CBP Land Classification and Land Change Forecasting Capabilities

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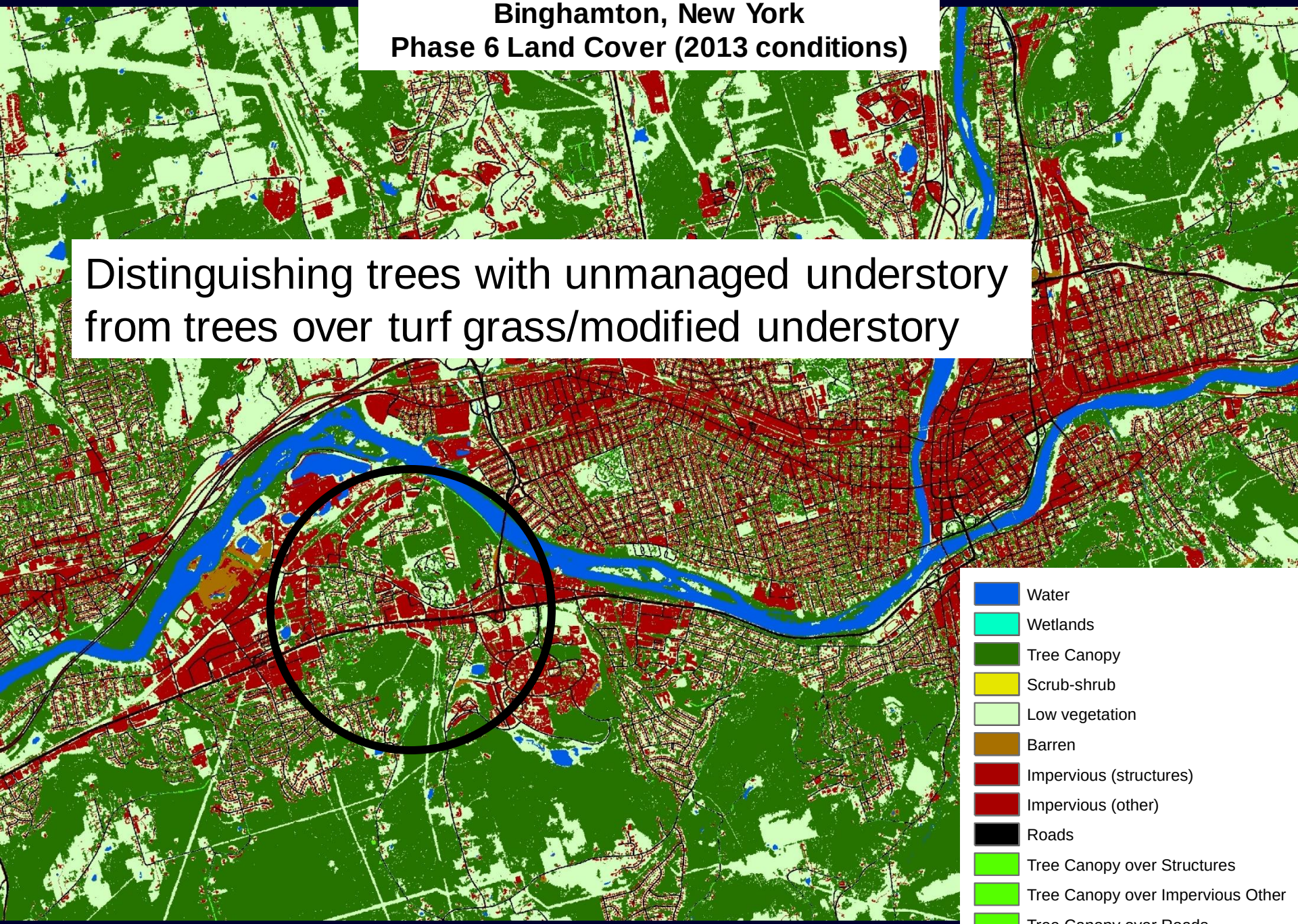
CBP Forestry Workgroup Meeting
October 4, 2017

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey

Binghamton, New York
Phase 6 Land Cover (2013 conditions)

Distinguishing trees with unmanaged understory from trees over turf grass/modified understory



