



New to CAST?

Register to create and edit scenarios for reducing nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment with varying best management practices to streamline environmental planning. Registration also includes access to additional data, tools and resources including CAST's monthly newsletter.

[Register](#)

RESOURCES

DEVELOP A PLAN

Get answers to your questions about how to use CAST to develop a plan.

[Develop A Plan](#)

SOURCE DATA

Download data tables including information on load sources and agencies, BMPs, animals, geographic references and delivery factors.

[View Source Data](#)

BMPS

View information on best management practices (BMPs) including calculations, a quick reference guide, and protocol and expert panel reports.

[Learn More](#)

MONITORING

View maps and graphs of monitored water quality data.

[Learn More](#)

MAPPING TOOLS

View geographical information and shapefiles.

[Learn More](#)

COSTS

Download BMP costs data and view cost profiles for each state and Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

[Learn More](#)

TRACK PROGRESS

View helpful information on verification, river trends, how to submit progress data via NEIEN, and modeling Federal facilities.

[Track Progress](#)

ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

Get information about the complementary benefits to BMP implementation.

[Learn More](#)

Mapping Capabilities in CAST

OLIVIA DEVEREUX
JANUARY 25, 2023

Current Use of CAST

- Tracking
 - Accounting and visualization of BMPs implemented to meet the Bay TMDL, data imported from NEIEN
- Planning
 - To meet the Bay TMDL
 - MS4 permits
 - Conservation districts
 - Local TMDL development, milestones, and plans
- Serves all stakeholders connected to on the ground restoration work
- Primary
 - Major jurisdictions responsible for WIPs, Milestones, and Annual Progress
- Secondary
 - MS4s
 - Local planners
 - Watershed groups
 - Grantees who need to justify load reductions
 - Conservation districts

Land Use Data

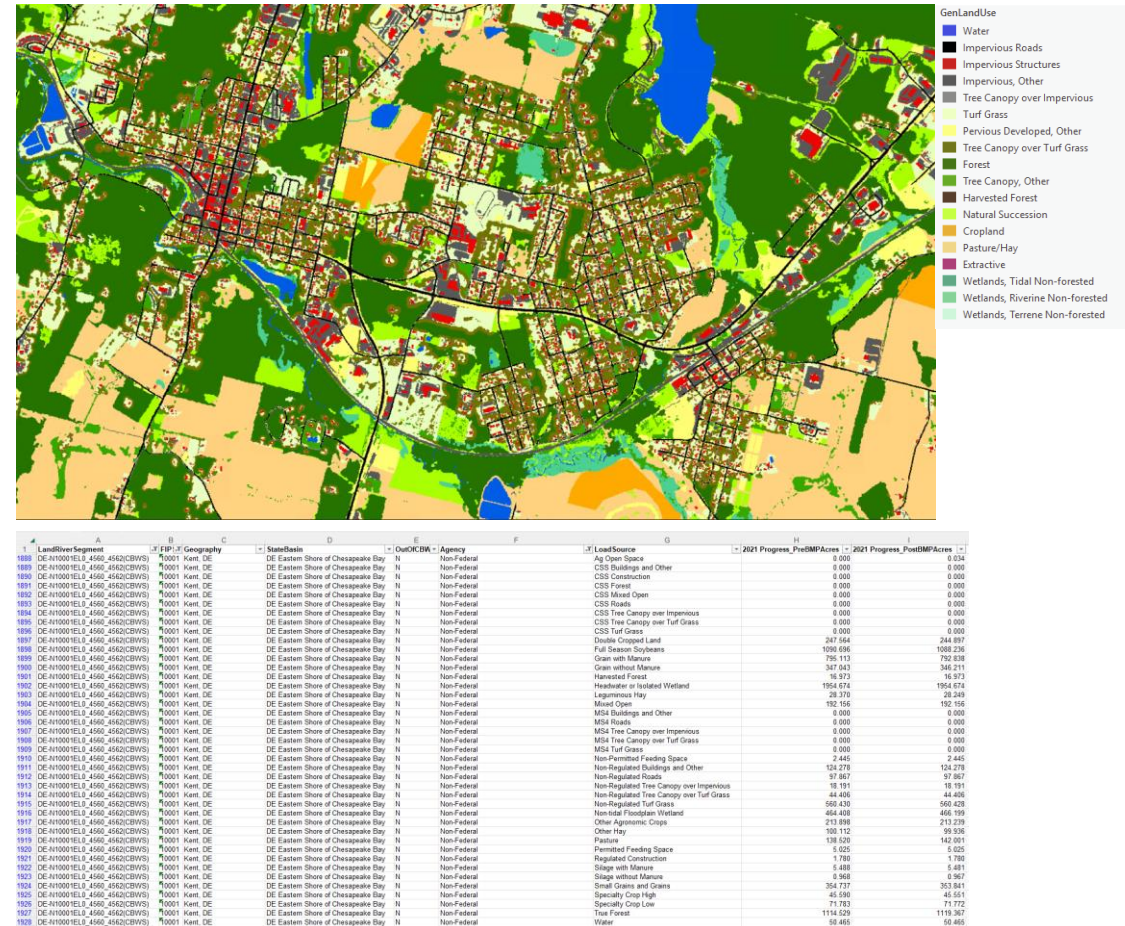
Multiple data sources are used to create the land use in CAST

