



Keeping Common Species Common

12<sup>th</sup> Annual  
**NATIONAL  
GAP ANALYSIS  
PROGRAM  
MEETING**

*National Conservation  
Training Center,  
Shepherdstown, WV*

**JULY 31 –  
AUGUST 4**



**2002**



University of Idaho  
USGS Gap Analysis Program  
530 S. Asbury St., Suite 1  
Moscow, ID 83843

Presort Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
University of Idaho

**Program Background:**

The mission of the Gap Analysis Program (GAP) is to provide geographic information about biological diversity to assist planners, managers, and policy makers in making informed decisions. The program is designed to identify “gaps” in the existing network of protected lands by indicating the degree to which native animal species and plant communities are represented in that network. This technique helps reveal potential conservation problems, before they become acute, and helps land managers and stewards take a systematic and proactive approach to biodiversity management. GAP data and analytical tools are currently used in many applications, from basic scientific research to land management and conservation planning. These resources are part of the larger National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) <[www.nbii.gov](http://www.nbii.gov)>, a collaborative program that provides increased access to data and information on the nation’s biological resources.

**Purpose of the National Meeting**

The national meeting is an annual event that provides an opportunity for individuals interested in the issues and challenges that face large-area biodiversity science and planning to learn about GAP’s philosophy, technologies, information, and products and to network with others in the GAP community. The GAP community includes both national and international practitioners from a variety of fields including scientists, academics, resource managers, planners, private and nonprofit employees, and government officials.

*The focus of this year’s meeting is to introduce GAP to a professionally diverse audience and to continue to work towards producing products that are responsive and usable for our customers. Our agenda will be relevant not only to the needs of the existing*

*GAP community but also to people we have identified as potential users of GAP data products.*

**Lodging and Meals:**

The meeting will be held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) in Shepherdstown, WV. Accommodations and all meals will be provided in the Center’s beautiful lodges and Commons. The cost per night for a private guest room with a full-size bed and private bath, **with all meals included**, is \$78 for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employees, \$84 for BLM and Park Service employees, and \$101 for all other guests. Please note that attendees must guarantee their room reservation with a credit card by calling Hotel Reservations at 304-876-7900. Further information about the Center can be found at <http://training.fws.gov/>.

**Registration:**

The registration fee for this 4-day meeting is \$100 (single-day rate \$25), payable **by June 5**, to the GAP Operations Office. See registration form for details.

**Refund and Cancellation Policy:**

Room reservations cancelled 30-60 days prior to the meeting will be refunded by NCTC at 75% and 15-29 days prior at 50%. No refunds are given for cancellations 14 days or less prior to the check-in date. Registration fees will be refunded if requested 14 days before the start of the meeting. Substitutions are accepted at any time (call the GAP Operations Office at 208-885-3560). If the meeting has to be cancelled because of insufficient enrollment or other unforeseen circumstances, the GAP Operations Office will refund registration fees but cannot be held responsible for any other costs, charges, or expenses, including cancellation/change fees assessed by airlines or travel agencies.

**Dress:**

Shepherdstown is usually quite hot in July and August. Expect temperatures in the mid eighties. Humidity is generally high as well. We suggest loose clothing and additional hiking clothes and comfortable shoes for field trips or walking tours.

**Transportation:**

The Metropolitan Washington region is served by three major airports Dulles International, Washington National, and Baltimore Washington International (BWI). Shuttle service is available from Dulles to NCTC for \$30 round-trip. Space is limited; see registration form for times and sign-up on a first-come-first-served basis. Individuals that elect to use National or BWI may use public transit or a cab to get to Dulles to take advantage of the shuttle service. Links to these services are found in the transportation section of our meeting website. For those who elect to drive, parking is available on-site, free of charge.

**Location Information:**

The NCTC campus is located on 538 scenic acres on the banks of the Potomac River, surrounded by eastern hardwood forests and river meadows. Shepherdstown is a small college town, population 1,800, perched on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River. The town is the oldest in West Virginia, originally incorporated as Mecklenburg in 1762. The area is rich in historic sites and recreational opportunities.

**Field Trips and Recreational Opportunities:**

A number of field trips have been tentatively scheduled. These include guided tours of the Conservation Fund's Freshwater Institute, the TNC Yankauer Preserve, Harper's Ferry Historical Park, and Antietam National Battlefield. In addition, numerous commercial activities are available such as

caving, biking, and canoeing. Lastly, there are approximately 5 miles of footpaths on-site at NCTC for outdoor enjoyment. Some rooms are available at NCTC on Sunday night for those wanting to spend an extra day; however, no shuttle service is provided on Monday. *Check the GAP meeting website for more in-depth information about these activities.* <http://www.gap.uidaho.edu/Meetings/2002/default.htm>

**Presentation Topics:*****Applications and Socioeconomics:***

Effect of habitat fragmentation on abundance and nesting success.  
Impact of urban growth on biodiversity.  
Integrating socioeconomic variables into habitat vulnerability assessment.  
Assessing potential impacts of future mountaintop mining.  
Are GAP data applicable to producing educational products?  
Opportunities for and barriers to GAP implementation.  
Patterns of vertebrate diversity and landscape diversity in Vermont and New Hampshire.  
The NatureMapping Program.

***Land Cover:***

Challenges of mapping the land cover of Illinois.  
Mapping plant communities in the Mojave Desert using classification trees.  
Mapping an ecological systems classification.  
Status of land cover mapping for the Southwest Gap Analysis Project.

***Aquatic GAP:***

A species-habitat affinity database for Aquatic Gap Analysis in Virginia.  
Progress and future direction of the Aquatic GAP Project in Kansas.  
Organizing the Upper Missouri Aquatic GAP project.  
Updates on Aquatic GAP in Alabama, Georgia, Hawaii, and the Great Lakes.

**Animal Modeling:**

Gap Analysis of special features: amphibians and mammals of West Virginia caves.

Approach to animal habitat modeling in the Southwest Regional GAP project.

Modeling vertebrate range distributions from species occurrences and landscape variables.

Applying index overlay and fuzzy set cartographic modeling.

**Accuracy Assessment:**

A new approach for testing the accuracy of vertebrate occurrence predictions.

Fuzzy accuracy assessment of land cover map using airborne videography.

Assessing accuracy assessment in Gap Analysis.

Kentucky's approach to vertebrate accuracy assessment.

**Registration Form**

Mail or fax (208-885-3618) by **June 5, 2002** to  
USGS Gap Analysis Program, 530 Asbury St., Suite 1, Moscow, ID 83843

Questions: call Elisabeth Brackney at 208-885-3560 or email [brackney@uidaho.edu](mailto:brackney@uidaho.edu)

**National Gap Analysis Program Meeting**

July 31 - August 4, 2002

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Employer/Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone                      Fax

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

**Registration Fees:**

Full Registration        \_\_\_\_\_ \$100.00

One-Day Registration    \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25.00

Check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: Type \_\_\_\_\_

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lodging and Meals:** payable to NCTC upon checkout (rates listed above). One-day attendees pay for meals a la carte.

**Shuttle Sign-up:** Please check the days and times you will need a shuttle. The round trip fee is \$30.00, payable to NCTC upon checkout.

Departing Dulles Airport for NCTC  
Wednesday, July 31:

1:00 PM     3:00 PM     5:00 PM

The shuttle pick-up point at Dulles Airport is Area 2-H.

Departing NCTC for Dulles Airport  
Sunday, August 4:

7:00 AM     9:00 AM     11:00 AM

2:00 PM     5:00 PM