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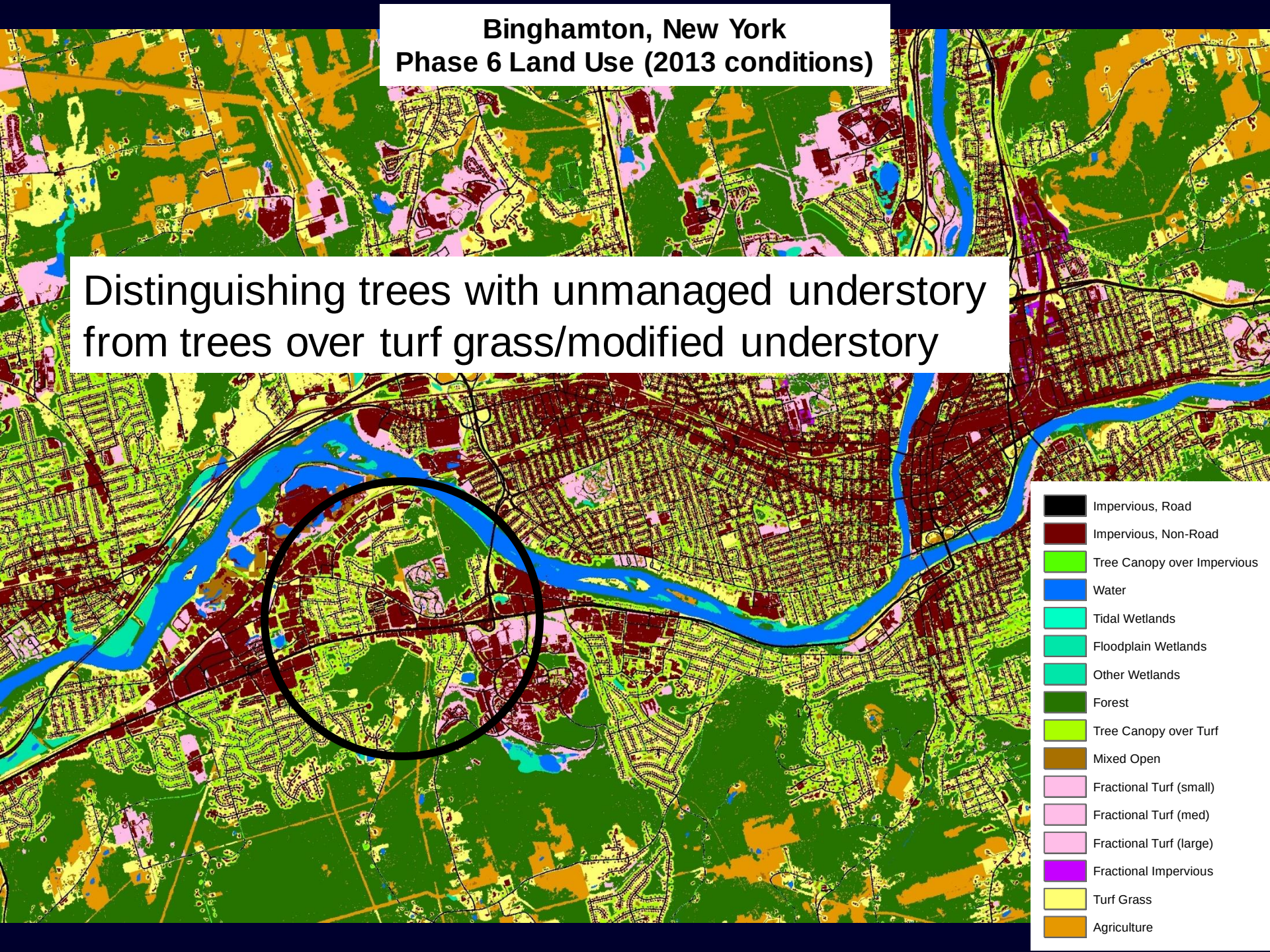
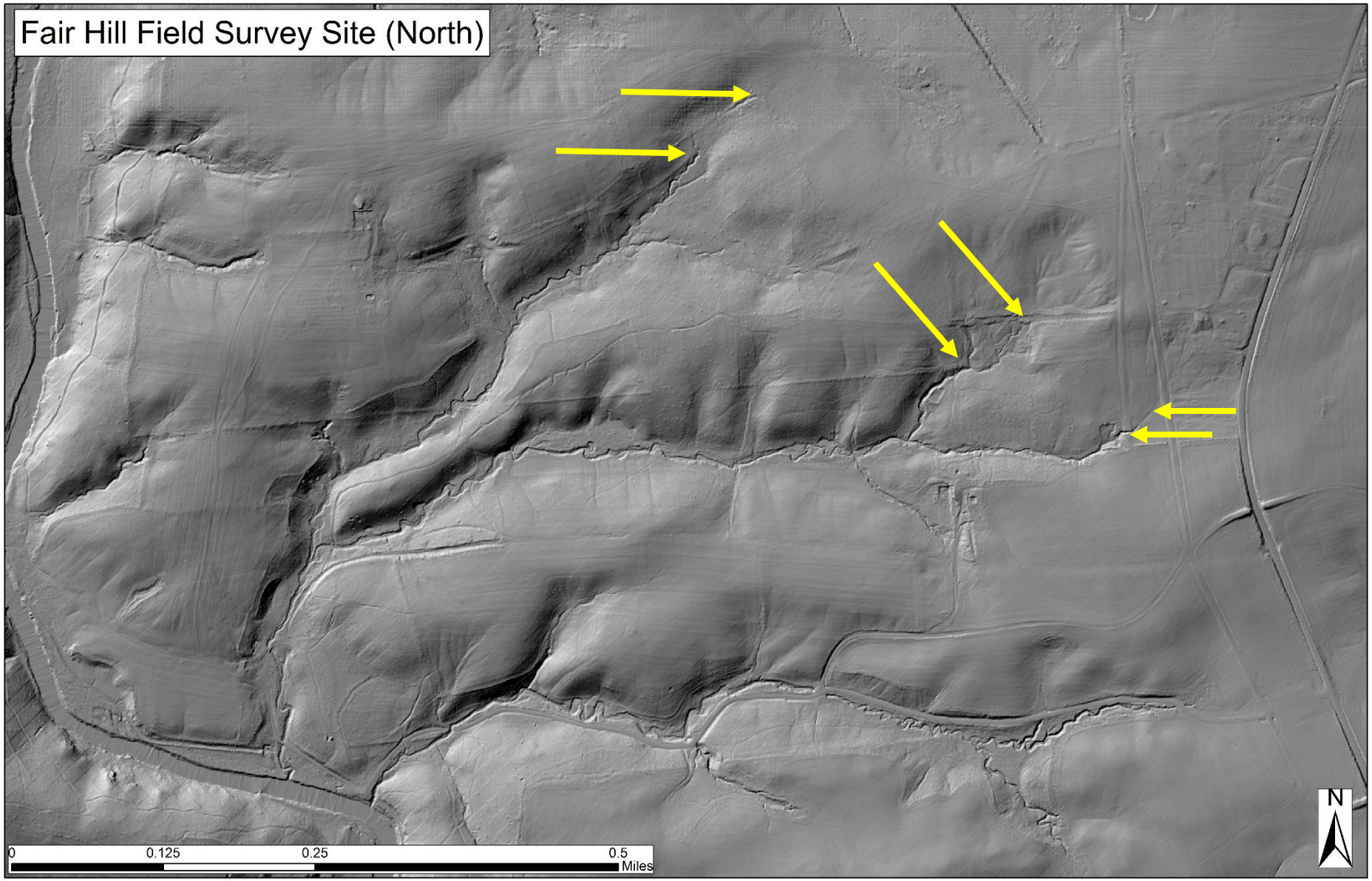
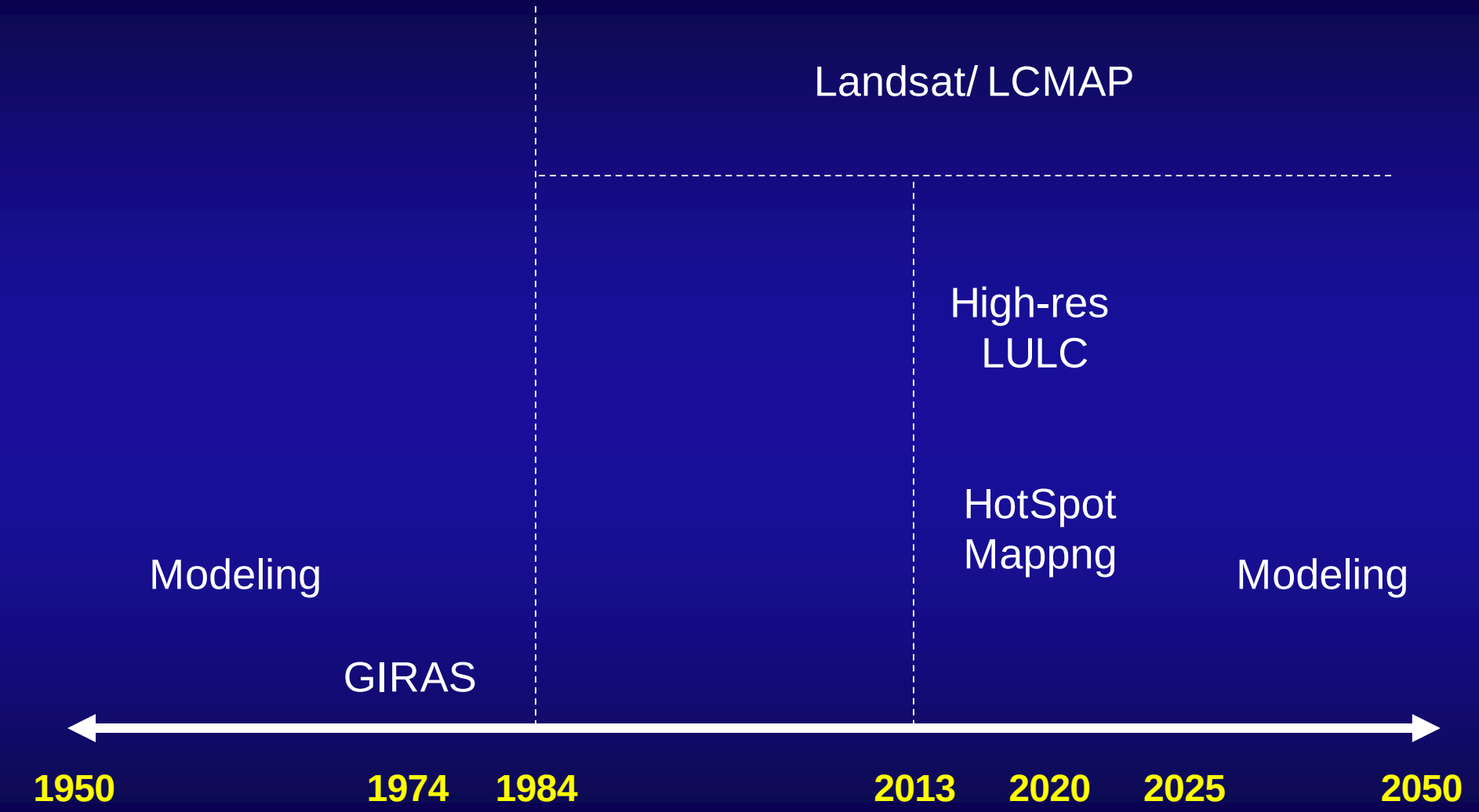


Mapping Stream Origins
(Chesapeake Conservancy and UMBC)

