

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY FENCING

What is it? Why use it? Who helps assist with projects?

As you likely notice, pronghorn travel seasonally through Glastonbury and the Paradise Valley. Mule deer, whitetail deer, elk and moose also use winter and summer ranges linked by these ancient pathways. Fencing can impede the ability of wildlife to reach adequate winter habitat due to difficulties navigating traditional fence design. The result is damaged fences, injuries or fatalities for wildlife, and inability for wildlife to access winter range, water, other herds. These events can be costly and frustrating for landowners.

The following information will help you learn more about the challenges pronghorn face as they move across the landscape in Paradise Valley and what community members can do to allow pronghorn to thrive.



CONSERVATION THAT BENEFITS LANDOWNERS AND WILDLIFE ALIKE The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is home to some of the most iconic wildlife and breathtaking scenery. Private landowners and agricultural

producers can safeguard essential migration pathways for wildlife by protecting open space and access to habitat.

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) can provide resources to help remove unwanted fences and modify fences to be wildlife friendly. Since 2010 NPCA has been worked with over 50 private landowners to remove and modify 60 miles of fencing in the Paradise and Madison Valleys.

With the support of cost-share opportunities you can construct and modify fences that reduce wildlife injuries and decrease damage to your fence while still meeting your fencing needs.

WHAT ABOUT GLASTONBURY?

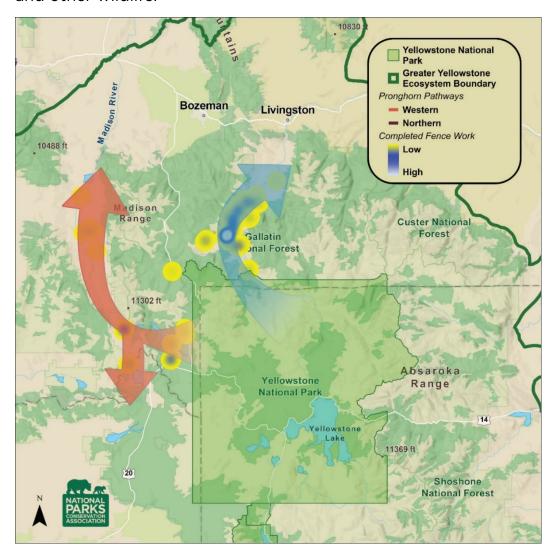
There are three distinct pronghorn herd structures in the Paradise Valley. Connectivity between herds is important for the resilience of each individual population. Scientific data on pronghorn movement shows us that Glastonbury is an area that separates these populations. Wildlife friendly fencing in Glastonbury can help connect the three Paradise Valley herds.

WHY PRONGHORN AND WHERE ARE THEY GOING?

Unlike elk, pronghorn do not readily jump and often turn back when confronted with fences. However, pronghorn pass easily under altered fences with raised bottom wires (16-18" from the ground) that are smooth rather than barbed.



Pronghorn travel beyond Yellowstone National Park boundaries through private lands to access winter habitat. While each herd may move differently from year to year, their pathways span from inside the park to Livingston, and from West Yellowstone to Ennis or down into Idaho. Through its Pronghorn Program, NPCA works to re-establish winter migration habitat for pronghorn and other wildlife.



HAVE QUESTIONS? READY TO GET INVOLVED?

NPCA Funding Resources for Landowners here.

NPCA Fencing Volunteer Opportunities here.

Learn more about Pronghorn here.

Access Montana Fish Wildlife & Parks Fencing guide here.

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