

Planning for Growth and Open Space Conservation

This webinar series is sponsored by:
USDA Forest Service
State and Private Forestry - Cooperative Forestry

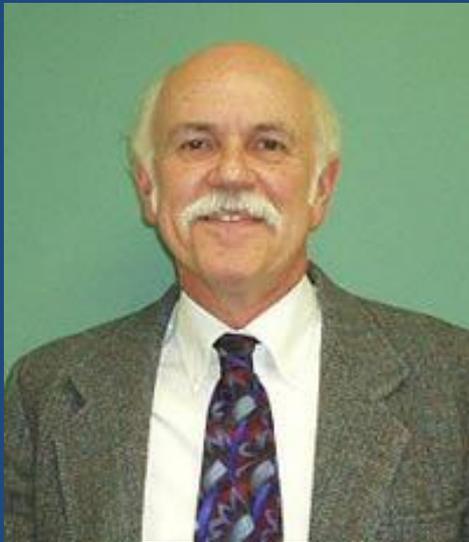
Organized by
Rick Pringle, Susan Stein, Sara Comas, Susan Guynn (Clemson University)
and the
Forest Service National Open Space Conservation Group



This webinar is being recorded



Session #5: Local and Regional Land Trusts: Essential partners and the tools they provide



Chuck Roe
*Southeast Director
Land Trust Alliance*



Carl Silverstein
*Executive Director
Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy
Asheville, North Carolina*

Session #5: Local and Regional Land Trusts: Essential partners and the tools they provide



Gene Duvernoy
President
Forterra
Seattle, Washington

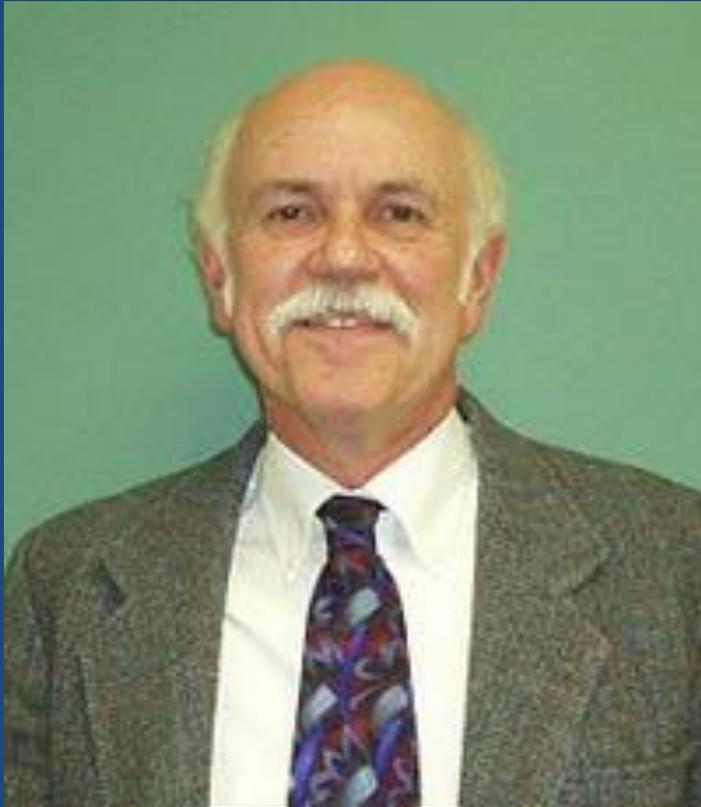


Robb McLeod
GIS Manager
Ducks Unlimited
National Conservation Easement Database

Logistics – Q&A

- **Continuing Education Credits**
 - Attend entire presentation
- **Questions for speakers – chat pod**
- **Technical difficulties – chat pod or email Susan Guynn: SGUYNN@clemson.edu**

Getting to Know You!



Chuck Roe

*Southeast Director
Land Trust Alliance*

Land Trust Alliance

- Established 1982
- 1200 member conservation organizations and many individual members
- Strengthening land conservation across America by saving the places that people love and communities need
- Website: www.landtrustalliance.org



Land Trust Alliance

Strategic Goals

PACE

Accelerate the pace of land conservation by expanding funding and increasing tax incentives and building political influence

QUALITY

Build nationwide network of strong and effective land trusts

Encourage strategic conservation that focuses on the places most ecologically significant and important to the communities served

PERMANENCE

Ensure the permanence of land conservation by defending conservation lands from challenges

Build public support and constituency for land conservation

What are Land Trusts?



Big Tom Wilson Preserve, Yancey County, NC

By permission of Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy;
Photographer: Michelle Pugliese

Private, nonprofit organizations (over 1700) that conserve land for public benefit, principally by acquiring land and entering into voluntary agreements with landowners

Range in shapes and sizes – from The Nature Conservancy to all-volunteer-led groups across the entire country

Common mission: to protect places that people value most in their communities

Common values: deep connection to the land, local self-sufficiency and community cooperation

Contributions: secure and healthy environments, economies, and communities

Land Trusts in Action



New River in Grayson County, VA

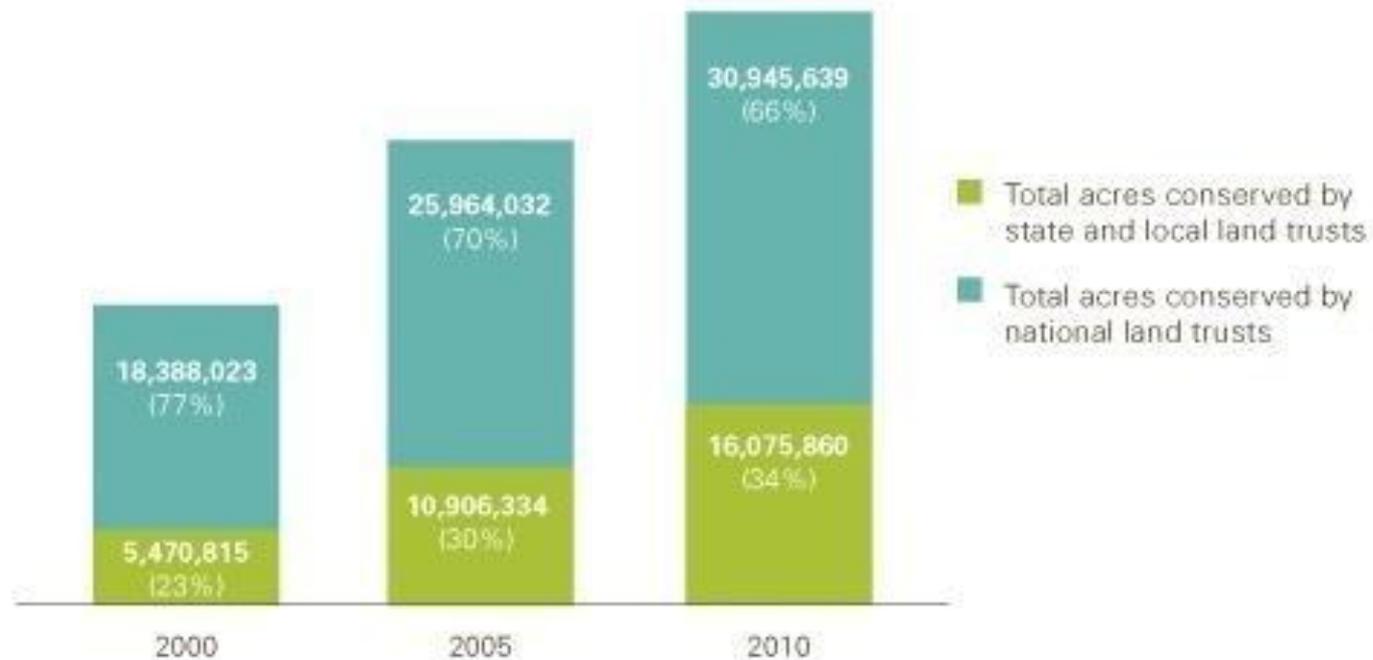
By permission of New River Land Trust; Photographer: Fred First

- Through 2010 America's land trusts had protected more than 47 million acres in thousands of places.
- Land trusts every year in the past decade were conserving over 2 million acres.

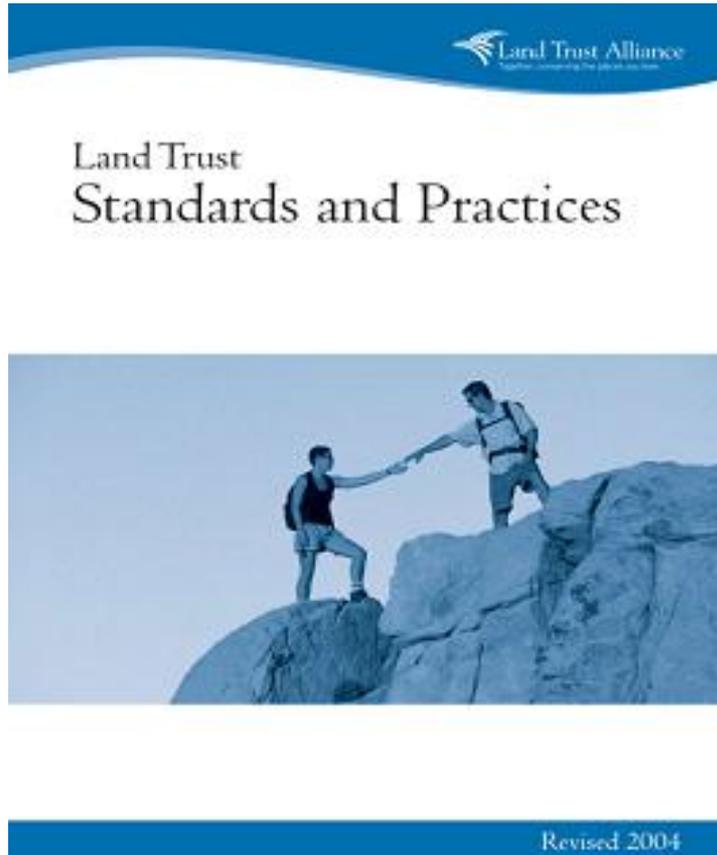
Strength in Numbers -- Powerful Together

Increasing the Pace of Land Conservation

Total Acres Conserved by All Land Trusts:
State, Local and National



Land Trust *Standards and Practices*

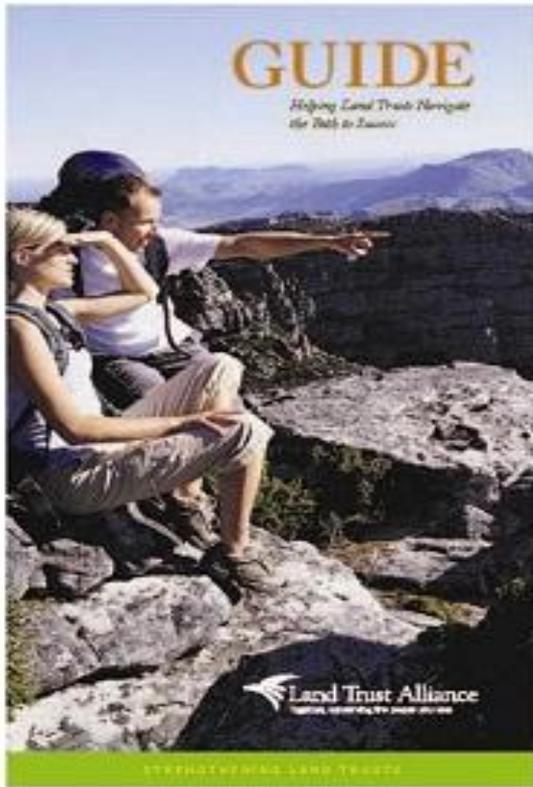


- Guidelines for responsible land trust operation.
- All member land trusts commit to operate in accordance with these Standards.
- First edition published in 1987, refined and revised over time.

Standards and Practices is available at
www.lta.org/publications

Land Trust Alliance

Educational Opportunities



- ***The Learning Center*** online library; considered the “land trust university”
www.lta.org/learningcenter
- ***Standards and Practices Curriculum 15*** online courses with manuals and templates
- ***Ongoing training*** hundreds of webinars, seminars and in-person workshops annually
- ***Regional land conservation conferences*** for targeted audiences
- ***Rally*** – National Land Conservation Conference held annually www.lta.org/rally
Rally 2012 Salt Lake City, Sept 29-Oct 2
Rally 2013 New Orleans, Sept 17-19

Guide available at www.lta.org/publications

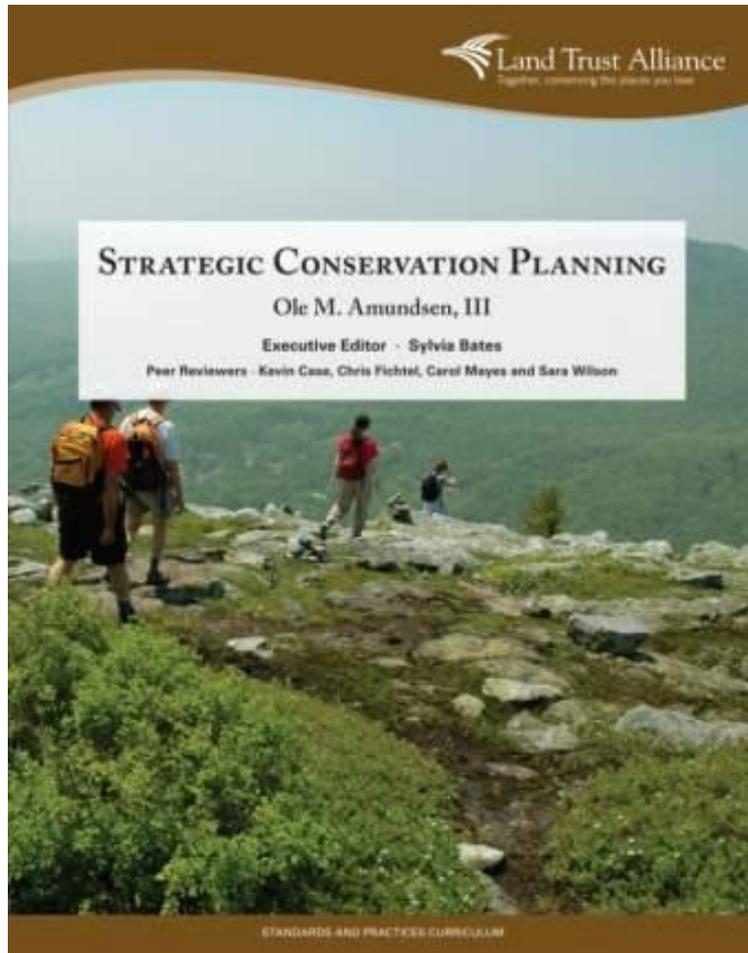
Land Trust Accreditation

Recognizing organizations for meeting national standards for excellence, upholding the public trust and ensuring that conservation efforts are permanent.



