

GAP ANALYSIS PROGRAM

SPECIES DATA

National Inventory of Range Maps and Distribution Models



Species data are published by the U.S. Geological Survey Gap Analysis Program (GAP). GAP produces data and tools that help meet critical national challenges such as biodiversity conservation, renewable energy development, climate change adaptation, and infrastructure investment. Learn more about GAP and other GAP data (including protected areas and land cover) at <http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov>.



The Gap Analysis Program (GAP) species data includes vertebrate range maps and distribution models for the continental United States, as well as Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands. The vertebrate species include amphibians, birds, mammals, and reptiles. Furthermore, data used to create the distribution models (for example, percent canopy cover, elevation, and so forth) also are available.

View and download the GAP species data at the following Web site:
<http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/species>

Key Features

- Species range maps are represented by 12-digit hydrologic units (HUCs) with attributes including reproductive and seasonal use.
- Species distribution models are built using a national wildlife habitat relational database based on habitat associations described in published literature. The models are created at 30-meter resolution using core datasets, including detailed land cover, elevation, and hydrological characteristics (for example, salinity, water type, and velocity). All these data are available for download.
- Species distribution models include winter, summer, and year-round areas.
- To date, information on over 1,480 species is available through the GAP Species Viewer. As more species ranges and distribution models are completed, GAP continually will update the data.
- Information regarding model variables used to create each species distribution model is available through GAP's Species Viewer <http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/species/viewer>.

Uses of Species Data

- Support conservation planning and forecasting by providing the location of species ranges and distribution;
- Aid analysis of the spatial patterns of species occurrence (for example, species richness);
- Identify species that are under- or not represented within current protected areas; and
- Contribute to national biodiversity assessments of vertebrate and other species.

GAP species data will be advanced through the ongoing development of new data regarding range or distribution as new information emerges from related projects and focused surveys.

View species data online at the following Web site:
<http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov/species/viewer>

<http://gapanalysis.usgs.gov>