

## **The Status of Plant Conservation Megan Haidet - Master's Thesis Research**

The attached survey is the primary research instrument in a Master's thesis project examining the status of plant conservation in the United States. As a Master's candidate at the Bard College Center for Environmental Policy, I hope to get a sense for the current strategies employed in plant conservation and how they relate to general conservation trends. The goal of this study is to examine current attention paid to plant conservation and detect where, if any, more attention is needed.

As you know, understanding plant population dynamics is a complicated science. Applying that understanding to the conservation of endangered communities is even more difficult. Please help me in my thesis research examining the general methods currently used by conservation organizations.

The survey should take no more than 10 or 15 minutes. I understand that all information revealed will not be for any purpose other than that which it was intended. All information will be kept confidential and all paper surveys will be destroyed at the end of the study.

Please return the survey to Megan Haidet, Center for Plant Conservation, PO Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299; or fax it to 314.577.9465.

If you have concerns regarding your rights as a participant in this study, please contact Robert Culp, Chair of the Bard College Internal Review Board on Human Subjects at (845) 758-7395.

If you have any questions regarding this study, please contact the Principle Investigator, Megan Haidet, at (740) 361-5019, [mahaidet@yahoo.com](mailto:mahaidet@yahoo.com), or my Faculty Sponsor, Jennifer Phillips, at (518) 758-7882 or (845) 758-7845, [Phillips@bard.edu](mailto:Phillips@bard.edu).

Thank you for participating in a study that will add to my Master's thesis research and the future of plant conservation.

Megan Haidet

**The Status of Plant Conservation**  
**Megan Haidet - Master's Thesis Research**

**Section 1: Organization Descriptors**

---

Organization descriptor: (select as many as apply)

- Non-profit
- For-profit
- University affiliated
- Government affiliated
- Association/society/club
- Botanical Garden/arboreta
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the activity that best describes your organization's primary focus:

- In-situ conservation
- Ex-situ conservation
- Horticultural display
- Land acquisition
- Research
- Public advocacy/lobbying
- Education
- Sales
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

Please select the scale category that best fits your organization:

- Local
- Regional
- National
- International

If you primarily work in the U.S., where are your organization's activities located:

- Mostly Western United States
- Mostly Central United States
- Mostly Eastern United States
- Distributed evenly throughout the United States

Please select your organization's primary audience/targets (check all that apply):

- General public
- Environmentally-minded public
- Botanists/scientific community
- Federal government
- Private landowners
- Botanical gardens/arboreta
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

If your organization participates in collaborative projects please select the types of groups with which you work? (check all that apply)

- Federal, state, local governments
- Corporations/Businesses
- International NGOs
- National NGOs
- Local NGOs
- Colleges/Universities
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

How is your organization informed about plant conservation topics? (check all that apply)

- Library research
- Expert member/staff
- Federal Register
- Scientific journal subscription
  - Which one(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- Communication with other organizations/newsletters/listserves
- Communication with lawmakers
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

What is your annual operating budget?

- Less than \$50,000
- \$50,000 - \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$250,000
- \$250,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,000 - \$1,000,000
- Greater than \$1,000,000

Please rank your top three funding sources:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Federal, state or local government
- \_\_\_\_\_ Foundation grants
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sales and admissions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Donations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section 2: Organizational Strategies for Plant Conservation**

---

Are your organization's activities primarily (check one):

- Species focused
- Ecosystem/Landscape/Habitat focused
- Not applicable

If your organization is focused on species conservation please select the list of species that you primarily try to conserve (select all that apply):

- Species federally listed by the Endangered Species Act
  - State listed or Natural Heritage Program species
  - IUCN Red List species
  - CITES listed species
  - Medicinal plants
  - Rare plants
  - Native plants
  - Other (please describe list composition and process of nomination/qualification): \_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 

Which of the landowners below do you see as more important in conserving imperiled species?

- Federal land-owning agencies
- Private landowners

Please rank the following activities in order of importance (1-10, 1 = highest importance) and check whether they fit into a long-term or short-term strategy for plant conservation.

Activity	Rank	Long-Term	Short-Term
Basic botanical surveys			
Restoration			
Land acquisition/protection			
Monitoring			
Public education			
In-situ management (e.g. fencing, invasive mgt., fire)			
Ex-situ conservation (e.g. seed banking)			
Political advocacy			
Native plant materials development			
Other (please describe):			

Of the above items, which do you think is most important and why?

In general, do you think the status of imperiled plant species is:

- Improving
- Stable
- Declining

Please list your organization's top 3 strategies for achieving progress in native plant conservation:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any challenges or barriers to achieving progress in plant conservation:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you are willing, please indicate your name and contact information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_