



# SOUTHEAST GAP ANALYSIS PROJECT



## Species Modeling Report

### Blue Jay

*Cyanocitta cristata*

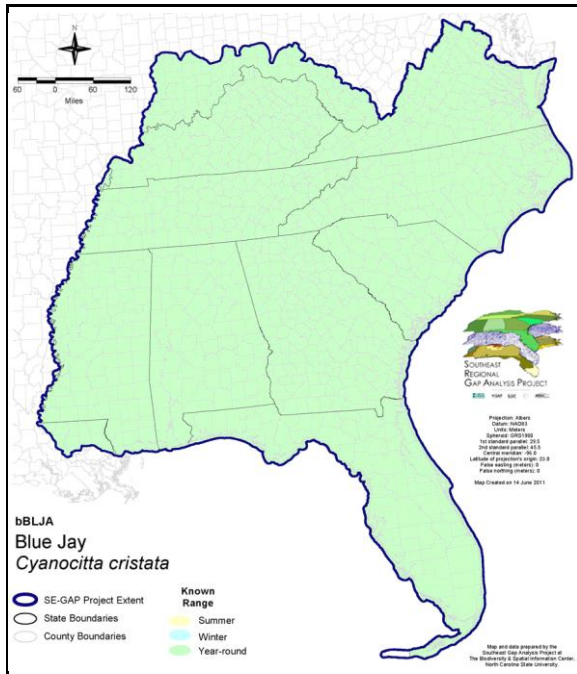
Taxa: Avian  
 Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Corvidae

SE-GAP Spp Code: **bBLJA**

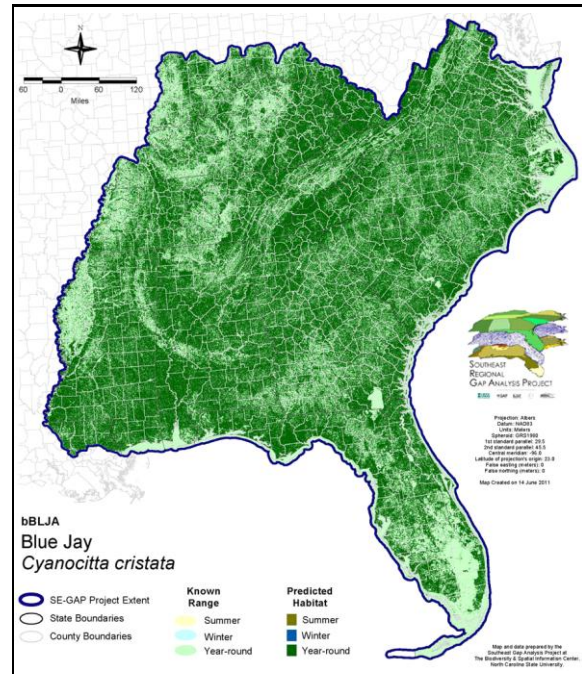
ITIS Species Code: 179680

NatureServe Element Code: ABPAV02020

#### KNOWN RANGE:



#### PREDICTED HABITAT:



Range Map Link: [http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE\\_Range\\_bBLJA.pdf](http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE_Range_bBLJA.pdf)

Predicted Habitat Map Link: [http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE\\_Dist\\_bBLJA.pdf](http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE_Dist_bBLJA.pdf)

GAP Online Tool Link: <http://www.gapservice.ncsu.edu/segap/segap/index2.php?species=bBLJA>

Data Download: [http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/region/vert/bBLJA\\_se00.zip](http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/region/vert/bBLJA_se00.zip)

#### PROTECTION STATUS:

Reported on March 14, 2011

Federal Status: ---

State Status: ID (P), KY (N), NJ (INC), NV (YES), NY (PB), RI (Not Listed), UT (None), BC (4 (2005)), QC (Non suivie)

NS Global Rank: G5

NS State Rank: AL (S5), AR (S5), AZ (SNA), CO (S5), CT (S5), DC (S4N,S5B), DE (S5), FL (SNR), GA (S5), IA (S5B), ID (S2N), IL (S5), IN (S5), KS (S5), KY (S5B,S5N), LA (S5), MA (S5), MD (S5B,S5N), ME (S5), MI (S5), MN (SNR), MO (S5), MS (S5B), MS (S5B), MT (S5N), MT (S5N), NC (S5B,S5N), ND (SNRB,SNRN), NE (S5), NH (S5), NJ (S5B,S5N), NM (S4B,S4N), NV (SNA), NY (S5), OH (S5), OK (S5), OR (SNA), PA (S5), RI (S5B), SC (SNR), SD (S5), TN (S5), TX (S5B), UT (SNA), VA (S5), VT (S5B,S5N), WA (SNA), WI (S5B), WI (S5B), WV (S5B,S5N), WY (S5B), WY (S5B), AB (S5), BC (S4S5B), LB (SNA), MB (S5), NB (S5), NF (S4), NS (S5), ON (S5), PE (S5), QC (S5B), SK (S5)