- **Land Trust Accreditation Commission (2008)** www.landtrustaccreditation.org
- Accreditation is a mark of distinction in land conservation
- **Objective:** by 2012, 50 percent of conserved land in America held by accredited land trusts or those in the process of land trust accreditation
- **Objective:** by 2016, 350 accredited land trusts holding 80 percent of the conserved lands in America

Strategic Conservation Planning



- A process that *produces tools to identify, prioritize, pursue, and protect tracts of land that will most effectively and efficiently achieve the land trust's mission.*
- Outcomes of Planning:
 - Identify and select conservation project priorities
 - Wisely invest limited conservation dollars
 - Establish roles for land conservation organizations in both private and public sectors
- Lessons are equally valuable to public sector and agencies.

Guide available at www.lta.org/publications

Land Trust Alliance

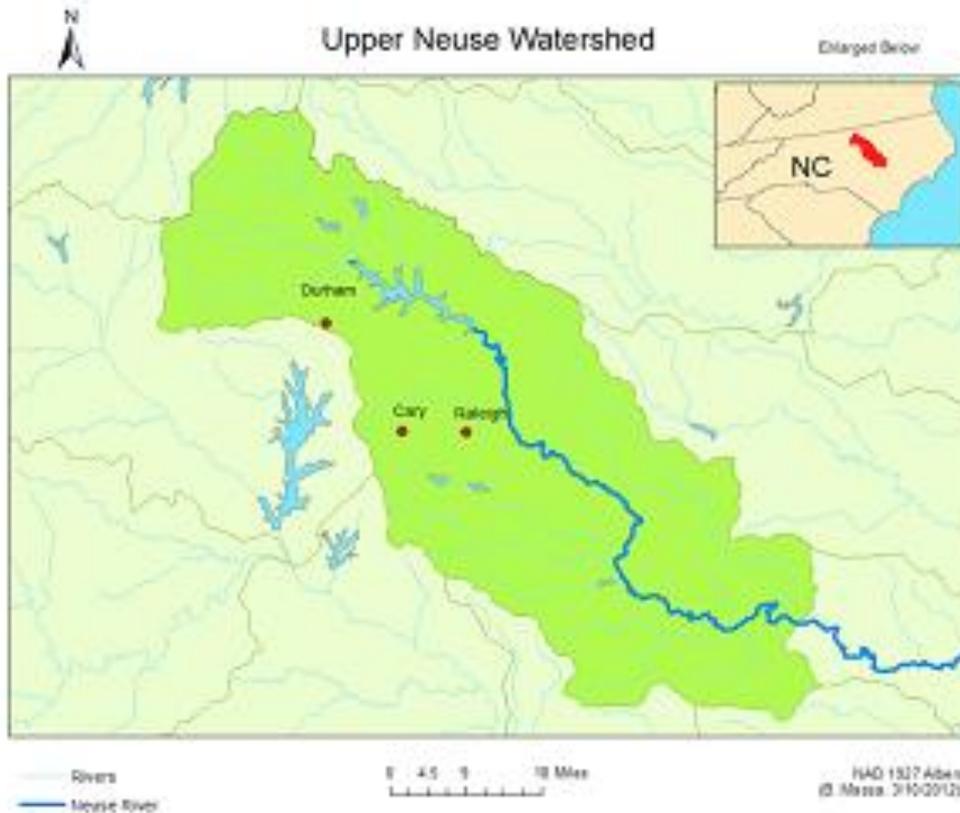
2012 Study for US Forest Service

| Watershed | Acres | State(s) |
|---|---------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Merrimack | 416,192 | Massachusetts, New Hampshire |
| 2 Middle Chattahoochee– Lake Harding | 346,163 | Alabama, Georgia |
| 3 Piscataqua–Salmon Falls | 345,070 | Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire |
| 4 Etowah | 330,625 | Georgia |
| 5 Upper Neuse | 323,466 | North Carolina |
| 6 Upper Broad | 320,688 | North Carolina, South Carolina |
| 7 Lower St. Johns | 314,466 | Florida |
| 8 Lower Kennebec | 308,017 | Maine |
| 9 Upper Ocmulgee | 306,174 | Georgia |
| 10 Saluda | 294,915 | North Carolina, South Carolina |
| 11 Upper Catawba | 280,136 | North Carolina, South Carolina |
| 12 Upper Oconee | 277,620 | Georgia |
| 13 Saco | 259,896 | Maine, New Hampshire |
| 14 Middle Coosa | 257,556 | Alabama |
| 15 Lower Kentucky | 244,192 | Kentucky |



- Needs Assessment to Advance Private Forestland Conservation in America.
- Study of land trusts activities and needs for private forestlands in 15 high priority watersheds.
- Recommendations to increase forestland protection and collaborations with other public conservation and natural resource management agencies.

Case example: Upper Neuse River Watershed (central North Carolina)



- Study confirms 5 private land trusts working to conserve land in the watershed.
- The land trusts' top priorities are to conserve wild-life habitat, riparian corridors, wetlands, and forests in the watershed.

Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative

- Private/public partnership protecting forests and riparian natural areas to protect public drinking water supplies and a recreational lake.
- Private land trusts funded by municipal fees on public water use to acquire conservation lands and easements in the watershed.

Upper Neuse Clean Water Initiative: www.ctnc.org/UNCWI

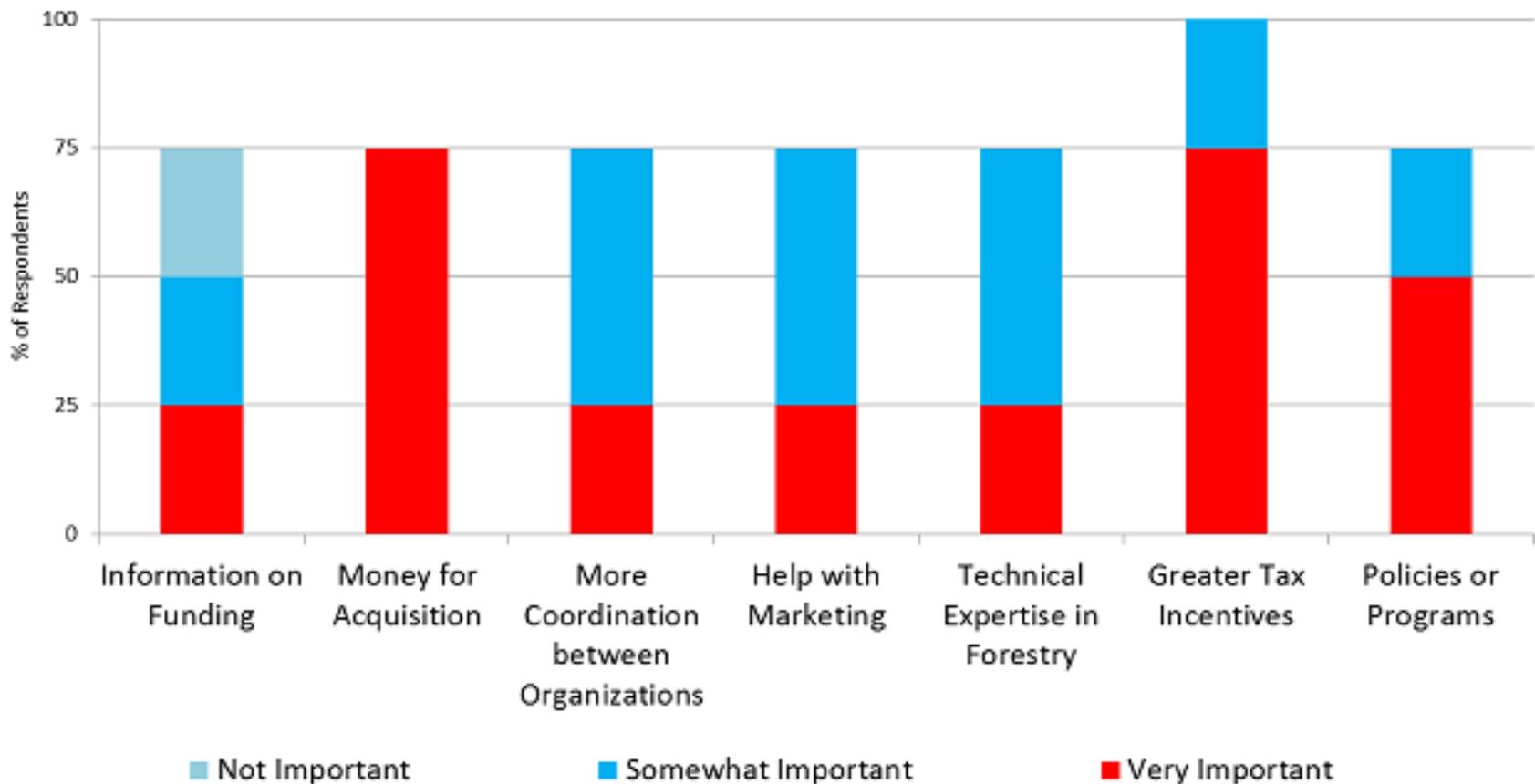
➤ Strategies to increase conservation of private forestland in Upper Neuse watershed

Greater tax incentives

More money for land and easement acquisitions

Landowner education

(Graph produced for Land Trust Alliance 2012 Strategic Needs Assessment to Advance Private Forestland Conservation in America)



Working Together to Conserve More Land



- Closer partnerships between private land trusts and public agencies will achieve more conserved lands – including critical forestlands, watersheds, stream corridors, and wildlife habitats – across America.
- We need greater financial resources and landowner education/incentives to succeed.



Land Trust Alliance

Together, conserving the places you love

For more information:

info@lta.org

www.landtrustalliance.org





Carl Silverstein

Executive Director

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

Blue Ridge Forever Coalition

Asheville, North Carolina

Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy



Strategies for conservation partnerships



Blue Ridge Forever

blueridgeforever.org

Land Trust Coalition



CONSERVATION TRUST
FOR NORTH CAROLINA



FOOTHILLS CONSERVANCY
OF NORTH CAROLINA



LTLT

Land Trust for the Little Tennessee



BLUE RIDGE
CONSERVANCY
SAVING THE PLACES YOU LOVE



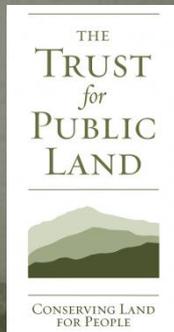
Highlands-Cashiers
LAND TRUST
"Saving Special Places since 1909"



PACOLET AREA
CONSERVANCY
Saving the places you love



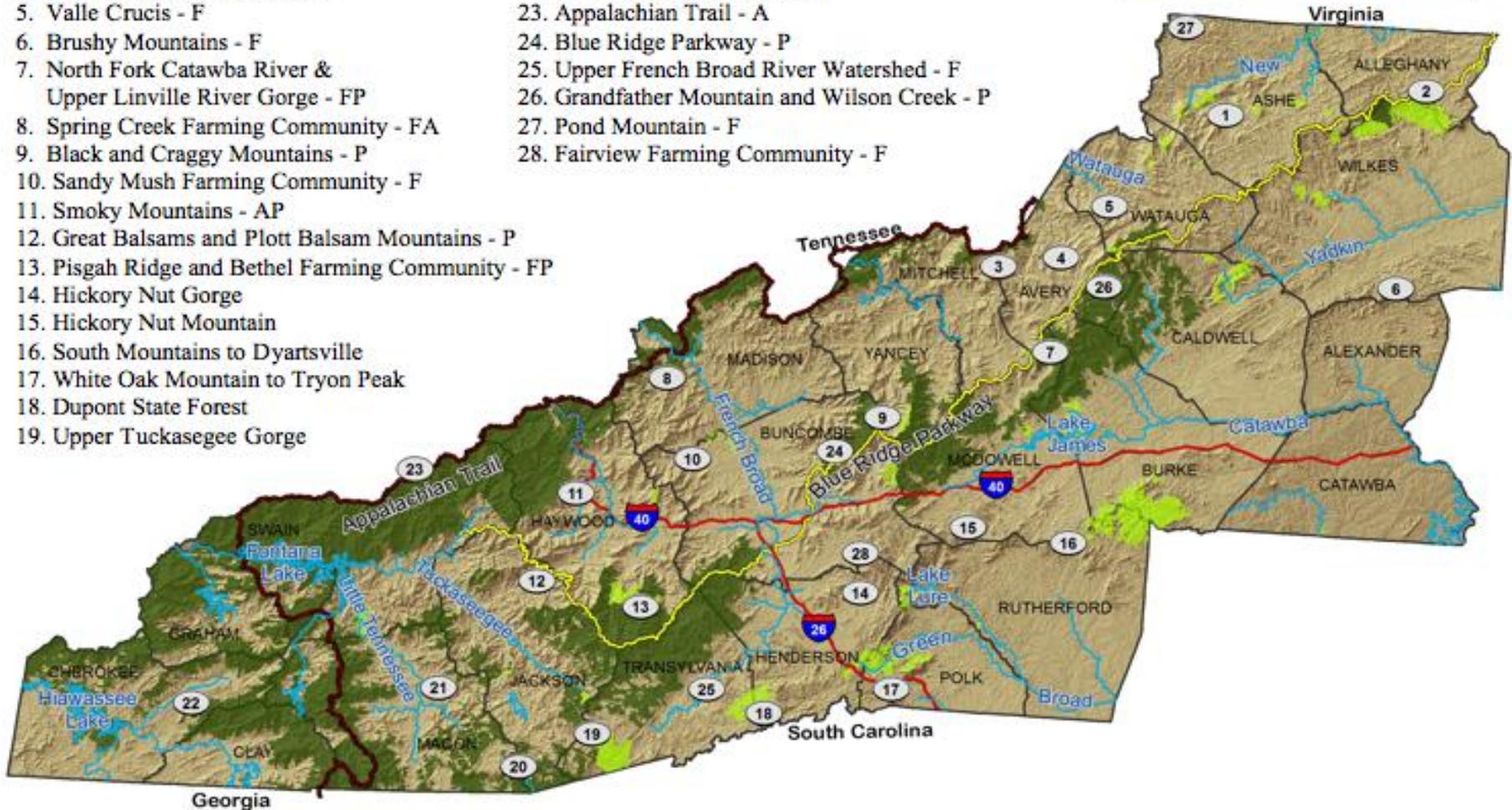
National Advisors:



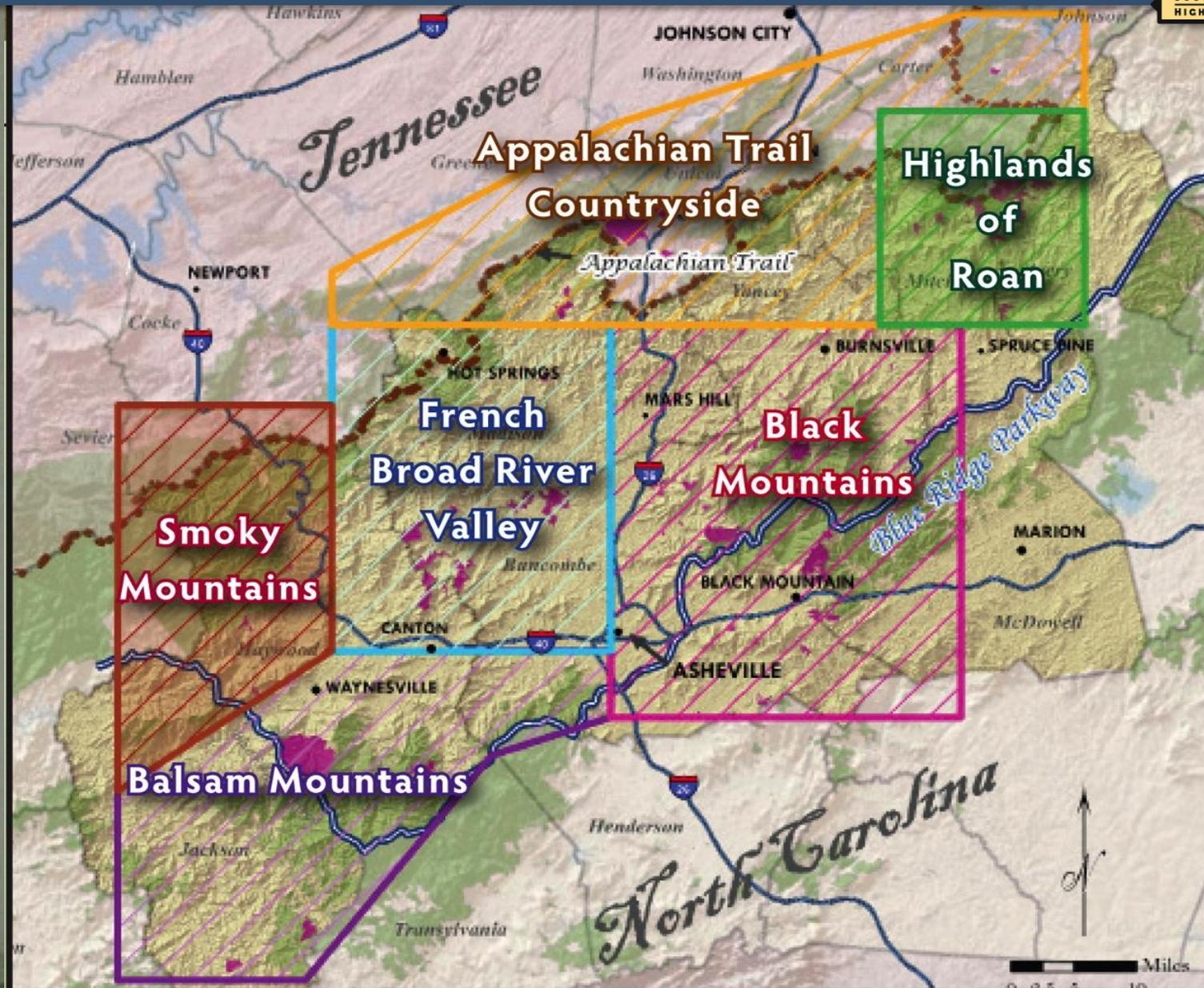
CONSERVATION VISION FOCUS AREAS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. New River Headwaters - F | 20. Chattooga Headwaters and Whiteside Mountain Area |
| 2. Stone Mountain Area - FP | 21. Little Tennessee River Valley - F |
| 3. Highlands of Roan to Yellow Mountain - A | 22. Hiwassee Valley, Unicoi Mountains and Snowbird Mountains - F |
| 4. North Toe River Headwaters | 23. Appalachian Trail - A |
| 5. Valle Crucis - F | 24. Blue Ridge Parkway - P |
| 6. Brushy Mountains - F | 25. Upper French Broad River Watershed - F |
| 7. North Fork Catawba River & Upper Linville River Gorge - FP | 26. Grandfather Mountain and Wilson Creek - P |
| 8. Spring Creek Farming Community - FA | 27. Pond Mountain - F |
| 9. Black and Craggy Mountains - P | 28. Fairview Farming Community - F |
| 10. Sandy Mush Farming Community - F | |
| 11. Smoky Mountains - AP | |
| 12. Great Balsams and Plott Balsam Mountains - P | |
| 13. Pisgah Ridge and Bethel Farming Community - FP | |
| 14. Hickory Nut Gorge | |
| 15. Hickory Nut Mountain | |
| 16. South Mountains to Dyartsville | |
| 17. White Oak Mountain to Tryon Peak | |
| 18. Dupont State Forest | |
| 19. Upper Tuckasegee Gorge | |

Key:
F - Significant Farming Community
P - Contributes to the Blue Ridge Parkway
A - Contributes to the Appalachian Trail
 ■ - Federally Protected Lands
 ■ - State Protected Lands



SAHC serves ten counties in NC and TN.



Conservation planning to guide acquisitions

+ biological

+ water

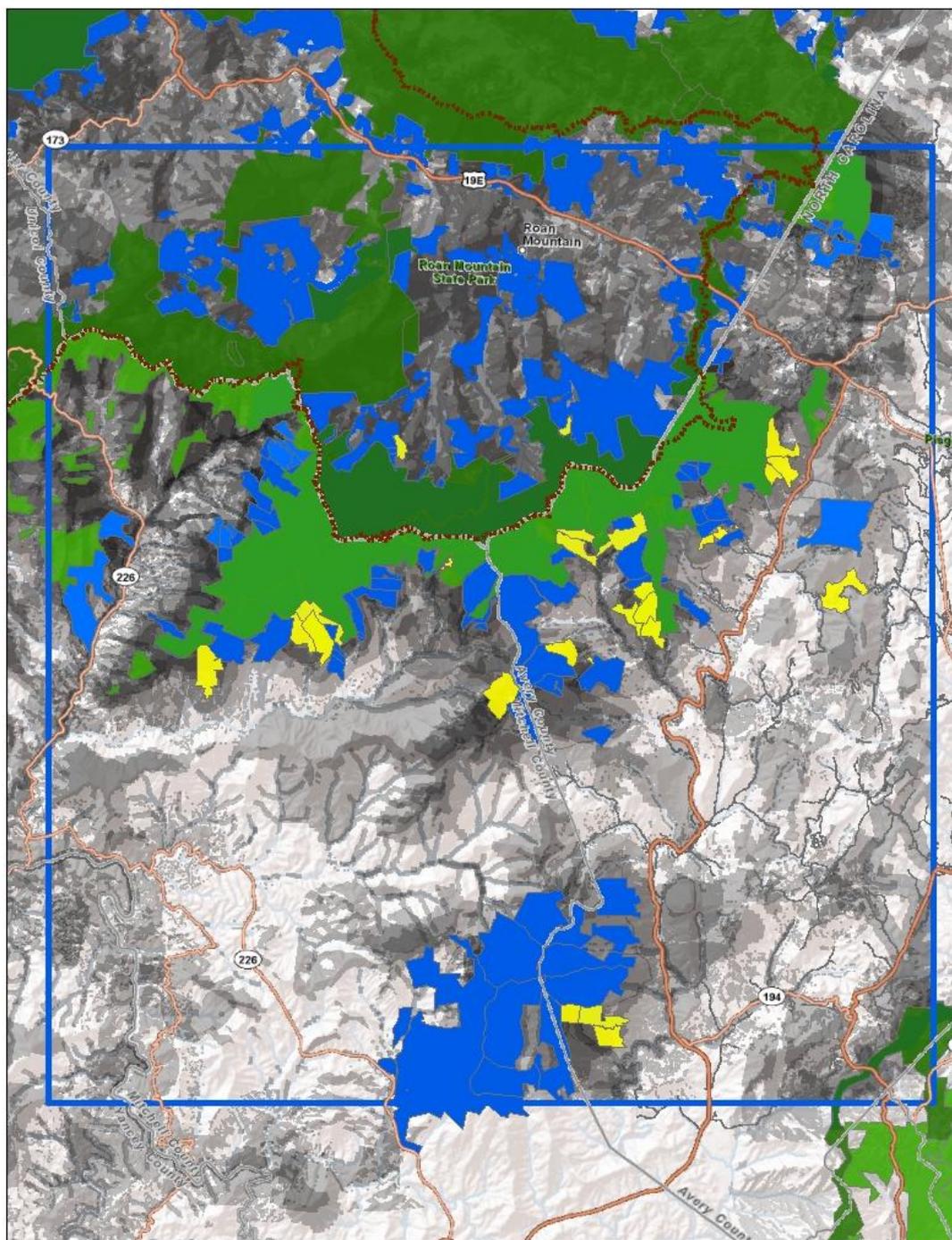
+ forest

+ AT & BRP views

+ adjacency

PRIORITY

PARCELS



Areas for effective partnerships



Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

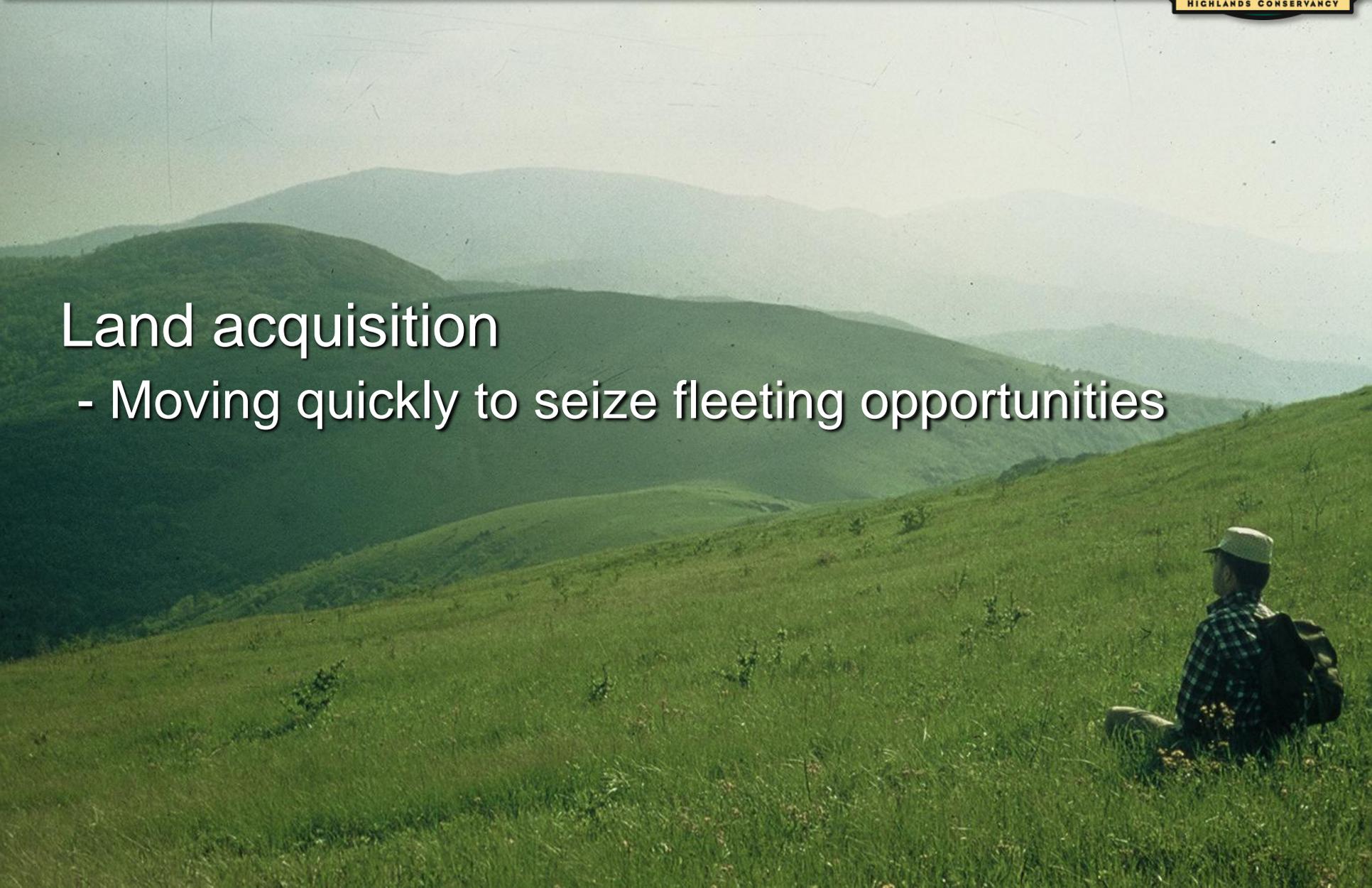


Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

- Moving quickly to seize fleeting opportunities

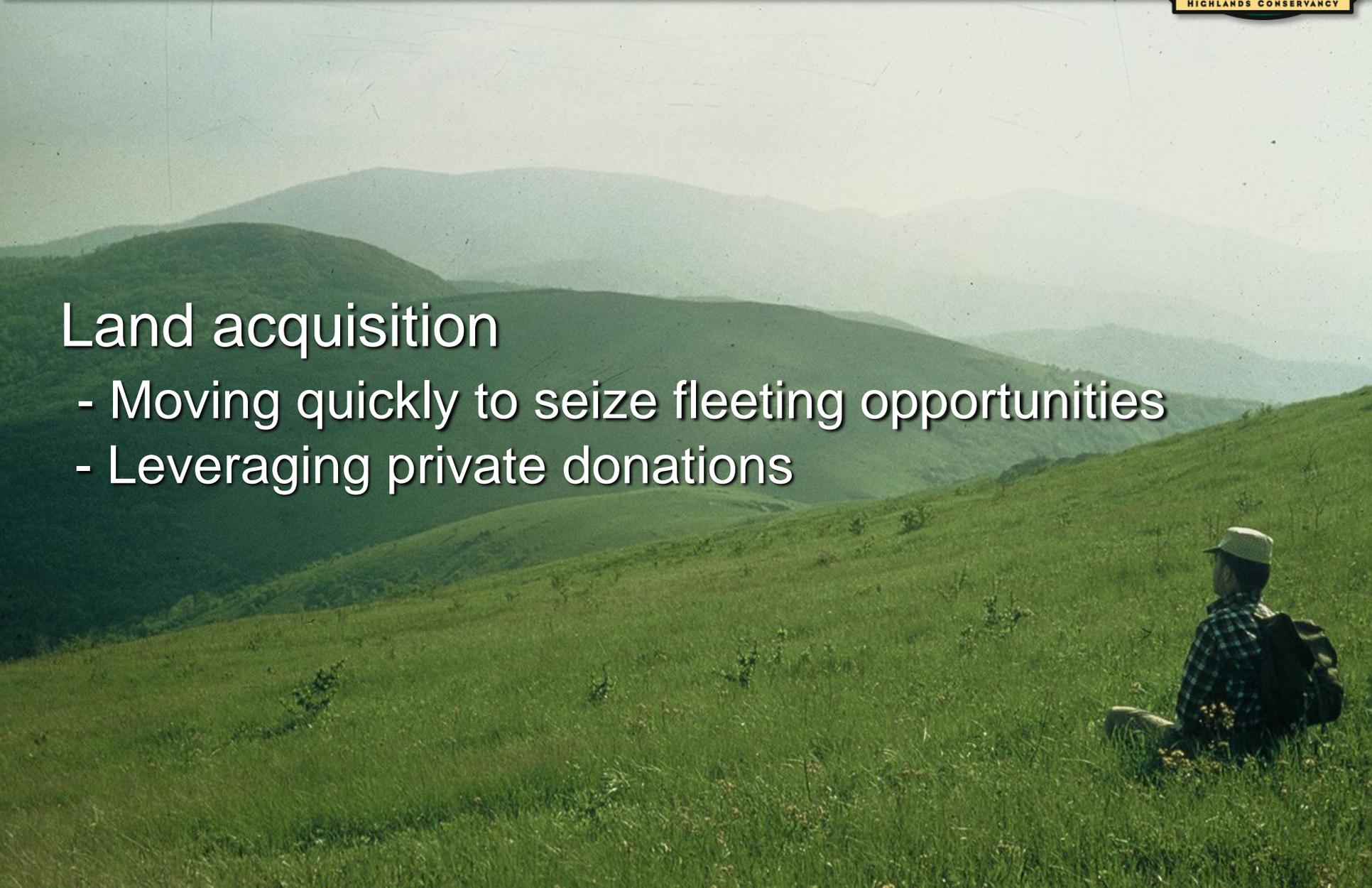


Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

- Moving quickly to seize fleeting opportunities
- Leveraging private donations



Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

- Moving quickly to seize fleeting opportunities
- Leveraging private donations
- Support in securing appropriations



Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

- Moving quickly to seize fleeting opportunities
- Leveraging private donations
- Support in securing appropriations

Conservation Easements



Areas for effective partnerships



Land acquisition

- Moving quickly to seize fleeting opportunities
- Leveraging private donations
- Support in securing appropriations

Conservation Easements

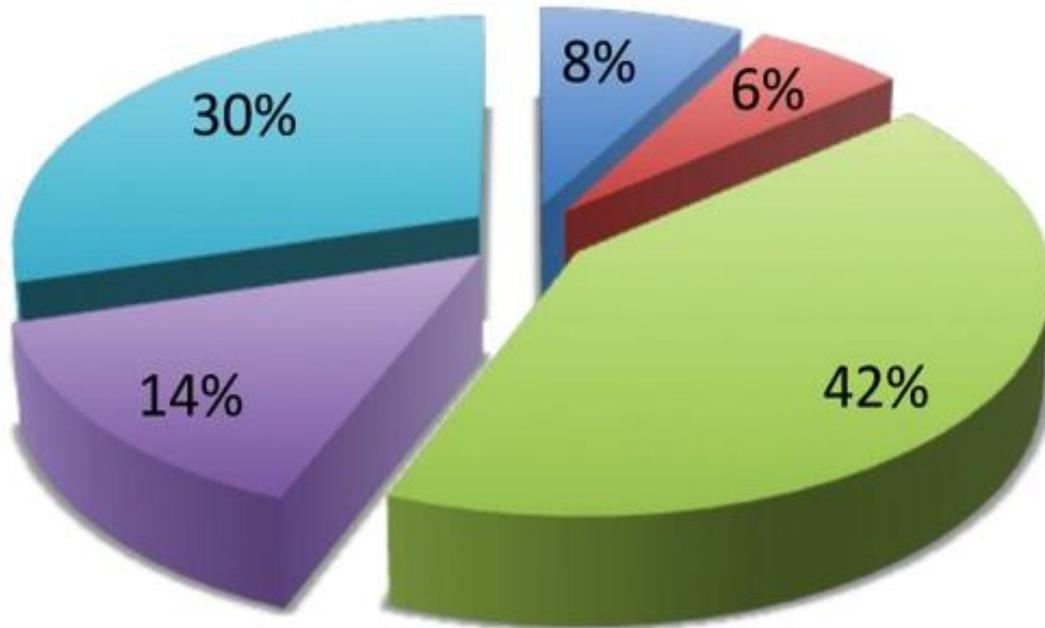
Land stewardship/Habitat restoration



Land Acquisition – Completing Forest Service, Appalachian Trail, and Blue Ridge Parkway goals.

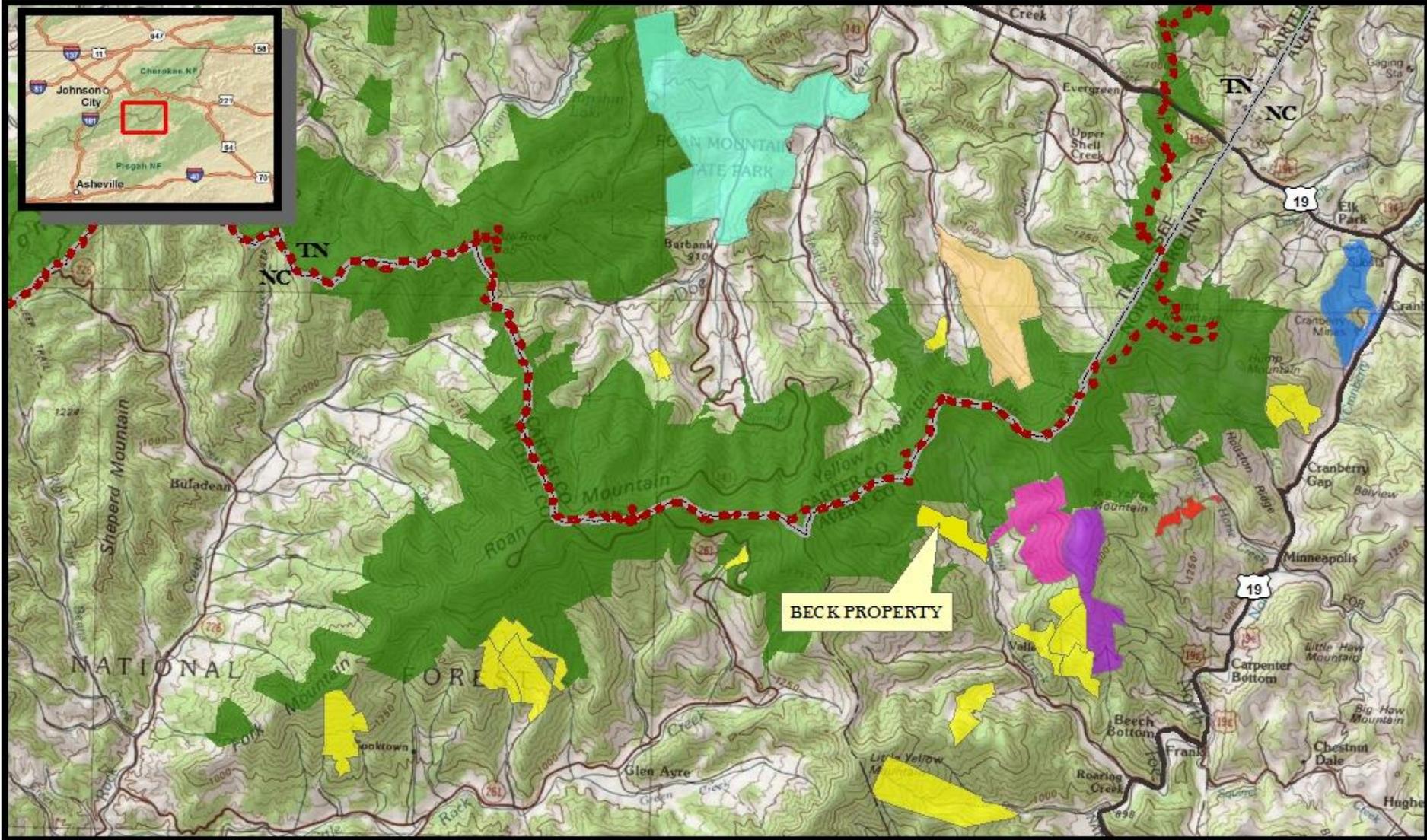


Percentage of Acreage Protected by Project Type



- Fee Simple Purchase
- Fee Simple Purchase Transferred to Gov't/Other
- Conservation Easement
- Easement Transferred to Gov't/Other Organization
- Assist





HIGHLANDS OF ROAN AREA LAND OWNERSHIP - December 2008

- SAHC Owned Preserve
- SAHC Conservation Easements
- protection in progress
- Cranberry Iron Mine (NCWRC Easement)
- Big Yellow Mtn. Nature Conservancy Preserve
- US Forest Service
- Hampton Creek Cove State Natural Area
- Roan Mountain State Park
- Appalachian Trail
- NC/TN stateline



Map made by SAHC

Land Stewardship Partnership



Restoring & Maintaining
Roan's Grassy Balds



We lead multiple partnerships to restore and maintain this globally significant resource.



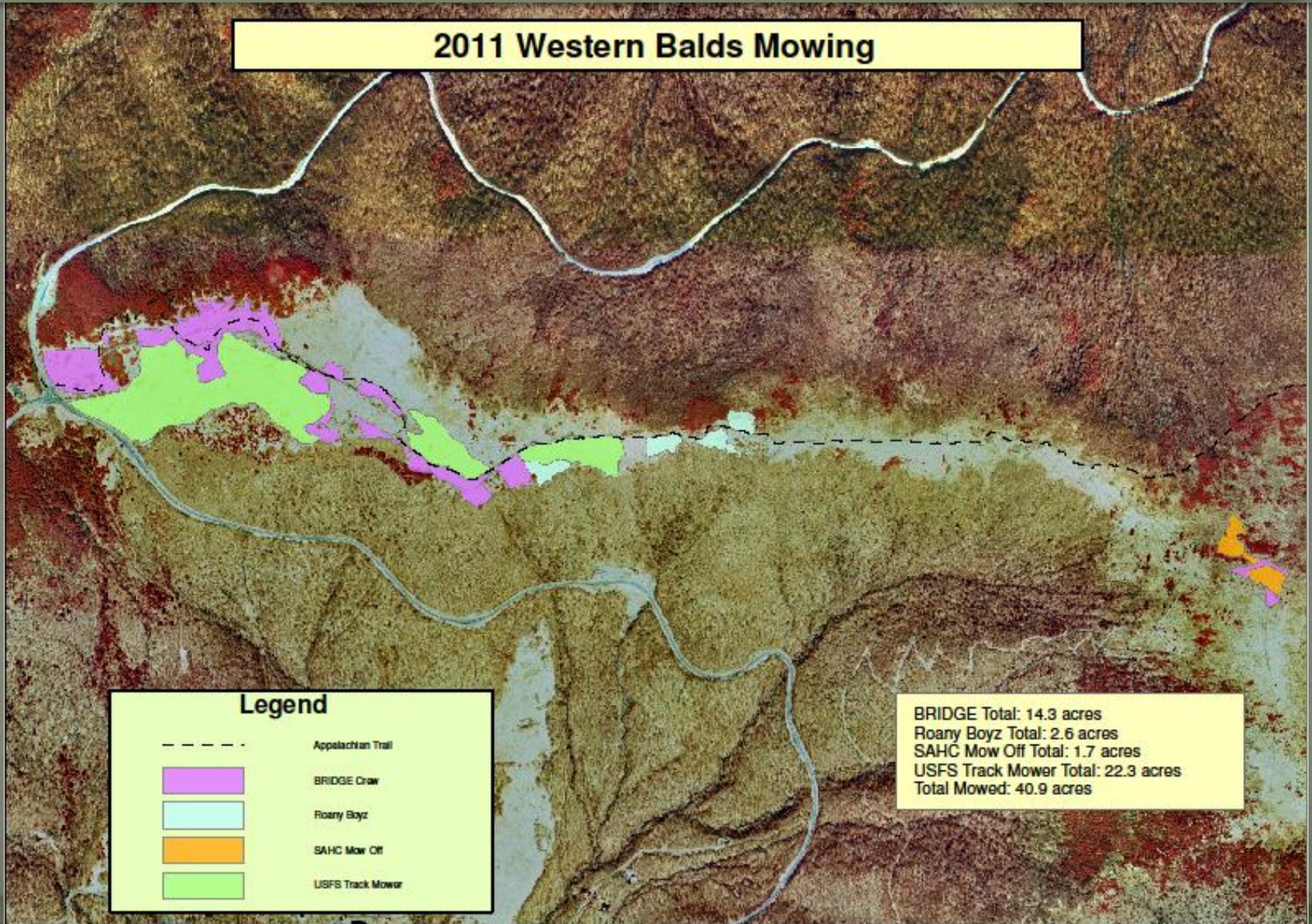
Volunteers perform thousands of hours of restoration work annually.



Management activity is monitored and mapped.



2011 Western Balds Mowing



Rocky Fork – 10,000 acres protected

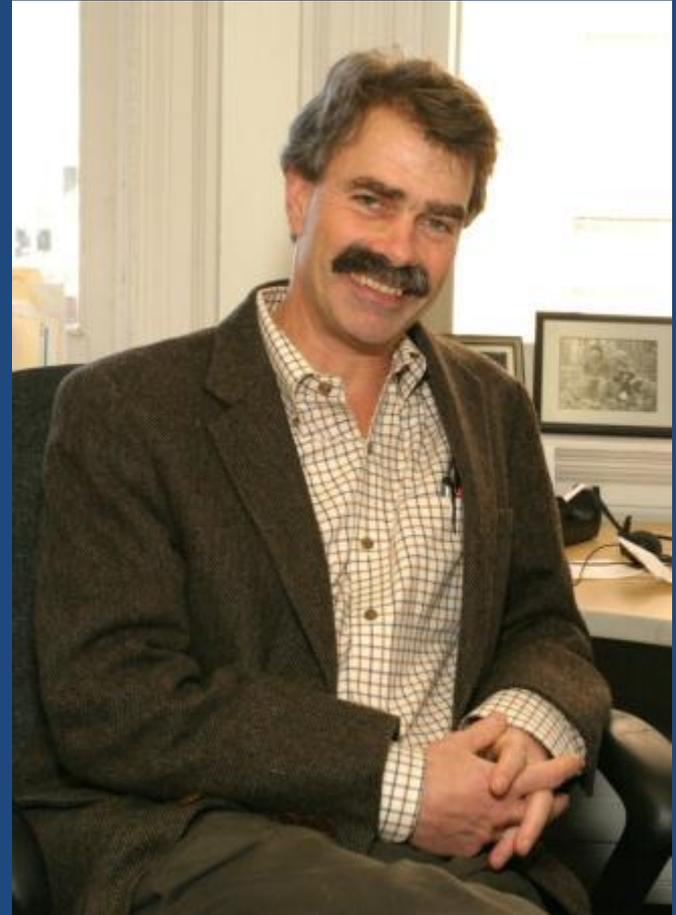


Gene Duvernoy

President

Forterra

Seattle, Washington



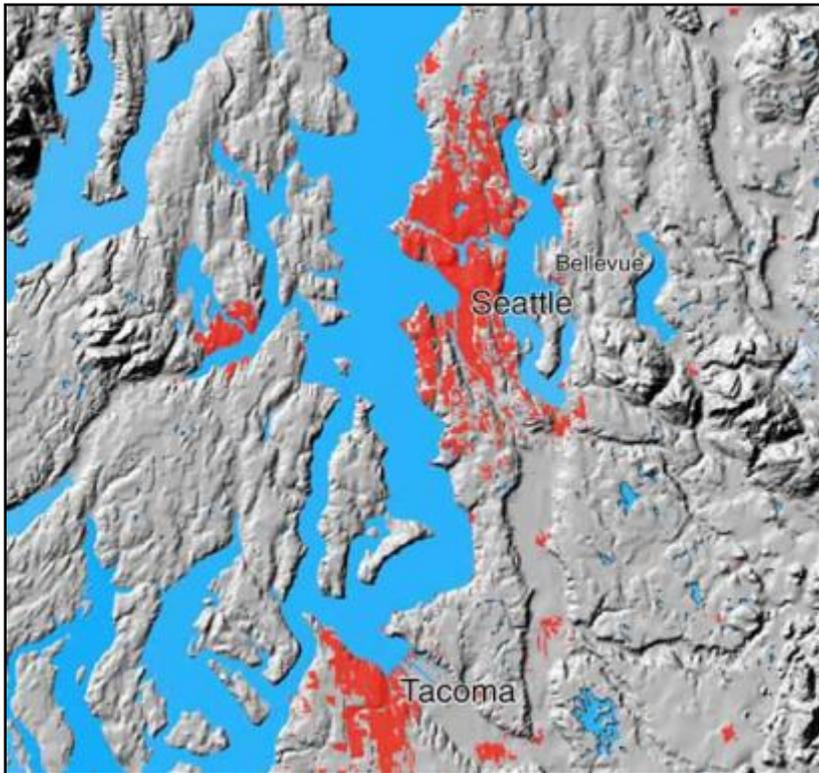
*Land Trusts and Sustainability:
The Cascade and Olympic Agendas and
Transfer of Development Rights*



