USGS Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) Version 2.1 Data Dictionary

Entity Type Label: PADUS2_1Combined_Proclamation_Marine_Fee_Designation_Easement

Entity Type Description: The 'Combined' feature classes integrate other feature classes from the PAD-US 2.1 geodatabase, as described in the name (and in database load order) including core PAD-US attributes only.

See the **Online PAD-US Data Manual** for more information, including attribute domain codes, domain descriptions and crosswalks: *https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/science-analytics-and-synthesis/gap/pad-us-data-manual*.

Attribute Label	Attribute Alias	Attribute Definition
OBJECTID		Sequential unique whole numbers that are automatically generated
Shape		Coordinates defining the features
FeatClass	Feature Class	This field, added to the PAD-US 2.1 'Combined' feature classes, identifies the original feature class ('Fee', 'Easement', 'Designation', etc.) a unit occurred in before combination. This is included to assist users seeking data in the 'Fee' feature class as data gaps exist and 'Category' (which would otherwise define feature class placement) may be 'Other' or 'Unknown'.
Category	Category	The general 'Category' for the protection mechanism associated with the protected area. 'Fee' simple is the most common way real estate is owned. A conservation 'easement' creates a legally enforceable land preservation agreement between a landowner and government agency or qualified land protection organization (i.e. land trust). 'Other' types of protection include leases, agreements, or deed restrictions. 'Designation' is applied to management boundaries not tied to title documents (e.g. 'National Monument', 'Wild and Scenic River', and some 'State Wildlife Management Area') overlapping fee ownership parcels. 'Marine' includes outer continental shelf lands managed by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and Marine Protected Areas identified by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. 'Proclamation' defines the outer boundaries of areas without internal ownership defined: Tribal Lands (Census AIA), Military Lands (Department of Defense), Proclamation (National Park Service and Forest Service) and Approved Acquisition Boundaries (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).
Own_Type	Owner Type	The general land owner description (e.g. 'Federal', 'Territorial', 'American Indian Lands', 'State', 'Regional Agency Special District', 'Local Government', 'Non-Governmental Organization', 'Private', 'Joint') standardized for the U.S. See PAD-US Data Manual for the "Agency Name to Agency Type Crosswalk" or geodatabase look up table for full domain descriptions. 'Regional Agency Special Districts' include limited purpose governmental units that exist separately from local governments such as county or municipal. 'Designation' is applied to designations overlapping fee lands as ownership is not applicable. Use the 'Manager Type' field for the best general depiction of Federal lands as several ownership related data gaps (i.e. 'Owner Type' = 'Unknown') occur in the Federal theme.
Own_Name	Owner Name	Land owner or holding agency (e.g. 'Forest Service', 'State Fish and Wildlife', 'City Land', Non-Governmental Organization) standardized for the U.S. See PAD-US Data Manual or geodatabase 'Agency Name' lookup table for full domain descriptions. Please note there are instances where 'Owner Name' = 'Designation' rather than an 'Agency Name' as expected. 'Designation' is applied to designations overlapping fee as ownership (i.e. the 'Owner Name') is not applicable, while it remains a core attribute. A python script assigns 'Owner Name' from 'Local Owner' (PAD-US 2.1 Local Owner to Owner Name Crosswalk at https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/file/get/5f186a2082cef313ed8432577?f=__disk__8e%2F08%2F44%2F8e084431cbc6135dd80c314126e8a85e5d960328). 'Owner Name' also contains unknown values where parcel level ownership data are not yet available from authoritative data sources. Use the 'Manager Name' field for the best depiction of Federal lands by agency as several ownership related data gaps (i.e. 'Owner Name' = 'Unknown') occur in the Federal theme.
Loc_Own	Local Owner	The name of the land owner as provided by the data source, to complement the standardized 'Owner Name' field (e.g. 'State Fish and Wildlife' is a standard 'Owner Name', while 'Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife' reflect source data in the 'Local Owner' field) as more detail may be provided. A python script assigns 'Owner Name' from 'Local Owner' (PAD-US 2.1 Local Owner to Owner Name Crosswalk at https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/file/get/5f186a2082cef313ed8432577?f=__disk__8e%2F08%2F44%2F8e084431cbc6135dd80c314126e8a85e5d960328). Efforts to complete and standardize 'Local Owner' in cooperation with data-stewards are in progress.
