

Corridors do promote Wildlife Diversity

From Grist.org:

RE Green Infrastructure - FYI - from Sean. Sorry for any cross postings

> Connect the Plots

> Land corridors encourage biodiversity, says research in Science

>

> Narrow strips of land that connect isolated natural areas encourage

> plant biodiversity, according to a new study in Science. The study

> confirms what ecologists have theorized for decades -- that areas

> connected by land corridors "retain more native species than do

> isolated patches, that this difference increases over time, and that

> corridors do not promote invasion by exotic species." Researchers

> studied test plots in South Carolina from 2000 to 2005, finding that

> linked-up patches of land had 20 percent more plant species than

> unconnected patches, thanks in part to enhanced seed dispersal and

> pollination by birds, insects, and rodents. The results add oomph to

> the argument that fragmentation of wild land by human activity is a

> major threat to biodiversity. Um, duh -- but the research, says lead

> author Ellen Damschen, is "the piece of scientific evidence that had previously been lacking."

>

> <<http://gristmill.grist.org/story/2006/9/5/113425/9660?source=daily>>