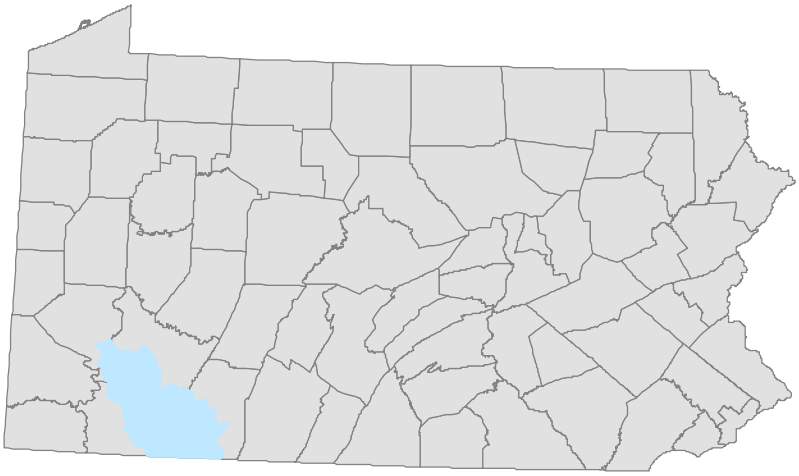


Rapid Watershed Assessment
Youghiogheny Watershed

Rapid watershed assessments provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders. These assessments help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.

United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

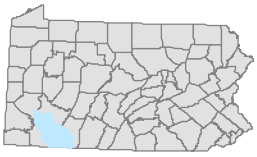
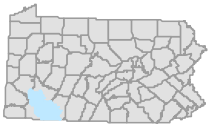


Table of Contents

Preface....1
Introduction....2
Common Resource Areas....3
Elevation....3
Land Use....4
Annual Average Precipitation....5
National Wetland Inventory....5
Agriculturally Impaired Streams....6
Abandoned Mine Drainage Impaired Streams....7
Abandoned Mine Land....8
Urban Runoff/Storm Sewer Impaired Streams....9
Streams with Other Sources of Impairment....9
Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams....10
Pennsylvania Trout Waters....10
Total Maximum Daily Load....11
Water Quality Testing Points....11
Water Resource Points....12
Natural Heritage Inventory Sites....13
Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas....13
Important Bird Areas....14
Important Mammal Areas....14
Soils
- Drainage Classification....15
- Farmland Classification....16
- Hydric Soils....17
- Highly Erodible Land....18
- Capability Class....19

Cultivated Crops on Highly Erodible Land....20
Cultivated Crops on Hydric Soils....20
Cultivated Crops on Poor or Unsuited Soils....21
Cultivated Crops within 1000 ft of Agriculturally Impaired Streams....21
Resource Concerns....22
Performance Results System Data....23
Census and Social Data....24
Partners....25
Footnotes....26 - 28



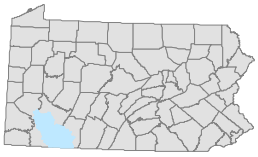
Preface

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is initiating rapid watershed assessments in order to increase the speed and efficiency generating resource information to guide conservation implementation, as well as the speed and efficiency of putting it into the hands of local decision makers. While these rapid assessments provide less detail and analysis than full-blown studies and plans, they do provide a foundation for watershed studies or area planning. In addition, the assessments provide the benefits of NRCS locally-led planning for resource conservation and conservation program implementation in less time and at a reduced cost than more complex studies.

Rapid watershed assessments will be valuable for Farm Bill program delivery, and provide useful information for county, watershed and regional planners. These assessments provide initial estimates of where conservation investments would best address the concerns of landowners, conservation districts, and other community organizations and stakeholders. These assessments can help landowners and local leaders set priorities and determine the best actions to achieve their goals.

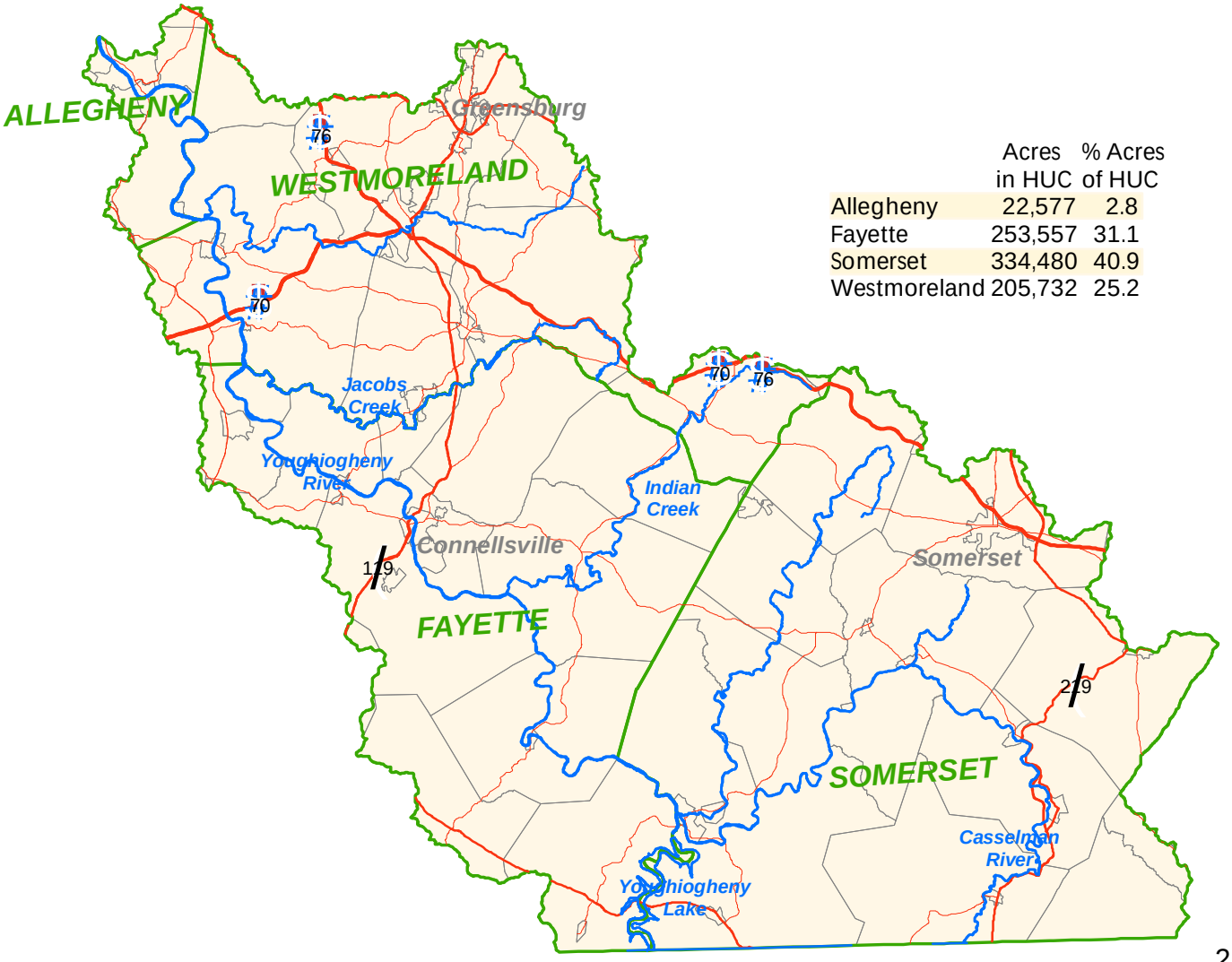
To produce the assessments, quantitative and qualitative data is collected and organized to create a watershed profile using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology. The data is analyzed to allow resource concerns and conditions to become apparent, and to generate maps and information to help people make better decisions about conservation needs and programs.

