



ENVIRONMENTAL INSIGHT

A PUBLICATION OF THE TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCIES



WELCOME

Welcome to the first newsletter about the Transportation Corridor Agencies' (TCA) environmental initiatives.

Most people know that TCA operates The Toll Roads in Orange County, but few know about our 25 years of dedication to long-term environmental protection and management programs. These programs contribute to a healthier environment and preserve the area's scenic beauty for residents and future generations.

Through this newsletter, we want to update you on how we use the best scientific practices to preserve and restore local natural areas in partnership with universities, conservation groups and fellow agencies.

We have a lot going on. With more than 2,000 acres of land set aside at 16 different locations, we've been implementing hundreds of diverse measures and programs that reduce smog, protect native wildlife, creeks and other local waterways.

We're proud of the work we've been doing, and we want you to be too. If you've ever driven The Toll Roads, then you too have participated in our environmental initiatives.

Every two months, we'll distribute this newsletter so you can keep up with the latest. If you want to keep receiving it, [click here](#) to sign up. You can unsubscribe at any time, but we hope you'll stick around.



PROTECTIVE WILDLIFE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT FENCE HIGHLIGHTED AT CONFERENCE

Last month, TCA staff presented the State Route 241 Wildlife Protection Fence to more than 500 transportation professionals and researchers at the International Conference on Ecology and Transportation. Valarie McFall, TCA's chief environmental planning officer, and her team were invited to share a technical poster highlighting the research and design of this state-of-the-art project.

The 10- to 12-foot-high fence promotes driver and wildlife safety by protecting mountain lions, mule deer, coyotes and bobcats living in the Santa Ana Mountains from passing cars. In addition to shielding them from the road, the six-and-a-half mile fence will also funnel them to existing wildlife bridges and culvert undercrossings that allow them safe passage to open spaces on either side of the road.

TCA's wildlife fencing project was designed as a result of a joint study with University of California, Davis into the movement and health of the area's wildlife, including GPS tracking of mountain lions. With construction nearly complete, TCA will monitor what benefit the fencing provides to the local wildlife, and how well the fence performs in reducing wildlife and car collisions. These findings will help TCA and other agencies in designing and building future projects.

[Click here](#) to see the poster.

"Our recent partnership with TCA on the Cougars and Grizzlies Sharing Their Path exhibit at the Muzeo was a great way to increase awareness about how everyone needs to work together to make sure the interface between our urban and open space areas are safe."

*Daniel M. Finley, Executive Director
Muzeo Museum and Cultural Center - Anaheim, California*



The Toll Roads (State Routes 73, 133, 241 and 261 in Orange County, California) are property of the state, maintained by Caltrans and operated by the Transportation Corridor Agencies, a government agency created by the state legislature in 1986.