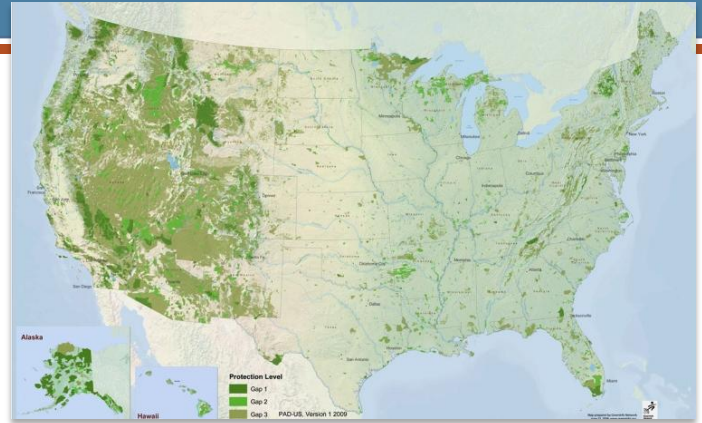


# The PAD-US Partnership - *Creating the Next Generation of U.S. Protected Areas Inventories*

*A comprehensive inventory of America's protected areas, providing support to conservation, land management, recreation and land use planning – all in a system that gives reliable and current information to decision makers, citizens generally, agency land managers, local planners, non-governmental groups and private businesses.*



*Data from the first edition of PAD-US shows the Gap codes (biodiversity scores) for U.S. protected areas*

This is the vision of the **PAD-US Partnership**, a public-private collaboration that manages and develops the Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US).

The PAD-US database inventory was first published in April 2009 and will be updated periodically. A major project to improve its content and structure is slated to take place during 2010-2012 – see [www.protectedlands.net](http://www.protectedlands.net) for more information on PAD-US.

By endorsing the goals of the PAD-US Partnership, your agency or organization can become a member of the PAD-US Partnership Council, an advisory body to the Partnership Steering Committee. An endorsement form is available [www.protectedlands.net/partnership](http://www.protectedlands.net/partnership).

The Partnership organization currently includes these elements:

- **Steering Committee** (approximately 10 agencies and non-governmental organizations): oversees the policy and operations of the Partnership.
- **Partnership Council**: an advisory body that is made up of organizations and agencies that have endorsed the goals of the Partnership – this group receives periodic briefings and newsletters about the project's progress.
- **Technical Advisory Group**: an advisory body that provides information on database strategy, design and implementation.

The goals of the Partnership are to:

- Support the permanent operation of the PAD-US as the national protected areas inventory;
- Help build the capacity of states, agencies and other organizations to create and maintain inventories of their own protected areas;
- Develop sustainable funding for national and state inventory efforts;
- Ensure that national protected areas data supports a wide range of users; and,
- Educate agencies, organizations, businesses and the public about the value of effective protected lands data inventories.

## How You Can Support PAD-US

- ✓ **Officially endorse** the Partnership (use the form, over)
- ✓ **Share** your protected lands data
- ✓ **Incorporate** PAD-US GIS standards
- ✓ **Identify funding** or other resources to keep PAD-US up to date
- ✓ **Provide in-kind staffing** or other support for data development or review
- ✓ **Promote PAD-US** and the Partnership to others
- ✓ **Communicate** with the Partnership about improvements and opportunities

# Endorse the PAD-US Partnership and Join the Partnership Council

Your agency or organization can support the PAD-US Partnership by adopting the following endorsement. Those who endorse the PAD-US Partnership become members of the Partnership Council, a voluntary advisory body that provides information to the

Partnership and is kept up to date on PAD-US activities. You can fill out this form and fax it to 415-979-0371 or download an electronic version at the PAD-US web site for submission on your letterhead ([www.protectedlands.net/partnership](http://www.protectedlands.net/partnership)).

Organization/Agency name: \_\_\_\_\_

hereby officially endorses and supports the PAD-US Partnership as the coordinating body for gathering and disseminating a national GIS inventory of protected areas in the United States and thereby becomes a member of the PAD-US Partnership Council. We commit our best efforts to supporting the Partnership, including any or all of the following actions:

- Share relevant GIS data with the Partnership, for purposes of creating and maintaining the PAD-US;
- Incorporate PAD-US data standards into our own GIS data, as appropriate and feasible;
- Identify and, wherever possible, secure funding that enables the Partnership to carry out its objectives;
- Provide to the Partnership in-kind staffing and other support as available, for data development and integration, technology advancement and public outreach and education;

- Provide to the Partnership in-kind staffing and other support as available, for data development and integration, technology advancement and public outreach and education;
- Promote the Partnership to other organizations and forums, encouraging their active support for this collaborative endeavor; and,
- Communicate with the Partnership to inform it of opportunities and areas for improvement.

We also acknowledge the goals and structure of the PAD-US Partnership and pledge to abide by its decision making, while recognizing that Partnership Council membership is voluntary. We will designate a liaison to the Council who will be responsible for our communication to and from the Partnership.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Org./Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments:

Council Liaison: \_\_\_Yes \_\_\_No\*\*

\*If not the liaison, please email name, affiliation and contact information

## PAD-US Partnership Contacts

### Steering Committee:

- Rob Aldrich, Land Trust Alliance
- Danielle Conboy, The Nature Conservancy
- Kevin Gergely, USGS Gap Analysis Program
- John Mosesso, USGS Gap Analysis Program
- John Reitsma, Bureau of Land Management
- Brad Smith, USDA Forest Service
- Jim Strittholt, Conservation Biology Institute

### Project Support:

*Project Coordinator:* Larry Orman, GreenInfo Network  
[padus@protectedlands.net](mailto:padus@protectedlands.net)

*Technical Consultant:* Michael Turner  
Applied Geographics, Inc.