

This document includes the questions and the text that will be included on the shortened version of the GAP survey that will be sent to those who did not respond during the initial data collection. Statements regarding justification of the questions are inserted in gray-shaded text boxes. Respondents will not see these justifications. Skip logic directions are included in unshaded text boxes and in italicized text after response options. Respondents will not see the skip logic but will automatically be directed to the next question.

## **GAP Evaluation Non-respondent Follow-up Survey**

Welcome! This study is sponsored by the National Gap Analysis Program (GAP). The purpose of this survey is to collect information to help GAP understand the needs of those who use GAP data and to understand how well existing GAP data and programs meet those needs.

We include data from state GAP projects, regional GAP projects and the newest national GAP datasets in our definition of GAP data.

This survey is a shortened version of the original survey and will help us to determine how those who did not respond to the initial data collection may be different from those who did. We estimate it will take an average of 6 minutes to complete this survey. If you need to stop at any time during the survey, you can exit and re-enter the survey to finish it at another time.

**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et. seq.) requires us to inform you that this information is being collected to further the mission of GAP. Furnishing this information is completely voluntary and will be used to provide a report of up-to-date GAP data users. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 6 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions and completing the survey. Please direct any comments regarding this collection to the USGS Information Collection Officer, U.S. Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 807, Reston, VA, 20192. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:** You are not required to provide your personal contact information in order to submit your survey. However, if you do not provide contact information, we will not be able to contact you for additional information to verify your responses. This information will only be used to initiate follow-up communications with you and will be deleted from our files immediately afterwards. The records for this collection will be maintained in the appropriate Privacy Act System of Records identified as Computer Registration System. (INTERIOR/USGS-20) published at 74 FR 23430 (May 19, 2009).

The first question addresses your use of GAP data.

**Justification for Q1:** This question is necessary because knowing the respondent's use level is critical to: a) accurately characterize the survey respondents and interpret their responses with appropriate context and b) permit the direction of respondents to appropriate questions later in the survey.

- Q1 Which statement best describes your use of GAP data:
- a. I am using GAP data (either state, regional, or national data) at the present time, or have used it within the last five (5) years. → Q3
  - b. I last used GAP data (either state, or regional) more than five (5) years ago. → Q2
  - c. I am familiar with GAP data but have not used it. → Q2
  - d. I am not familiar with GAP and believe I have received this survey in error. → Q3

Responses to **Q1 d** will automatically skip to an abbreviated version of the survey consisting of Q3, Q4, and Q7.

**Justification for Q2:** The intent of a nonresponse survey is to understand in what way, if in any way, those who did not respond to a survey in the initial data collection differ from those who did respond. One possible and primary reason why people may have elected not to respond to the survey could be if they do not currently use GAP data, and if they do not use GAP data, why they do not currently use GAP data (Q2).

- Q2 Which of the following is the most significant reason that you do not currently use GAP data?
- a. GAP data are not available for my area.
  - b. GAP data are not applicable to the work I'm currently doing.
  - c. GAP data are outdated.
  - d. I have concerns about the content of the land cover data.
  - e. I have concerns about the quality of the land cover data.
  - f. I have concerns about the content of the predicted species distribution data.
  - g. I have concerns about the quality of the predicted species distribution data.
  - h. I have concerns about the content of the stewardship/protected areas data.
  - i. I have concerns about the quality of the stewardship/protected areas data.
  - j. GAP data are not compatible with the hardware that I use.
  - k. GAP data are not compatible with the other software packages I use.
  - l. Lack of information on how to use GAP data.
  - m. Lack of support from my organization for use of GAP data.
  - n. I use data similar to GAP data but that is provided by a different source.
- All responses* → Q3

Special instructions if Q1 = d:

Our sampling process for this survey was based on recommendations from other users of GAP data. Your name and email address were provided to us by someone who thought you were likely to have used GAP data. We apologize for the inconvenience.

If you would be willing to answer a few questions, it would help us to understand the ways in which our sampling process was off.

→ Q3, Q4, Q7

**Justification for Q3 and Q4:** These questions will help characterize respondents to the survey which is important to conducting nonresponse comparisons. There is one question regarding organization-level demographics. There is one question regarding individual-level demographics. Both the organization and individual level questions will help us understand how the survey respondents may differ from those who respond to the nonresponse survey.

Q3 Which category best describes your organization?

- a. Private (for profit)
- b. State
- c. University
- d. County
- e. Municipal
- f. Federal
- g. Non-profit
- h. Regional
- i. Tribal
- j. Other: [open response]

*All responses* → Q4

Q4 Which field most closely describes your current position?

- a. Ecology
- b. Biology
- c. Conservation
- d. GIS
- e. Land Use Planning
- f. Fish and Wildlife Management
- g. Land Management
- h Other: [open response]

*All responses* → Q5

If Q1 = d, then respondents were directed to Q3 and Q4. These respondents will be directed to Q7 next.

The next two questions ask you about which GAP datasets you have used.

Note: Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are included on the state dropdown menu.

**Justification for Q5:** GAP produces data at the state, regional, and most recently national levels. In order to understand and evaluate potential nonresponse bias, we need to know which data set survey respondents used. This set of questions asks about experience with and preferences for the different geographic levels of the datasets.

Q5 GAP produces data at multiple geographic levels. With which geographic set of data are you most experienced or familiar?

a. State: [drop down menu including all states plus Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands]

b. Regional: [drop down menu including Southwest, Southeast, and Northwest]

c. National:

*All responses* → Q6

**Justification for Q6:** GAP produces datasets with different types of content: land cover, predicted species distributions, stewardship, and layered analysis data. In order to understand potential nonresponse bias, we need to know which data set survey participants used. This question asks about experience with type of GAP data.

Q6 GAP produces different types of data. With which type of GAP data are you most experienced or familiar?

a. Land cover

b. Predicted Species Distributions

c. Stewardship/protected areas

d. Analysis (Land cover + Predicted Species Distribution + Stewardship/protected areas)

*All responses* → Q7

**Justification for Q7:** This open-ended question is provided as a courtesy to the survey respondents. It provides them with an opportunity to make any comment they wish. Survey respondents can skip this question if they choose.

Q7 End question: Would you like to make any other comments about the data provided by the Gap Analysis Program? [open-ended response]

*All responses or no response* → Q8

**Justification for Q8:** In order to protect the anonymity of the survey respondents, we will not maintain any personal identifiable information. If the respondents provide an email address we will use it separate from the survey responses to be used for the sole purpose of sending GAP related product information to interested parties.

Q8 If you would like to receive notifications of new release of GAP data, products, and other information, please type your email address here. If you choose to provide your email address, it will not be associated with your answers to any survey questions. [open-ended response]