

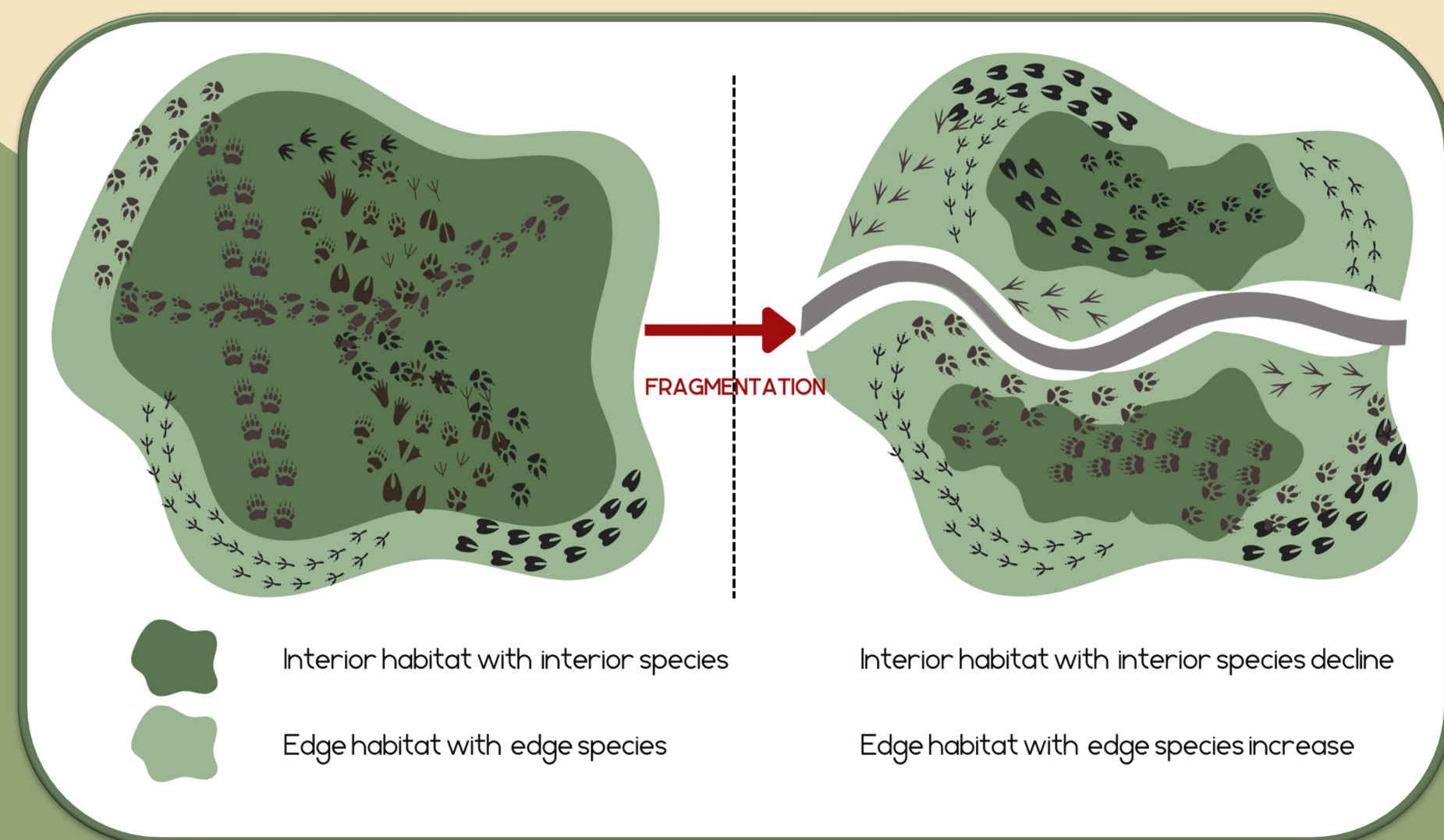


WILDLIFE CROSSINGS: KEEPING NATURE ON THE MOVE

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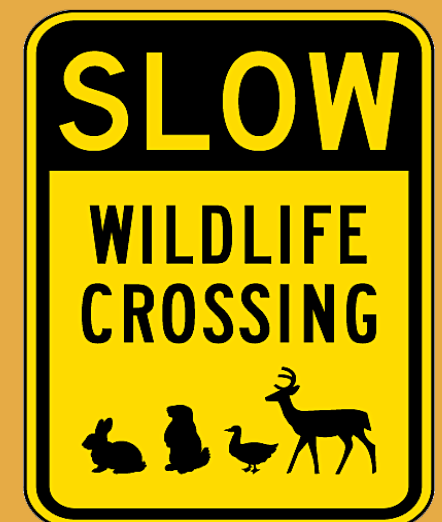
ROADKILL AND HABITAT FRAGMENTATION

- Europe: **29 million mammal** deaths and **300 human** deaths annually
- USA: **340 million bird** deaths and **200 human** deaths annually
- Deer is the most affected species
- Roads are **barriers** that divide habitats and restrict animal movement
- Threatens long-term viability and causes **local extinctions**
- **Edge effect:** impact on species vitality and composition by habitat edge.



BENEFITS

- **Lower collision rates**
- **Gene flow**, enabling climate-adaptive traits to spread
- Supporting **ecosystem health**
- Increases chances of **long-term survival** and **adaptability** to climate change
- Supports species range shifts
- Protects access to **resources** (forage, breeding grounds)



STATISTICS

> 80% Reduction in collision after the construction of wildlife crossings (North America)

CHALLENGES

- **Expensive** to build
- **Animals** will **still avoid** the road
→ The area is still partly fragmented
- **Fences** are **needed** to make wildlife crossings efficient
- Support **spreading** of pathogens and **invasive species**
- Data is limited



215.2



References:

- National Geographic Society. 2023. 'Wildlife Crossings'. 19 October 2023. <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/wildlife-crossings>.
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- Grilo, Clara, Tomé Neves, Jennifer Bates, Aliza le Roux, Pablo Medrano-Vizcaino, Mattia Quaranta, Inês Silva, Kylie Soanes, and Yun Wang. 2025. 'Global Roadkill Data: A Dataset on Terrestrial Vertebrate Mortality Caused by Collision with Vehicles'. *Scientific Data* 12 (1): 505. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-024-04207-x>.