

THEN

Wildlife roamed freely, restrained only by natural features.



NOW

Habitat is broken into small parcels, separated by roads, homes, farms and industry.



FUTURE

Natural areas are linked by corridors that allow wildlife to move between them more easily and freely.



A Living Landscape

Biodiversity is the variety of life—all the different plants, animals and microscopic organisms, and the larger natural communities of which they are a part. Preserving this interconnected web of life is vital to the health of our parks.

Most state parks are not large enough to ensure the long-term survival of all the life they now support. Ongoing research shows that if natural areas are separated from other reserves of land, as many state parks are, up to half of their plant and animal species may perish over time. Most biologists believe that, next to habitat destruction, this fragmentation is the greatest threat to our natural biodiversity.

California State Parks is working to reconnect parklands to other protected natural areas. As key parcels of land are acquired to serve as linkages, isolated "islands" of open space are joined to create larger, healthier natural areas.

