

Geomorphic & Network Context

2015 CHaMP Camp Advanced Workshop

Cove, Oregon – June 1st, 2015

Presenters:

Joe Wheaton (USU)

Carol Volk (SFR)

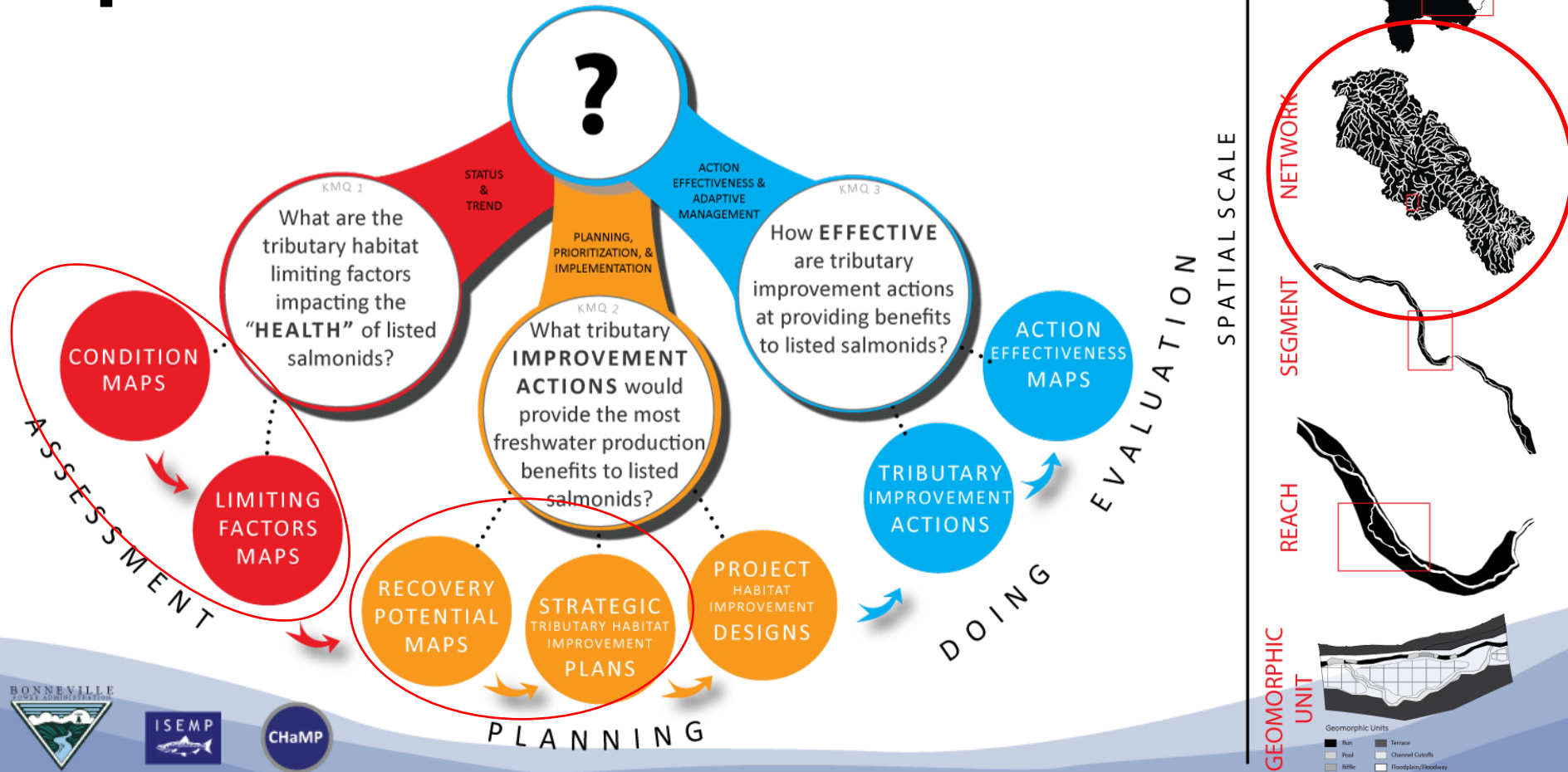
Kelly Whitehead (SFR)



PURPOSE OF MODULE



How do we get to these summary products at a network scale?



OUTLINE

GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

I. Background

II. Reach Types - GNAT

I. Reach Type (River Style) Tree

II. Valley Setting

- I. Valley Bottom
- II. Confinement
- III. Sinuosity

III. Reach Typing of CHaMP Basins & CRB

III. Condition

I. Geomorphic Condition

II. Riparian Condition

III. Habitat & Population Condition

IV. Recovery Potential

I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential

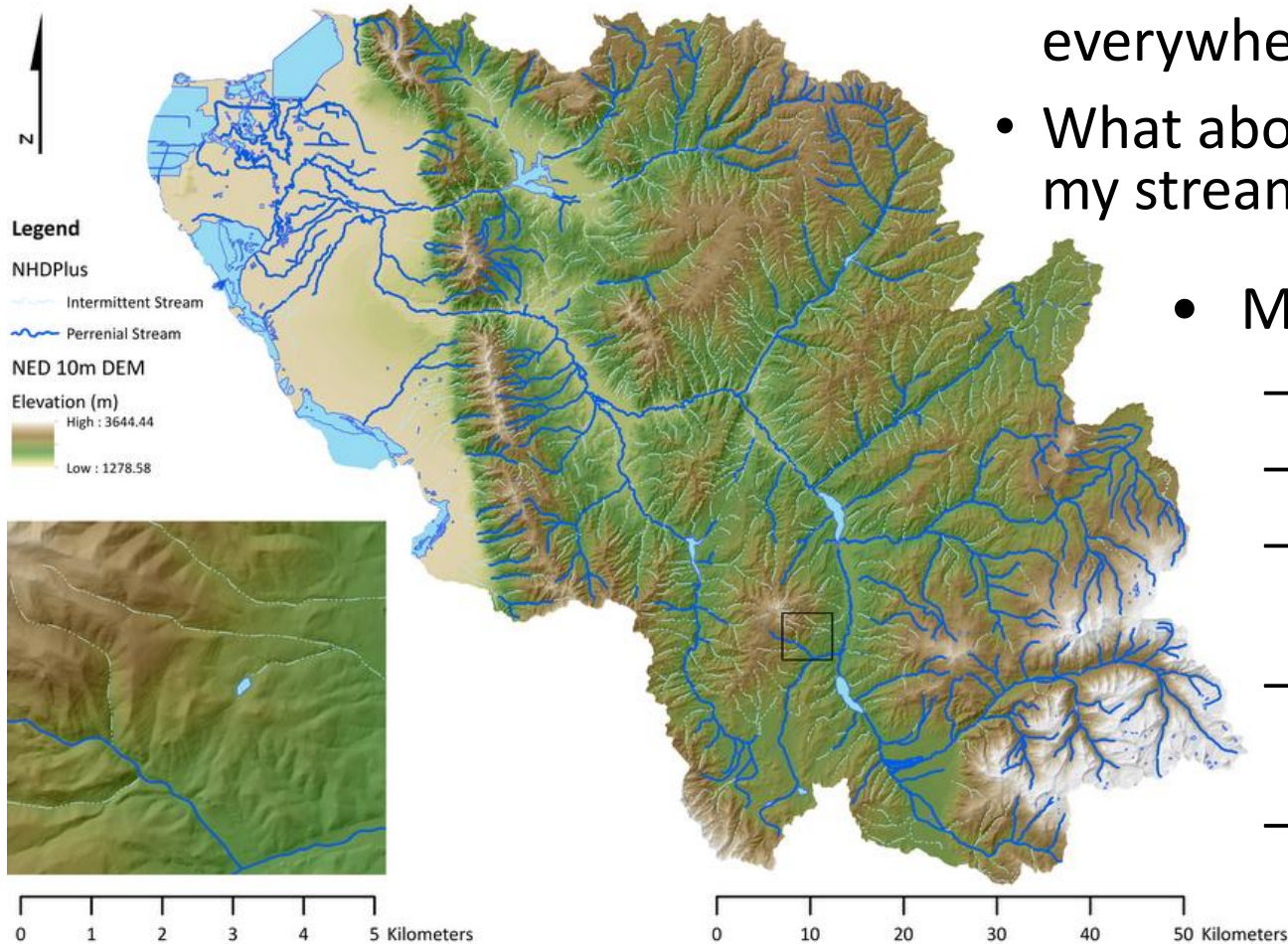
II. Riparian Recovery Potential

III. BRAT & WRAT

V. Future Work

WHY THE NETWORK SCALE?

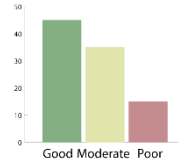
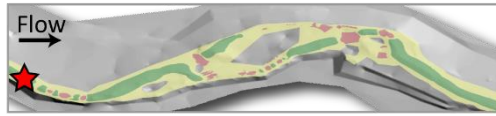
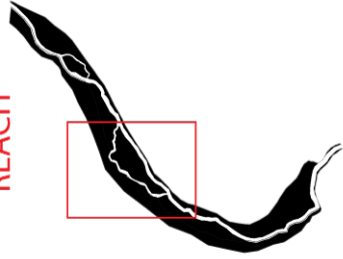
- CHaMP Sample Sites don't cover everywhere we care about
- What about in my watershed, on my stream?



- Maps that are:
 - Data driven
 - Model informed
 - Use best available science
 - Take into account the constraints
 - Resolved at a scale that matters to on the ground implementation

MAPS @ DIFFERENT SCALES TO ADDRESS DIFFERENT NEEDS

① SITE LEVEL

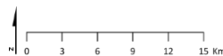
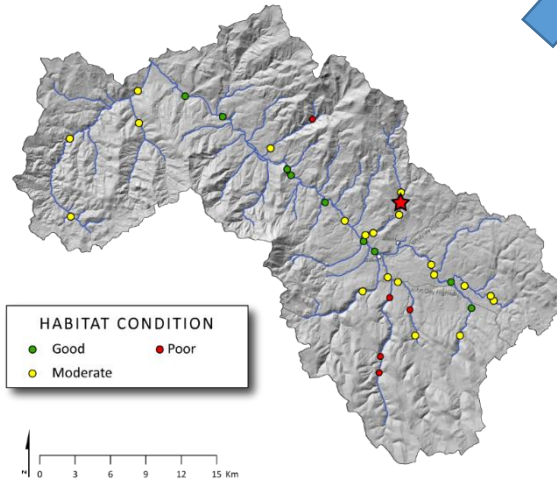


② SITE SUMMARY:

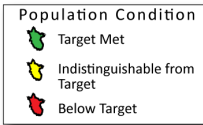


③ SITES ON NETWORK

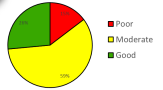
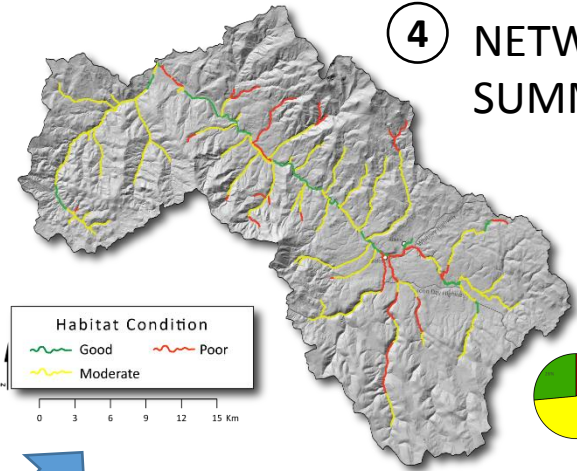
NETWORK



⑤ WATERSHED / POPULATION



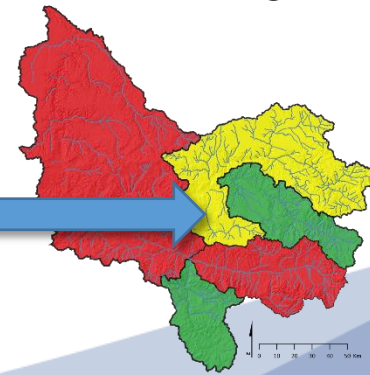
④ NETWORK SUMMARY



BASIN

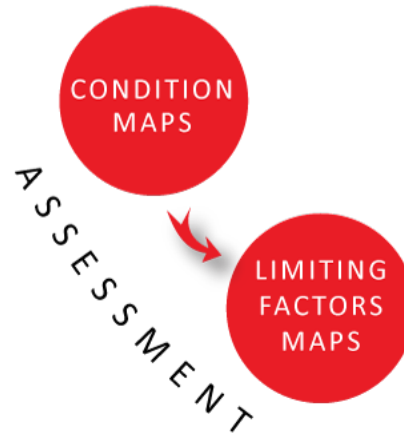


⑥ BASIN



HOW DO YOU PRIORITIZE IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS?

- For specific threats, you need assessments of :
 - Condition
 - Limiting Factors
 - Recovery Potential
- To inform:
 - Strategic Plan
 - Detailed Designs & Implementations
- Stakeholder Informed...
- BUT avoid just opportunistic...

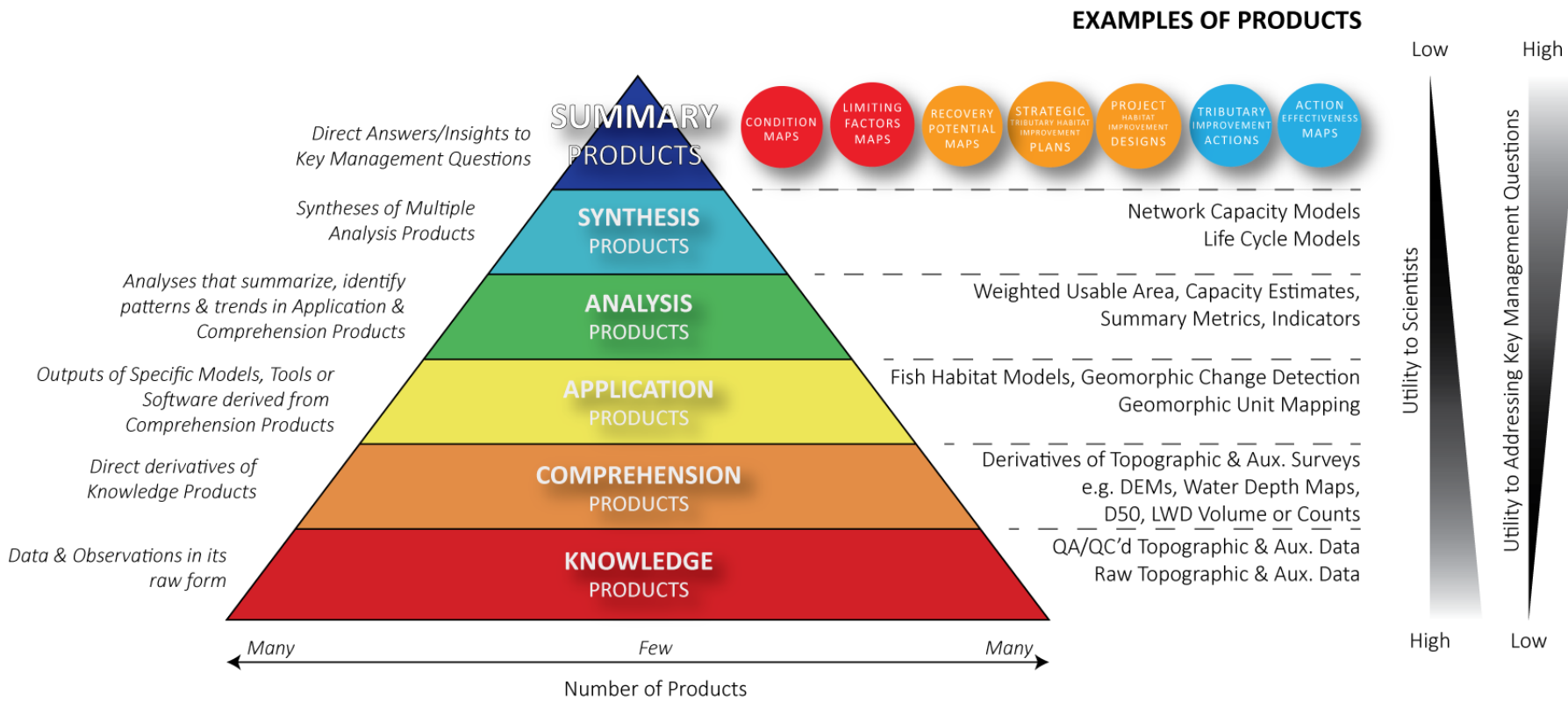


SUMMARY PRODUCTS

- 7 types

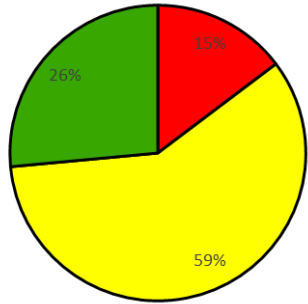


WHAT MAKES A SUMMARY PRODUCT?

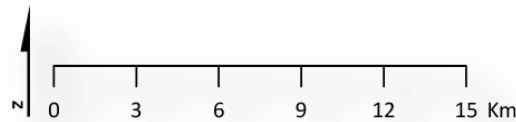
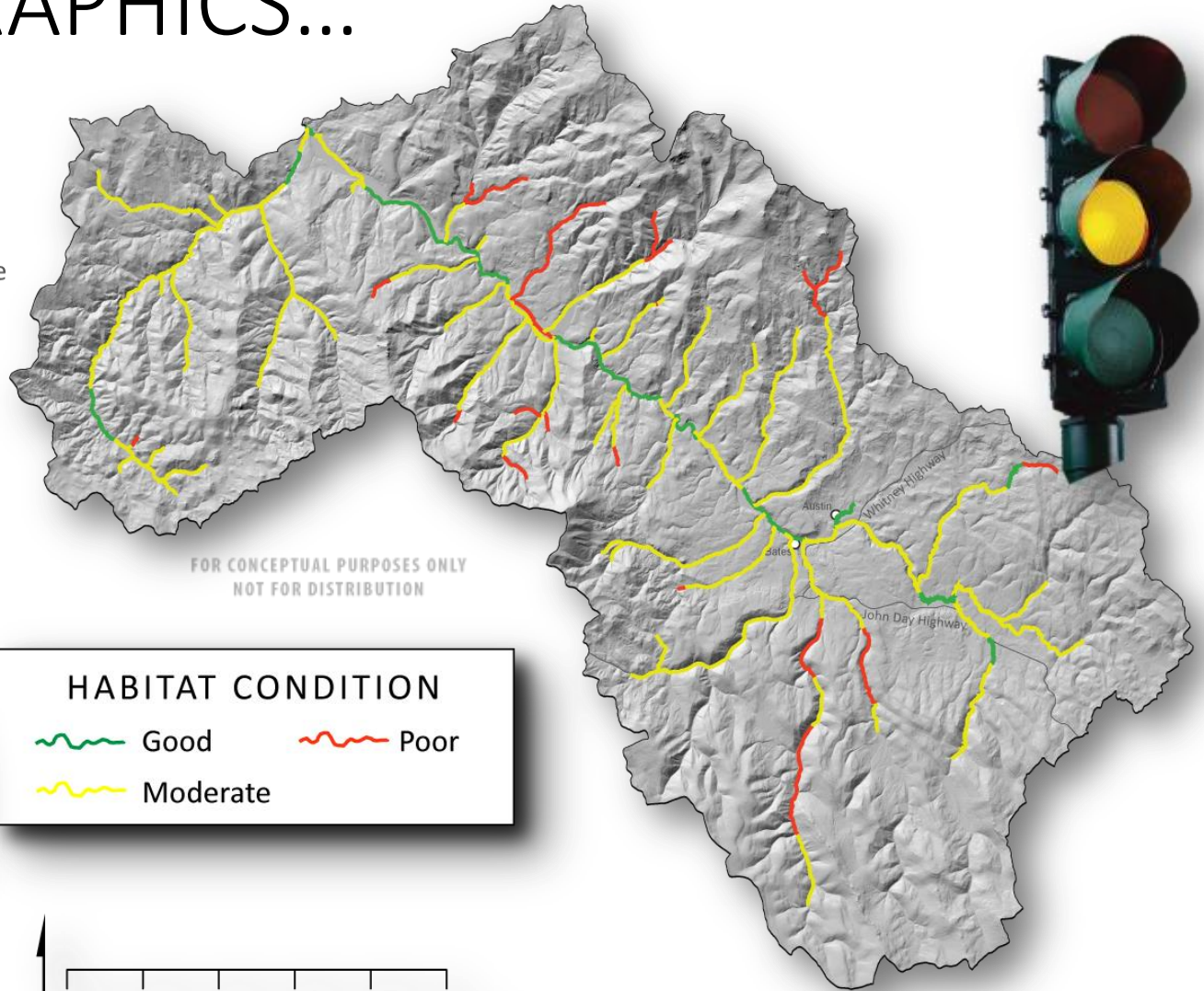


Direct answers to key management questions!
 Includes interpretation & value judgement.

CONVEYED AS EASY-TO-INTERPRET MAPS & GRAPHICS...



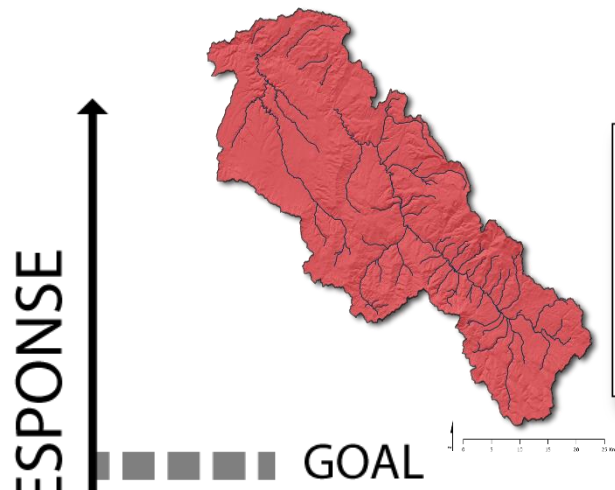
- Poor
- Moderate
- Good



CONDITION
MAPS

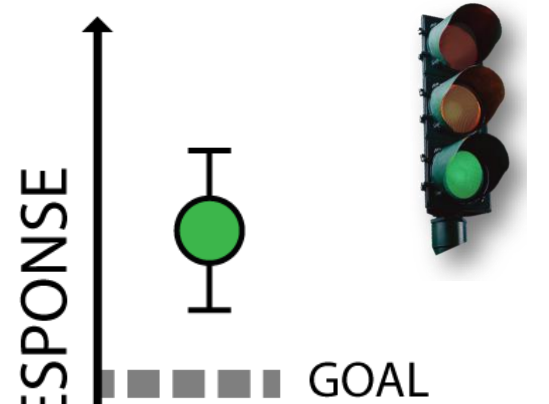


WILL ACTION ACHIEVE GOAL?



Population Condition

- At Target
- Indistinguishable from Target
- Below Target



HABITAT IMPROVEMENT ACTIONS

PRE

POST?

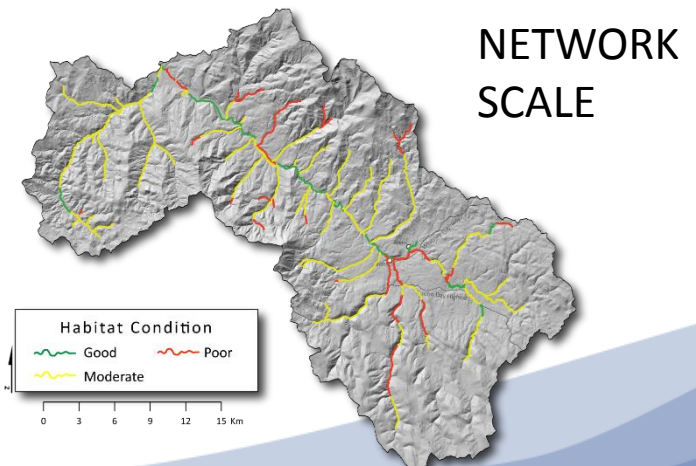
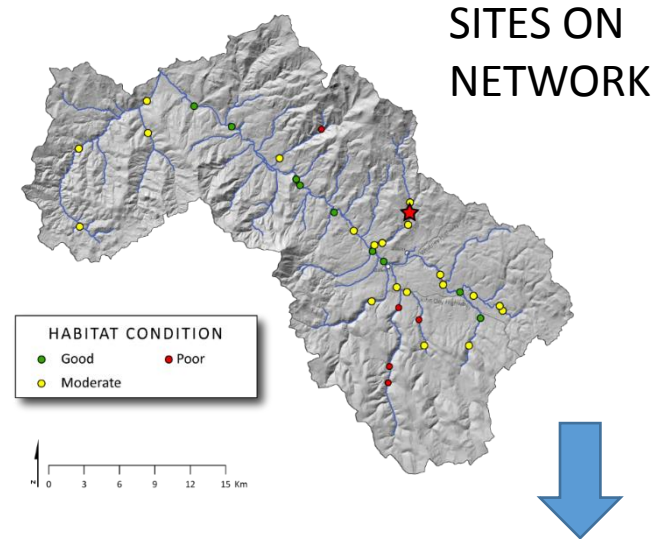
ASSUMPTIONS & PREMISE

- You can't meaningfully upscale fish habitat relationships without geomorphic context
 - Inclusive of reach types & *condition*
- You can't develop realistic and appropriate *tributary habitat improvement actions* (e.g. restoration *designs*) without geomorphic context
 - Inclusive of reach types & *recovery potential*
- To inform whether *improvement actions* could even plausibly achieve salmonid population goals you need life cycle models with more explicit fish habitat relationships
 - Capacity estimates rely on reach type & condition, temperature & primary production



Two Primary Motivations for getting Geomorphic & Network Context

1. **Extrapolation:** From sites on map to network scale
2. Network Scale **Prediction** in Absence of Site-Level Data



METHODS

Conceptual Basis: Adaptations of Brierley & Fryirs (2005):

STAGE ONE – RIVER CHARACTER AND BEHAVIOR



STAGE TWO – GEOMORPHIC CONDITION



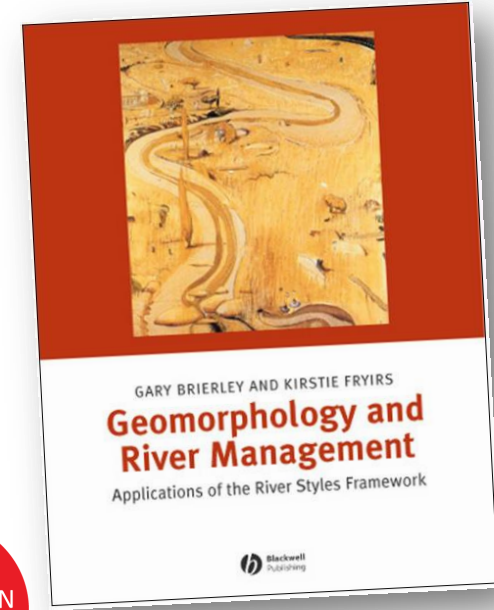
STAGE THREE – RECOVERY POTENTIAL



STAGE FOUR – STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN

Conversion from manual method to semi-automated geoprocessing methods:

In house tool development: GNAT, VBET, BRAT, etc.



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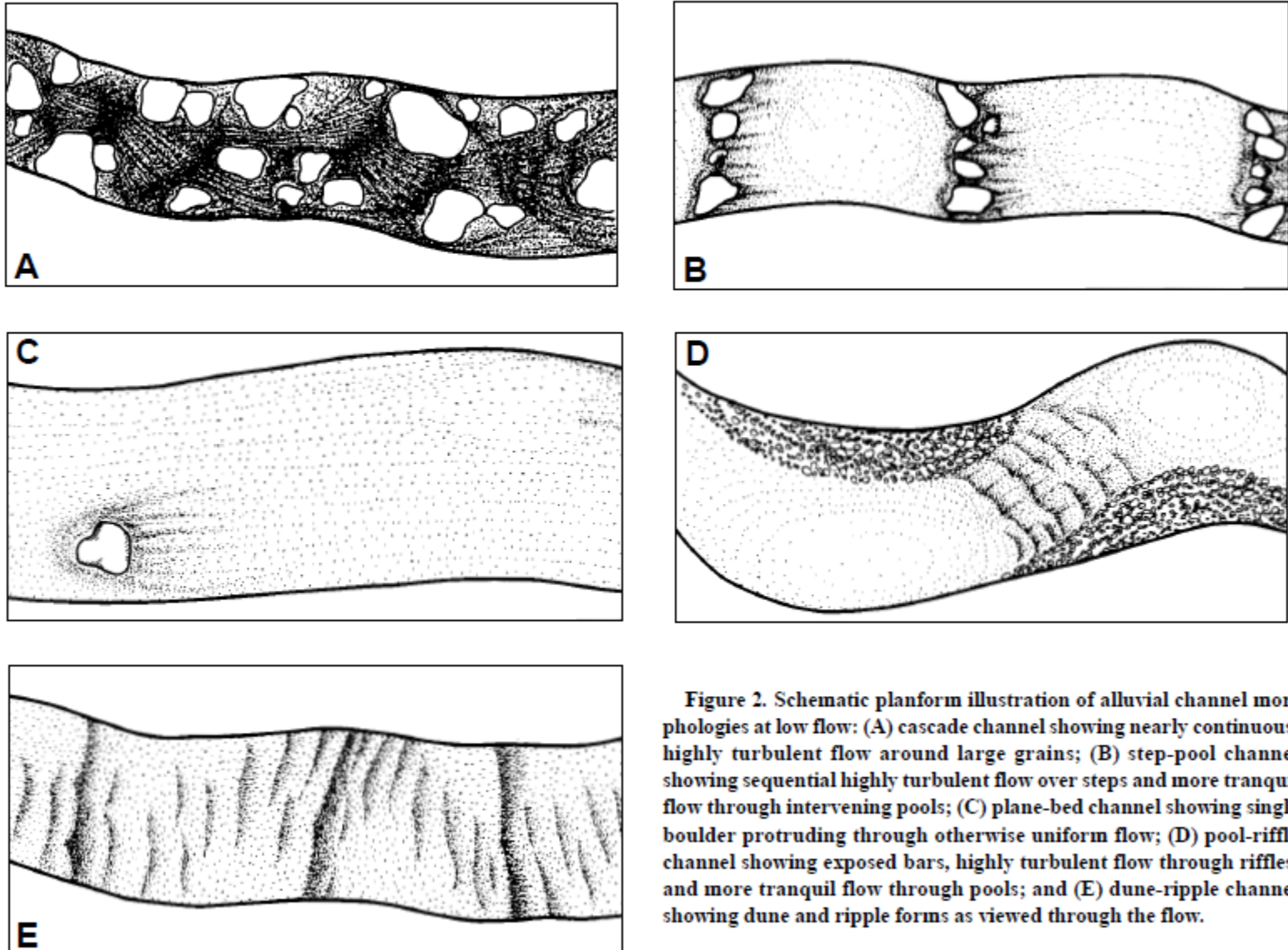
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WHAT ARE GEOMORPHIC REACH TYPES?

MONTGOMERY AND BUFFINGTON



WHAT IS DISTINCTIVE?



Google earth

DESCRIBE VALLEY SETTING



© 2014 Google

Google earth

1996

Imagery Date: 8/5/2014 46°03'02.23" N 117°02'40.63" W elev 1631 ft eye alt 37022 ft

DESCRIBE VALLEY SETTING



Google earth

DESCRIBE VALLEY SETTING



© 2014 Google

Google earth

1994

Imagery Date: 9/10/2012 45°13'06.95" N 118°23'34.07" W elev 3438 ft eye alt 10083 ft

DESCRIBE VALLEY SETTING



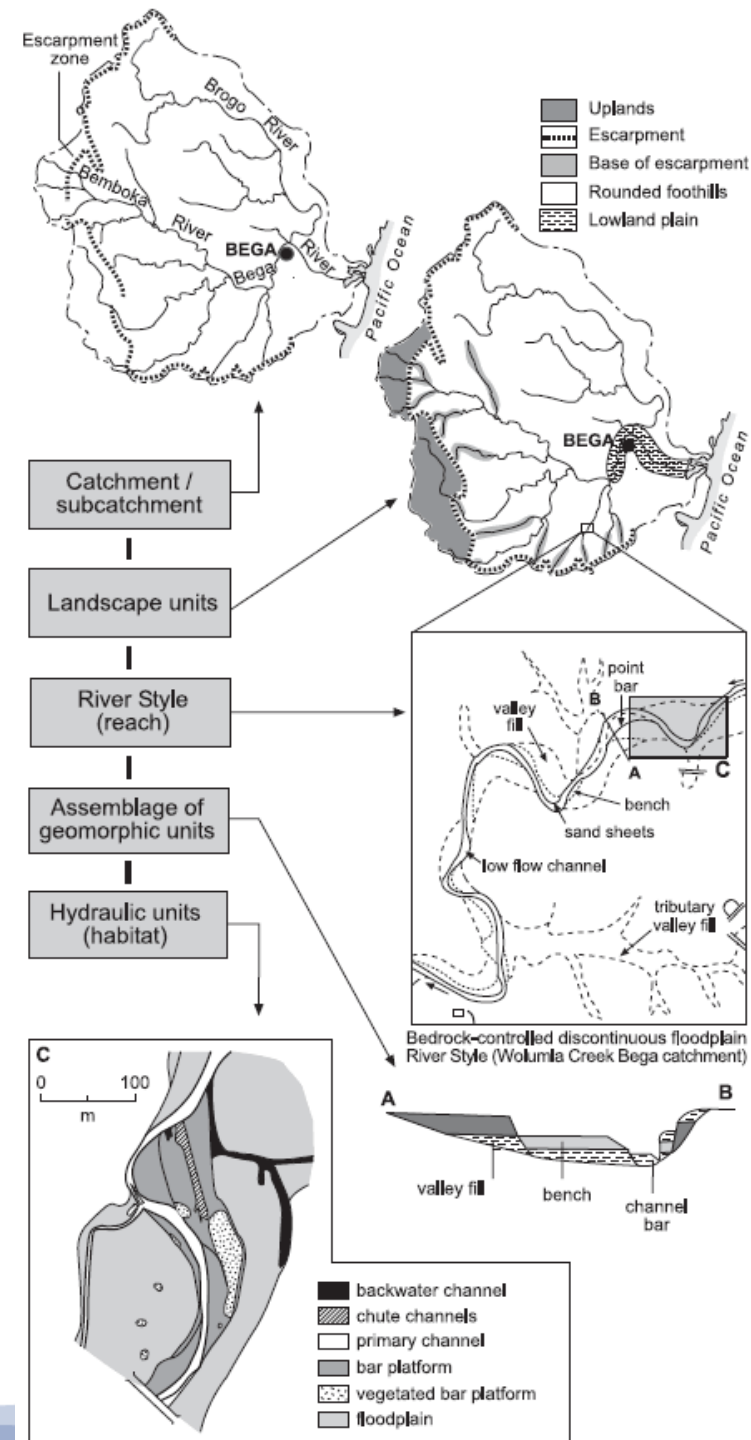
Google earth

1994

Imagery Date: 6/29/2013 45°04'07.68" N 118°18'49.27" W elev 4522 ft eye alt 8162 ft

MANY REACH TYPING SCHEMES TO CHOOSE FROM

- Montgomery & Buffington (1997)
- 'Beechie' – WRR (2014) – 'Natural Channel Classification'
- Rosgen Channel Classification
- Brierley & Fryirs (2005) – 'River Styles Framework'



SPECIFIC RIVER STYLES TREE

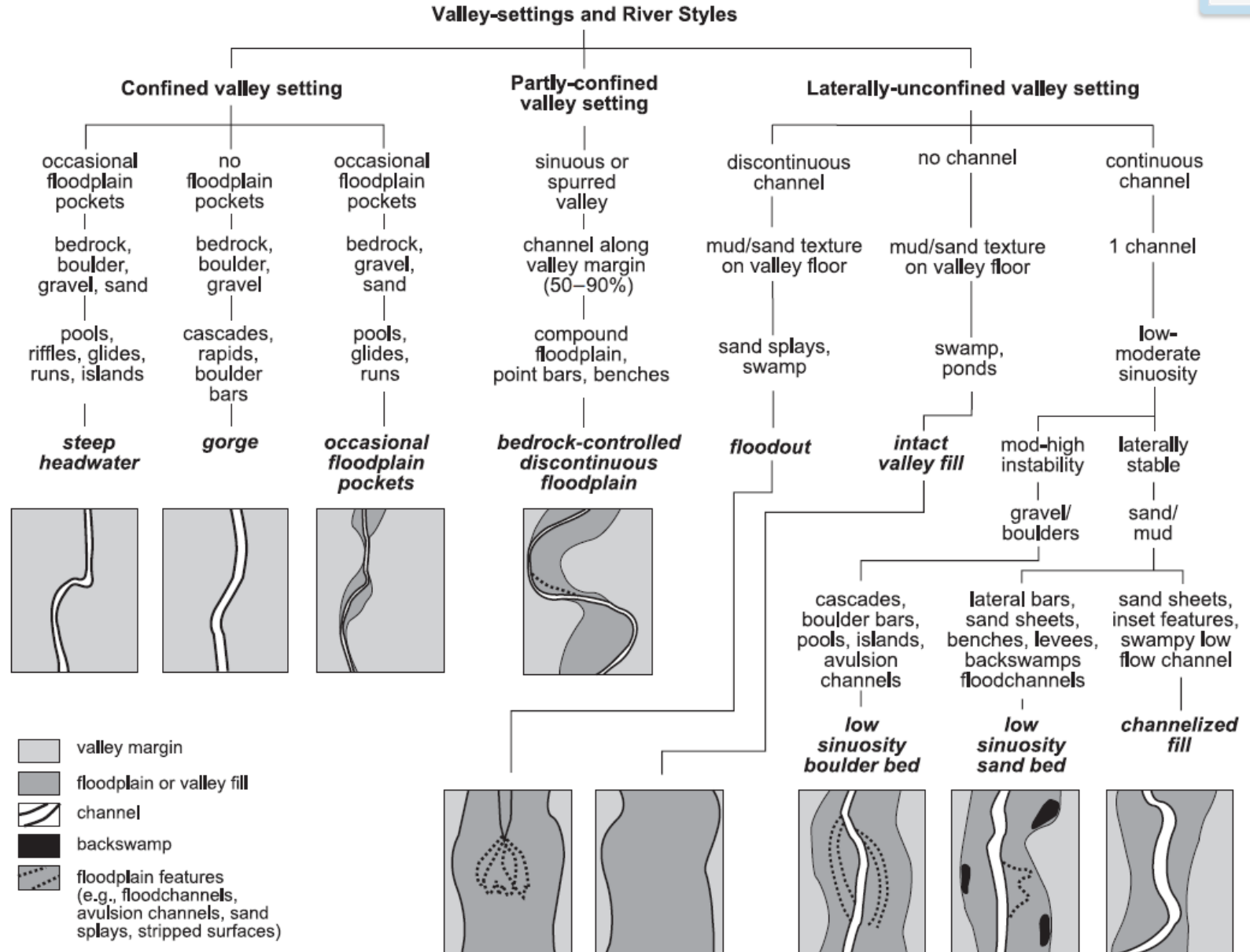


Figure 9.10 The Bega catchment River Styles tree (from Fryirs, 2001)

OTHER EXAMPLE...

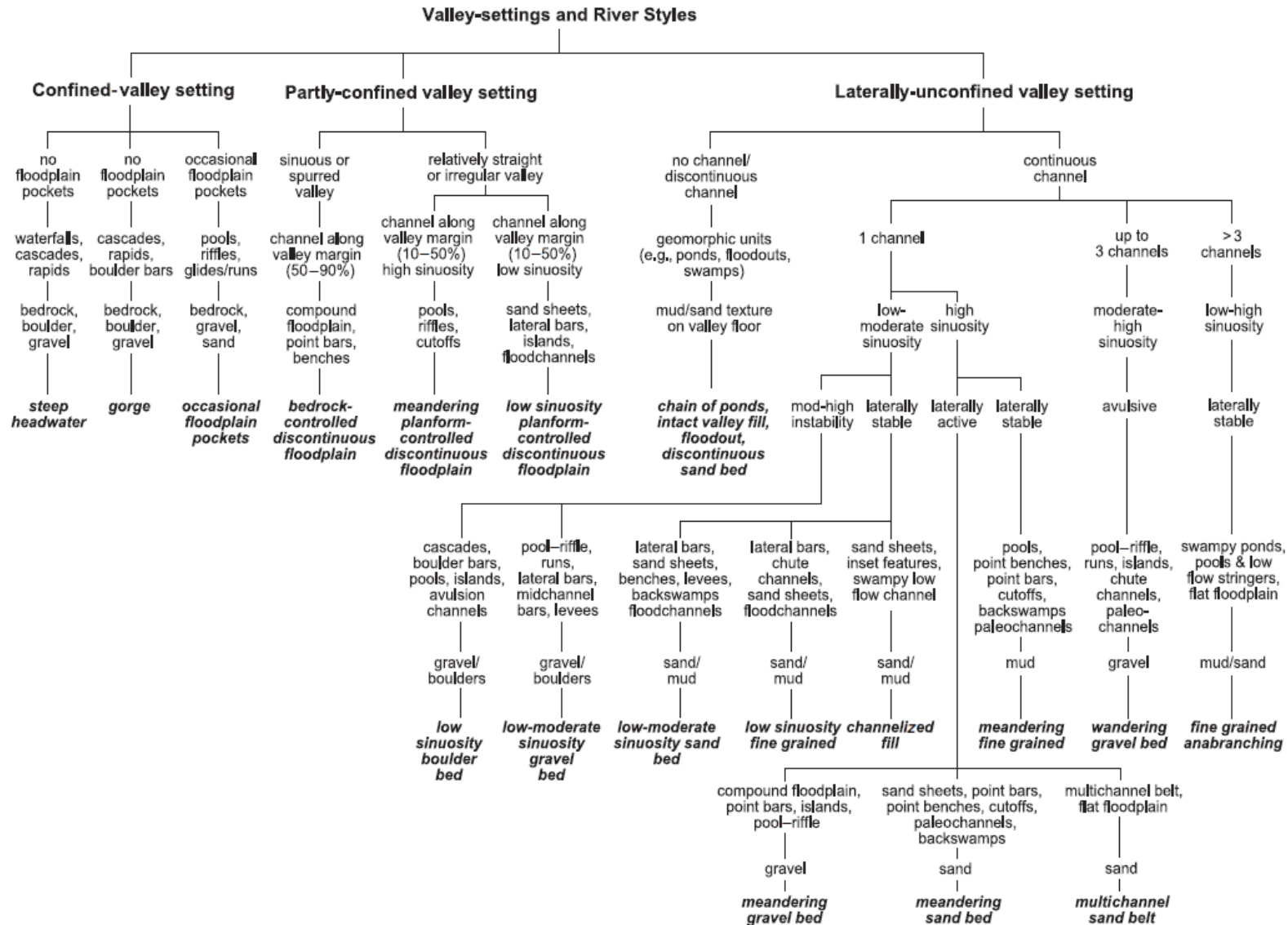
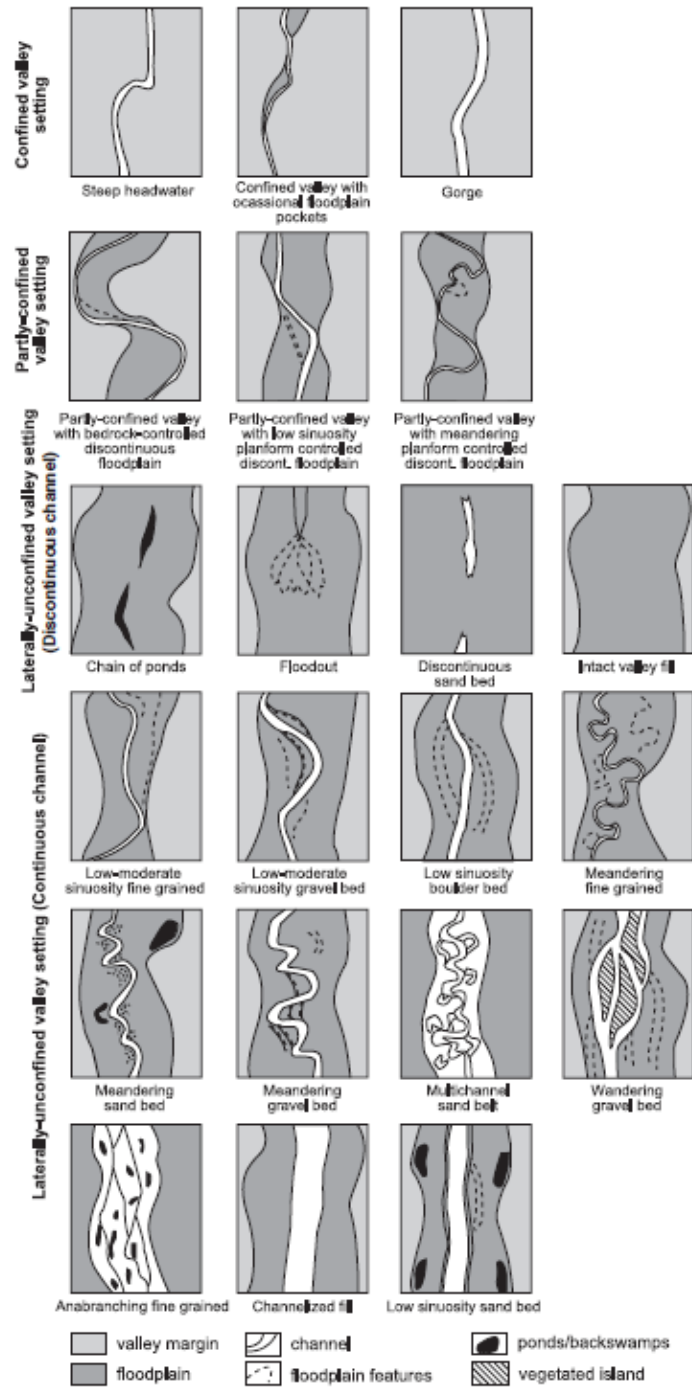


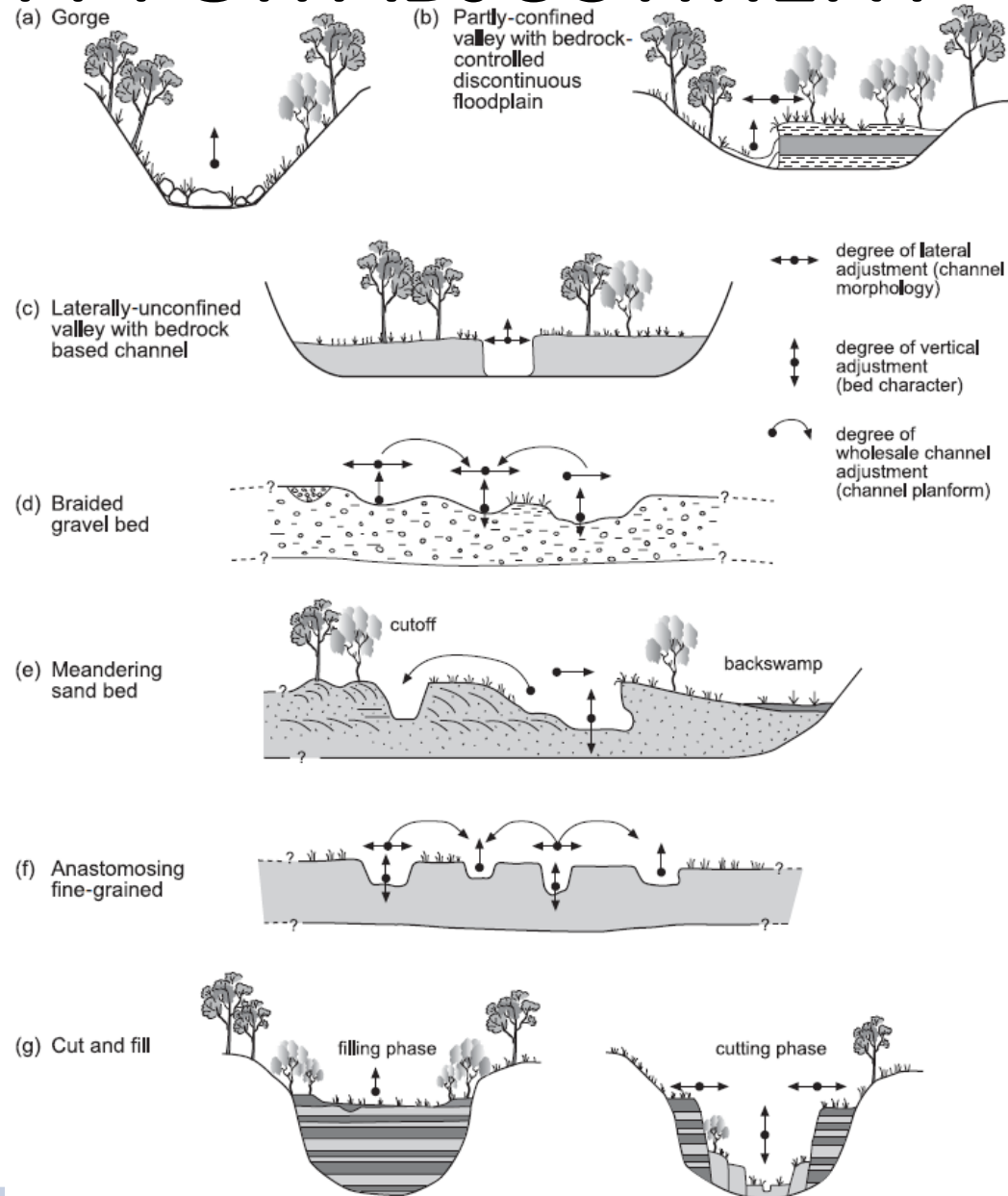
Figure 9.7 River Styles tree for a range of River Styles found in coastal NSW. Modified from Brierley et al. (2002). Reproduced with permission from Elsevier, 2003

EXAMPLE CARTOONS OF THOSE RIVER STYLES



NATURAL CAPACITY FOR ADJUSTMENT

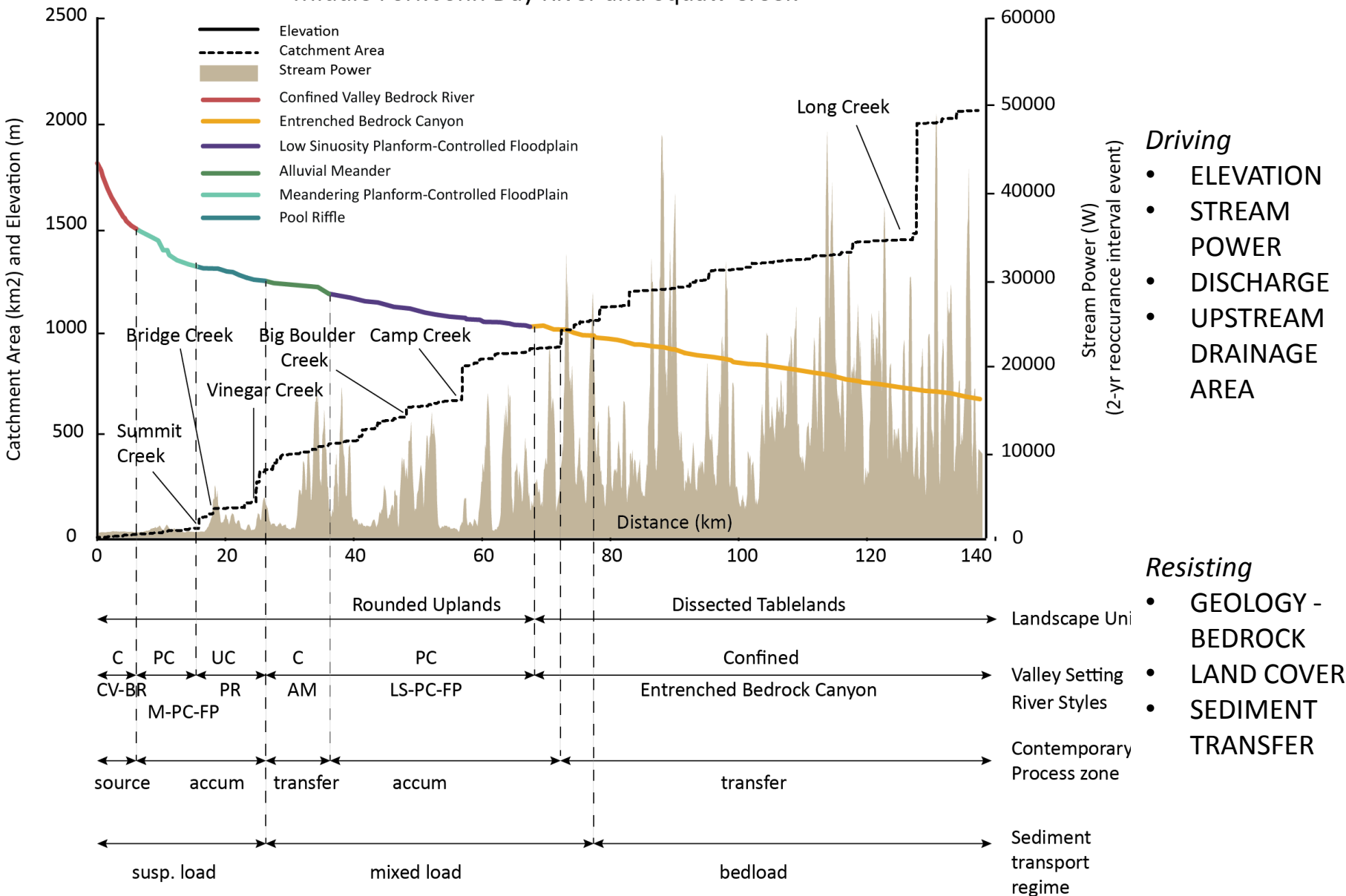
- Plausible limits on what adjustments are possible
- Geomorphic context matters
 - Confinement
 - Sediment Supply
 - Flow Regime
 - Vegetation
 - Land use
 - History



From Brierley & Fryirs (2005)

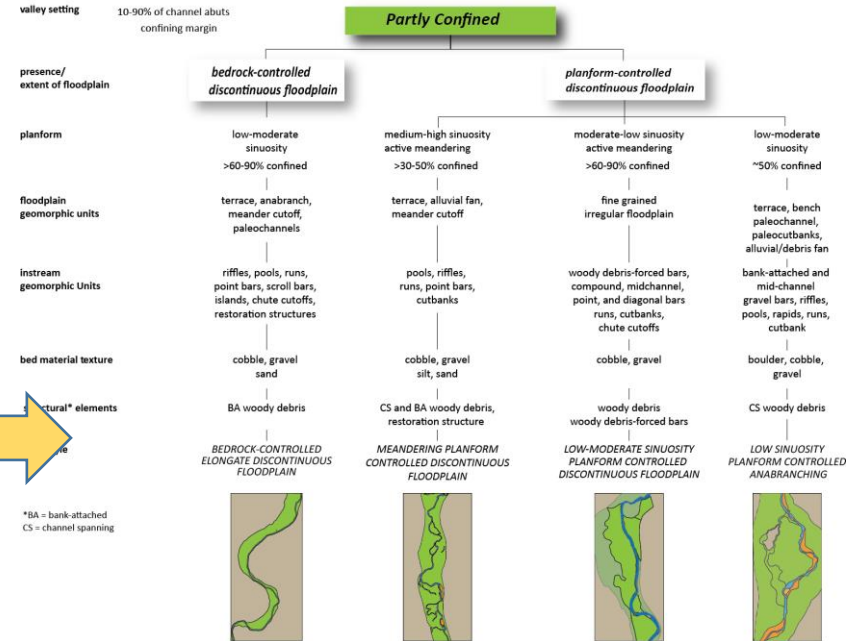
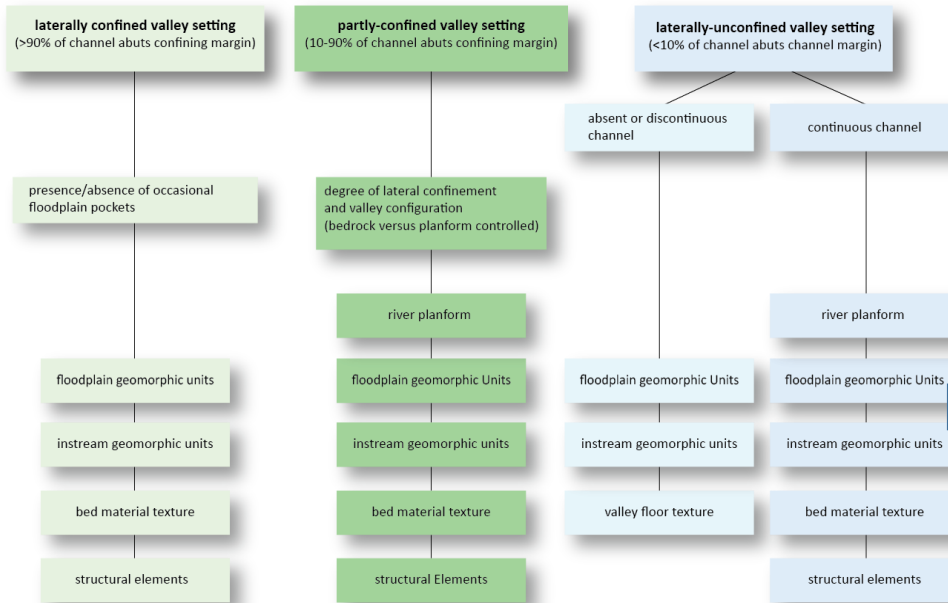
CONTROLS ON RIVER CHARACTER & BEHAVIOR

Middle Fork John Day River and Squaw Creek



PROCEDURAL TREE vs. SPECIFIC TREE

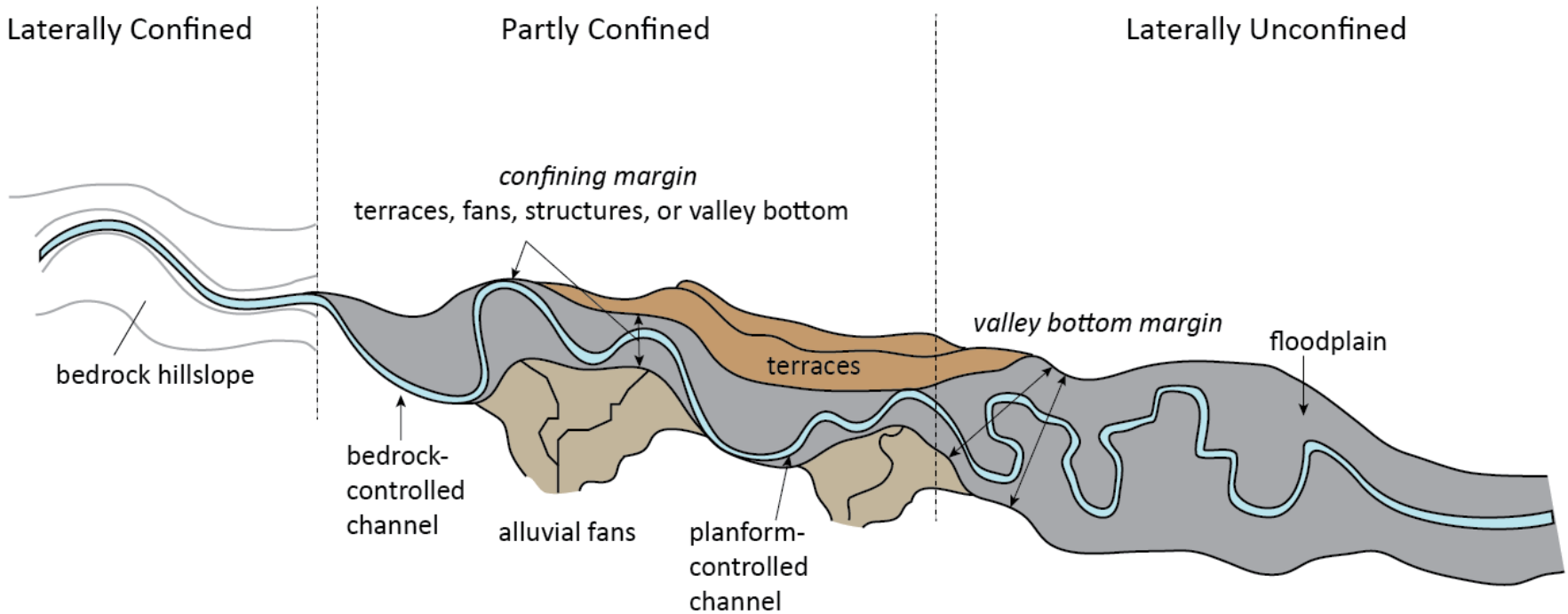
Columbia River Basin River Styles Procedural Tree



RIVER STYLES PROCEDURAL TREE

RIVER STYLES TREE

VALLEY SETTING ENTRY POINT FORM MOST



In **confined valley settings** the channel abuts a confining margin >90% of its length.

