

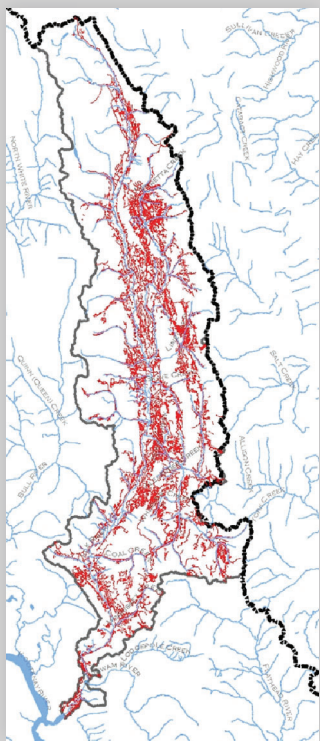
# Enhancing Wildlife and Ecosystem Health with Road Rehabilitation

## The environmental impact of roads:

There are over 600,000 km of resource roads in B.C. and an additional 10,000 km are added each year.<sup>1</sup>

These roads have wide-ranging impacts on local ecosystems, including:

- Habitat fragmentation
- Changes to habitat quality
- Wildlife mortality
- Invasive plant species spread
- Changes to hydrology.

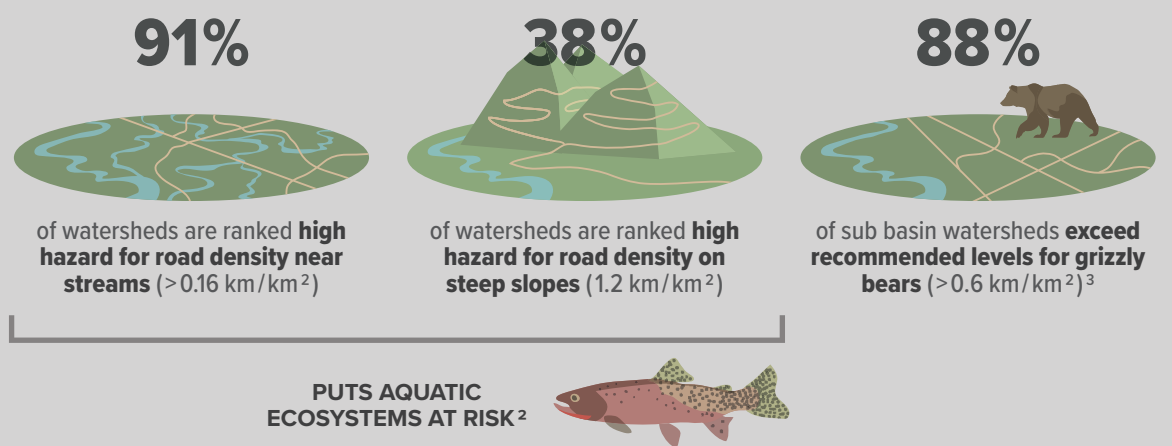


CURRENT EXTENT OF ROADS IN THE ELK VALLEY (SHOWN IN RED).

APPROXIMATELY 300 KM OF NEW ROADS WERE BUILT IN THE ELK VALLEY FROM 2015 – 2019.