- USGS's Land Data Team mapped data provide the basis to which additional data are fit
- Jurisdictions provide additional data for harvested forest and construction acres
- USDA's publicly available crop, pasture, and hay acres are used to inform the agricultural land uses

The final land use is tabular and not spatially explicit

Methods are documented in Section 5 of the CAST and Dynamic Watershed Model documentation

- <https://cast-content.chesapeakebay.net/documents/5%20Land%20Use%202020%2003%20Draft.pdf>



Geographic Scales for Planning

CURRENT

- Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- County
- HUC-4, 6, 8, 10, and 12s
- Land-river segments
- State
- Major basin
- Chesapeake Bay Segments
- Virginia Planning District Commissions
- Virginia Soil Conservation Districts and District Areas

PROPOSED USING 1 OR 10-METER DATA

- Point
- Line
- Polygon
- Plus, all current geographies for planning and reporting

Link BMP Planning to Explicit Land Use



+ Add BMP

Add BMP

*Required field

Geographic Scale * ?

Select Geographic Scale

Geographic Area * ?

Select Geographic Area

Agency * ?

Select Agency

BMP * ?

Select BMP

Secondary BMP * ?

Select BMP

Load Source * ?

Select Load Source

Unit * ?

Select Unit

Amount * ?

Add

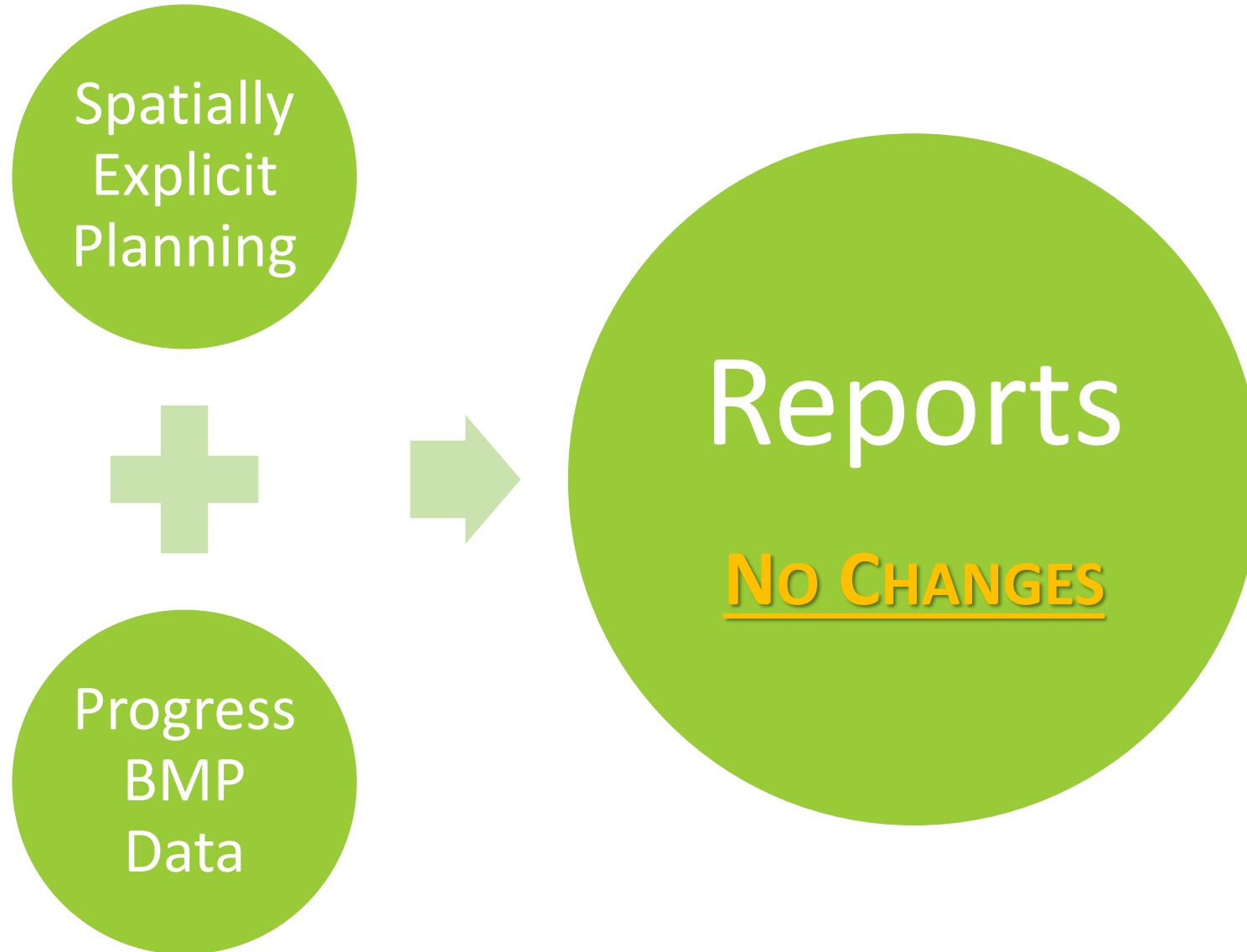
Cancel

Objectives for Planning Scenarios

- ✓ Help users gain confidence in the CAST land use and resulting load estimates
- ✓ Refine planning for field and project scales while increasing users' ability to target BMPs
- ✓ Facilitate best use of the next version of the Dynamic Watershed Model and accompanying version of CAST, the static version of that model.
 - ✓ The Modeling Team already has downscaled the hydrology to the National Hydrography Dataset Plus High Resolution, Version 2 (NHD+) (<https://www.usgs.gov/core-science-systems/ngp/national-hydrography/nhdplus-high-resolution>).
 - ✓ The Modeling Team also has a methodology for the stream bed and bank loads that makes better use of upland delivery to streams for the same NHD+ scale (G. Noe, USGS, presentation to the Modeling Team, 9/22/2020).
- ✓ Long term goal
 - ✓ Coupling the finer scale hydrologic model and stream delivery with the spatially explicit land use would allow better crediting of BMPs that have upland benefits. Currently, a proportion of all upland land uses in a sector are credited.
 - ✓ With these finer scale data, BMPs like buffers can have upland effects credited to the actual land use that drains to the buffered stream area. This also opens the door to temporal definition of BMPs in CAST, which currently is part of NEIEN.



Impact on CAST Results



Users can continue to access annual progress tracking data that does not include the spatially explicit information.

