



California Landscape Conservation Cooperative Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

PURPOSE, GOALS AND SCOPE

What is the purpose of California Landscape Conservation Cooperative (CA LCC)?

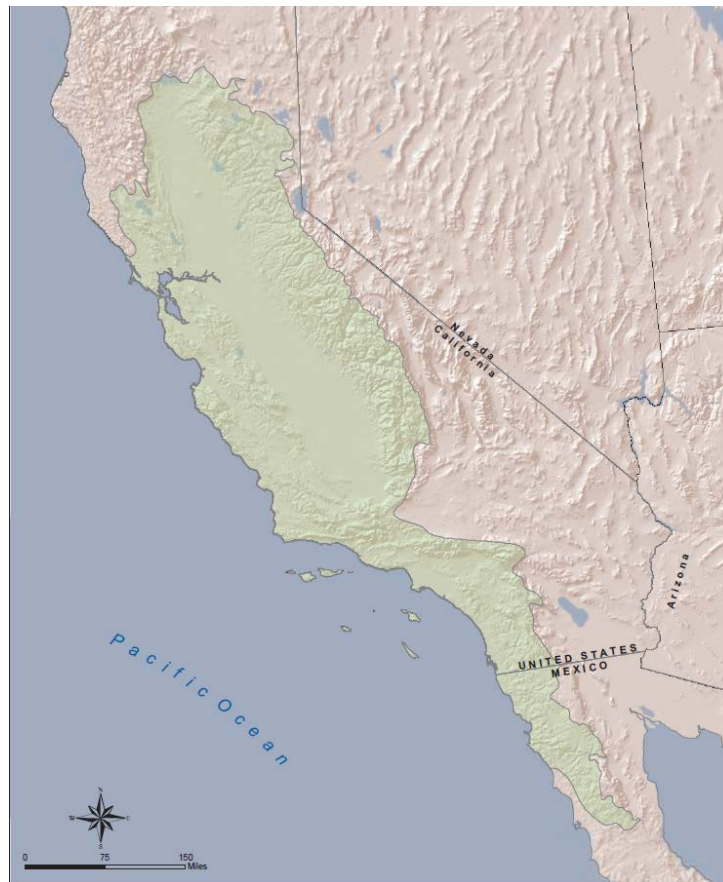
The CA LCC is a management-science partnership informing and promoting integrated science, natural resource management and conservation to address impacts of climate change and other stressors within and across ecosystems.

What are the goals of the CA LCC?

- 1) Foster collaboration and integration of science and management.
- 2) Support research, monitoring, and the development of technical products to inform and enhance conservation decisions and actions.
- 3) Facilitate information acquisition, interpretation, translation, exchange and availability.
- 4) Promote adaptive management.
- 5) Communicate information, findings, activities, and opportunities within and outside the LCC community.

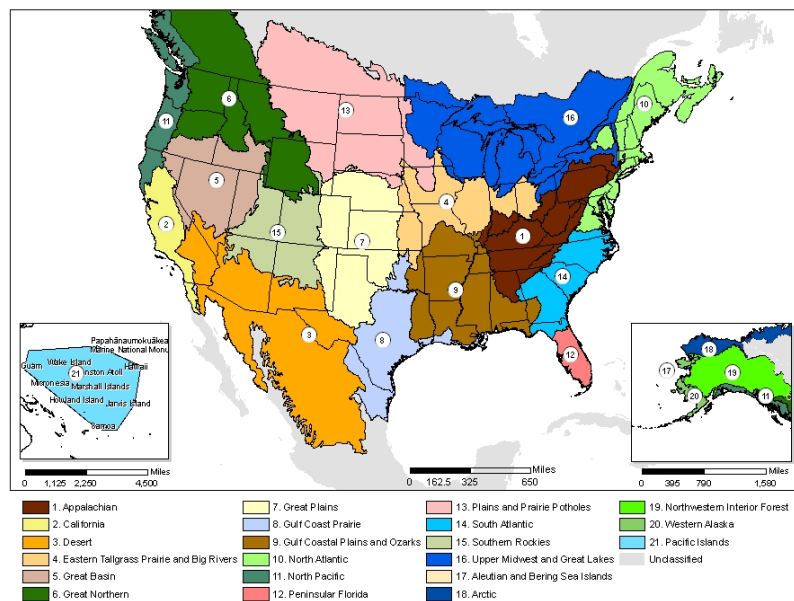
What is the geographic scope of the CA LCC?