In **partly confined valley settings** the channel abuts a confining margin 10-90% of its length.

-- *bedrock-controlled rivers* have channels that abut a confining margin 50-90% of its length.

-- *planform-controlled rivers* have channels that abut a confining margin 10-50% of its length.

In **laterally unconfined valley settings** the channel abuts a confining margin <10% of its length.

ABANDONED FLOOD PLAIN (TERRACE)

Tier 1 - (< or > bankful)

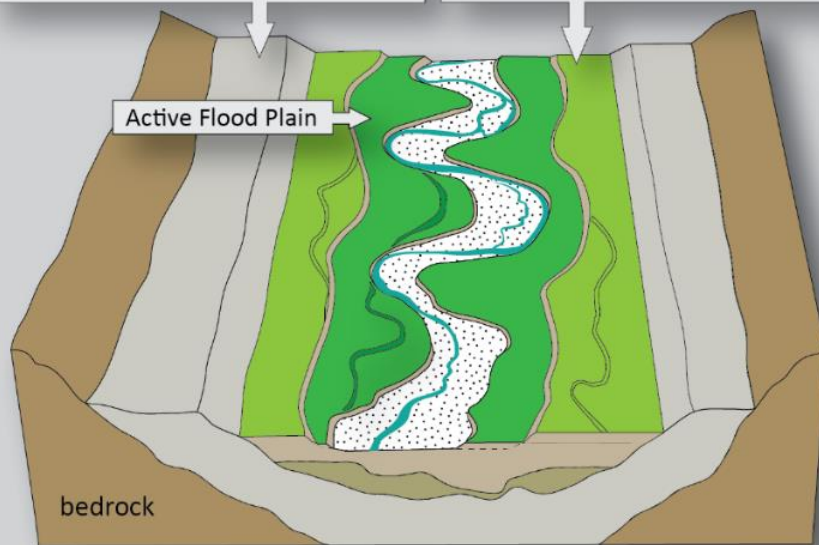
Tier 2- Active Flood plain

Tier 3 - Bank Attached

Tier 4 - Floodplain

Abandoned Floodplain (Terrace)
-coarse grained, older, valley fill

Abandoned Floodplain (Terrace)
Fine-grained, younger inset
deposit

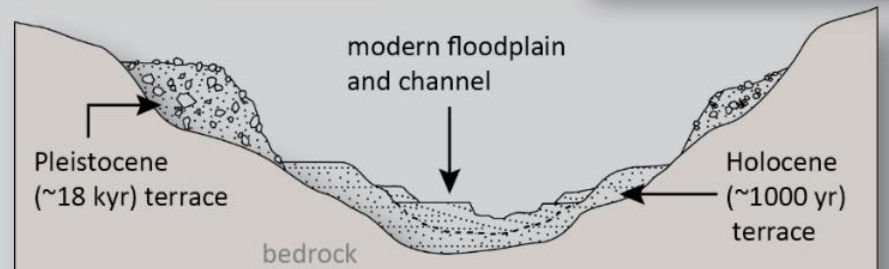
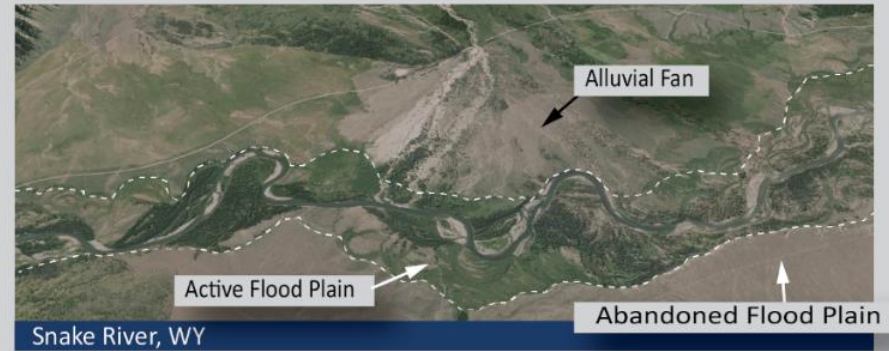


GEOMORPHIC FORM

An abandoned Flood Plain (Terrace) is a valley bottom, planar accumulation of stream-deposited alluvium that is no longer directly associated with the active channel. Terraces comprise a **tread**, the planar upper surface representing the relict floodplain surface; and a **riser**, the erosional slope or flank of the terrace landform. Terrace sequences can be inset within other terrace deposits forming “flights” of step-like features surrounding the active channel (see above and right).

PROCESS INTERPRETATION

Terraces form as valley-fill floodplain sediments are later eroded (incised) and remnant surfaces are left abandoned along the channel margins. Terraces can form as **cut** features, by subsequent incision of valley fill alluvium; as **fill** features that are subsequently eroded into terrace forms; or as purely erosional **strath** surfaces, etched into resistant deposits, or even bedrock of the confining canyon walls.



Cross Section of river channel showing inset and remnant terraces

ASSOCIATED GEOMORPHIC UNITS AND STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS

Abandoned floodplains-terraces-are closely associated with both floodplain and hillslope geomorphic units. Older, coarse terrace remnants directly overlie bedrock (above); younger, fine-grained and inset terraces underlie the contemporary floodplain and include paleochannels, channel cutoffs and banks (at left). Terraces are generally not in contact with instream geomorphic units, except where the abandoned floodplain acts as the confining boundary--in this case, the terrace riser would exhibit cutbank forms, and would supply sediment to the active channel.

SHALLOW THALWEG

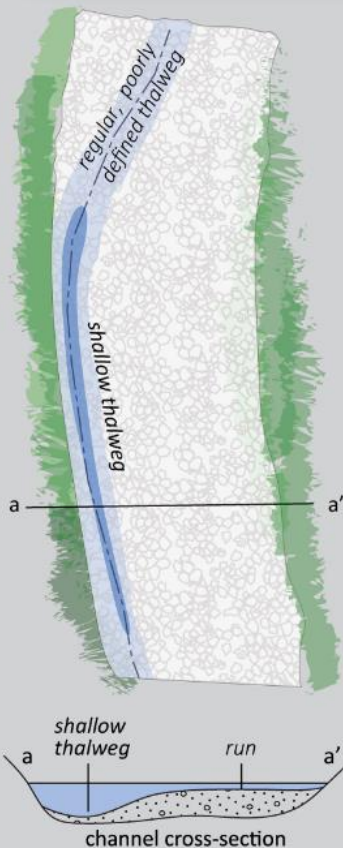
Tier 1 - In-channel

↳ Tier 2 - Concavity (In-channel cross section)

DEFINITION KEY

Key Attributes to Differentiate Specific Morphologies

GU Forcing	Low Flow Relative Roughness	GU Orientation	GU Position	Low Flow Water Surface Slope
Forced by planar GU or occasionally bars	Varies	Streamwise	Bank-Attached	Varies, but typically moderate



GEOMORPHIC FORM

A *shallow thalweg* is an in-channel concavity found on the outside bend of a channel that is distinctive because although it shows a modest concave cross section, longitudinally it lacks a concave profile or residual pool. A thalweg is defined as the line that traces the deepest part of the channel (not a unit). *Shallow thalwegs* are concavities that surround the thalweg, are found along an outside channel margin (i.e. bank-attached), oriented streamwise and are subtly forced by planar geomorphic units and occasionally low amplitude *bars*.

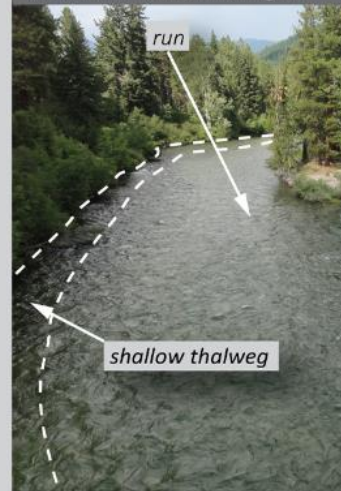
Asotin River, Washington



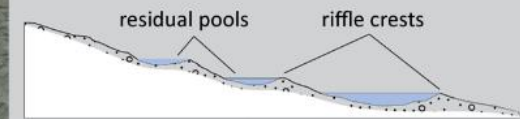
TYPICAL CONFIGURATIONS

Shallow thalwegs are typically found along the banks of the outside bends of relatively straight channels with low sinuosity, where the main channel is dominated by *planar* geomorphic units (e.g. *runs*, *glides*, *rapids*), or occasionally poorly defined, low-amplitude *bars*. They occupy positions where a *pool* may be expected, but this concavity lacks a residual pool of qualifying size.

Wenatchee River, Washington



The long profile of a channel associated with a *shallow thalweg*, lacking pools or residual pool features.



A long profile with riffles and pools highlighting residual pools left behind if river were drained.

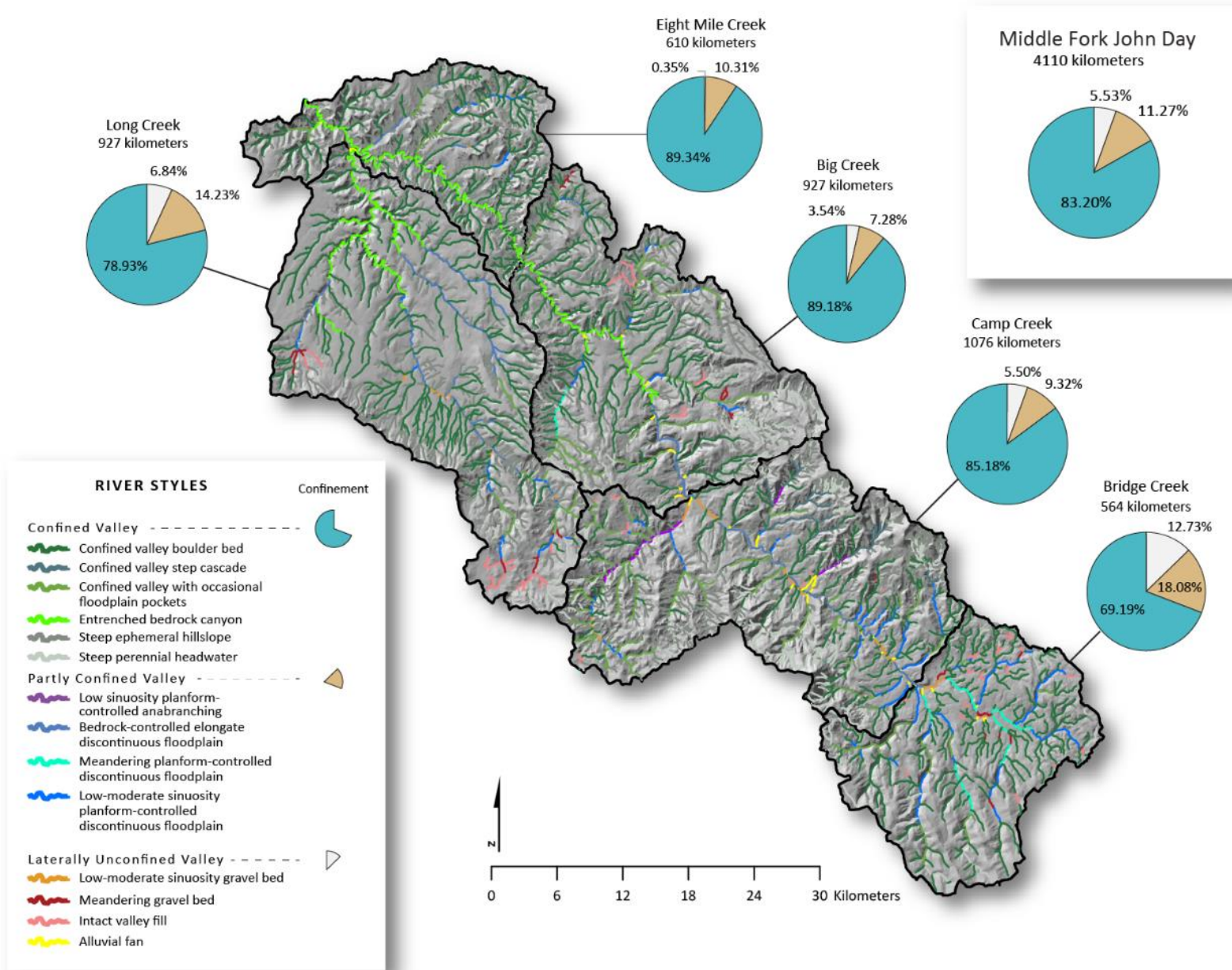
PROCESS INTERPRETATION

Shallow thalwegs are typically relatively stable units formed by modest erosion in an outside bend (typically of low curvature), but not enough erosion to excavate or maintain a *pool*. They form adjacent to *planar* geomorphic units or broad *bars* that are steering the flow towards the edge of the channel and so they winnow out a thalweg where those flows are concentrated. *Shallow thalwegs* can form and are maintained most often in relatively stable channels that are transport limited (e.g. *plane-bed*). They can also form in non-transport limited situations where active *bars* or *planar* units are forcing lateral migration and bank erosion. Therein the rate of retreat is overwhelmed by deposition from the *bar*, which prevents a *pool* from fully forming (for *pools* to form in this situation would require a more resistant bank to concentrate the flow energy).

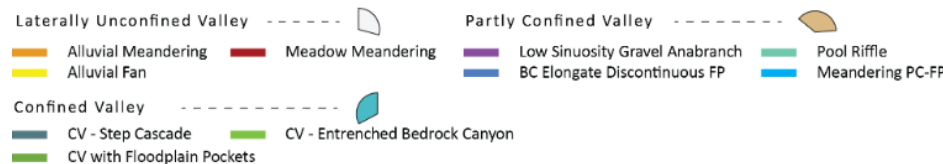
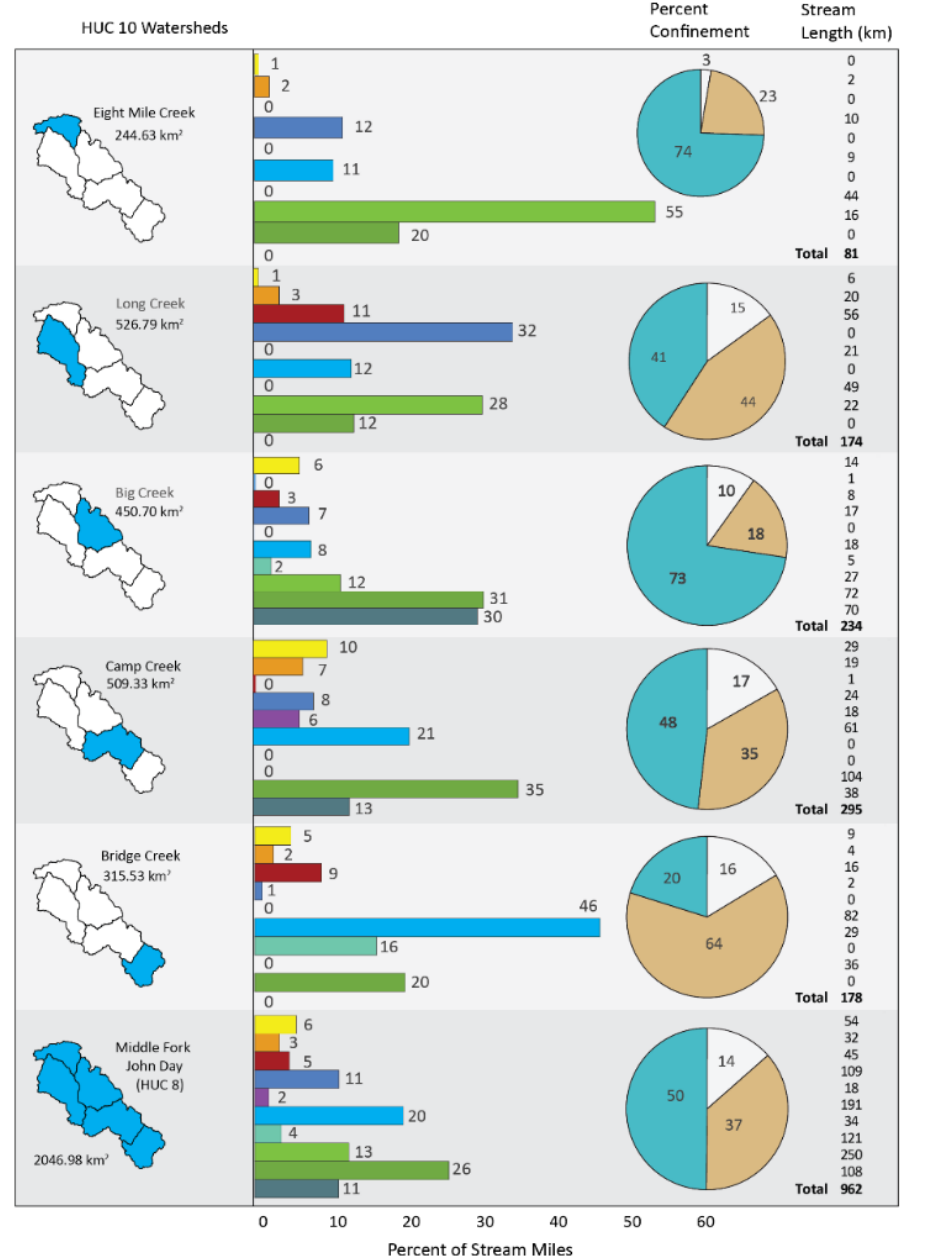
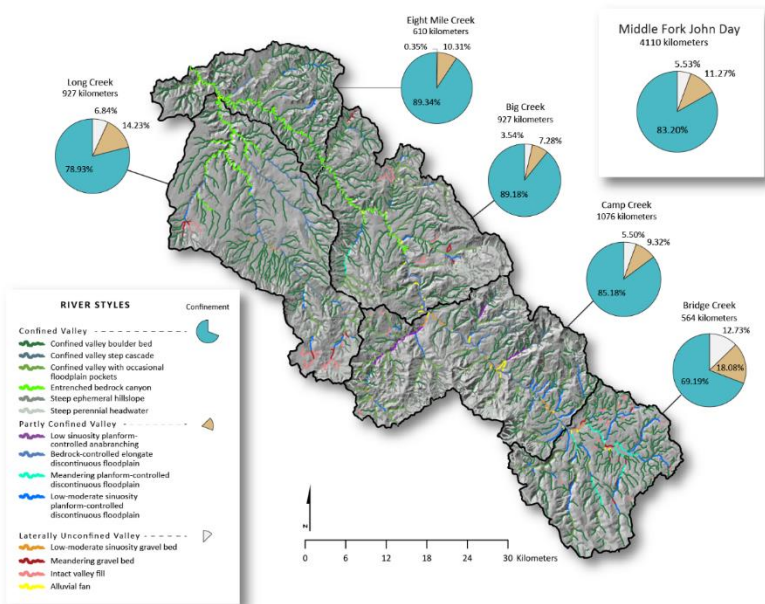
SIMILAR TO OR MISTAKEN WITH

Shallow thalwegs are similar to elongated *bar-forced pools* on outside bends and could be confused if the *pool* is weakly formed. Use a minimum mapping unit and/or minimum residual pool depth (puddle left over if river were drained) to help differentiate from a qualifying residual pool. *Shallow thalwegs* can also be confused with a *chute*, which tends to short-circuit flows either across *bar* or *floodplain* surface or along an inside bend.

REACH TYPE MAP – MF JOHN DAY



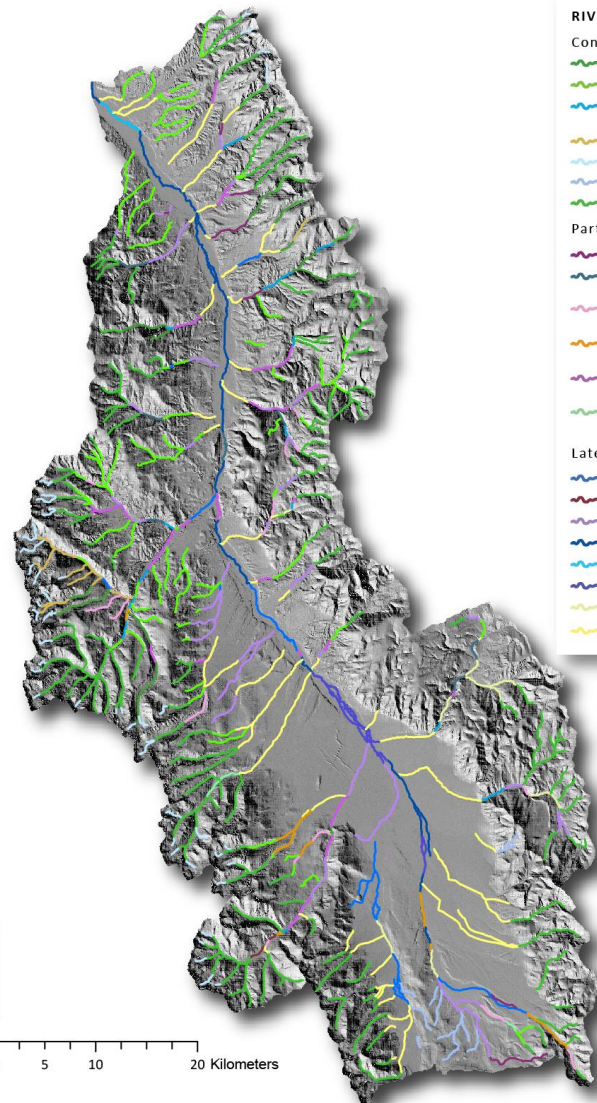
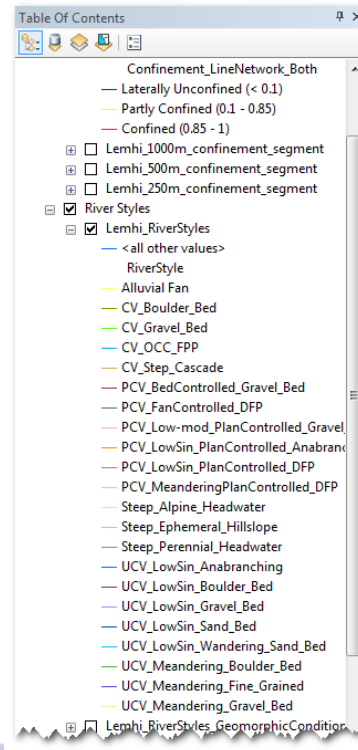
MANY WAYS TO SUMMARIZE



EXERCISE: EXPLORE REACH TYPES

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopLemhiGNAT.mxd

1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on Lemhi River Styles



RIVER STYLES	
Confined Valley	
	Confined valley boulder bed
	Confined valley gravel bed
	Confined valley with occasional floodplain pockets
	Confined valley step-cascade
	Steep alpine headwater
	Steep ephemeral hillslope
	Steep perennial headwater
Partly Confined Valley	
	Bedrock controlled gravel bed
	Fan controlled discontinuous floodplain
	Low-moderate sinuosity planform controlled gravel bed
	Low sinuosity planform controlled anabranching
	Low sinuosity planform controlled discontinuous floodplain
	Meandering planform controlled discontinuous floodplain
Laterally Unconfined Valley	
	Low sinuosity anabranching
	Low sinuosity boulder bed
	Low-moderate sinuosity gravel bed
	Low-moderate sinuosity sand bed
	Low sinuosity wandering sand bed
	Meandering fine grained
	Meandering gravel bed
	Alluvial fan

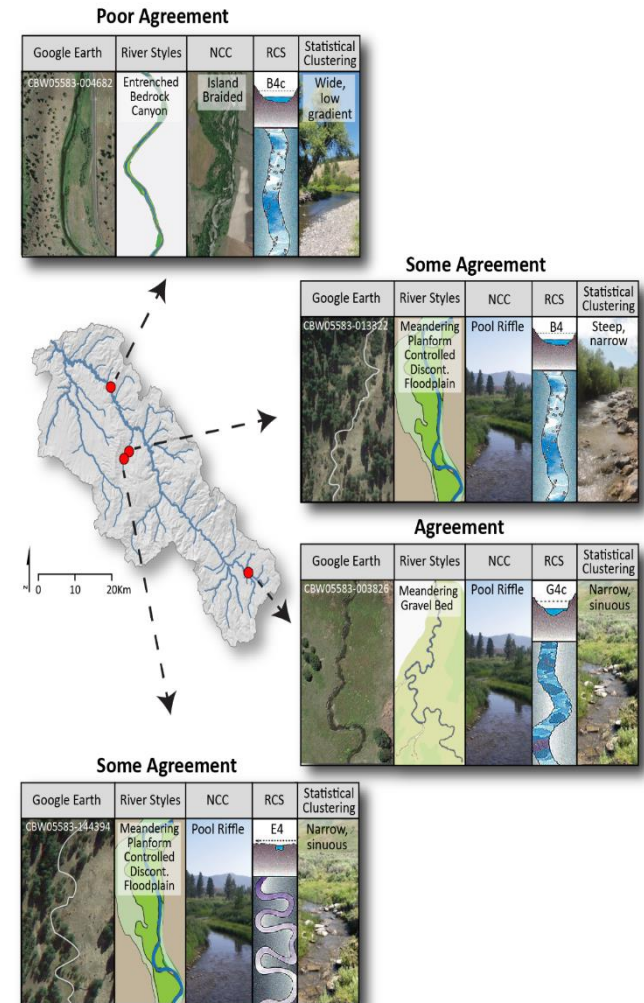
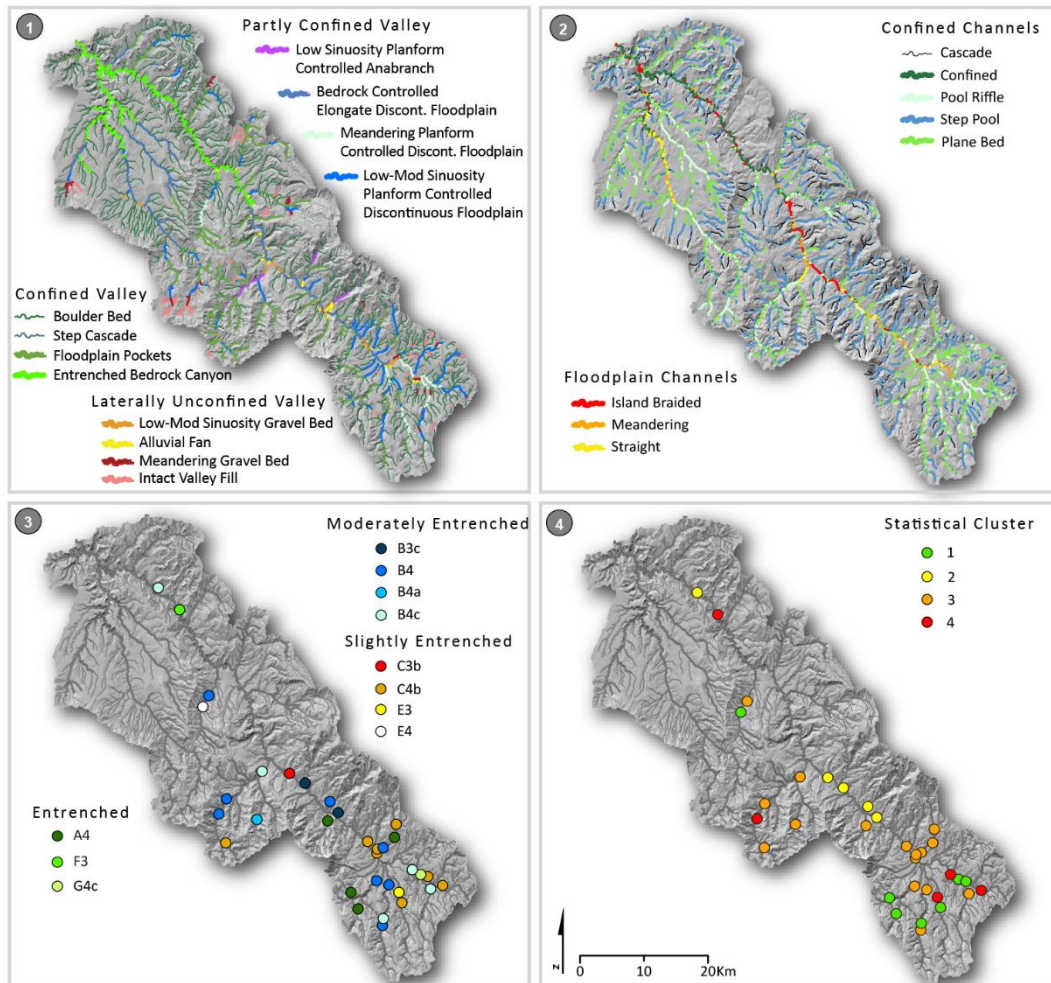
HOW WE'VE DONE THIS IN PAST...

- Desktop Analysis
- Overflights
- Fieldwork – Proforma Sites & Network Spot Checks
- More Desktop Analysis

- i.e. MANUAL



DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SCHEMES



- In Revision. Kasprak AK*, Hough-Snee N*, Beechie T, Bouwes N, Brierley G, Camp R*, Fryirs K, Imaki H, Jensen M*, O'Brien G, Rosgen D, and **Wheaton JM**. Choosing the Right Tool for the Job: Comparing Stream Channel Classification Frameworks. For Submission to PLOSOne. Preprint available at: DOI: [10.7287/peerj.preprints.885v1](https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.885v1).

OUTLINE

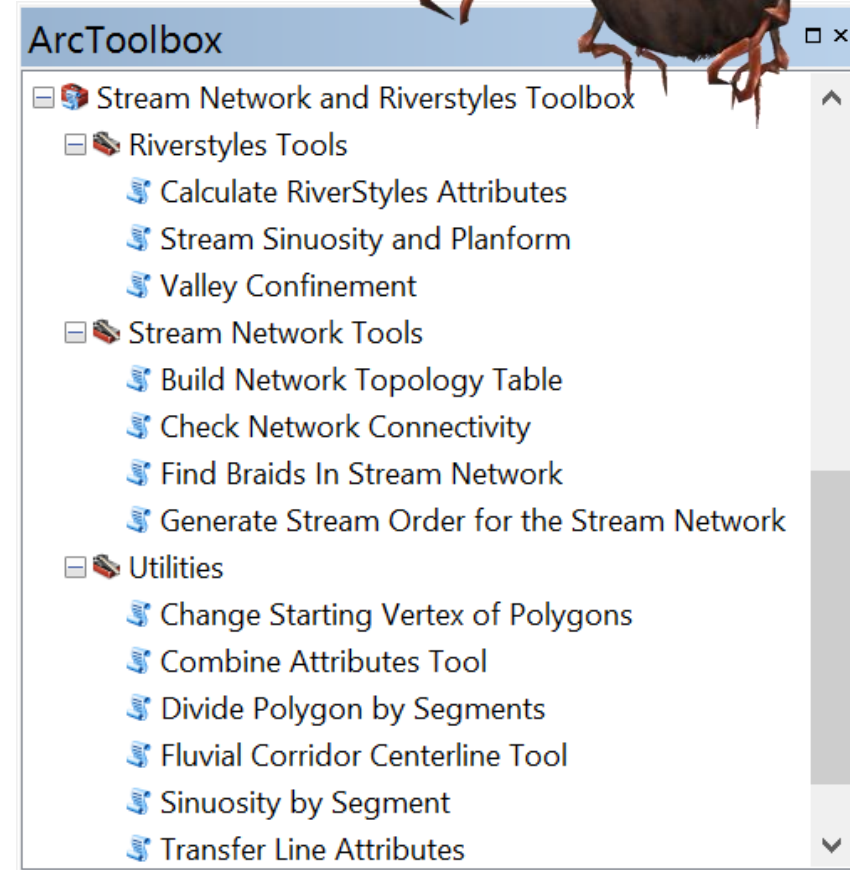
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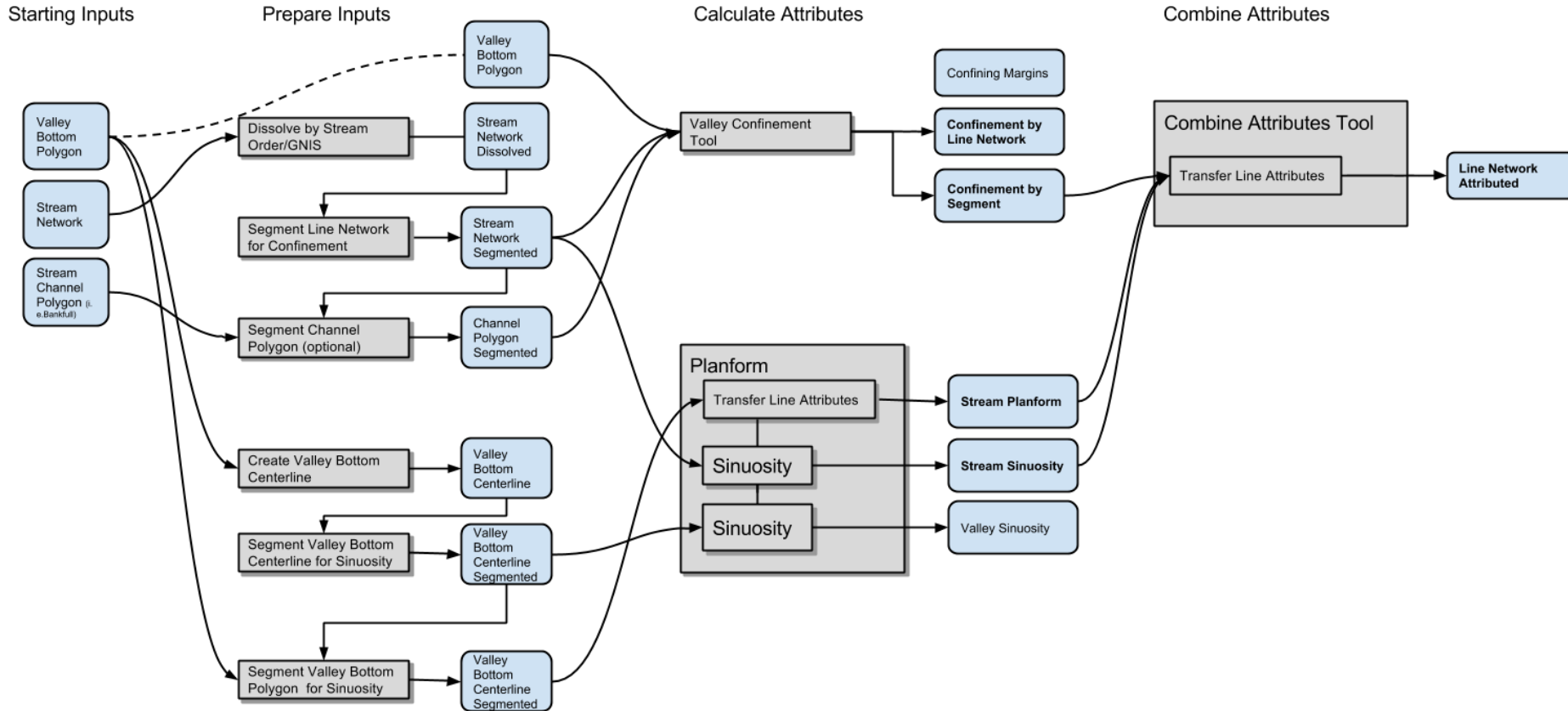
GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK ASSESSMENT TOOLS (GNAT)



- ArcGIS 10.1 Toolbox
- Geomorphic metric calculations
- Network management
- Flexible utilities

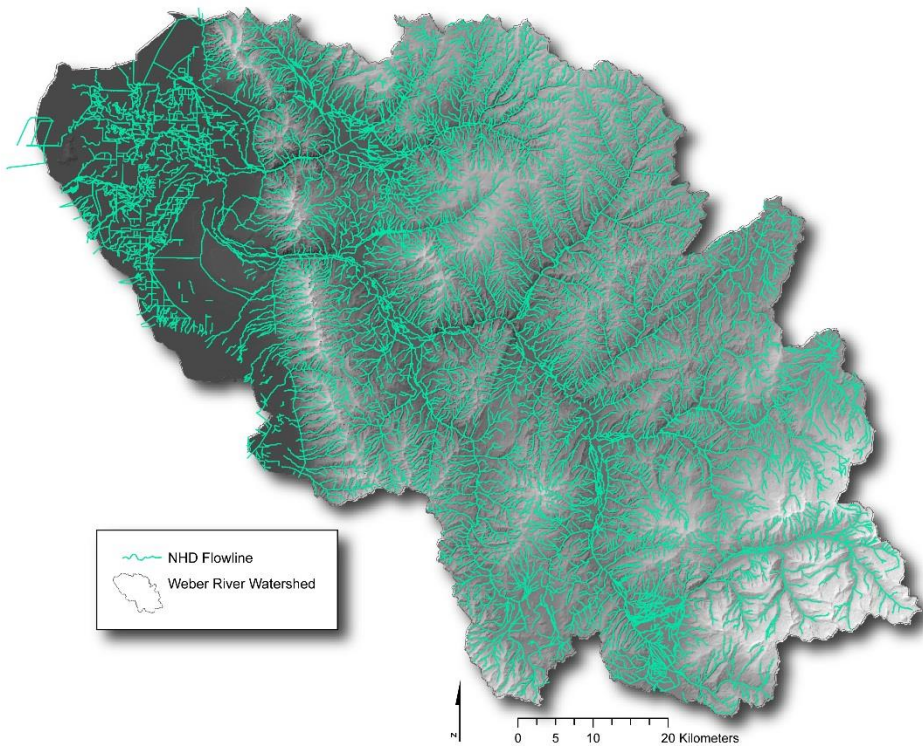


GNAT WORKFLOW



CREATING A USEFUL STREAM NETWORK

- National Hydrography Dataset 24k Flowlines
- Subset by “F Codes”



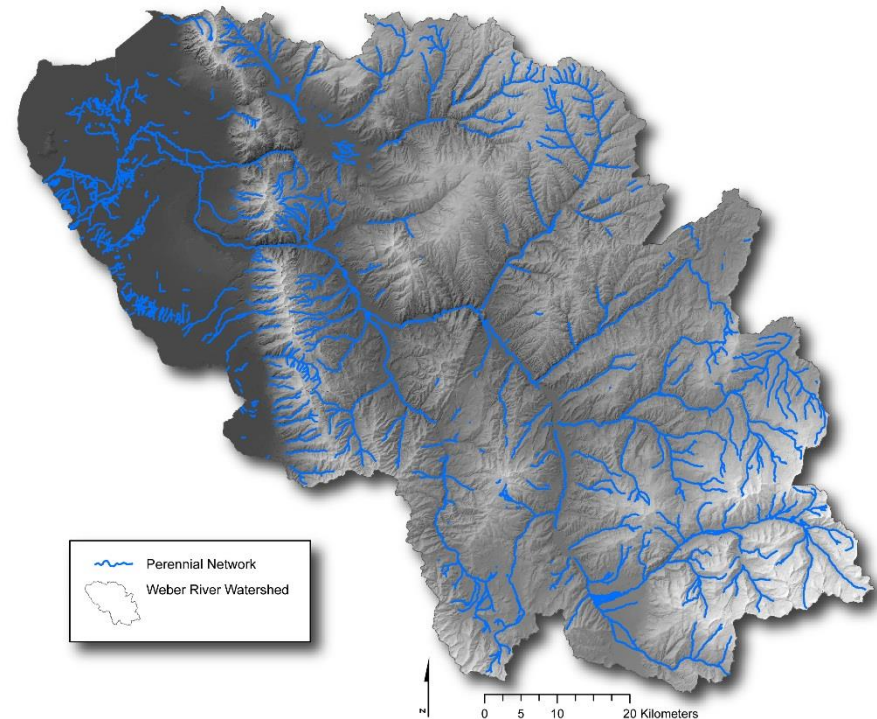
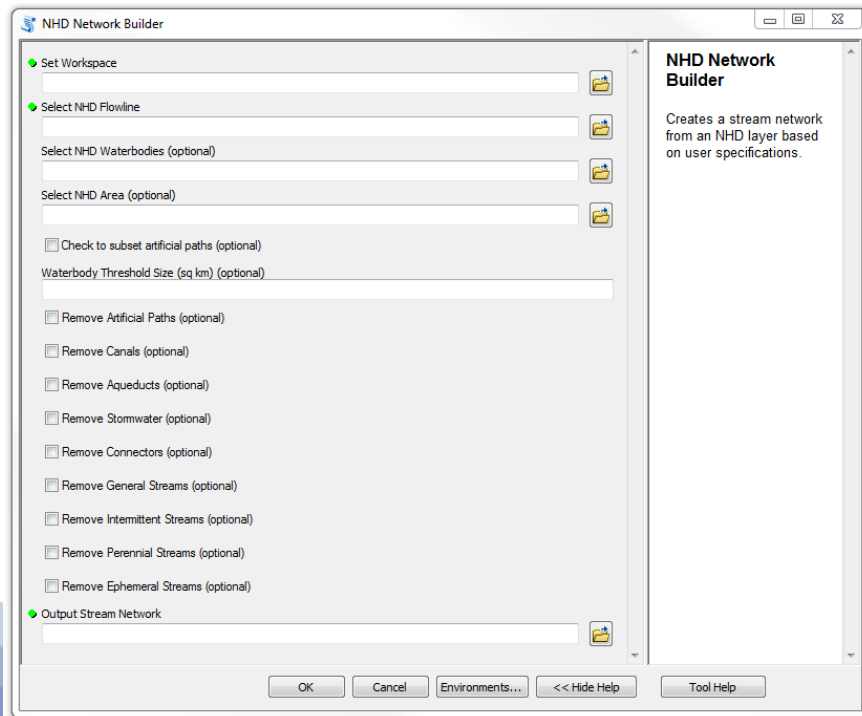
NHDFlowline

Feature Type	FCode	Description
ARTIFICIAL PATH	55800	feature type only; no attributes
CANAL/DITCH	33600	feature type only; no attributes
CANAL/DITCH	33601	Canal/Ditch Type aqueduct
CANAL/DITCH	33603	Canal/Ditch Type stormwater
COASTLINE	56600	feature type only; no attributes
CONNECTOR	33400	feature type only; no attributes
PIPELINE	42800	feature type only; no attributes
PIPELINE	42801	Product water; Pipeline Type aqueduct; Relationship to Surface at or near
PIPELINE	42802	Product water; Pipeline Type aqueduct; Relationship to Surface elevated
PIPELINE	42803	Product water; Pipeline Type aqueduct; Relationship to Surface underground
PIPELINE	42804	Product water; Pipeline Type aqueduct; Relationship to Surface underwater
PIPELINE	42805	Product water; Pipeline Type general case; Relationship to Surface at or near
PIPELINE	42806	Product water; Pipeline Type general case; Relationship to Surface elevated
PIPELINE	42807	Product water; Pipeline Type general case; Relationship to Surface underground
PIPELINE	42808	Product water; Pipeline Type general case; Relationship to Surface underwater
PIPELINE	42809	Product water; Pipeline Type penstock; Relationship to Surface at or near
PIPELINE	42810	Product water; Pipeline Type penstock; Relationship to Surface elevated
PIPELINE	42811	Product water; Pipeline Type penstock; Relationship to Surface underground
PIPELINE	42812	Product water; Pipeline Type penstock; Relationship to Surface underwater
PIPELINE	42813	Product water; Pipeline Type siphon; Relationship to Surface unspecified
PIPELINE	42814	Product water; Pipeline Type general case
PIPELINE	42815	Product water; Pipeline Type penstock
PIPELINE	42816	Product water; Pipeline Type aqueduct
STREAM/RIVER	46000	feature type only; no attributes
STREAM/RIVER	46003	Hydrographic Category intermittent
STREAM/RIVER	46006	Hydrographic Category perennial
STREAM/RIVER	46007	Hydrographic Category ephemeral
UNDERGROUND CONDUIT	42000	feature type only; no attributes
UNDERGROUND CONDUIT	42001	Positional Accuracy definite
UNDERGROUND CONDUIT	42002	Positional Accuracy indefinite
UNDERGROUND CONDUIT	42003	Positional Accuracy approximate



NHD NETWORK BUILDER TOOL

- Tool developed to automatically create a network
- Script keeps appropriate “connector” segments
- User specifies how they would like “artificial paths” to be dealt with



STREAM NETWORK SEGMENTATION

Main Stem vs Tributaries

Length is important

- Generate for each attribute independently
- Compile all attributes later

Method

1. Dissolve Network by Junctions
2. Run Stream Order tool
3. Dissolve by GNIS (Stream Name) and then Stream

order for upper reaches.

4. Run Segmentation tool along long sections (Fluvial Corridor Tools)

Limitations

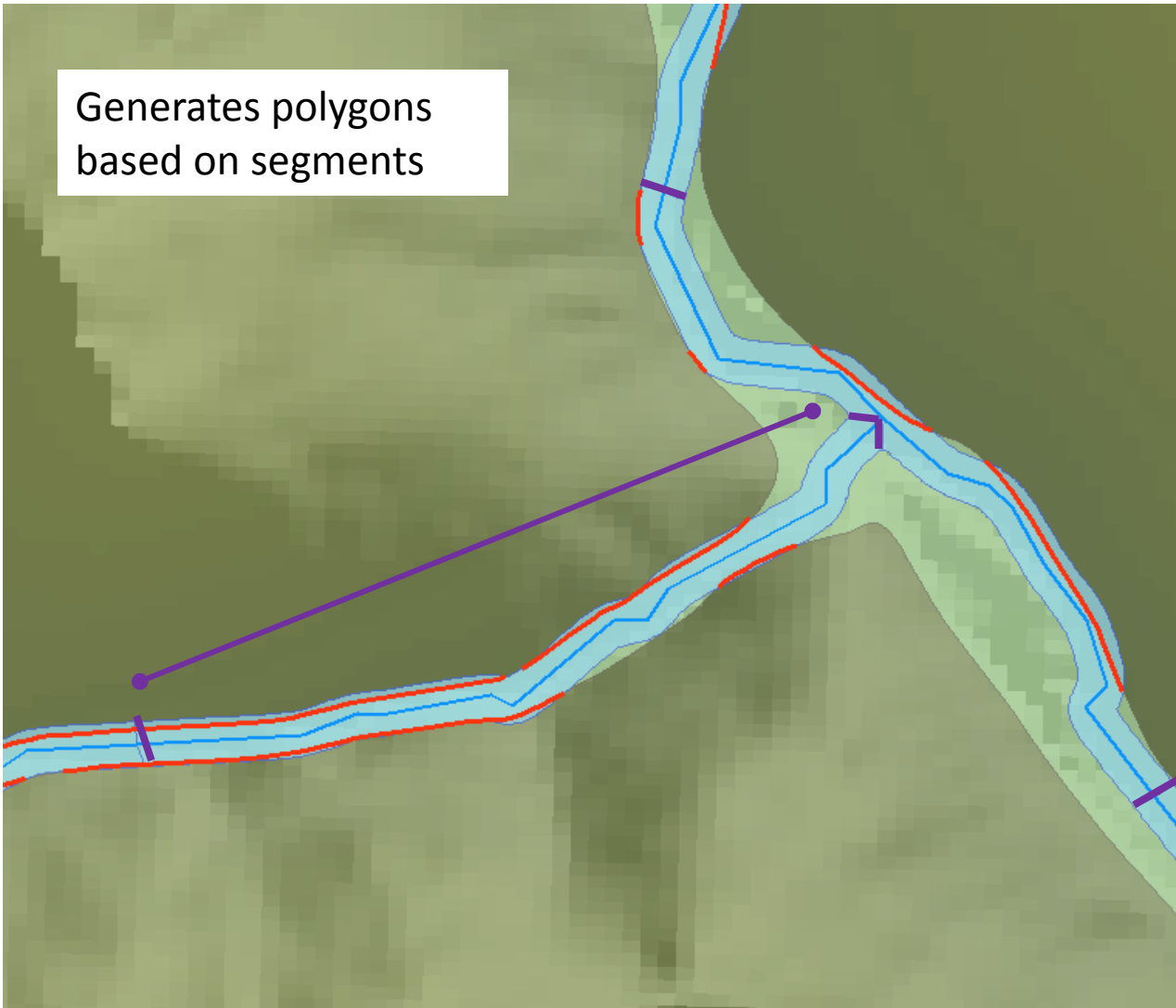
- No “Braids”
- Stream network must be continuous

Segmenting Polygons



SEGMENTING POLYGONS

Generates polygons
based on segments

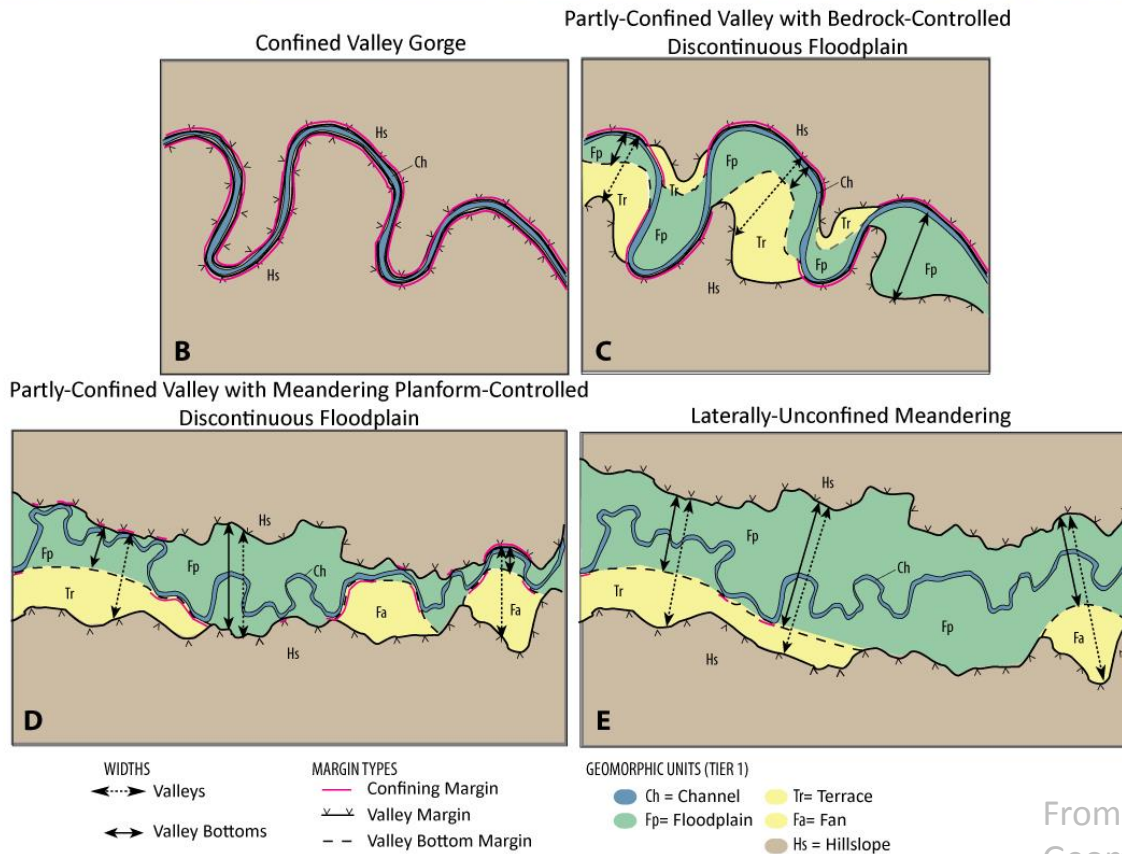


OUTLINE

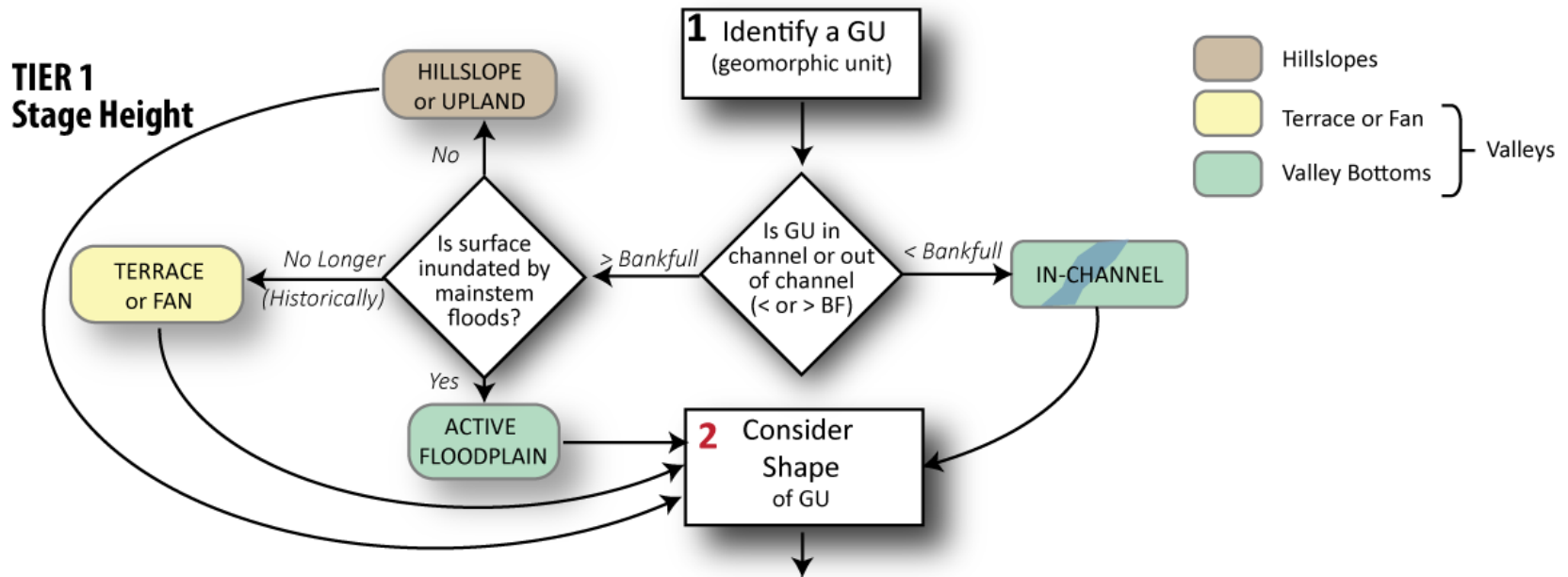
GEMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

- I. Background
- II. Reach Types - GNAT**
 - I. Reach Type (River Style)
Tree
 - II. Valley Setting**
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 - I. Geomorphic Recovery
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 - II. Riparian Recovery
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 - III. BRAT & WRAT
- V. Future Work

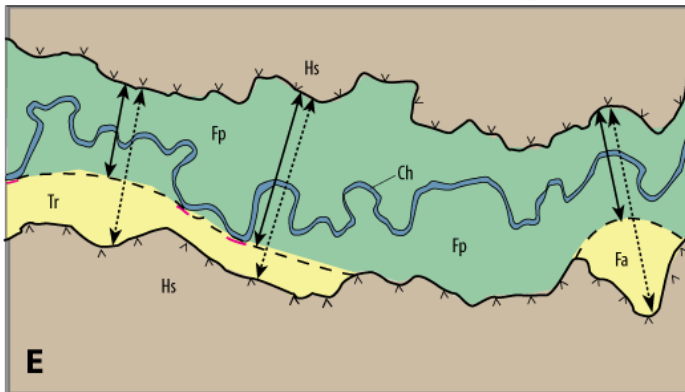
WHAT IS A VALLEY?



