

An integrated source of high quality natural resource information ---The One NC Naturally Conservation **Planning Tool**



Goals

- Identify & prioritize essential natural resources that sustain ecological systems long-term.
- Coordinate conservation efforts across state.
- Provide guidance for conservation funding.
- Update every six months.



6 Coordinated Natural Resource Assessments

- Open Space & Conservation Lands
- Biodiversity / Wildlife Habitat
- Marine / Estuarine Ecosystems
- Water Services
- Farmland Lands
- Forestry Lands



Open Space & Conservation Lands Assessment

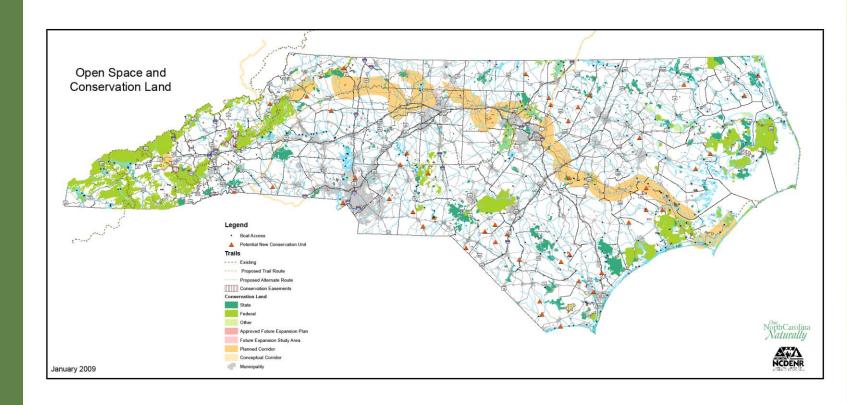


 Conservation lands – both existing and planned

Managed for conservation by public agencies



GI "Base" Map: Existing Open Space



Research Question #1

Permanent conservation lands managed by public entities



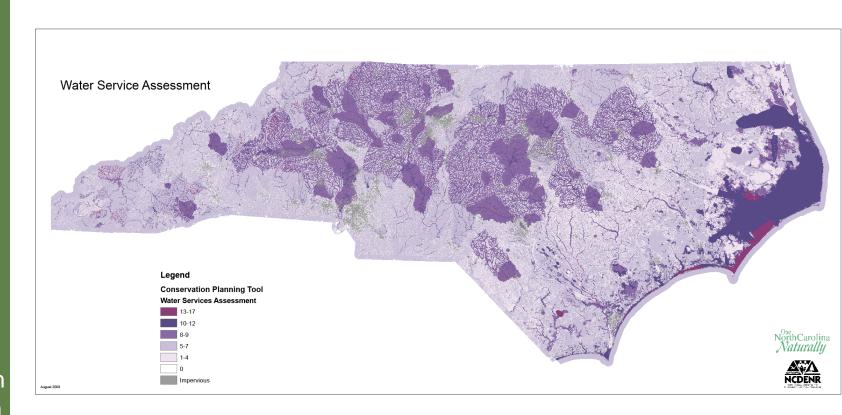


Water Services Assessment

- Water quality
- Water quantity
- Water consumption



Water Services Assessment



Research Question #4



Farmland Assessment