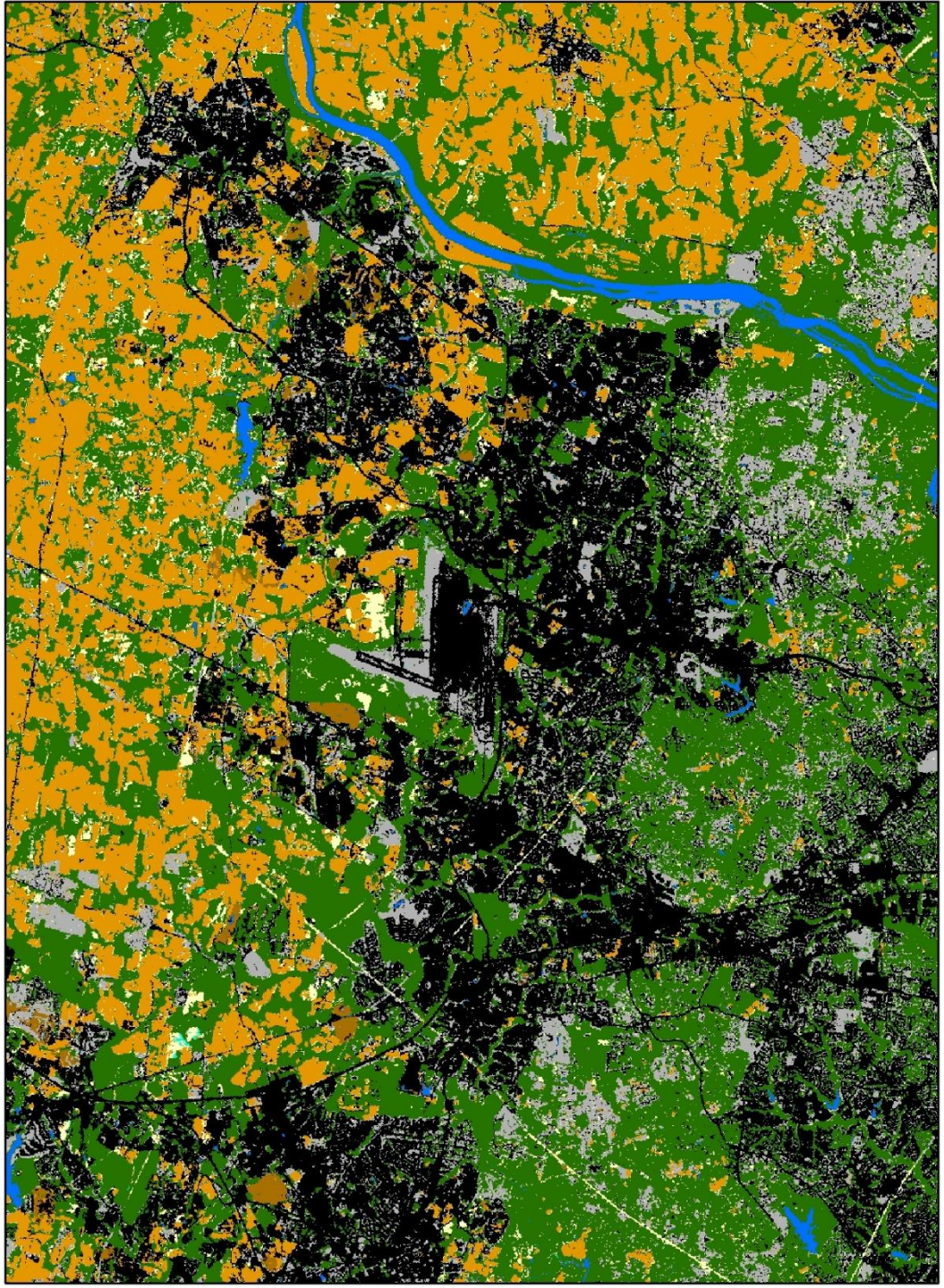


Monitoring & Modeling Land Cover/Use Change



USGS

1984

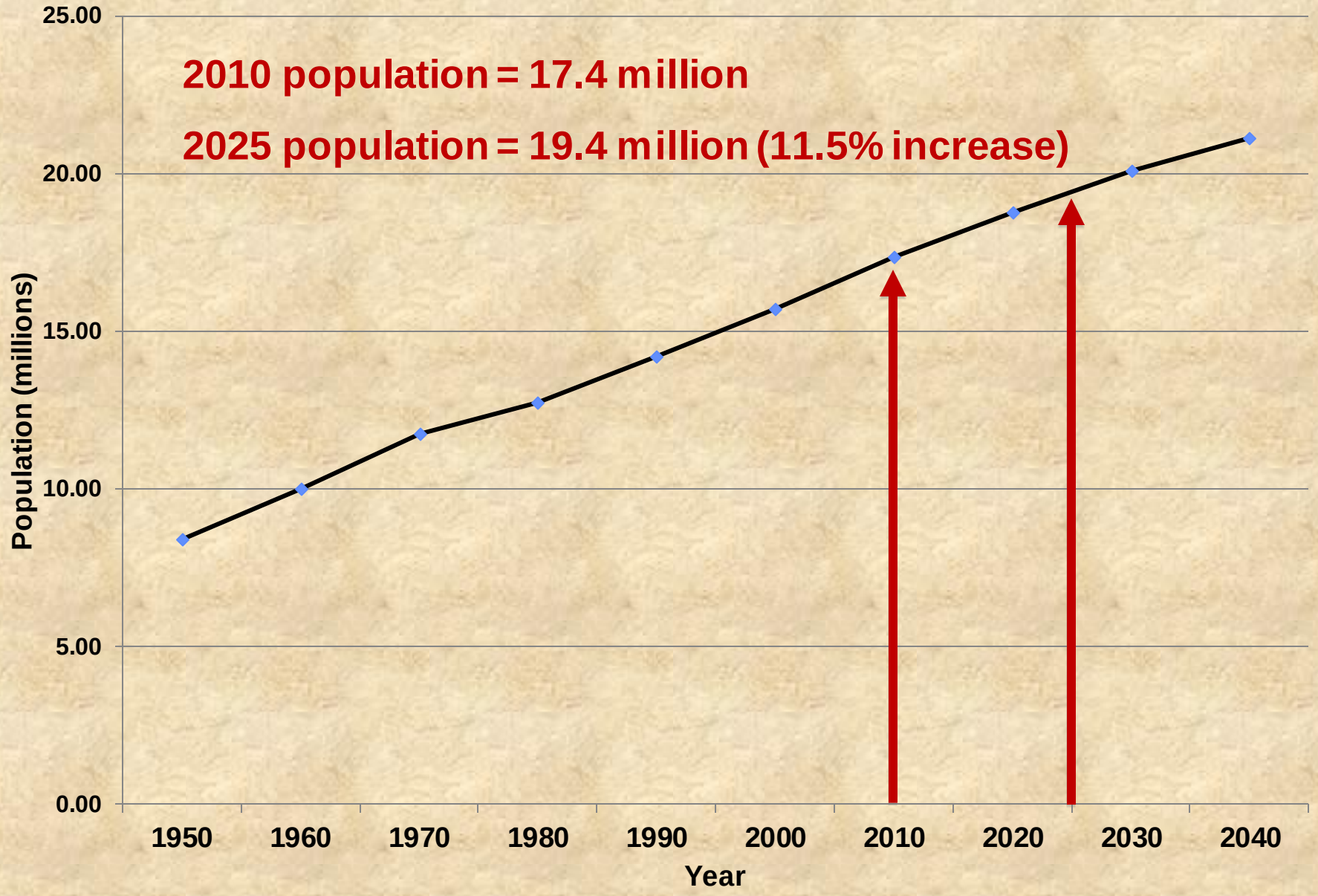


2011

USGS

Urban Growth

Chesapeake Bay Watershed PopulationTrends



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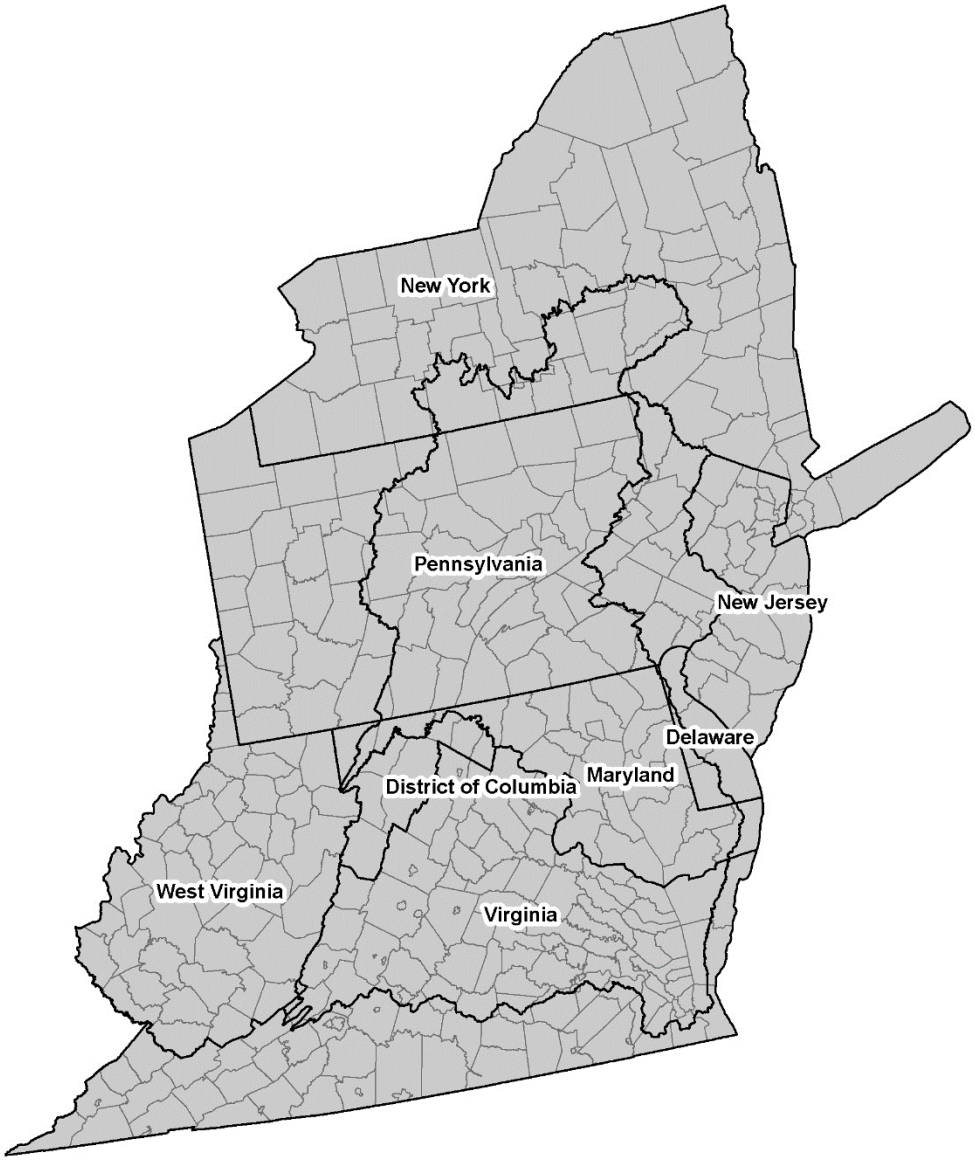