/s/ Craig R. Derickson
Pennsylvania State Conservationist

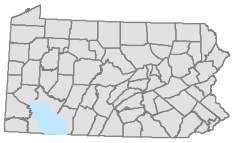


Introduction

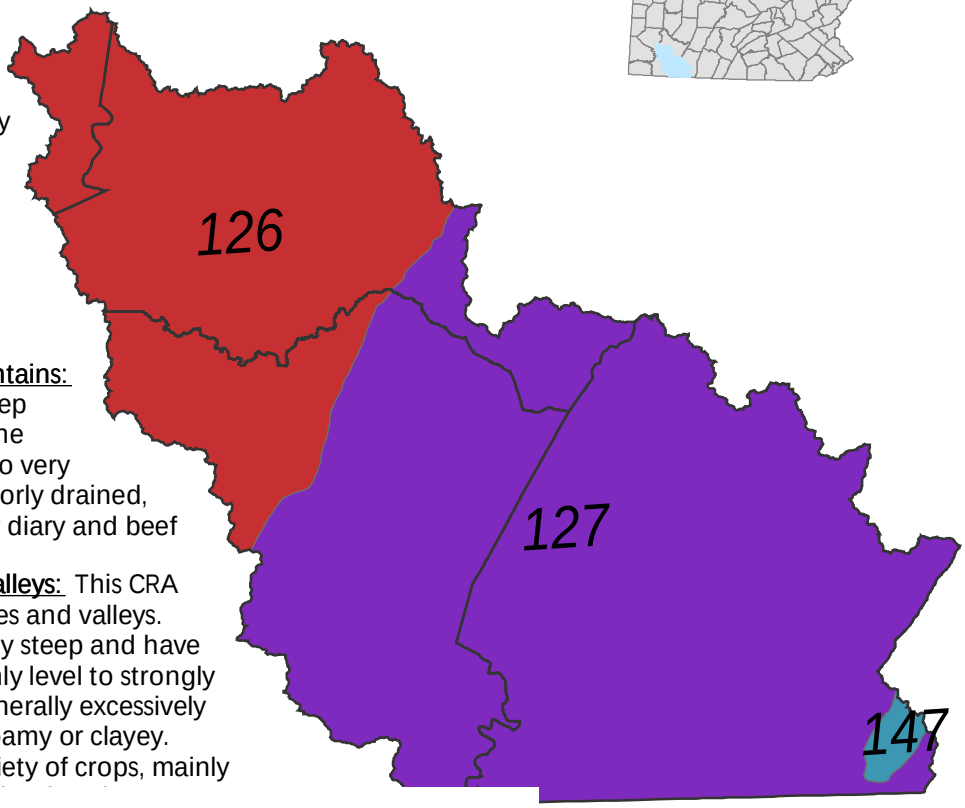
The Youghiogheny Watershed is located in Southwest Pennsylvania in portions of Allegheny, Fayette, Somerset, and Westmoreland Counties. The Youghiogheny Watershed extends into Maryland and West Virginia, although Pennsylvania contains 72% of the entire watershed. The watershed is almost 1,132,000 acres in size, almost 816,400 acres in Pennsylvania, of which almost 195,500 acres is farmland. Four Service Centers of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, four county Conservation Districts and portions of the Penn's Corner and Southern Alleghenies Resource Conservation and Development Council provide conservation assistance in this watershed.



	Acres in HUC	% Acres of HUC
Allegheny	22,577	2.8
Fayette	253,557	31.1
Somerset	334,480	40.9
Westmoreland	205,732	25.2



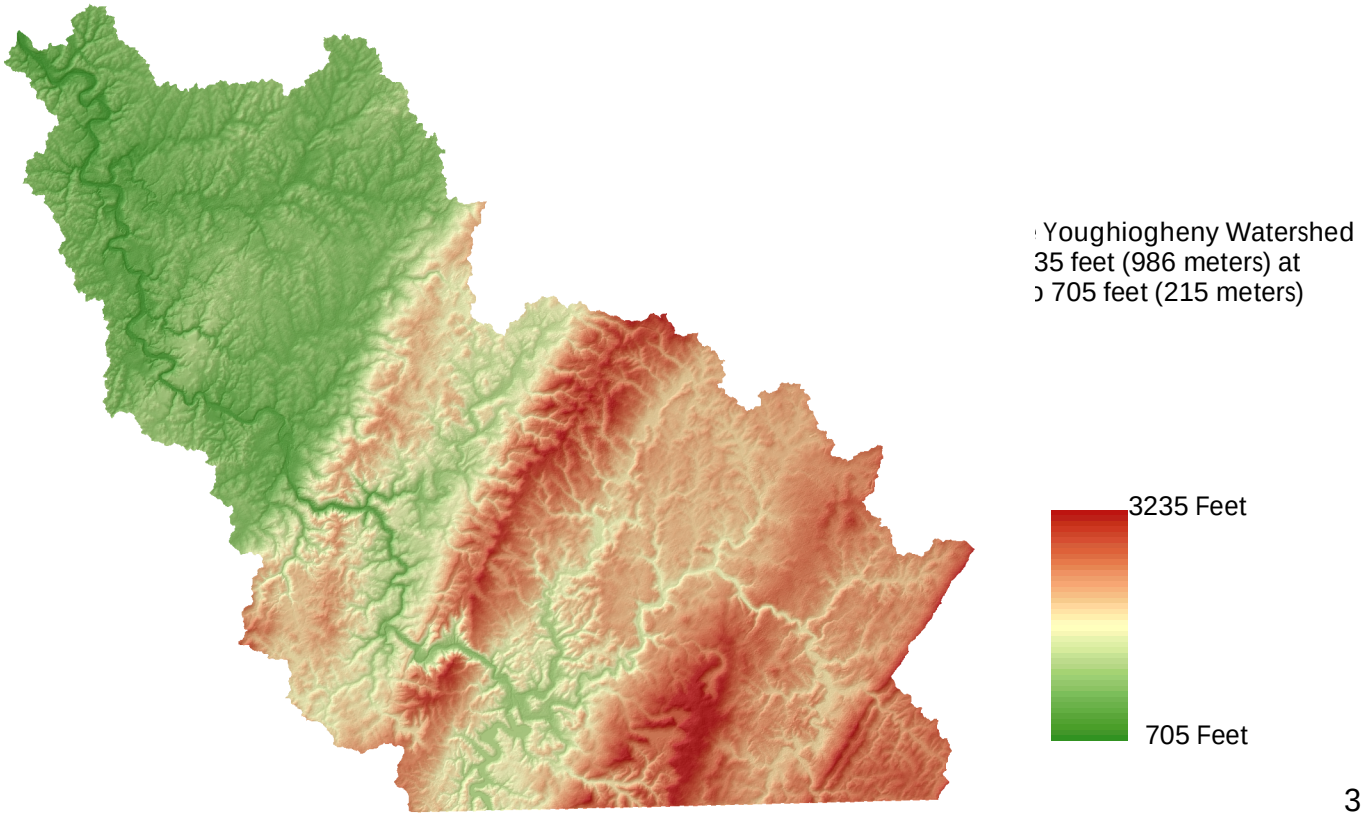
Common Resource Area (CRA)[1]