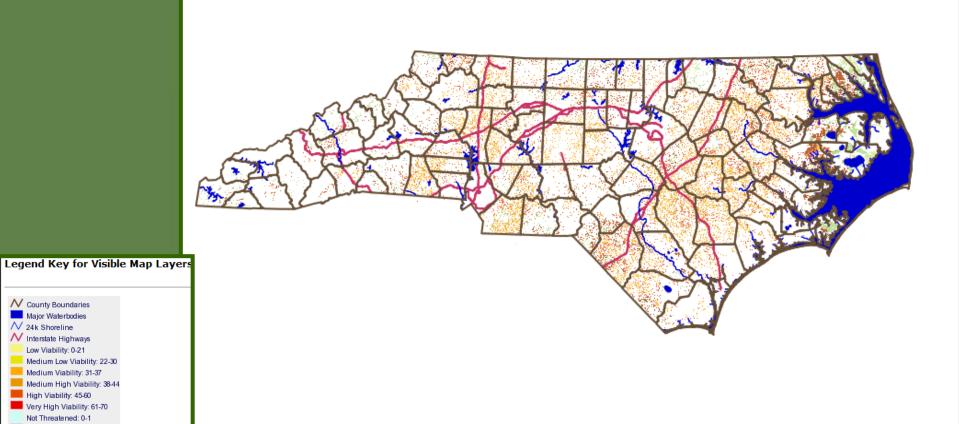
- Farm & Forestry priority areas
- Includes both agricultural land & support infrastructure for agribusiness

^{*}available through the Dept of Ag.



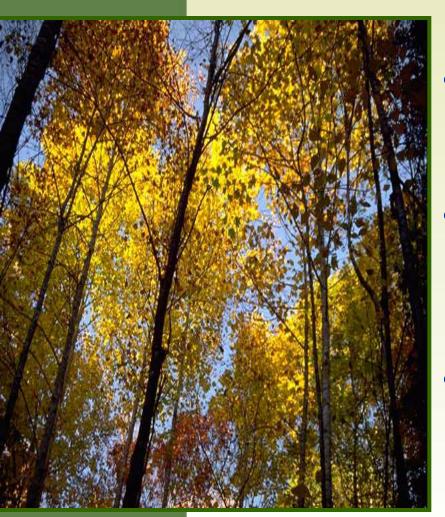
County Boundaries Major Waterbodies ✓ 24k Shoreline ✓ Interstate Highways Low Viability: 0-21 Medium Low Viability: 22-30 Medium Viability: 31-37 Medium High Viability: 38-44 High Viability: 45-60 Very High Viability: 61-70 Not Threatened: 0-1 Low Threat: 2-10 Medium Threat: 11-16 High Threat: 17-26

Farmland Assessment





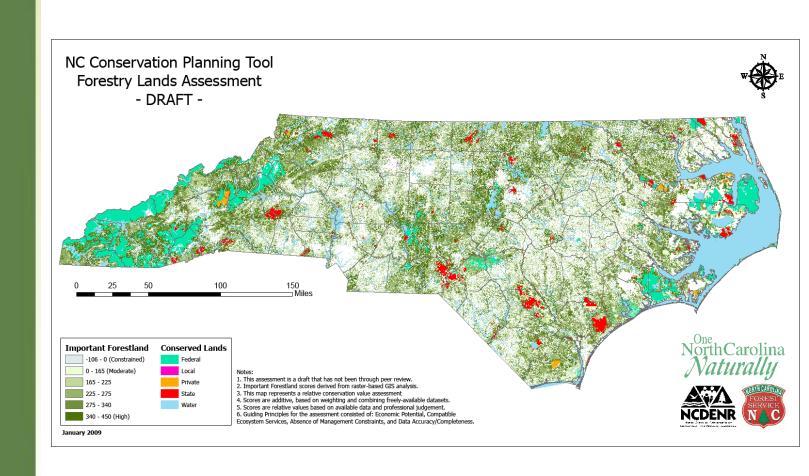
Forestry Lands Assessment



- **Economic potential**
- Compatible ecosystem services
- Absence of management constraints
- Data accuracy and completeness



Forestry Lands Assessment





Marine / Estuarine Ecosystems Assessment



- Coastal Habitat Protection Plan (CHPP) priority areas
- Includes 6 fish habitats –
 e.g. oyster beds, submerged
 vegetation, wetlands
- Water quality protection from sediment, stormwater, wastewater



