

WILDLIFE EXCLUSION FENCING PROGRAM



Overview

Exclusion fencing is the most effective means of keeping wildlife off highway right-of-ways. The Ministry's experience with 2.4 m high fencing on both sides of right-of-ways show that it is 97-99% effective in preventing wildlife-vehicle accidents.

Fencing can be installed as a primary deterrent or in conjunction with other structures such as wildlife overpasses, underpasses and one way gates. This type of mitigation is expensive. It costs approximately \$40,000 to \$80,000 per km to fence both sides of a highway. Construction costs vary greatly due to differences in terrain and locations. Currently over 320 kilometres of fencing have been installed in Region Two on the Coquihalla Highway (Highway 5), the Okanagan Connector Freeway, and Highway 97. Another 21 km of fencing has been installed on Highway 19 south of Courtenay.

Wildlife exclusion fencing has proven very effective in reducing wildlife accidents on the Coquihalla Freeway (Highway 5) located between Hope and Merritt. On the 35-km portion of the Coquihalla Freeway, between Dry Gulch Bridge and Kingsvale Bridge, wildlife exclusion fencing reduced wildlife accidents by 100%. The number of wildlife accidents declined from 74, in the 1989 to 1993 period, to 0, in the 1994 to 1998 period.

Since the wildlife exclusion fencing was installed on the Coquihalla Connector Freeway (Highway 97C) in 1990 to 1998, no wildlife accidents have been recorded in either the westbound or eastbound lanes of the highway where the fence is located.



One way gate.

For additional information on the Wildlife Exclusion Fencing please contact:

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Other related topics include:

- [Wildlife Accident Reporting System](#)
- [Wildlife Reflector Program](#)
- [Wildlife Warning Signs Program](#)

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