VALLEY BOTTOM vs. VALLEY?



Laterally-Unconfined Meandering



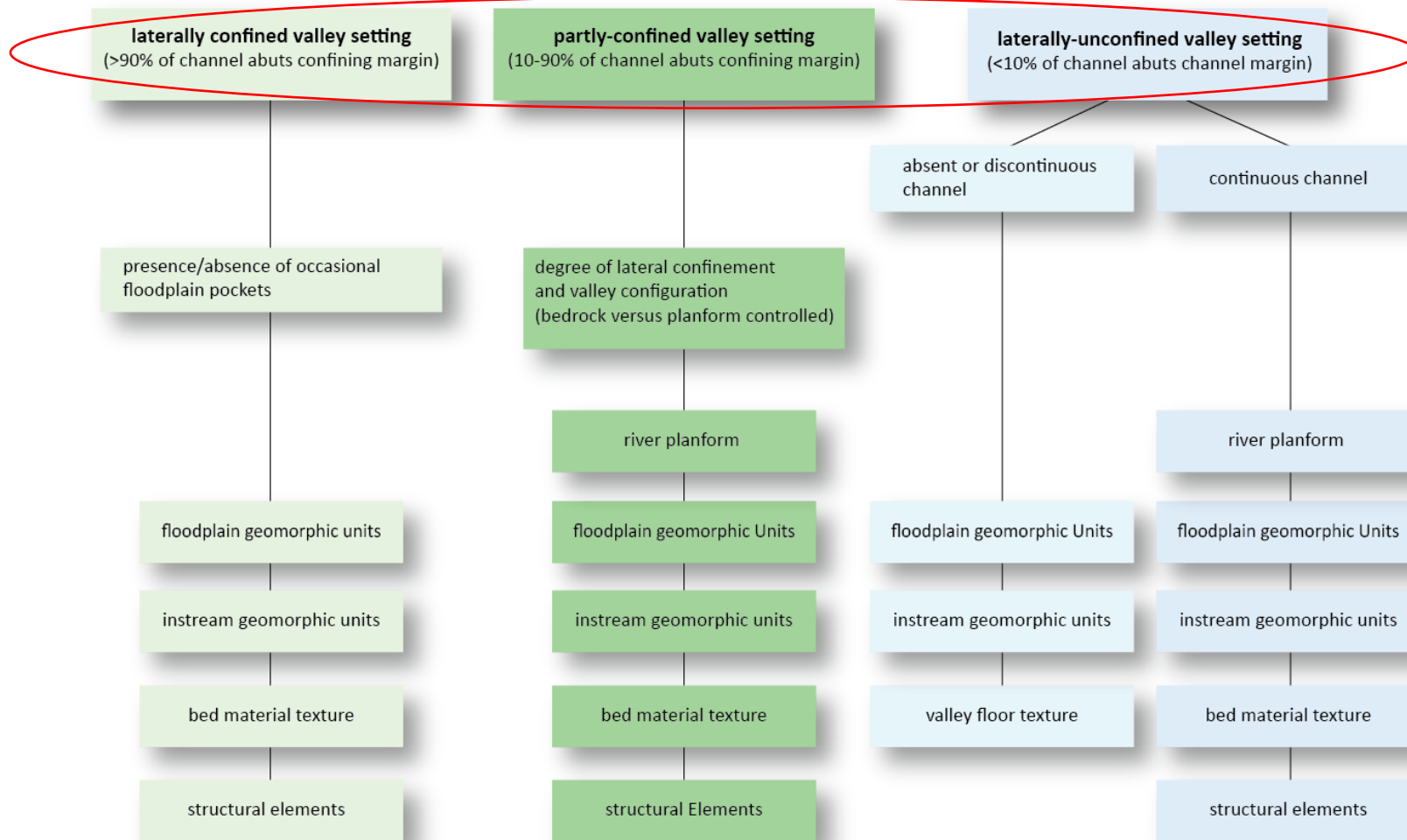
GEOMORPHIC UNITS (TIER 1)

- Ch = Channel
- Fp = Floodplain
- Tr = Terrace
- Fa = Fan
- Hs = Hillslope

- The building blocks of a Valley?
- vs.
- The building blocks of a Valley Bottom?

WHY VALLEY BOTTOM MATTERS?

Columbia River Basin River Styles Procedural Tree



- **CONFINED VS. PARTLY-CONFINED VS. LATERALLY UNCONFINED**

PLANFORM CONTROLLED VS. BEDROCK CONTROLLED

Valley Setting

River Styles of **Partly Confined** valley settings - Idaho Batholith

10-90% of channel abuts confining margin

Presence/ extent of floodplain

bedrock-controlled discontinuous floodplain

planform-controlled discontinuous floodplain

planform

low-moderate sinuosity
>60-90% confined

low-moderate sinuosity
~50% confined

low-moderate sinuosity
~50% confined

moderate-low sinuosity active meandering
>60-90% confined

medium-high sinuosity active meandering
>30-50% confined

Floodplain geomorphic units

terrace, anabranch, meander cutoff, paleochannels

Alluvial Fans, pleistocene terraces

terrace, bench paleochannel, paleocutbanks, alluvial/debris fan

terrace, bench paleochannel, paleocutbanks, alluvial/debris fan

fine grained irregular floodplain

terrace, alluvial fan, meander cutoff

Instream Geomorph Units

riffles, pools, runs, point bars, scroll bars, islands, chute cutoffs,

bank-attached and mid-channel gravel bars, riffles, pools, rapids, runs, cutbank

bank-attached and mid-channel gravel bars, riffles, pools, rapids, runs, cutbank

LWD-forced bars, compound, midchannel, point, and diagonal bars runs, cutbanks, chute cutoffs

pools, riffles, runs, point bars, cutbanks

Bed Material Texture

cobble, gravel sand

boulder, cobble, gravel

boulder, cobble, gravel

cobble, gravel

cobble, gravel silt, sand

Structural* Elements

River Style

BC ELONGATE DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

FAN/TERRACE CONTROLLED DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

LOW SINUOSITY PC ANABRANCHING

LOW-MODERATE SINUOSITY WANDERING GRAVEL BED

LOW-MODERATE SINUOSITY PC DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

MEANDERING PC DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

Salmon, Big Lost

Salmon, Big Lost

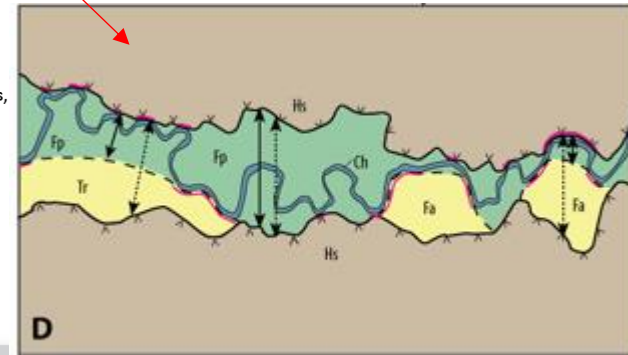
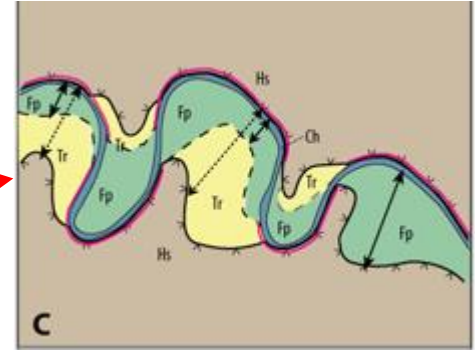
Salmon, Payette

Salmon, Big Lost

Higher elevation valleys in Salmon, Payette, Boise, Big Lost

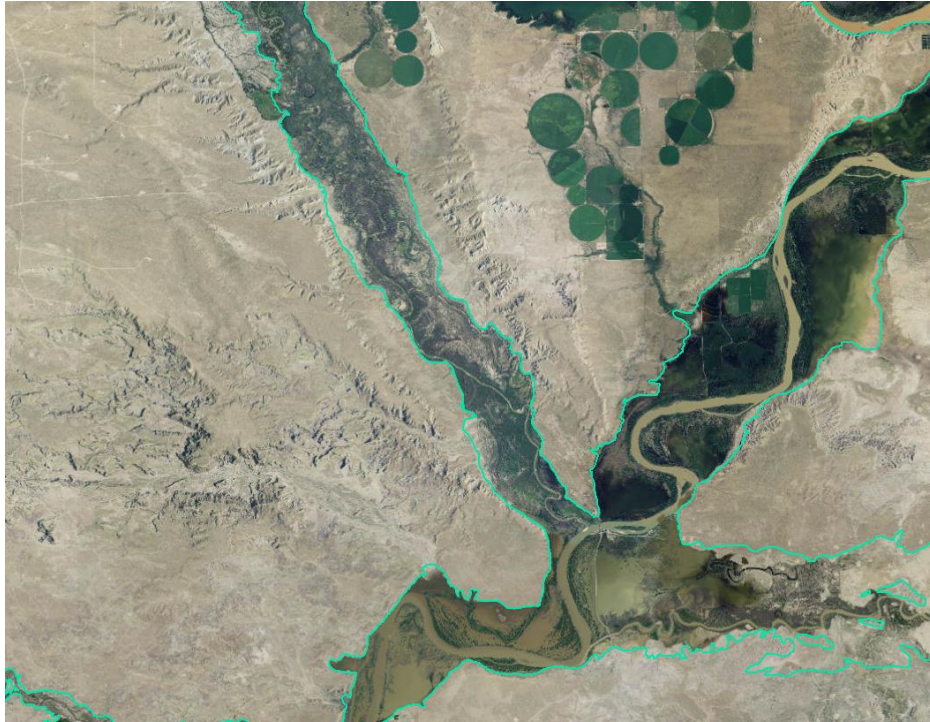
glacial drift-filled valleys, alpine glacial valleys, impounded sections; Salmon, Payette, Big Lost Rivers

*BA = bank-attached
CS = channel spanning

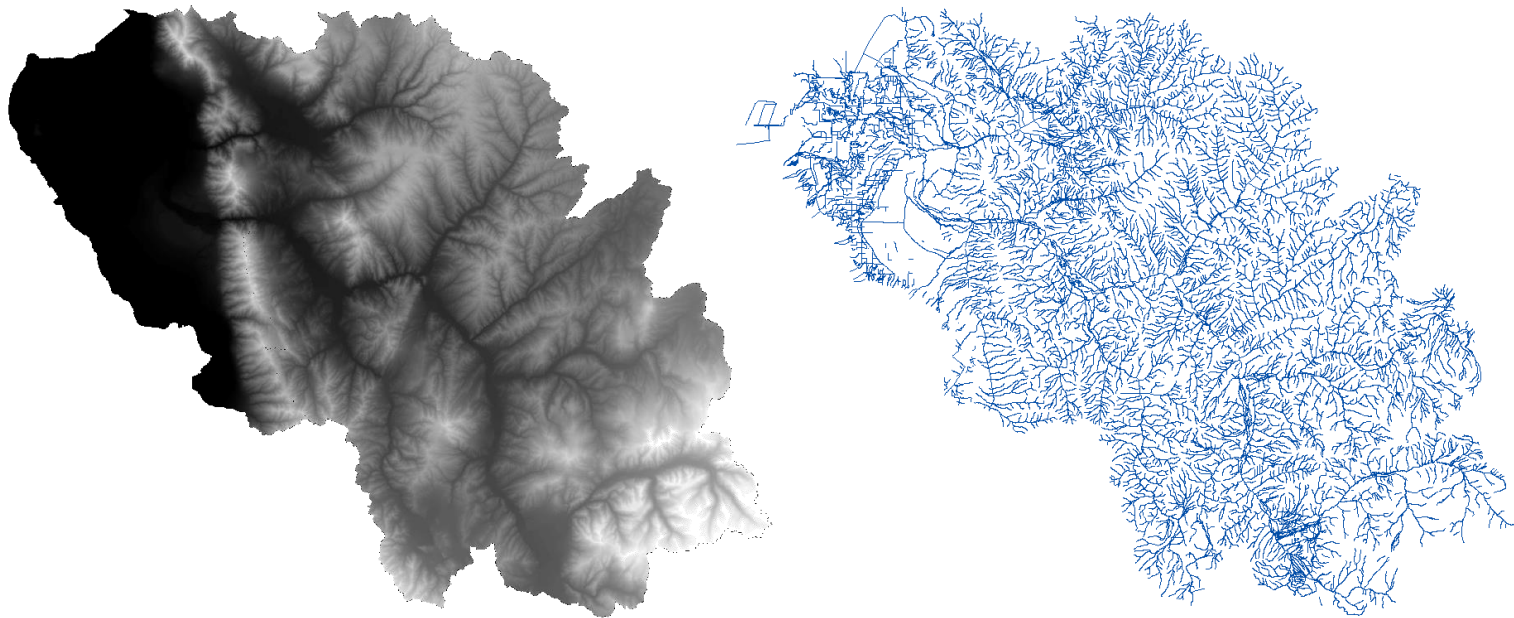


DERIVING A VALLEY BOTTOM

VBET – Valley Bottom Extraction Tool



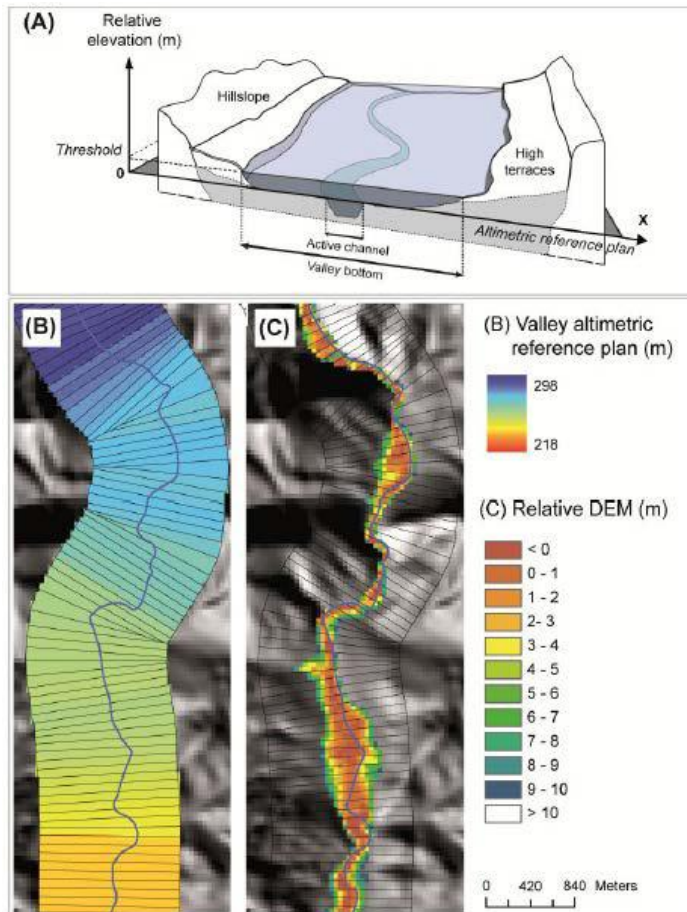
VALLEY BOTTOM... TWO INPUTS



- Digital Elevation Model (DEM)
- Stream Network

DERIVING THE VALLEY BOTTOM (ORIGINAL METHOD)

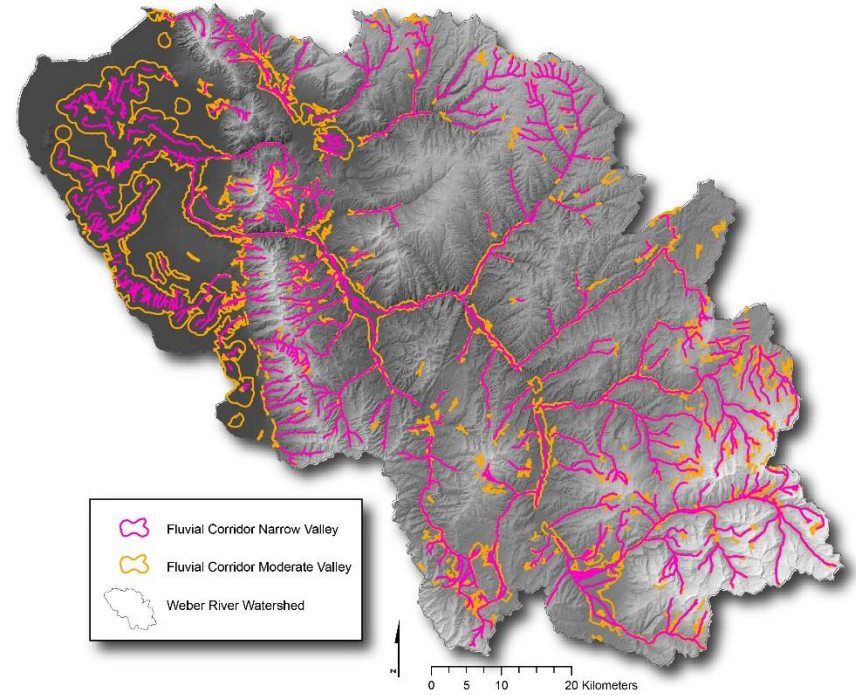
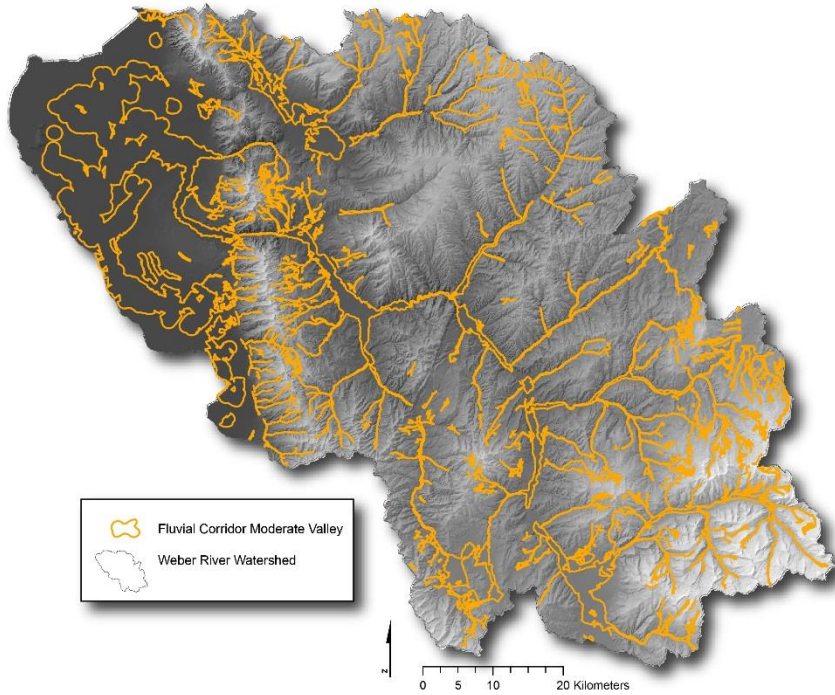
- Used “Fluvial Corridor” toolkit (Roux et al)
- Simplifies the stream network and creates a relative (detrended DEM)
- Fills the DEM to user specified depth



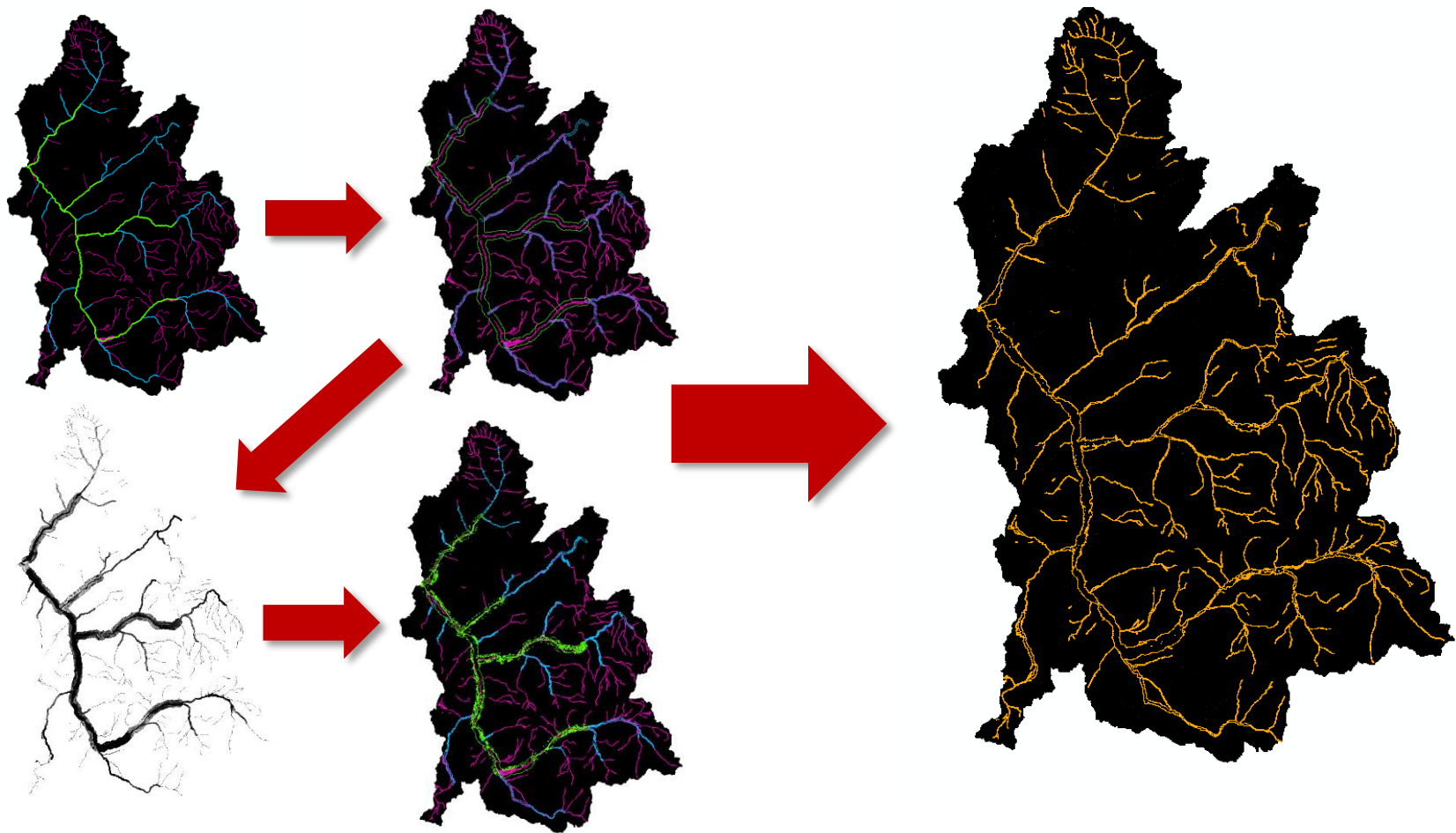
Drawbacks:

- The uniform fill depth causes the valley to be more exaggerated toward the headwaters
- Because of this, two runs of the tool are necessary to create a wider and narrower valley
- These two valleys must then be merged together manually where a transition is appropriate
- Merging the two valleys creates a need for extensive manual editing
- Unrealistically large fill depths must be specified to accurately delineate valley bottoms lower in the watershed

FLUVIAL CORRIDOR OUTPUTS

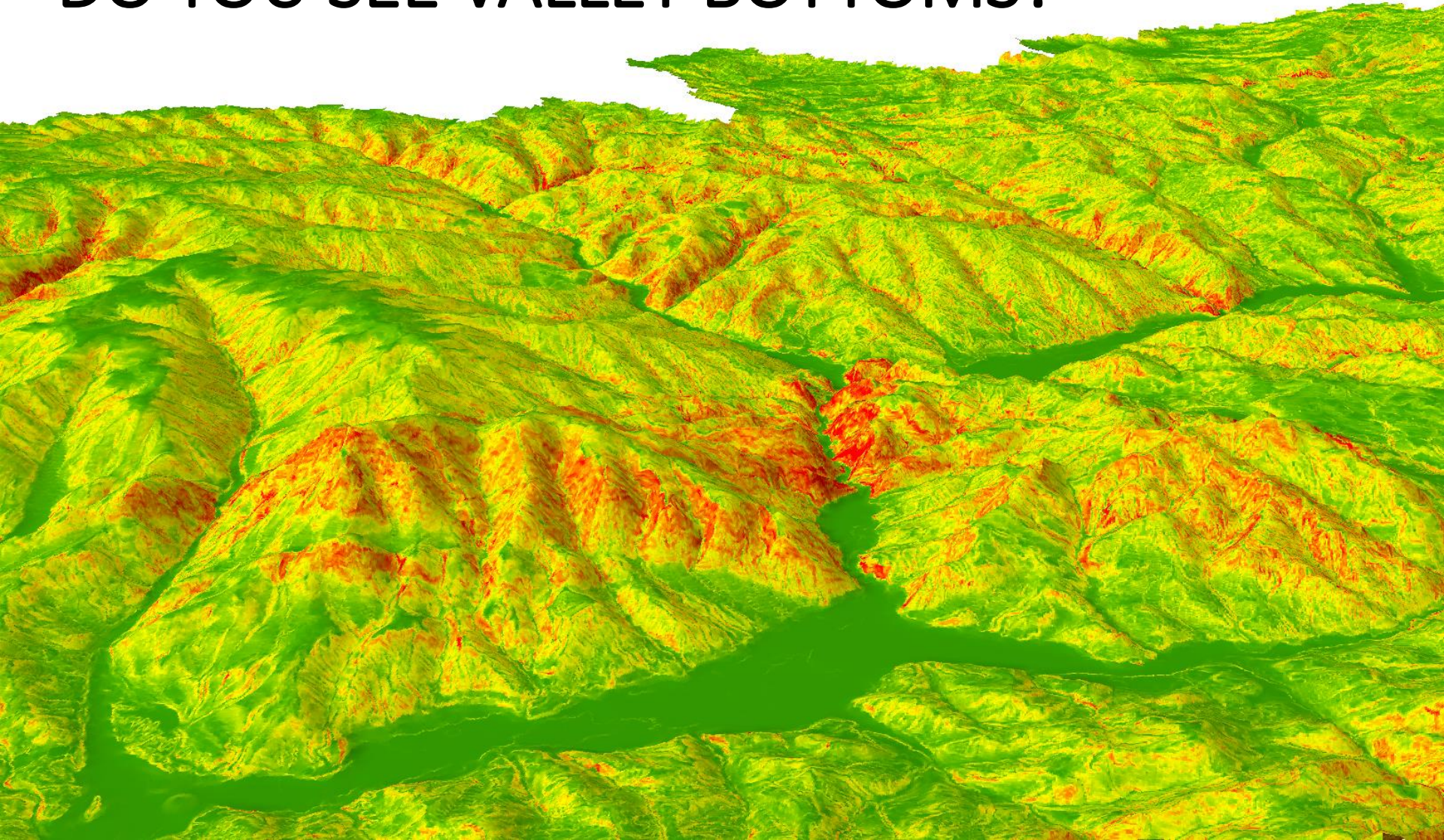


DERIVING THE VALLEY BOTTOM (V-BET)



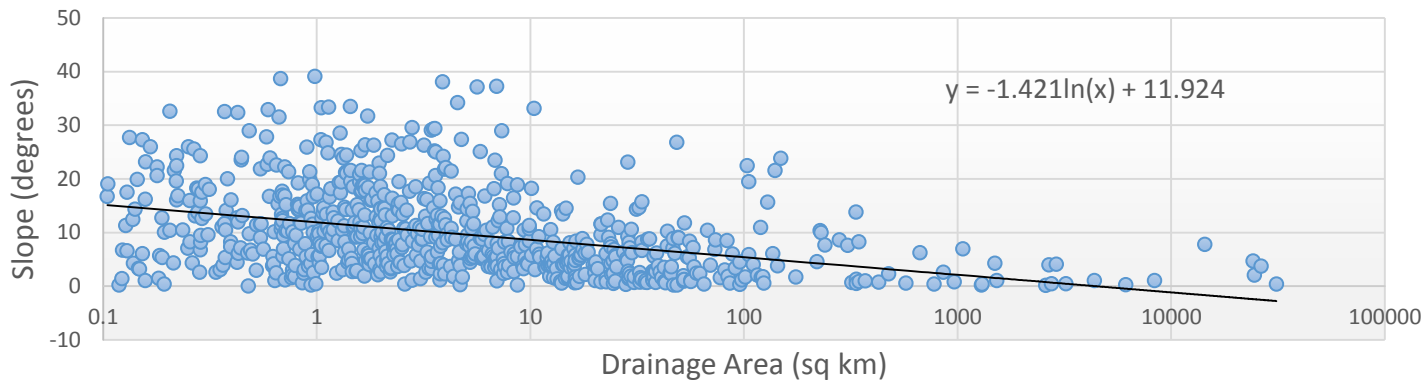
- New tool, Valley Bottom Extraction Tool (V-BET) extracts valley bottom based on slope, upstream drainage area, and longitudinal location within watershed

DO YOU SEE VALLEY BOTTOMS?

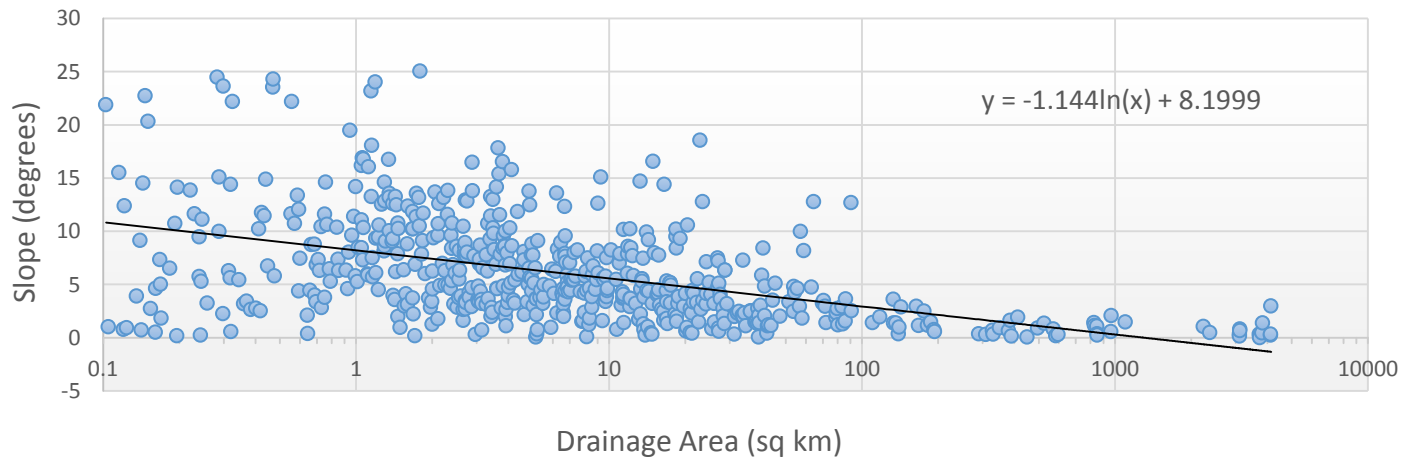


DRAINAGE AREA – SLOPE REGRESSION

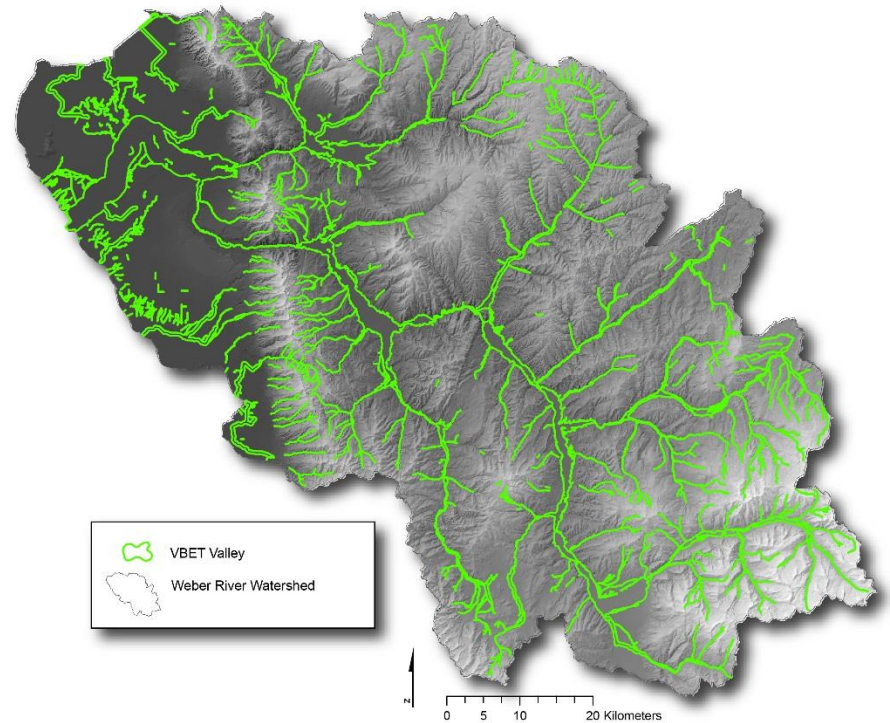
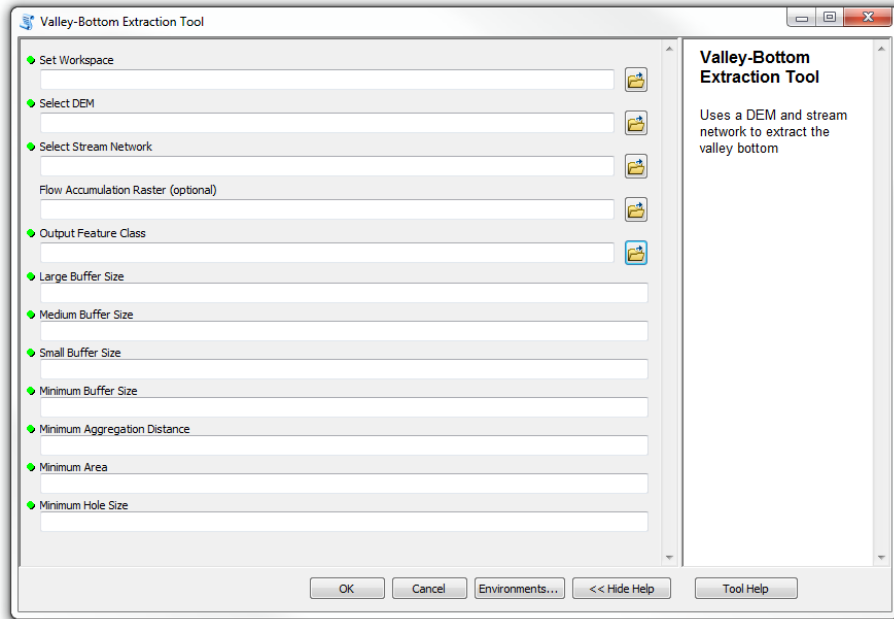
Salmon River Watershed



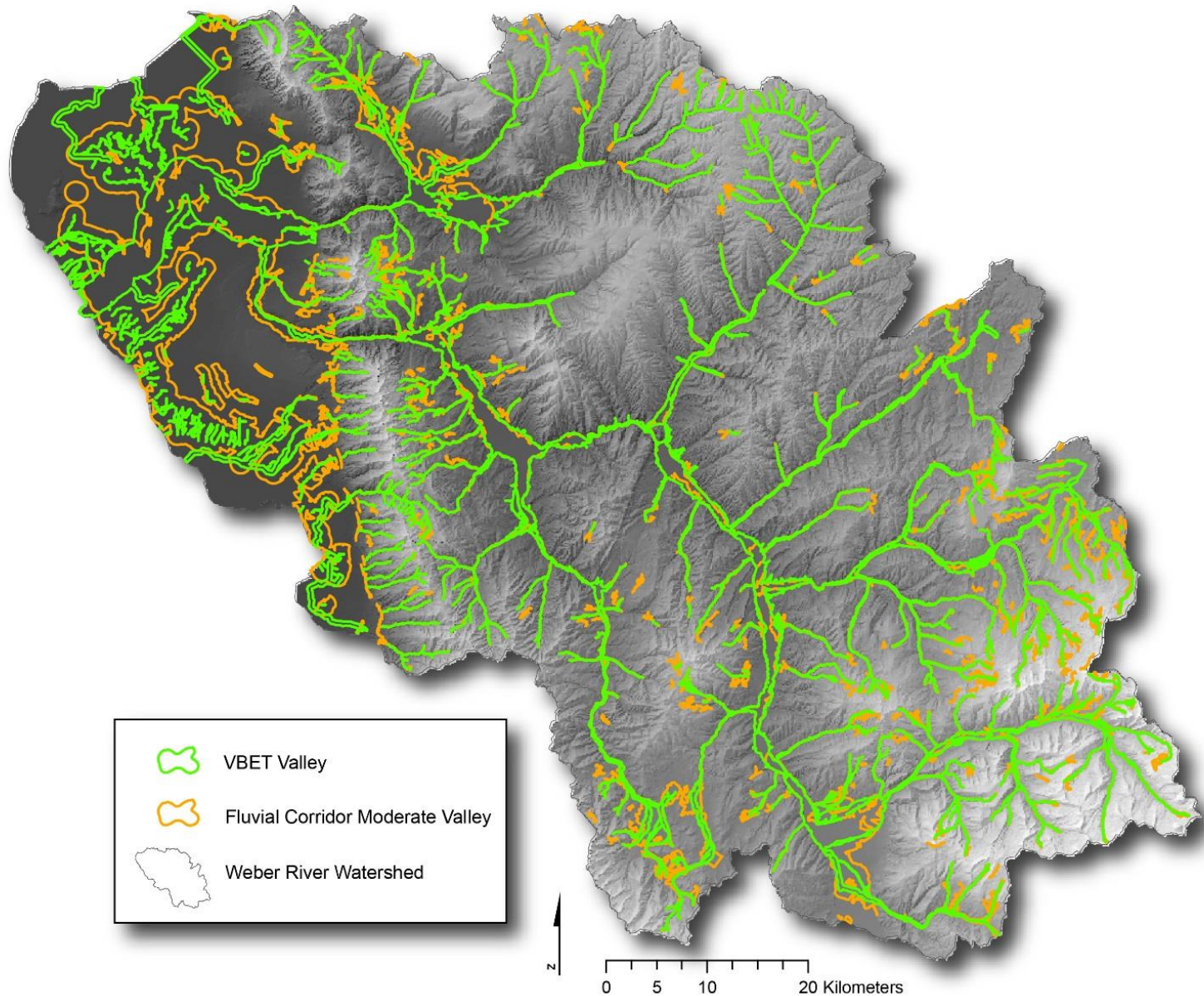
Weber River Watershed



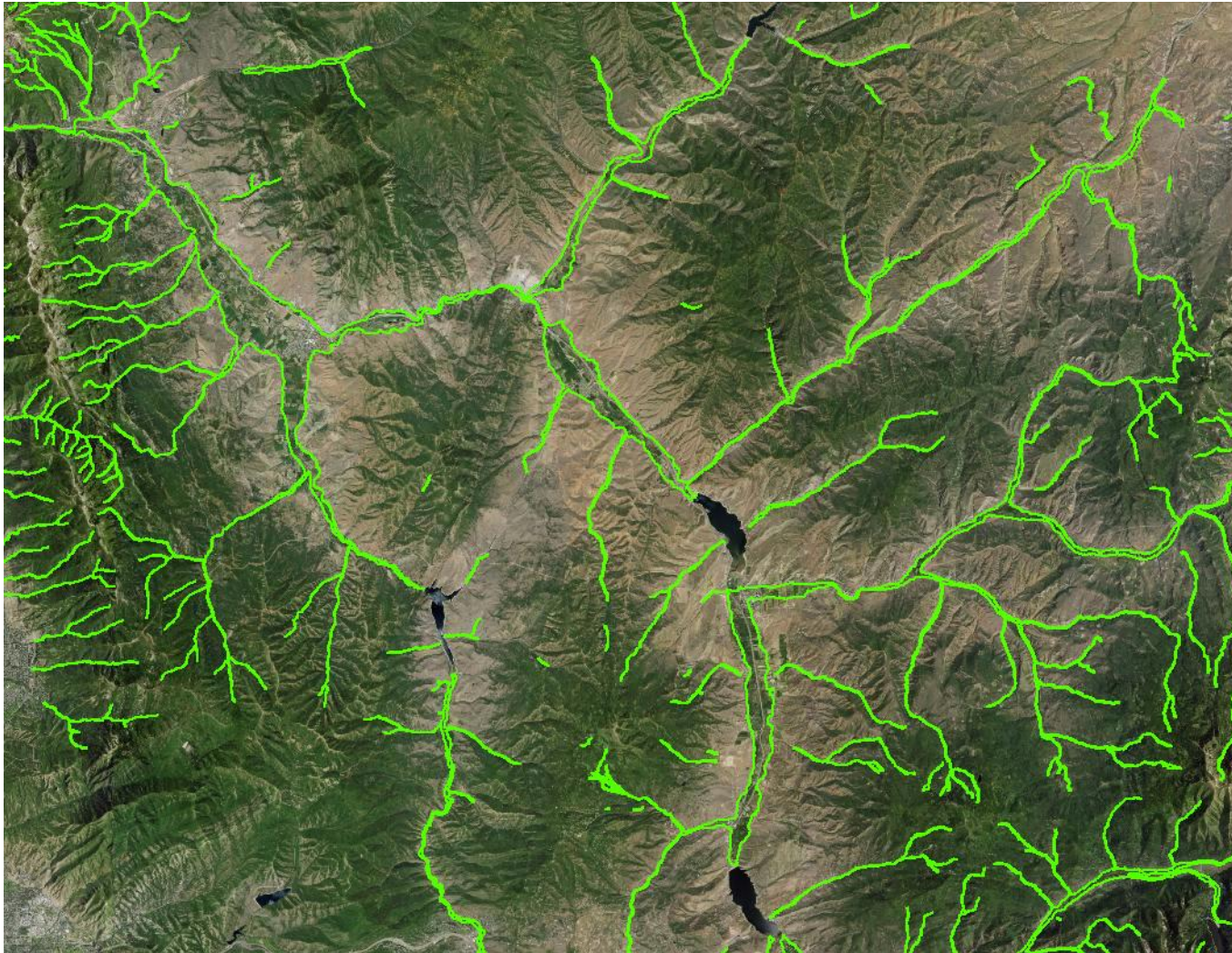
V-BET TOOL & OUTPUT



FLUVIAL CORRIDOR VS V-BET



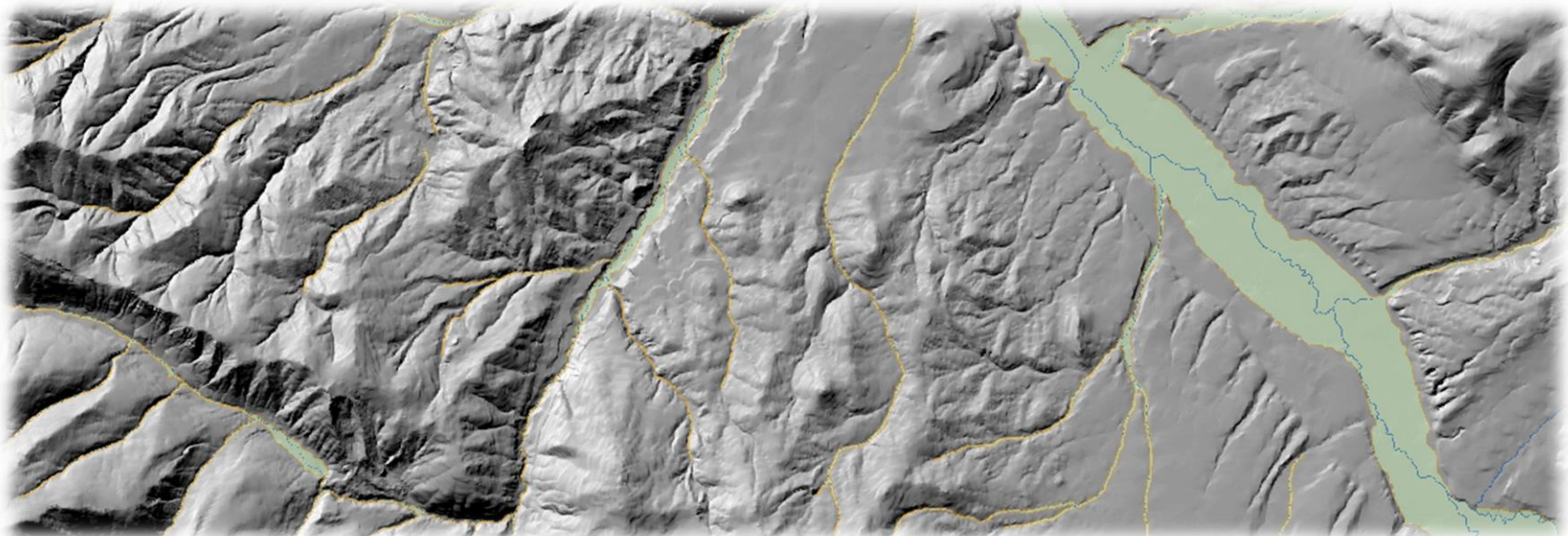
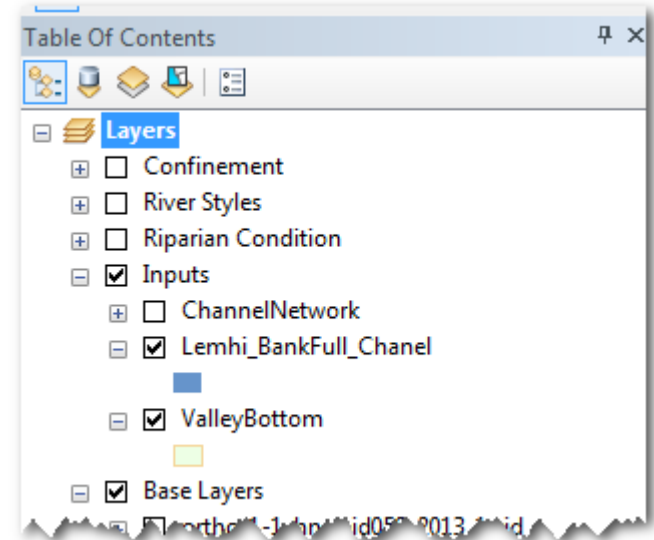
EDITED V-BET OUTPUT



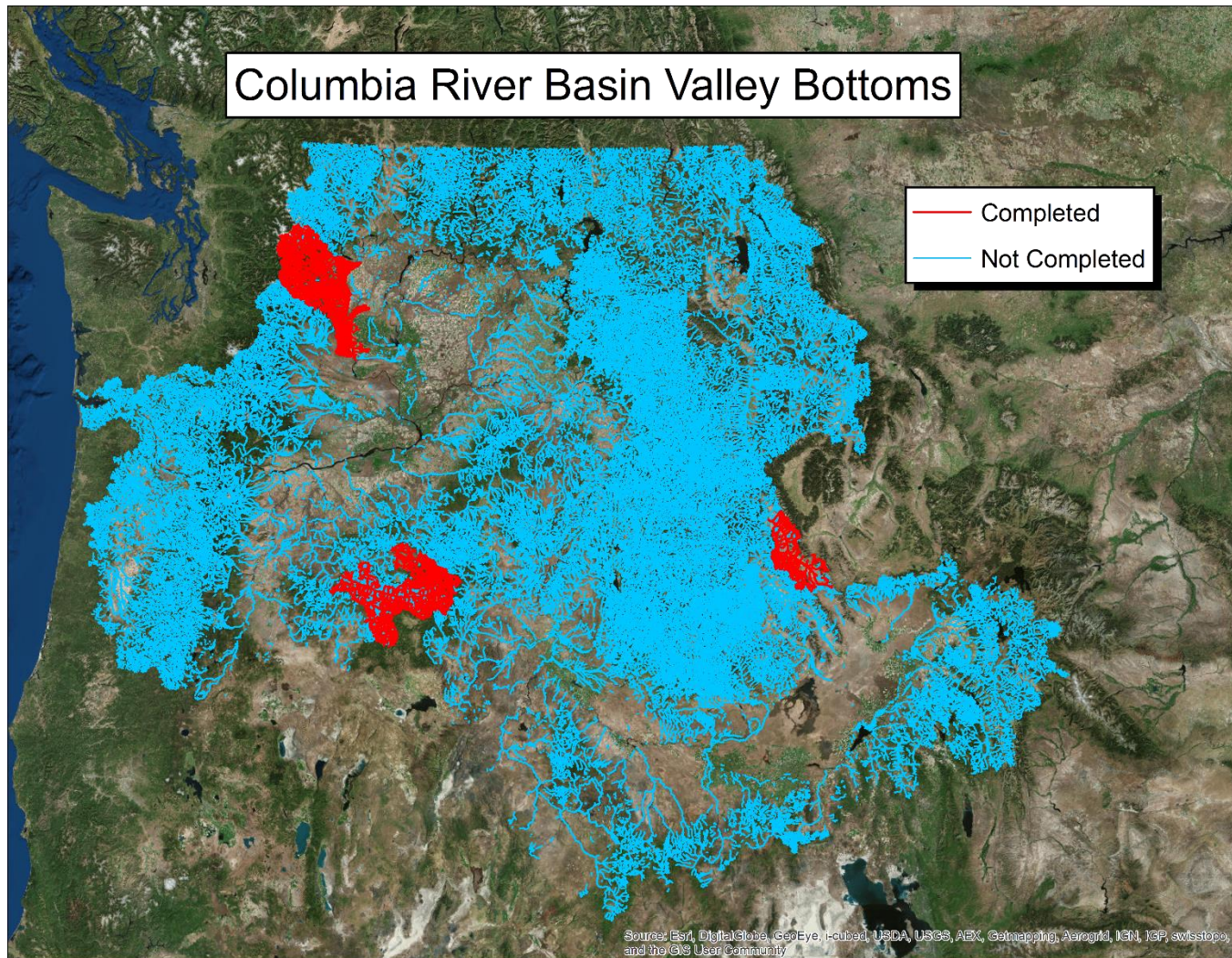
EXERCISE: VBET

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopLemhiGNAT.mxd

1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on the Valley Bottom Layer



WHERE VBET HAS BEEN RUN



- Middle Fork John Day
- South Fork John Day
- Lemhi
- Wenatchee
- Entiat

OUTLINE

GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

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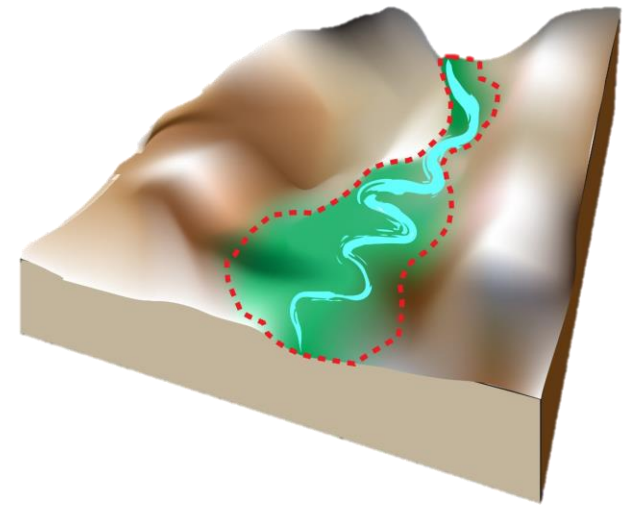
CONFINEMENT TOOL

- Uses ***Confining Margin*** to generate ***Confinement***

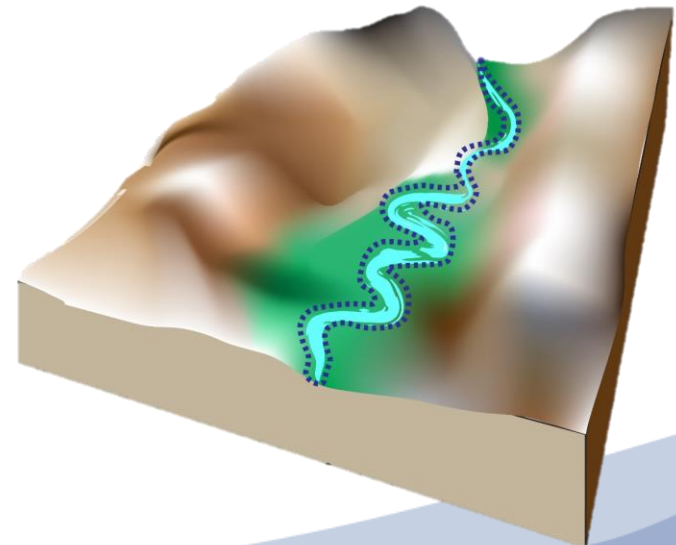
Input Data

- Valley Polygon
- Stream Channel Polygon
 - Bankfull, with buffer
 - Stream Network, segmented, approximately the centerline

Valley bottom polygon

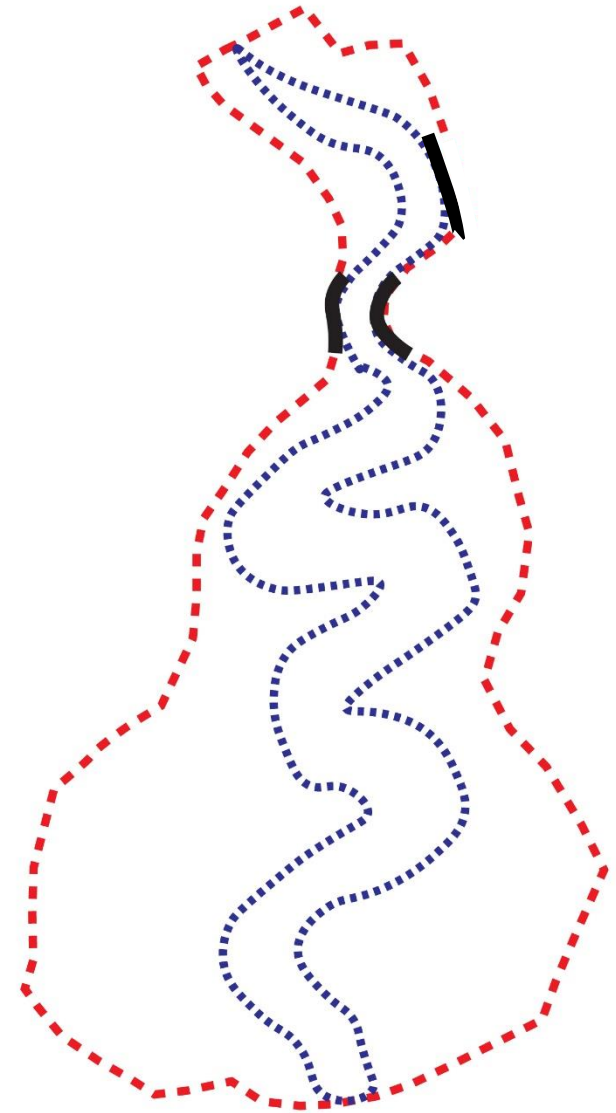


Stream Channel polygon



CONFINEMENT TOOL

Intersects Valley and Channel
Polygons
to find *Confining Margins*



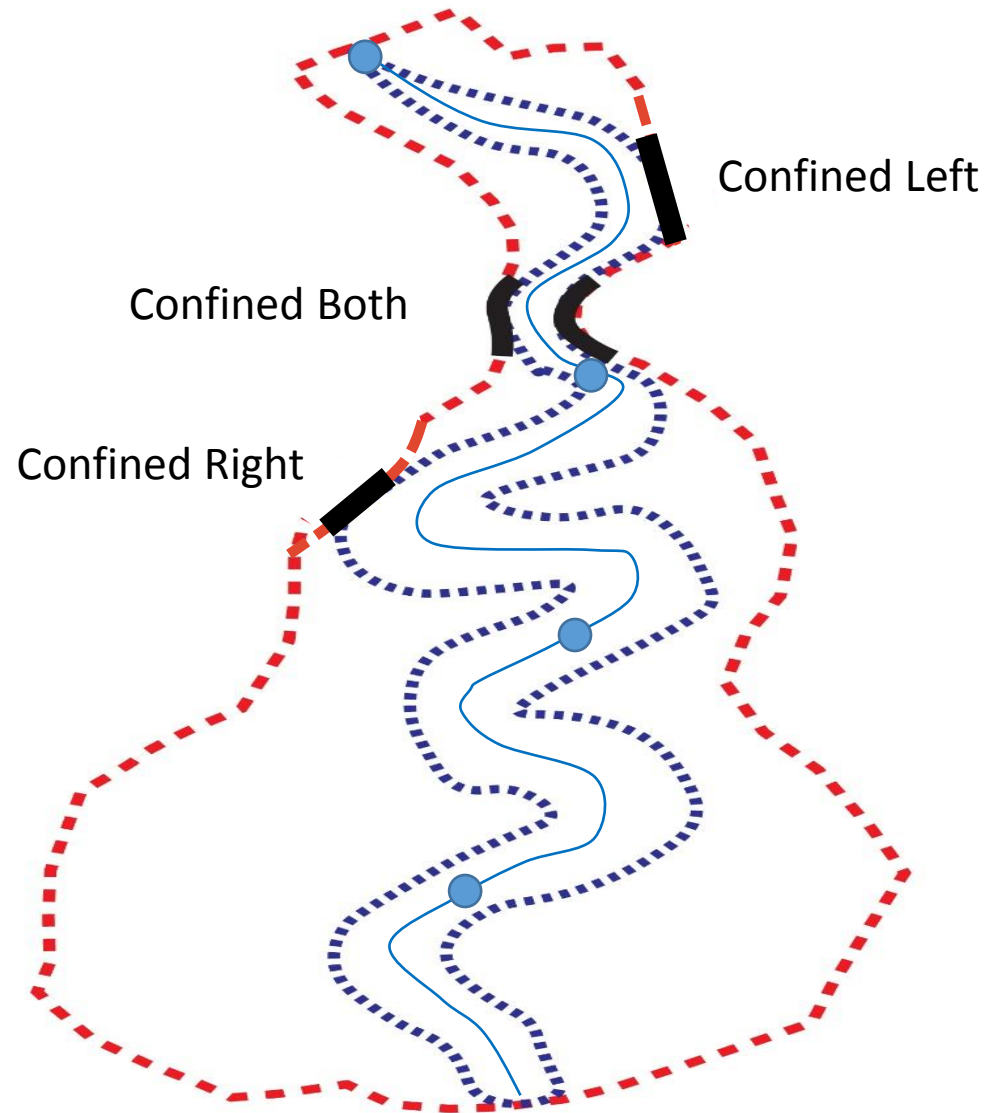
CONFINING MARGINS

Transpose *Confining Margins* to Stream Network

Split By Segments

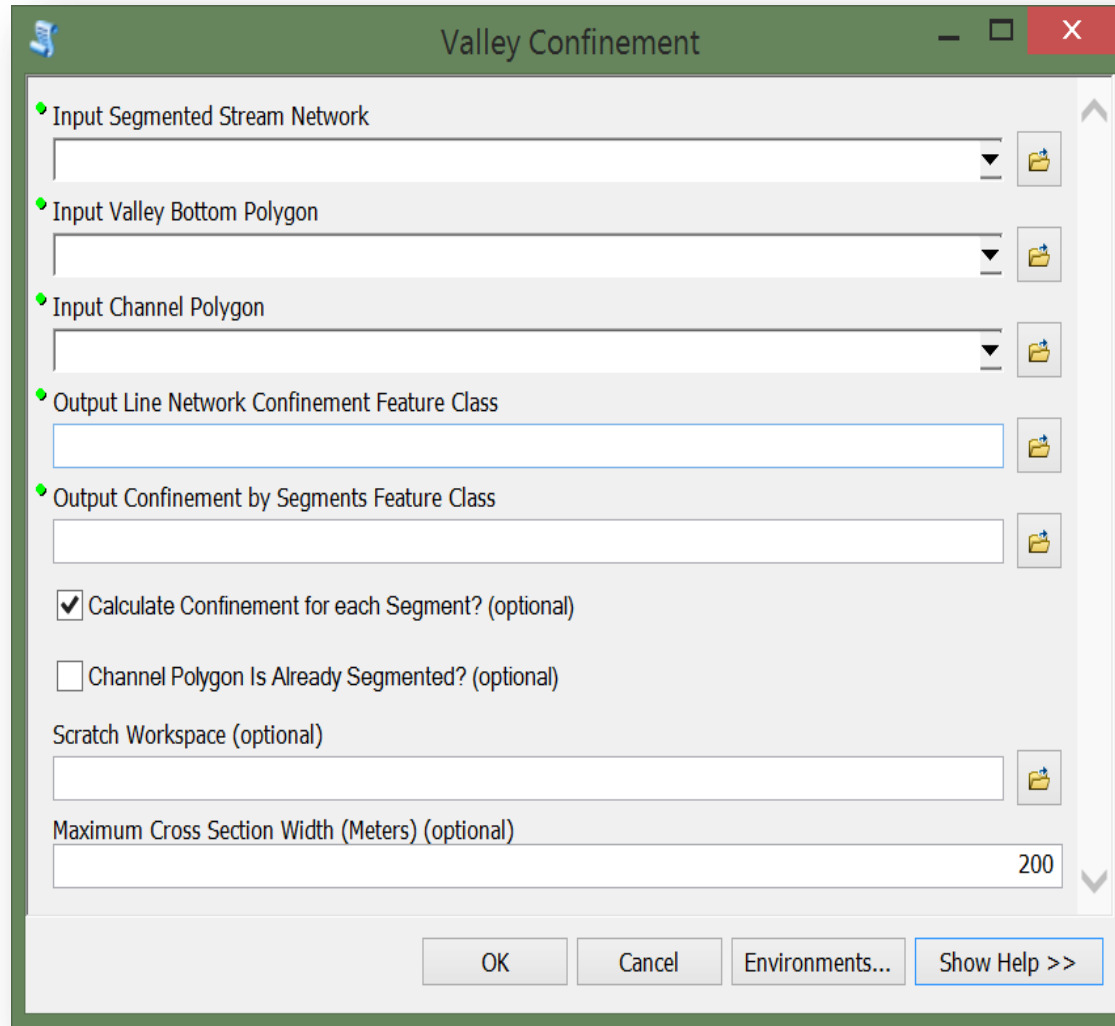
Calculate Confinement (Left, Right, Both banks or none)

Retain spatial location of confinement



● Segment ends

HERE'S THE ACTUAL TOOL...