Biodiversity / Wildlife Habitat

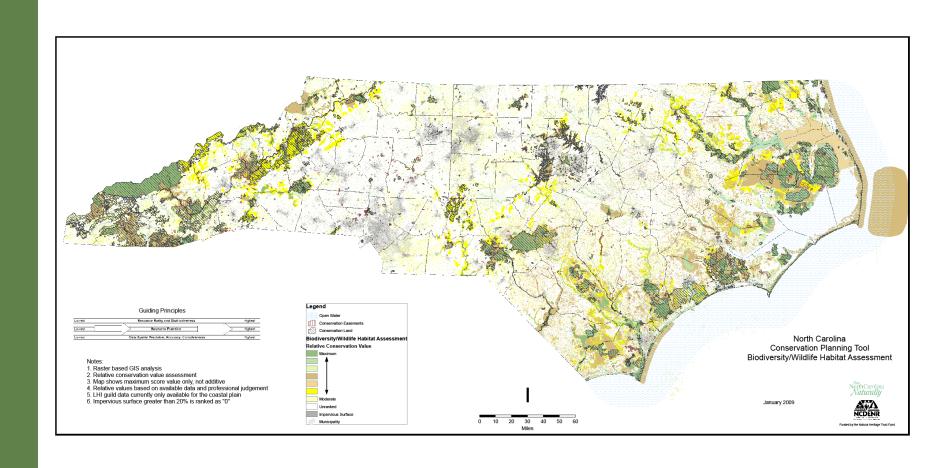
Assessment



- Aquatic & terrestrial species and communities
- Large scale landscapes –
 Core habitats and connectors
- Lands important to ecosystem processes –
 e.g. wetlands, riparian buffers



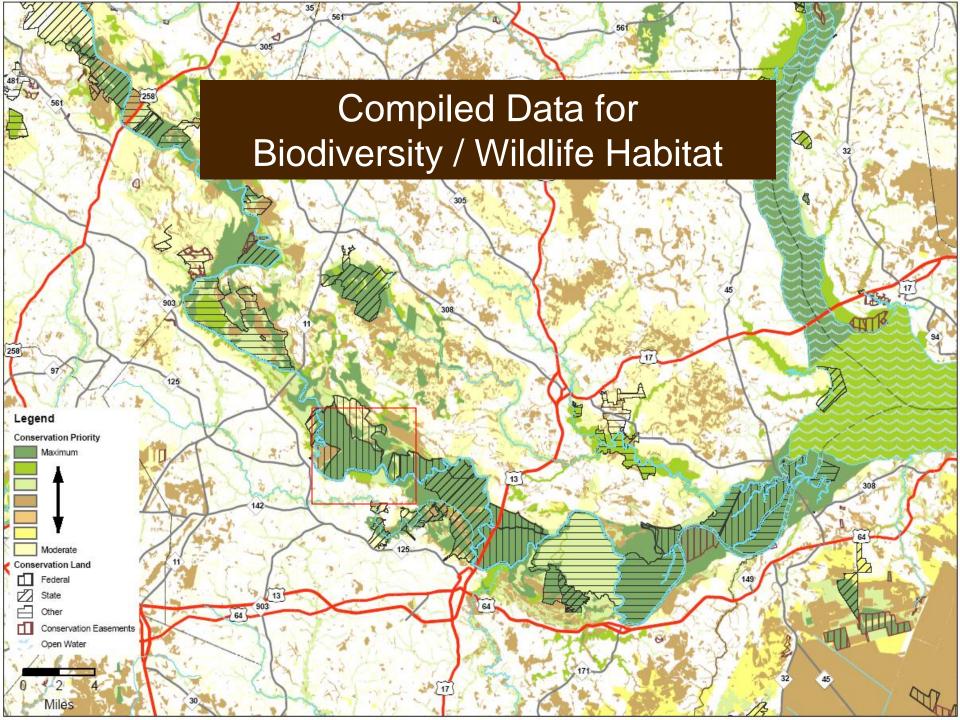
North Carolina Naturally Biodiversity / Wildlife Habitat Assessment

