



Wildlife Crossings

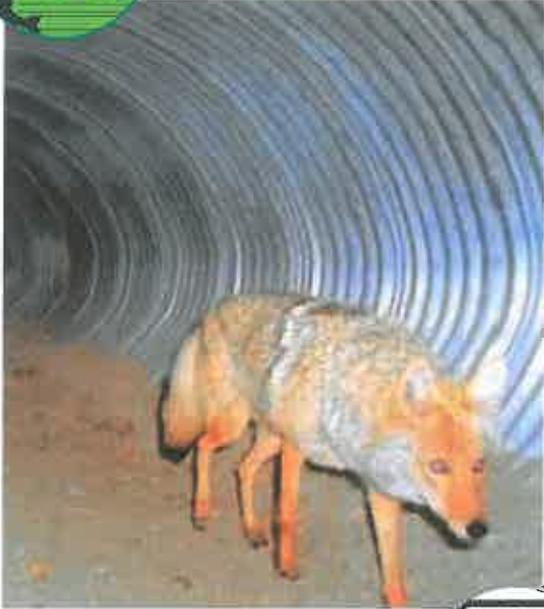


Photo Source: Colorado Department of Transportation



03-0019-11



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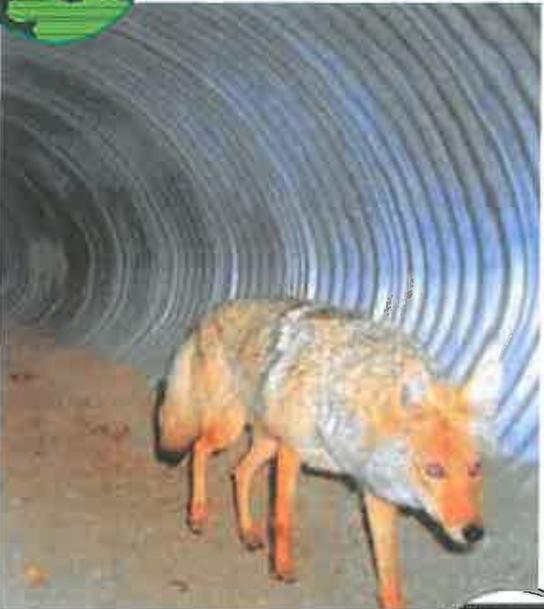


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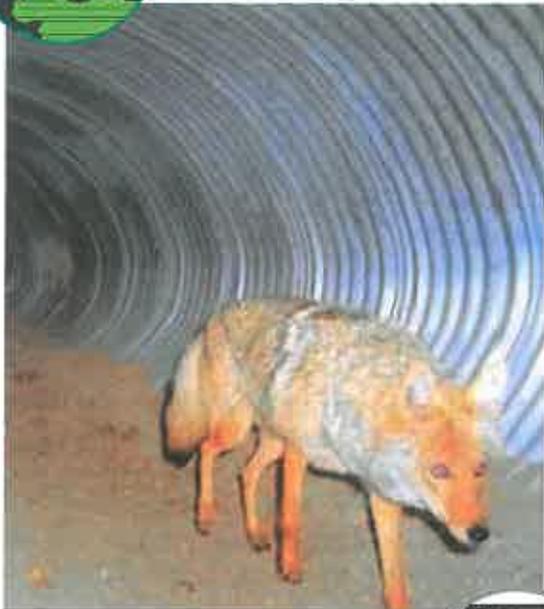


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Wildlife Crossings

Millions of animals and roughly 200 people die on America's highways each year as the result of vehicle-wildlife collisions. Animals need to cross roadways for many reasons, involving food, water, shelter, mating and migration. Roads are major barriers to the necessary movement of many animal species.

The Colorado Department of Transportation works to reduce collisions and accommodate animal movement. CDOT's efforts include marking high-risk areas with appropriate signage and designing road improvements with suitable crossing structures.

For example, where culverts needed to carry drainage under a roadway, a larger size can be installed to accommodate animal movement as well as water flow. Animals are more likely to use crossings that are bigger, more open and more natural. Open bridges make even better crossings, but are more expensive than culverts.

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