PAD-US—National Inventory of Protected Areas

The Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) is the official inventory of public parks and other protected open space. With more than 3 billion acres in 150,000 holdings, the spatial data in PAD-US represents public lands held in trust by thousands of national, State and regional/local governments, as well as non-profit conservation organizations.

View and download PAD-US data at the following Web site:
http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/padus

PAD-US is published by the U.S. Geological Survey Gap Analysis Program (GAP). GAP produces data and tools that help meet critical national challenges such as biodiversity conservation, recreation, public health, climate change adaptation, and infrastructure investment. Learn more about GAP and other GAP data (including species and land cover) at http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov.

**Key Features**

- Includes fee-protected public parks and other lands, designated areas, conservation easements from the National Conservation Easement Database, and Marine Protected Areas
- Integrated Federal agency land management data coordinated by the Federal Lands Working Group and national conservation organization data
- Aggregated State by State inventories from State data stewards (local/regional data not yet available for all areas)
- Land coding that includes degree of access for public recreation, plus conservation rankings (GAP Status Codes 1–4), and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) categories
- Spatial data are available for public download and are accessible as web services
- Learn more at www.ProtectedLands.net

**PAD-US data are crucial to a wide range of activities:**

- Managing public lands to better protect biodiversity
- Reporting to the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) World Database on Protected Areas
- Providing improved recreation access and supporting public health campaigns
- Ensuring effective siting for renewable energy facilities and other infrastructure
- Developing action strategies to mitigate climate change impacts

http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov For more information on PAD–US, contact the National Program Manager at 208-426-5219
“PAD-US is the most complex, yet intelligently designed, database of its kind. Nothing else exists that aggregates data from authoritative sources as completely as PAD-US.”

—Roger Johnson (National Park Service, Chief Cartographer)

“This major update to PAD-US will be a critical data source for Forest Service GIS analysts, who use it to help determine surface management jurisdiction and designations on lands outside the National Forest System boundary.”

Troy Warburton (U.S. Forest Service, Automated Lands Program)

“PAD-US 1.4 benefits the Service as we implement Strategic Habitat Conservation and work with conservation partners across the landscape.”

Ron Salz (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Chief Cartographer)

“PAD-US is a powerful tool and now has much MORE information available. Being able to use one data source that handles surface management jurisdiction and designations, and is transparent back to the original data sources, is tremendously important for the wildland fire community.”

Andrew Bailey (National Wildfire Coordinating Group)