Mang_Type	Manager Type	General land manager description (e.g. 'Federal', 'Territorial', 'American Indian Lands', 'State', 'Regional Agency Special District', 'Local Government', 'Non-Governmental Organization', 'Private', 'Joint') standardized for the U.S. See PAD-US Data Manual for "Agency Name to Agency Type Crosswalk" or geodatabase look up table for full domain descriptions. Use the 'Manager Type' field for the most complete general depiction of Federal lands as ownership related data gaps (i.e. 'Owner Type' = 'Unknown') occur in the Federal theme.
Mang_Name	Manager Name	Land manager or administrative agency (e.g. 'Forest Service', 'State Fish and Wildlife', 'City Land', Non-Governmental Organization) standardized for the U.S. See PAD-US Data Manual or geodatabase look up table for 'Agency Name' for full domain descriptions. A python script assigns 'Manager Name' from 'Local Manager' (PAD-US 2.1 Local Owner to Owner Name Crosswalk: https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/file/get/5f186a2082cef313ed843257?f=__disk__8e%2F08%2F44%2F8e084431cbc6135dd80c314126e8a85e5d9603287?f=__disk__8e%2F08%2F44%2F8e084431cbc6135dd80c314126e8a85e5d960328). Use 'Manager Name' for the best depiction of Federal lands by agency as the 'Owner Name' field includes data gaps (i.e. 'Owner Name' = 'Unknown'), where parcel level ownership data are not yet available from authoritative data sources.
Loc_Mang	Local Manager	The name of the land manager as provided by the data source, to complement the standardized 'Manager Name' field (e.g. 'City Land' is a standard 'Manager Name' while 'Agoura Hills, City of' is an example of a 'Local Manager').
Des_Tp	Designation Type	The unit's land management description or 'Designation Type', standardized for the U.S. (e.g. 'Area of Critical Environmental Concern', 'Wilderness Area', 'State Park', 'Local Recreation Area', 'Conservation Easement'). See the PAD-US Data Manual for a crosswalk of 'Designation Type' from source data where 'Local Designation Type' may include related designations in various formats (e.g. NWSR, National Recreation River, National Scenic River, Eligible - Recreational, Eligible - Wild, etc.) or the geodatabase look up table for 'Designation Type' domain descriptions. 'Designation Type' supports PAD-US queries and the categorical assignment of conservation measures (i.e. 'GAP Status Code', 'IUCN Category') and 'Public Access' in the absence of other information.
Loc_Ds	Local Designation	The unit's land management description or designation as provided by the data source. 'Local Designation Type' is not standardized and complements the standardized PAD-US 'Designation Type' field as more detail may be available. Null values indicate designation related information was not available in source files and categorical assignments to 'Designation Type' apply. See the PAD-US Data Manual for a crosswalk of 'Designation Type' (e.g. 'State Conservation Area') from source data where 'Local Designation Type' may include various, related designations referenced in source data (e.g. State Natural Area, State Ecological Reserve, State Nature Preserve, State Critical Habitat Area, State Wildlife Management Area, etc.).
Unit_Nm	Unit Name	The name of overall protected area following the PAD-US Standard (i.e. full name including the designation type in Proper Case without acronyms, unit identifiers, special characters, space or return errors), complimenting 'Local Name'. As null values are not permitted in this standardized field, categorical assignments are sometimes made from the 'Manager Name' field and an auto-incremented number for each protected area when data gaps occur in source files. This field is in a state of transition as data-stewards move toward common standards.
Loc_Nm	Local Name	The name of the protected area as provided by the data source; the 'Local Name' field is not standardized. This field may or may not include designations, different formats, spelling errors, unit or area identifiers unique to parcels; however, it references source data files directly.
State_Nm	State Name	Name of State or territory by USPS abbreviation as domain code. U.S. Census Bureau States and Equivalent data serve as the common standard to apply 'State Name' and State jurisdictional boundaries. Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) Source Data are available at http://www.protectedlands.net/data-stewards/.

