



Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs) are represented by 22 regions established across the U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, and U.S. territories. LCC groups are created through conservation and science partnerships among federal agencies, states, tribes, non-governmental organizations, universities, and private stakeholders.

In 2010, Secretary of the Interior Salazar established LCCs to address national scale stressors, such as declining wildlife species, wildfire, invasive species, regional water use and conservation, and climate change, that are beyond the reach of any one management entity.

LCCs build on existing partnerships for national or international monitoring and research. A major part of the LCC mission is to work with U.S. Department of Interior [Climate Change Response Centers](#) to develop regional strategies for understanding and responding to climate change impacts. For example, upper and lower basin LCCs were partners in the [Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study](#), which examined possible climate-change-related imbalances and unmet demands for Colorado River water over the next 50 years. LCCs in the Colorado River basin also coordinate funding for other research initiatives related to water conservation. LCCs are involved in conservation joint ventures with other groups to find solutions to broad regional ecological issues and problems.

Through partnerships and coordination of research efforts, LCCs contribute to identifying, quantifying, and communicating the social and economic impacts of ecosystem services to the general public. LCC boundaries are included in EnviroAtlas to assist users from the LCC community to view EnviroAtlas data in the context of their LCC local areas.

Things to know before using these data:

LCC region boundaries are based on other existing ecological framework boundaries, such as Bird Conservation Regions and EPA Level II ecoregions. The regions were created as areas of cooperation in geographic locations where agencies with similar missions have staff focused on regional issues. As a result, regions may cover very diverse landscapes, such as the Southern Rockies LCC, which ranges from high mountain peaks to the deserts of the Colorado Plateau. Because of this within-region ecological



diversity, LCCs may be considered more as administrative regions; that is, LCC regions may not be useful as a framework for data analysis or to reveal patterns in ecological data.

Where can I go for more information?

The U.S. Department of the Interior released [Secretarial Order 3289](#) in March, 2009 that established Landscape Conservation Cooperatives to assist in applying science to increase the understanding and response to climate change.

The Landscape Conservation Cooperative Network provides an overview of [LCC functions](#), conservation issues, projects, and participating organizations online. The LCCs' top issues, besides climate change, include renewable energy development, invasive species, aquatic habitat connectivity, and wildlife conservation.

To download the LCC region boundaries, visit the USFWS [Geospatial Services](#) website. Click [here](#) for full USFWS LCC metadata.

NOTE: The data described in this fact sheet have not been prepared or reviewed by the EnviroAtlas team; they are sourced from publicly available external web services and as such are prepared, stored, and managed by the organization listed above. With current technology, the EnviroAtlas team has no control over the way these data display in our application. Please go to the sources listed here for more information.