



*Welcome!*

*Gaviota Pass Highway 101 Wildlife Habitat Connectivity  
Stakeholder Group Meeting #5– August 1, 2023*

*Stay Tuned We Will Begin at 3:00 PM  
~This Meeting Is Being Recorded~*



# Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

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# Meeting Agenda



## **Welcome and Introductions**

- Welcome
- Introductions

## **Expectations and desired outcomes**

## **Study Findings & Results**

- Consultant presentation of findings
- Q & A with Study Team

## **Where we've been and recent exciting news**

## **Stakeholder Engagement Process and Timeline- Next steps**

## **Open Discussion**

# Stakeholder Introductions & Staff Introductions

## Today's Invitees

- Coastal Commission
- CA State Parks
- Coastal Ranches Conservancy
- Gaviota Coast Conservancy
- Santa Barbara County
- Adjoining Neighbors
- CA Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
- Coastal Band of Chumash Nation
- Dangermond Preserve
- SBCAG
- Vista Del Mar Union School District
- Rancho Las Cruces
- Wildlife Conservation Network
- UCSB
- Los Padres Forest Watch
- CA Highway Patrol
- Caltrans
- Technical Study Team – ICF

# Expectations and Desired Outcomes

- Caltrans
- Facilitate and fund technical study
- Facilitate Stakeholder Group/ public outreach
- Advance the implementation of technical study recommendations
- Stakeholders
- Community and local agency representatives
- Provide community input and support
- Advance the implementation of technical study recommendations



ICF

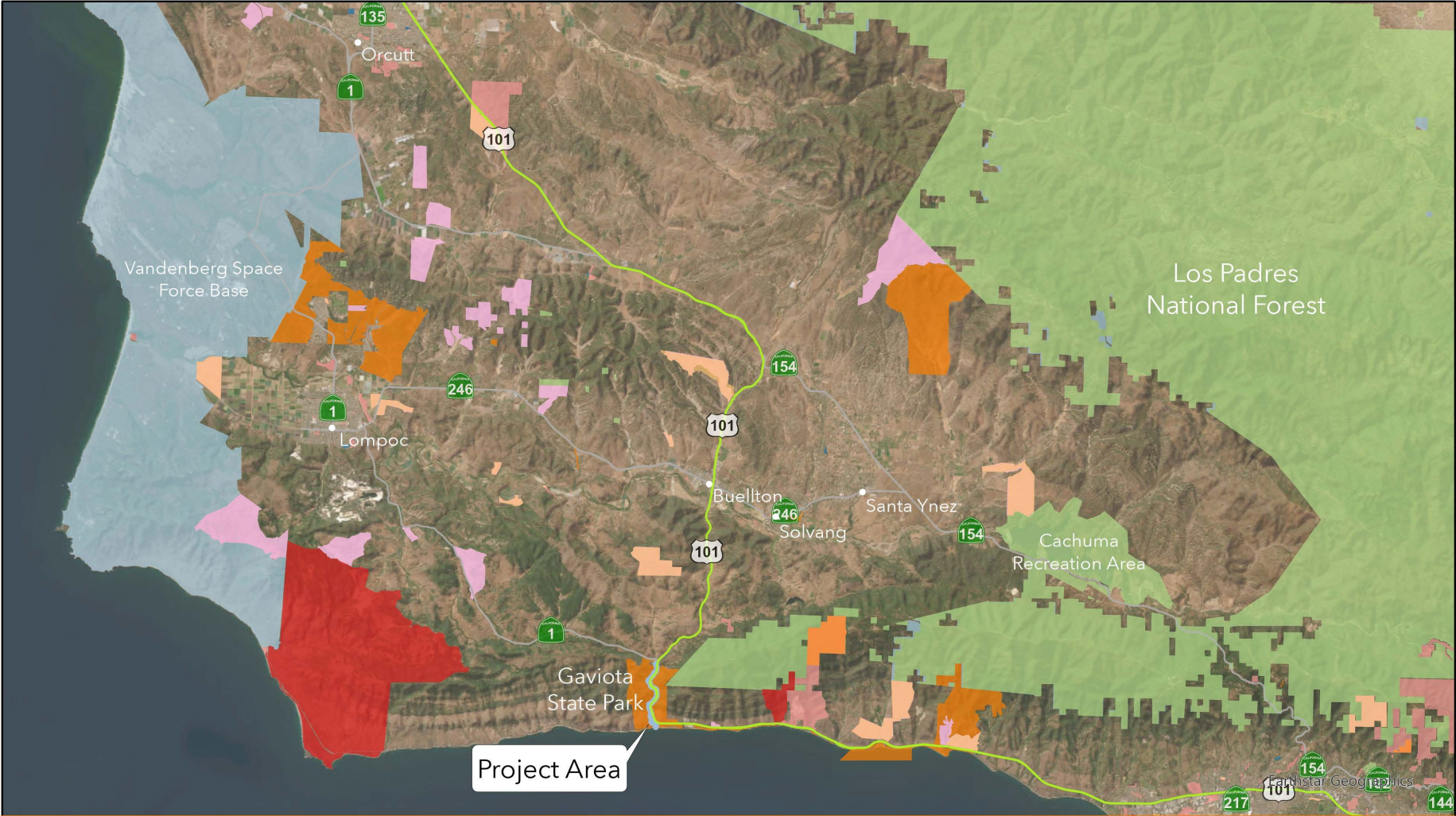
FY 2022 & 2023 Federal Wildlife Crossings Pilot Program  
California Department of Transportation  
Project Name: Gaviota Pass Wildlife Connectivity and  
Vehicle Collision Reduction