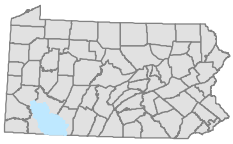


126 - Central Allegheny Plateau: This CRA is on a dissected plateau that is underlain mainly by horizontally bedded sedimentary rocks. Narrow, level valleys and narrow, sloping ridge tops are separated by long, steep and very steep side slopes. Soils are mainly shallow to very deep, excessively drained to somewhat poorly drained, and skeletal to clayey. Most farms in the CRA are beef cattle and diary farm operation.

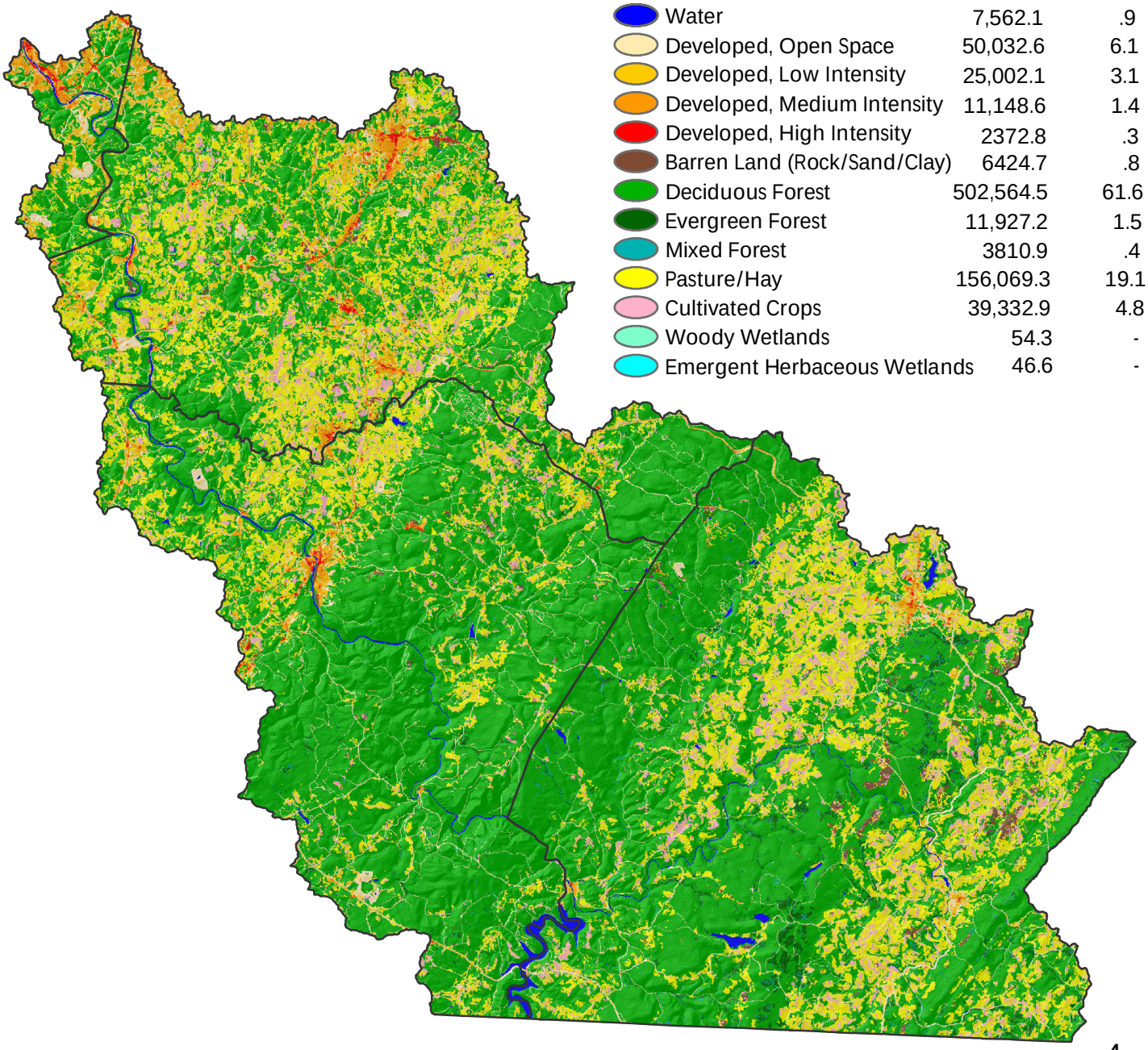
127 - Eastern Allegheny Plateau and Mountains: This CRA is on a dissected plateau with steep slopes and level to gently rolling areas in the northern part. Soils are moderately deep to very deep, excessively drained to somewhat poorly drained, and loamy. Corn, small grain, and feed for diary and beef cattle are the principle crops grown.