CONFINEMENT OUTPUTS

Outputs:

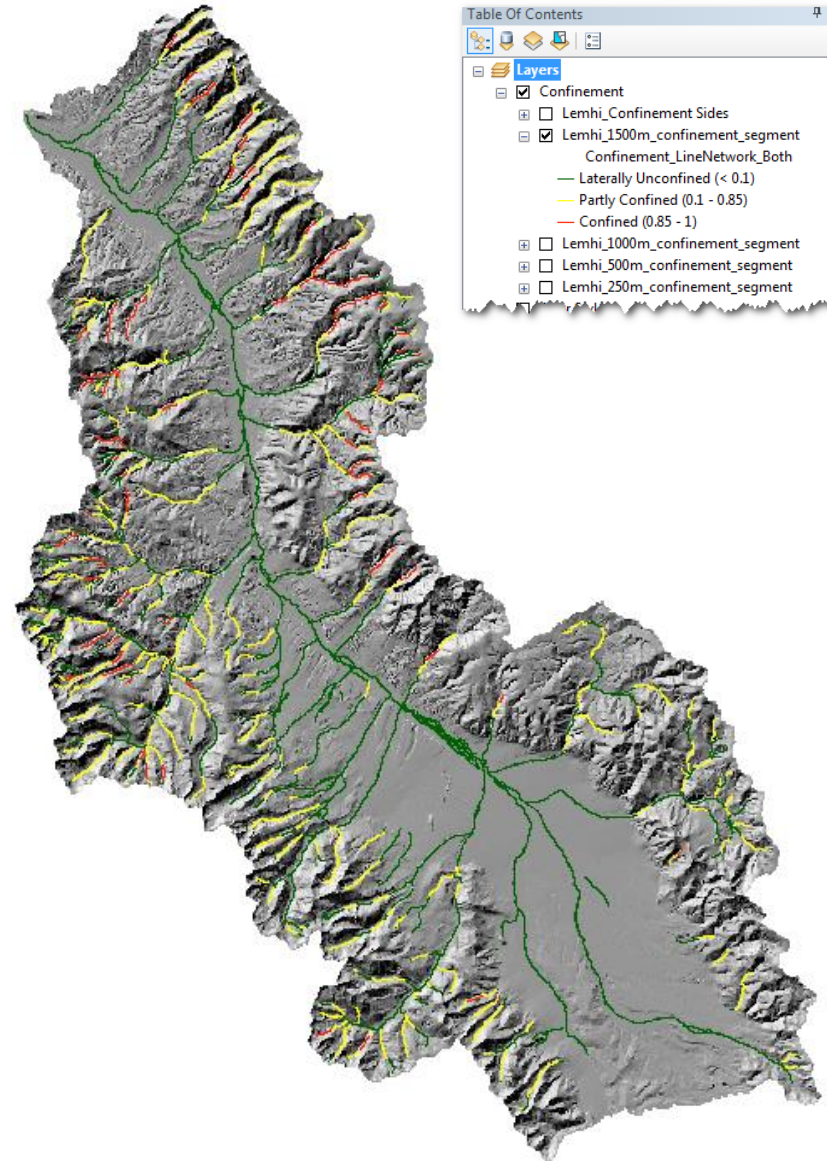
- Confining Margins (new)
- Confinement Along Network
- Confinement Along Segments



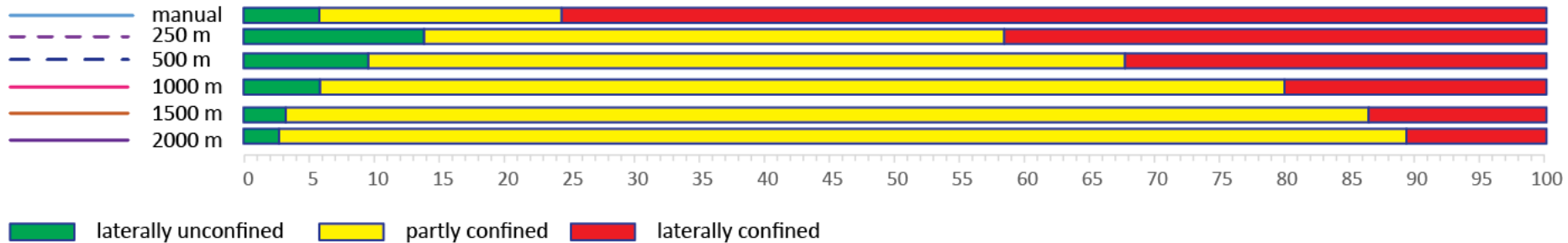
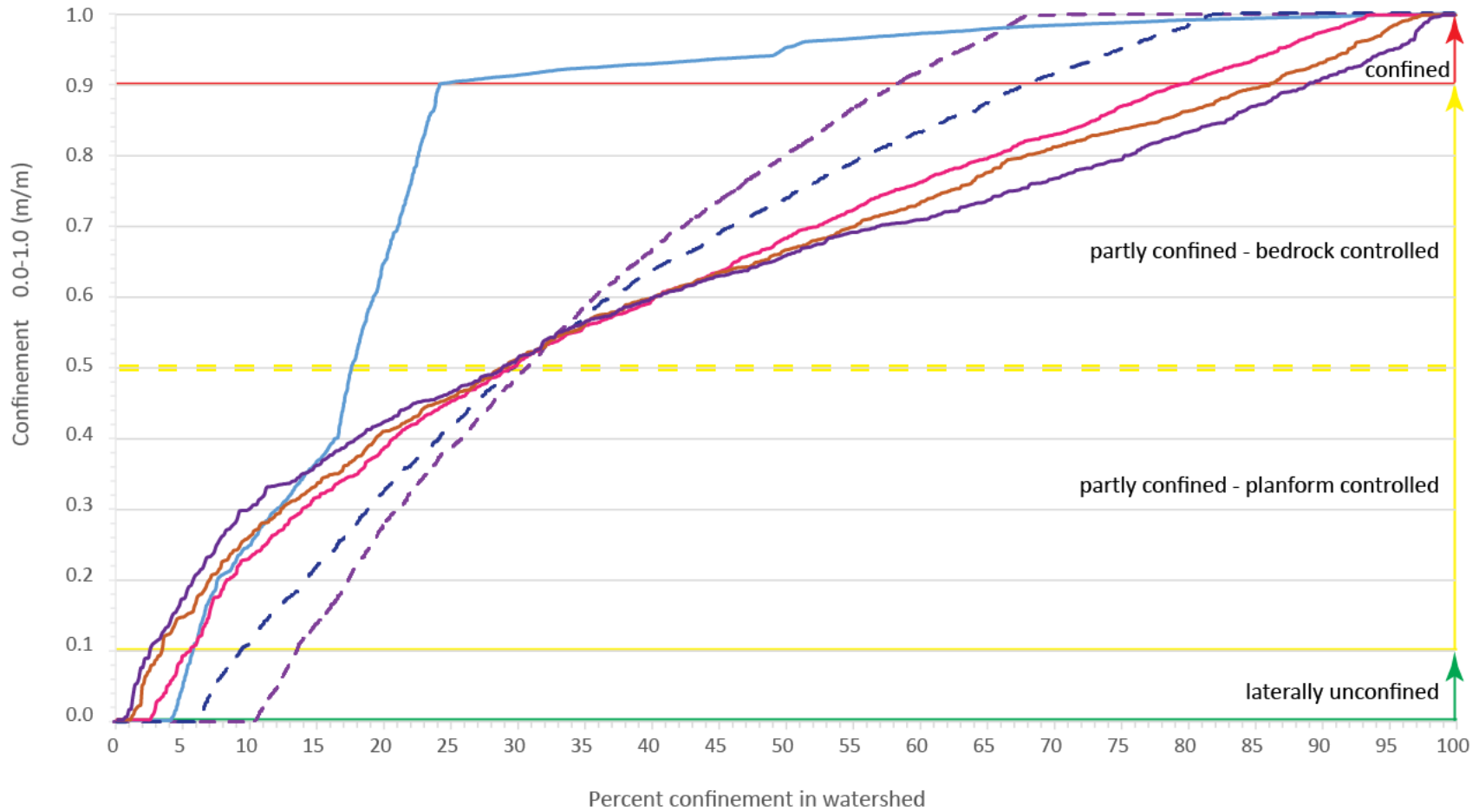
EXERCISE: CONFINEMENT

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopLEMHIGNAT.mxd

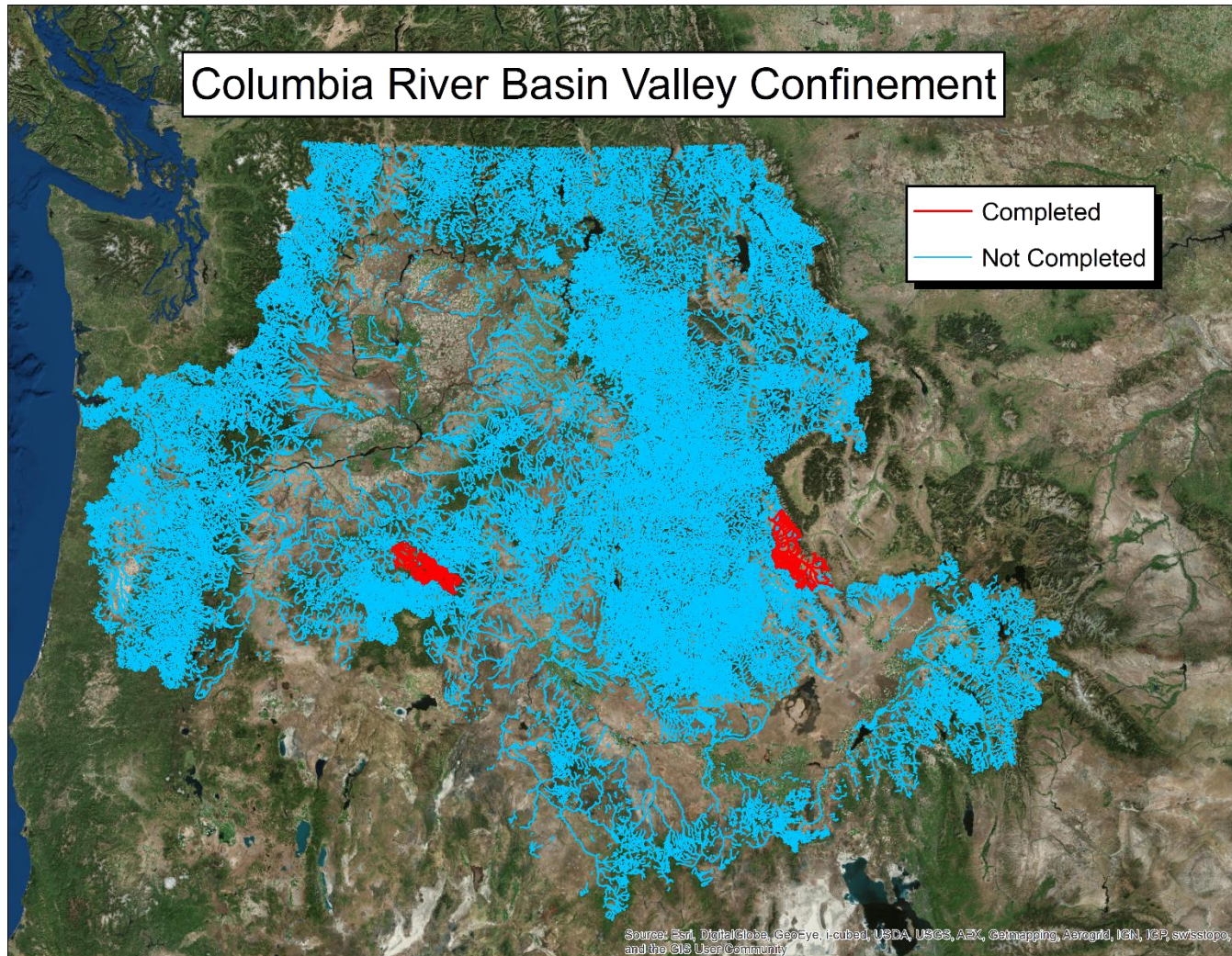
1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on one of the Confinement Layers



CONFINEMENT SENSITIVITY TO LENGTH



WHERE CONFINEMENT HAS BEEN RUN



- Middle Fork John Day
- Lemhi

OUTLINE

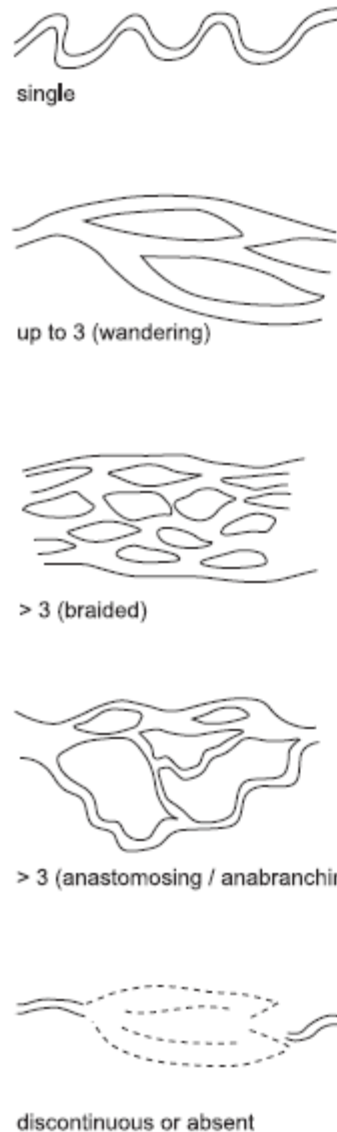
GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

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Tree
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SINUOSITY

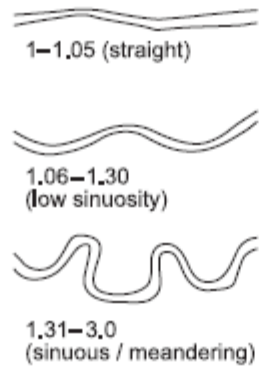
- Straight:
1 – 1.05
- Low Sinuosity:
1.06 - 1.3
- Sinuous / Meandering:
1.3 - 3.0

(a) Number of channels

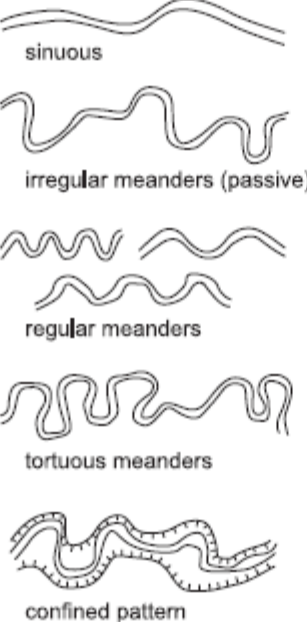


(b) Sinuosity

Degrees of sinuosity (modified from Schumm, 1985)

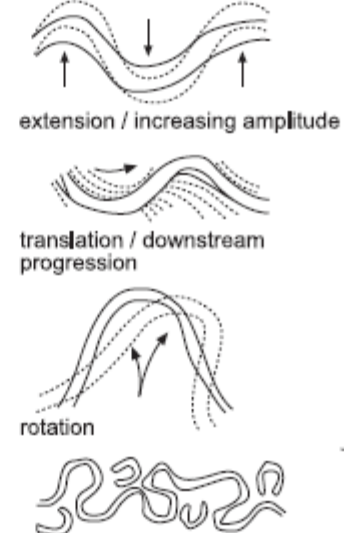


Types of sinuosity (from Church, 1992)

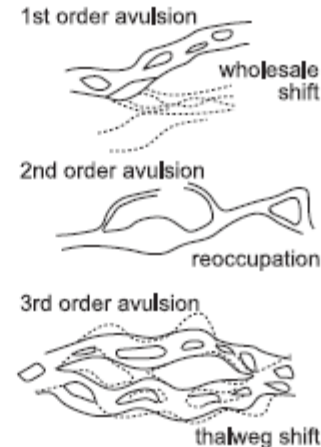


(c) Lateral stability

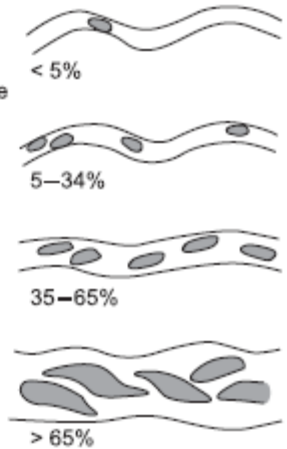
Meander growth and shift



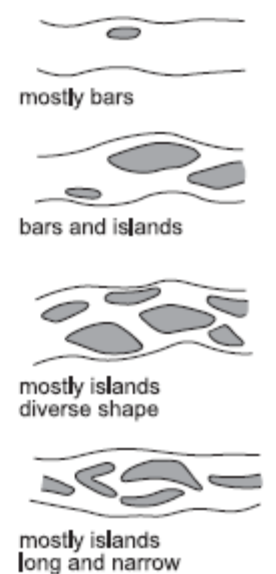
Avulsive behavior



Degree of braiding (from Schumm, 1985)

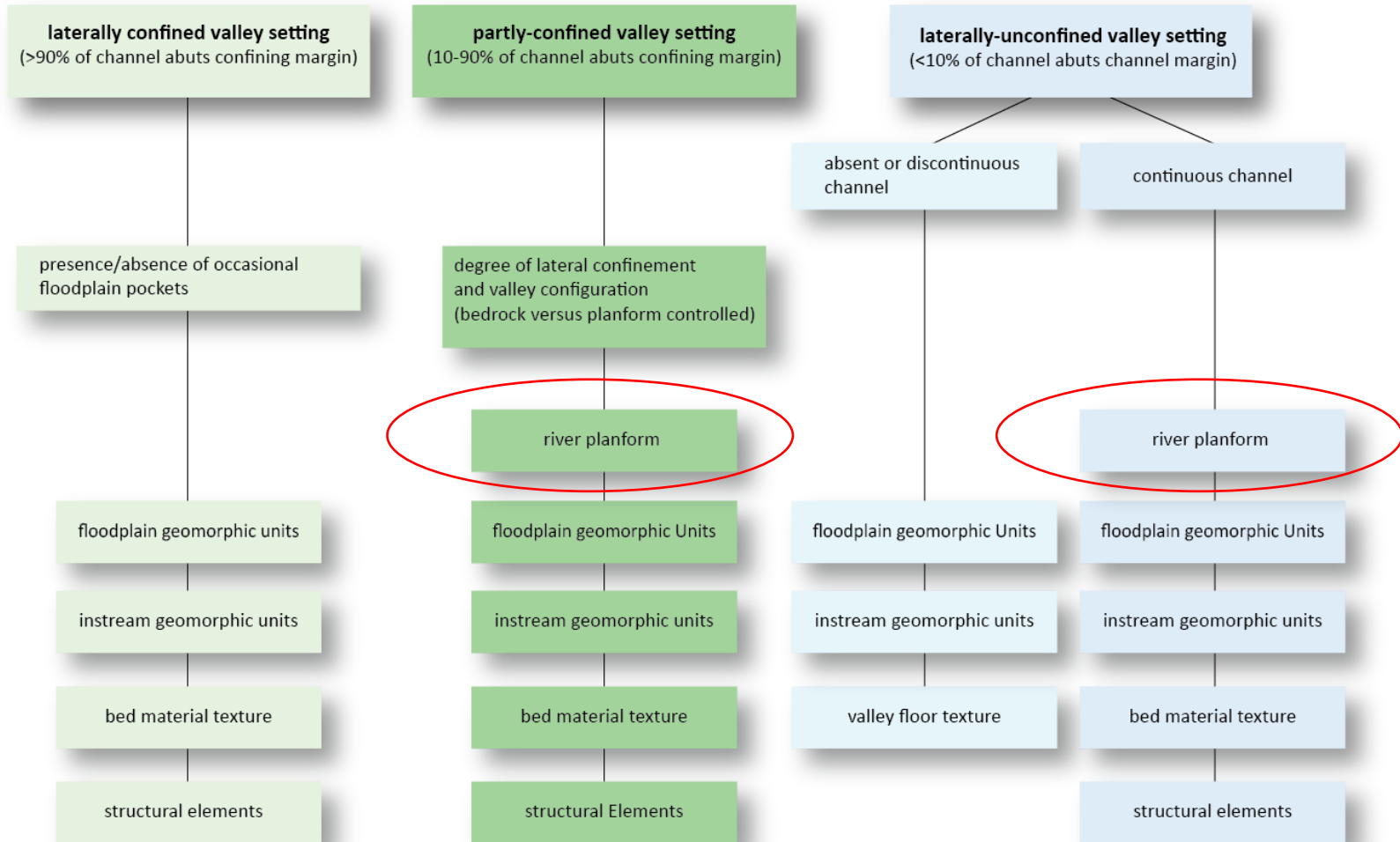


Character of braiding (from Schumm, 1985)



WHY SINUOSITY MATTERS

Columbia River Basin River Styles Procedural Tree



- Valley vs. Channel Sinuosity

PLANFORM CONTROLLED VS. BEDROCK CONTROLLED

Valley Setting

River Styles of **Partly Confined** valley settings - Idaho Batholith

10-90% of channel abuts confining margin

Presence/ extent of floodplain

bedrock-controlled discontinuous floodplain

planform-controlled discontinuous floodplain

planform

low-moderate sinuosity
>60-90% confined

low-moderate sinuosity
~50% confined

low-moderate sinuosity
~50% confined

moderate-low sinuosity
active meandering
>60-90% confined

medium-high sinuosity
active meandering
>30-50% confined

Floodplain geomorphic units

terrace, anabranch, meander cutoff, paleochannels

Alluvial Fans, pleistocene terraces

terrace, bench paleochannel, paleocutbanks, alluvial/debris fan

terrace, bench paleochannel, paleocutbanks, alluvial/debris fan

fine grained irregular floodplain

terrace, alluvial fan, meander cutoff

Instream Geomorph Units

riffles, pools, runs, point bars, scroll bars, islands, chute cutoffs,

bank-attached and mid-channel gravel bars, riffles, pools, rapids, runs, cutbank

bank-attached and mid-channel gravel bars, riffles, pools, rapids, runs, cutbank

LWD-forced bars, compound, midchannel, point, and diagonal bars runs, cutbanks, chute cutoffs

pools, riffles, runs, point bars, cutbanks

Bed Material Texture

cobble, gravel sand

boulder, cobble, gravel

boulder, cobble, gravel

cobble, gravel

cobble, gravel silt, sand

Structural* Elements

River Style

BC ELONGATE DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

FAN/TERRACE CONTROLLED DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

LOW SINUOSITY PC ANABRANCHING

LOW-MODERATE SINUOSITY WANDERING GRAVEL BED

LOW-MODERATE SINUOSITY PC DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

MEANDERING PC DISCONTINUOUS FLOODPLAIN

Salmon, Big Lost

Salmon, Big Lost

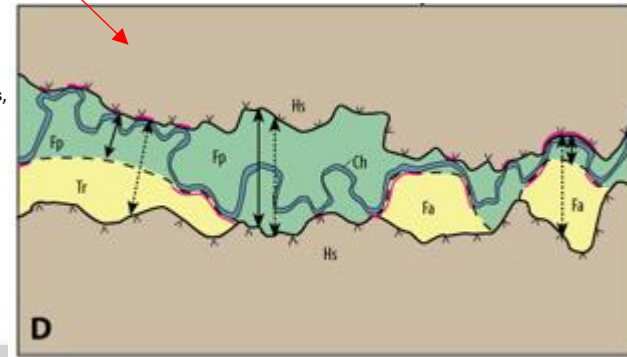
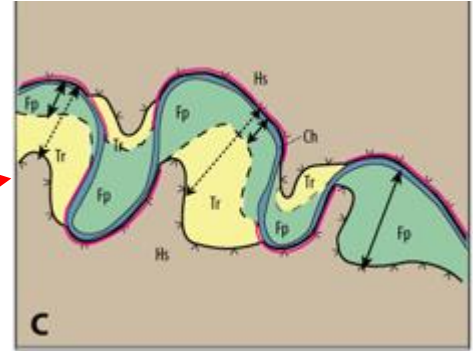
Salmon, Payette

Salmon, Big Lost

Higher elevation valleys in Salmon, Payette, Boise, Big Lost

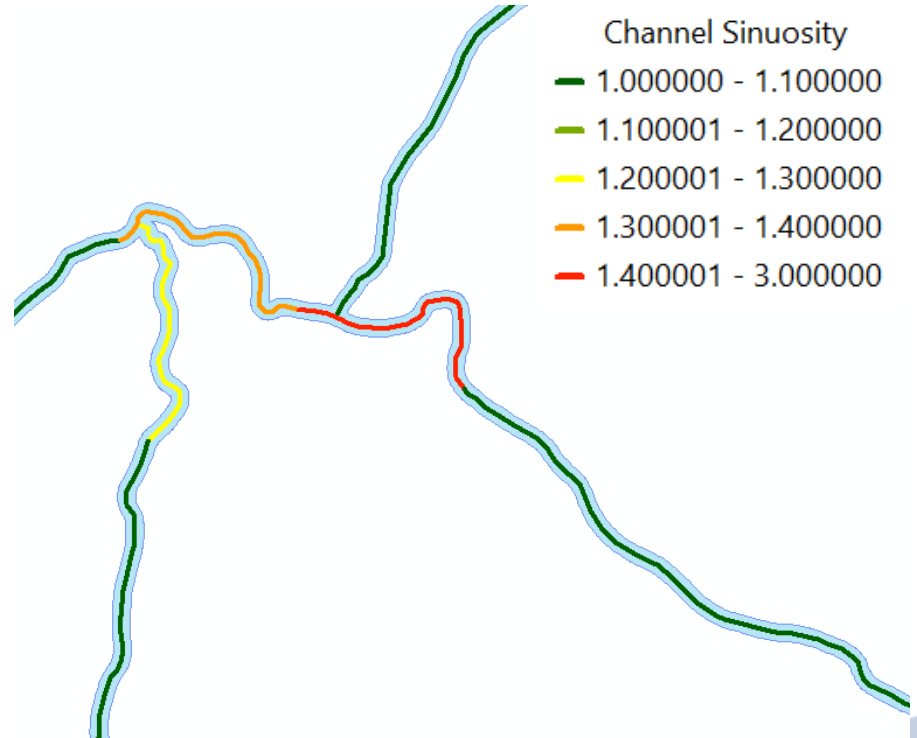
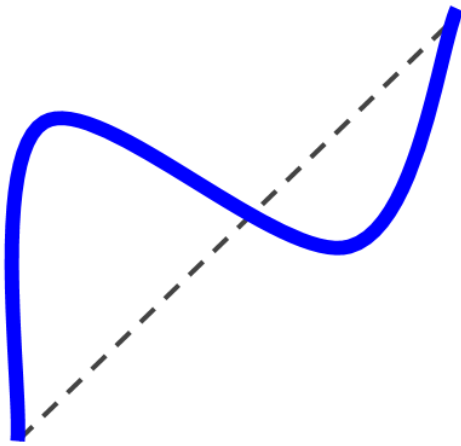
glacial drift-filled valleys, alpine glacial valleys, impounded sections; Salmon, Payette, Big Lost Rivers

*BA = bank-attached
CS = channel spanning



SINUOSITY

Basic sinuosity calculation on pre-segmented stream network.



LEVERAGING DATA FROM MULTIPLE NETWORKS

- Logistics of using all this great information involves getting information into the same network space
- BUT It's not appropriate nor practical for everyone to use the same network:

Question of interest

Scale of data available

Resolution of available data

Feasibility—processing time and bang for buck

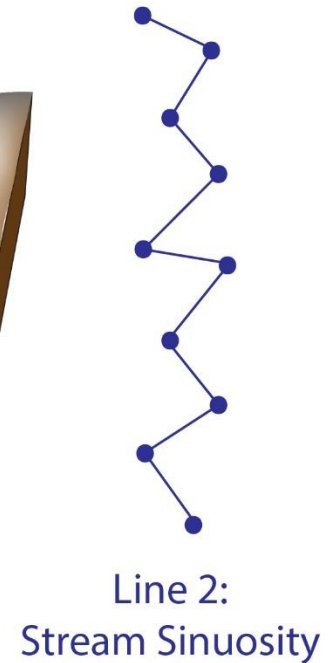
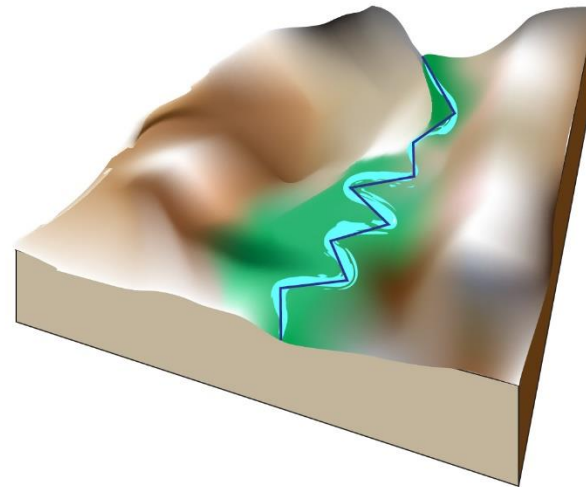
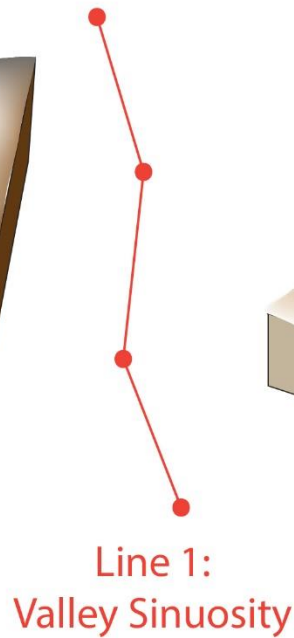
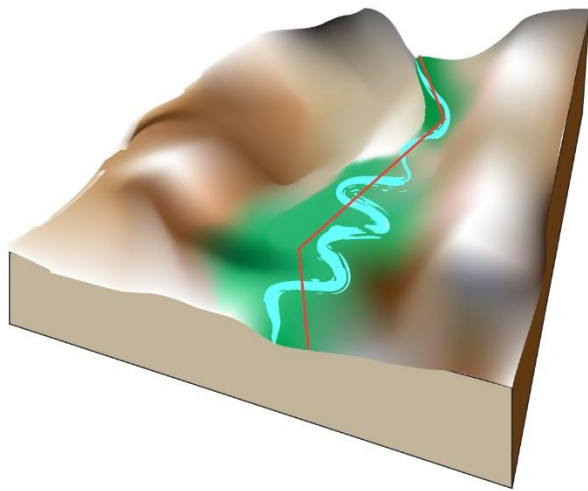
Parallel development logistics



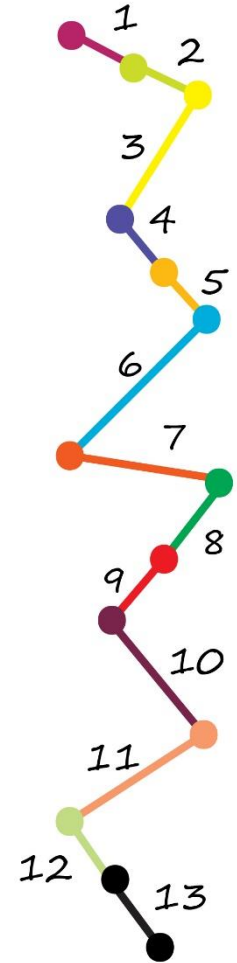
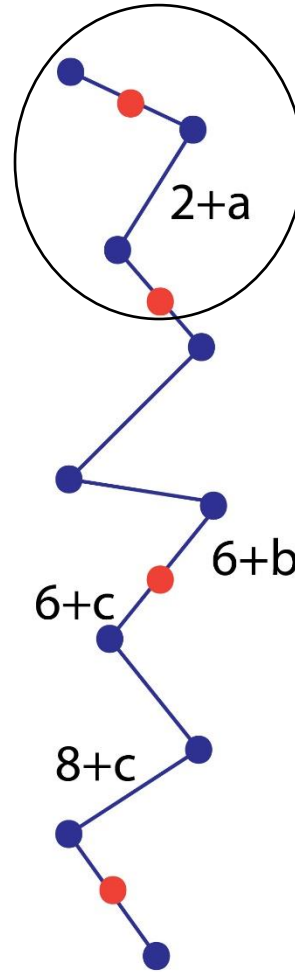
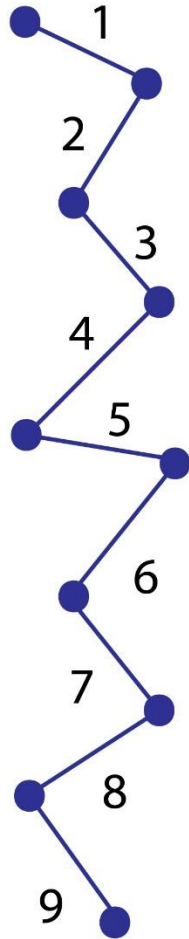
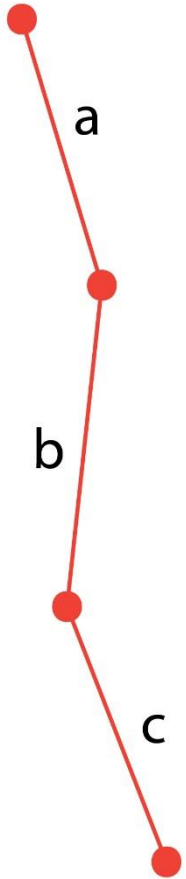
Develop the building blocks of information and then move information to the same network space

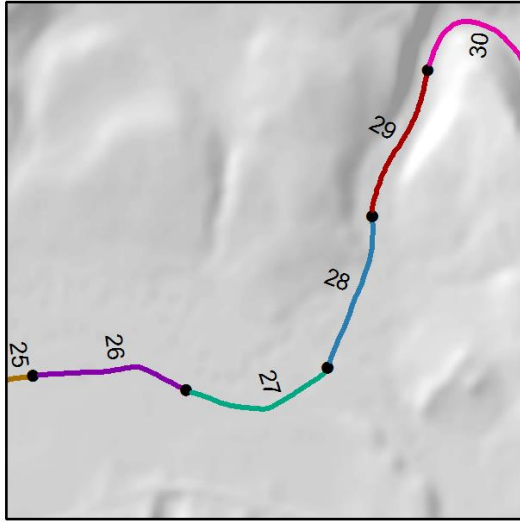
EXAMPLE: VALLEY AND STREAM SINUOSITY

Two lines with different geometries

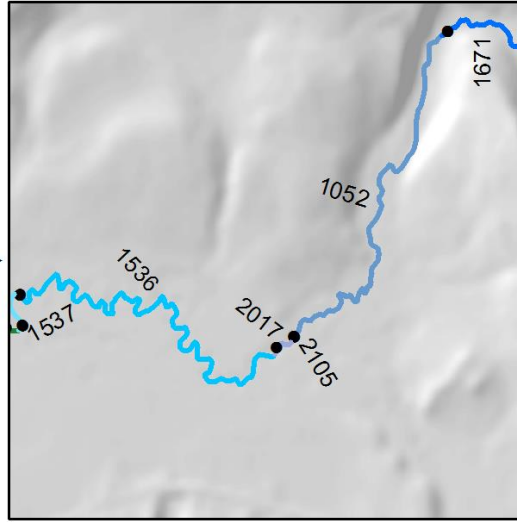


EXAMPLE: VALLEY AND STREAM SINUOSITY

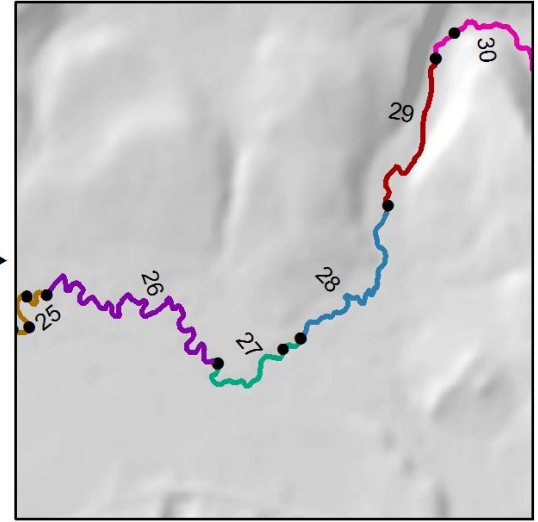




Valley Centerline, 300m segments



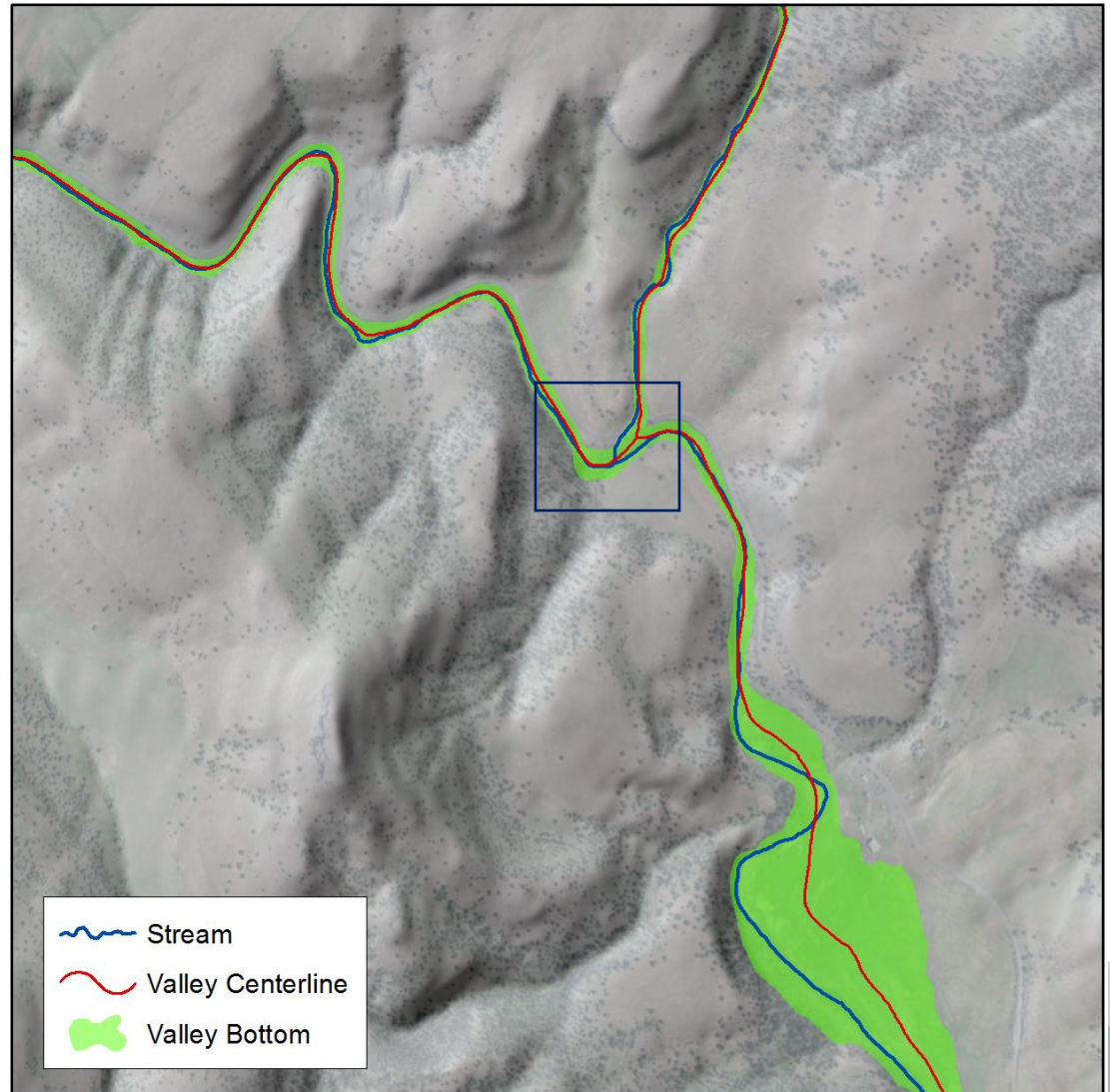
Streams, 1000m segments



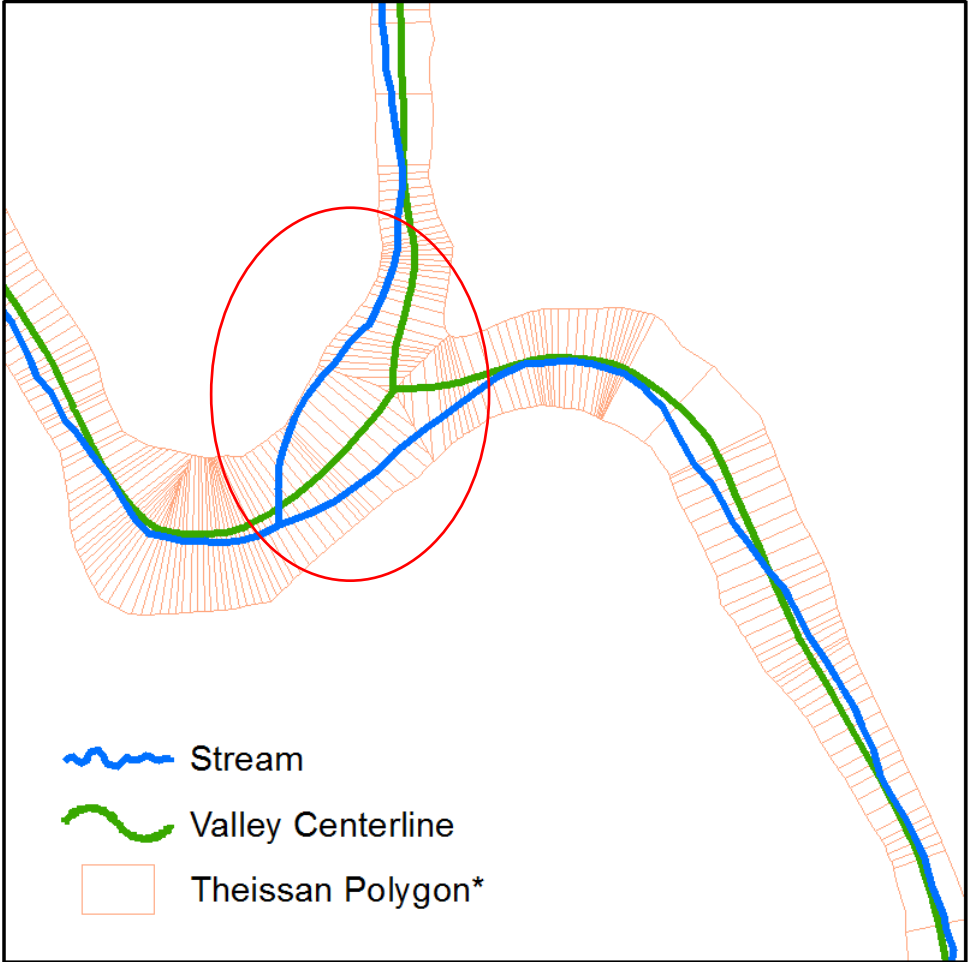
Valley centerlines transferred to streams

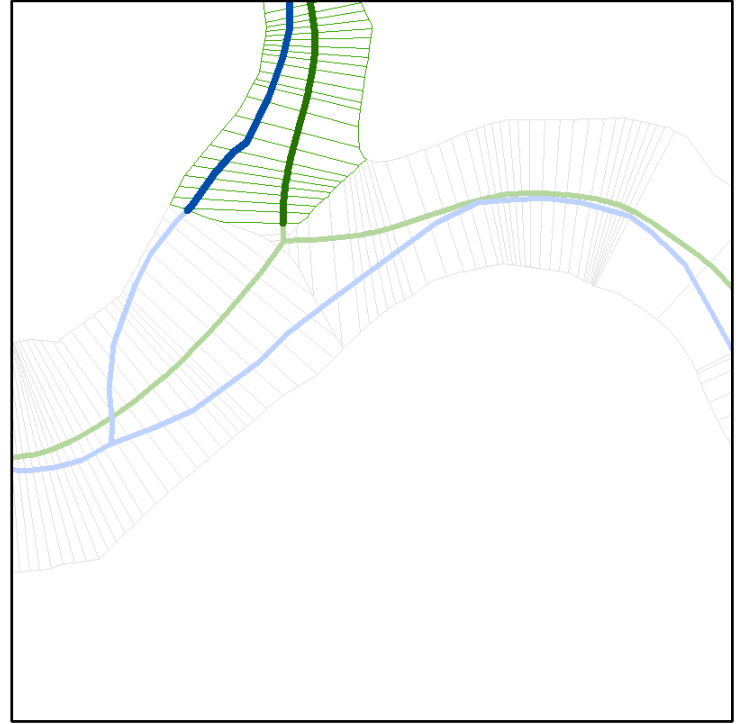
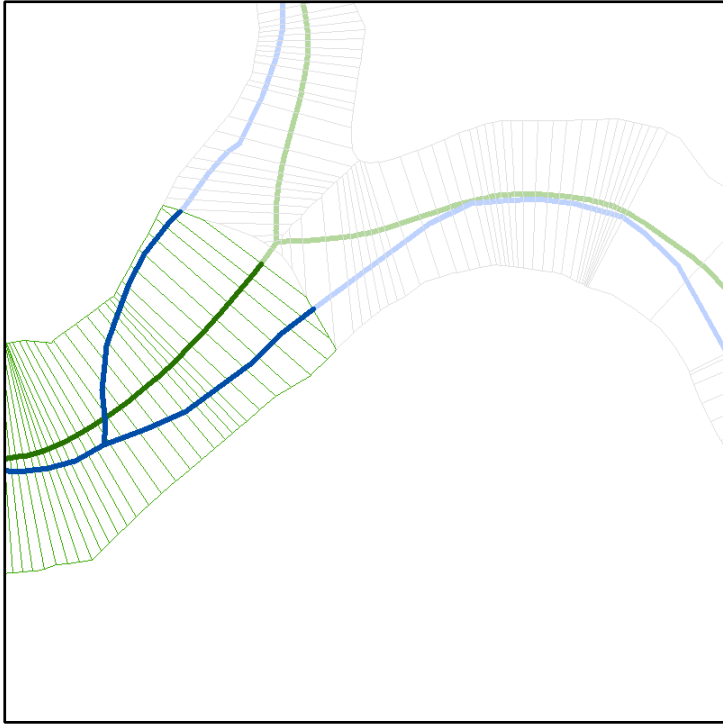
BUT SOME LINES HAVE GEOMETRY THAT MAKE TRANSFERS DIFFICULT

Valley centerline attributes transferred to stream network



CONFLUENCES & THEISSAN POLYGONS

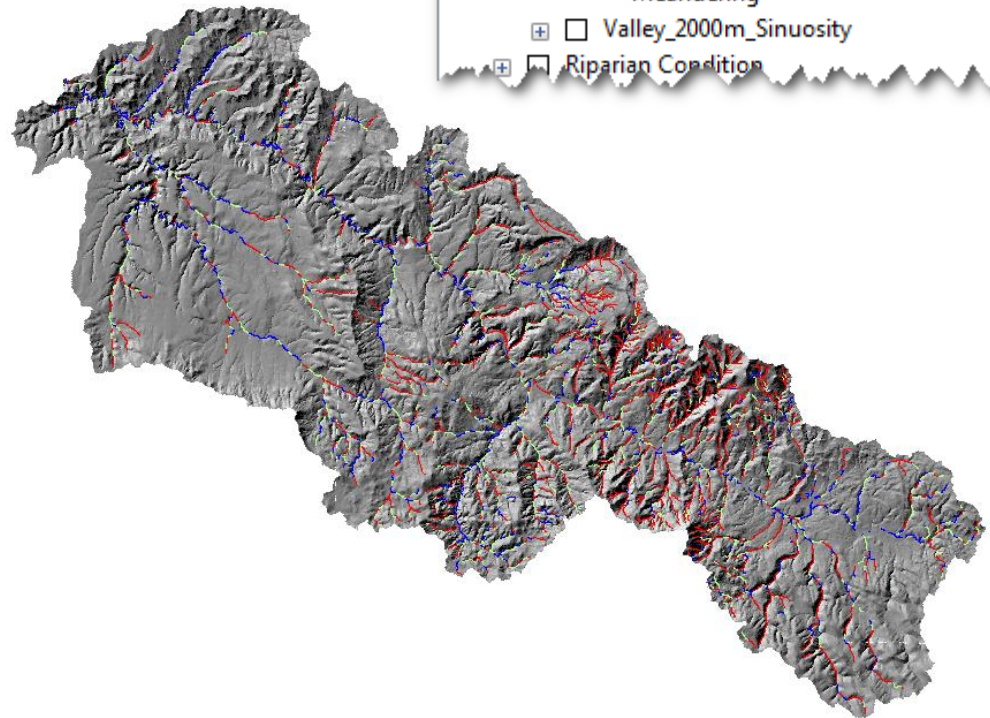
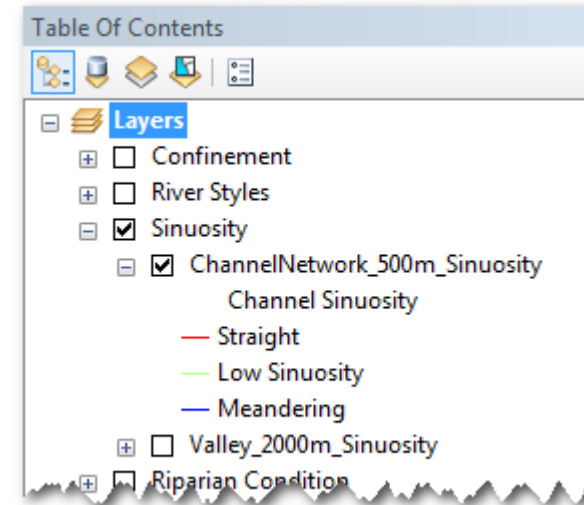




EXERCISE: SINUOSITY

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopMFJDGNAT.mxd

1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on Channel Sinuosity
4. Turn off Channel Sinuosity
5. Turn on Valley Sinuosity



