

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCCs)

Climate change is the greatest environmental and conservation challenge of the 21st century. The impacts of climate change are already beginning to strengthen other existing stresses on ecosystems and ecological communities. The DOI is leading an effort to develop landscape conservation cooperatives (LCCs), that will serve as non-regulatory partnerships to enhance conservation partner's capacity to forecast, plan for and mitigate or adapt to adverse effects of climate change on the resources they manage. LCCs are science-based partnerships between Federal agencies, States, Tribes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), universities, and other organizations within a defined geographic area. There will eventually be 21 LCCs that will cover the US and parts of Canada and Mexico. In summary, LCCs will provide the scientific basis needed to help inform the development of strategic, landscape-scale conservation by sharing science capacity and giving all partners access to the same scientific information. In the Pacific Northwest we have three LCCs under development; the Great Northern LCC, North Pacific LCC, and Great Basin LCC.

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