
NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Transportation and Transit

Keeping drivers, sheep safe with new wildlife overpass in Radium
Crossing helps ensure long-term health for the area's bighorn sheep herd

RADIUM HOT SPRINGS – Updated June 4, 2026

Summary

- *The new wildlife overpass over Highway 93/95 was completed in summer 2025*
- *Animals began using the overpass before it was complete, demonstrating its benefit to wildlife and drivers*
- *B.C. has installed more than 600 kilometres of wildlife exclusion fencing, more than any other transportation agency in North America*

Drivers travelling along Highway 93/95 can expect safer conditions with the construction of a new wildlife overpass near Radium Hot Springs.

The project, located south of Radium Hot Springs, is designed to reduce collisions involving one of the area's last viable bighorn sheep herds.

"Highway 93/95 is an important route for people and communities in the area," said Mike Farnworth, B.C. Minister of Transportation and Transit. "By reducing collisions between vehicles and Radium's bighorn sheep herd and other wildlife, we're making a busy transportation corridor safer and enabling the long-term health of travellers and the area's four-legged inhabitants."

How the wildlife overpass works

Conservation groups say the Radium herd is one of the last viable herds of bighorn sheep in the area. To mitigate the risk to wildlife and drivers, the new overpass includes:

- a 34-metre-wide steel and concrete arch, creating a safe crossing point for wildlife over the busy highway
- six kilometres of wildlife fencing and gates to guide animals towards the structure and prevent animals from entering traffic lanes

Animals began using the 34-metre overpass in 2025 even before construction was complete, demonstrating its benefit in reducing collisions and supporting a strong ecosystem.

Conservation across the region

The overpass is part of a broader effort by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to protect

wildlife and enhance road safety in the region, where collisions between vehicles and bighorn sheep have been a growing concern. To date, the ministry has installed more than 600 kilometres of wildlife exclusion fencing throughout B.C., more than any other transportation agency in North America. B.C. also has the most wildlife overpasses in Canada.

“Radium’s bighorn sheep are part of what makes this area so special, and it’s wonderful to see them already using this new overpass,” said Randene Neill, B.C. Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship. “This project is a great example of people coming together to care for wildlife, support the recovery of a beloved local herd and make the roads safer for everyone travelling through Radium Hot Springs.”

The project was delivered by the ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship, Parks Canada, the Shuswap Band, the Ktunaxa Nation Council, the Village of Radium, Elk Valley Resources, ICBC and the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, reflecting the shared commitment to conservation and community safety.

Quotes:

Julie Dabrusin, federal Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Nature –

“Canada’s natural heritage is one of our greatest national assets. Creating safer crossings for wildlife is one way we can help protect the species Canadians cherish while strengthening the economic foundations of our communities and building a more prosperous country. The Radium wildlife overpass, constructed through Parks Canada’s collaboration with partners in British Columbia, is a strong example of how targeted investments can reconnect habitats divided by highways and other infrastructure. By reducing habitat fragmentation and improving ecological connectivity, this initiative supports safer transportation corridors and more resilient ecosystems. Congratulations, and thank you to all those who contributed to this important project.”

Nathalie Provost, Secretary of State (Nature) –

“By protecting Canada’s lands, waters and wildlife, we safeguard the ecosystems that sustain us and the natural heritage that defines our country. The new Radium wildlife overpass in British Columbia will allow bighorn sheep and other species to safely cross the highway, reducing collisions and improving habitat connectivity. This project supports the long-term health of local wildlife populations within a key movement corridor and helps ensure animals can move more safely across the landscape for generations to come. We thank all those who contributed to making this important achievement possible.”

Mike Gray, mayor of Radium Hot Springs –

“This overpass is a monument to the many people who cared enough to keep pushing, often quietly and persistently. For decades, people in Radium Hot Springs and across the region have worked to protect our iconic Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep herd, and the village is proud to have supported this wildlife conservation and community safety project from concept to completion.”

Mike Carrucan, CEO, Elk Valley Resources –

“Through our \$2.5-million contribution to the Radium wildlife overpass, Elk Valley Resources is

helping to maintain wildlife connectivity and protect the region's vulnerable bighorn sheep population. This project not only makes this stretch of highway safer for animals, but it also increases safety for residents and visitors, and we are proud to collaborate on such an important project."

Quick Facts:

- The new overpass connects national park lands to the east with the Columbia Wetlands to the west, supporting a variety of wildlife, including the local bighorn sheep herd, badger, black bear, cougar, deer and elk.
- When used with wildlife fencing, crossing structures can reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions by more than 80%.
- At 34 metres wide, Radium wildlife overpass is the widest wildlife crossing in B.C. outside of national parks.

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