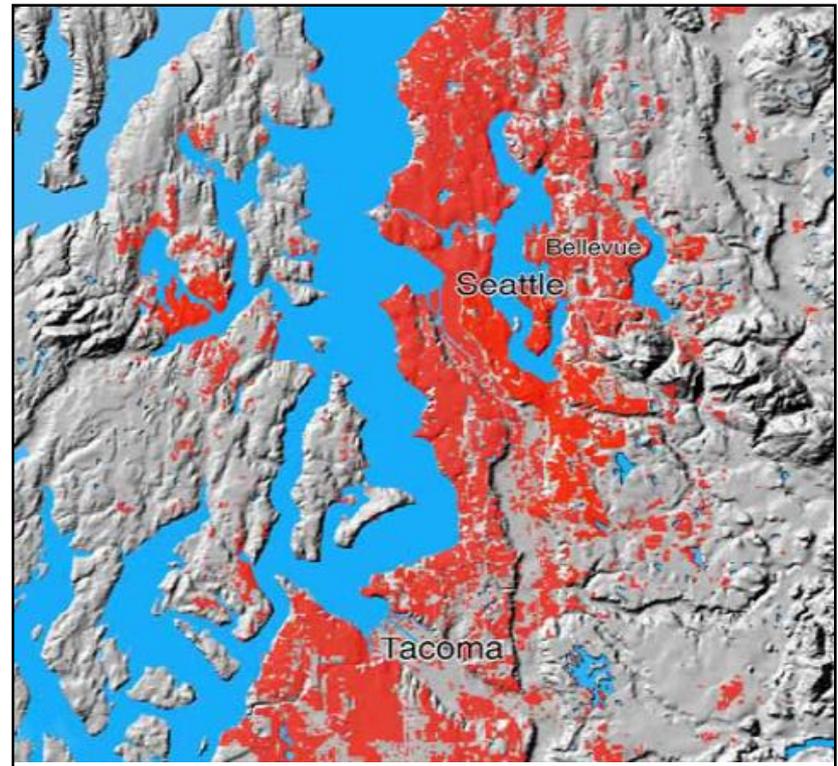
FORT&RRA

CREATING GREAT COMMUNITIES
and CONSERVING GREAT LANDS

Where Growth Has Occurred in the Region

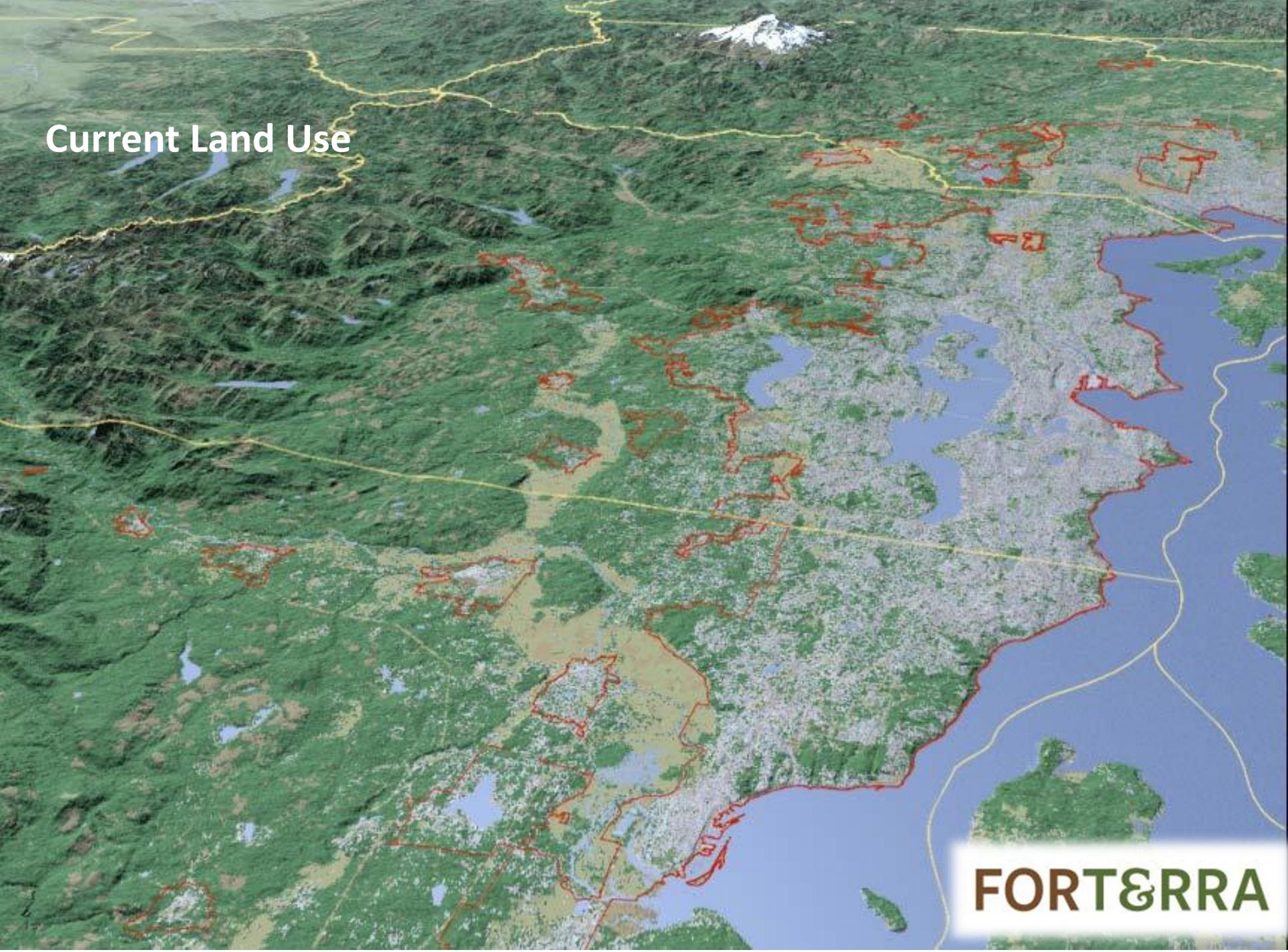


1950



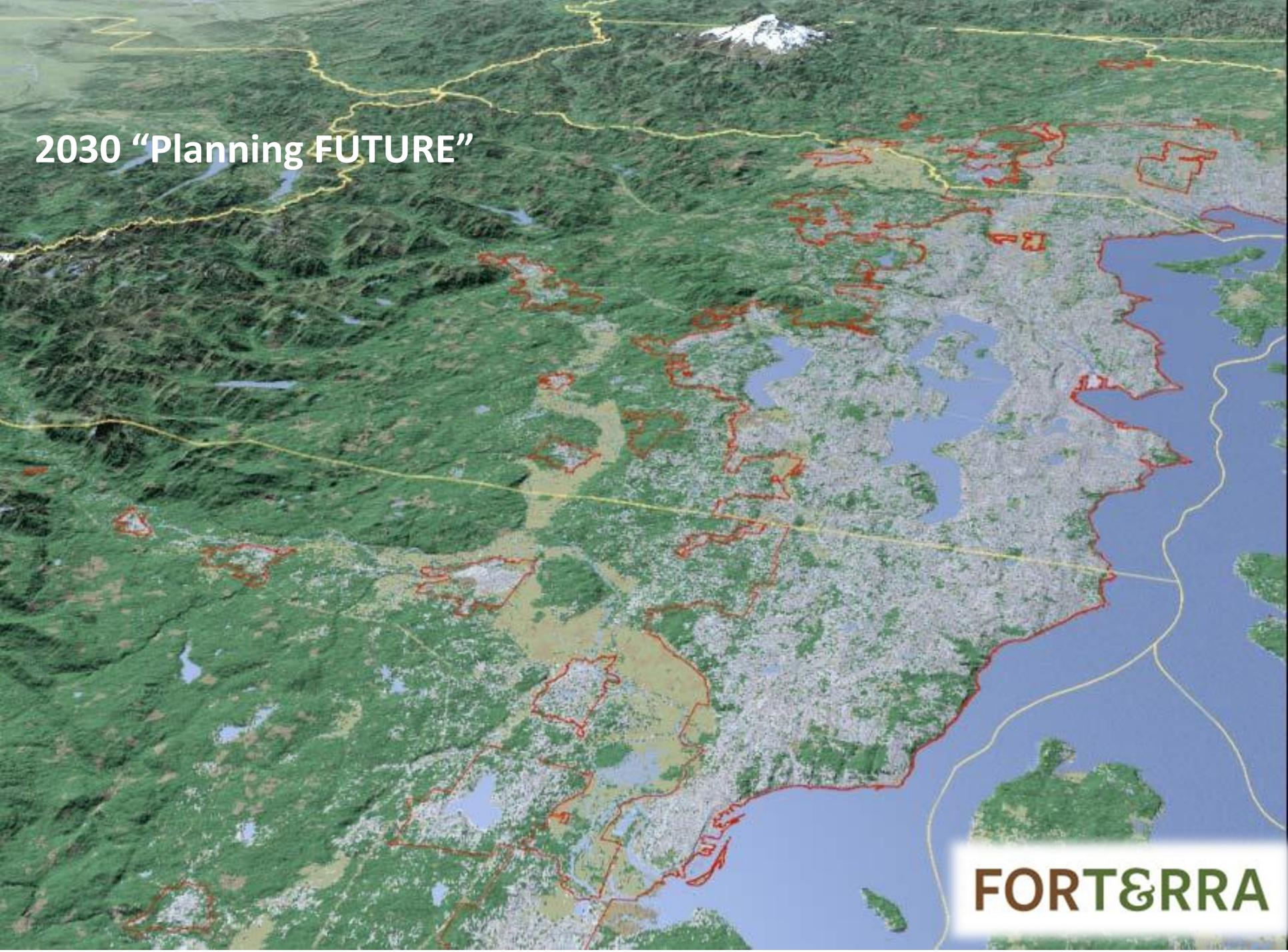
2000

Current Land Use



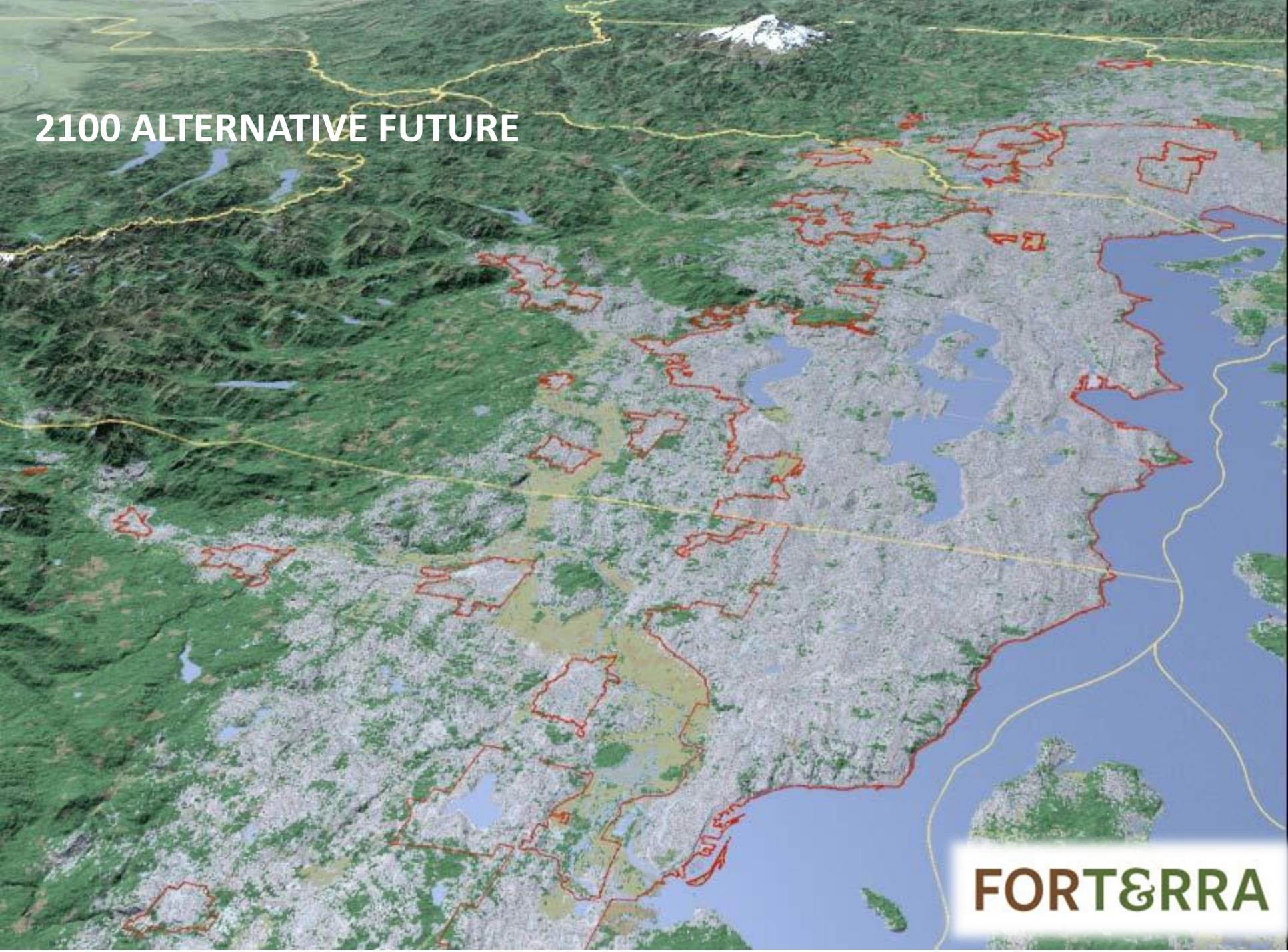
FORTERRA

2030 "Planning FUTURE"