The Gaviota Pass Wildlife Connectivity and Vehicle Collision Reduction Project proposes to replace an existing culvert on US-101 at postmile 46.37 with a wildlife crossing and install 2.5 miles of wildlife fencing to prevent at-grade road crossings. The culvert is currently undersized for large animals however, it is in an excellent location to promote habitat connectivity between high-quality protected habitat on either side. Replacing it with a larger pre-cast structure will improve wildlife-movement function for large animals, reduce wildlife vehicle collisions (WVC), enhance safety for the traveling public, and will allow a full suite of species to access habitat on either side of the highway and beyond. Additionally, wildlife fencing will prevent at-grade road crossings and funnel animals to existing structures suitable for wildlife crossing. Informational signage will be installed at nearby trailheads and rest areas to educate the public about WVCs and the project's wildlife connectivity improvements.

# Hwy 101 Postmile 46.37

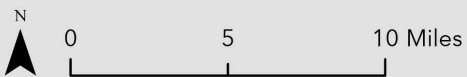






# Land Ownership Surrounding Project Area

- Conservation Easement Area
- Federal
- Non-Governmental Organization
- Special Designated Area, Military
- Joint
- Private
- Regional Agency Special District
- Local Government
- Gaviota Creek
- State Highways
- Highway 101



Date: 7/27/2023

# Stakeholder Engagement Process and Timeline

- Kick Off Meeting (December 2, 2021)- Complete
- Technical Study Design Discussion with ICF (Spring 2022) -Complete
- Technical Study Update (Fall 2022)- Complete
- Technical Study Results and Discussion with ICF (Spring 2023)
- Final Study Q&A- (Summer 2023)- Today
- Implementation Strategy Meetings (Starting Fall 2023)

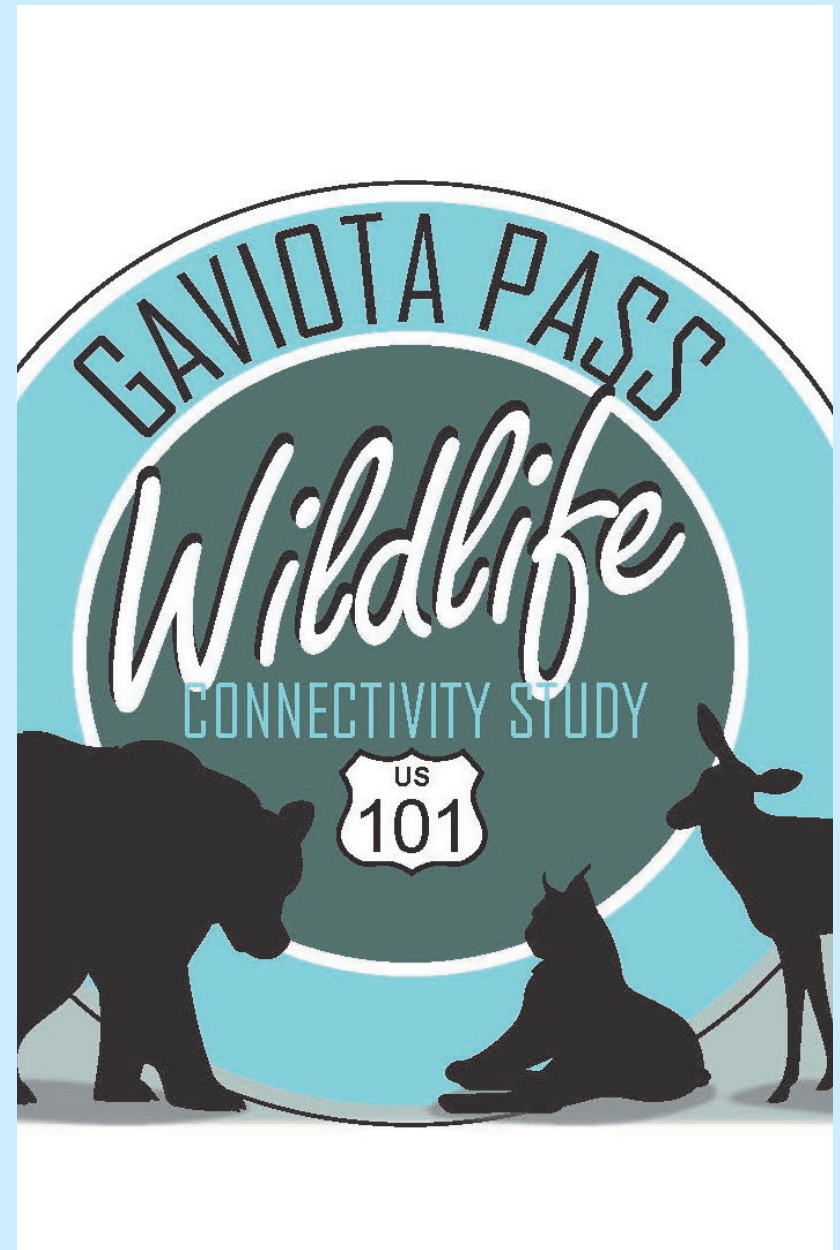
# Where do we go from here?

Going forward we need continued partner agency and public commitment.  
Nature of this group is starting to evolve and expand.

## Implementation Strategy Meetings (Starting Fall 2023)

Generate recommendations for approaches and/or opportunities to enhance safe wildlife passage in the corridor and reduce the risk of wildlife -vehicle collisions.

Hold a workshop/meeting on opportunities in the corridor and who can help us move forward.



# Open Discussion & Thank you

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<https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-5/district-5-current-projects>