**SUMMARY OF PREDICTED HABITAT BY MANAGMENT AND GAP PROTECTION STATUS:**

	US FWS		US Forest Service		Tenn. Valley Author.		US DOD/ACOE	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	122,285.2	< 1	39,474.1	< 1	0.0	0	0.0	0
Status 2	237,927.3	< 1	433,370.4	< 1	0.0	0	5,551.9	< 1
Status 3	3,835.0	< 1	3,045,292.7	4	65,358.6	< 1	811,392.9	1
Status 4	110.3	< 1	< 0.1	< 1	0.0	0	323.4	< 1
Total	364,157.7	< 1	3,518,137.3	5	65,358.6	< 1	817,268.2	1
	US Dept. of Energy		US Nat. Park Service		NOAA		Other Federal Lands	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	336,596.0	< 1	89.5	< 1	17,164.1	< 1
Status 2	0.0	0	25,468.7	< 1	9,653.7	< 1	77.0	< 1
Status 3	89,027.8	< 1	297,053.8	< 1	0.0	0	5,866.0	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	1.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	0
Total	89,027.8	< 1	659,120.0	< 1	9,743.1	< 1	23,107.1	< 1
	Native Am. Reserv.		State Park/Hist. Park		State WMA/Gameland		State Forest	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	1,685.3	< 1	72.9	< 1	0.0	0
Status 2	0.0	0	20,609.8	< 1	836,386.2	1	1,448.2	< 1
Status 3	27,138.2	< 1	645,527.6	< 1	260,673.8	< 1	426,047.3	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	< 0.1	< 1	142,886.7	< 1	49.0	< 1
Total	27,138.2	< 1	667,822.9	< 1	1,240,019.6	2	427,544.5	< 1
	State Coastal Reserve		ST Nat.Area/Preserve		Other State Lands		Private Cons. Easemt.	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	15,881.9	< 1	0.0	0	0.0	0
Status 2	14,030.7	< 1	104,996.7	< 1	5.0	< 1	3,519.0	< 1
Status 3	0.0	0	24,928.0	< 1	32,079.1	< 1	118,502.5	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	2.1	< 1	3,628.8	< 1	0.0	0
Total	14,030.7	< 1	145,808.7	< 1	35,712.9	< 1	122,021.5	< 1
	Private Land - No Res.		Water		Overall Total			
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%		
Status 1	0.0	0	0.0	0	533,248.9	< 1		
Status 2	0.2	< 1	0.0	2	1,693,045.2	2		
Status 3	1,096.9	< 1	1.1	< 1	5,853,821.3	12		
Status 4	65,006,001.4	85	56,547.3	< 1	65,352,326.9	85		
Total	65,007,098.5	85	56,548.5	< 1	73,432,442.3	100		

GAP Status 1: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a natural state within which disturbance events (of natural type, frequency, and intensity) are allowed to proceed without interference or are mimicked through management.

GAP Status 2: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a primarily natural state, but which may receive use or management practices that degrade the quality of existing natural communities.

GAP Status 3: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover for the majority of the area, but subject to extractive uses of either a broad, low-intensity type or localized intense type. It also confers protection to federally listed endangered and threatened species throughout the area.

GAP Status 4: Lack of irrevocable easement or mandate to prevent conversion of natural habitat types to anthropogenic habitat types. Allows for intensive use throughout the tract. Also includes those tracts for which the existence of such restrictions or sufficient information to establish a higher status is unknown.

**PREDICTED HABITAT MODEL(S):**

**Year-round Model:**

Habitat Description: Blue Jays are abundant permanent residents across the Southeast. According to Hamel (1992) blue jays breed in a 'wide variety of woodlands and forests and are most common in open, mature woods.' They are reported to particularly favor mixed woodlands containing oaks or beeches (Goodwin 1976, Hamel 1992, Kaufman 1996). They appear to avoid pure coniferous stands (Kaufman 1996). They are inhabitants of parks, gardens, residential areas, groves, and some cities (Goodwin 1976, Ehrlich et al 1988, Hamel 1992, Harrison 1975, Kaufman 1996). Blue jays regularly breed in coastal scrub (Fernald 1989), and occur in urban and suburban areas, pinelands, hardwood forests, river bottomlands, and swamps (Stevenson and Anderson 1994). Blue Jays forage both on the ground and in trees or shrubs (Kaufman 1996).

