

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. In the absence of preservation, it is possible, if not likely, that timbering rights to these lands will be leased to commercial interests, both foreign and domestic, that seek to harvest the various, valuable hardwoods in the forest (including mahogany, cocobolo, teak, bubinga, padauk, rosewood and zebrawood) for manufacturing purposes. The income generated by these leases will be helpful in financing the efforts of these nations to further their economic development.

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.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_