OUTLINE

GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

I. Background

II. Reach Types - GNAT

I. Reach Type (River Style) Tree

II. Valley Setting

- I. Valley Bottom
- II. Confinement
- III. Sinuosity

III. Reach Typing of CHaMP Basins & CRB

III. Condition

I. Geomorphic Condition

II. Riparian Condition

III. Habitat & Population Condition

IV. Recovery Potential

I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential

II. Riparian Recovery Potential

III. BRAT & WRAT

V. Future Work

Wenatchee



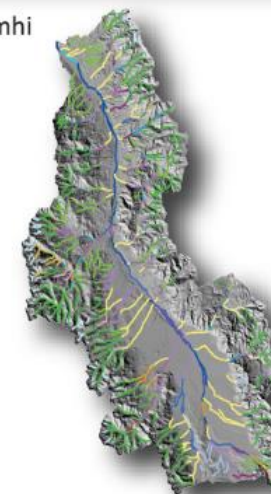
Asotin




Tucannon





Lemhi




CHaMP Basins


river style study completed 


river style study in draft stage 

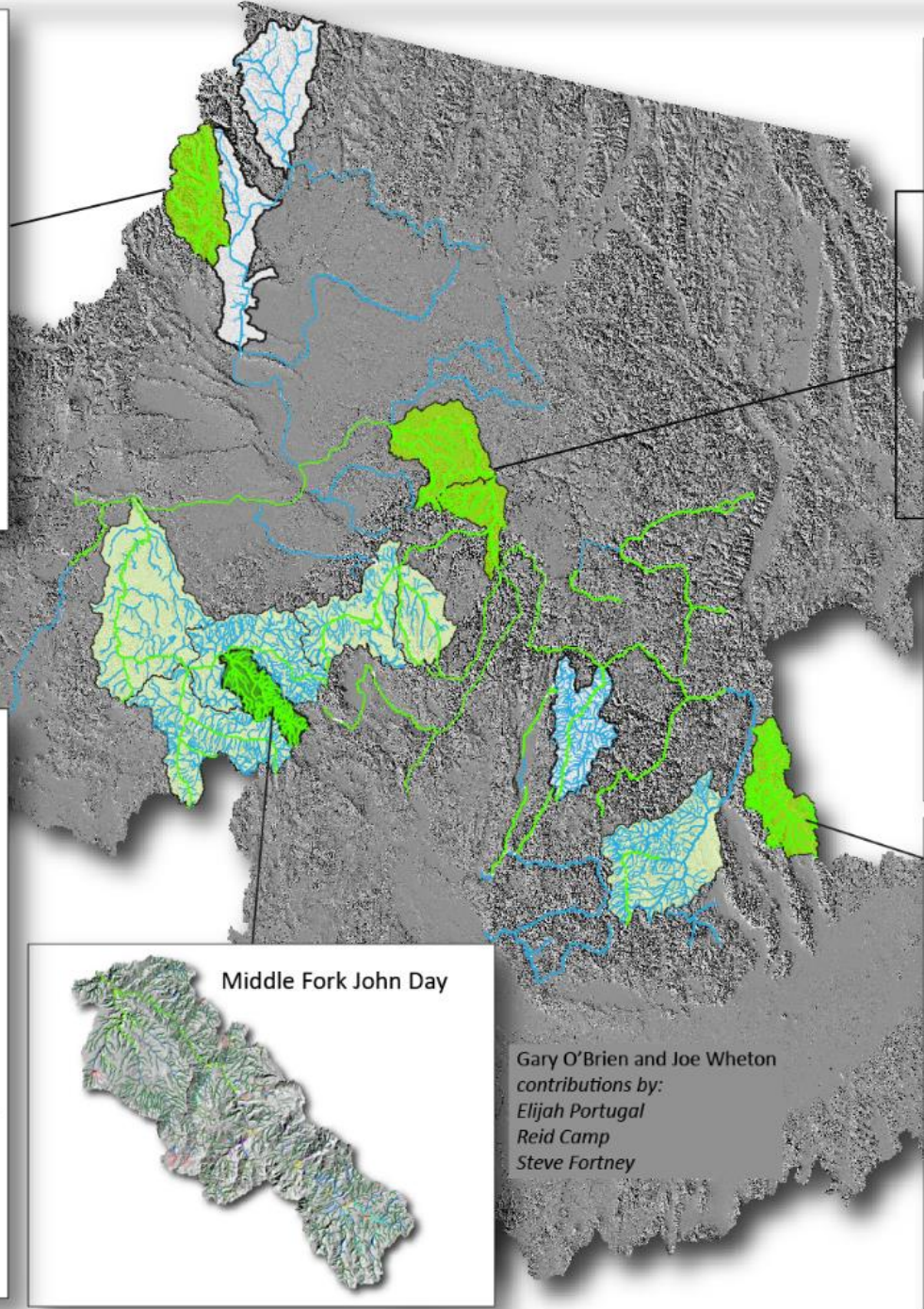
river style study begun, data available 

river style study planned 

River Styles

river styles delineated for perennial streams 

Chinook and steelhead stream network, river styles not yet completed 

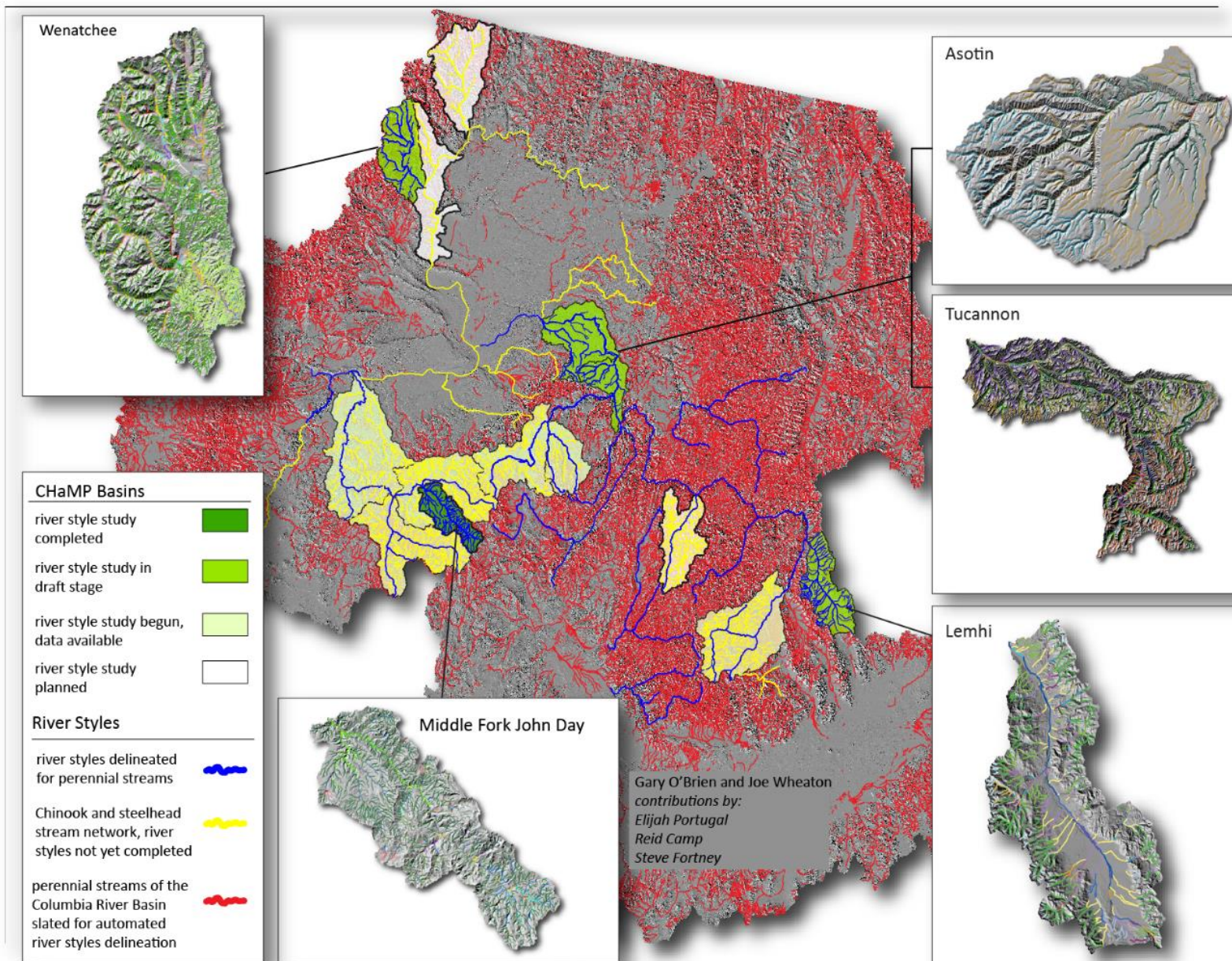


Middle Fork John Day



Gary O'Brien and Joe Wheton
contributions by:
Elijah Portugal
Reid Camp
Steve Fortney

REACH TYPING ANALYSES PLANNED FOR ENTIRE CRB



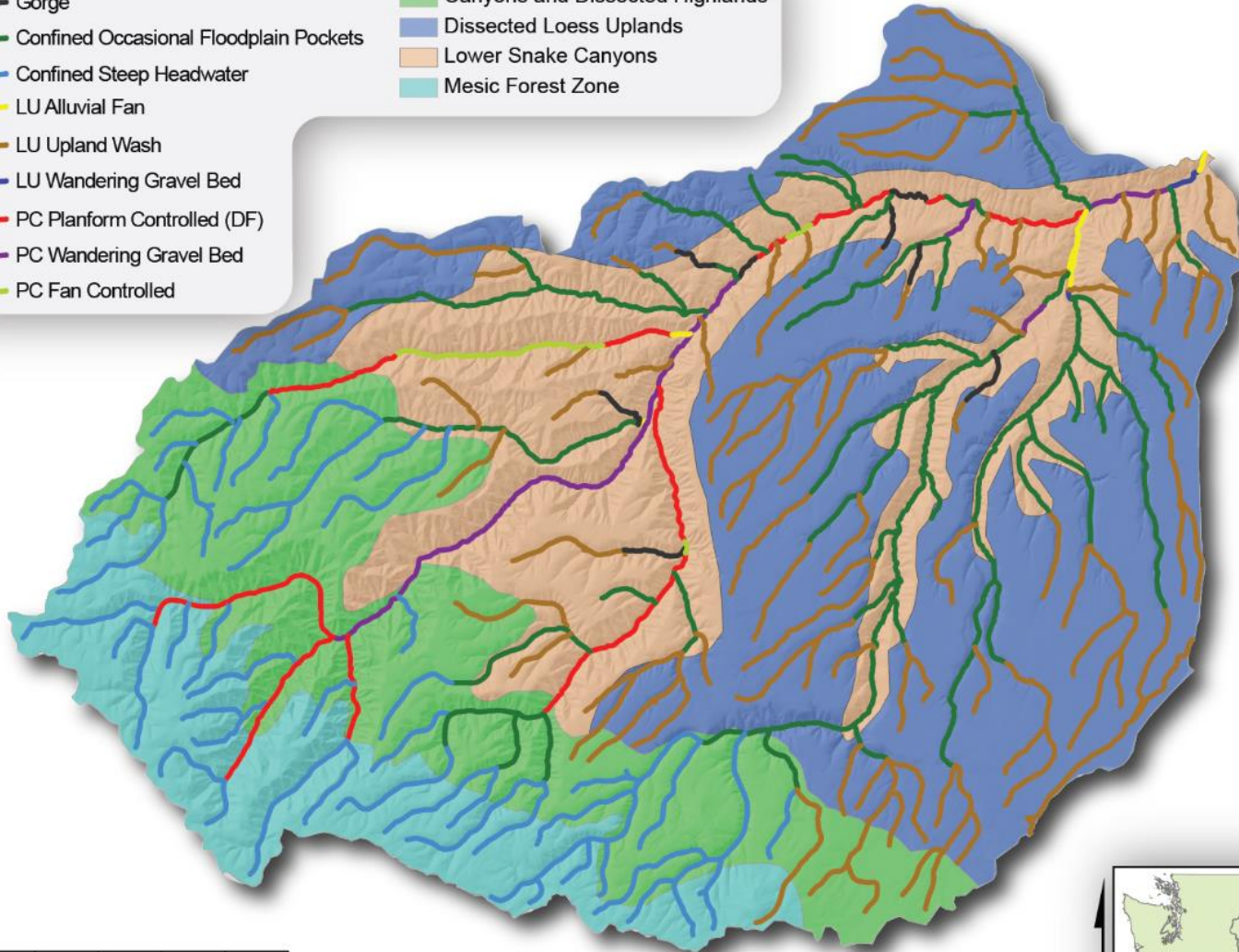
ASOTIN WATERSHED

AC_River Styles

- Gorge
- Confined Occasional Floodplain Pockets
- Confined Steep Headwater
- LU Alluvial Fan
- LU Upland Wash
- LU Wandering Gravel Bed
- PC Platform Controlled (DF)
- PC Wandering Gravel Bed
- PC Fan Controlled

AC_Landscape Units

- Canyons and Dissected Highlands
- Dissected Loess Uplands
- Lower Snake Canyons
- Mesic Forest Zone



0 2 4 6 8 10 Kilometers



Manually delineated by Reid Camp (Camp 2015)

COMING SOON TO A GNAT NEAR YOU

- Segmentation Moving Window Analysis
 - Moving windows: run tool at multiple segment lengths to identify areas that are not sensitive to segment length
 - Smart Segments (mainstem vs. tributary)
 - Reach Breaks Identification (e.g. changes in slope)
 - Smart attribute transfer (using common attributes to restrict transfer)
- Network Management
 - Topology: Organizes up/downstream, trib junctions
 - Support Braided Segments
 - Support Discontinuities
- Probabilistic Reach Typing Tool...



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OUTLINE

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GEOMORPHIC CONDITION

Using Brieley & Fryirs (2005)
methods, evaluate:

- ADJUSTMENT CAPACITY
- EVOLUTION OF STREAM TYPES
- GEOMORPHIC CHANGE
IRREVERSIBLE?
- RECOGNIZING CONDITION VARIANTS
AND A REFERENCE REACH

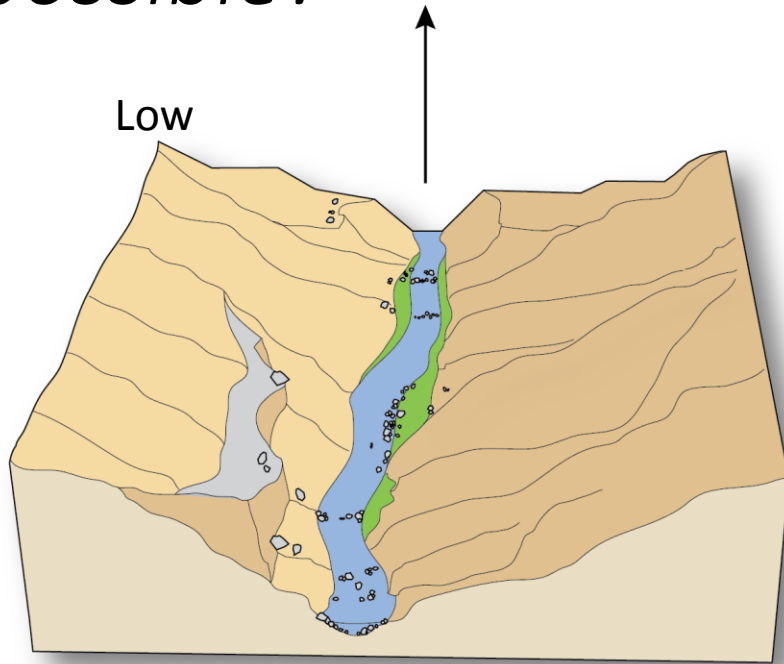
“STOPLIGHT” WATERSHED
MAPS

- **INTACT REACHES**
- **GOOD**
- **MODERATE**
- **POOR**

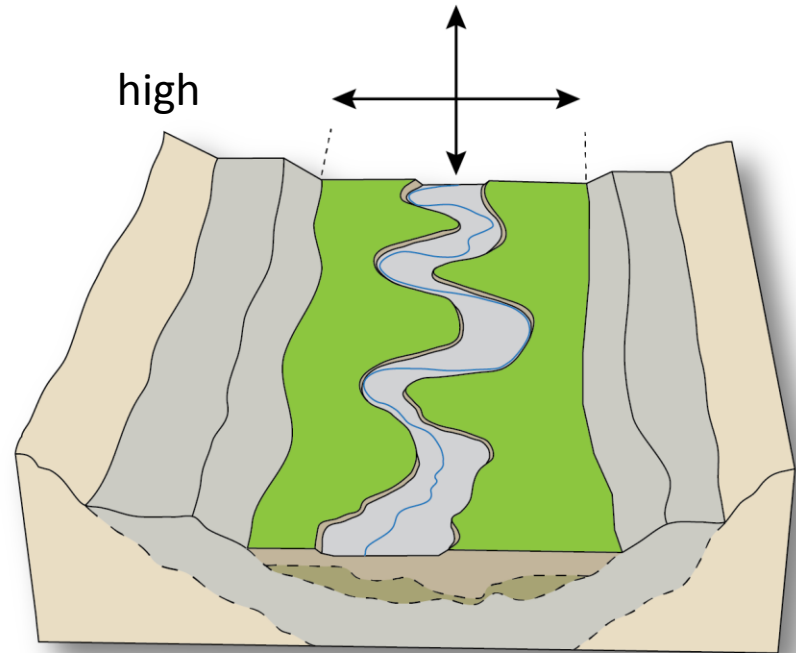


CAPACITY FOR ADJUSTMENT OF EACH RIVER STYLE:

what range of geomorphic variability is possible?



Confined valley setting



Laterally unconfined valley setting

RECOGNIZING CONDITION VARIANTS AND THEIR GU ASSEMBLAGES...

1. Indian Creek - Area of watershed heavily burned and logged. Abundant large wood jams in stream. Cobble and coarse gravel substrate, fine grained floodplain segments small or absent, floodplain consists of gravel bars and sheets.



2. Vinegar Creek - REFERENCE REACH for the CV-FPP river style. Abundant large wood form jams and create high hydraulic diversity and structurally forced bars and pools, hillslope derived coarse gravel forms short rapids and steps.



3. Bridge Creek - Important stream for anadromous fish, hemmed in by state highway. Discontinuous floodplain segments are fine grained with coarse gravel substrate.

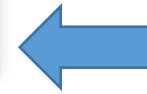


4. Big Creek - Discontinuous floodplain segments are fine-grained with coarse gravel substrate. Hydraulic diversity is low, channel is relatively featureless with runs and occasional rapids; natural wood is absent, lateral bars common.



Reference Reach—

- Diverse instream/floodplain GU's (bars, pools, channels)
- Structurally forced heterogeneity (abundant wood)
- Free of human development
- Healthy riparian cover



GEOINDICATORS → CONDITION

- *Geoindicators* set stage for assessment of geomorphic condition....
- Reach type specific geoindicators

Degrees of Freedom and their relevant Geoindicators	Questions to be answered to assess geomorphic condition of each reach of the Alluvial Meandering River Style.	Clear Creek	MF John Day (near Bates)	MF John Day (Oxbow area)	MF John Day (near Bates)
Channel Attributes (2 out of 3)	3 out of 4 questions must be answered YES For stream to be assessed in GOOD condition				
Size	Is channel size appropriate given the catchment area, the prevailing sediment regime, and the vegetation character?	✓	X	X	X
Bank	Is the bank morphology consistent with caliber of sediment? Are banks eroding in the correct places?	✓	X	X	X
Woody Debris Loading	Is there woody debris in the channel or potential for recruitment of woody debris?	✓	X	✓	X
		✓	X	X	X
Channel Planform (3 out of 5)	3 out of 4 questions must be answered YES				
Number of Channels	Is the channel single thread as appropriate for this river style? Are there signs of change such as avulsions or overbank channels forming on the floodplain?	✓	✓	✓	X
Geomorphic Unit Assemblage	Are the number, type and pattern of instream geomorphic units appropriate for the sediment regime, slope, bed material and valley setting? Are key units of <i>this</i> River Style present (riffles, pools, plane bed runs & glides, cutbanks, point bars)?	✓	X	X	X
Riparian Vegetation	Are the appropriate types and density of riparian vegetation present on the banks?	✓	X	✓	X
		✓	X	✓	X
Bed Character (3 out of 4)	3 out of 4 questions must be answered YES				
Grain Size and Sorting	Is the range of sediment throughout the channel and floodplain organized and distributed appropriately?	✓	✓	✓	X
Bed Stability	Is the bed vertically stable such that it is not incising or aggrading inappropriately for the channel slope, sediment caliber, and sinuosity?	✓	✓	✓	X
Sediment Regime	Is the sediment storage and transport function of the reach appropriate for the catchment? position (i.e., is it a sediment transfer or accumulation zone?)?	✓	X	✓	X
Hydraulic diversity	Are roughness characteristics and the pattern of hydraulic diversity appropriate for the catchment position?	✓	✓	✓	X
		✓	✓	✓	X
		✓	X	X	X
Geomorphic Condition	Total ticks and crosses are added for each stream reach	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Poor

EXPLANATION OF GEOMORPHIC CONDITION

Degree of Freedom	Good Condition	Moderate Condition	Poor Condition
Channel Attributes	Steep-sided asymmetrical cross section within a fine-grained sand to mud floodplain. Bank erosion is minimal. Channel bed is free of vegetation except for occasional tussock grasses. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steep-sided asymmetric cross section within a fine-grained sand to mud floodplain. Bank erosion rate is correct for fine-grained floodplain and steep banks, but restoration projects have inserted large wood that is focused only at bends, to "prevent erosion" (will retard natural tendency to adjust). Channel shape and size are consistent, yet bank erosion is irregular as indicated by a greater abundance of channel margin tussock stands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original channel has been dredged in extensively, so width-depth ratio is uneven and shape inconsistent. Channel size is OK for catchment, but there are multiple channels and diversions. Banks have been armored with coarse bed material, creating uneven erosion rates and characteristics. <input type="checkbox"/>
Channel Planform	Irregular, moderate to high sinuosity planform, well-connected to floodplain, occasional overbank crevasse-splays and channel cutoffs developed. Riparian vegetation consists of scattered woody stands with rich grass cover on floodplain, partly influencing meander development. Abundant recruitment of woody debris plays role in channel shape and sinuosity as well as forcing bars and pools <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	irregular, moderate to high sinuosity planform, adjustment is gradual on scale of decades, not years; well-connected to floodplain, channel cutoffs developed. Riparian vegetation is very scattered with few woody stands, but rich grass cover on floodplain. Emplaced wood is abundant through the restoration reach, but is distributed only at bends and not likely to play a role in channel shape and sinuosity as well as forcing bars and pools. Bed is stable. Geomorphic units are not well-developed, as restoration was recent. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planform has been truncated and straightened to accommodate placer mining activities. New channels were dug, making the number and shape of channels inappropriate for the catchment size. Sinuosity is correct where the natural channel trace is preserved, but flow characteristics are affected by multiple channels and ponds. Geomorphic units are appropriate in original channel, but are restricted to featureless plane bed where dredging has occurred. Channel-floodplain connectivity is impossible owing to levee of coarse, dredged bed material now placed on banks. Artificial backwaters and ponds produced by disruption of tributary access to mainstem Middle Fork John Day River. <input type="checkbox"/>
Bed Material	Segregated, bi-modal sediment mix, with channel bed composed of coarse gravel and cobble; coarse sediment projects beneath floodplain composed of fine sand, silt and mud. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Segregated, bi-modal sediment mix, with channel bed composed of coarse gravel and cobble; coarse sediment forms planar geomorphic units, with little diversity (pool-rifle sequences and cutbanks) <input type="checkbox"/>	Bed and bank material has been overturned and mixed except in places where original channel was not directly dredged. Integrated coarse gravel and cobble substrate. <input type="checkbox"/>

Camp Creek, Middle Fork John Day Watershed



Middle Fork John Day River



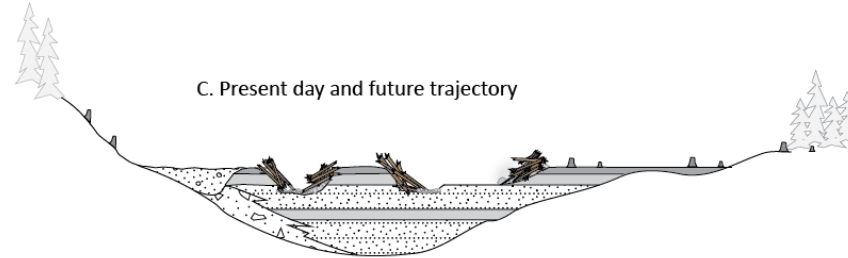
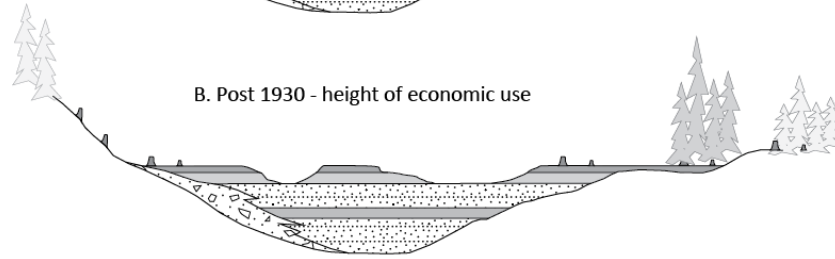
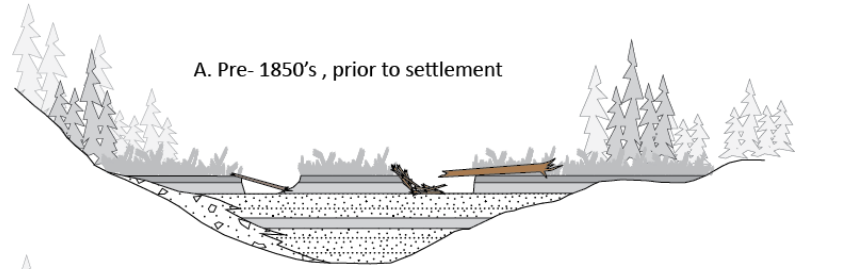
Middle Fork John Day River Near Galena, OR.



Important 'cause it sets the stage for informed restoration/rehabilitation efforts, AND *Helps avoid misdirected manipulation of geomorphic attributes*

HISTORIC RECONSTRUCTION

Low-moderate sinuosity gravel bed river style - unconfined valley, low to moderate sinuosity planform



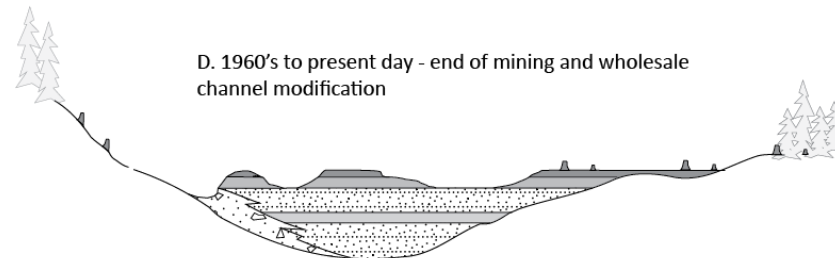
- Healthy riparian vegetation on vertically and laterally aggrading floodplain
- Planform-controlled active meandering channel, well connected to the floodplain
- River adjusts freely in its channel; abundant wood, there are secondary channels, cutoffs, and wetlands

- Post-settlement floodplain has been cleared of most riparian and valley margin forest woodland
- Grazing and mining have begun to impact streams, widening, straightening, and steepening the channel, and compacting floodplain soils
- In-channel wood is cleared or flushes through; gradient increases and temperature warms

- Recent restoration efforts have focused on redirecting the river back to its former channel and replanting riparian vegetation. Channel bends are reinforced by rip-rap, slowing the natural tendency for adjustment
- Restored Channel will eventually reach a state of static equilibrium that approximates, but does not reach, a predisturbance condition with capacity for healthy habitat

indicates change in boundary conditions that define a new river style

Bedrock controlled elongate discontinuous floodplain river style - partly confined channel, low sinuosity planform



- Decades of grazing and hayfield agriculture have left alluvial floodplains trampled and stripped of riparian cover. Wetlands are drained
- The river is diverted along the hillslope to increase grazing and farmland. The river becomes entrenched, and is essentially disconnected from the floodplain except at atypical high flows

silt and mud
 silt and fine sand
 fine sand and gravel
 engineered fill
 slopewash colluvium

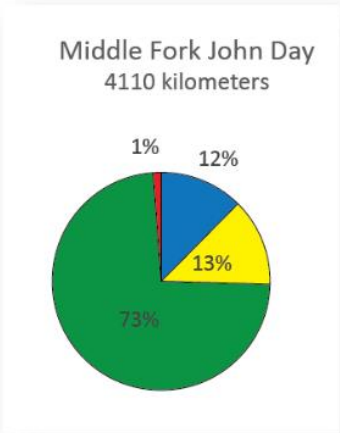
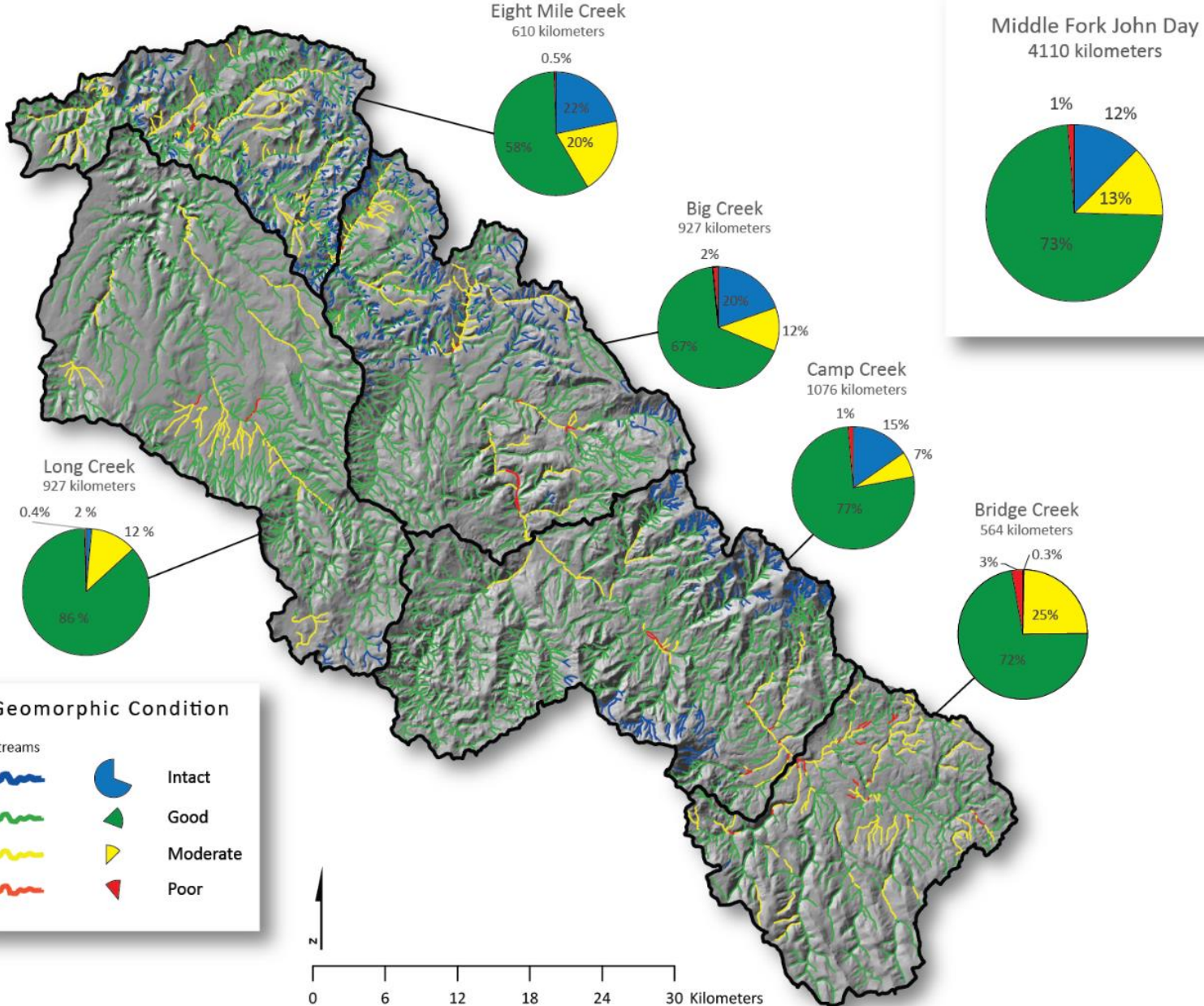
Variants of each river style show departure from the *intact, pristine condition*.

Evolution diagrams trace effects of impacts or pathways of geomorphic change.

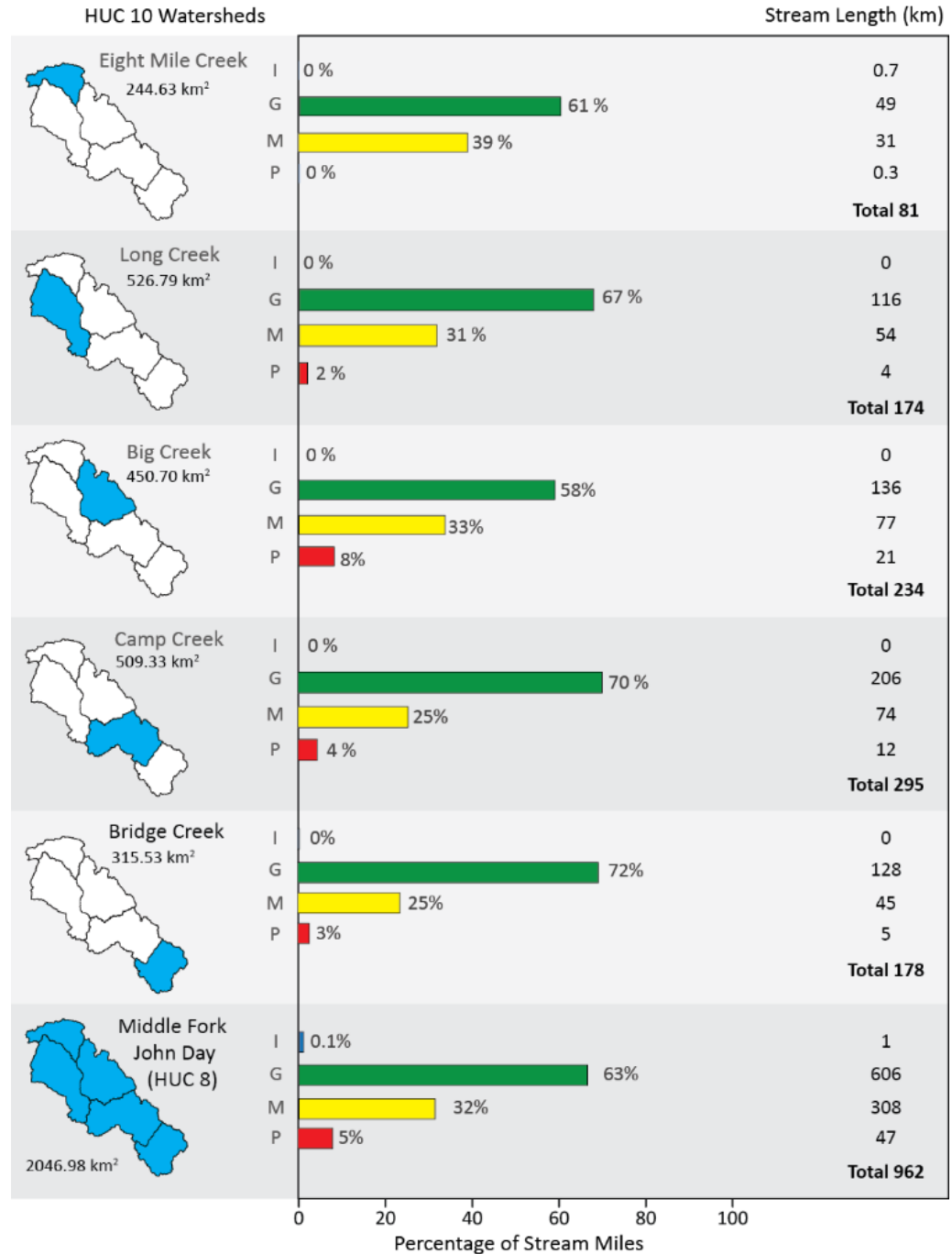
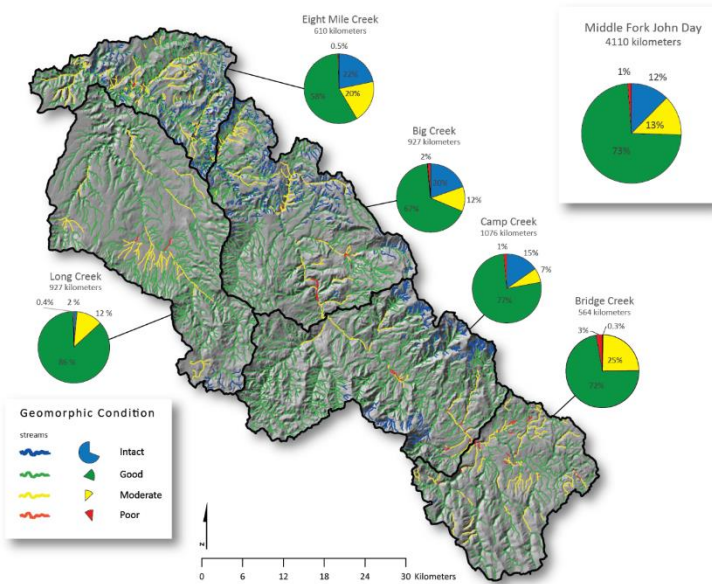


GEOMORPHIC CONDITION MAP

CONDITION
MAPS



GEOMORPHIC CONDITION SUMMARY

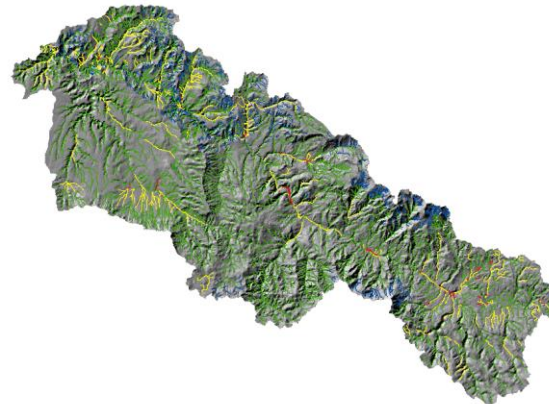
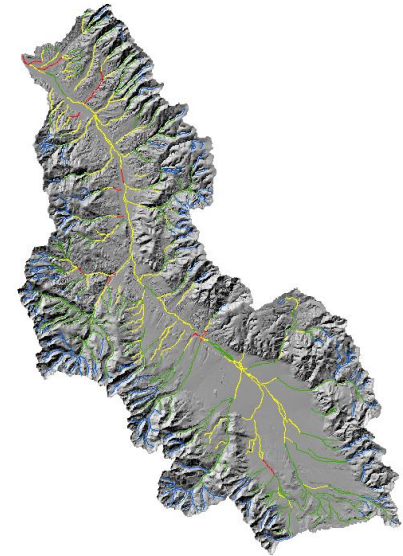
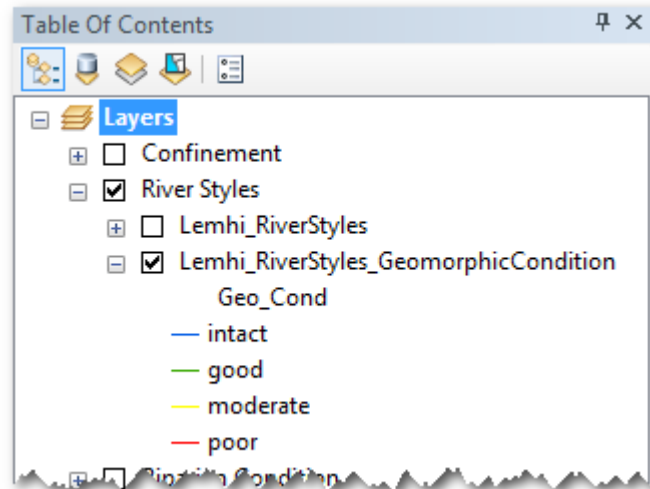


EXERCISE: EXPLORING GEOMORPHIC CONDITION

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopMFJDGNAT.mxd

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopLemhiGNAT.mxd

1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on *_RiverStyles_Geomorphic Condition



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GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

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 - I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential
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 - III. BRAT & WRAT
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RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (PROCESS)

- Inputs:

1. LANDFIRE Existing Vegetation Type (EVT) representing current (2012) vegetation
2. LANDFIRE Biophysical Settings (BpS) estimated pre-settlement condition

Coding:

1. Native riparian vegetation classes coded as a 1
2. All other land cover classes coded as a 0

RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (PROCESS)

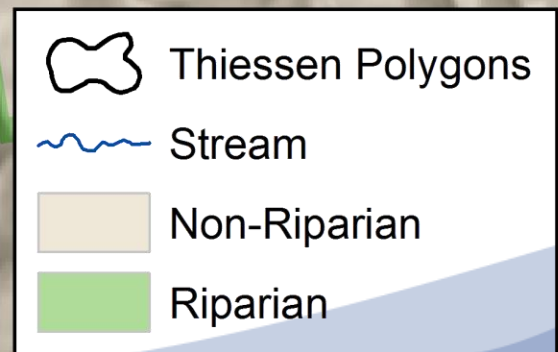
Condition is based on the **deviation from the pre-settlement condition**.

- A dimensionless **ratio** was calculated: *(mean EVT vegetation value)/(mean BpS vegetation value)*.
 - Values **closer to 0** represent **degraded** condition
 - Values **near 1** represent **good** condition
 - Values of **1 or above** represent **intact** condition

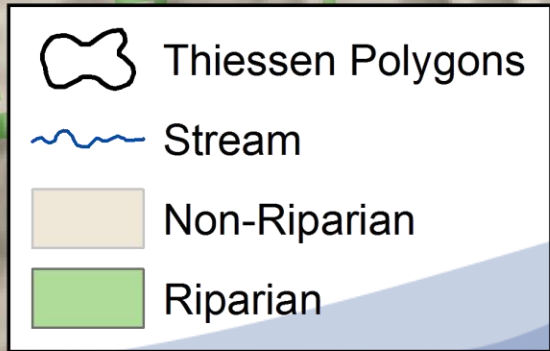
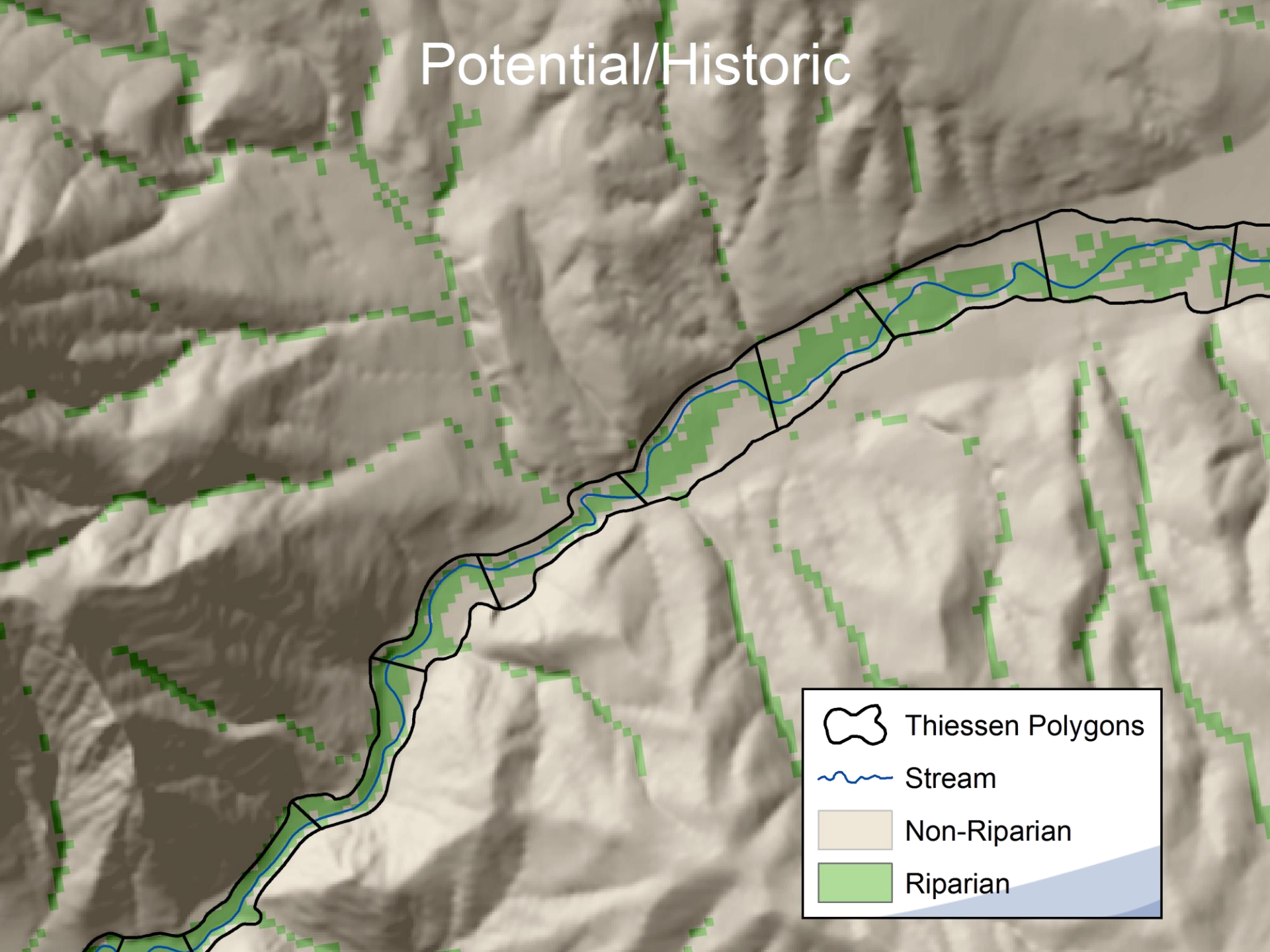
Output: Basin-wide reach level (1 km) condition assessment map.



Existing

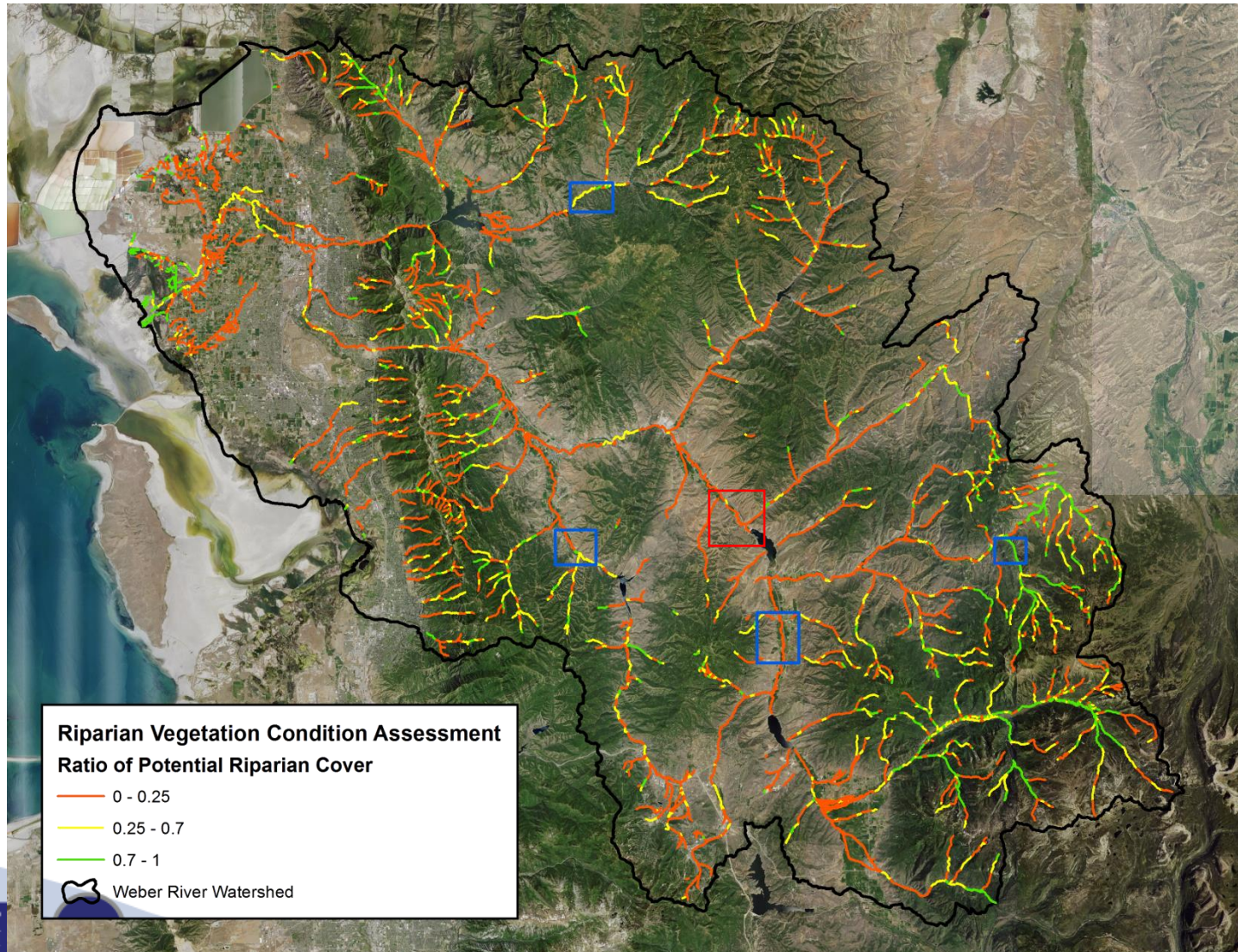


Potential/Historic



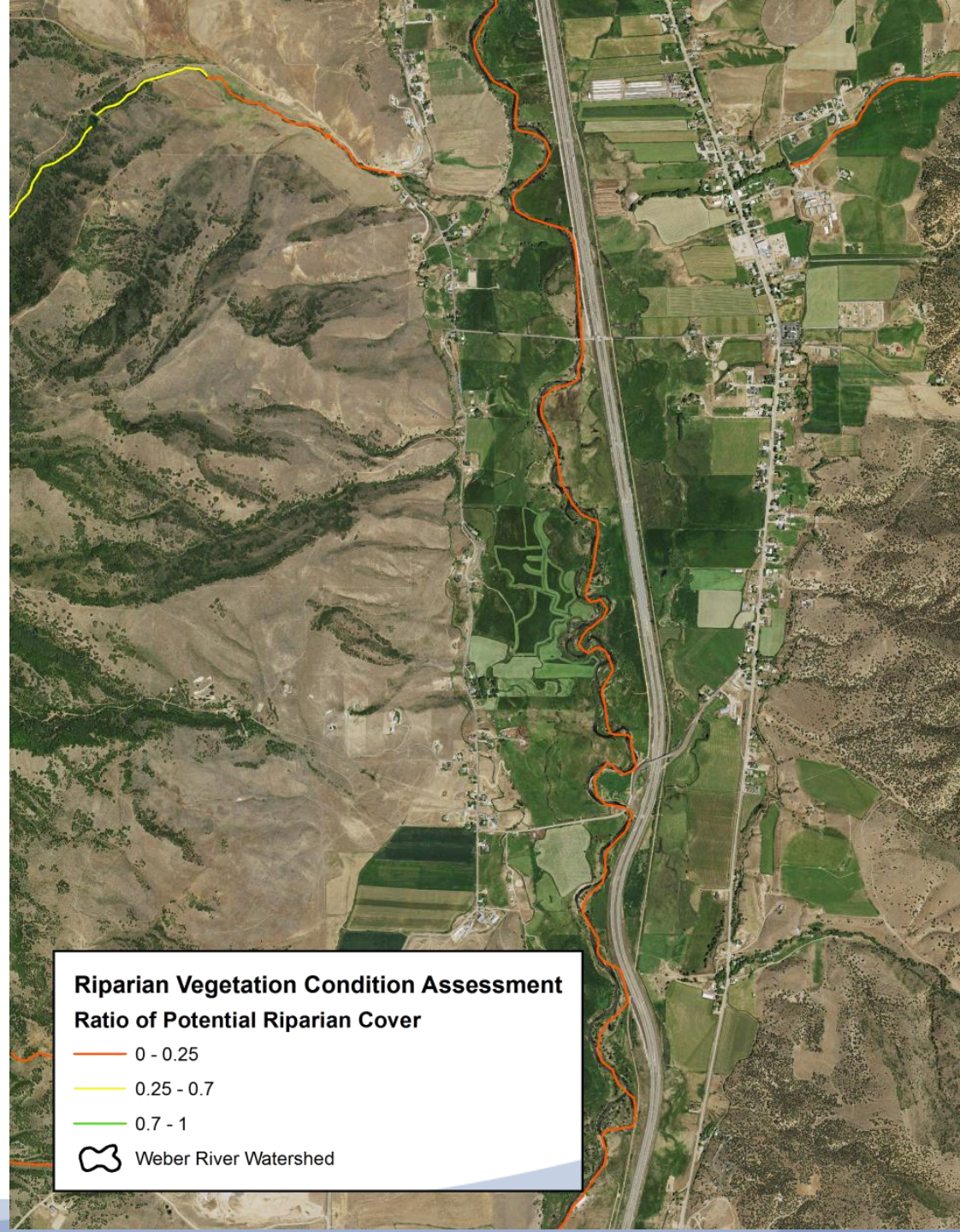
RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT

(DRAFT RESULTS)

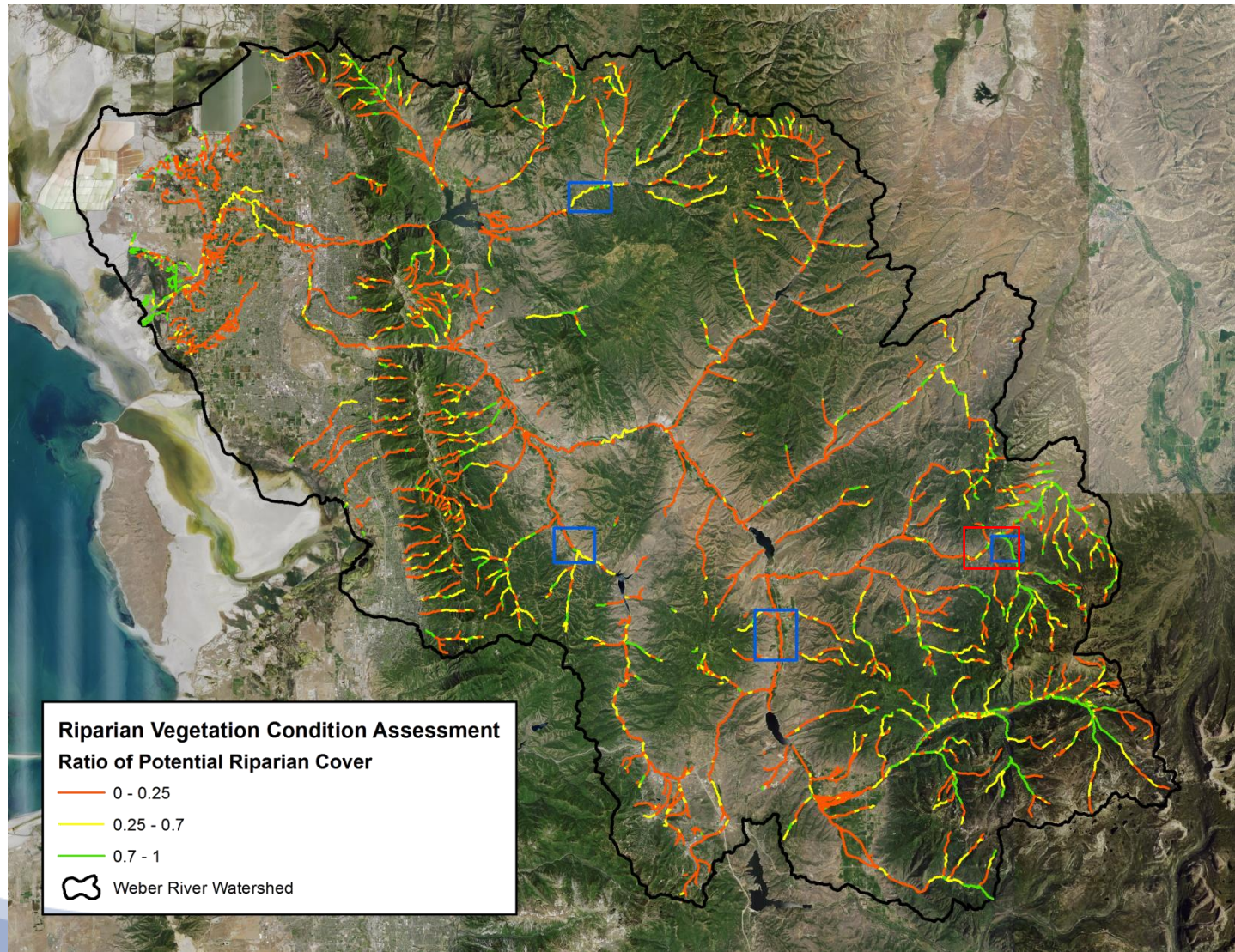


RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT

(POOR COND.)