## Roads in the Elk Valley:

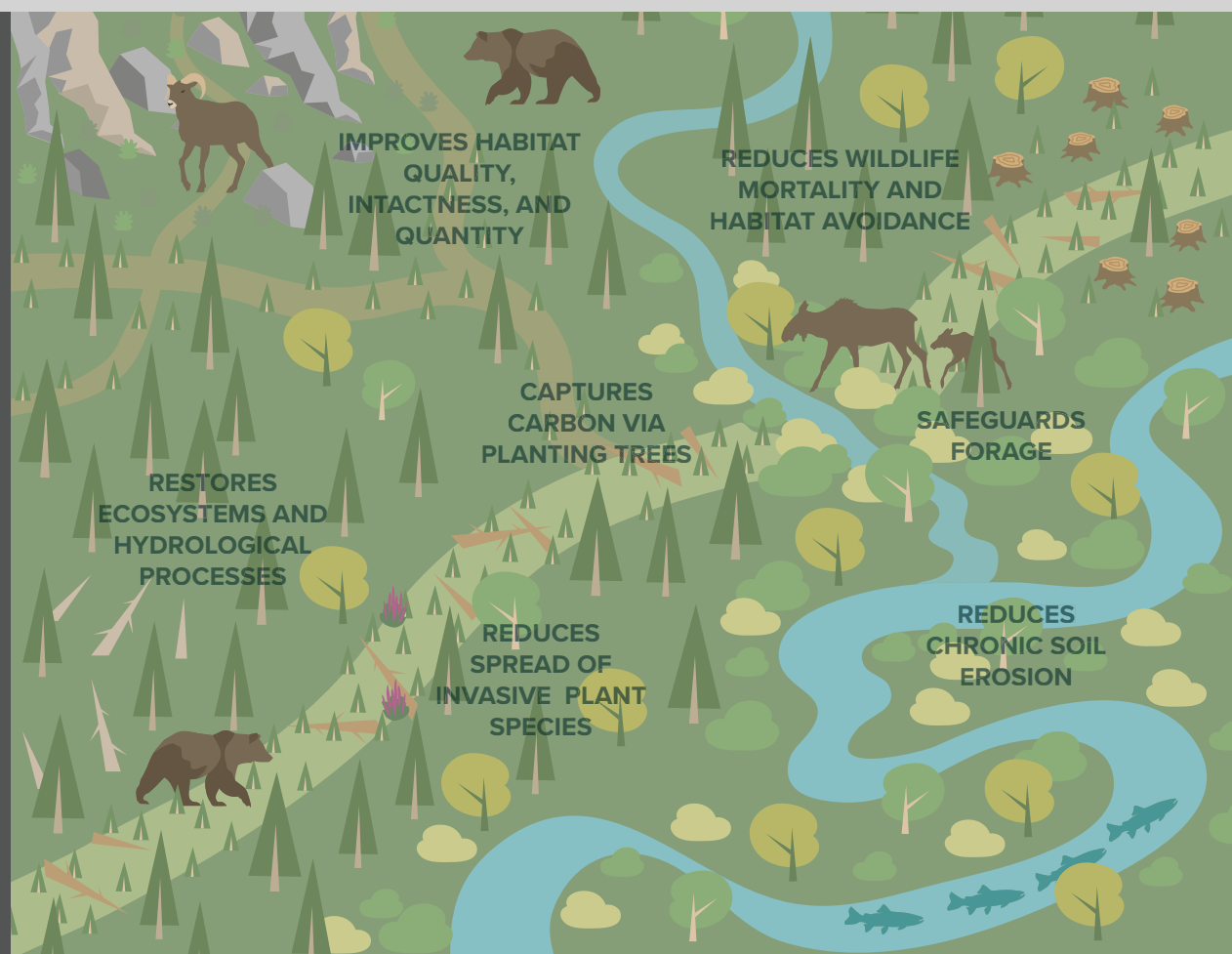
There are an estimated **6,790 km of roads in the Elk Valley** — more than the driving distance from Victoria to Halifax! Approximately **88%** of these roads do not have a legal obligation by government or industry for rehabilitation.



## Restoring ecosystems through road rehabilitation:

Restoring roads has numerous benefits for local ecosystems, including better habitat quality, less erosion into watersheds, and reduced spread of invasive plant species.

Restoring roads into key habitats improves outcomes for wildlife like westslope cutthroat trout, bighorn sheep, moose, and grizzly bears.



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.bcauditor.com/pubs/2017/independent-audit-grizzly-bear-management>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects/final\\_ev\\_cemf\\_aquatic\\_ecosystems\\_cea\\_report\\_24072018.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects/final_ev_cemf_aquatic_ecosystems_cea_report_24072018.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects/final\\_ev\\_cemf\\_grizzly\\_bear\\_cea\\_report\\_edited\\_20180524.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/natural-resource-stewardship/cumulative-effects/final_ev_cemf_grizzly_bear_cea_report_edited_20180524.pdf)