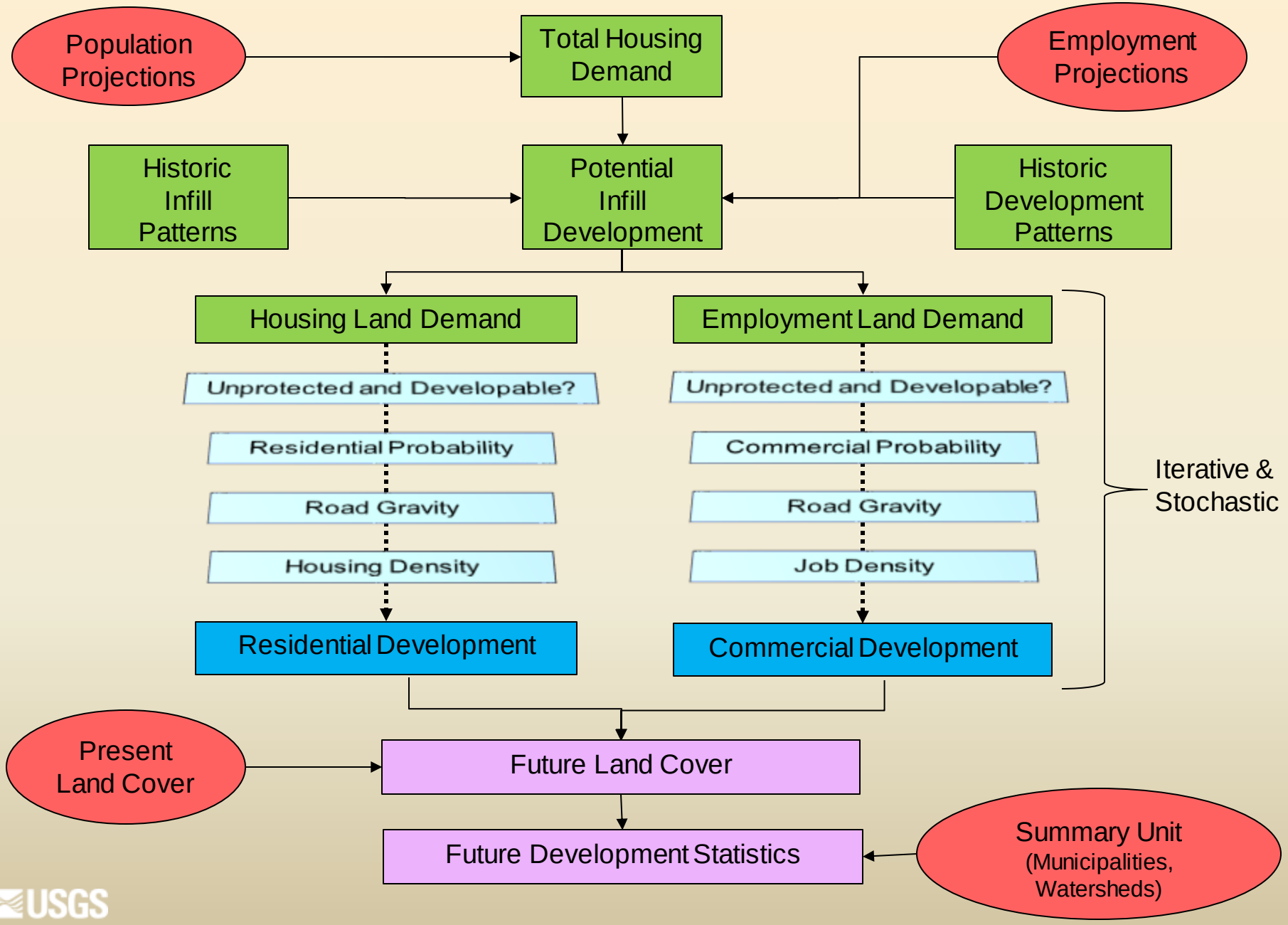
Chesapeake Bay Future Land Use Scenario Domain



USGS

Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model v3a



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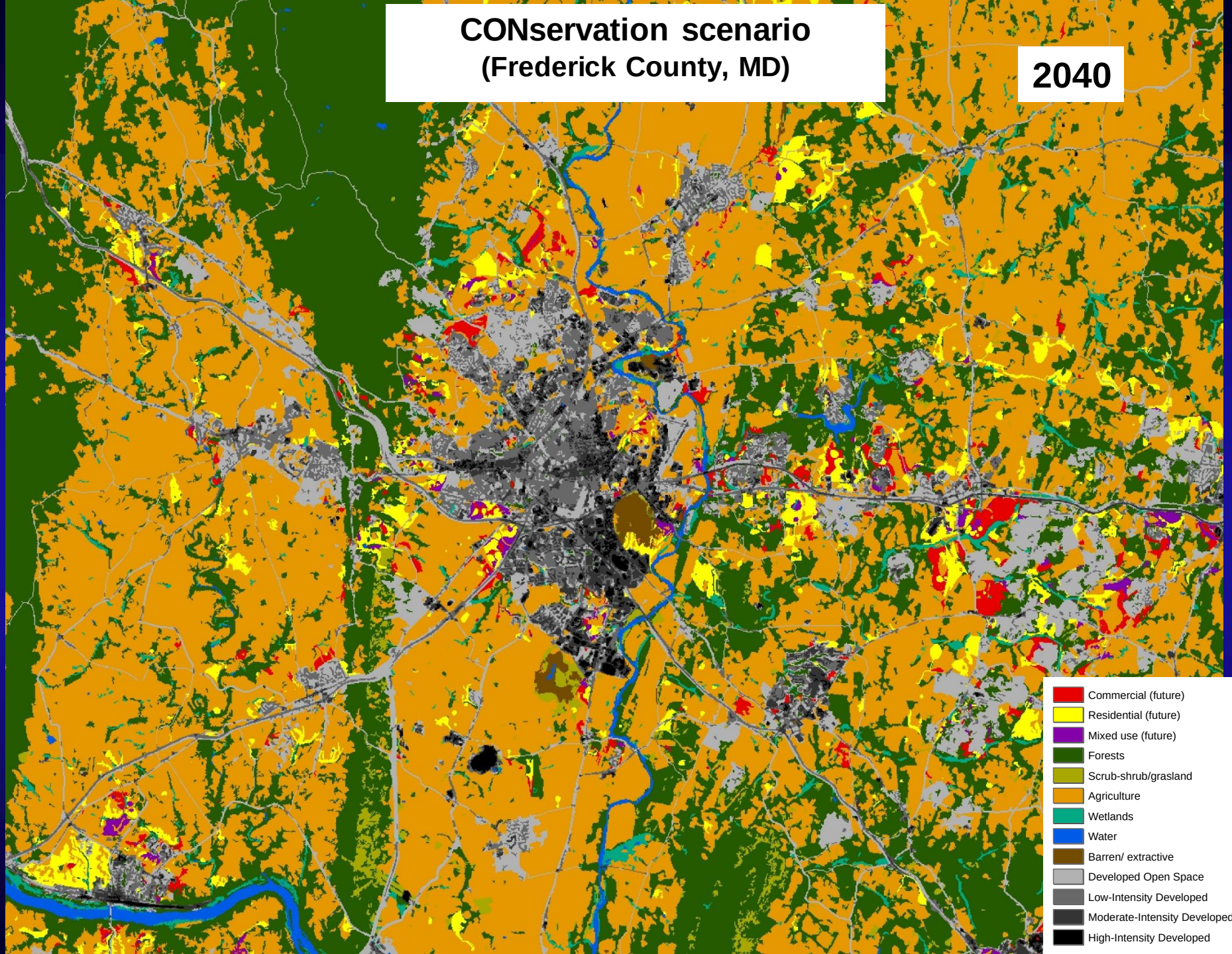
CONservation scenario
(Frederick County, MD)