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*See the **Online PAD-US Data Manual** for more information, including attribute domain codes, domain descriptions and crosswalks: https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/science-analytics-and-synthesis/gap/pad-us-data-manual.*

Attribute Label	Attribute Alias	Attribute Definition
Agg_Src	Aggregator Source	Aggregator Source' describes the Aggregator (Organization) credited with data aggregation, version of PAD-US when the update occurred, feature class name (except when split into multiple feature classes) the data reside in, reference to the original source data file, and a reference to describe the State location to manage boundary inconsistencies between agency datasets (from State data-steward submissions only). 'Aggregator Source' is attributed in the format 'organization name_PADUSversion_featureclass_filename_filetype' (e.g. TNC_PADUS1_4_SecuredAreas2008.shp). State aggregations also include a reference to the State in the format 'organization name_PADUSversion_filename_filetype_StateUSPS'. Aggregators may not always be able to define the geodatabase feature class as data may be mixed (e.g. MNDNR_PADUS2_0_MN2015_PADUS_MN_1.gdb_MN, NJOGIS_PADUS2_0Fee_OSPRI_August2017_NJ). Organization acronyms are used and underscore replaces spaces and periods. A data aggregator submits data in the PAD-US format or includes nonprofit aggregators managing regional or national datasets with required fields for PAD-US translation. USGS is identified as an aggregator when data translation is required (e.g. USGS_PADUS2_0Fee_BLM_SMA_ADMU_Union). Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) Source Data are available at http://www.protectedlands.net/data-stewards/.
GIS_Src	GIS Source	The source of spatial data the aggregator obtained (e.g. WYGF_whmas08.shp) for each record. Files names match original source data provided by managing agencies to increase update efficiency and data transparency. This field is in a state of transition to fully meet standards as the original 'GIS Source' is not always provided in aggregated datasets.
Src_Date	GIS Source Date	This represents the date (yyyy/mm/dd) GIS data was published or obtained (in the case of infrequently updated files) by the data aggregator. If month or day is unknown, the date is yyyy/00/00. The date an aggregated dataset was delivered to USGS may also be assigned to address data gaps when the original 'GIS Source Date' is not available.
GIS_Acres	GIS Acres	Acres calculated for each polygon converted from the Shape_Area field using field calculator "!shape.area@acres!".
GAP_Sts	GAP Status Code	The 'GAP Status Code' is a measure of management intent to conserve biodiversity defined as: **GAP Status Code 1** - An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a natural state within which disturbance events (of natural type, frequency, intensity, and legacy) are permitted to proceed without interference or are mimicked through management; **GAP Status Code 2** - An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a primarily natural state, but which may receive uses or management practices that degrade the quality of existing natural communities, including suppression of natural disturbance; **GAP Status Code 3** - An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover for most of the area, but subject to extractive uses of either a broad, low-intensity type (e.g., logging, Off Highway Vehicle recreation) or localized intense type (e.g., mining). It also confers protection to Federally listed endangered and threatened species throughout the area; **GAP Status Code 4** - There are no known public or private institutional mandates or legally recognized easements or deed restrictions held by the managing entity to prevent conversion of natural habitat types to anthropogenic habitat types. The area generally allows conversion to unnatural land cover throughout or management intent is unknown. See the PAD-US Standards Manual for a summary of methods or the geodatabase look up table for short descriptions.
GAPCdSrc	GAP Status Code Source	An acronym to describe the organization(s) that applied 'GAP Status Code' to a unit boundary. This field also describes the methods used for assigning GAP Status as follows: 'GAP - Default' - is assigned when GAP's categorical assignment of status has been applied, without more detailed review or inquiry; 'GAP' - is assigned when standard methods (includes management plan review or land manager interview to assign GAP Status to a protected area) apply; 'GAP - Other Organization' (e.g. 'GAP - NPS') applies when the measure is assigned in partnership with GAP, including review; Other Organization' is assigned when another organization applied GAP Status according to their methods (e.g. The Nature Conservancy).
GAPCdDt	GAP Status Code Source Date	The most current Year (yyyy) the 'GAP Status Code' was assigned to the polygon.
IUCN_Cat	IUCN Category	International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) management categories assigned to protected areas for inclusion in the United Nations Environment World Conservation Monitoring Center (UNEP-WCMC) World Database for Protected Areas (WDPA) and the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) North American Terrestrial Protected Areas Database. IUCN defines a protected area as, "A clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values" (includes GAP Status Code 1 and 2 only). Categorization follows as: **IUCN Category Ia** - Strict Nature Reserves are strictly protected areas set aside to protect biodiversity and possibly geological or geomorphological features, where human visitation, use and impacts are strictly controlled and limited to ensure preservation of the conservation values. Such protected areas can serve as indispensable reference areas for scientific research and monitoring; **IUCN Category Ib** - Wilderness Areas protected areas are usually large unmodified or slightly modified areas, retaining their natural character and influence, without permanent or significant human habitation, which are protected and managed to preserve their natural condition; **IUCN Category II** - National Park protected areas are large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes, along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area, which also provide a foundation for environmentally and culturally compatible spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities; **IUCN Category III** - Natural Monument or Feature protected areas are set aside to protect a specific natural monument, which can be a landform, sea mount, submarine caverns, geological features such as caves, or even a living feature such as an ancient grove. They are generally quite small protected areas and often have high visitor value; **IUCN Category IV** - Habitat and (or) species management protected areas aim to protect particular species or habitats and management reflects this priority. Many category IV protected areas will need regular, active interventions to address the requirements of particular species or to maintain habitats, but this is not a requirement of this category; **IUCN Category V**-Protected landscape and (or) seascape protected areas occur where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural, and scenic value; **IUCN Category VI** - Protected area with sustainable use (community based, non-industrial) of natural resources are generally large, with much of the area in a more-or-less natural condition and whereas a proportion is under sustainable natural resource management and where such exploitation is seen as one of the main aims of the area. **Other Conservation Areas** are not recognized by IUCN at this time; however, they will be evaluated to determine if they meet the definition of Other Effective Area Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) for inclusion in the WDPA following recently released guidance. These areas (GAP Status Code 3 areas only) are attributed in the 'IUCN Category' Domain along with 'Unassigned' areas (GAP Status Code 4). In addition, a few areas are included as 'Not Reported', these areas meet the definition of IUCN protection (i.e. GAP Status Code 1 or 2) but 'IUCN Category' has not yet been assigned and categorical assignment is not appropriate. See the PAD-US Data Manual for a summary of methods.
IUCNCtSrc	IUCN Category Source	An acronym to describe the organization(s) that applied 'IUCN Category' to the polygon. This field also describes the methods used for assigning 'IUCN Category' as follows:GAP - Default' is assigned when GAP's categorical assignment of status has been applied, without additional review; GAP - Other Organization' (e.g. 'GAP - NPS') applies when the measure is assigned in partnership with GAP, including review; Other Organization' applies when IUCN Category is assigned by another organization according to their methods (e.g. NOAA).
IUCNCtDt	IUCN Code Source Date	The most current Year (yyyy) the 'IUCN Category' was assigned to the polygon.