TN, TP, TSS, and cost results can continue to be provided in the current format since the data can be stored at specific geographic scales including latitude and longitude rather than land-river segments.

Approach for Displaying 1-meter dataset

Develop a new API service specific to the Chesapeake 1-meter dataset

Use zonal algorithms that are easily parallelizable and can manage large queries through a distributed data processing cluster

To work in an online tool, develop an algorithm using the number of vertices of an area of interest, as opposed to area dependent

The Fast-Zonal Statistics (FZS) API is labeled “fast” because to determine the zonal sum for a polygon over a raster surface, only the cells which intersect the boundary of the polygon must be traversed rather than all the interior cells. This means that computationally the approach scales much better with increased data resolution as the FZS algorithm is constant in relation to the length (meters) of the polygon perimeter rather than its area (meters square). (Haag et al. 2020, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0098300419306697>)

Approach decreases the processing time to seconds.

Visualization of the 1-meter data could be achieved through a separate map tiling service

Available Spatially Explicit Data Sources

The land data team has impervious and land cover mapped for 1984, 1992, 2001, 2006, 2011, at 30-meter resolution

(<https://www.mrlc.gov/data#:~:text=The%20National%20Land%20Cover%20Database%20%28NLCD%29%20provides%20nationwide,and%20land%20cover%20change%20data%20for%20the%20Nation>).

The 2013 data are mapped at 1 meter and 10-meter resolution

(<https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog/item/557b238fe4b0c350d7b9abb8>).

The 2017 data are available at the 1 meter and 10-meter resolutions.

These data are incorporated into the tabular land use, but cannot be queried or visualized at the original scale of either the 1-meter or the 10-meter resolution in CAST.

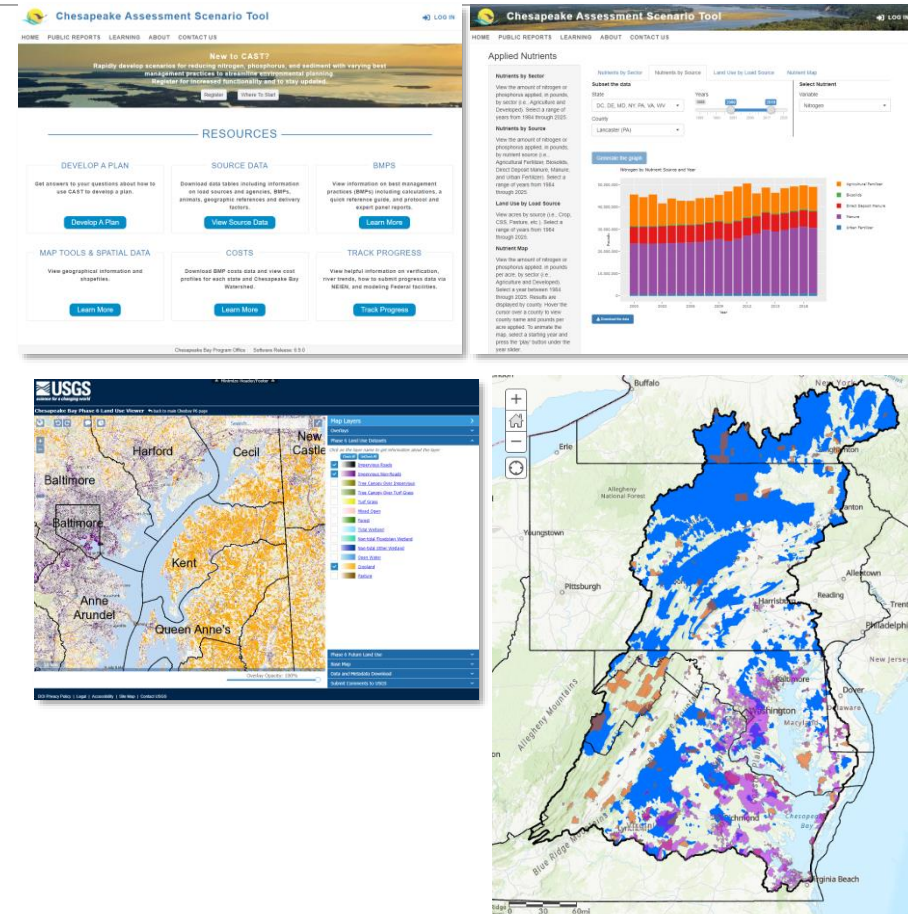
First step is to show explicit land use for 2017, then build the explicit land use for all years.