2040



Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model
"Current Zoning" Scenario

- Incorporates national data from PADUS, NAVTEQ, US Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium.
- Incorporates local data (parcels, land use, and zoning).
- Incorporates CBP's high-res developed land uses and protected lands.
- Simulates infill/redevelopment by county.
- Simulates residential and commercial development in five year increments at 30m resolution with parameterization at the state and county levels.
- Results summarized by NHDv1, NHDv2, HUC12, Municipalities/Tracts, and Phase 6 model units.

USGS

Chesapeake Bay Future Scenarios

(from June 7th "Local Government Forum")

"Historical Trends": previous patterns of growth replicated into the future.

"Current Policy": growth focused towards local areas zoned to accommodate it.

"Current Policy Plus": "Current Policy" combined with growth focused in areas with planned infrastructure (e.g., roads, sewer, and water)

"Utopia": "Current Policy Plus" combined with aggressive land conservation, accelerated infill/redevelopment, and upzoning urban and downzoning rural areas.

*Additional considerations: soil restrictions, internet access, sea-level rise, and specific state/county policies (e.g., MD's Septic Bill and Ag Preservation Act).

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Chesapeake Bay FY'18 Scenarios

"Historical Trends": previous patterns of growth replicated into the future (complete)

"Current Zoning": growth focused towards local areas zoned to accommodate it (November 15th).

"Utopia": aggressive land conservation, accelerated infill/redevelopment, protection of wetlands, riparian forest buffers, and floodplains, and up-zoning urban and down-zoning rural areas, avoiding growth in areas subject to sea-level rise and storm surge (January 15th).

*Additional considerations: avoiding development on soils that don't perc and in built-out parcels.

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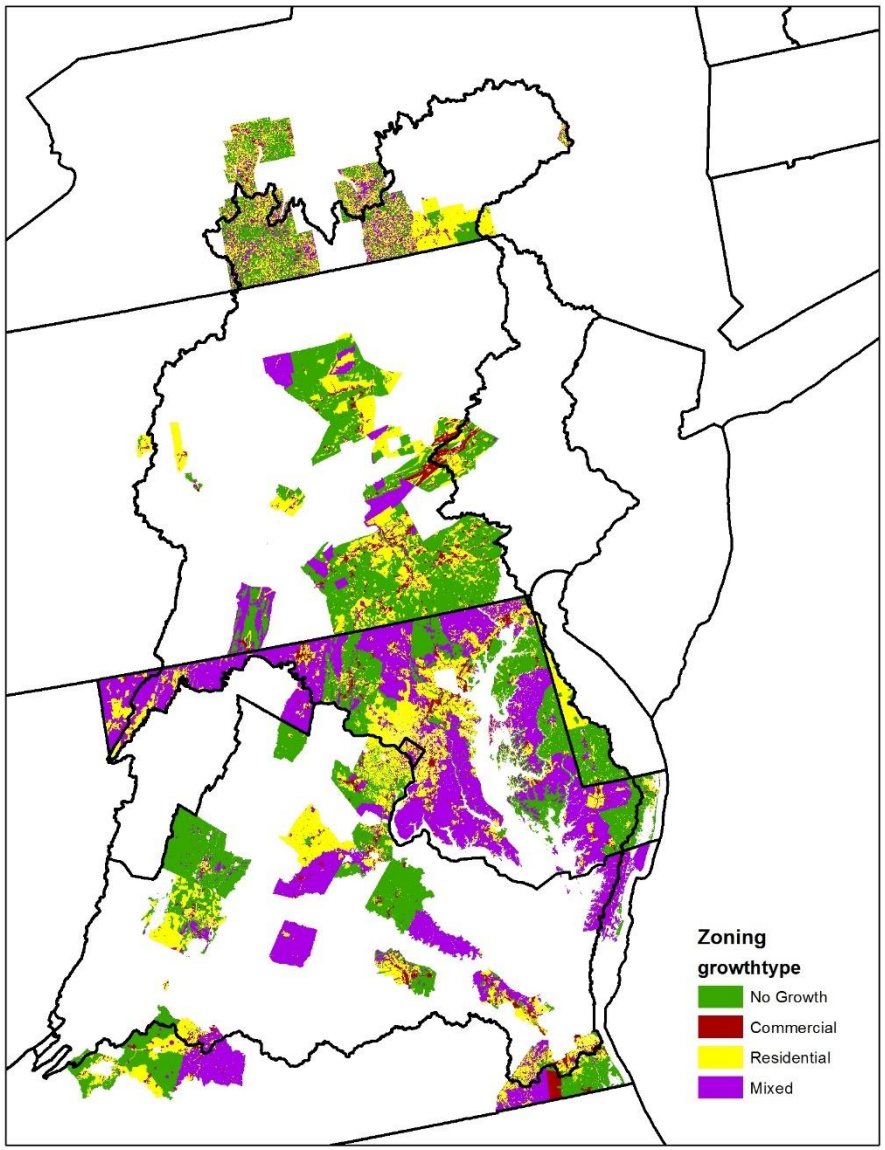
Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model
"Current Zoning" Scenario

Generalization of Local Zoning:

- No growth (conservation)
- Residential
- Commercial
- Mixed



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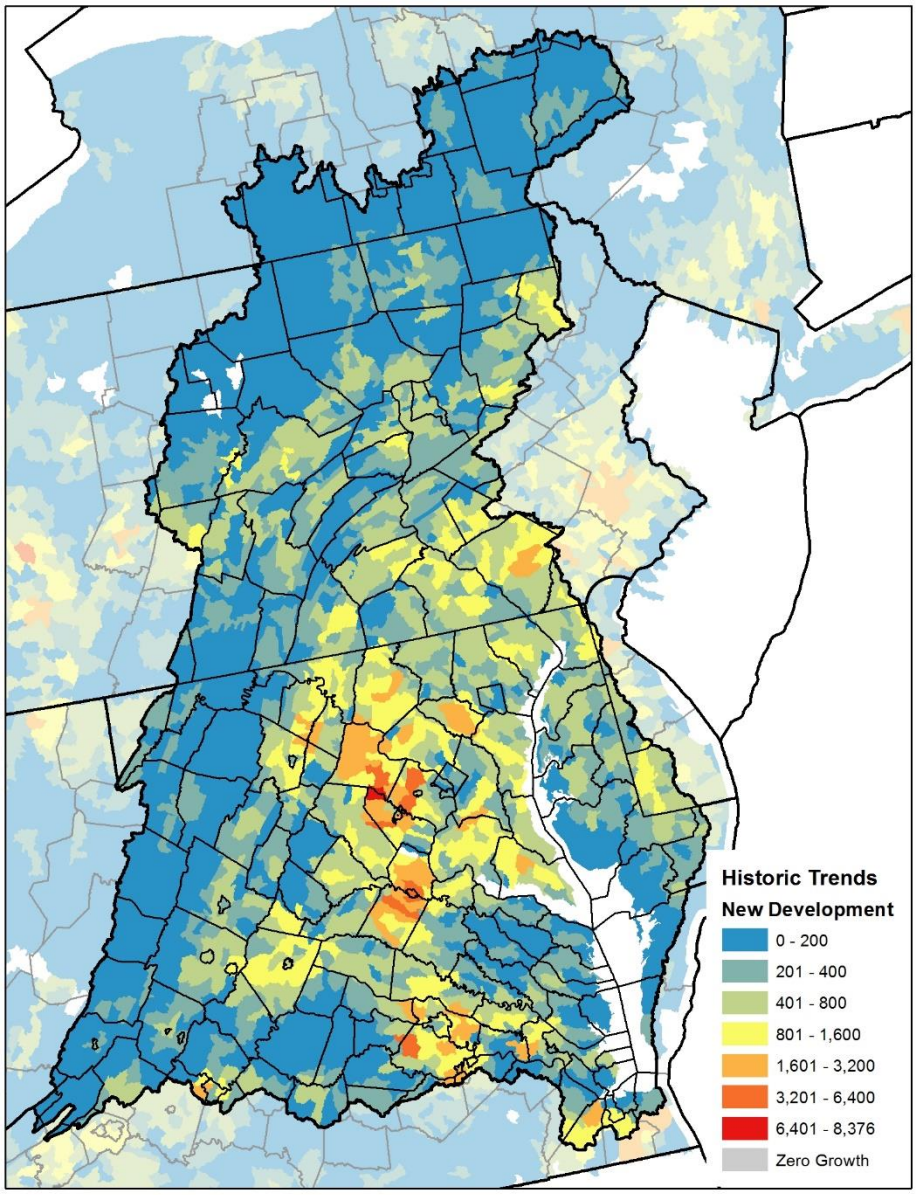
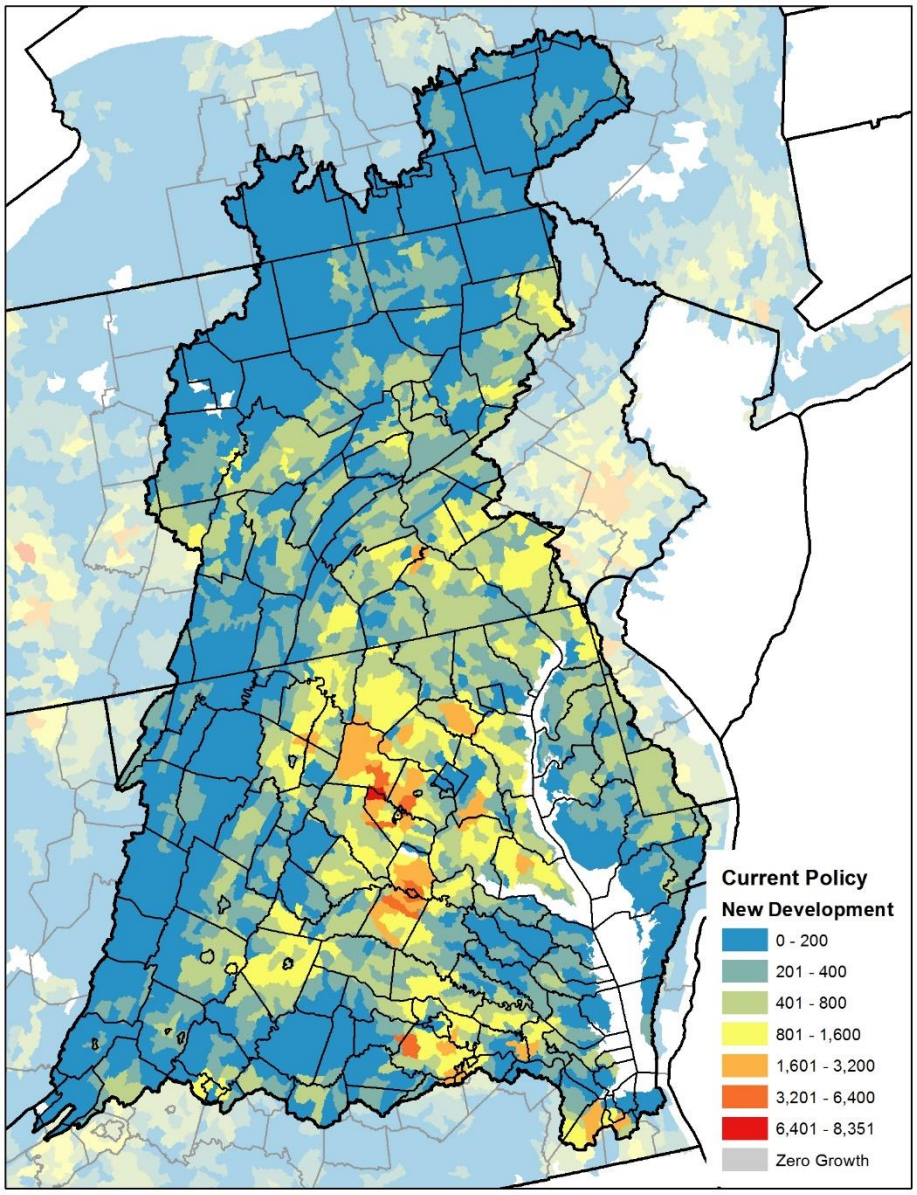
“Historical Trends”



“Current Zoning”



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WQGIT Decisions (9/26/17)

1. Use the CBLCM and MD Land Use Model to establish growth projections, with the opportunity to provide data or alternative modeling approaches in future years.

2. Use 2025 growth projections to account for growth in the Phase III WIPs.

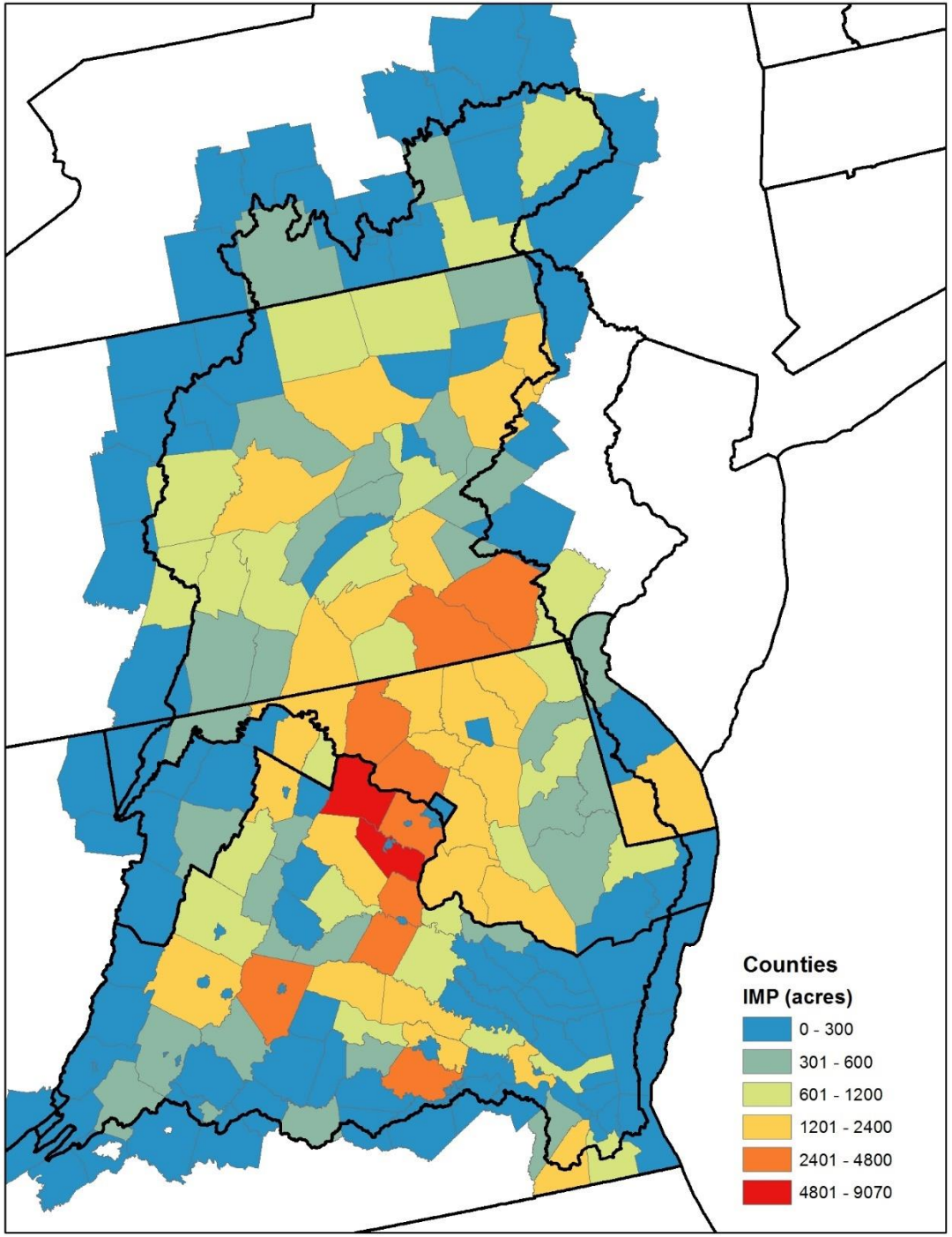
3. Update the growth projections every 2 years with the best available data to inform the development of the two-year milestones.