147 - Northern Appalachian Ridges and Valleys: This CRA is a folded and faulted area of parallel ridges and valleys. The ridges are strongly sloping to extremely steep and have narrow, rolling crests. The valleys are mainly level to strongly sloping. Soils are shallow to very deep, generally excessively drained to moderately well drained, and loamy or clayey. Cropland in the area is used for a wide variety of crops, mainly

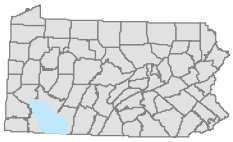




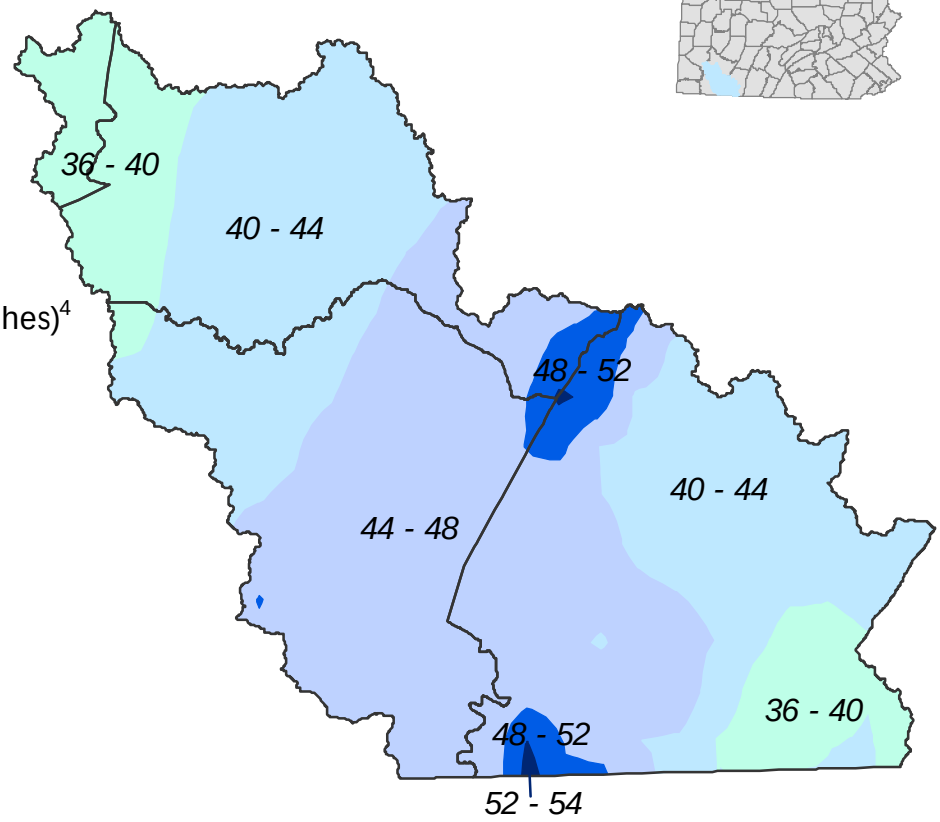
Land Use / Land Cover 2001[3]

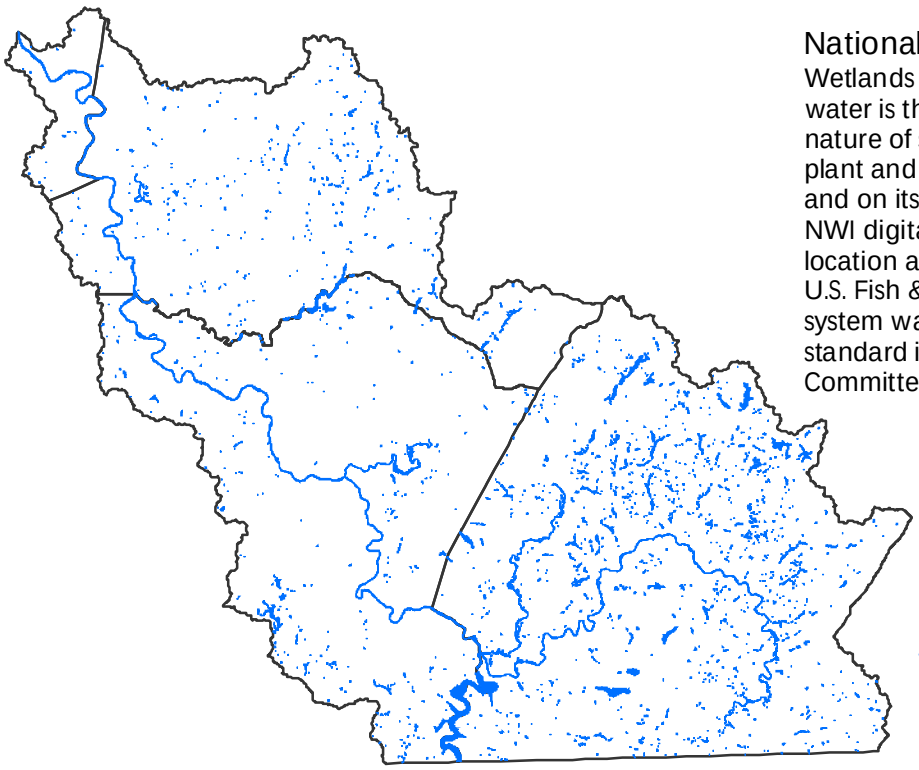


	Acres	Percent
Water	7,562.1	.9
Developed, Open Space	50,032.6	6.1
Developed, Low Intensity	25,002.1	3.1
Developed, Medium Intensity	11,148.6	1.4
Developed, High Intensity	2372.8	.3
Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)	6424.7	.8
Deciduous Forest	502,564.5	61.6
Evergreen Forest	11,927.2	1.5
Mixed Forest	3810.9	.4
Pasture/Hay	156,069.3	19.1
Cultivated Crops	39,332.9	4.8
Woody Wetlands	54.3	-
Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands	46.6	-



Average Annual Precipitation (Inches)[4]



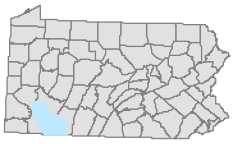


National Wetlands Inventory[5]

Wetlands are lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface.

