

Rest assured that all of your answers are strictly confidential.

Are you male female

Year: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate

Major: _____

GPA: _____

Ethnicity:

African Asian Caucasian Hispanic Native American

Pacific Islander Other: _____

Do you live on campus? Yes No

Indicate which of the following outdoor recreation activities you have engaged in during the past year? Hiking Biking Kayaking

Skiing Fishing Camping Hunting Backpacking

Other: _____

How often do you attend church, synagogue, mosque, or other place of worship?

More than once a week Weekly Almost every week

Once or twice a month A few times a year Never

How important would you say religion is in your own life?

Extremely important Very important Moderately important

Not too important Not important at all

In general, how concerned are you about most environmental issues?

Extremely concerned Very concerned Moderately concerned

Not too concerned Not concerned at all

How would you describe your political beliefs?

Very Conservative Conservative Moderate Liberal Very Liberal

Which most appropriately describes the area you are from?

Rural area Suburban area Urban area

Which figure most accurately indicates you annual family income?

Less than \$50,000 \$50,000—\$90,000 \$90,000—\$130,000

\$130,000—\$170,000 \$170,000—\$210,000 More than \$210,000

Who is primarily responsible for the cost of your education?

Me My parents I'm on scholarship Other _____

Thank you for your participation.



Rainforest Management Survey Spring 2006

In order to make sound decisions concerning the future of tropical rainforests, it is important to understand the various services that rainforests provide, as well as how these services would be affected by possible changes in the way rainforests are managed. The answers you give to the questions in this survey are very important in this process. Please try to answer each of the questions.

In this first section we would like to tell you a little about the current state of tropical rainforests.

Tropical rainforests are defined as areas between the tropic of Capricorn and Cancer that receive 100 or more inches of rain per year and have a minimum of 10% land area covered by woody vegetation. Although the world's tropical rainforests make up only approximately 6% of its total land surface, an estimated 95% of the world's biodiversity in plant and animal life is found in these areas.

Tropical Rainforests are beneficial for both tangible and intangible reasons. They are useful for commercial manufacturing purposes, with hardwoods such as mahogany and teak being plentiful. They play an important role in preventing soil erosion and degradation. Because of the incredible biodiversity found in rainforests, they are useful for research, especially medicinal research. Approximately 25% of new medicines originate in a tropical rain forest life form. Finally, the tropical rainforests play an important role in the regulation of Earth's natural chemistry. They convert vast quantities of atmospheric carbon dioxide into oxygen via photosynthesis, and thus sequester large amounts of carbon. Further harvesting of rainforests will result in increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that may exacerbate global warming.

Currently only 5% of rainforest land is preserved. Experts believe that a minimum of 10% of rainforest land must be preserved to avoid serious environmental consequences for our entire planet.

The land where tropical rainforests exist in the Amazon basin is owned by the national governments of each country, but is so remote that it is largely unregulated and unprotected. Recently these rainforests have been cleared at an increasing rate by indigent families who leave urban slums to become "squatters" who use the land for subsistence agriculture (raising crops to feed themselves on land they do not legally own). However, because most of the nutrients in rainforests are stored in the trees, not the soil, agriculture cannot be sustained for long on this cleared land, thus requiring these families to move on and clear more forest after a few years.

In this section we would like to tell you about a proposal concerning tropical rainforests.

An environmental concerns group has created a proposal that offers a means by which the University could participate in the conservation of the tropical rainforests in the Amazon basin of South America. The group has determined to measure interest among students and faculty of purchasing 1,000 acres of tropical rainforest. The land purchased will be chosen so that no indigenous populations are displaced, and will be preserved through the creation of a national park. No further harvesting will be allowed, but ecotourism and research will be allowed. Park rangers will be employed to patrol the property, and ecotourism revenue will be used to offset the costs of managing and operating the park.

To fund the proposal, students would be allowed a one-time-only donation to the Amazon Rainforest Preservation Organization, a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organization. Currently, the group is unsure precisely how much interested participants need to contribute to proceed with the donation. While we have only an approximate donation estimate presented below, it is important that you indicate whether or not you would contribute a donation of at least this amount if presented an opportunity to do so. Provided there is sufficient interest in rainforest preservation at the University, students would be given an opportunity to donate by clicking the appropriate box during an upcoming semester registration.

If this proposal is adopted, would you be willing to donate at least \$x on a one-time-only basis to help preserve 1,000 acres of Amazonian tropical rainforest?

YES

NO

To help us better understand your answer, please indicate the single most important reason for your response to the preceding question:

- In general, this project is *not* a good use of my money.
- In general, this project is a good use of my money.
- The plan is unclear or unrealistic.
- I already contribute to environmental causes as much as I can afford.
- No one should have the right to damage rainforests in the first place.
- I don't want preservation efforts to prevent farmers from using the land.
- Other: _____