Chesapeake Bay Land Change Model (CBLCM) Applications:

1. A basis for “accounting for growth" in the Phase III WIPs.
2. Benchmarks for developing and evaluating state offset strategies.
3. Quantify threats to forests, farms, and wildlife habitats from urbanization.
4. Assess rates of conservation needed to achieve desired future conditions.
5. Evaluate the affects of land conservation and land use regulations on pollutant loads to the Bay (for potential credits).

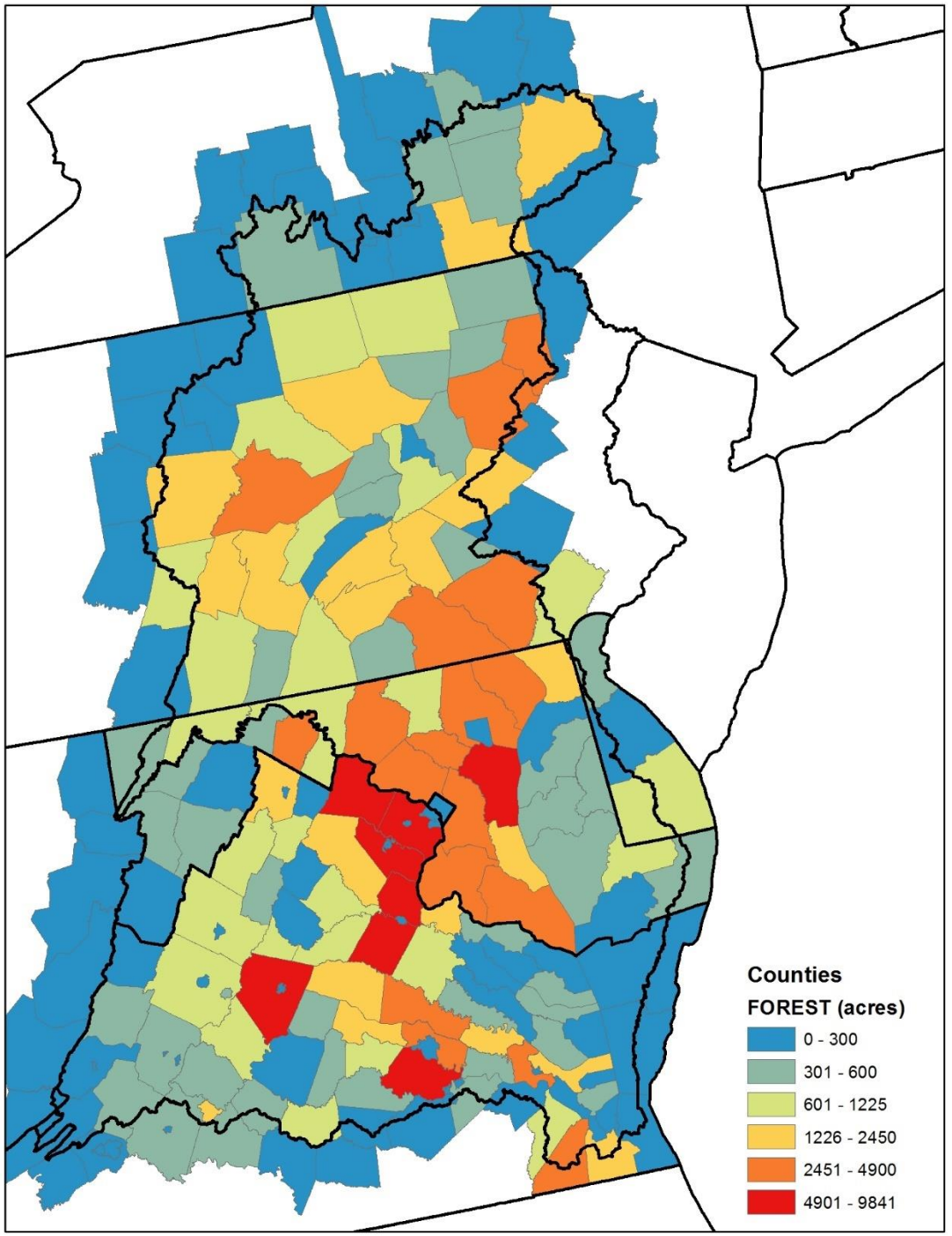
USGS

Forecasted Growth in Impervious Surfaces (2013 – 2025) "Current Zoning"



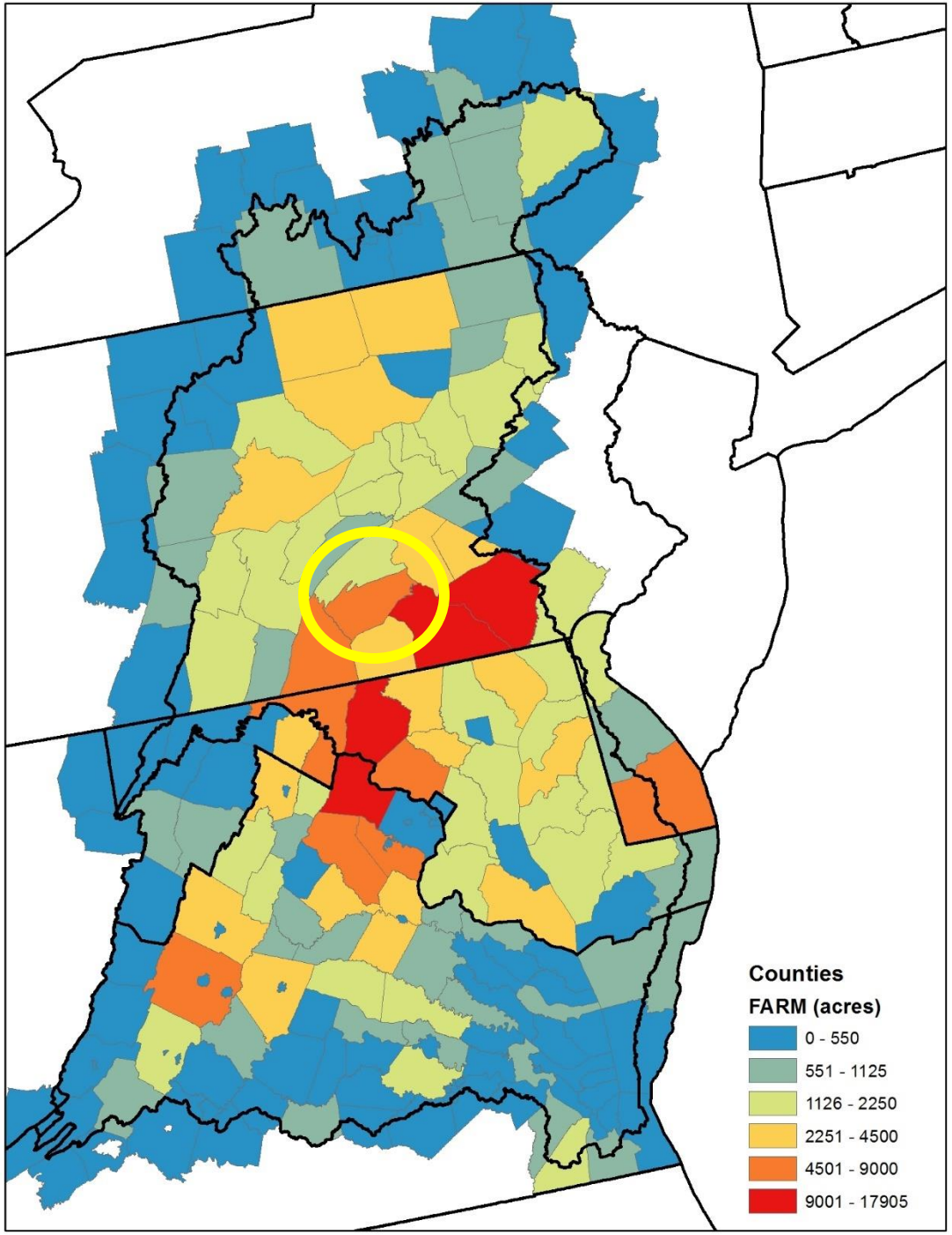
USGS

Forecasted Conversion of Forests (2013 – 2025) "Current Zoning"



USGS

Forecasted Conversion of Farmland (2013 – 2025) "Current Zoning"