Nests occur in coniferous or deciduous trees, shrubs, or vines, 5 to 50 feet above the ground (Ehrlich et al 1988, Harrison 1975). Normally it is well hidden in a crotch or outer branch (Harrison 1975). Usually constructed of twigs, bark, mosses, string, leaves, pine needles, etc. and lined with fine rootlets (Goodwin 1976, Ehrlich et al 1988, Harrison 1975, Potter et al 1980).

There appears to be some disagreement as to whether Blue Jays nest in pinelands.

Partially quoted from state habitat notes K. Cook 4-8-05

**Selected Map Units:**

Functional Group	Map Unit Name
Anthropogenic	Deciduous Plantations
Anthropogenic	Developed Open Space
Anthropogenic	Evergreen Plantations
Anthropogenic	Low Intensity Developed
Anthropogenic	Medium Intensity Developed
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Clear Cut)
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Other)
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Utility Swath)
Bald	Central Appalachian Montane Rocky Bald - Shrub Modifier
Bald	Southern Appalachian Grass and Shrub Bald - Shrub Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Allegheny-Cumberland Dry Oak Forest and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Allegheny-Cumberland Dry Oak Forest and Woodland - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Allegheny-Cumberland Dry Oak Forest and Woodland - Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Appalachian Hemlock-Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Appalachian Serpentine Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Central Maritime Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Dry and Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Fall-Line Sandhills Longleaf Pine Woodland - Loblolly Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Fall-line Sandhills Longleaf Pine Woodland - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Fall-line Sandhills Longleaf Pine Woodland - Open Understory Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Fall-line Sandhills Longleaf Pine Woodland - Scrub/Shrub Understory Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Mesic Hardwood and Mixed Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Maritime Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Mixed Oak-Heath Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Southern Maritime Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Central and Southern Appalachian Montane Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Central and Southern Appalachian Northern Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Central and Southern Appalachian Spruce-Fir Forest
Forest/Woodland	Central Appalachian Oak and Pine Forest
Forest/Woodland	Central Appalachian Pine-Oak Rocky Woodland
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shortleaf Pine-Oak Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shortleaf Pine-Oak Forest - Mixed Modifier

Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shortleaf Pine-Oak Forest - Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland - Loblolly Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland - Open Understory Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland - Scrub/Shrub Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Limestone Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Maritime Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Dry Upland Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Dry Upland Hardwood Forest - Offsite Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Loess Bluff Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Loess Plain Oak-Hickory Upland - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Loess Plain Oak-Hickory Upland - Juniper Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Mesic Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Loess Bluff Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Mesic Slope Forest
Forest/Woodland	Florida Longleaf Pine Sandhill - Open Understory Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Florida Longleaf Pine Sandhill - Scrub/Shrub Understory Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Florida Peninsula Inland Scrub
Forest/Woodland	Mississippi Delta Maritime Forest
Forest/Woodland	Northeastern Interior Dry Oak Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Northeastern Interior Dry Oak Forest - Virginia/Pitch Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Northeastern Interior Dry Oak Forest-Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Dry Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	South Florida Pine Rockland
Forest/Woodland	South-Central Interior Mesophytic Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southeast Florida Coastal Strand and Maritime Hammock
Forest/Woodland	Southeastern Interior Longleaf Pine Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Cove Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Oak Forest - Xeric
Forest/Woodland	Southern Appalachian Low Mountain Pine Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Appalachian Montane Pine Forest and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Southern Coastal Plain Dry Upland Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Coastal Plain Oak Dome and Hammock
Forest/Woodland	Southern Interior Low Plateau Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Interior Low Plateau Dry-Mesic Oak Forest - Evergreen Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-(Pine) Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-(Pine) Forest - Loblolly Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-(Pine) Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Virginia/Pitch Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Mafic Hardpan Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Mesic Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Northern Triassic Basin Dry Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Ridge and Valley Dry Calcareous Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Ridge and Valley Dry Calcareous Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Ridge and Valley Dry Calcareous Forest - Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southwest Florida Coastal Strand and Maritime Hammock
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Blackwater Stream Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Brownwater Stream Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Clay-Based Carolina Bay Forested Wetland
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Clay-Based Carolina Bay Herbaceous Wetland
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Nonriverine Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest - Taxodium/Nyssa Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Nonriverine Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest - Oak Dominated Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Basin Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest

Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Wet Longleaf Pine Savanna and Flatwoods
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Peatland Pocosin
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Small Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Small Brownwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Southern Wet Pine Savanna and Flatwoods
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Streamhead Seepage Swamp, Pocosin, and Baygall
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Xeric River Dune
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Floodplain - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Riparian - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Central Florida Pine Flatwoods
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shrub Bog
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Jackson Plain Dry Flatwoods - Open Understory Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Jackson Plain Dry Flatwoods - Scrub/Shrub Understory Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods - Open Understory Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods - Scrub/Shrub Understory Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Seepage Swamp
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Small Stream and River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Loblolly-Hardwood Flatwoods
Wetlands	Lower Mississippi River Bottomland and Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Lower Mississippi River Bottomland Depressions - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Mississippi River Low Floodplain (Bottomland) Forest
Wetlands	Mississippi River Riparian Forest
Wetlands	North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp
Wetlands	North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp
Wetlands	South Florida Bayhead Swamp
Wetlands	South Florida Cypress Dome
Wetlands	South Florida Dwarf Cypress Savanna
Wetlands	South Florida Hardwood Hammock
Wetlands	South Florida Pine Flatwoods
Wetlands	South Florida Pond-Apple/Popash Slough
Wetlands	South Florida Willow Head
Wetlands	South-Central Interior Large Floodplain - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	South-Central Interior Small Stream and Riparian
Wetlands	South-Central Interior/Upper Coastal Plain Wet Flatwoods
Wetlands	Southern and Central Appalachian Bog and Fen
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Hydric Hammock
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Basin Swamp
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Cypress Dome
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Seepage Swamp and Baygall
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Large Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Seepage Wetland
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Small Floodplain and Riparian Forest
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont/Ridge and Valley Upland Depression Swamp

**CITATIONS:** American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. 1983. Check-list of North American Birds. Sixth Edition. American Ornithologists' Union, Allen Press, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas.

Carpenter, T. W., A. L. Carpenter, and S. R. Smith. 1990. Spring migration of blue jays at Whitefish Point, Michigan, as studied through banding. *J. Field Ornithol.* 61:419-425.

Droege, S., and J.R. Sauer. 1990. North American Breeding Bird Survey, annual summary, 1989. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Biological Report 90(8). 22 pp.

Ehrlich, P.R., D.S. Dobkin, and D. Wheye. 1988. *The birder's handbook: a field guide to the natural history of North American birds.* Simon and Shuster, Inc., New York. xxx + 785 pp.

Fernald, R. T. 1989. *Coastal Xeric Scrub Communities of the Treasure Coast Region, Florida.* Tallahassee, FL: Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

- Goodwin, D. 1986. Crows of the world. Second edition. Univ. Washington Press. 300 pp.
- Goodwin, L.M. 1976. Environmental Assessment of Proposed Service Area Project.
- Graber, J. W., R. R. Graber, and E. L. Kirk. 1987. Illinois birds:Corvidae. Illinois Nat. Hist. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 126.
- Hamel, P. B. 1992. The land manager's guide to the birds of the south. The Nature Conservancy, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. 367 pp + several appendices.
- Harrison, C. 1978. A field guide to the nests, eggs and nestlings of North American birds. Collins, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Harrison, H.H. 1975. A field guide to bird's nests in the U.S. east of the Mississippi River. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, Massachusetts. 257 p.
- Harrison, H.H. 1979. A field guide to western birds' nests. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. 279 pp.
- Kaufman K. 1996. Lives of North American Birds. Boston, New York: Houghton Mifflin Company.
- Potter, E. F., J. F. Parnell, and R. P. Teulings. 1980. Birds of the Carolinas. Univ. North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill. 408 pp.
- Stevenson, H. M., and B. H. Anderson. 1994. The birdlife of Florida. University Press of Florida, Gainesville. 892 pp.
- Terres, J.K. 1980. The Audubon Society encyclopedia of North American birds. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

---

For more information:: SE-GAP Analysis Project / BaSIC  
127 David Clark Labs  
Dept. of Biology, NCSU  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7617  
(919) 513-2853  
[www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap](http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap)

Compiled: 15 September 2011

This data was compiled and/or developed  
by the Southeast GAP Analysis Project at  
The Biodiversity and Spatial Information  
Center, North Carolina State University.