The CA LCC covers most of California extending from north of Redding to northern Baja California, Mexico and from the Sierra Nevada west (see map below). After stakeholder workshops in Southern California in January 2011, efforts are now underway to set up a structure for the entire LCC.



How many LCC's are there in California?

The CA LCC covers the largest part of California. Other LCCs that cover pieces of California include the Desert LCC (orange), the Great Basin LCC (beige) and the North Pacific LCC (green along the coast).



How does the CA LCC fit within the existing network of conservation partnerships?

The CA LCC is not intended to replace or supplant existing conservation partnerships. Rather, the goal is to strengthen these existing partnerships by working closely with them and helping them address their existing priority conservation needs. The CA LCC provides a coordination network among groups and promotes the sharing of products and information.

What is the connection between the CA LCC and conservation delivery?

The CA LCC is not a vehicle for on-the-ground actions. Rather, the CA LCC provides enhanced scientific information to help improve the conservation delivery of the participating partners within the LCC.

GOVERNANCE AND ORGANIZATION

How is the CA LCC governed?

The CA LCC is governed by a Steering Committee composed of federal, state and non-governmental organizations and supported by the larger LCC community called the Alliance. The Steering Committee charts the vision, develops a strategic plan and guides the progress of the CA LCC. The Steering Committee identifies necessary subcommittees such as a Science Team to accomplish specific tasks for the LCC.

How is the CA LCC staffed?

The Fish and Wildlife Service has hired a Coordinator and Science Coordinator. The USGS has hired a landscape ecologist. Additional staffing needs will be identified by the LCC partners and may be housed or funded by LCC partners. Staff is co-located on campus at Sacramento State University and in the future potentially at other strategic locations.

What are the types of products produced by the LCCs?

LCC products vary across the nation but include: risk and vulnerability assessments for species and habitat, inventory and monitoring methods and protocols, population and habitat assessments, and conservation plans and designs. The CA LCC funded 11 projects in 2010 that included a vulnerability assessment for rare plants and monitoring methods and protocols for tidal marsh birds. An additional 15 projects were funded in 2011 including development of an online risk mapping tool for invasive species and the analysis on the effects of climate change on inland fisheries in California.

LCCS AND STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES

What impact does CA LCC have on state management authority over resident wildlife?

The CA LCC has no impact on state management authority of resident wildlife. However, the tools developed by the CA LCC will hopefully provide state agencies with additional tools in helping them address issues impacting management of resident wildlife. State Wildlife Action Plans will play an important role in identifying the shared scientific needs and priorities for the CA LCC.

Will financial support be provided to states in order to facilitate their participation in LCCs?

Any financial support to states will vary among LCCs and will be decided after consultation with the Steering Committee of each LCC and the individual states participating in the LCC, as well as other partners who may be bringing other funding to the LCC.

What role do other federal agencies play in LCCs?

Other federal agencies are playing an integral role in the LCCs much like the role of interested state fish and wildlife agencies and other partners. In some cases, they are a co-lead with the Fish and Wildlife Service or the single lead for an LCC such as the Bureau of Land Management for the Great Basin LCC. In other cases, they are an active participant in the steering committee.

What is the relationship between LCCs and Climate Science Centers (CSCs)?

LCCs focus primarily on applied science related to defining and achieving the conservation objectives established by the participating partners. CSCs will focus more on the development of science that is of broader applicability and may be less applied in nature.

Which Climate Science Center will work with the California LCC?

A Southwest Climate Science Center (SWCSC) was announced at the University of Arizona in September 2010. The SWCSC is composed of an alliance of universities in the western U.S called the Southwest Climate Science Alliance. The alliance includes:

- University of California, Davis;
- University of California, Los Angeles;
- Desert Research Institute, Reno;
- University of Colorado, Boulder;
- Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California, San Diego.