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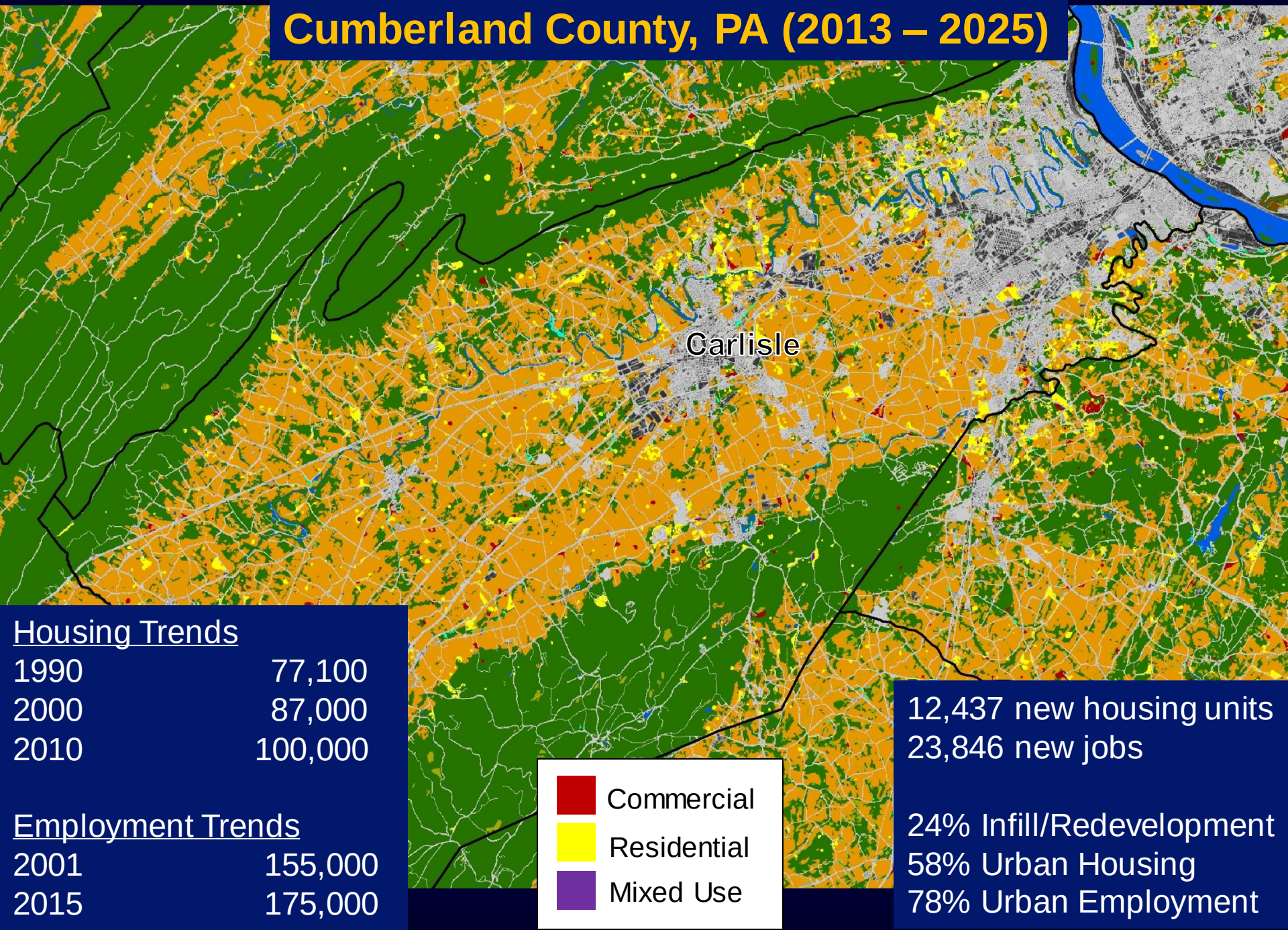
Cumberland County, PA (2013 – 2025)



Housing Trends

1990	77,100
2000	87,000
2010	100,000

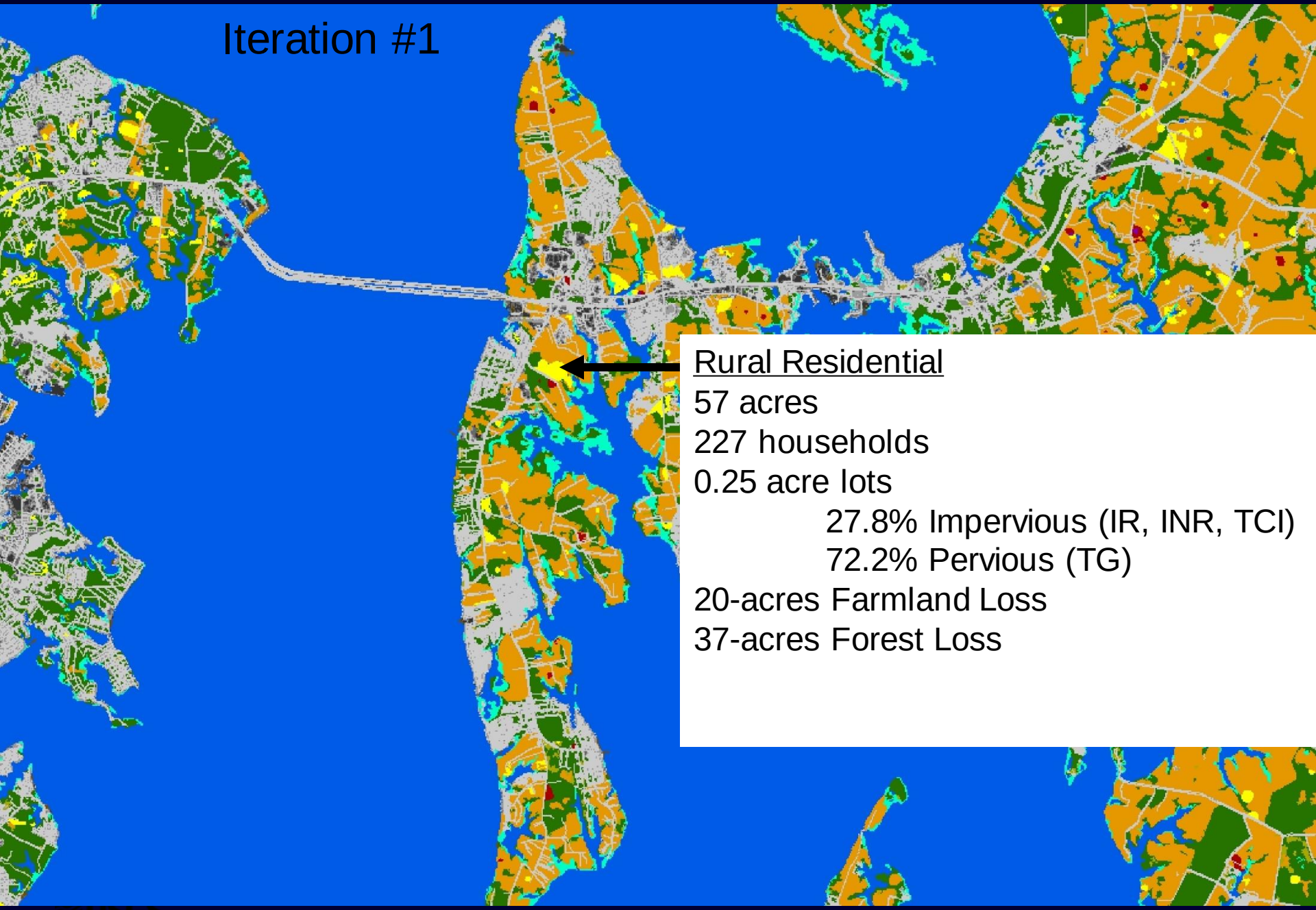
Employment Trends

2001	155,000
2015	175,000

12,437 new housing units
23,846 new jobs

24% Infill/Redevelopment
58% Urban Housing
78% Urban Employment

Iteration #1



Rural Residential

57 acres

227 households

0.25 acre lots

27.8% Impervious (IR, INR, TCI)

72.2% Pervious (TG)

20-acres Farmland Loss

37-acres Forest Loss

FWS Participation

1. Annual / Decadal forest conservation rate?

2. Spatially explicit forest conservation priorities?

3. “Utopian” scenario specifications, protecting
   - riparian forest buffers?
   - floodplain forests?
   - potential wetlands?
   - priority forest conservation areas?

USGS