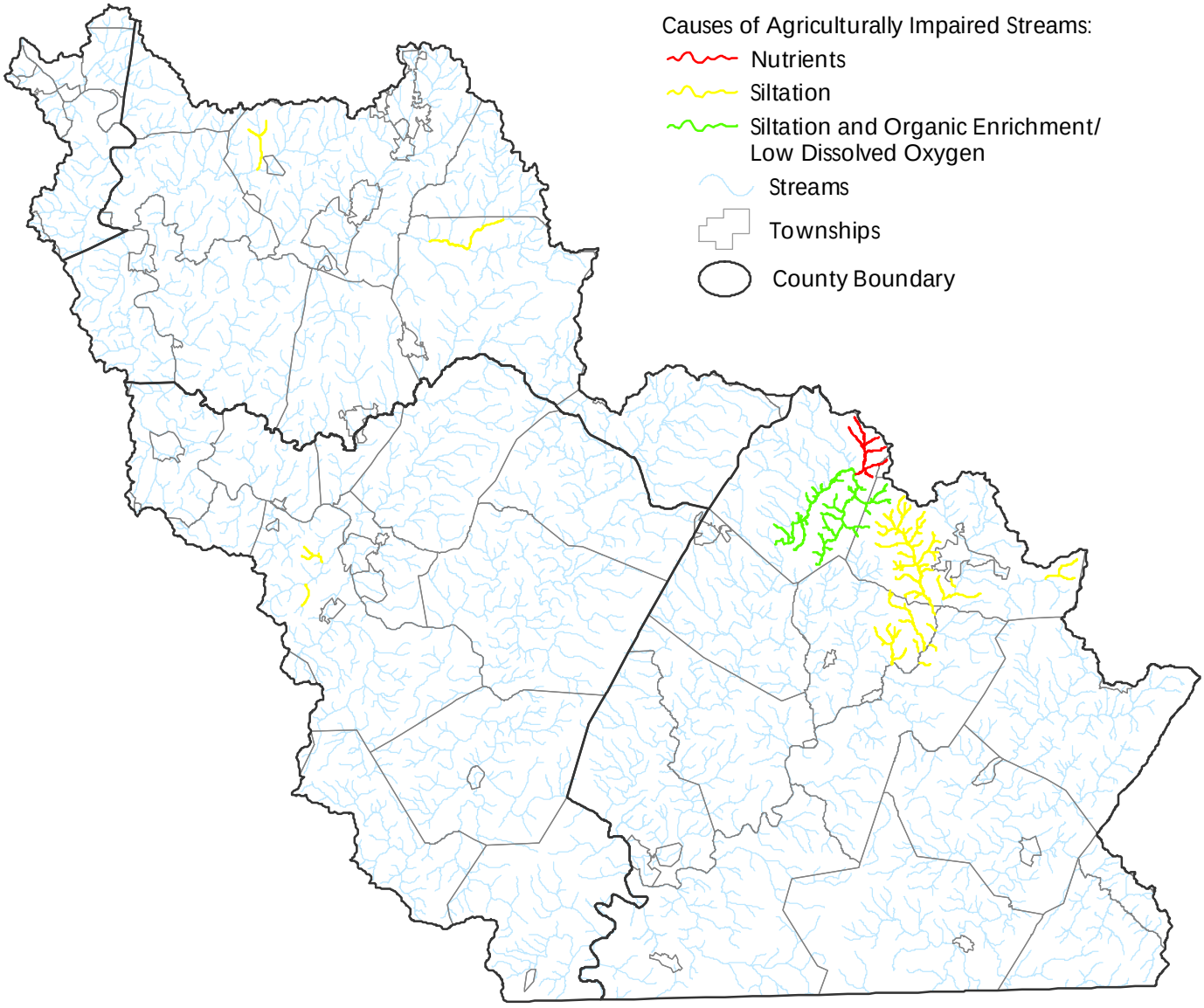
NWI digital data files are records of wetlands location and classification as developed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The classification system was adopted as a national classification standard in 1996 by the Federal Geographic Data Committee.

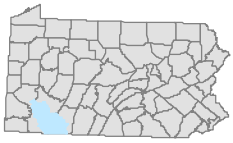
National Wetlands Inventory



Impaired Streams [6]

The Streams Integrated List (2006) represents stream assessments in an integrated format for the Clean Water Act Section 305(b) reporting and Section 303(d) listing. PA Department of Environmental Protection protects 4 stream water uses: aquatic life, fish consumption, potable water supply, and recreation. The 305(b) layers represents stream segments that have been evaluated for attainment of those uses and determine which streams are non-attaining.