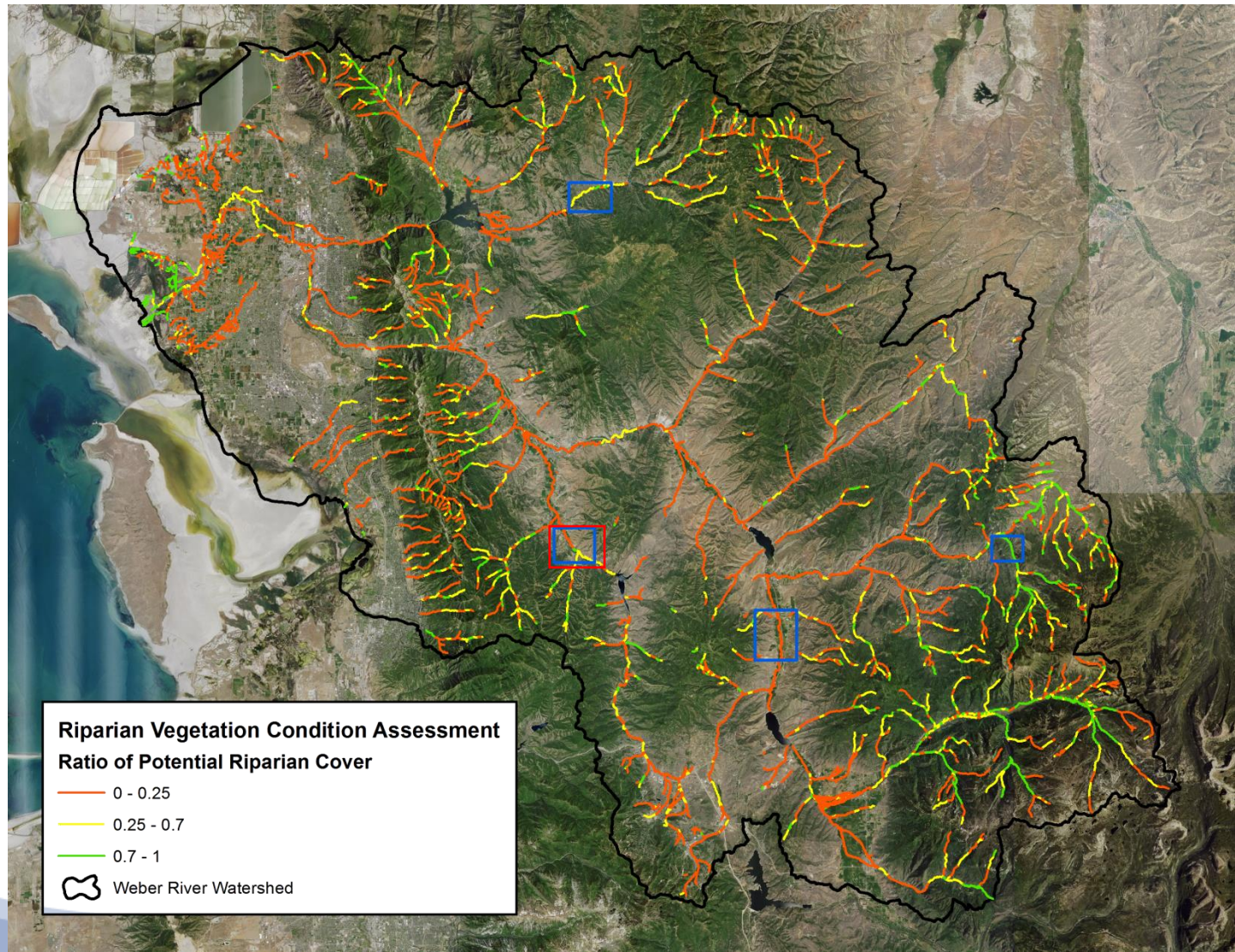
RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (DRAFT RESULTS)



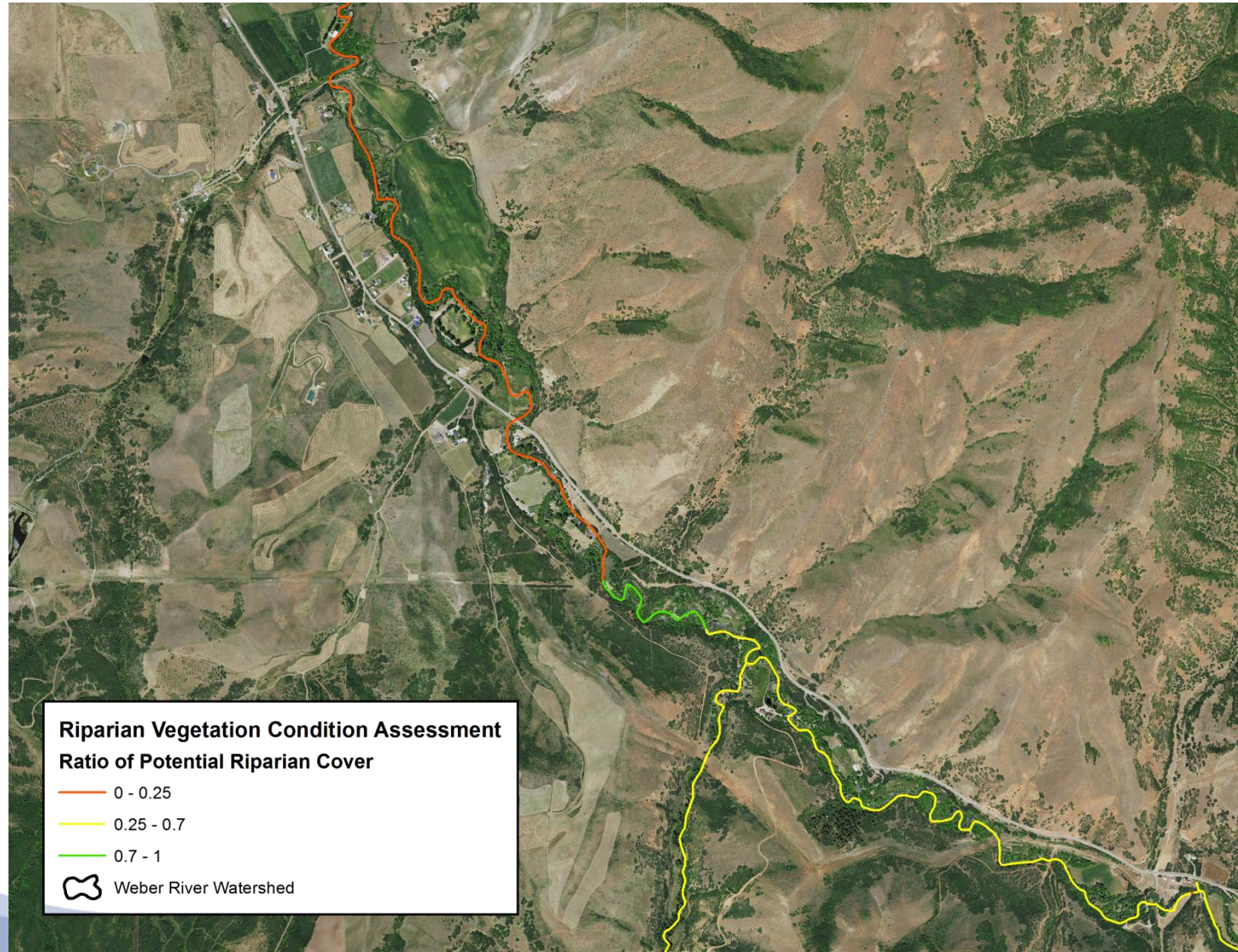
RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (GOOD COND.)



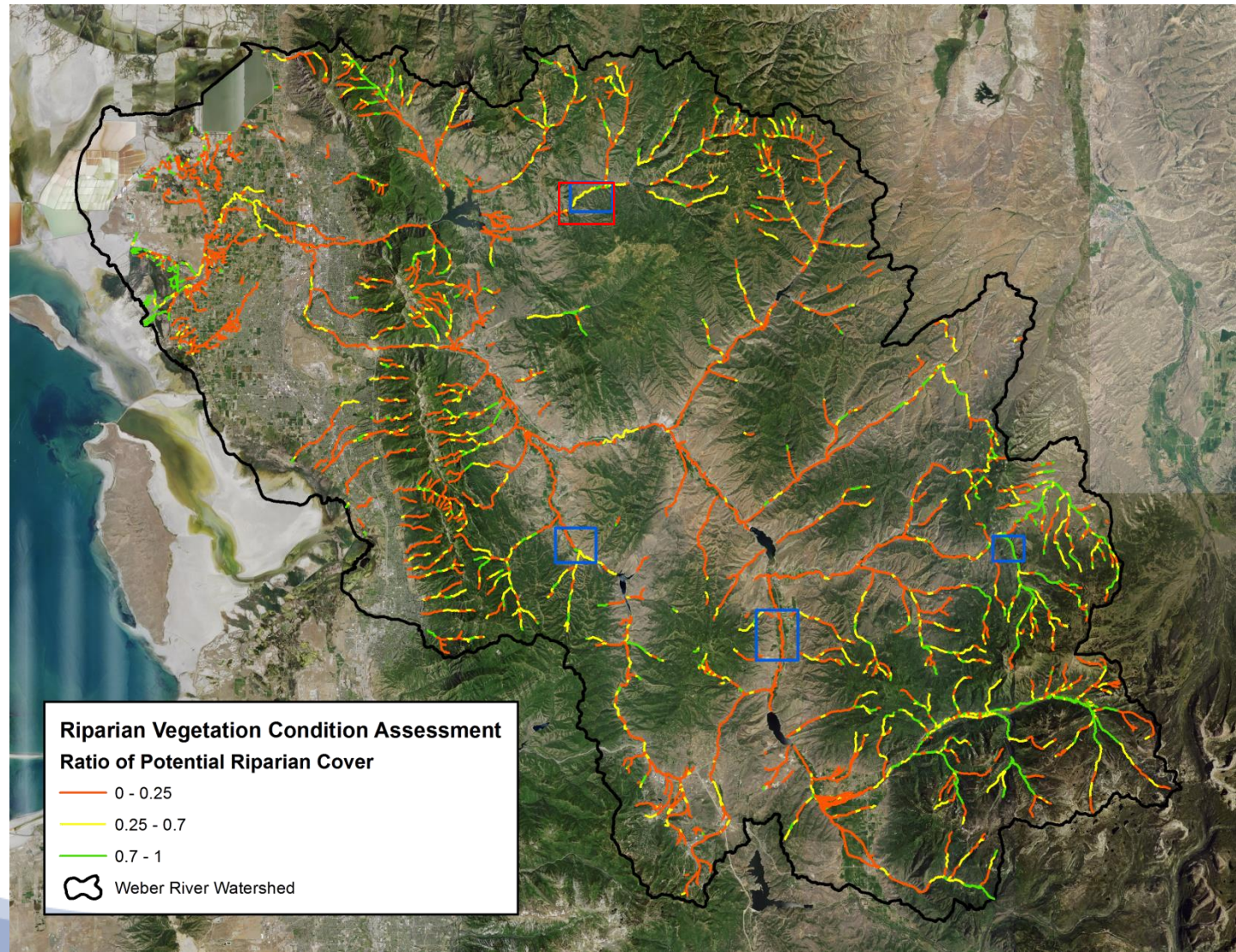
RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (DRAFT RESULTS)



RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (MIXED)



RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (DRAFT RESULTS)



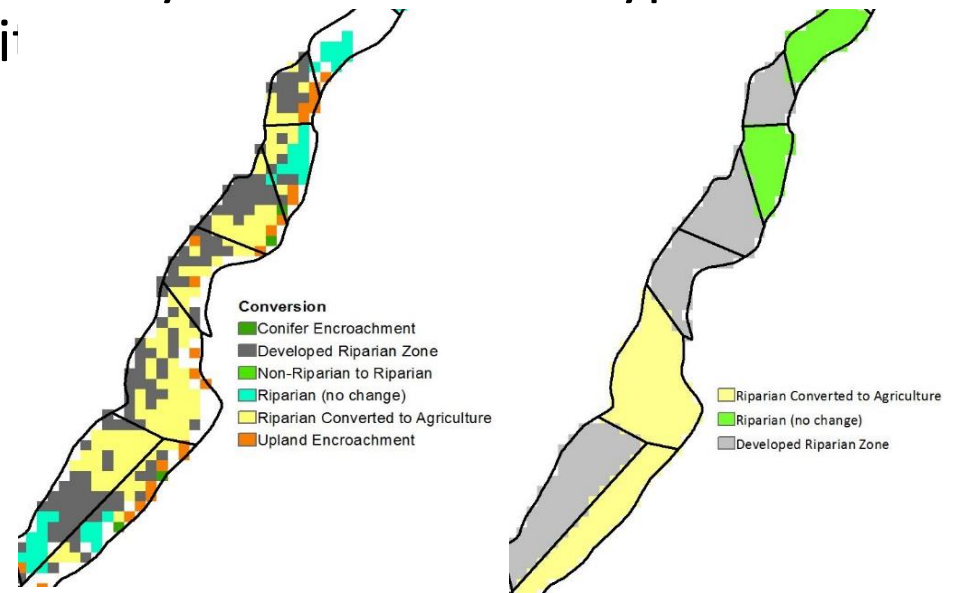
RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION ASSESSMENT (MIXED)

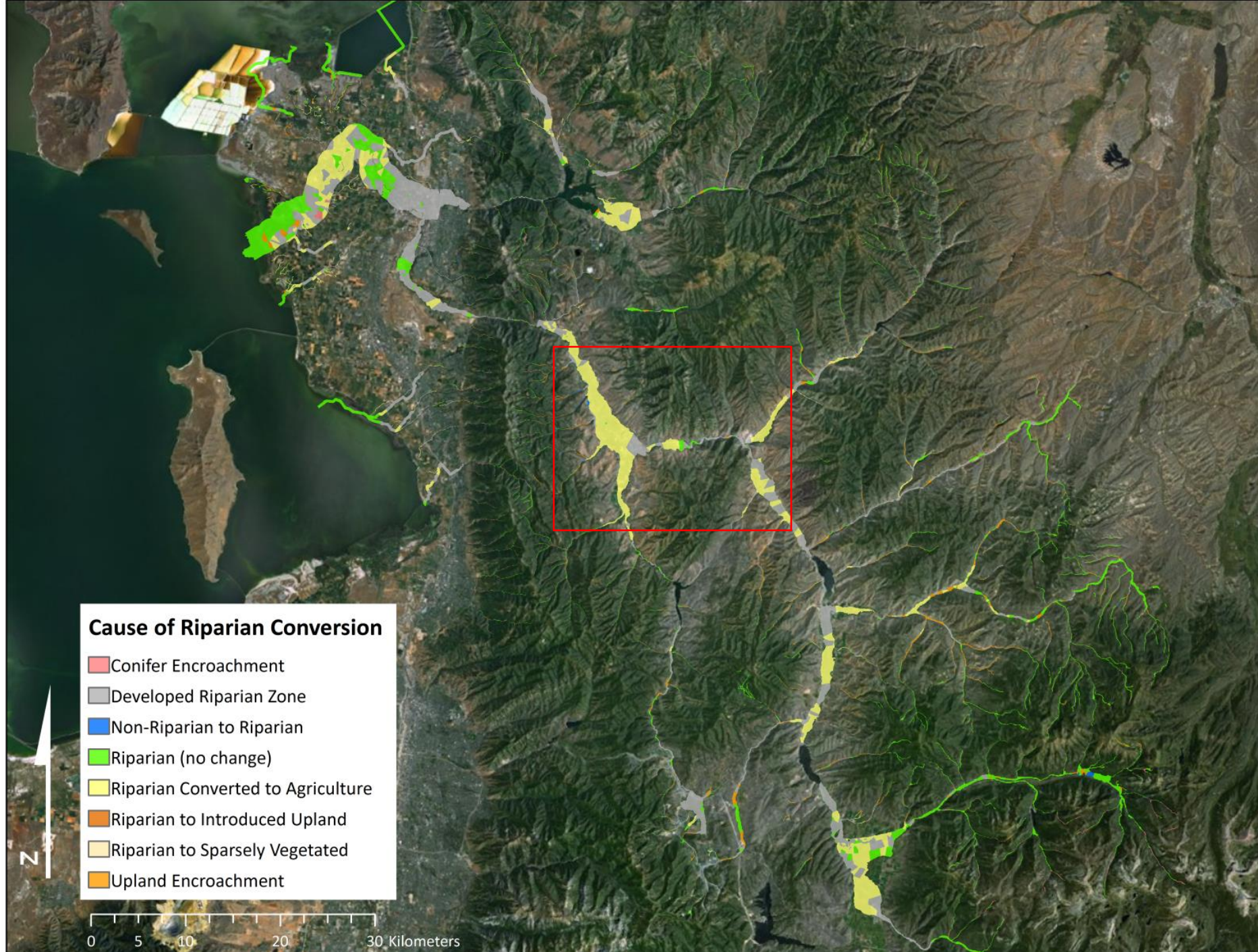


RIPARIAN CONVERSION ASSESSMENT

(PROCESS)

- The Bps and EVT lookup rasters are added together.
 - The pixel values in the new raster represent the type of conversion (i.e. conifer encroachment, conversion to agriculture)
- The number of each type of conversion pixels is counted
- Each polygon is represented by the conversion type with the **majority** of pixels within it

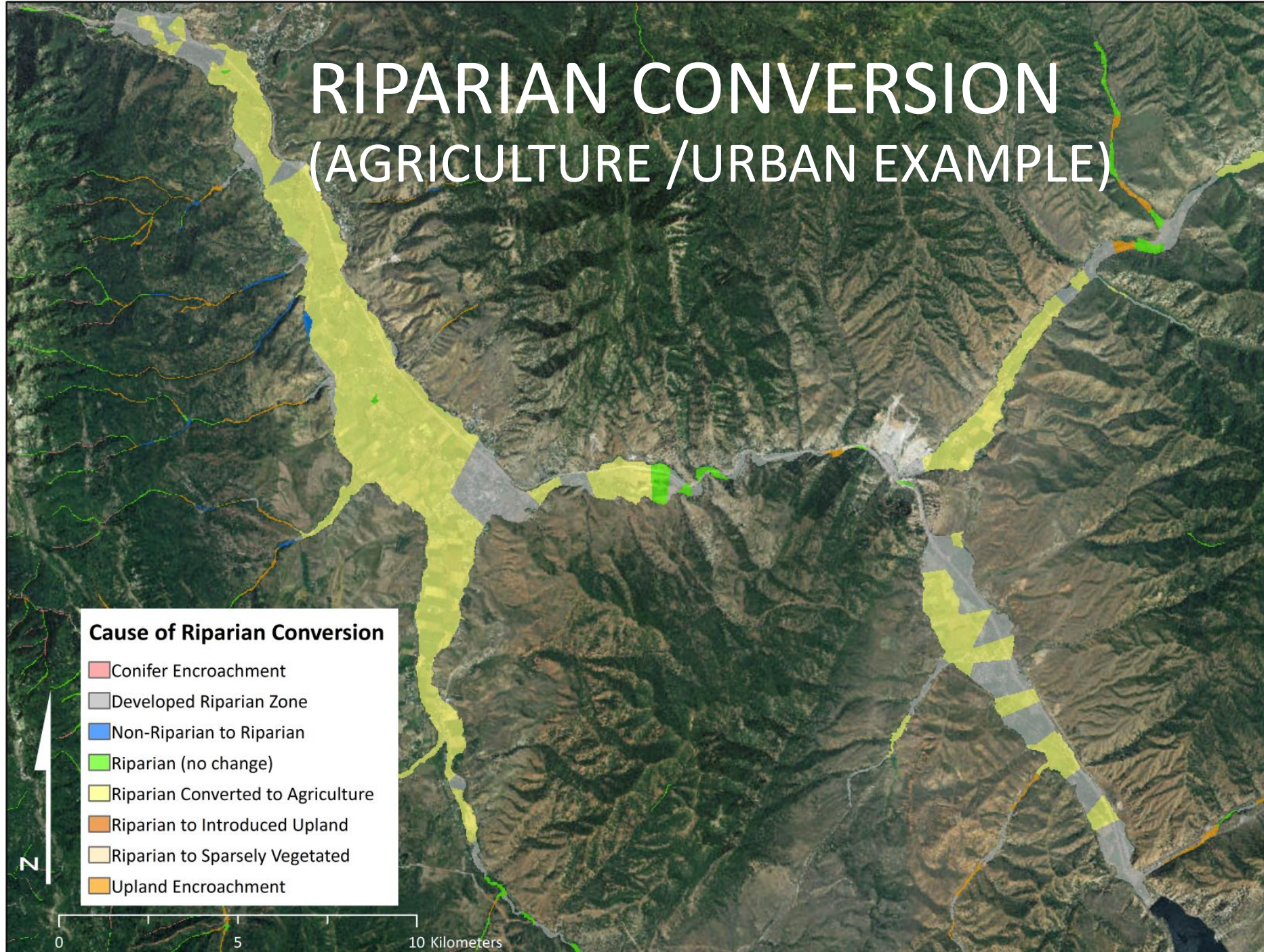




RIPARIAN CONVERSION (AGRICULTURE /URBAN EXAMPLE)

Cause of Riparian Conversion

- Conifer Encroachment
- Developed Riparian Zone
- Non-Riparian to Riparian
- Riparian (no change)
- Riparian Converted to Agriculture
- Riparian to Introduced Upland
- Riparian to Sparsely Vegetated
- Upland Encroachment

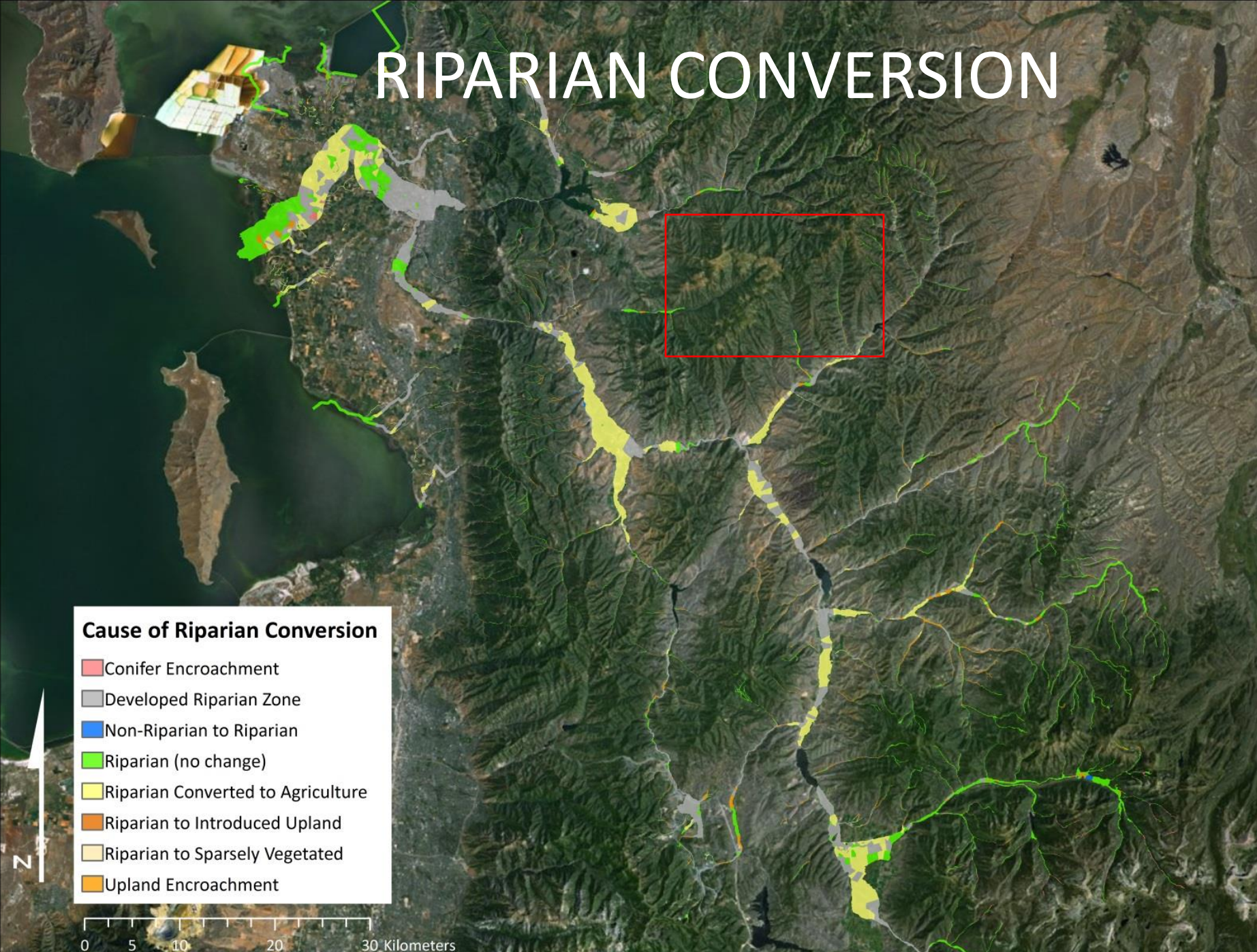


RIPARIAN CONVERSION

Cause of Riparian Conversion

- Conifer Encroachment
- Developed Riparian Zone
- Non-Riparian to Riparian
- Riparian (no change)
- Riparian Converted to Agriculture
- Riparian to Introduced Upland
- Riparian to Sparsely Vegetated
- Upland Encroachment

0 5 10 20 30 Kilometers



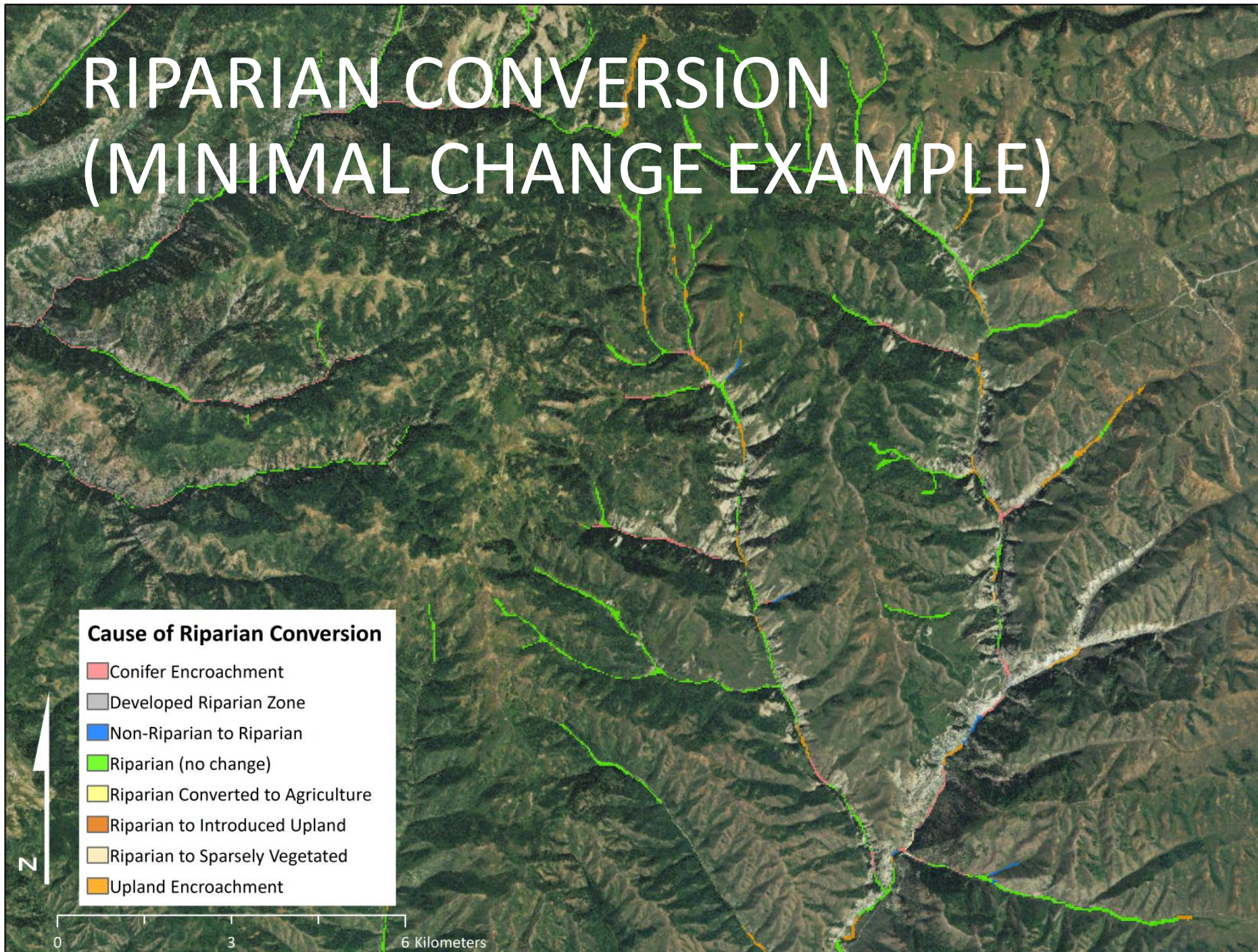
RIPARIAN CONVERSION (MINIMAL CHANGE EXAMPLE)

Cause of Riparian Conversion

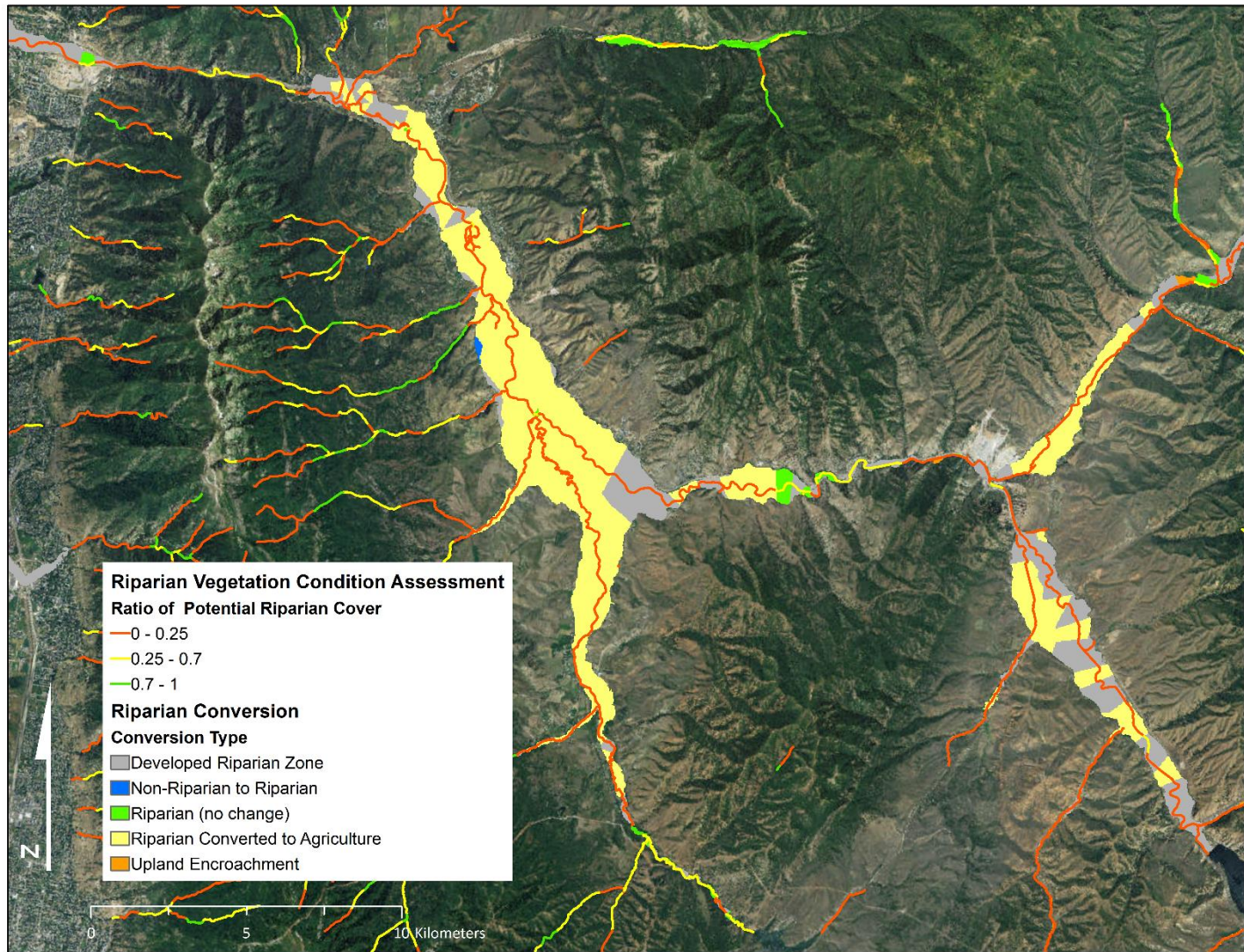
- Conifer Encroachment
- Developed Riparian Zone
- Non-Riparian to Riparian
- Riparian (no change)
- Riparian Converted to Agriculture
- Riparian to Introduced Upland
- Riparian to Sparsely Vegetated
- Upland Encroachment



0 3 6 Kilometers



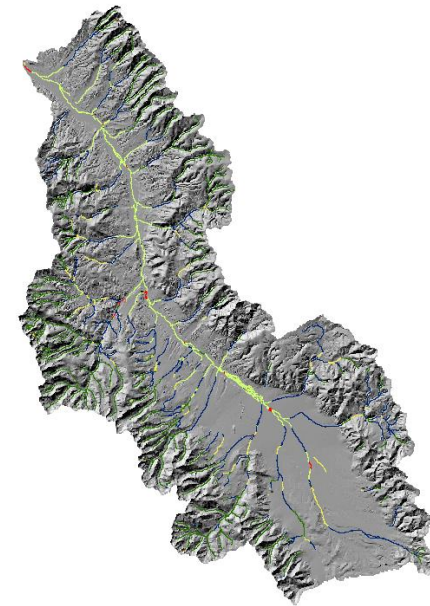
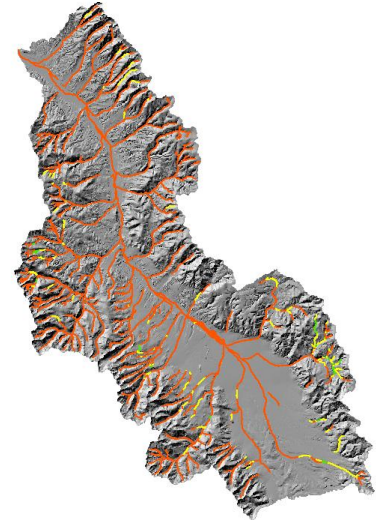
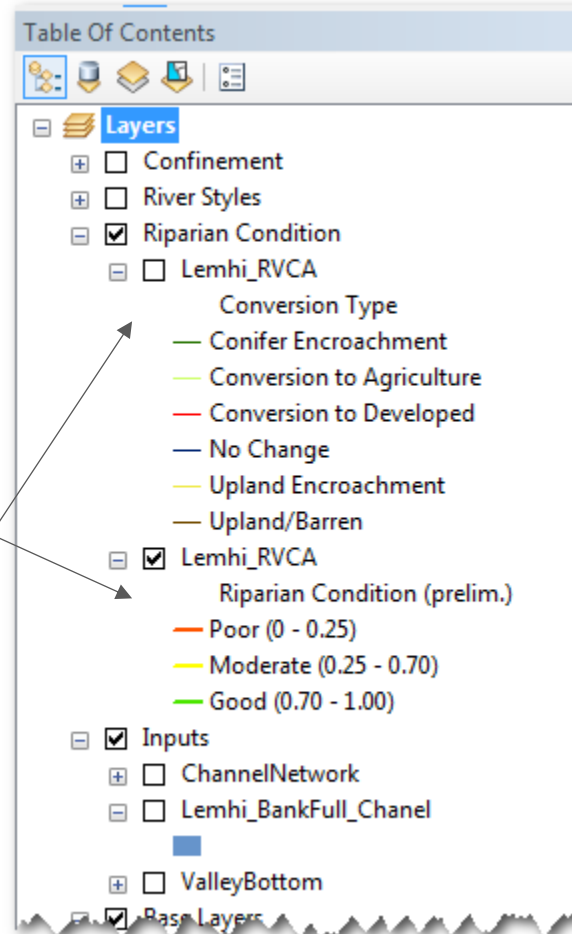
Riparian



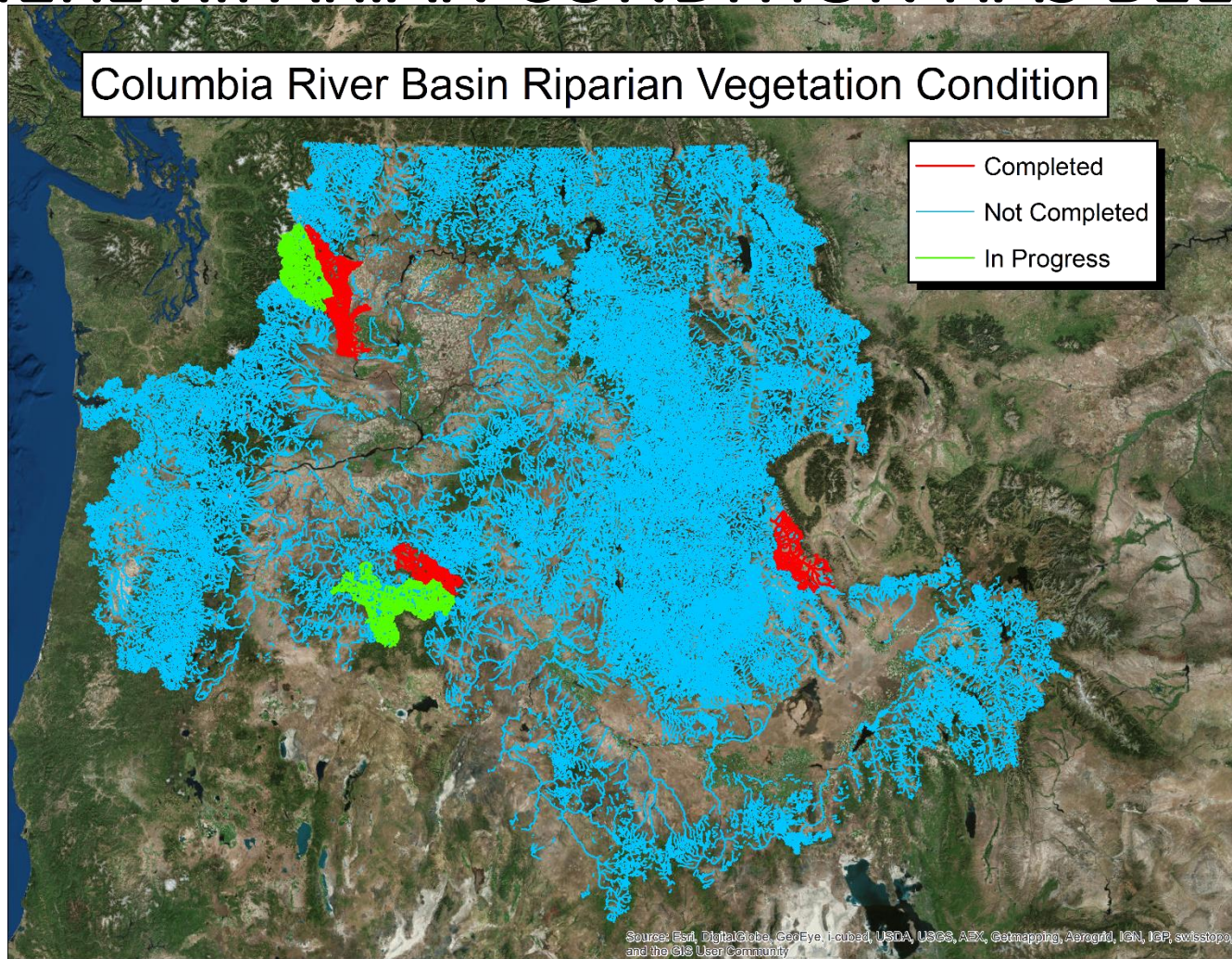
EXERCISE: EXPLORING PRELIMINARY RIPARIAN CONDITION

C:\0_GNAT\CHaMPWorkshopLemhiGNAT.mxd

1. Make sure you have some context turned on (e.g. hillshade or NAIP)
2. Turn off other network layers
3. Turn on only Riparian Condition First
4. Next Explore Conversion Type



WHERE RIPARIAN CONDITION HAS BEEN RUN



- Middle Fork John Day
- South Fork John Day
- Lemhi
- Wenatchee
- Entiat

OUTLINE

GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

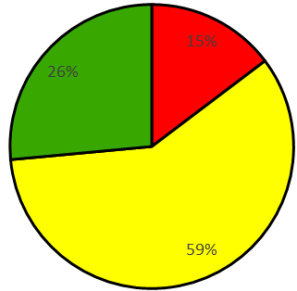
- I. Background
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 - III. Sinuosity
 - III. Reach Typing of CHaMP Basins & CRB
- III. Condition**
- I. Geomorphic Condition
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- III. Habitat & Population Condition**
- IV. Recovery Potential
 - I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential
 - II. Riparian Recovery Potential
 - III. BRAT & WRAT
- V. Future Work

TO-DO

- How good a proxy is riparian condition for geomorphic condition?
- Test using manual assessments of condition in:
 - Asotin Watershed, Washington
 - Middle Fork John Day Watershed, Oregon
 - Tucannon Watershed, Washington
 - Lemhi Watershed, Idaho
 - Wenatchee Watershed, Washington
- If not good, we can manually assess in priority basins
- How does geomorphic or riparian condition contribute to habitat condition?

GEOMORPHIC CONDITION VS. HABITAT CONDITION

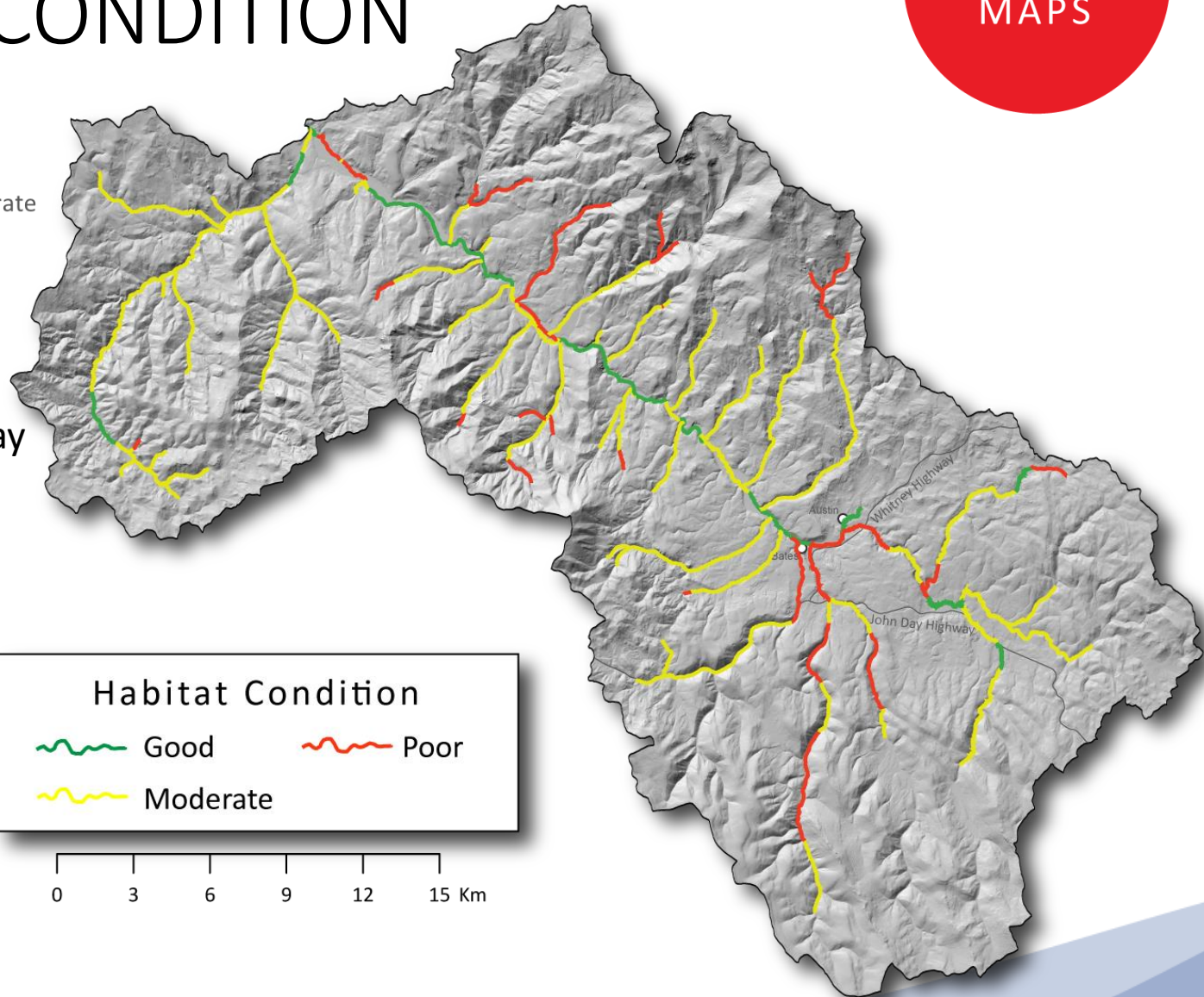
CONDITION MAPS



■ Poor
■ Moderate
■ Good

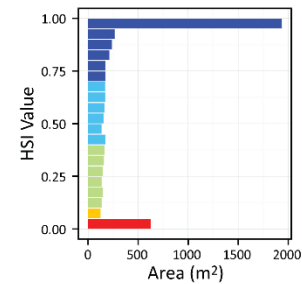
Habitat is species & lifestage specific & may include:

- Geomorphic Condition
- Temperature
- Food Availability



Stage 2 of Brierley & Fryirs (2005)

ALTERNATIVELY, WE MIGHT UPSCALE FISH HABITAT MODEL RESULTS

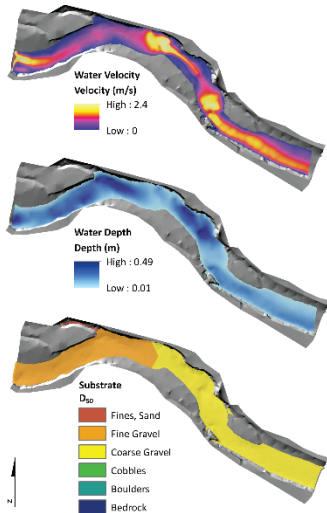


WUA: **3,585 m²**
Normalized WUA: **0.64**

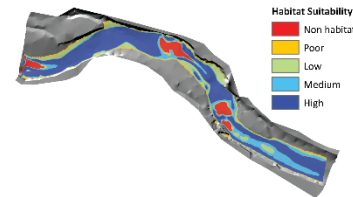
Entiat River Basin, WA
Steelhead Spawner
Normalized Weighted Usable Area
Champ Primary Visits, 2012

Entiat River, Entiat Basin, WA ENT00001-2A9, Visit 1054, 2012

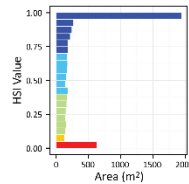
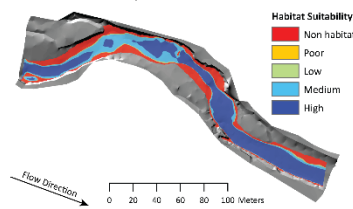
HSI Model Inputs



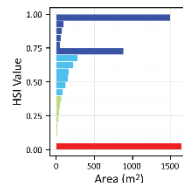
HSI Model Outputs Steelhead Juvenile Habitat Suitability



Steelhead Spawner Habitat Suitability



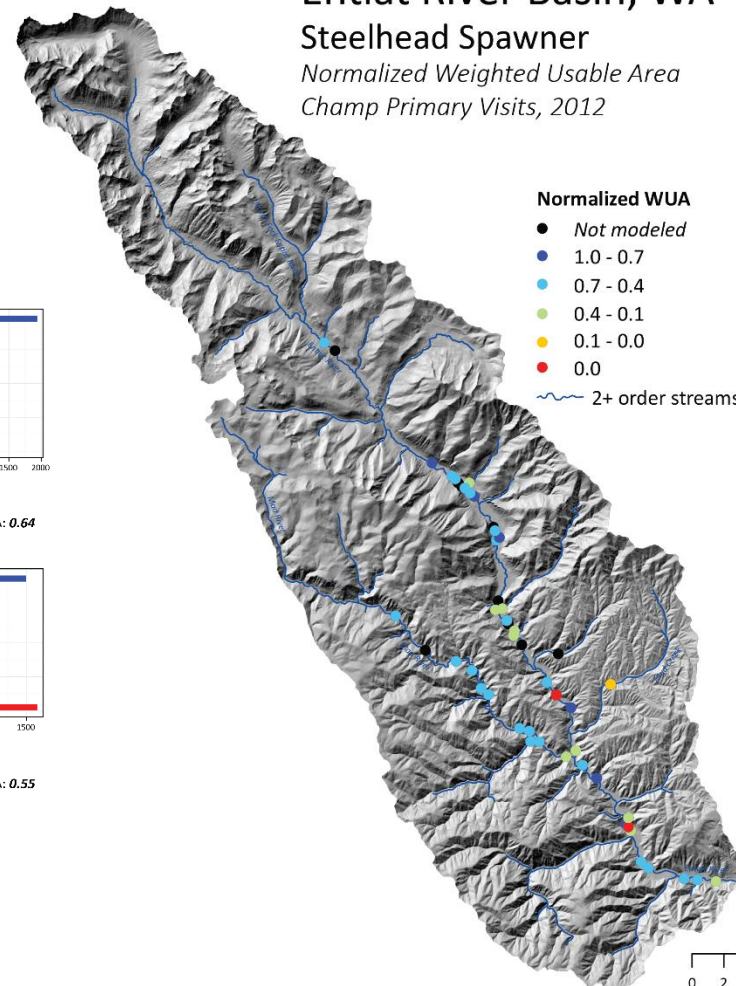
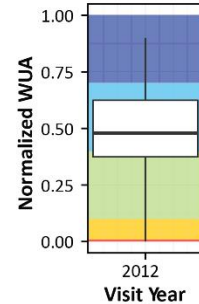
WUA: **3,585 m²**
Normalized WUA: **0.64**



WUA: **3,020 m²**
Normalized WUA: **0.55**

Normalized WUA

- Not modeled
- 1.0 - 0.7
- 0.7 - 0.4
- 0.4 - 0.1
- 0.1 - 0.0
- 0.0
- 2+ order streams






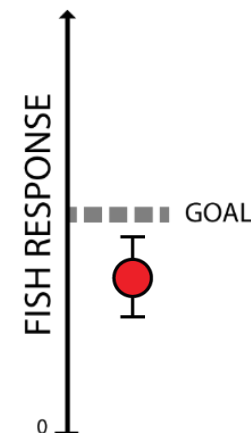
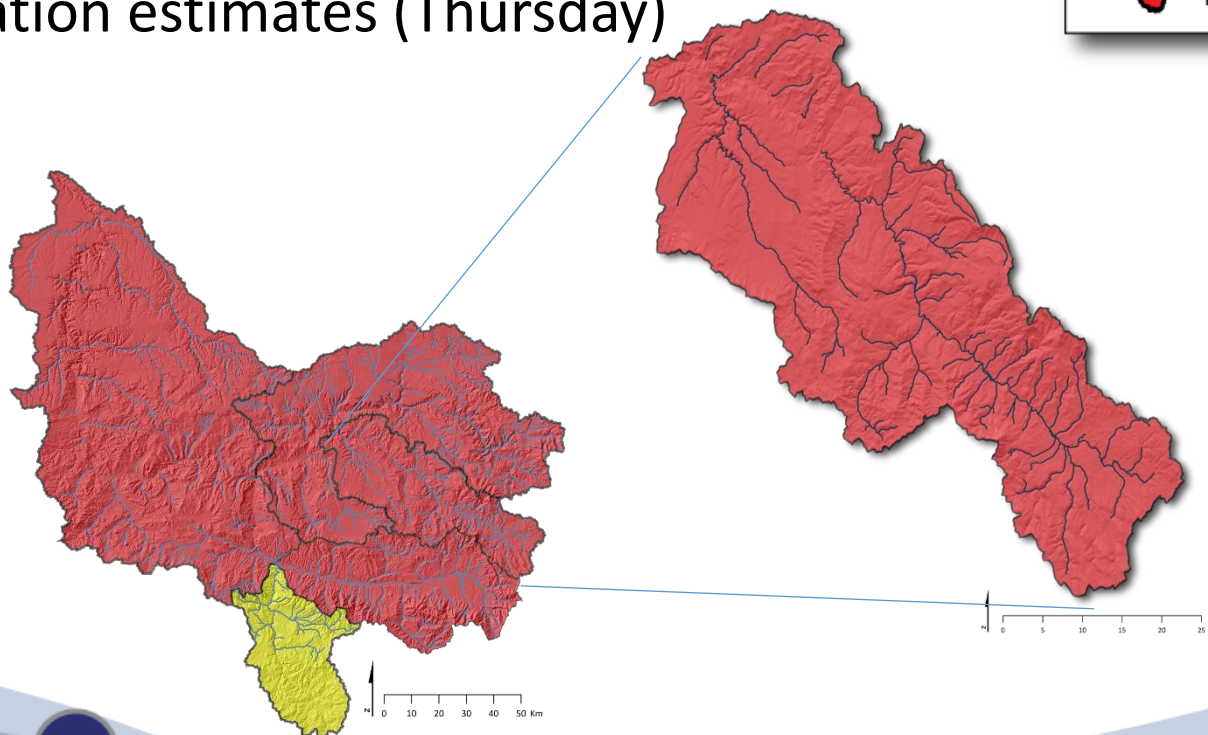
POPULATION CONDITION

- A fish population exists across a fundamentally different scale than habitat actions typically take place...
- Life cycle modelling can translate capacity estimates (from habitat modelling) and survival estimates (from fish monitoring) to population estimates (Thursday)

CONDITION
MAPS

Population Condition

-  Target Met
-  Indistinguishable from Target
-  Below Target



OUTLINE

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- I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential
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- I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential**
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V. Future Work

RS STAGE THREE: RIVER RECOVERY POTENTIAL

GEOMORPHIC CONDITION

STOP LIGHT WATERSHED MAPS

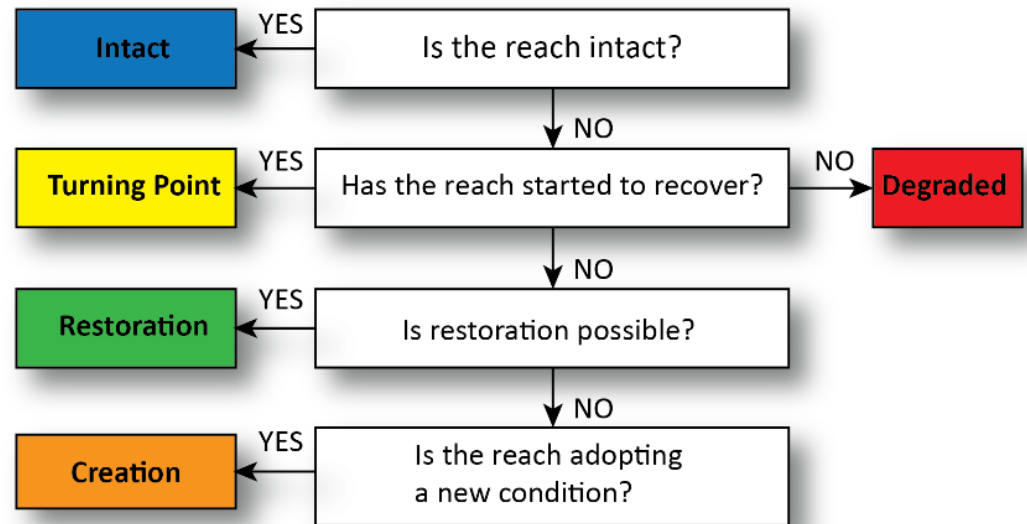
INTACT REACHES

HIGH

MODERATE

LOW

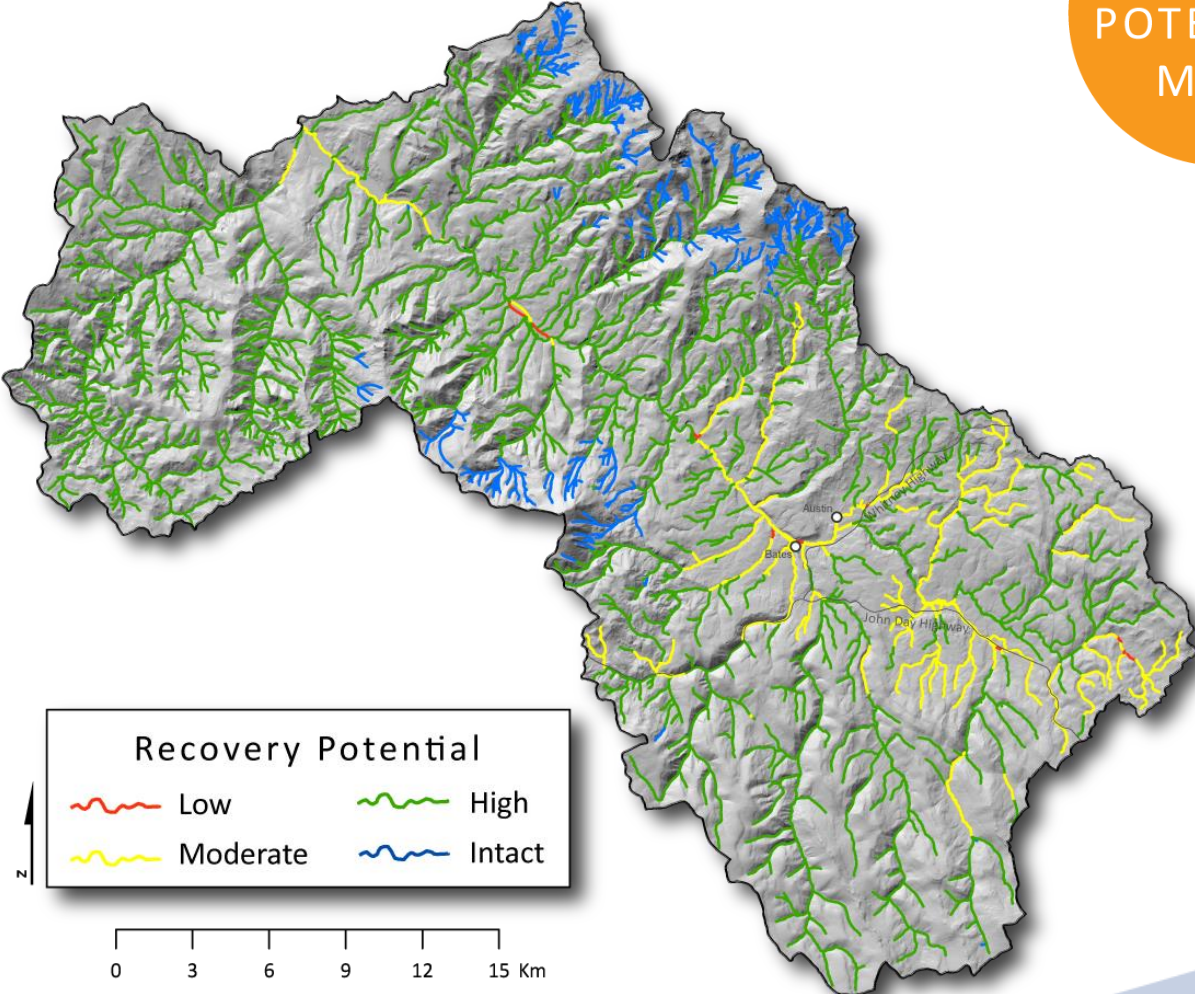
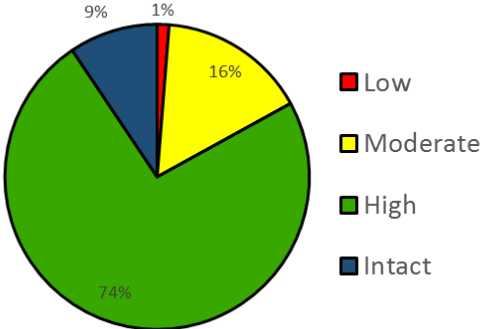
- TRAJECTORY OF CHANGE
- POSITION IN THE CATCHMENT AND LIMITING FACTORS AND PRESSURES
- DETERMINE RECOVERY POTENTIAL