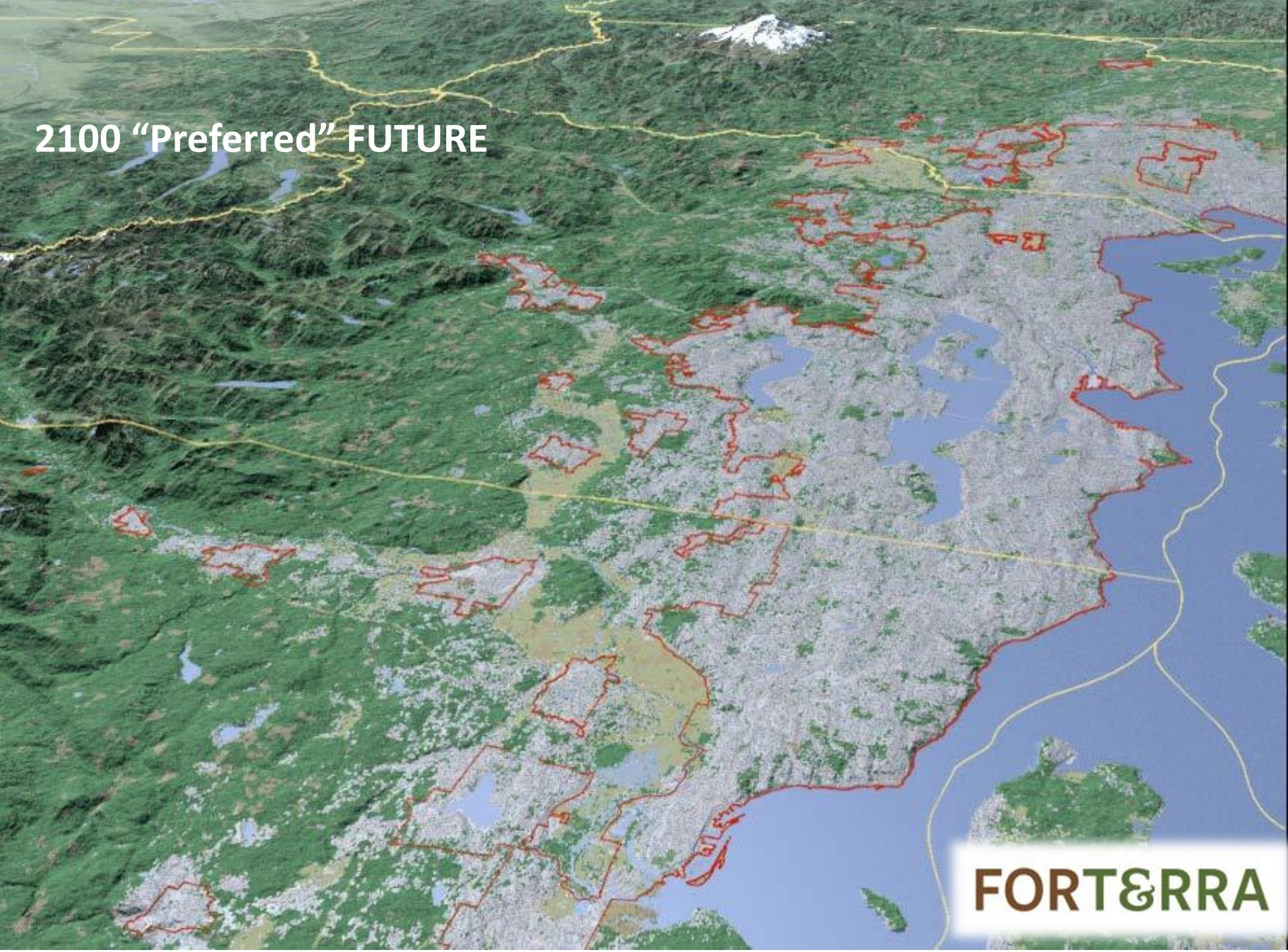
FORTERRA

2100 ALTERNATIVE FUTURE



FORT&ERRA

2100 "Preferred" FUTURE



FORT&ERRA

Conserving Great Lands



3D Visualization By
CASCADE LAND CONSERVANCY
www.cascadeand.org



FORT&RRA

Creating Great Communities



The Cascade Agenda Approach

- *Looking long*
 - *100 years forward*
- *Thinking broad*
 - *Sustain a strong regional economy*
 - *Promote livable communities*
 - *Ensure healthy ecosystems*

Cascade Agenda



- ***Conserving Great Lands***

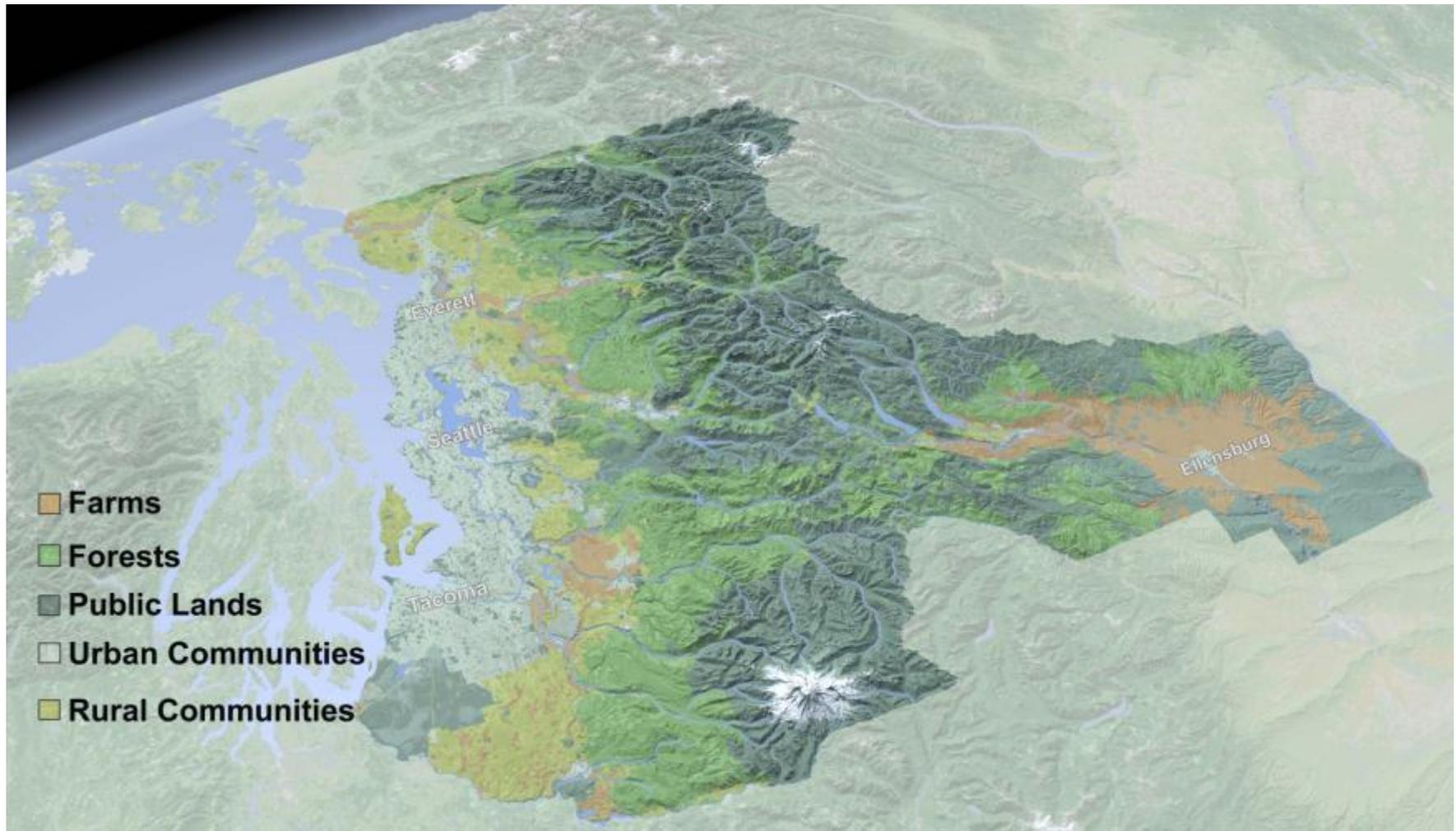
- *1 million acres private working forests and farms*
- *265,000 acres parks, natural areas and shorelines*



- ***Creating Great Communities***

- *Transform our cities and revitalize our towns*
- *Support rural communities*

The Cascade Agenda Region



Olympic Agenda Goals

The Economy

- *Jobs are key*

Communities

- *Create the new Northwest small town*

Conservation

- *Farmland, forests, and other landscapes will maintain a way of life and keep us healthy*

THE OLYMPIC AGENDA
A First Look

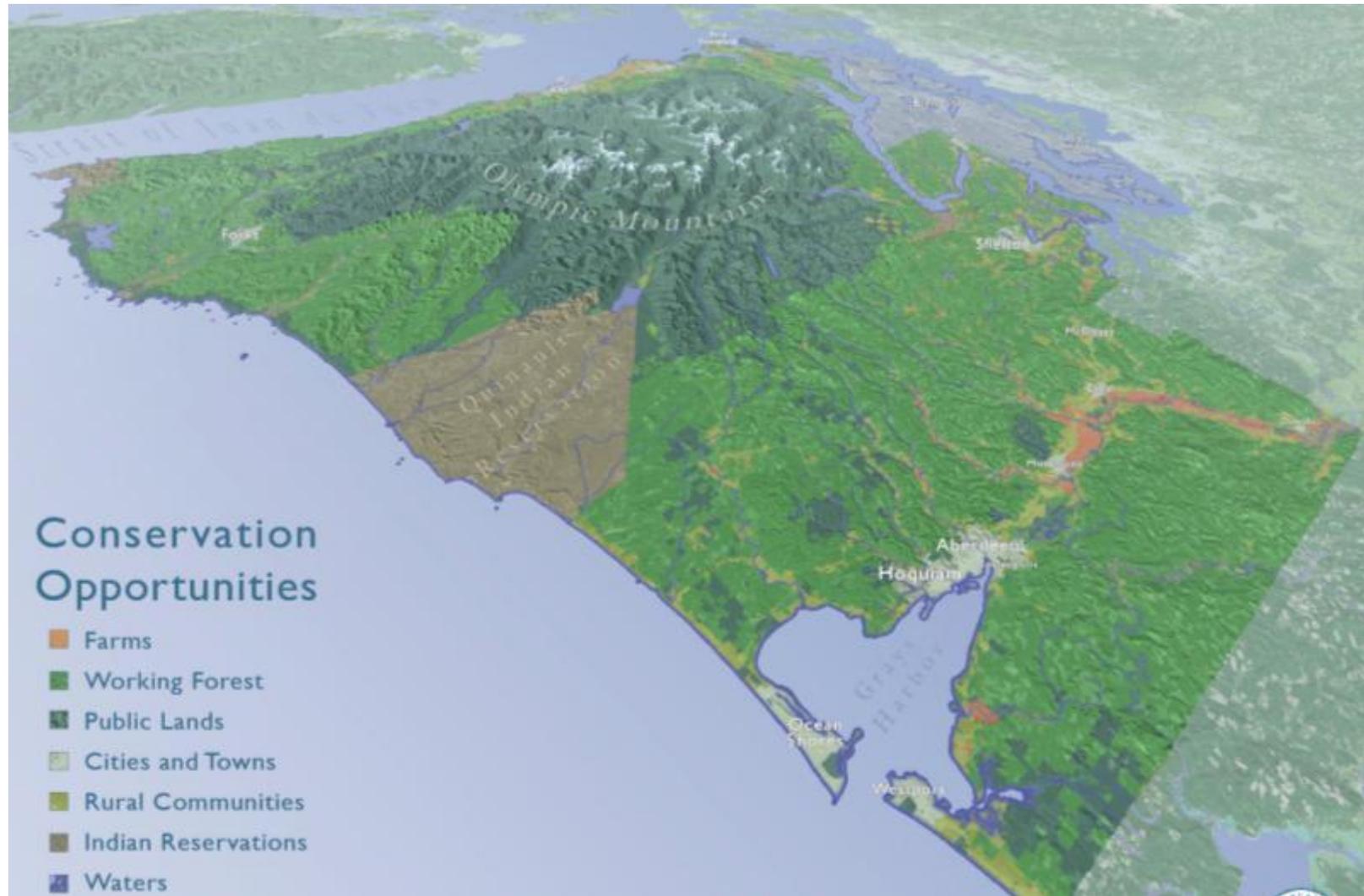
An Emerging Collaboration to Build a Future of Great Communities and Healthy Landscapes on the Olympic Peninsula.

Cascade Land Conservancy is working with residents of the Peninsula to create The Olympic Agenda, a 100-year vision and immediate action plan for the lands, communities and economy of Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson and Mason Counties. So far, we have had dialogues with more than 500 community leaders, business owners and other residents on issues in three counties and will expand the conversation to a region-wide discussion on maintaining our agricultural viability, sustaining our forests, and creating regional growth patterns and practices that suit our unique landscape and quality of life. This process will harness the best thinking of today's leaders to ensure the Olympic Peninsula's working landscapes and rural economy continue to thrive, the communities grow in a sustainable fashion and quality of life is maintained over the next 100 years.

After the first 2 years of work, we are reporting on where we stand, looking at what we have uncovered so far, and offering a map for how we will move ahead toward that common goal of a vision for the Peninsula. After reading this first look, join us in our continuing work to create the Olympic Agenda.

