunteers** who put in **695 hours** of hard work on fence removal projects. We have worked with **269 volunteers** since 2021.



YOUTH CREWS

We worked with **The Youth Employment Program**, a local conservation corps, to remove **3.9 miles** of fencing.



LANDOWNERS

In 2025, we completed fencing projects with **11 local cattle ranches**. We have worked with 24 ranches since 2021.



COLLABORATORS

We partnered with non-profits and agencies including Montana Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, The Nature Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks. **Our achievements would not be possible without our amazing partners.**