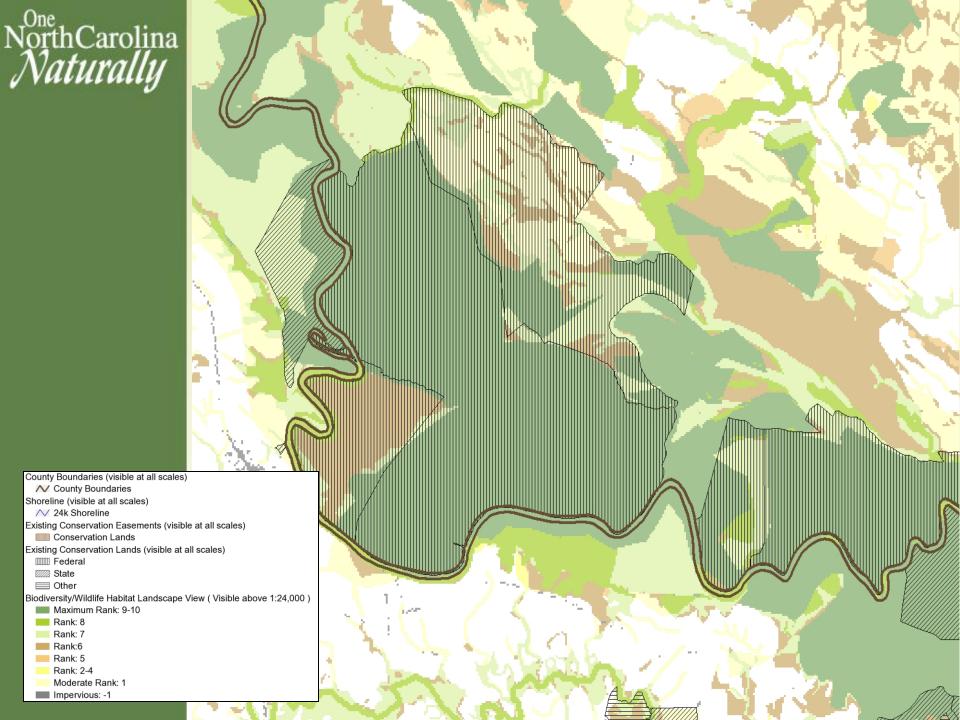




Example:

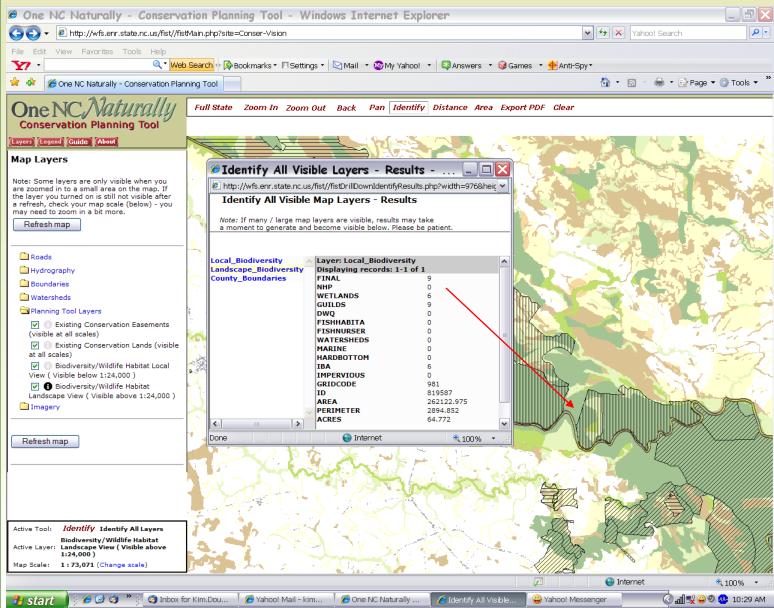
Roanoke River – Martin County





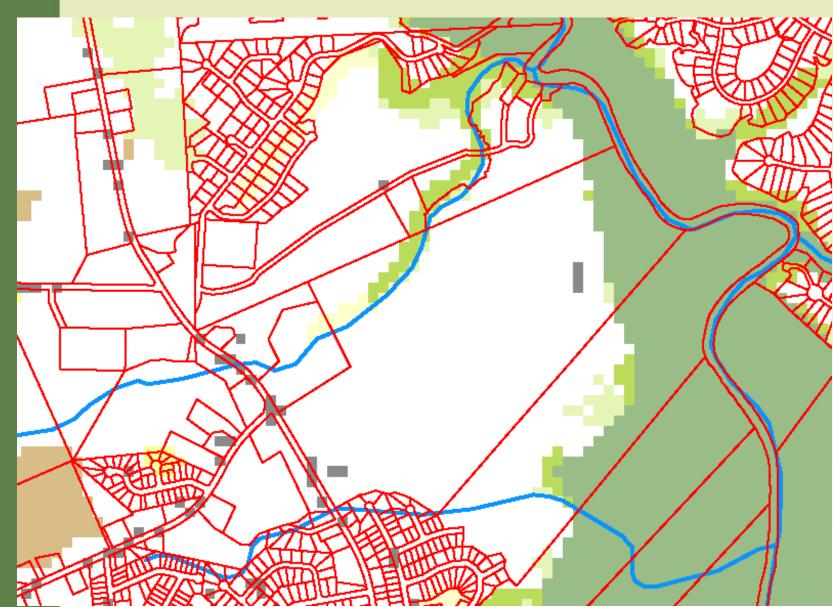


ID Tool & Attribute Table





Add local data





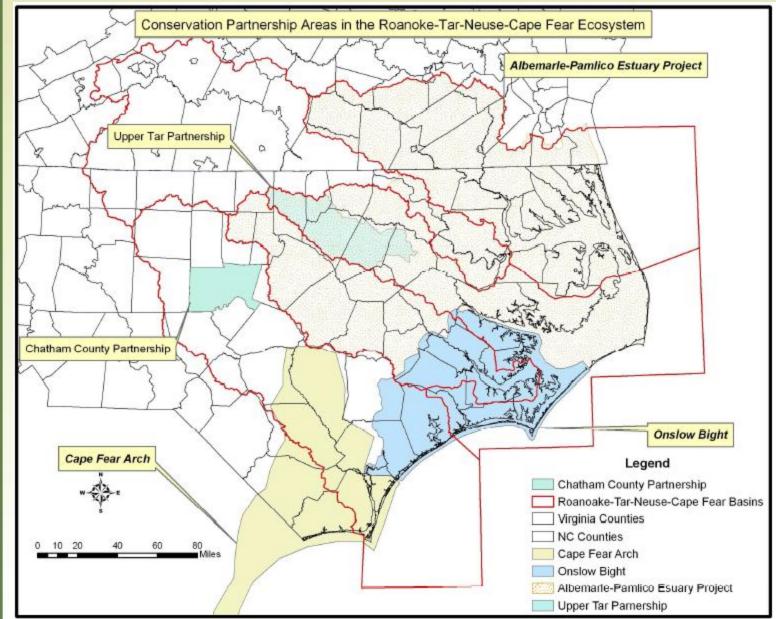
Next Steps: Threats Assessment

- Climate Change
 - Sea level rise models
 - USFWS work on habitat change
- Population Growth / Patterns
 - Chesapeake Bay Program
- Landslide Hazards
 - Studies underway

Research Question #3A



Resources Across Borders



Research Question #5



Conservation Planning Tool is being used to:

- Guide future conservation and compatible land use planning at state, regional and local levels
- Inform funding decisions
- Working with NC DOT to include in their planning processes



Conservation Planning Tool is available at:

- www.oneNCnaturally.org
 - GIS data download for professionals
 - Interactive map viewer on Web
 - Printable maps
 - Detailed Report

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