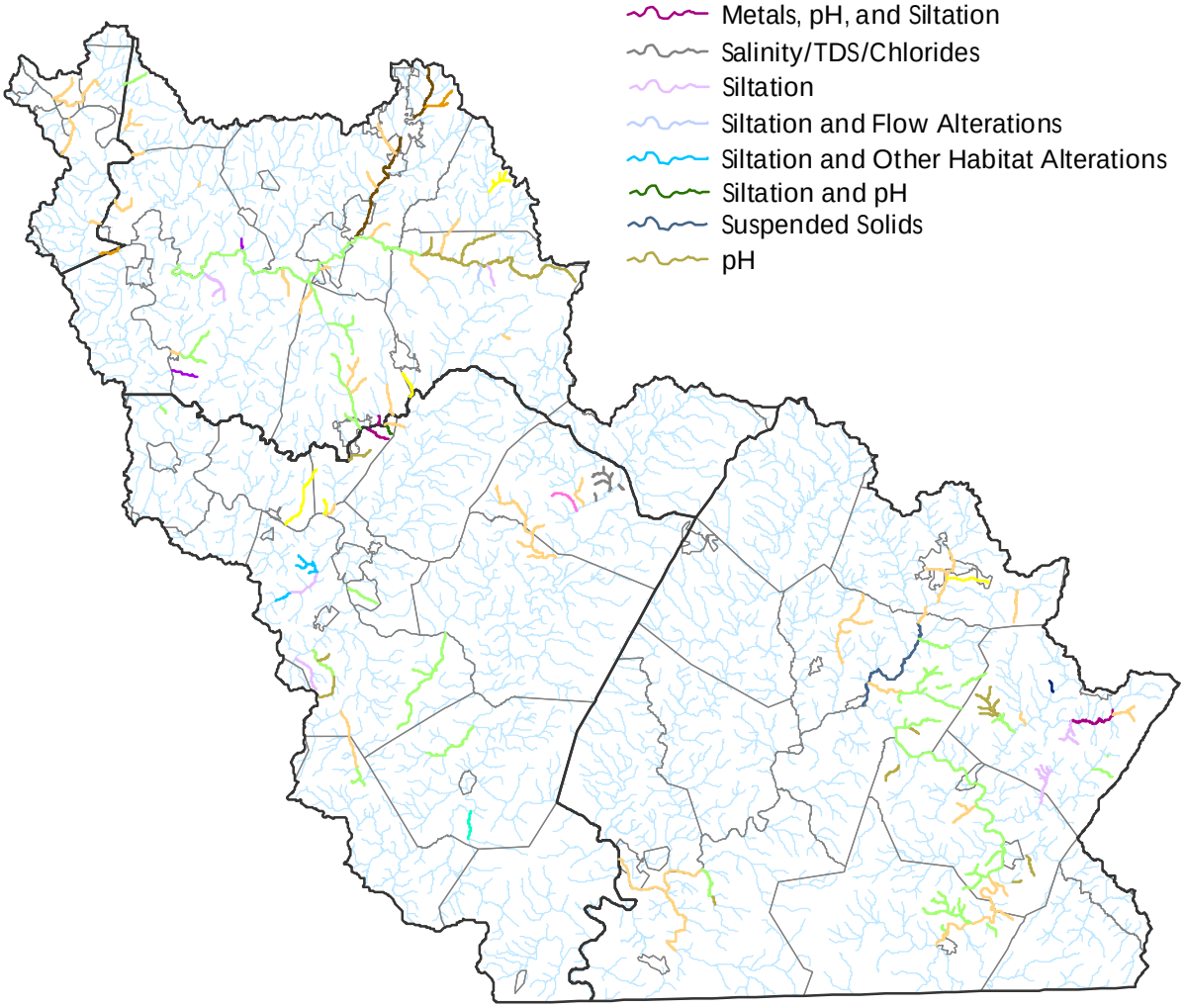


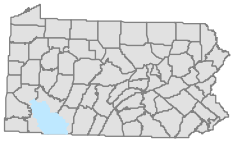


Abandoned Mine Drainage Impaired Streams

Causes of AMD Impaired Streams:

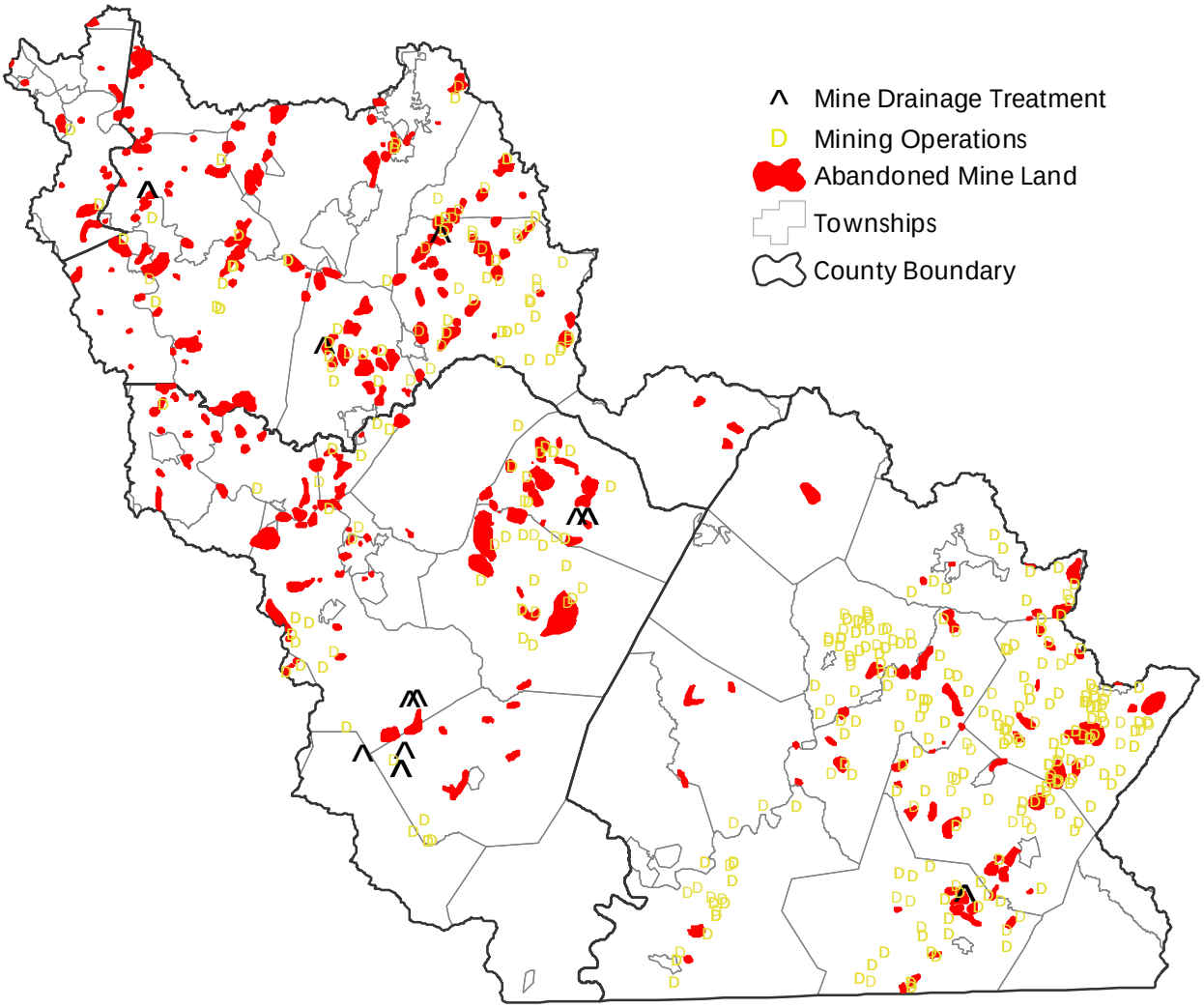
- Metals
- Metals and Other Habitat Alterations
- Metals and Salinity/TDS/Chlorides
- Metals and Siltation
- Metals and pH
- Metals, Suspended Solids, and Other Habitat Alterations
- Metals, pH, and Organic Enrichment/ Low Dissolved Oxygen
- Metals, pH, and Other Habitat Alterations
- Metals, pH, and Salinity/TDS/Chlorides
- Metals, pH, and Siltation
- Salinity/TDS/Chlorides
- Siltation
- Siltation and Flow Alterations
- Siltation and Other Habitat Alterations
- Siltation and pH
- Suspended Solids
- pH



