MAPS data-use policy

Data contributed to the MAPS program will be used by IBP to further the mission and goals of the MAPS program, as detailed on pages 6-11 of the MAPS Manual. These goals include providing estimates and indices of demographic parameters, linking demographic parameters to population trends and environmental variables (e.g., habitat, climate), and providing information to land managers that will help create and maintain habitats to conserve and enhance North American landbird populations. Individual MAPS contributors will be acknowledged by name in any IBP publication or report arising from the use of MAPS data whenever their data represent more than 5% of the MAPS data used in that publication or report, and will be offered co-authorship whenever their data represent a substantial proportion (more than 30%) of the MAPS data used in that publication or report.

The MAPS database is the most extensive database on landbird demographics in North America and represents an invaluable scientific resource of immense conservation potential. As such, IBP is eager to share this resource with outside researchers, provided that the proposed research has well-defined objectives and does not impinge on current or planned IBP research projects. Requests for data should be submitted in writing and should include clearly defined objectives for the use of the MAPS data. Researchers who anticipate requesting MAPS data are encouraged to contact Danielle Kaschube, MAPS Coordinator, dkaschube@birdpop.org (609-892-0445), to discuss their request and details of the MAPS database prior to submitting their written request. All requests for MAPS data require approval by an IBP research scientist, who will also be available to provide advice on the feasibility of the proposed research. If 20% or more of the MAPS data requested by a researcher will come from any single MAPS contributor, IBP will forward the written request to that contributor for permission to use those data. IBP also requests that publications or reports using MAPS data acknowledge the MAPS Program and IBP as the source of the MAPS data, and acknowledge individual MAPS contributors by name whenever their data represent more than 5% of the MAPS data used in that publication or report. We request that researchers offer co-authorship of any publication or report using MAPS data to individuals whose data represent a substantial proportion (more than 30%) of the entire data set used in that publication or report. Finally, we request that a copy of the final publication or report be sent to The Institute for Bird Populations (a PDF version is fine) so that it can be archived and included on The Institute for Bird Populations publications page: http://www.birdpop.org/pages/pubsDatabase.php.

An example of some language for an acknowledgement could be:

We thank the many dedicated volunteers who have collected and donated these data to the MAPS program. We also thank The Institute for Bird Populations for developing the MAPS Program and curating the MAPS data. Data used in this analysis were made available via funding from the National Science Foundation (Grant EF 1703048).

By submitting your MAPS data, you are allowing your data to be included in analyses completed by IBP and non-IBP researchers who make data requests. Although we assume that our data-use policy will be followed and you will be acknowledged and offered co-authorship when appropriate, we cannot guarantee our policy will be followed once data are distributed to non-IBP researchers.