CASCADELAND.ORG | Mason County - PO Box 1898 - Shelton, WA 98584 - P. 360.462.5363
info@cascade.land.org

Olympic Agenda Region

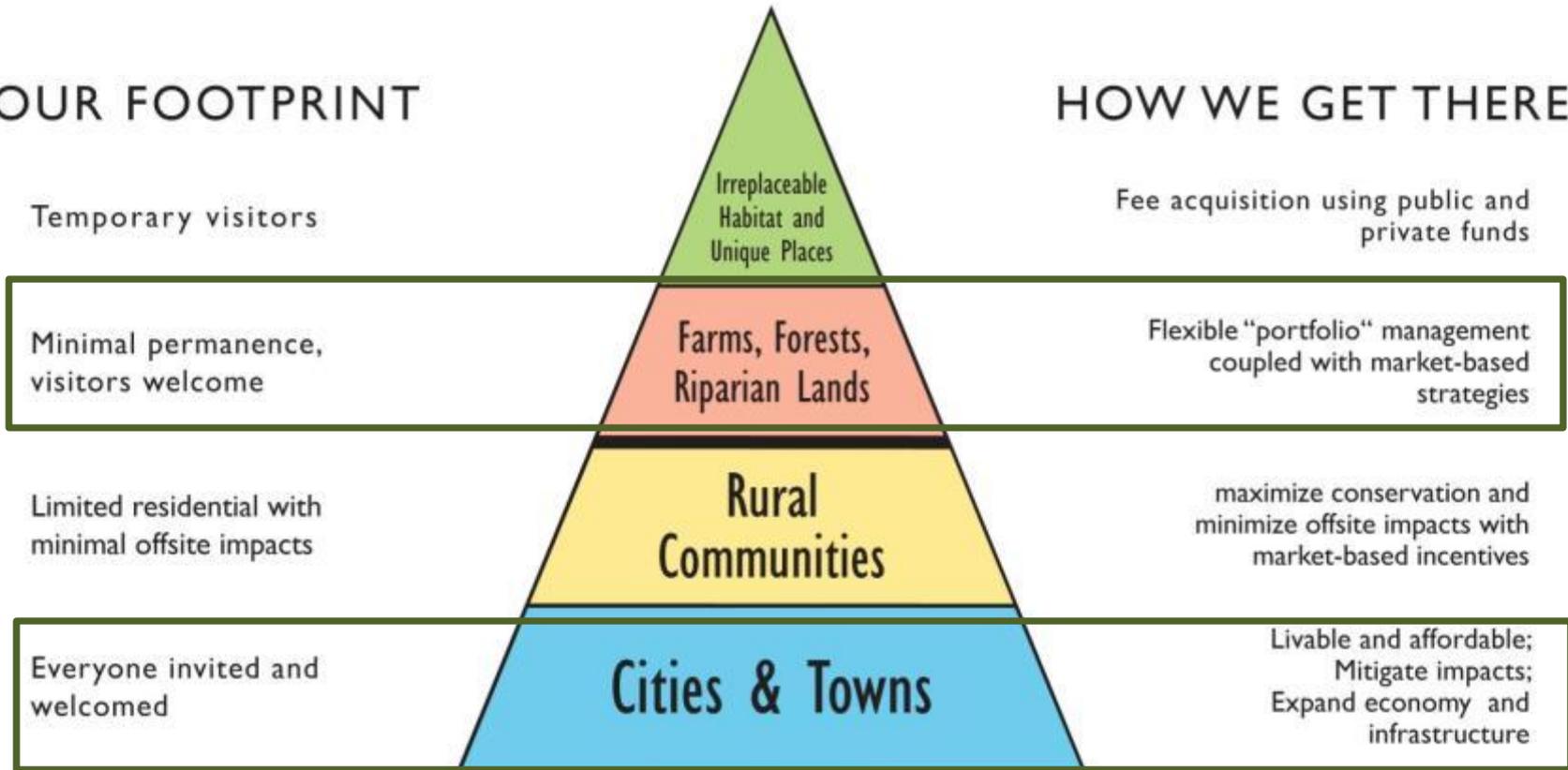


Landscape Strategies

OUR LANDSCAPES

OUR FOOTPRINT

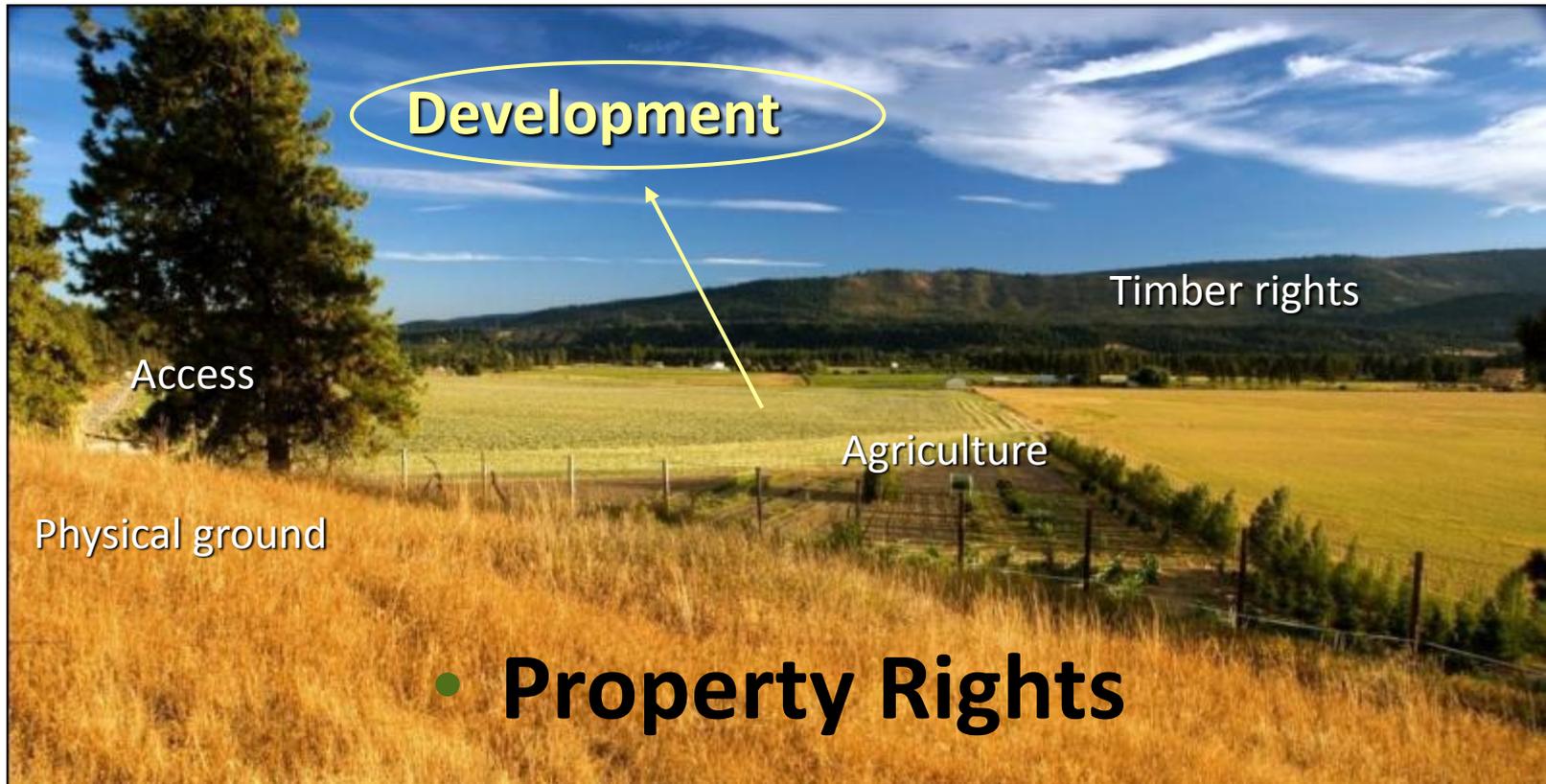
HOW WE GET THERE



number of lots, landowners
land value

Basics of TDR

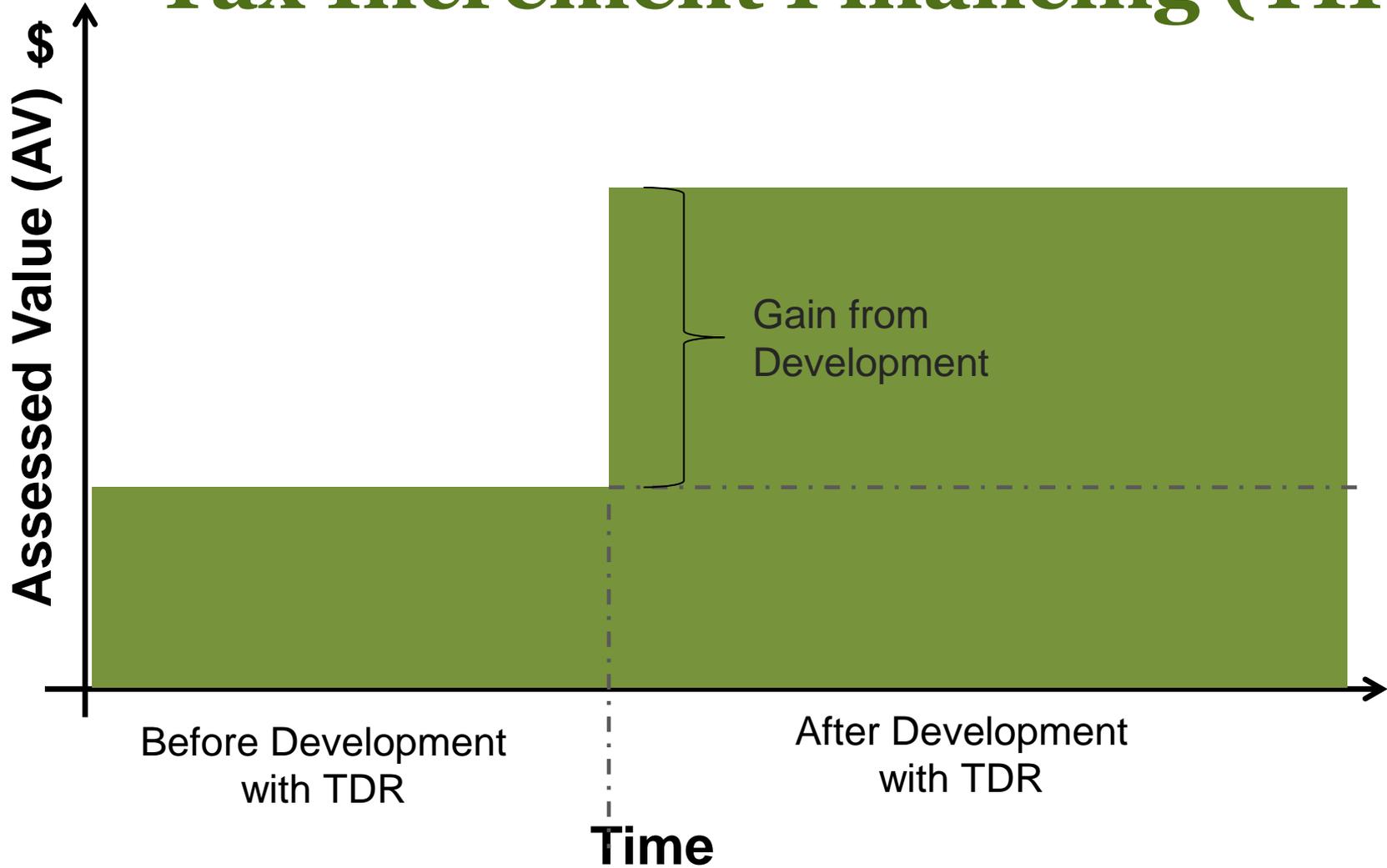
- Property rights are more than just physical property
- Development potential can be separated and transferred



Transfer of Development Rights



Tax Increment Financing (TIF)



Putting it All Together

**Conserved Farms
and Forests**



**Revitalized
Communities**



**A Better Future
for Our Families**



TDR



TIF



**Environment
and Economy**

Land Trusts and Sustainability: Other Program Examples

- Urban Forest Restoration Programs
 - Including Partnerships with the US Forest Service
- Carbon Sequestration Program known as C3, involving local businesses
- Innovative use of Conservation Easements
- Ecosystem Service Markets creation

FORTERRA

Thank you



Gene Duvernoy, President
www.forterra.org

Robb Macleod

*GIS Manager
Ducks Unlimited*





**NATIONAL CONSERVATION
EASEMENT DATABASE**

USDA Forest Service

August 23, 2012

**Robb Macleod
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.**

**Peter Stangel
U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities**



NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Purpose

Imagine...driving from Washington, D.C. to Chicago with maps that only showed the interstate highways..

In collaboration with land trusts and public agencies, create a single, up-to-date, sustainable nationwide system for managing and accessing data about conservation easements.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE



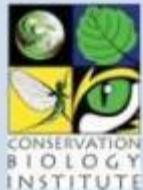
Additional support from:

- Donnelley Foundation
- Knobloch Family Foundation
- Graham Foundation
- US Forest Service

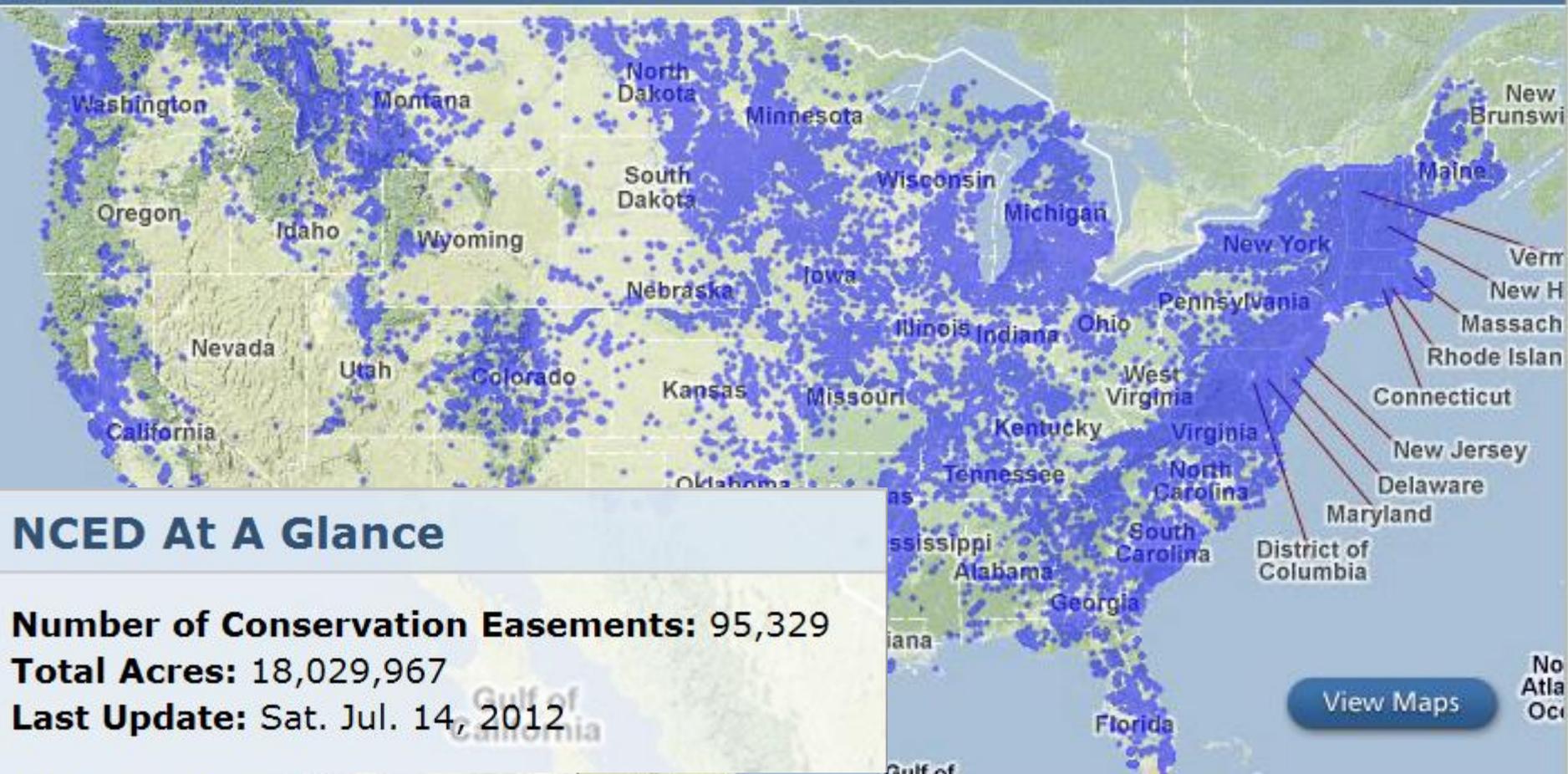
Sponsors:
Support, Advice, data



Development Partnership:



NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE



NCED At A Glance

Number of Conservation Easements: 95,329

Total Acres: 18,029,967

Last Update: Sat. Jul. 14, 2012

No
Atla
Oc

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Easement Database Portal

Map | Satellite | **Terrain** | Topo | Ownership + | LandCover + | Registry Overlays

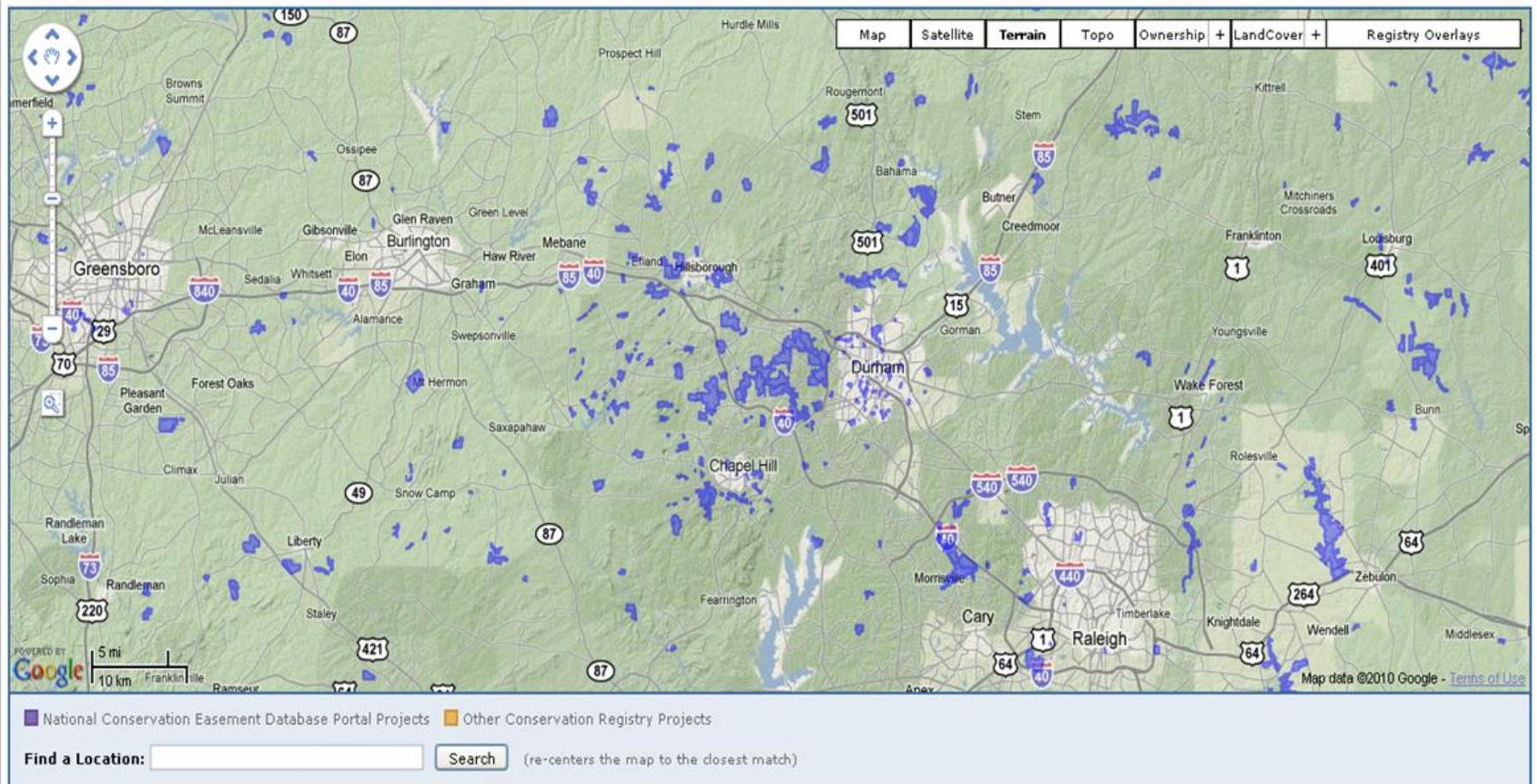
Map data ©2010 Google - [Terms of Use](#)

■ National Conservation Easement Database Portal Projects ■ Other Conservation Registry Projects

Find a Location: (re-centers the map to the closest match)

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Easement Database Portal



NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Easement Database Portal

The screenshot displays the National Conservation Easement Database Portal interface. At the top, a navigation bar includes tabs for Map, Satellite, Terrain, Topo, Ownership, LandCover, and Registry Overlays. The main map area shows a topographic view of Orange County, NC, with several blue-shaded areas representing National Conservation Easement Database Portal Projects. A pop-up window for 'Triangle Land Conservancy' is open, providing the following details:

- Site:** Triangle Land Conservancy
- Location:** Orange County, NC
- Easement Holder:** Unknown
- Landowner Type:** NGO
- Public Access:** Unknown
- NCED Site:** 33226 (Triangle Land Conservancy)

A 'View Detail Page' link is also visible in the pop-up. The map includes a scale bar (1 mile / 1.6 km), a search bar at the bottom left, and a legend at the bottom center. The legend indicates that blue areas represent 'National Conservation Easement Database Portal Projects' and orange areas represent 'Other Conservation Registry Projects'. The search bar contains the text 'Find a Location:' followed by an input field and a 'Search' button, with a note '(re-centers the map to the closest match)'. The map data is attributed to ©2010 Google.



NCED Benefits

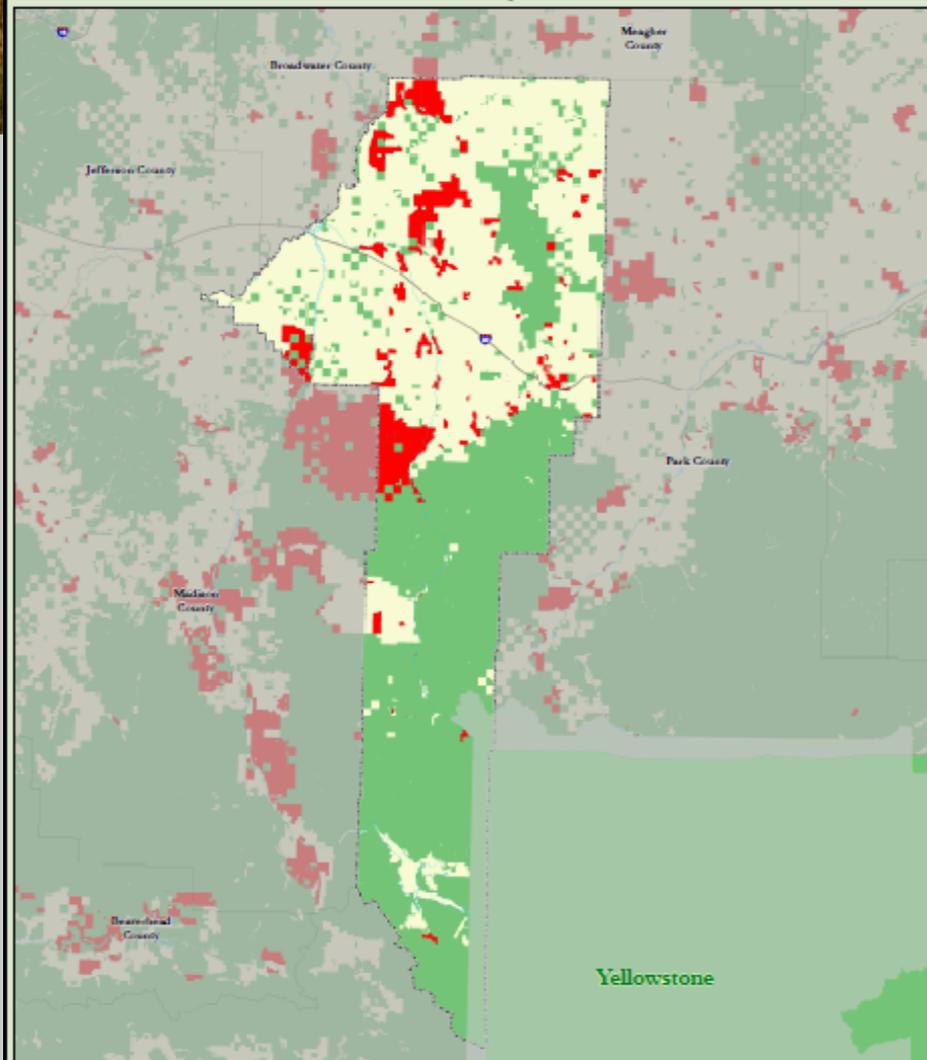
All easement data in one location to:

- **Make strategic decisions based on easement location**
- **Raise awareness about potential collaborations**
- **Build a national constituency to keep easements protected**
- **Spatial tools for partners that don't have GIS capability**

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Conservation Planning

Unique Protected Lands Identified by NCED data collection effort Gallatin County, Montana



Legend

- * Lands Protected by Easements that are not included in PAD
- Lands Identified by Latest Version of Protected Areas Database

* Easement data collected by Nature Serve's Natural Heritage Program and provided to National Conservation Easement Database.

Map created by Trust for Public Land
October 11, 2010
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All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the Trust for Public Land.

Accountability

All easements benefit from public funds

- Standardization of data attributes
- Promote digitizing
- Better monitoring
- Reduced likelihood of easement violations
- Evaluate success of incentive programs

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Analyze Economic Benefits



A RETURN ON INVESTMENT:
THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF
COLORADO'S CONSERVATION EASEMENTS



THE
TRUST
for PUBLIC
LAND

CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE

Finding: Every dollar invested in easements by Colorado returns \$6.

BusinessWeek

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS February 1, 2010, 2:48PM ET

Report: Conservation easements good investment

By JUDITH KOHLER

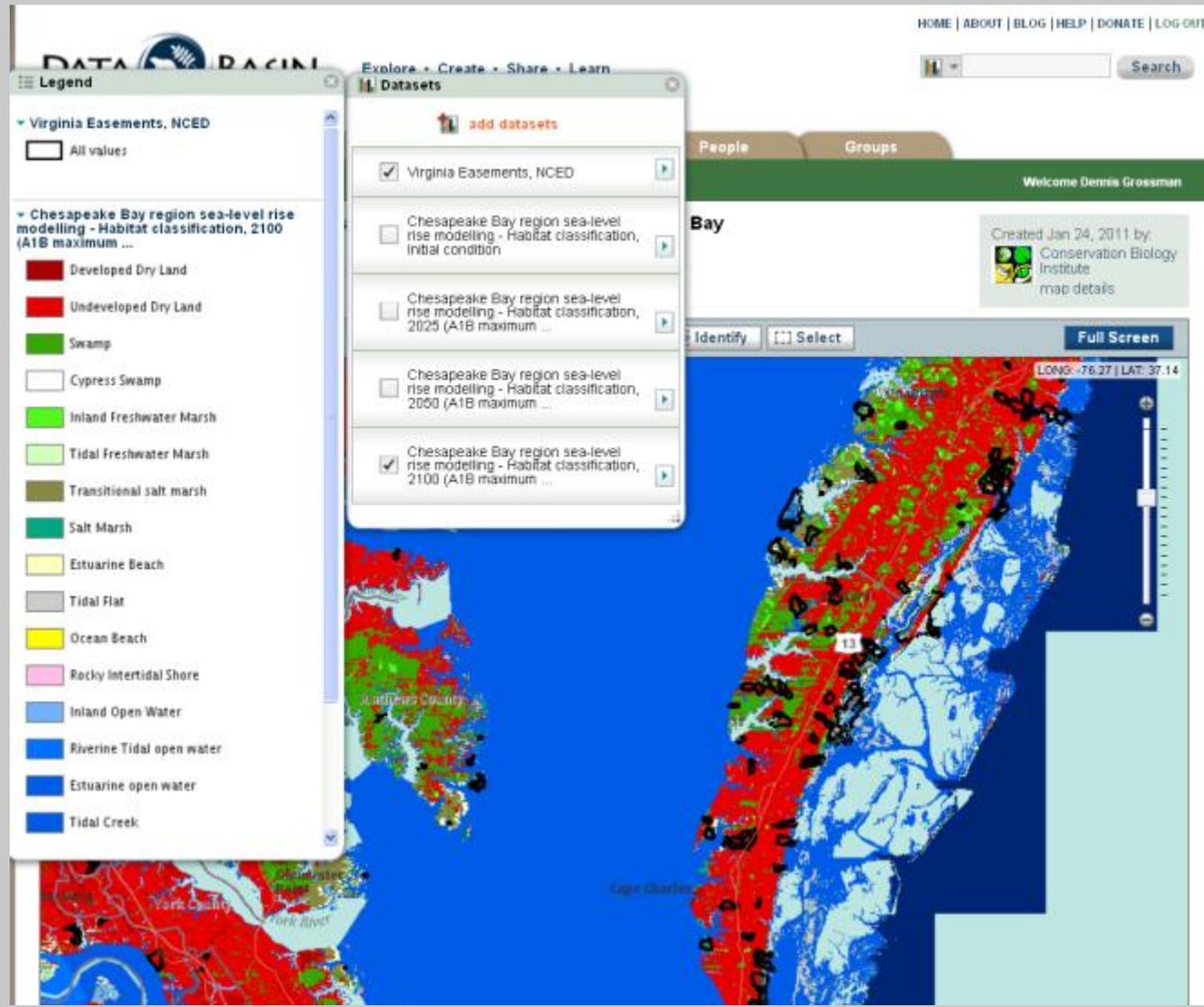
DENVER

Coloradans reap roughly \$6 in benefits for every \$1 invested in efforts to keep agricultural land and other open spaces from being developed, a report released Monday suggests.

Lawmakers reached a favorable compromise: rather than a permanent 2/3 reduction, a 50% reduction for the next 3 years.

NATIONAL CONSERVATION EASEMENT DATABASE

Adaptation for Climate Change





**NATIONAL CONSERVATION
EASEMENT DATABASE**

Still much to do...

USGS and CBI for seamless integration with PAD-US

Additional attribute information from data providers

On-going data collection

Sustainable funding



**NATIONAL CONSERVATION
EASEMENT DATABASE**

www.conservationeasement.us

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Questions and Answers

Ask questions through the chat pod

Chuck Roe Land Trust Alliance

Carl Silverstein Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy

Gene Duvernoy Forterra

Robb McLeod Ducks Unlimited

Future Webinar Topics

- Landscape-level planning for natural resource professionals
- Open space conservation efforts by other federal agencies (USDA, DOI, DoD, DOT)
- The art of using science to guide planning efforts

Session #6

Facilitating Large Landscape Conservation Efforts: Working effectively across boundaries

Thursday, September 13 at 2:00 pm Eastern

Shawn Johnson – *Practitioner's Network,
Crown of the Continent*

Rob Pirani - *Regional Plan Association*

Jim Bonesteel – *Rensselaer Plateau Alliance*



Give us your feedback!

www.fs.fed.us/openspace/webinars

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