GEOMORPHIC RECOVERY POTENTIAL

RECOVERY
POTENTIAL
MAPS

Geomorphic Recovery Potential

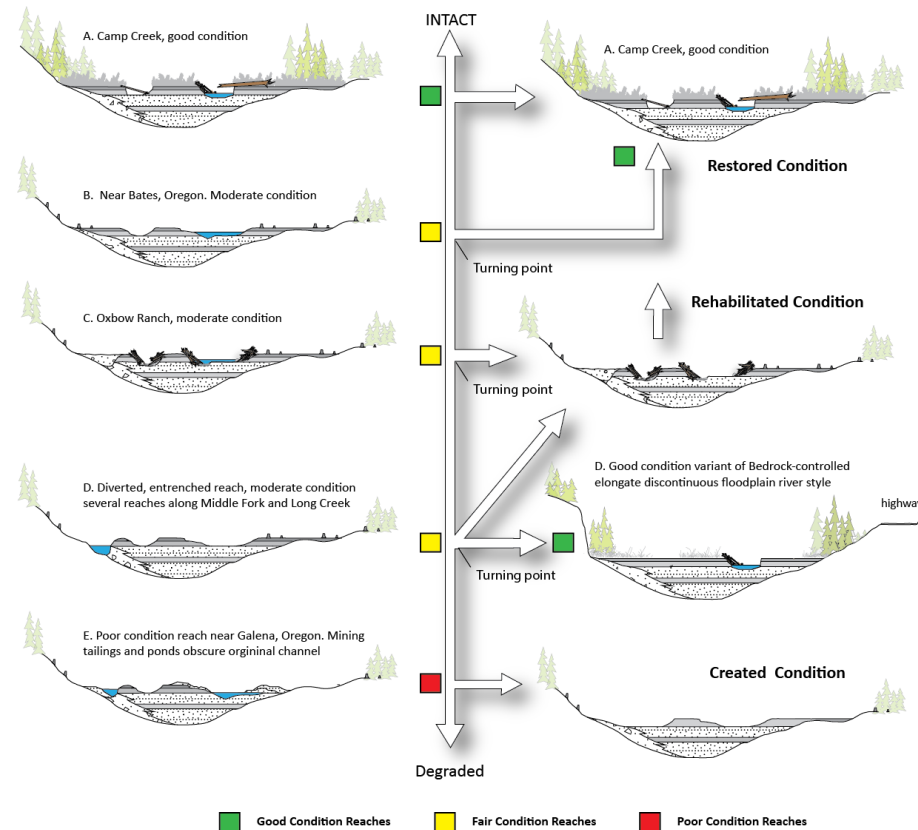
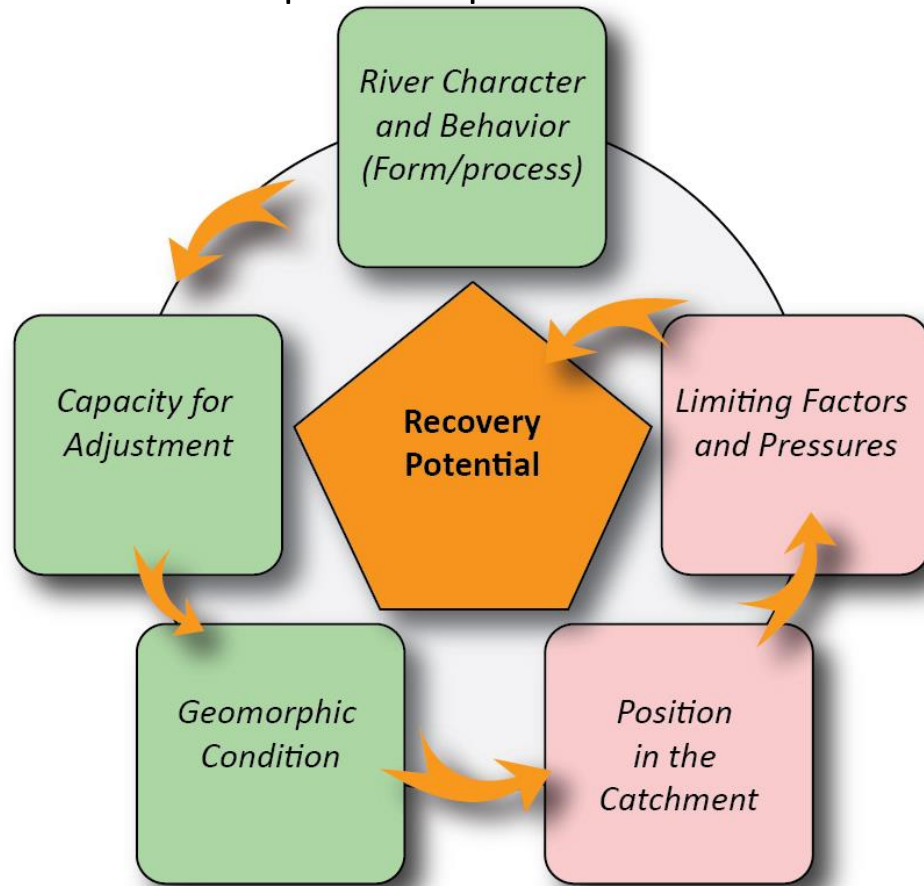


Stage 3 of

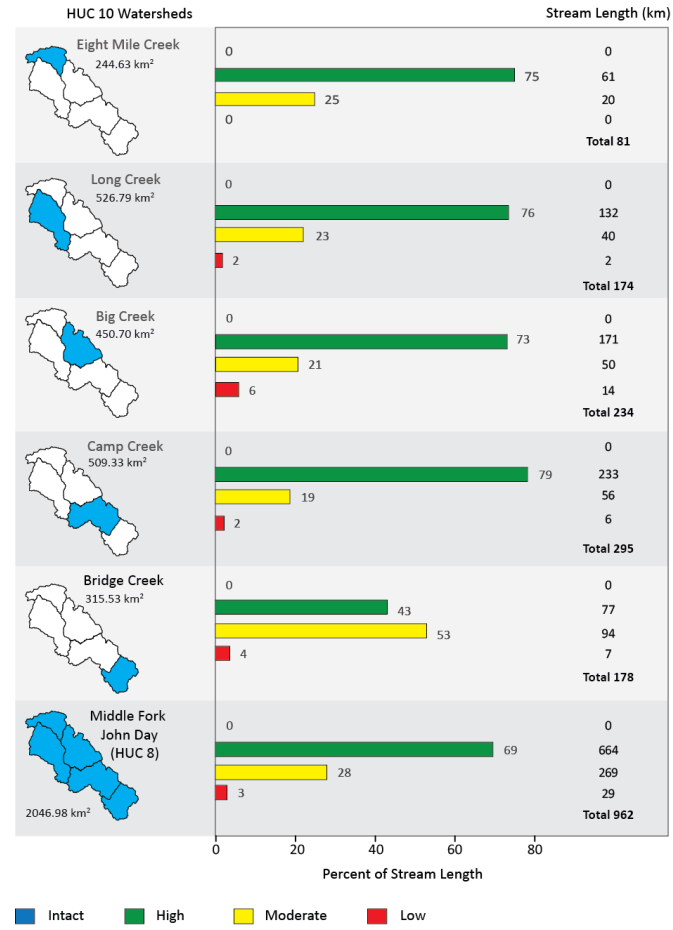
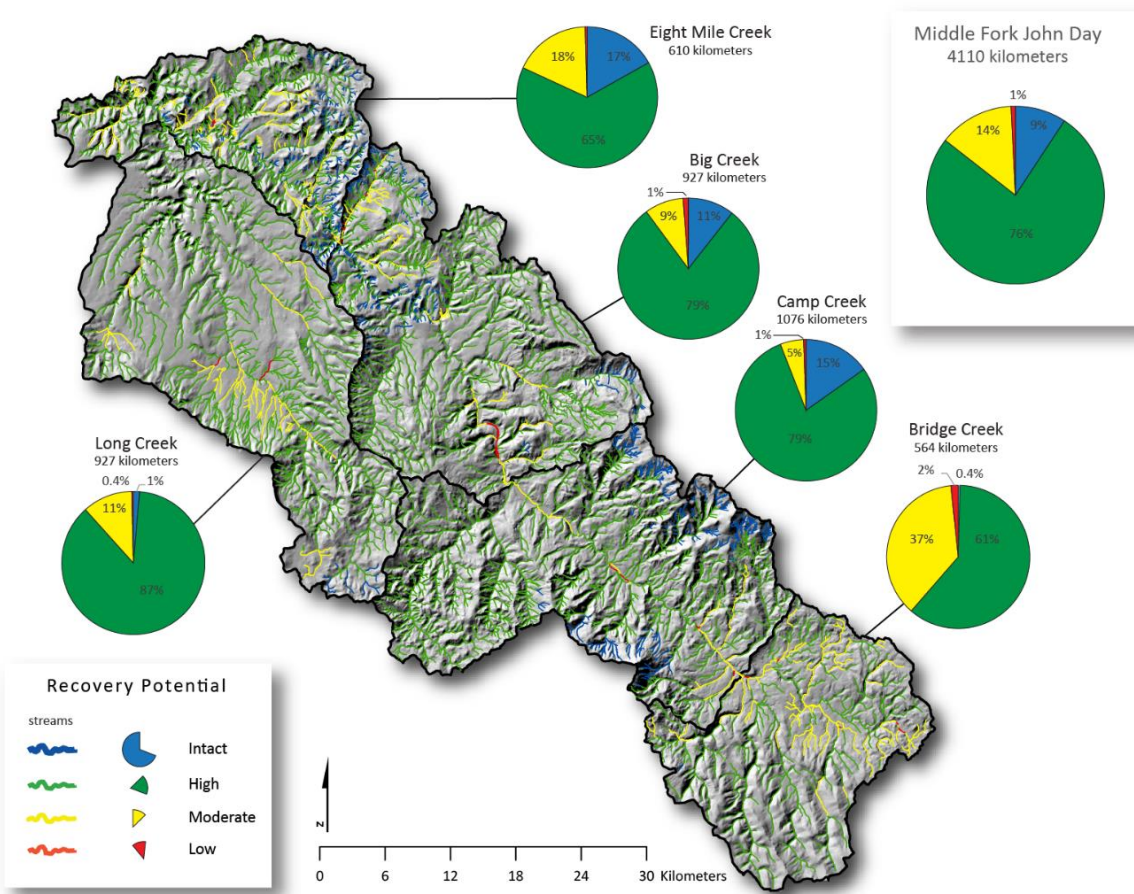


RECOVERY POTENTIAL DRIVERS

Recovery potential driven by condition, watershed position, and development pressures

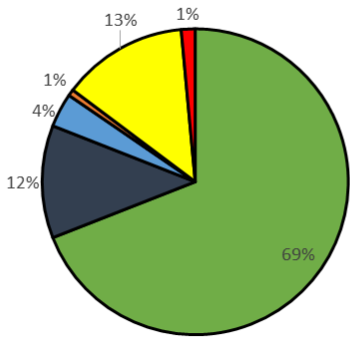


RECOVERY POTENTIAL MAP

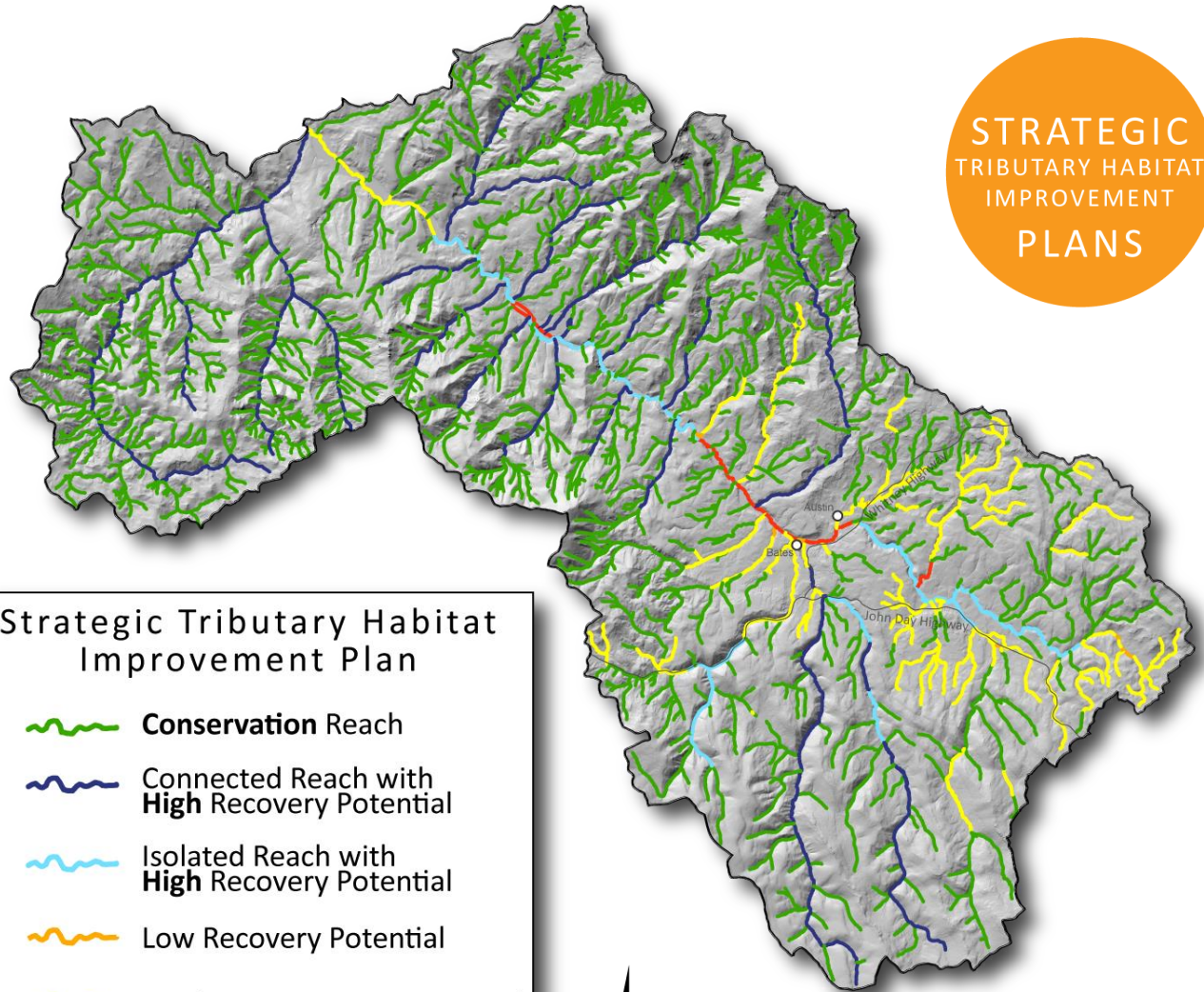


A ~~OPPORTUNISTIC~~ STRATEGIC PLAN...

STRATEGIC
TRIBUTARY HABITAT
IMPROVEMENT
PLANS

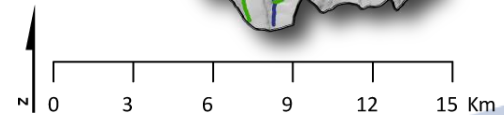


- Conservation Reach
- Connected reach HRP
- Isolated Reach HRP
- Low Recovery
- Moderate Recovery
- Strategic Reach



Strategic Tributary Habitat Improvement Plan

- Conservation Reach**
- Connected Reach with High Recovery Potential**
- Isolated Reach with High Recovery Potential**
- Low Recovery Potential**
- Moderate Recovery Potential**
- Strategic Reach**



Stage 4 of

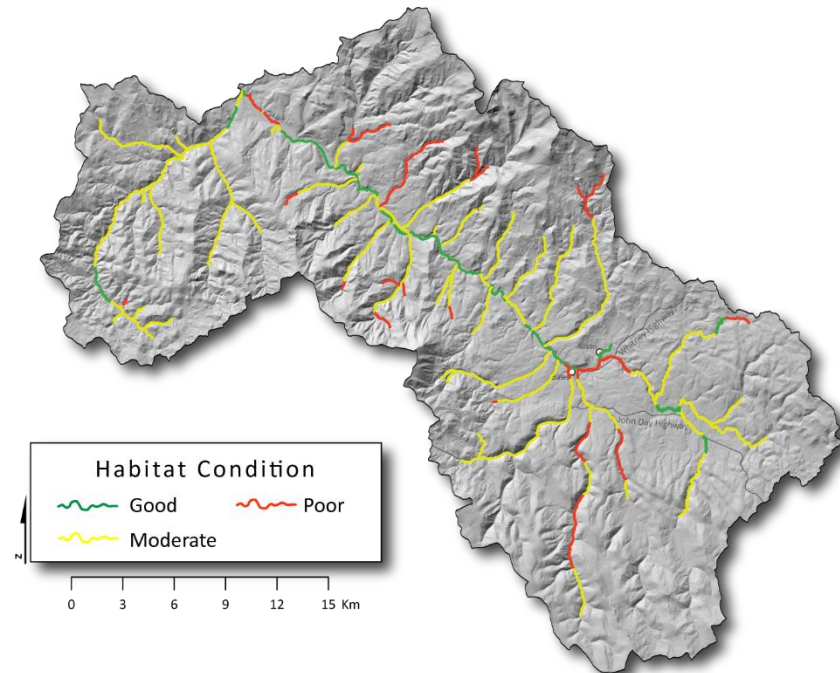
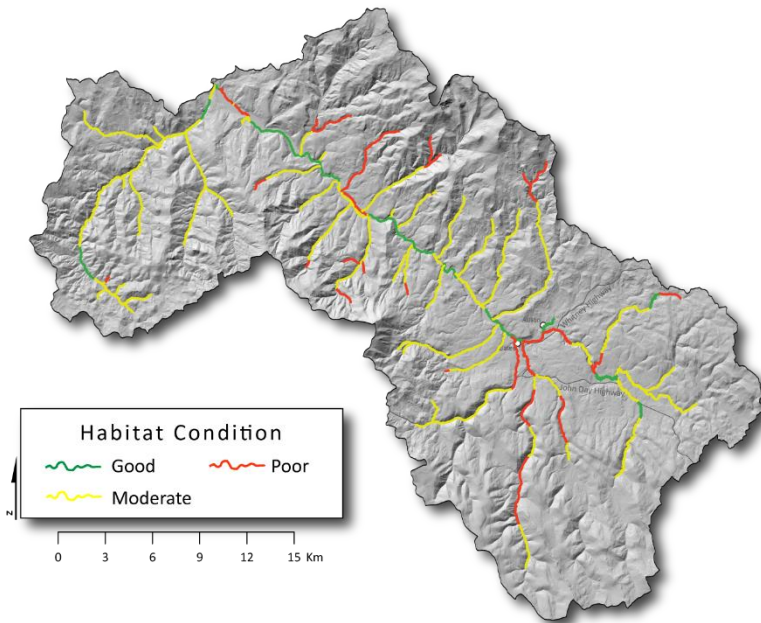


EXPECTATION MANAGEMENT

CONDITION
MAPS

Pre Habitat Condition

+5 Years Habitat Condition

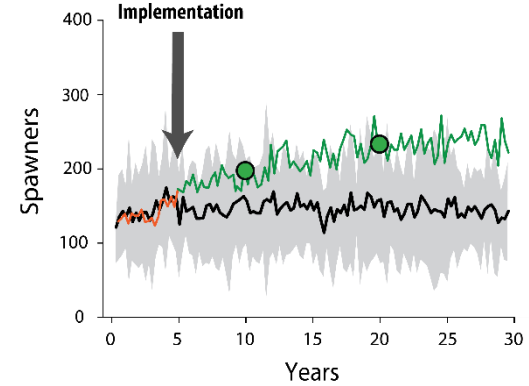
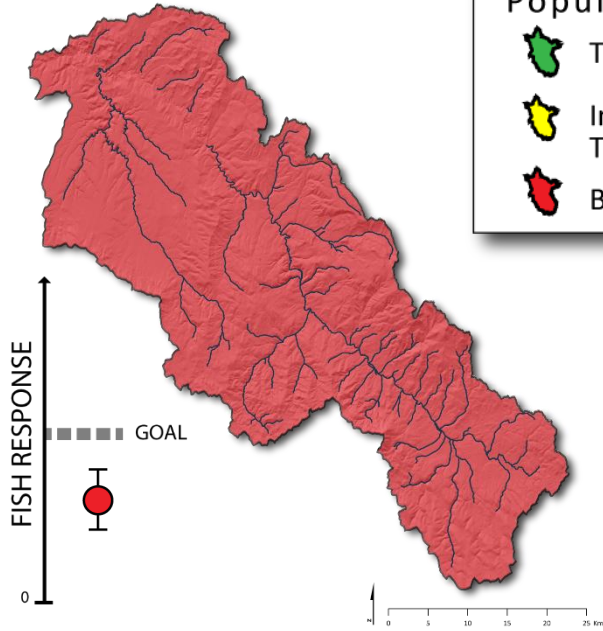
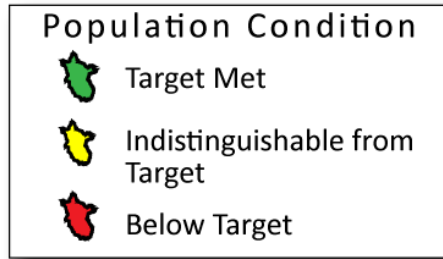


Physical responses may be detected relatively fast...

COMPARING PRE AND POST CONDITION



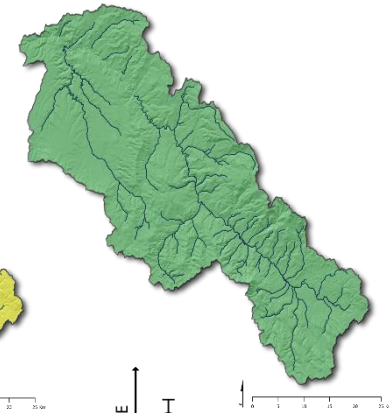
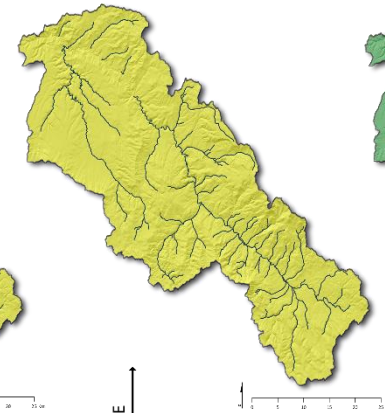
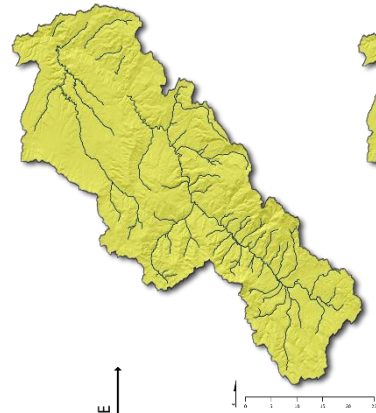
Pre Population Condition



+5 Years

+10 Years

+20 Years



Fish population responses may take longer to detect



Strategic Watershed Management Plan

-  Conservation Reach
-  Connected Reach with High Recovery Potential
-  Isolated Reach with High Recovery Potential
-  Strategic Reach
-  Moderate Recovery Potential
-  Low Recovery Potential

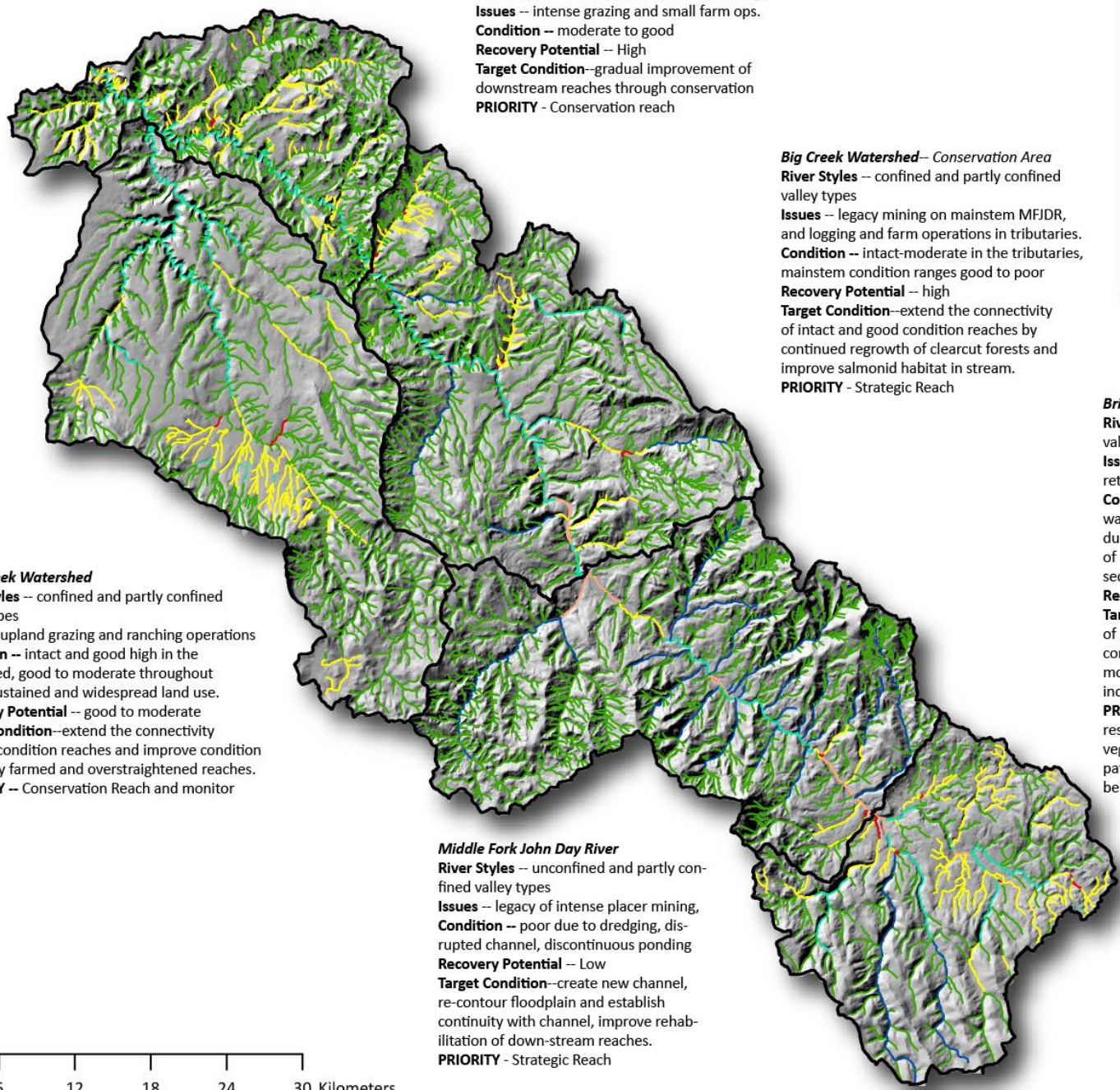
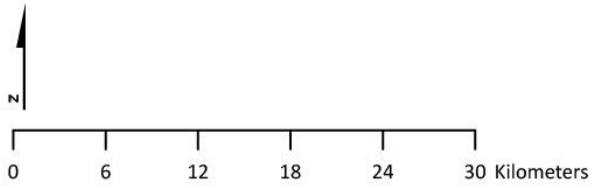
Eight Mile Watershed
River Styles -- mostly confined valley settings
Issues -- intense grazing and small farm ops.
Condition -- moderate to good
Recovery Potential -- High
Target Condition -- gradual improvement of downstream reaches through conservation
PRIORITY - Conservation reach

Big Creek Watershed -- Conservation Area
River Styles -- confined and partly confined valley types
Issues -- legacy mining on mainstem MFJDR, and logging and farm operations in tributaries.
Condition -- intact-moderate in the tributaries, mainstem condition ranges good to poor
Recovery Potential -- high
Target Condition -- extend the connectivity of intact and good condition reaches by continued regrowth of clearcut forests and improve salmonid habitat in stream.
PRIORITY - Strategic Reach

Bridge Creek Watershed
River Styles -- confined and partly confined valley types
Issues -- legacy of logging and mining but retains a healthy salmonid population
Condition -- Intact and good high in the watershed, but fair to poor throughout due to paved highway and redirection of creek through culverts. Good in isolated section in mid-canyon; fair at mouth.
Recovery Potential -- moderate to High
Target Condition -- extend the connectivity of good condition reaches and improve condition of unconfined reaches near mouth through floodplain restoration and increased channel roughness with LWD.
PRIORITY -- Strategic Reach. Must continue restoration work here to improve floodplain vegetation, channel habitat, and natural patterns of channel adjustment currently being retarded by instream structures.

Long Creek Watershed
River Styles -- confined and partly confined valley types
Issues -- upland grazing and ranching operations
Condition -- intact and good high in the watershed, good to moderate throughout due to sustained and widespread land use.
Recovery Potential -- good to moderate
Target Condition -- extend the connectivity of good condition reaches and improve condition of heavily farmed and overstraightened reaches.
PRIORITY -- Conservation Reach and monitor

Middle Fork John Day River
River Styles -- unconfined and partly confined valley types
Issues -- legacy of intense placer mining,
Condition -- poor due to dredging, disrupted channel, discontinuous ponding
Recovery Potential -- Low
Target Condition -- create new channel, re-contour floodplain and establish continuity with channel, improve rehabilitation of down-stream reaches.
PRIORITY - Strategic Reach



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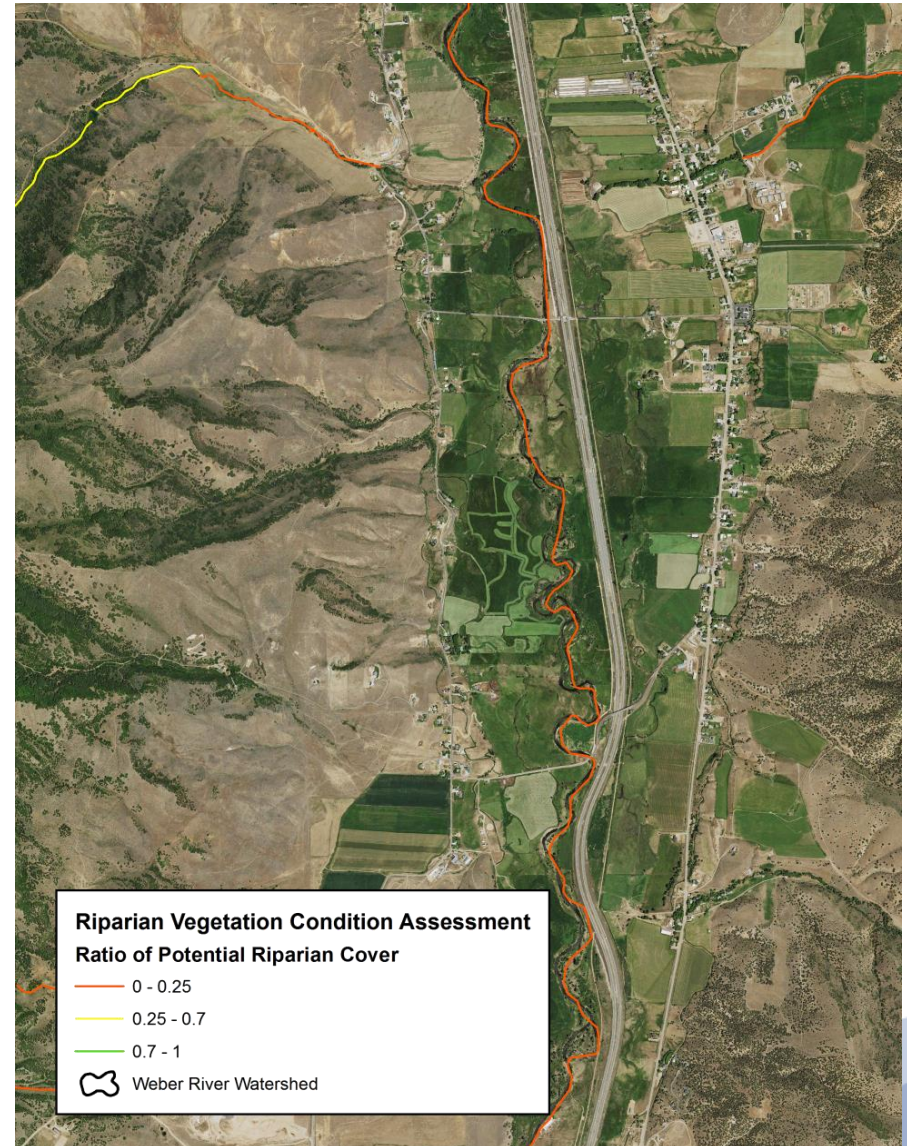
IV. Recovery Potential

- I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential
- II. Riparian Recovery Potential**
- III. BRAT & WRAT

V. Future Work

RIPARIAN RECOVERY POTENTIAL

- In the works...
- How do anthropogenic realities constrain restoration & recovery potential?
- Order of difficulty:
 - Urban Development
 - Mining
 - Interstates/ Railroads
 - Invasive Species
 - Arable Agriculture
 - Grazing



OUTLINE

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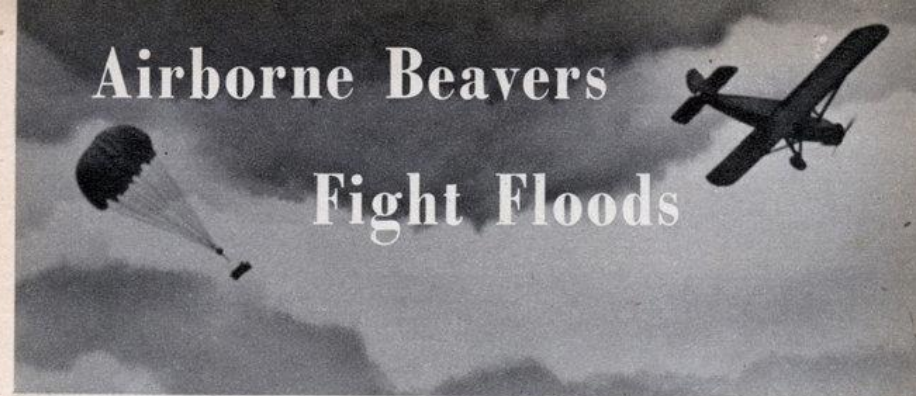
V. Future Work

LETS TALK ABOUT...

- Cheap & Cheerful Restoration
 - Because you don't have endless budgets and the spatial scope of your problems are extensive
- One example involving a rodent...



HALWD



Airborne Beavers Fight Floods

OUT in Idaho, the Department of Fish and Game is teaching eager beavers to yell "Geronimo!" These busy little creatures are being dropped by parachute to terrain where they can do their bit in the conservation battle.

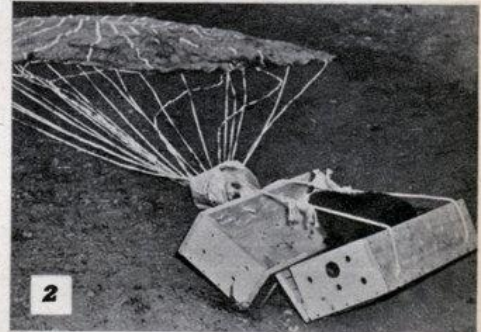
Idaho state caretakers trap unwanted beavers which may be a nuisance in certain areas, round them up at central points and pack them in pairs in specially constructed wooden crates. After they are dropped, the boxes remain closed as long as there's some tension on the parachute shrouds but pull open as soon as the chute collapses on the ground. Then, out crawl Mama and Papa beaver, ready to start work.

After they're settled, the 40-pound, web-footed rodents multiply and become outpost agents of flood control and soil conservation. Fur supervisor John Smith reports that in carefully observed early operations, the beavers headed straight for water and started building a new dam within a couple of days.

However, one problem still remains to be solved—a question of ethics more than conservation. *Are these eager beavers bona fide members of the Caterpillar Club?* •



1



2



3

1. Boxed for travel, this beaver is placed in a crate designed by Scotty Heter, left.
2. Rubber bands pull the box apart when the chute hits the ground, freeing the animals.
3. Heading for water, the airborne beavers start working like beavers on their new dam.

PERCEIVED + IMPACTS OF DAM BUILDING

Beaver and Climate Change Adaptation in North America

A Simple, Cost-Effective Strategy

WILDEARTH GUARDIANS

Grand Canyon Trust

The Lands Council



A Report from



SEPTEMBER 2011



- Slow snowmelt runoff
- Create ponds, wetlands & critical habitat for fish, amphibians, small mammals, vegetation
- Increased groundwater recharge/ elevated water tables
- Dam complexes increase system roughness & resilience
- Increased LWD
- Change timing, delivery and storage of water, sediment and nutrients

POPULARITY GROWING RAPIDLY RECENTLY



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- 3 of 12 Ready for More From Liz and Dick?
- What If the 'Right Way' Is Wrong?

A-HED

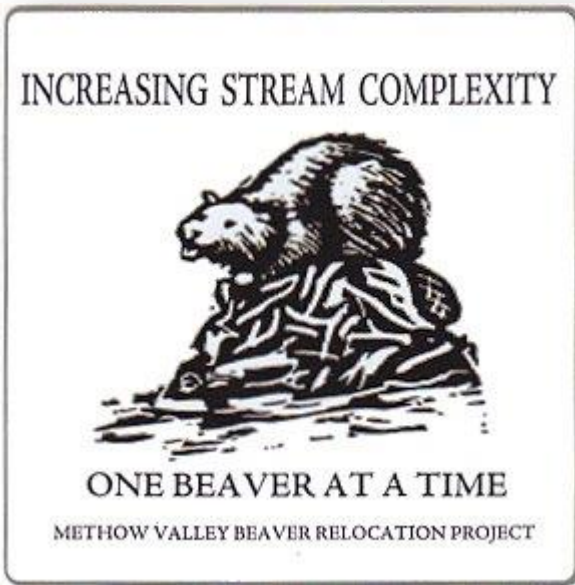
With Trouble on the Range, Ranchers Wish They Could Leave It to Beavers

Critters, Once Reviled, Gain Popularity With 'Believers'; a Good Rodent Is Hard to Find

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...ts his beavers back.

...h on Beaver Creek outside Kinnear, Wyo., has been beaver-free for ...ould sure use their help now. A small beaver colony, he says, would ...t raise the water table under his pastures, opening up drinking holes for



So the 64-year-old rancher put himself on a waiting list this year hoping state officials would bring him a beaver or two. Wyoming's Game and Fish Commission periodically plucks the rodents from drainage culverts.

It's a bit of a turnabout in these parts, where beavers have long been considered something of a nuisance—blamed for

npr

Beavers Offer Solution to Climate Change

by DAVID MALAKOFF
May 03, 2008 4:00 PM

Listen to the Story
All Things Considered

In the Southwest U.S., biologists are talking about returning beavers to rivers they once inhabited in order to fight droughts — which are expected to get worse as the globe warms. Beaver dams create great sponges that store lots of water.

Transcript

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SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT...

- The ecosystem engineer is very experienced
- Most the species we care about have co-evolved with this engineer
- The science is conceptually solid... but fairly qualitative
- Precautionary Principle?
- The cost is one of the most compelling arguments from a restoration perspective



The River Discontinuum: Apply Beaver Modifications to Baseline Conditions for Restoration of Forested Headwaters

DAVID BISHOP, MELISSA HANDEL, ROBERT THORSON, AND JASON WICKHAM

Problem and policy options across the United States...
The United States is home to over 6000 rivers and streams...
The United States is home to over 6000 rivers and streams...
The United States is home to over 6000 rivers and streams...

Beaver dams, hydrological thresholds, and controlled floods as a management tool in a desert riverine ecosystem, the Williams River, Arizona

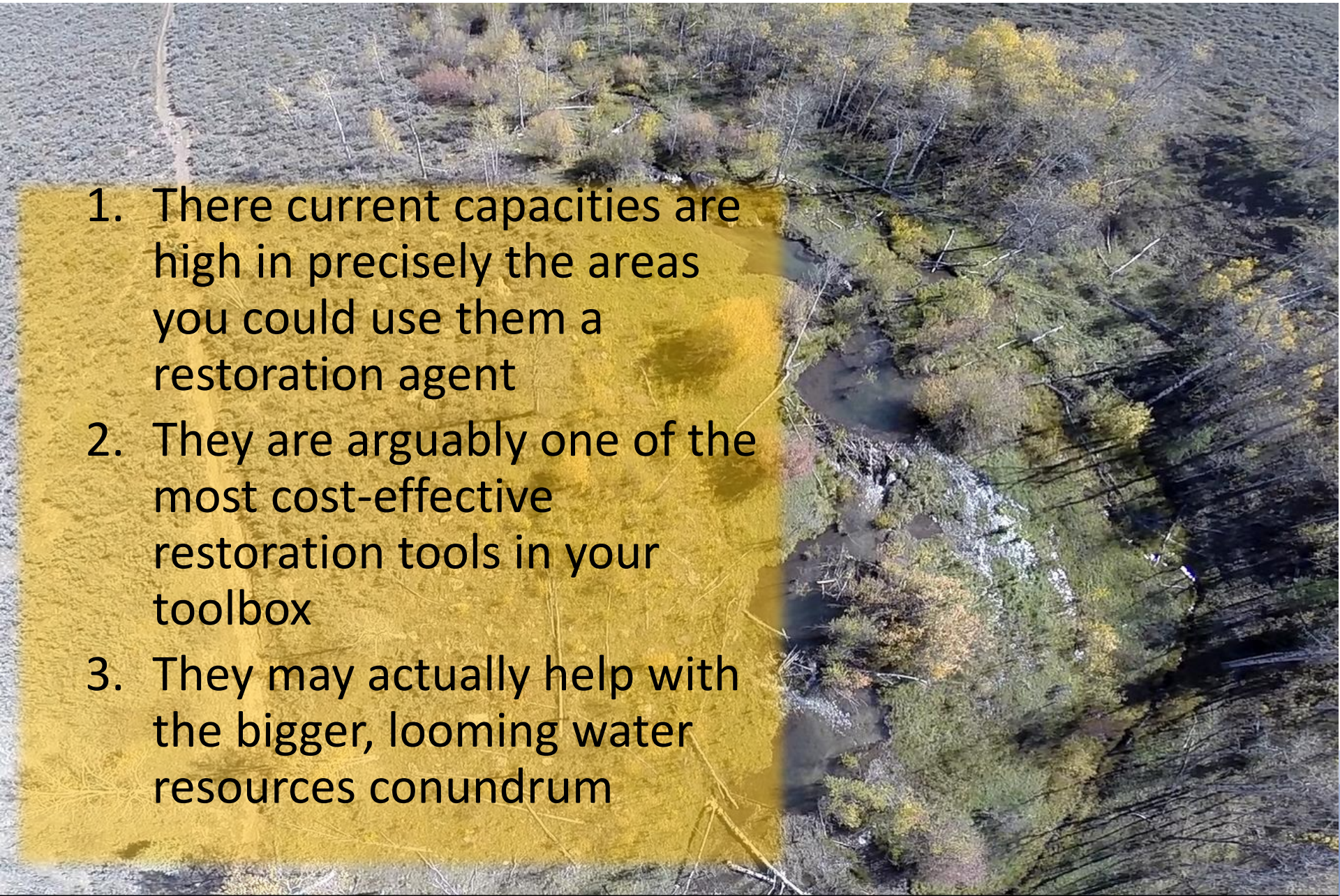
Douglas C. Anderson¹ and Patrick B. Shafiq²

ABSTRACT
Beaver dams have been built in North America since the 19th century...
Beaver dams have been built in North America since the 19th century...
Beaver dams have been built in North America since the 19th century...

INTRODUCTION
Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) have been used as a natural...
Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) have been used as a natural...
Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) have been used as a natural...

WHY SHOULD YOU CARE ABOUT BEAVER?

1. Their current capacities are high in precisely the areas you could use them as a restoration agent
2. They are arguably one of the most cost-effective restoration tools in your toolbox
3. They may actually help with the bigger, looming water resources conundrum



BRAT – BEAVER RESTORATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

BEAVER RESTORATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

Search this site



BRAT Resources

BRAT

Vision

Documentation

Manual Implementation of
Capacity Models

Workshops

Escalante Pilot Project

Beaver Restoration Information

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Welcome to the BRAT website. The **Beaver Restoration Assessment Tool** will be a decision support and planning tool intended to help researchers and resource managers assess the potential for beaver as a stream conservation and restoration agent over large regions and watersheds.

The BRAT models can be run with widely available existing data sets, and used to identify opportunities, potential conflicts and constraints through a mix of assessment of existing resources and scenario-based assessment of potential futures. The primary backbone to BRAT are some spatial models that predict the capacity of riverscapes to support dam-building activity by beaver. These models have been tested in a pilot project in Utah and are ready for broader implementation. The rest of the decision support tool is under development (read [Vision here](#)).



The
WALTON FAMILY
FOUNDATION



ECOFLIGHT



- Wally MacFarlane
- Martha Jensen
- Jordan Gilbert
- Jordan Burningham



<http://brat.joewheaton.org>

BRAT OUTPUTS IN A NUTSHELL

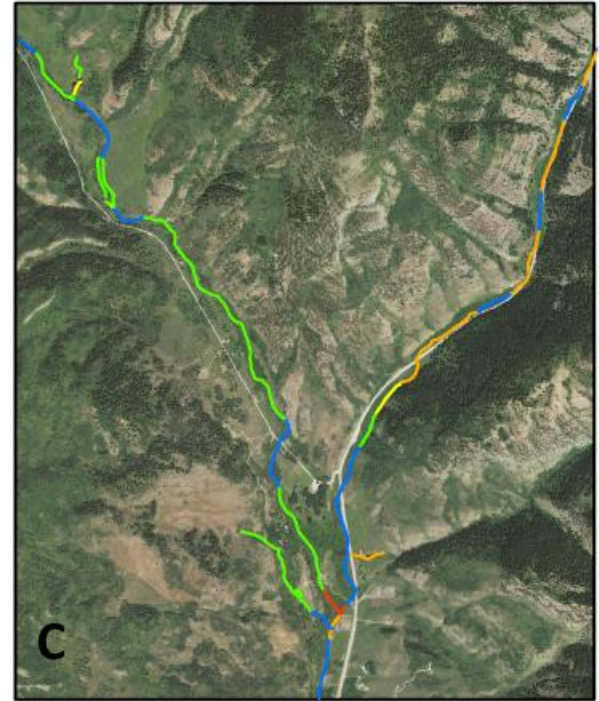
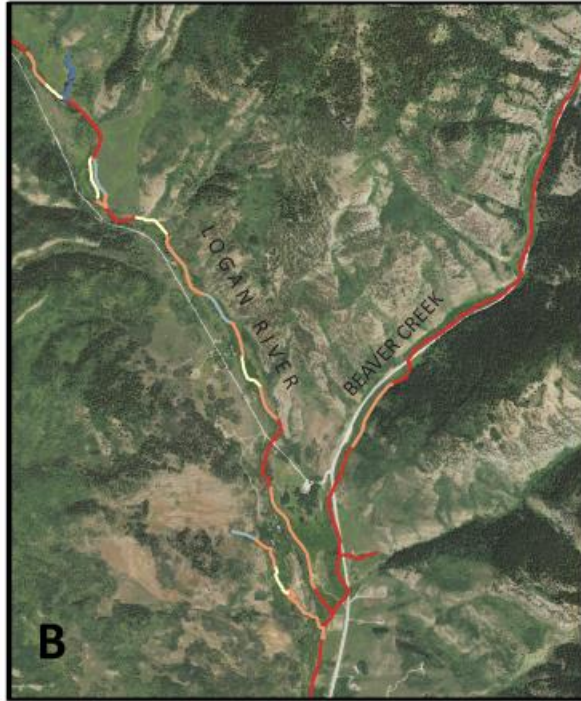
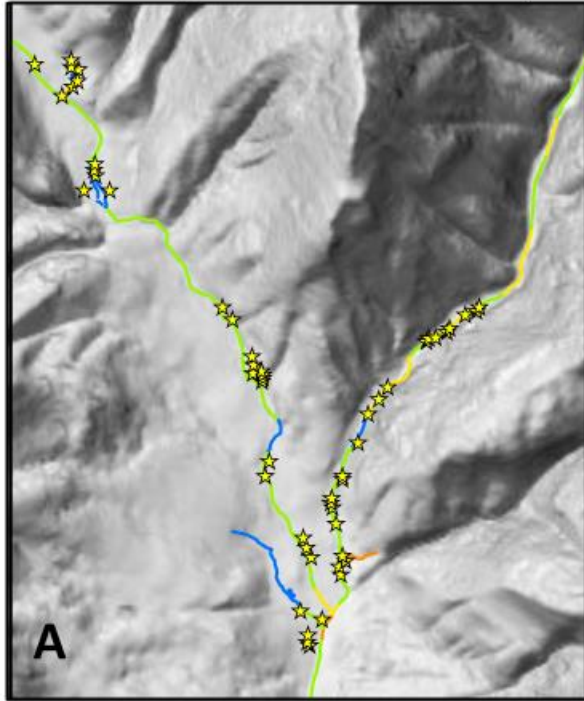


- Existing & Historic Capacities → Potential Conflict → Management

Existing Beaver Dam Capacity

Potential for Human Beaver Conflict

Ecosystem Management

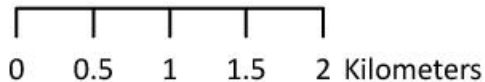


☆ Actual Beaver Dams

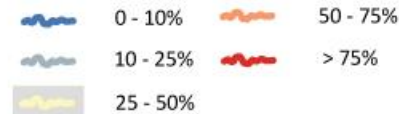
Maximum Dam Density (dams/km)

0 - None 0 - 1 Rare 1 - 4 Occasional

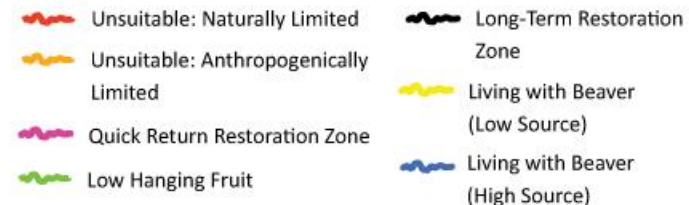
5 - 15 Frequent 16 - 40 Pervasive



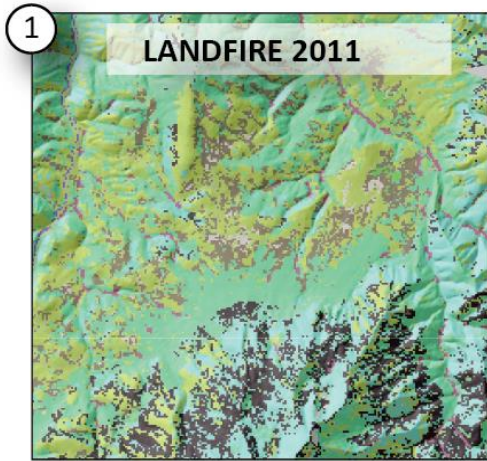
Probability of Conflict



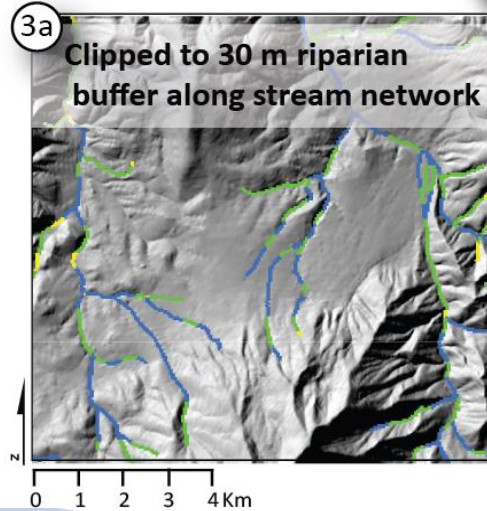
Beaver Management Zones



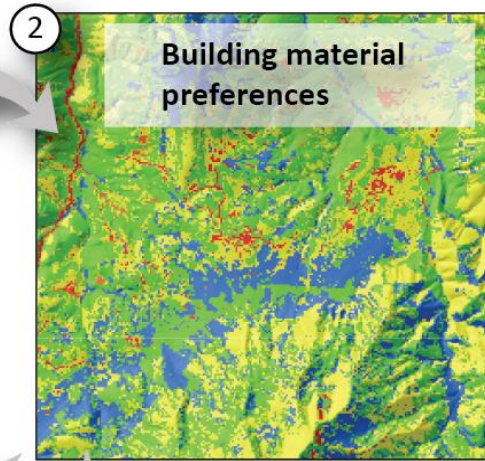
FLOW DIAGRAM: VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION



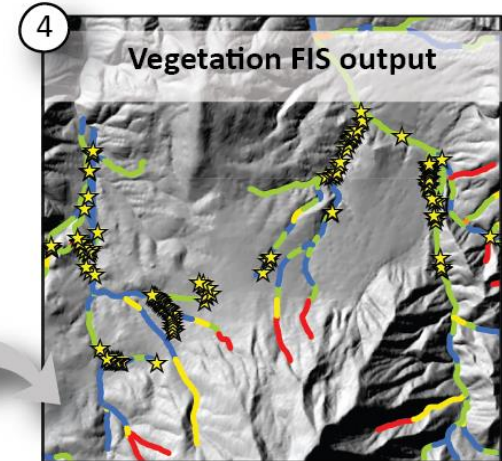
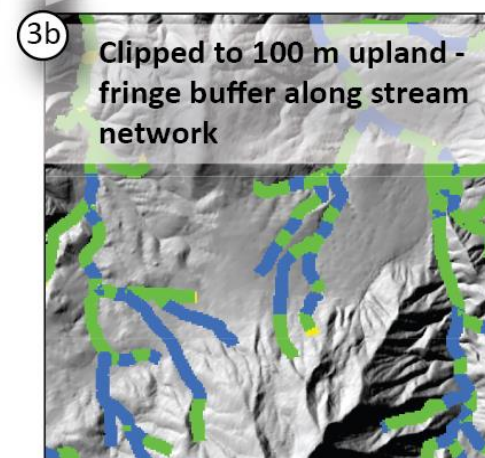
- Conifer
- Shrubland
- Grassland
- Hardwood
- Sparsely vegetated
- Conifer-hardwood



0 1 2 3 4Km



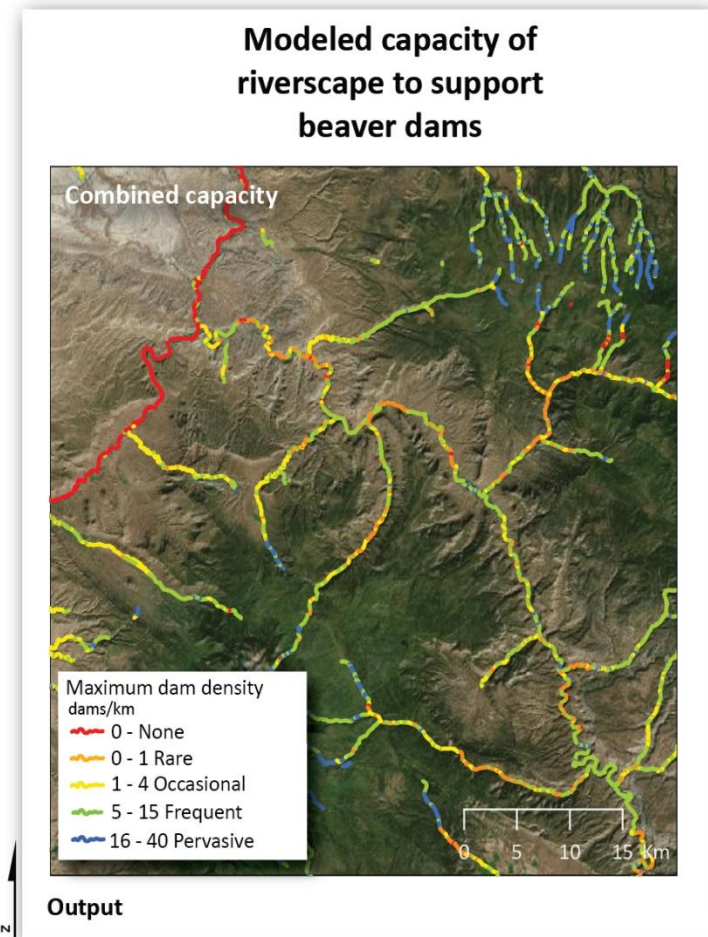
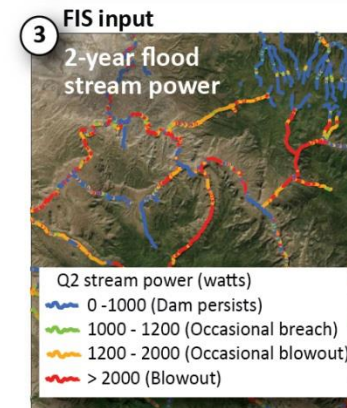
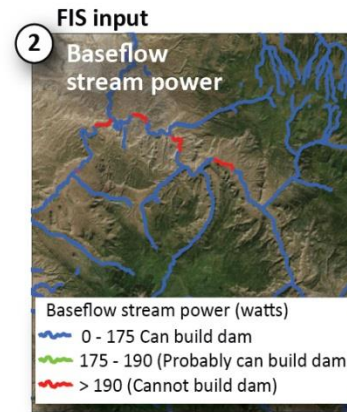
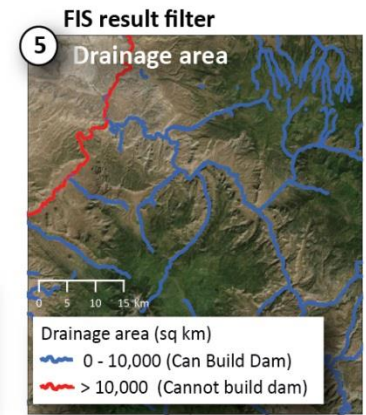
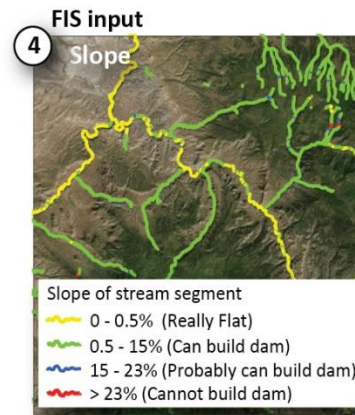
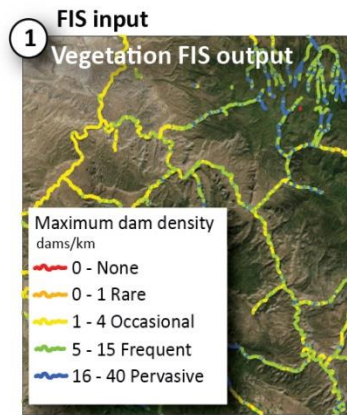
- 0 Unsuitable
- 1 Barely suitable
- 2 Moderately suitable
- 3 Suitable
- 4 Preferred



Maximum dam density (dams/km)

- 0 - None
- 0 - 1 Rare
- 1 - 4 Occasional
- 5 - 15 Frequent
- 15 - 30 Pervasive
- ☆ Beaver dam

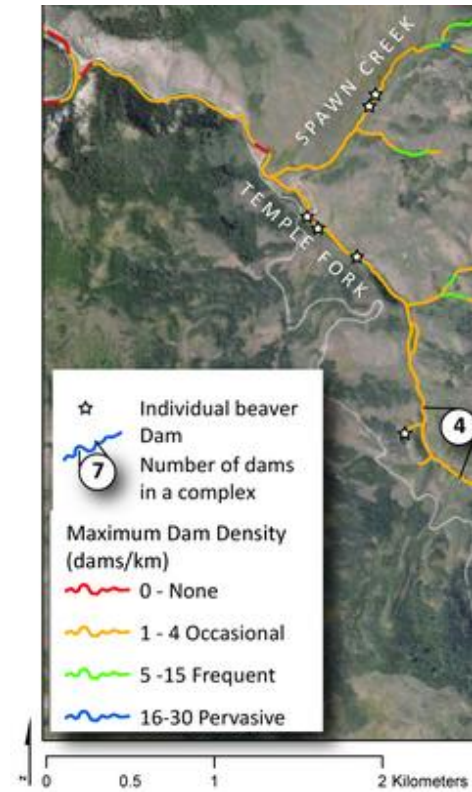
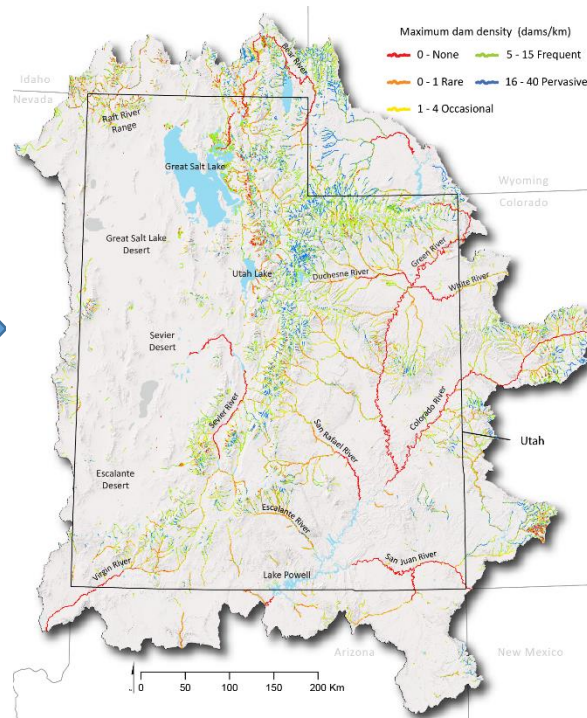
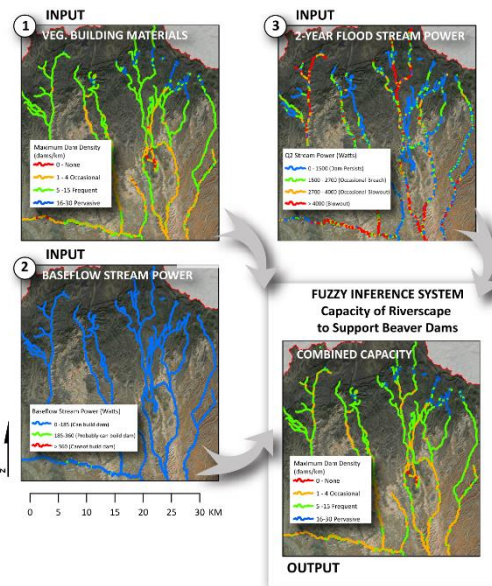
FLOW DIAGRAM: BEAVER DAM CAPACITY MODEL



WHAT WE DID WITH BRAT...



