

CPAD History and Defining Protected Lands

[00:00:01.77] As you may know, GreenInfo Network is the publisher of the California Protected Areas Database, CPAD. Let's take a look at its history and into how we define protected lands. So how did CPAD come about? Early versions of CPAD were developed by GreenInfo, going far back into the late 1990s but it didn't become a full database until 2008. And even then, it was fairly piecemeal.

[00:00:32.02] For a great many years, we did not have ongoing funding for CPAD. More recently, we have had multi-year support from the state, which has been terrific. However, GreenInfo continues to welcome feedback from diverse agencies and users. We do feel the accuracy is very good but covering such a large area and collection of agencies or organizations does mean it requires ongoing support and maintenance.

[00:01:01.48] In the data set itself, we have a very expansive view of what lands are protected. It includes the big wilderness areas and the deserts. But it also includes all the way down to the small urban parks, even as small as the neighborhood many parks. We want a broad inventory that covers everything because there's a wide range of users and users of the data.

[00:01:27.37] So what's in CPAD? It's all of these different sorts of lands and we've really made an effort to be broad and inclusive. CPAD includes lands owned outright or in technical terms, owned in fee or open space purposes. But it doesn't include public lands that are civic centers, water treatment sites, lands like that.

[00:01:52.34] It also doesn't include military lands, which can be important for open space but aren't managed for that. Tribal lands are not included unless they are expressly reported as open public lands by the tribe. Thank you, and we encourage you to continue exploring our video series.