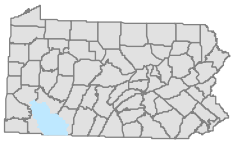


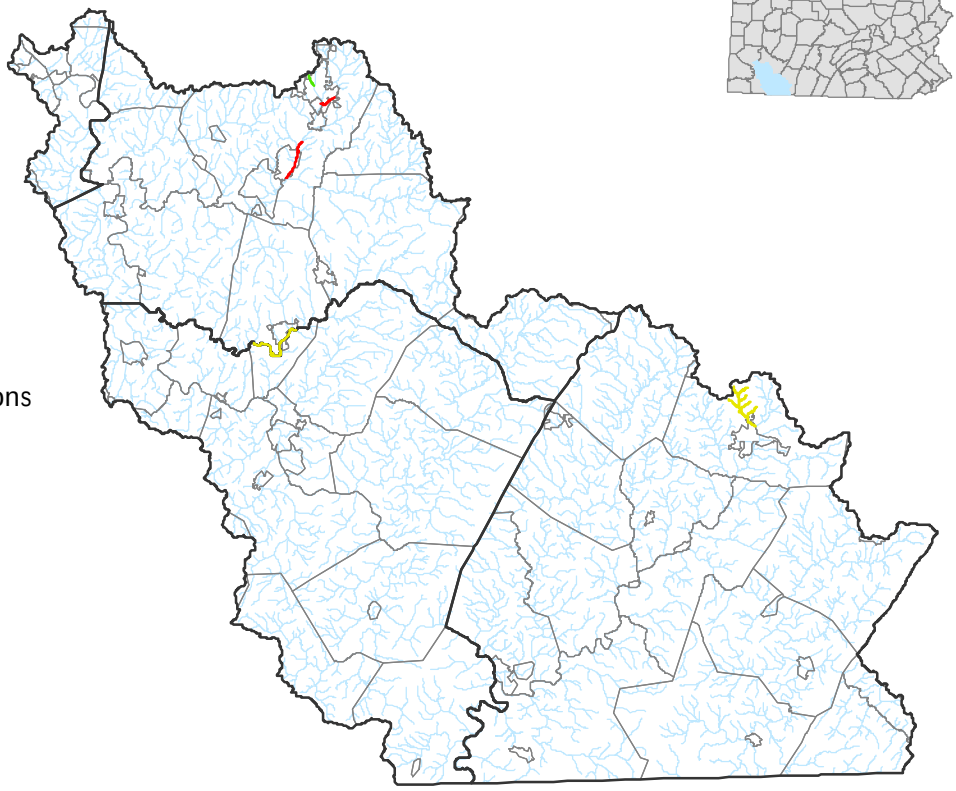
Abandoned Mine Land [7]

Coal mining in Pennsylvania began in the mid-1700's. Pennsylvania is the fourth largest coal producer in the United States, producing over 69.5 million tons in 1995 in 878 mining operations.
The environmental legacy of hundreds of years of coal mining in PA includes over 2,400 miles of PA's 84,000 miles of streams effected by acid mine drainage from old coal mining operations. Acid mine drainage in the single largest source of water pollution in the state.
Since 1967, Pennsylvania and the federal government have invested close to $500 million to correct problems from abandoned surface and deep mines. There are acid mine drainage treatment plants around the state to treat acid mine drainage discharges.



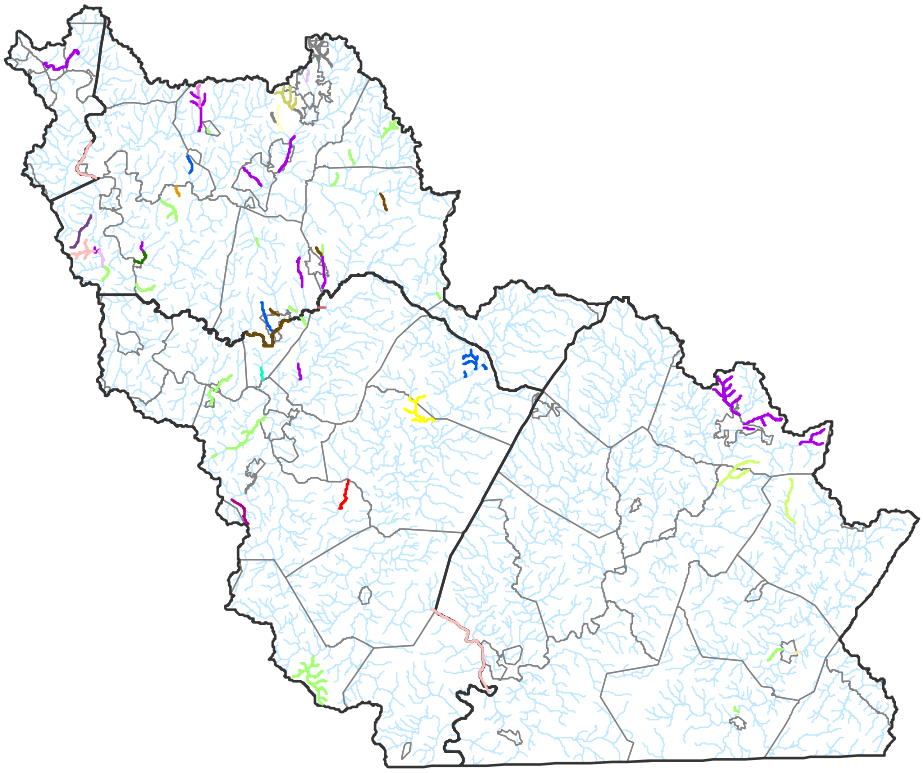
Youghiogheny Watershed





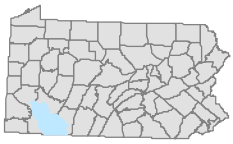
Causes of Urban Runoff/Storm Sewer Impaired Streams:

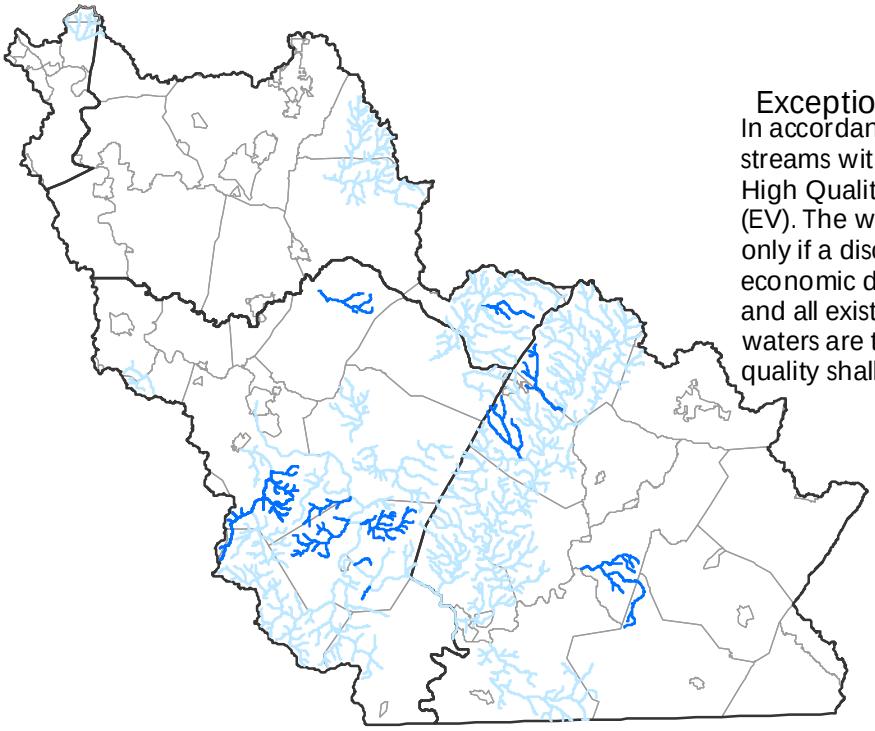
- Siltation
- Other Habitat Alterations
- Unknown
- Streams
- Townships
- County Boundary