- Ran BRAT for whole state
- Created a decision support elements of BRAT in bespoke manner for UDWR

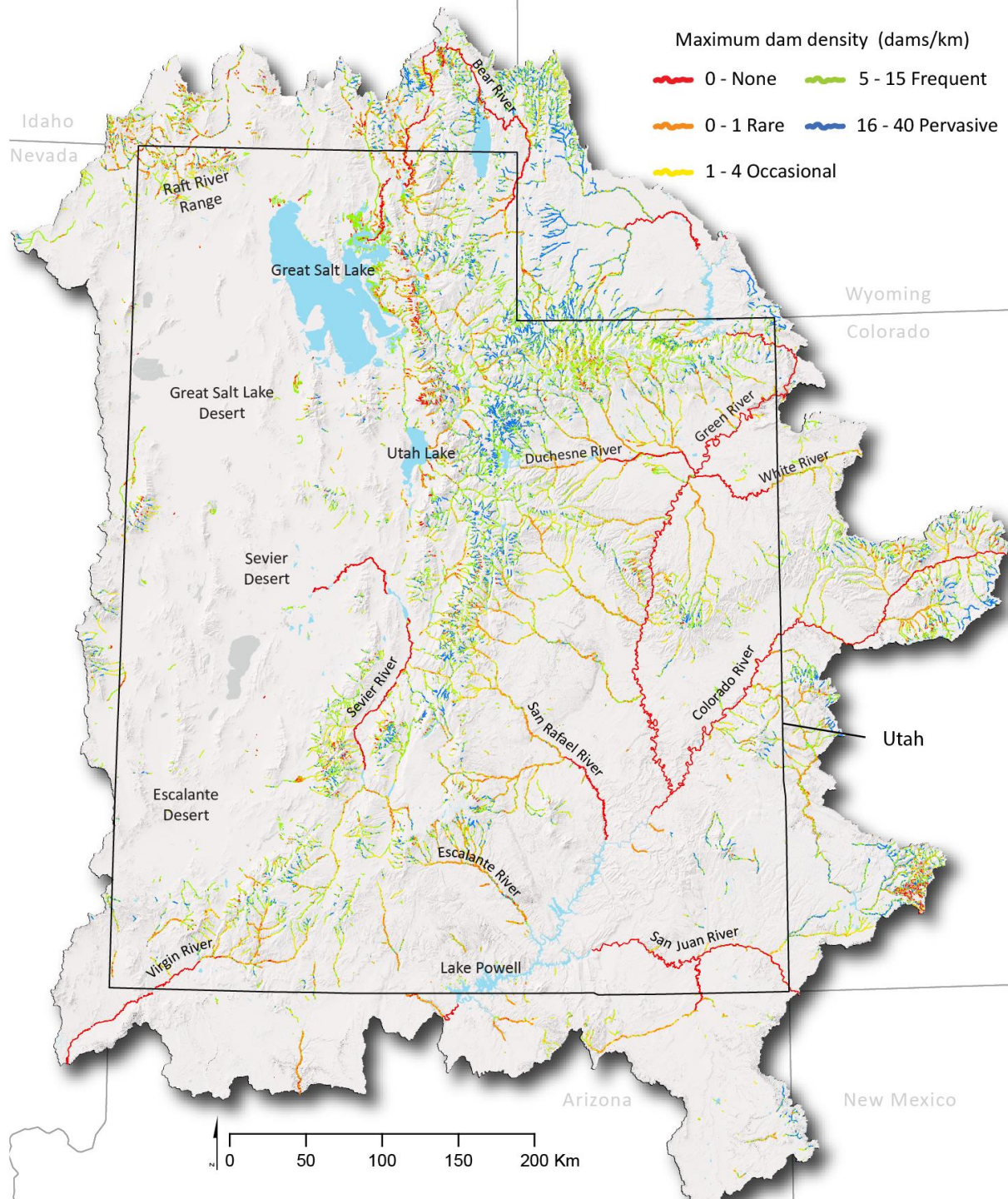


Run Model with Nationally Available Datasets



STATE OF UTAH (> 225,000 km²)

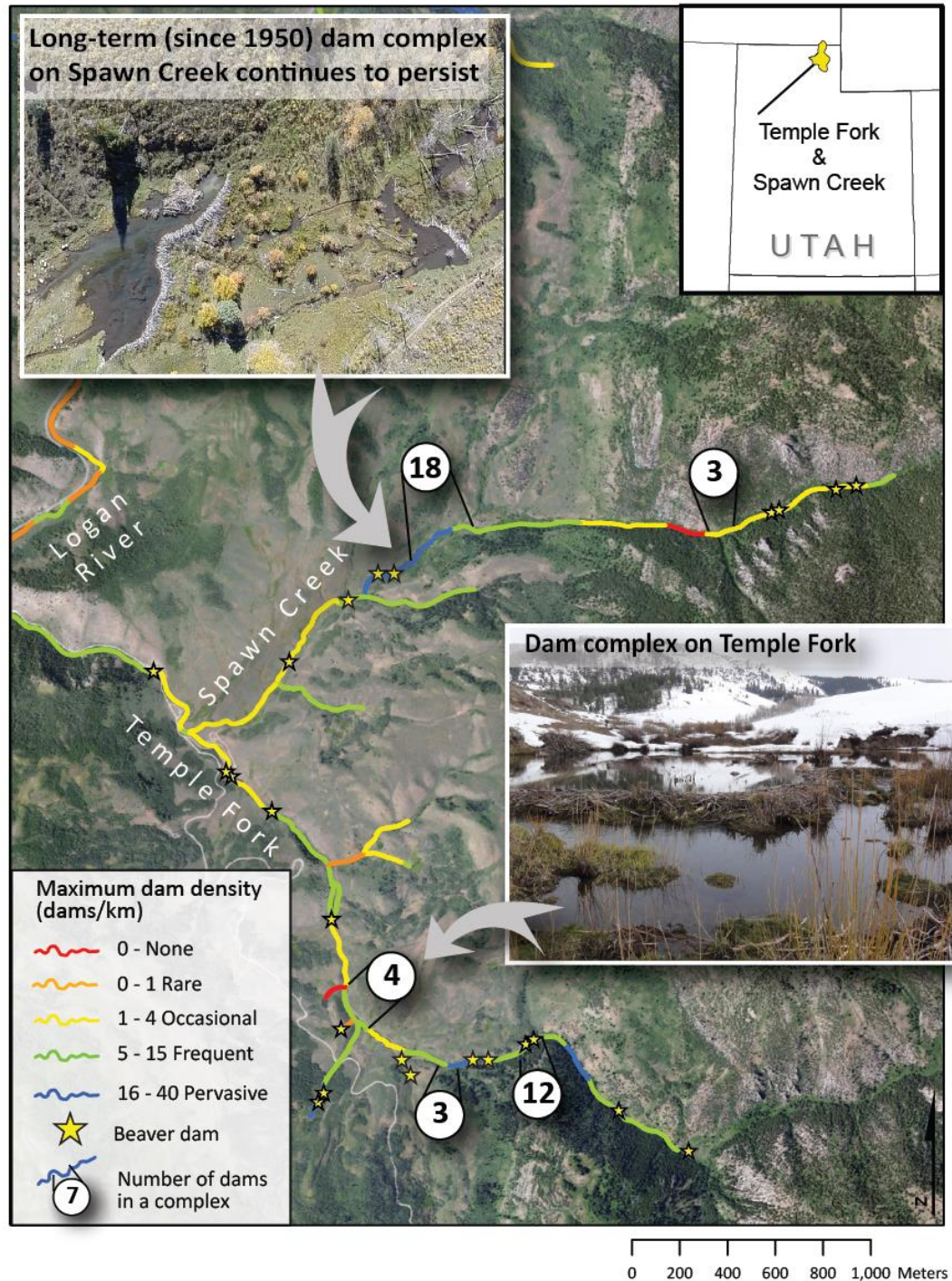
Resolved at every 250 m long reach within State (27,000 km)



HOW IT DOES

What you look for...

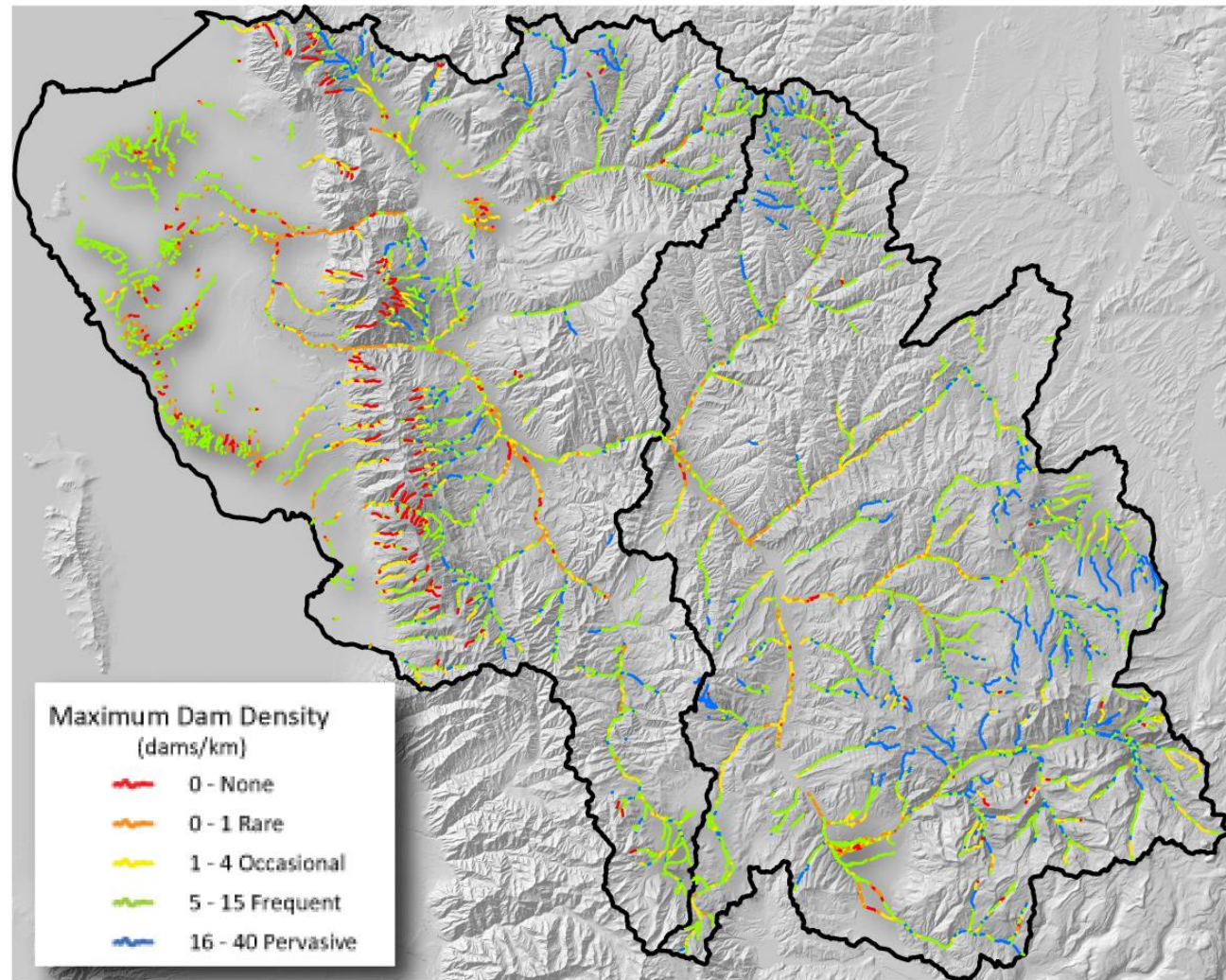
- No beaver dams where
None predicted
- Low densities in
'occasional' zones
- Stable long-term dam
complexes in 'frequent' or
'pervasive'
- High quality
('frequent' / 'pervasive')
areas as likely locations of
new colonies



EXISTING BEAVER DAM CAPACITY

- Weber Basin
BRAT Model:
Max Capacity: ~
23,477 dams
Over 2358 km of
streams

Avg. Max Density:
10 dams/km



0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles

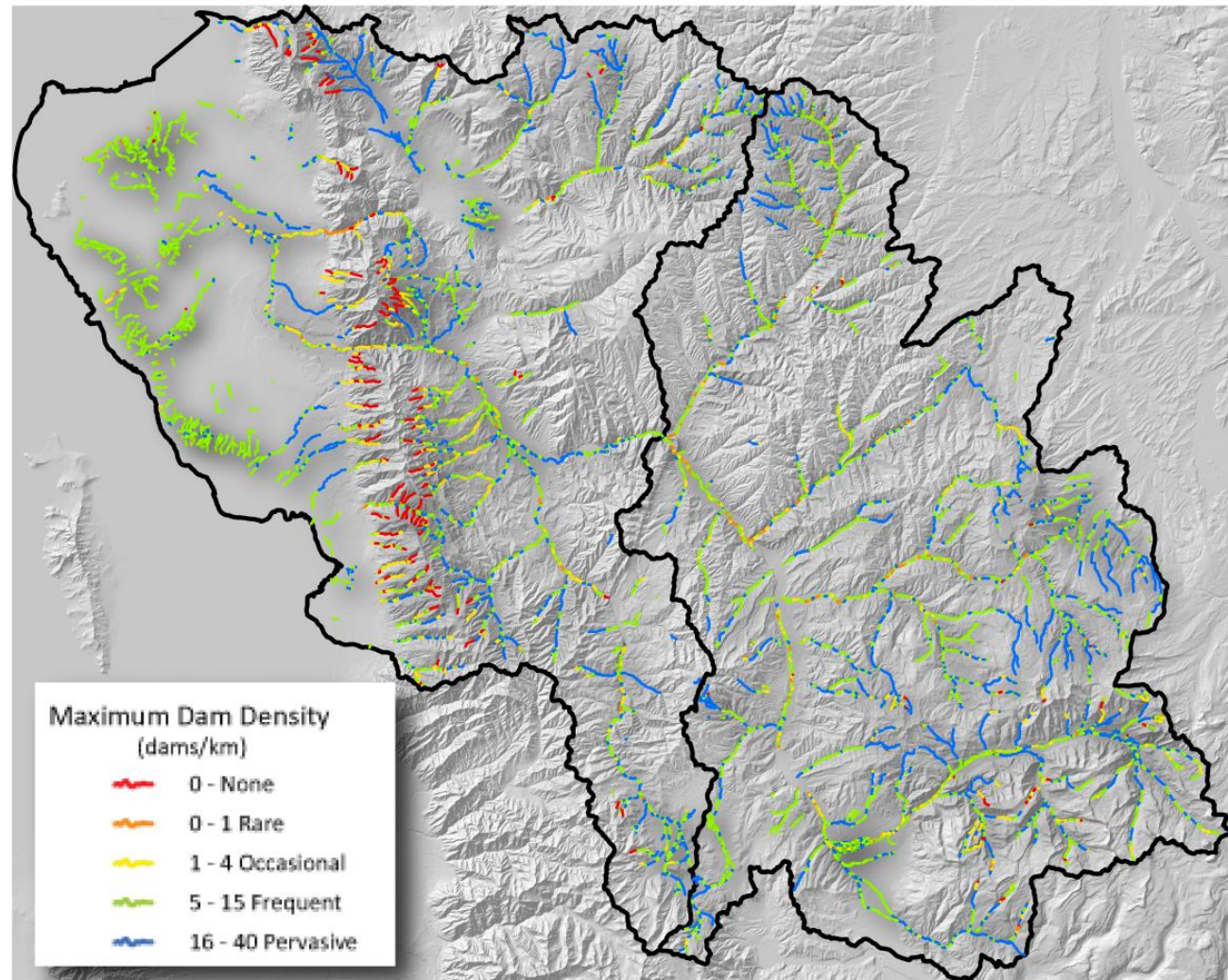
HISTORIC BEAVER DAM CAPACITY

- Weber Basin
BRAT Model:

Max Capacity: ~
32,409 dams

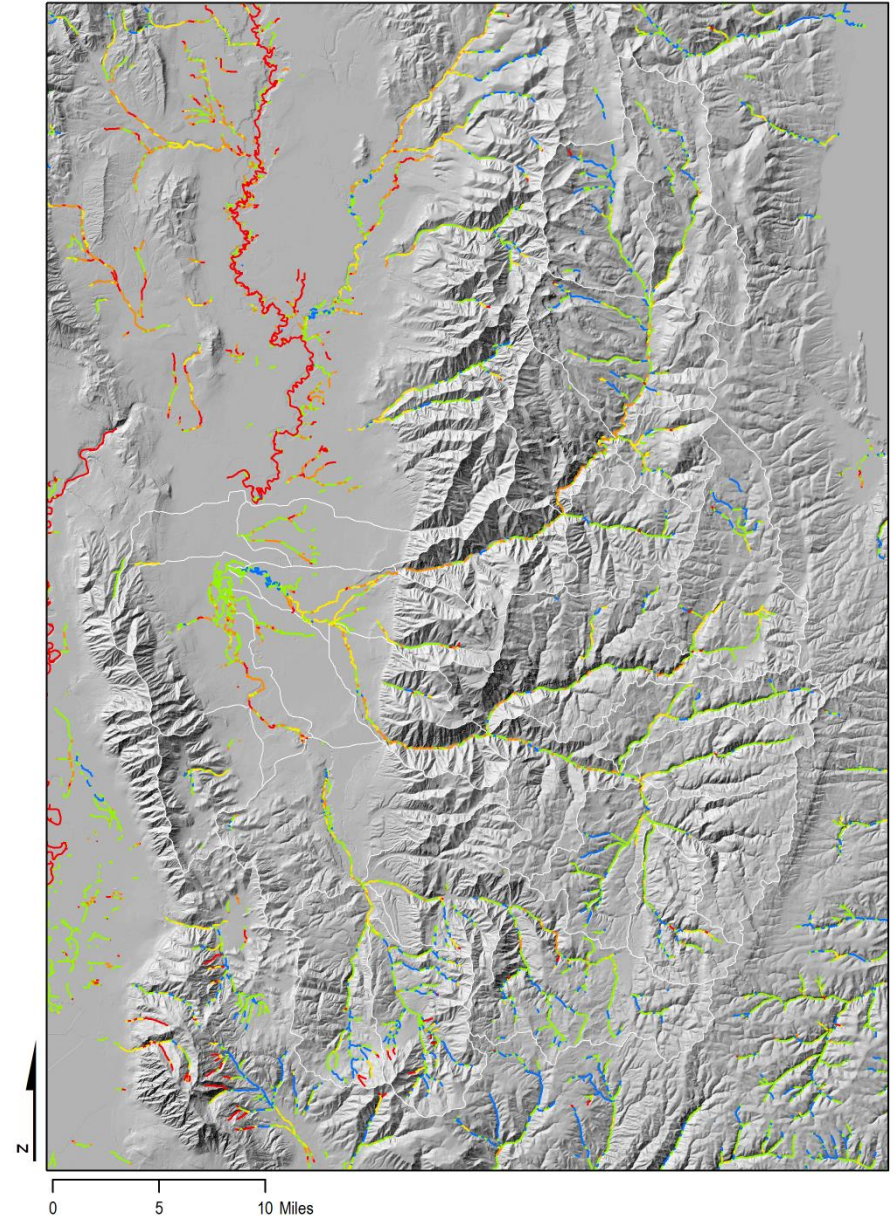
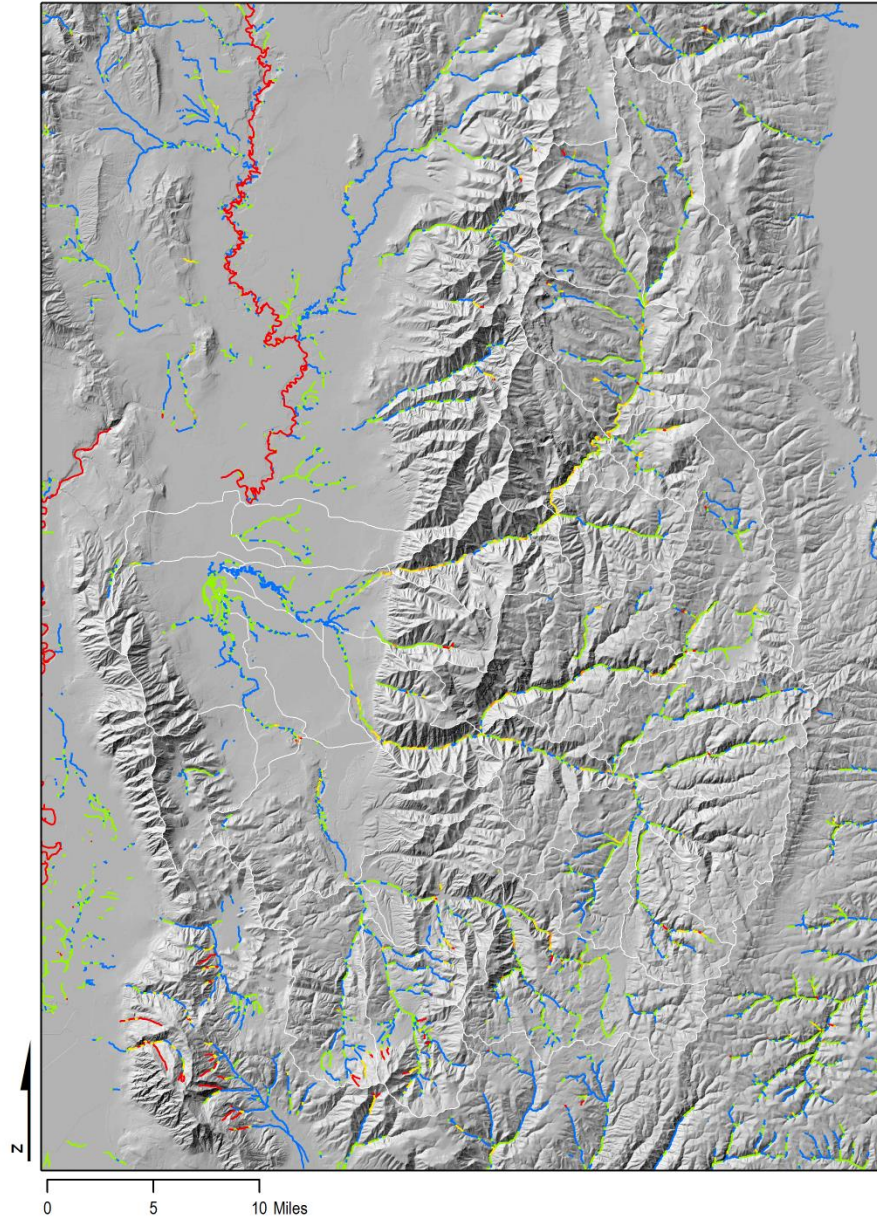
Over 2358 km of
streams

Avg. Max Density:
14 dams/km



0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles

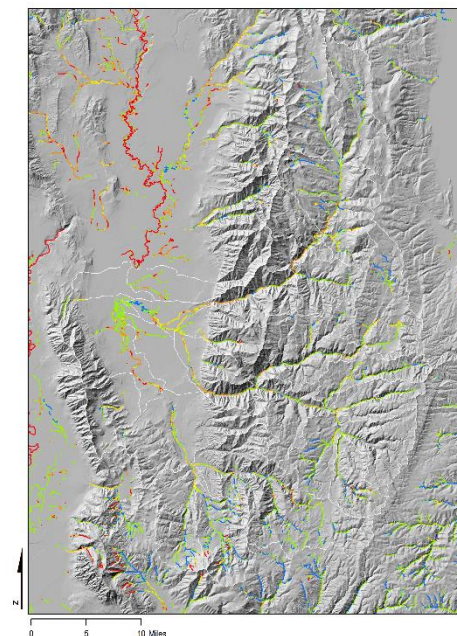
CACHE VALLEY – HISTORIC VS. EXISTING



- 11,038 historic capacity vs. 7,402 existing capacity

LOOKING CLOSER AT OUTPUT

- Logan River
 - Max Capacity: 7402 dams
 - Currently 1313 dams
 - Current average of 1.8 dams/km
 - Current capacity of 10.1 dams/km

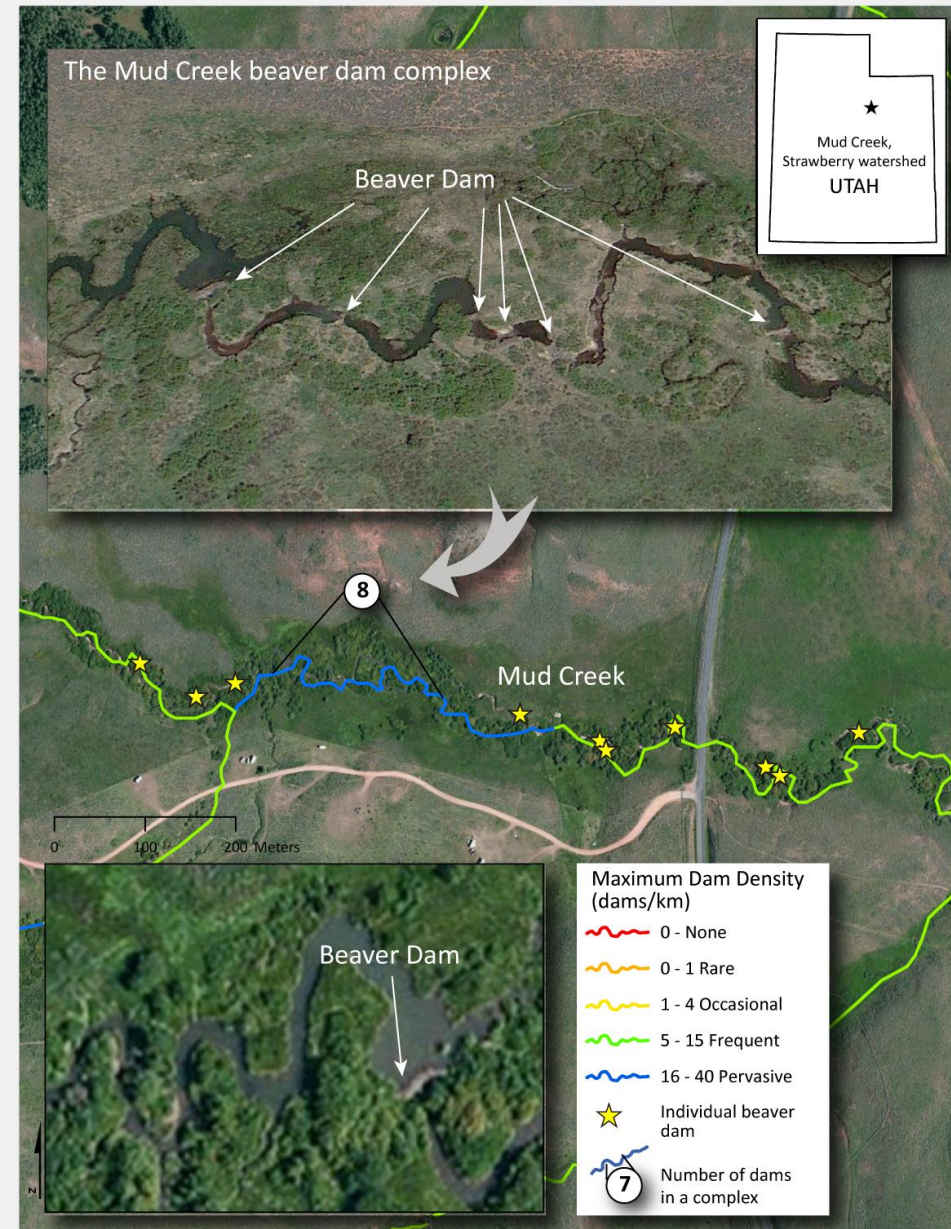


	Length of Stream	Existing Capacity (Density)	Historic Capacity (density)	Existing Capacity	Historic Capacity	Existing Count	Existing Dam Density	% of Existing Capacity	% of Historic Capacity
	<i>iGeoLength</i>	<i>oCC_EX</i>	<i>oCC_PT</i>	<i>mCC_EX_Ct</i>	<i>m_CC_PT_CT</i>	<i>e_DamCT</i>			
	km	Average Dam Density (Dams/Km)		Total Dams	Total Dams	Total Dams	Actual Dam Density	%	%
Logan River HUC8	731	10.1	15.1	7,402	11,038	1,313	1.8	18%	12%
└ Logan River HUC10	211	10.2	15.4	2,146	3,255	449	2.1	21%	14%
└└ Temple Fork HUC12	14	7.7	11.3	108	158	42	3.0	39%	27%
└└ Beaver Creek HUC12	25	11.2	16.2	281	405	142	5.7	51%	35%
└└ Right Hand Fork HUC12	14	7.7	11.3	108	158	42	3.0	39%	27%
└└ Franklin Basin HUC12	32.7	15.5	17.7	506	578	138	4.2	27%	24%
└└ Red Banks Logan HUC12	43.2	11.3	13.8	488	596	58	1.3	12%	10%
└└ Blacksmith Fork HUC 10	205	9.6	13.8	1,968	2,827	437	2.1	22%	15%
└└ Curtis Creek HUC12	13.5	8.2	13.8	111	186	16	1.2	14%	9%
└└ Rock Creek HUC12	26.4	10.3	14.7	272	388	58	2.2	21%	15%
└└ City Logan	59	9.0	20.2	533	1,192	4	0.1	1%	0%



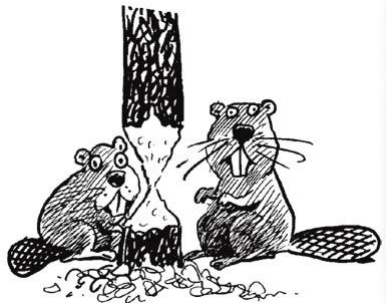
RESOLUTION OF BRAT

- At a scale that is still meaningful on the ground (250 m reaches)
- Just because BRAT predicts high capacity, does not mean it will be realized... but it does define a plausible upper limit
- In many places, at some point in time this upper limit is reached... just never all at once



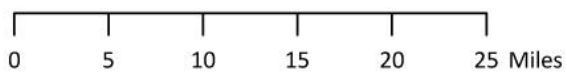
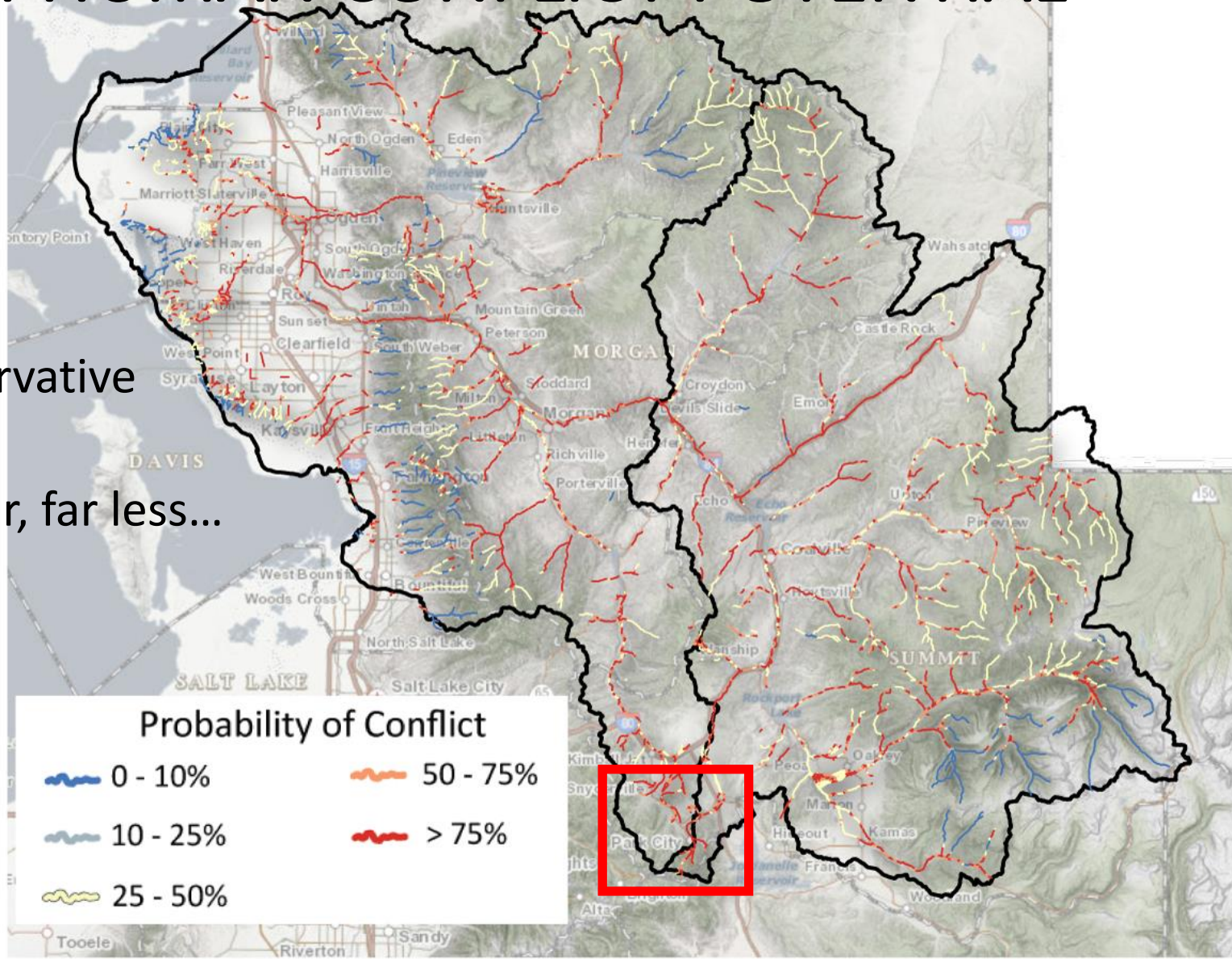
IN SOME PLACES... THEY ARE A NUISANCE

- In residential areas they can cause flooding...
- They often block culverts, which can flood roads
- They can chop down our ornamental landscape trees
- They can make a mess of irrigation diversions



BEAVER-HUMAN CONFLICT POTENTIAL

- Very conservative estimate
- Probably far, far less...



TRANSLOCATION

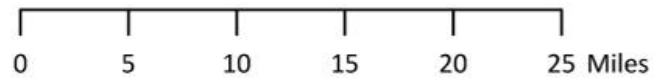
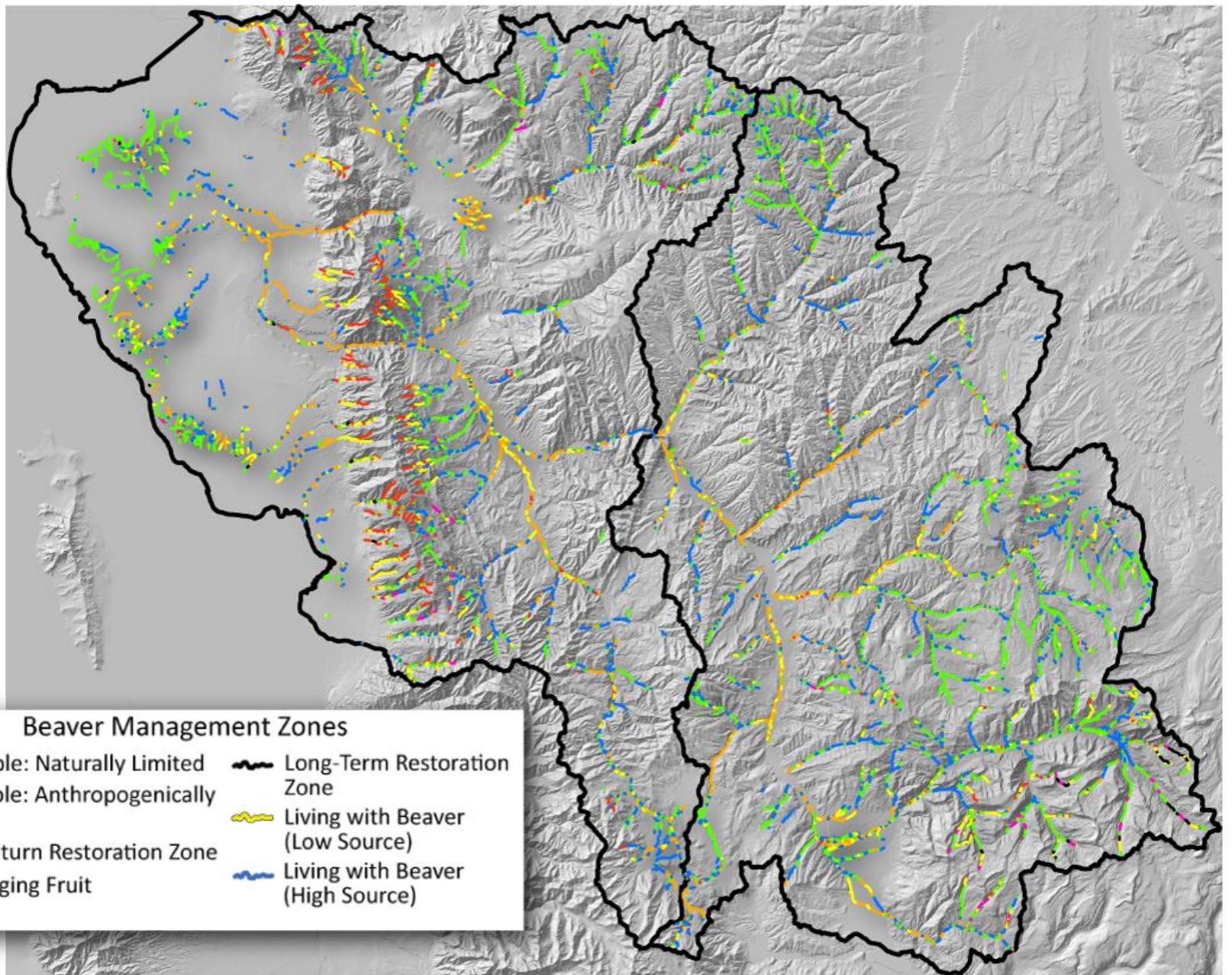
- In Utah, translocation is already allowed under UDWR's Beaver Management Plan



Kent Sorenson
(UDWR)

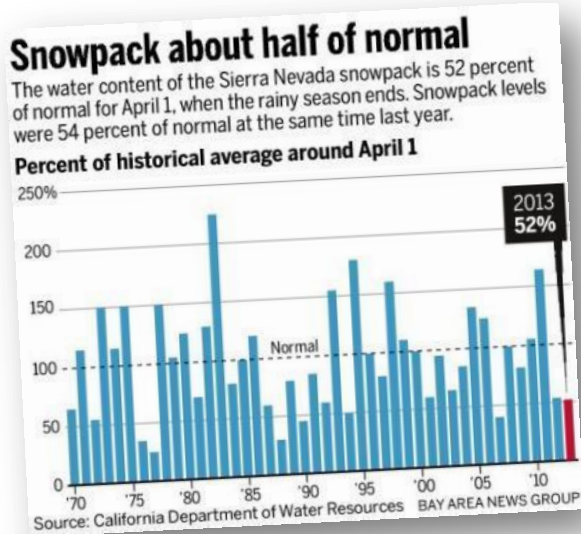


Nuisance beavers being translocated from Henry's Fork to High Uintah's (Courtesy of Sorenson)



WHAT ABOUT DECLINING SNOWPACK?

- Could we get enough beaver dams back on landscape to mitigate this?



- We desperately need research to better quantify hydrologic impacts of beaver dams and how they scale up

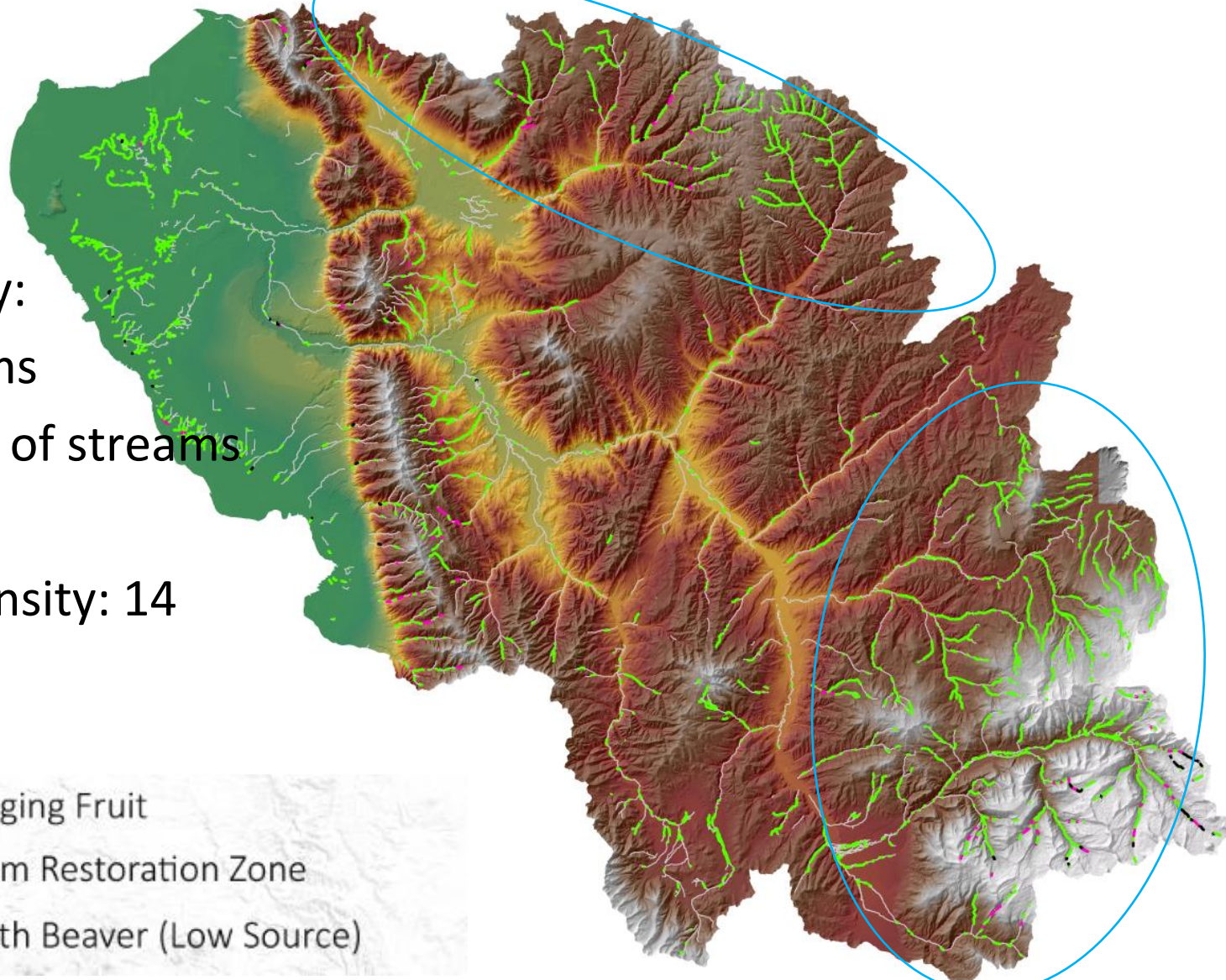
CLIP DOWN TO JUST AREAS WITH BEAVER RESTORATION POTENTIAL

Max Capacity:

~ 13,478 dams

Over 921 km of streams

Avg. Max Density: 14
dams/km



Low Hanging Fruit

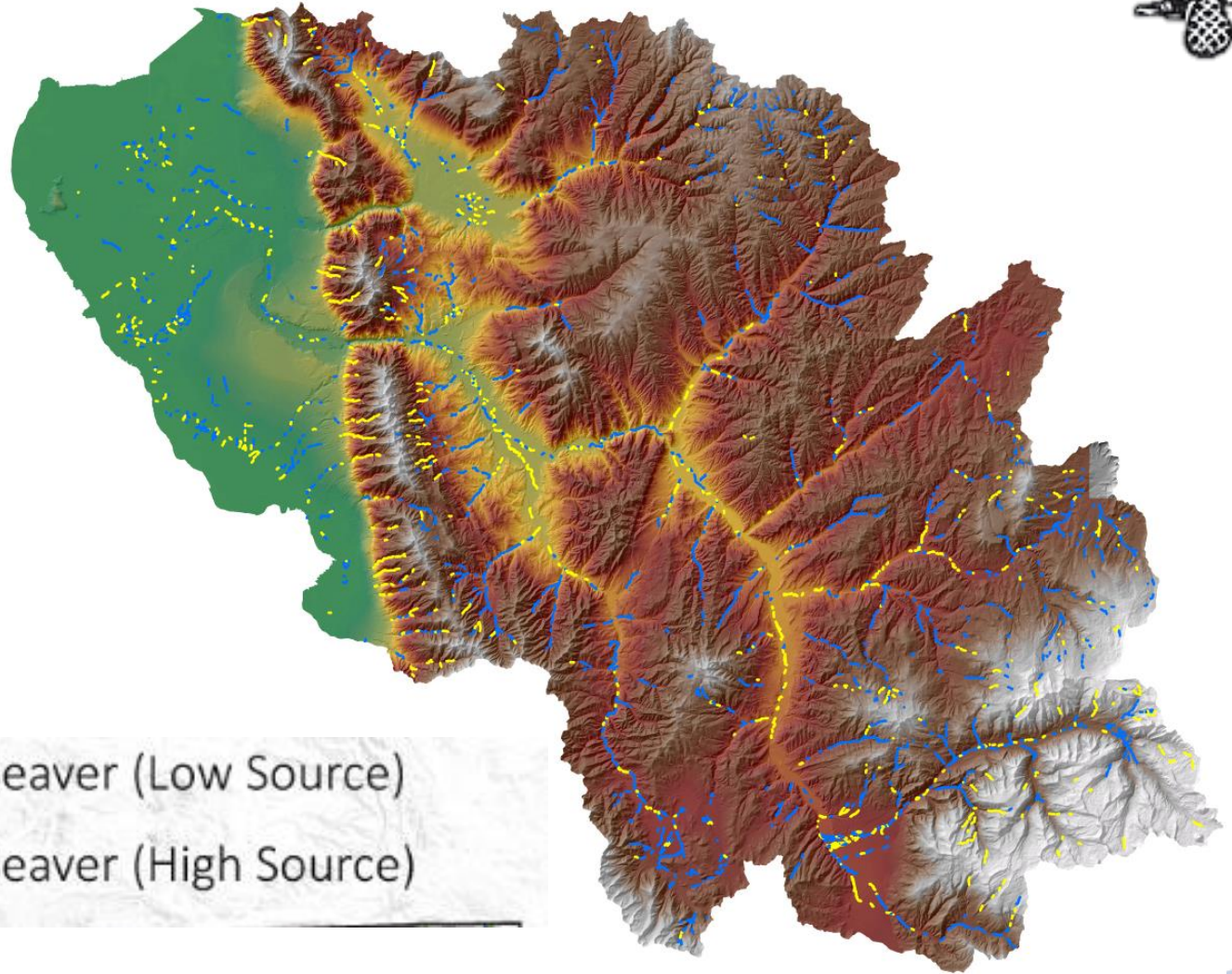




Long-Term Restoration Zone



Living with Beaver (Low Source)

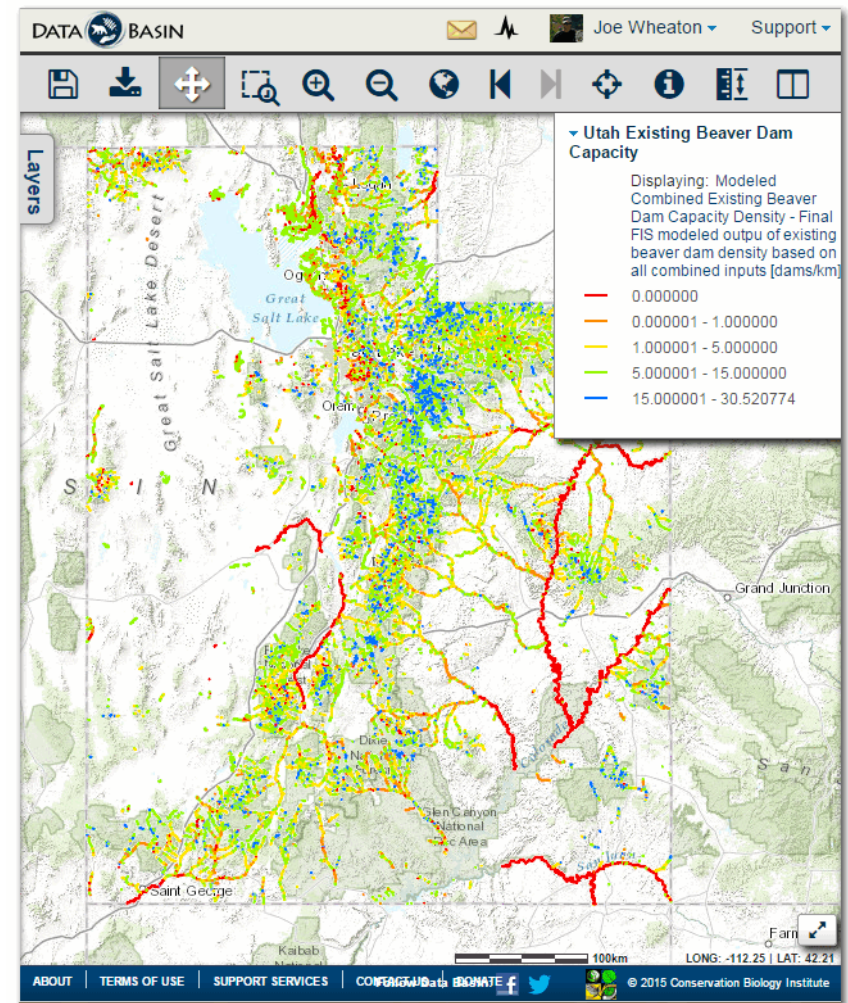
WHERE COULD WE GET THOSE GUYS?



 Living with Beaver (Low Source)
 Living with Beaver (High Source)

FUTURE & DOWNLOADS...

- We're running for as many regions as we can...
- So far, some in Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, Oregon, New York, New Mexico
- Discussions/proposals for Washington, Oregon, Montana, New England



For more information on BRAT, visit:

<http://brat.joewheaton.org>

OUTLINE

GEOMORPHIC & NETWORK CONTEXT

- I. Background
- II. Reach Types - GNAT
 - I. Reach Type (River Style) Tree
 - II. Valley Setting
 - I. Valley Bottom
 - II. Confinement
 - III. Sinuosity
 - III. Reach Typing of CHaMP Basins & CRB
- III. Condition
- I. Geomorphic Condition
- II. Riparian Condition
- III. Habitat & Population Condition
- IV. Recovery Potential
 - I. Geomorphic Recovery Potential
 - II. Riparian Recovery Potential
 - III. BRAT & WRAT
- V. Future Work**