

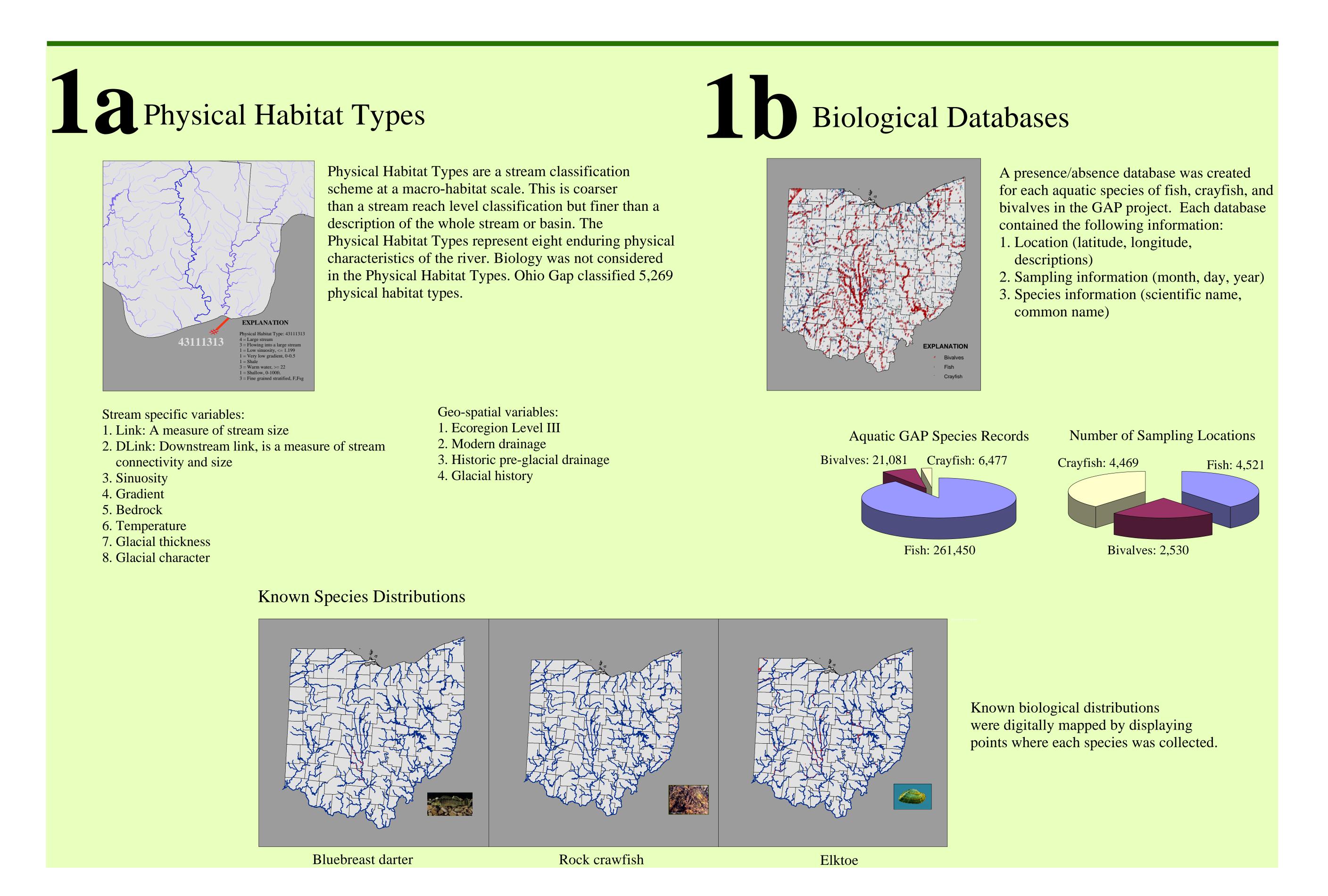


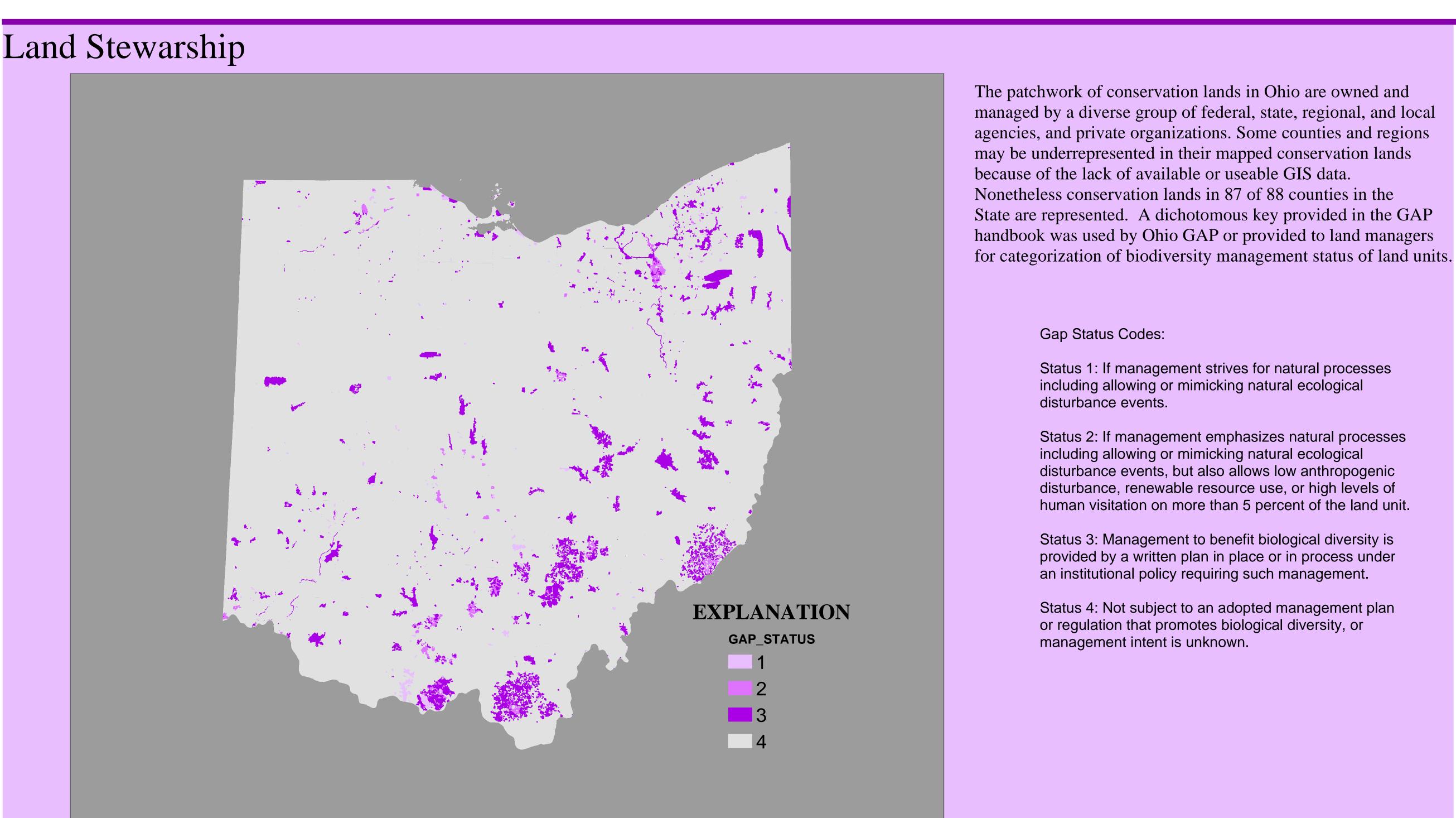
Ohio Aquatic GAP: Assessing Fish, Crayfish, and Bivalves in Relation to Conservation Lands

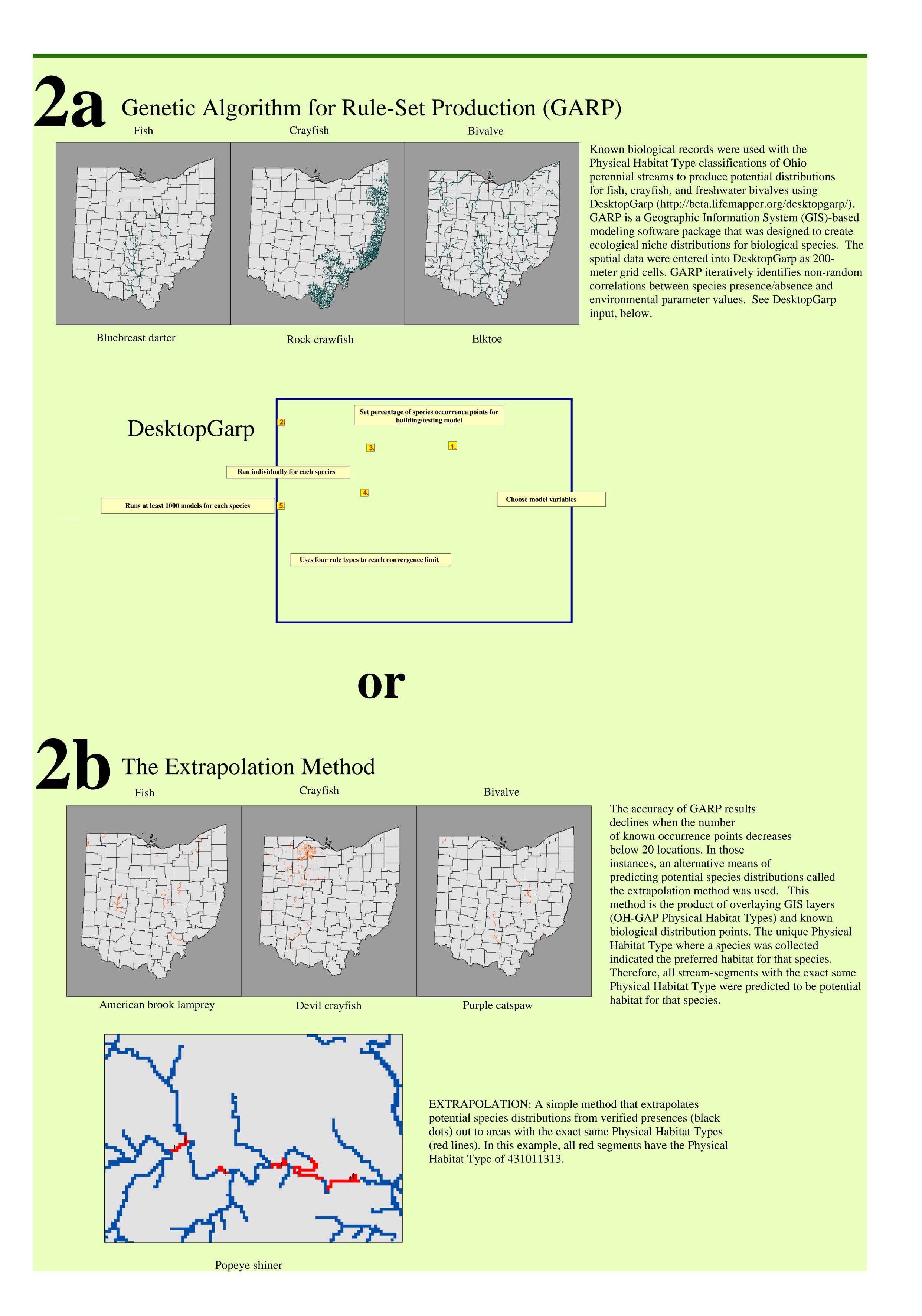
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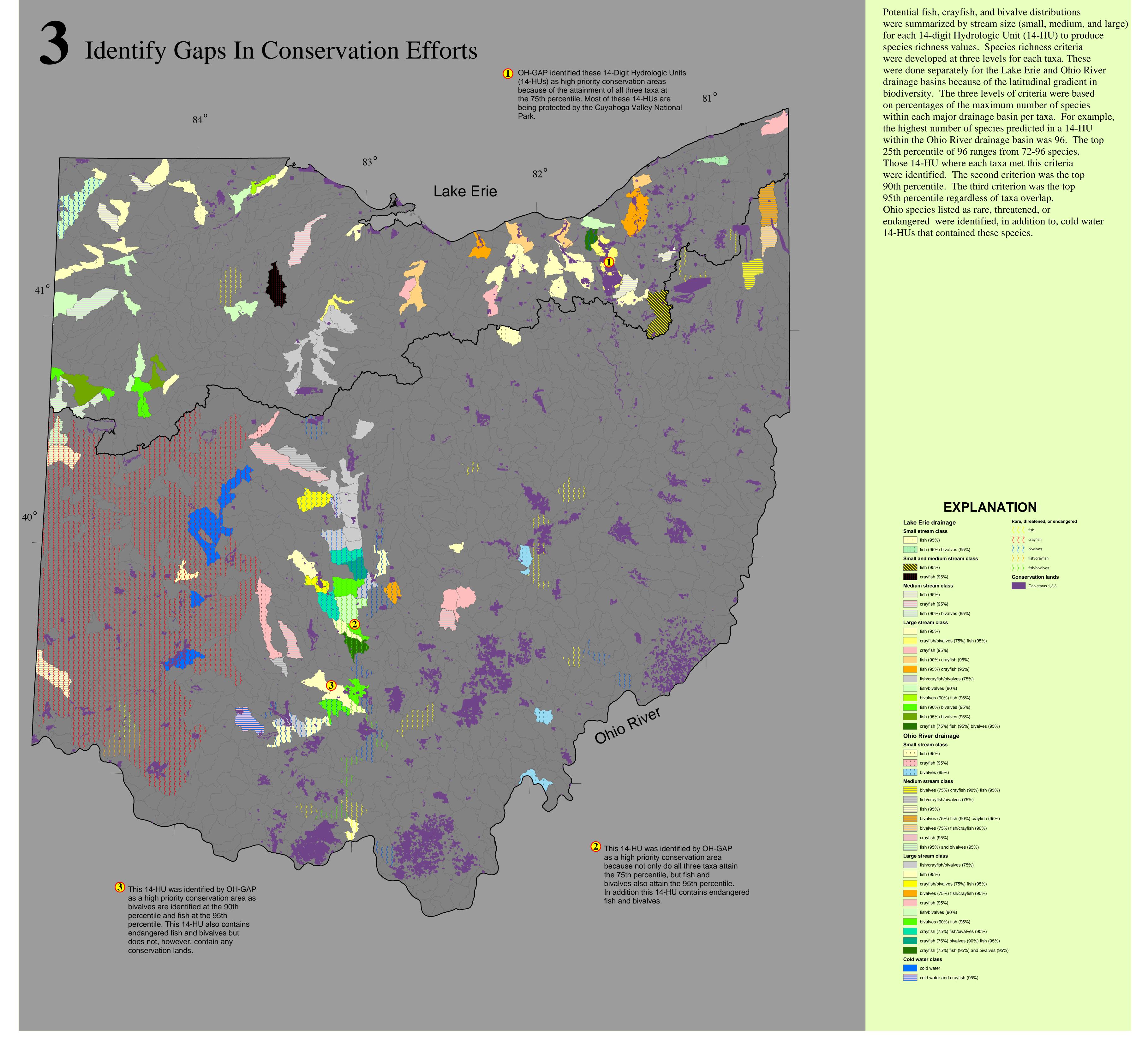
Ohio Aquatic Gap Overview

Aquatic gap analysis provides an overview of the distribution and conservation status of several components of biodiversity. It uses a coarse-scale stream classification (Physical Habitat Types) and predicted distribution of aquatic vertebrates and invertebrate taxa. Digital map overlays in a GIS are used to identify individual species, species-rich areas, and vegetation types that are unrepresented or underrepresented in existing conservation areas. Gap analysis functions as a preliminary step to the more detailed studies needed to establish actual boundaries for planning and management of biological resources on the ground. These data and results are then made available to the public. Thus, institutions as well as individual landowners and managers have a more complete knowledge of the management status of these elements of biodiversity.









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