Benefit to Restoration Professionals

Using the spatially explicit land cover data in CAST is expected to enhance CAST users' ability to **improve water quality and focus measured outcomes to smaller geographic scales.**

This enhancement will help CAST be understood and supported by non-technical people, which will **expand usage of CAST to conservation project members, farmers, and farm advisors.**

This enhancement will **negate the need for urban planners to convey their site-specific geographic information** to the more general tabular geographics currently available.



Currently, the data are available, but not integrated.

Better Targeting CBP Resources to Achieve Multiple Outcomes: Approach and Tools

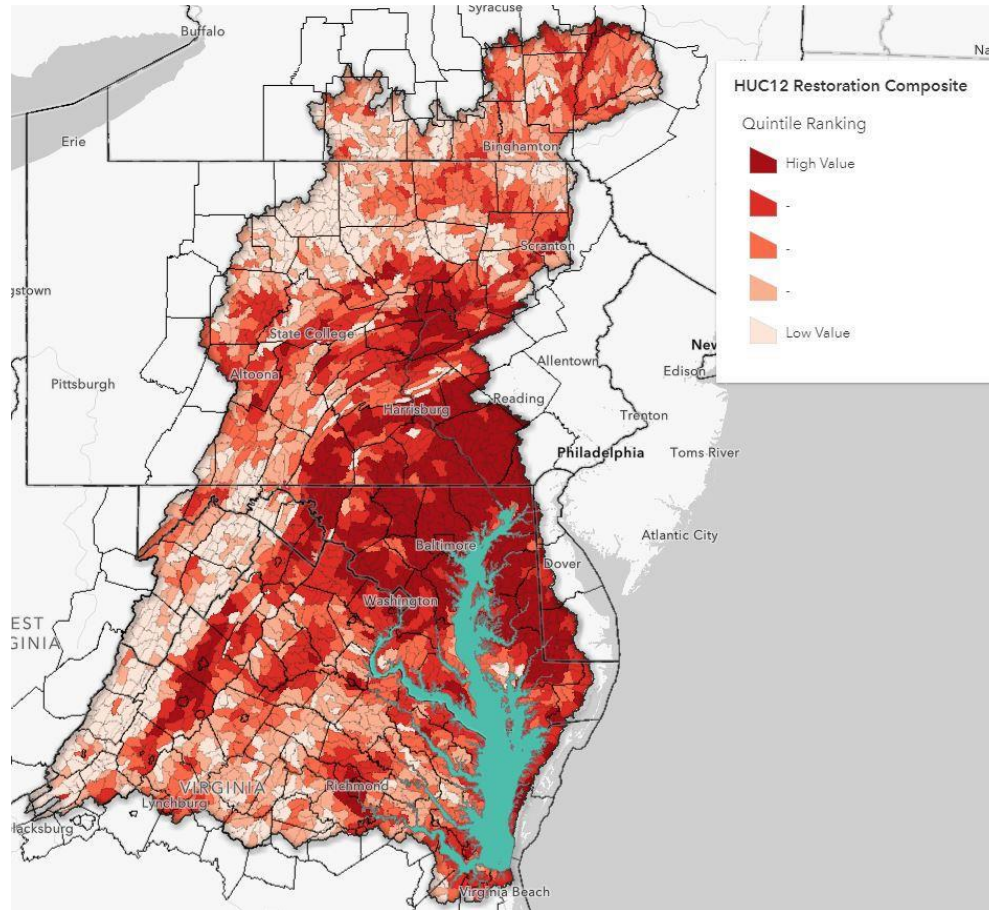


Figure 4 shows the composite restoration map of places where multiple outcomes can be met for water-quality improvements, toxic contaminants, and habitat connectivity. These outcomes were selected by the GITs.