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Attribute Label	Attribute Alias	Attribute Definition
Pub_Access	Public Access	Level of 'Public Access' permitted, described as: **Open** requires no special requirements for public access to the property (may include regular hours of availability); **Restricted** requires a special permit from the owner for access, a registration permit on public land (e.g. self-permitting Wild and Scenic River, backcountry Wilderness registration) or has highly variable times when open to use (e.g. Wildlife Area with seasonal closures to protect winter range or breeding habitat); **Closed** occurs where no public access is allowed (e.g. land bank property, special ecological study areas, military bases, many easements, etc.); **Unknown** is assigned where information is not currently available (assumed Closed).
Access_Src	Public Access Source	An acronym to describe the organization(s) that applied 'Public Access' to the polygon. This field also describes the methods used for assigning 'Public Access' as follows: 'GAP - Default' is assigned when GAP's categorical assignment of status has been applied, without additional review; GAP - Other Organization' (e.g. 'GAP - NPS') applies when the measure is assigned in partnership with GAP, including review; Other Organization' applies when Public Access is assigned by another organization according to their methods (e.g. NOAA).
Access_Dt	Public Access Date	The most current Year (yyyy) the 'Public Access' classification was assigned to the polygon.
Date_Est	Date of Establishment	The Year (yyyy) the protected area was designated, decreed or otherwise established to support trend analyses as comparisons between PAD-US versions in an inappropriate data use (confounding factors associated with the varied maturity of GIS data systems). The date is assigned to each unit by name and designation type, without event status (e.g. Yellowstone National Park: 1872, Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness Area: 1980). This field is not fully attributed and data gaps are difficult to address.
Source_PAID	Source Protected Area Identifier	The 'Source Protected Area Identifier' (Source PAID) includes the persistent identifier (e.g. numbers, letters, or combinations of each) associated with each protected area, when available in source data. The intention is to maintain a reliable connection to join authoritative source data to previous PAD-US versions (to transfer attributes not available in source data) and support links to other data. This field is not fully attributed and significant work remains to ensure persistent identifiers are provided by all data-stewards. Several Federal data-stewards provided 'Source PAID' for PAD-US 2.1 -- the Federal Geographic Data Committee Federal Lands Working Group (FLWG) is working to ensure this field is operational for the Federal estate in the PAD-US format.
WDPA_Cd	World Database for Protected Areas (WDPA) Site Code	The 'World Database for Protected Areas (WDPA) Site Code' is assigned by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to all areas submitted to the WDPA. USGS maintains these codes, assigned to overall protected areas by 'Unit Name' (includes 'Designation Type'), between PAD-US updates. Areas identified as 'GAP Status Code' 1 or 2 meet the definition of biodiversity protection by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and are submitted to WCMC for the WDPA. Other areas will not have a 'WDPA Code'. This field may be incomplete and subject to change as code assignments for new protected areas follows each PAD-US publication. A derivative PAD-US-WDPA database, with all 'WDPA Codes', is sent to WCMC for the WDPA following each PAD-US update.
EHoldTyp	Easement Holder Type	Easement Holder Type' is the general description (e.g., 'Federal', 'Tribal', 'State', 'Private') of the easement holder, following the PAD-US 'Agency Type' domain codes and descriptions. This is a core attribute in the National Conservation Easement Database (NCED) that was transferred to the PAD-US Easement and various Combined feature classes.
EsmtHldr	Easement Holder	Easement Holder' is the name of the organization managing or holding the easement standardized by NCED to Proper Case with all acronyms spelled out (e.g. The Nature Conservancy [TNC]). This is a core attribute in the National Conservation Easement Database (NCED) provided by the easement holder or data provider that was transferred to the PAD-US 'Easement' and various 'Combined' feature classes.
Comments	Comments	Comments from either the original data source or aggregator.