

NCED NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

A Message for Easement Data Holders

PURPOSE

In collaboration with land trusts and public agencies, create a single, up-to-date, sustainable nationwide system for managing and accessing data about conservation easements.

WHAT IS NCED?

The NCED will be the **first national database of conservation easement information**, compiling records from land trusts and public agencies throughout the United States.

Voluntary and secure, the NCED respects landowner privacy and will not collect landowner names or sensitive information. This **public-private partnership** brings together national conservation groups, local and regional land trusts, and state and federal agencies around a common objective. The NCED will provide a comprehensive picture of the estimated 40 million acres of privately-owned conservation easement lands, recognizing their contribution to America's natural heritage, a vibrant economy, and healthy communities.

BENEFITS FOR LAND TRUSTS AND AGENCIES

Through voluntary participation in the NCED, your land trust or agency can...

- **Plan and act more strategically.** Reliable data about which lands are protected and where is essential to good planning and policy-making for conservation, natural resource management, or development. Knowing what's been protected by other land trusts and agencies near you improves your own planning and analysis.
- **Advance public accountability.** Show funders, supporters, and the public that you are accountable, organized, and transparent.
- **Raise your profile.** See your accomplishments depicted on the national map.
- **Control your information.** You can request that your easement locations be included in the database only, but not displayed on the map.
- **Get on with your work.** Our data collection process will respect your workload. We know you are busy, and will provide one clear point of contact for you with the NCED.



Left: Dan and Beverly Wolf, donors of a conservation easement held by the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, New Hampshire (photo courtesy of the Land Trust Alliance)

A VITAL INFORMATION RESOURCE

- **A Collaborative Partnership:** Five leading conservation organizations have joined forces to develop the NCED: Conservation Biology Institute, Defenders of Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, NatureServe, and Trust for Public Land.
- **Broad Support:** Key partners providing support, advice, and data to the NCED include the Land Trust Alliance, representing the views and concerns of the nation's 1,700+ local and regional land trusts, The Nature Conservancy, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Forest Service.
- **Coordinated:** The partners and supporters are networking their data to allow users to overlay maps of easements with maps of other protected lands, habitat types, and wildlife information.
- **Accessible:** The NCED will make non-sensitive conservation easement information easily accessible to everyone who needs it. NCED data will be available through the Protected Areas Database of the U.S. (PAD-US), the Conservation Registry, LandScope America, CARL (Conservation and Recreation Lands), the Conservation Almanac, and Data Basin. A main portal will allow users to submit data on new easements.
- **Expertise:** The project team has extensive experience working with conservation easements and data systems, and brings a state-of-the-art technology platform to the effort.

WE INVITE YOUR PARTICIPATION

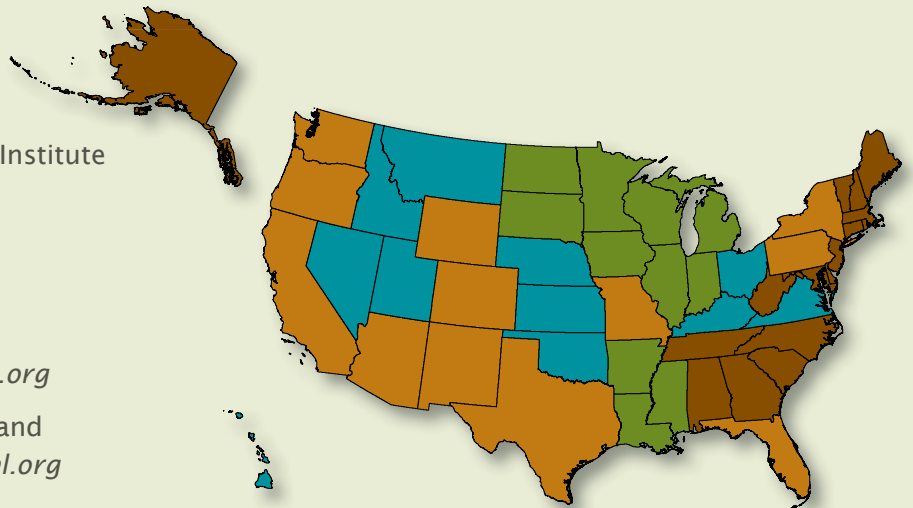
A knowledgeable representative from our project team will contact you to discuss your interest in participating, what easement data you have, and how it can be formatted for the database. In this first phase, we're interested in obtaining digital spatial data only; if your data is not digitized yet, we'll make a note and check back with you in the future.

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