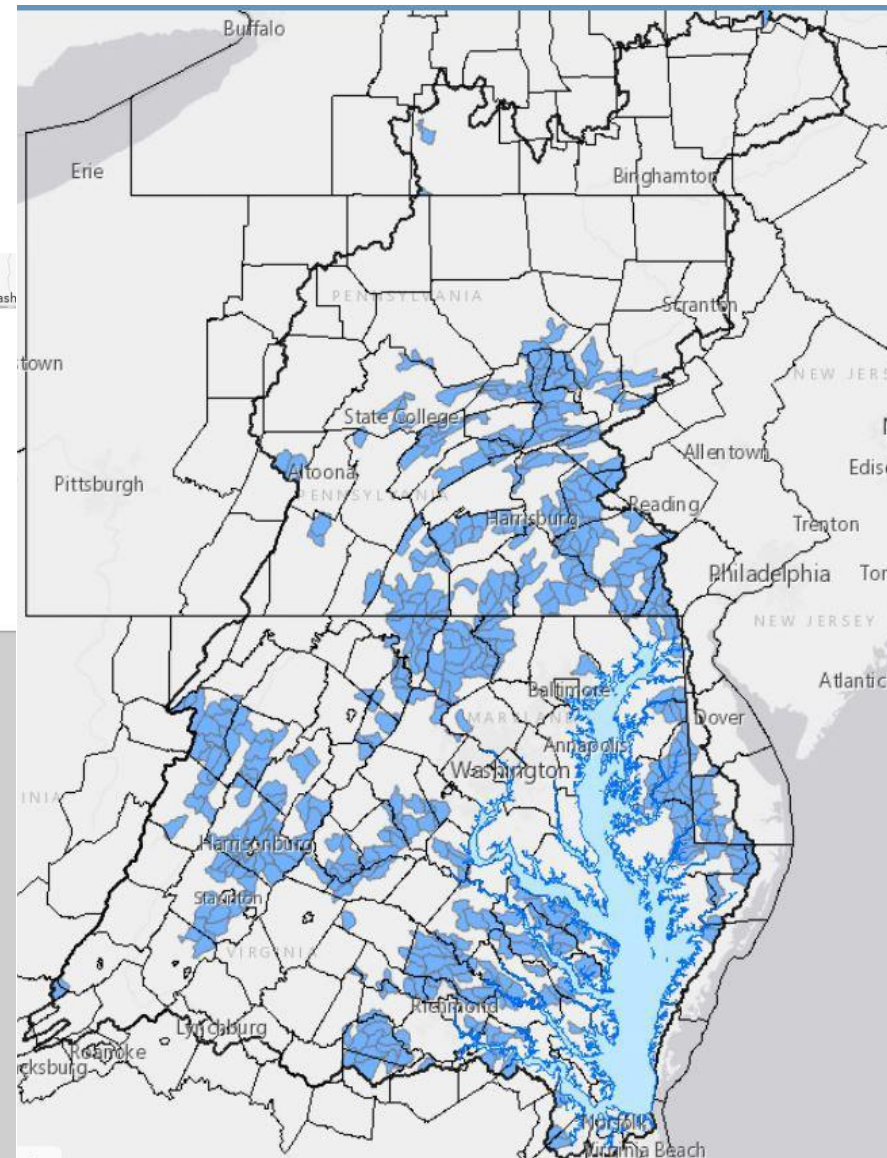


Figure 3. Ranking by states for places to get the highest reduction of nitrogen loading to the Bay and local water-quality improvements (from the Chesapeake Agricultural Priority Watersheds tool).

CAST Timeline

*contingent on funding and staff availability