Other Sources of Impairment:

- Atmospheric Depostion
- Channelization
- Flow Regulations/Modifications
- Habitat Modification
- Land Development
- On Site Wastewater
- On Site Wastewater and Road Runoff
- Other
- Removal of Vegetation
- Removal of Vegetation and Other Habitat Alteration
- Removal of Vegetation and Road Runoff
- Road Runoff
- Road Runoff and Habitat Modification
- Silvaculture
- Small Residential Runoff
- Small Residential Runoff and Removal of Vegetation
- Small Residential Runoff and Road Runoff
- Surface Mining
- Unknown
- Upstream Impoundment
- Streams
- Townships
- County Boundary

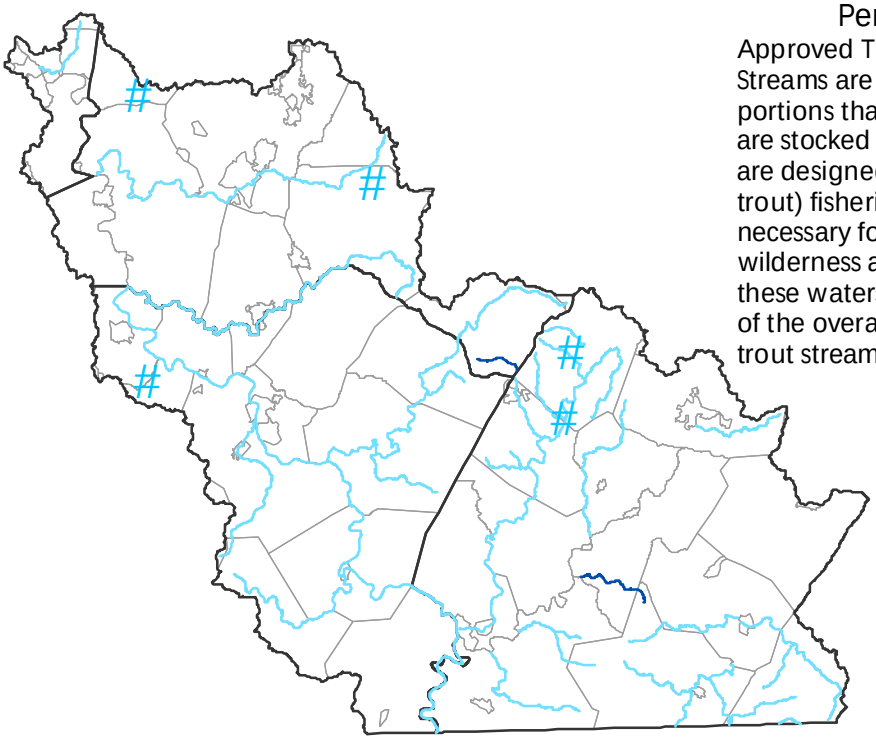




Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams[8]

In accordance to Chapter 93 of Pennsylvania Code, streams with excellent water quality may be designated High Quality Waters (HQ) or Exceptional Value Waters (EV). The water quality in an HQ stream can be lowered only if a discharge is the result of necessary social or economic development, the water quality criteria are met, and all existing uses of the stream are protected. EV waters are to be protected at their existing quality; water quality shall not be lowered.

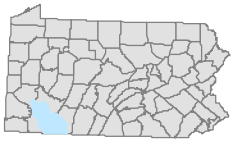
Exceptional Value Streams
High Quality Streams
Townships
County Boundary



Pennsylvania Trout Waters[9]

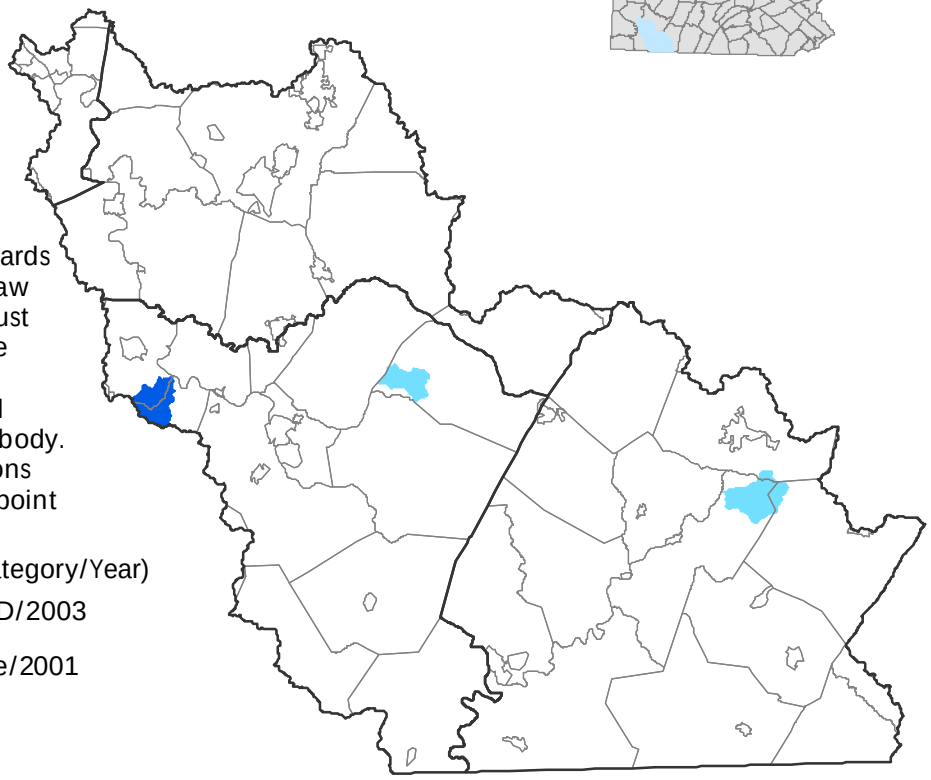
Approved Trout Waterbodies and Approved Trout Streams are waters which contain significant portions that are open to the public for fishing and are stocked with trout. Wilderness Trout Streams are designed to protect and promote native (brook trout) fisheries, the ecological requirements necessary for natural reproduction of trout and wilderness aesthetics. The superior quality of these watersheds is considered an important part of the overall angling experience on wilderness trout streams.

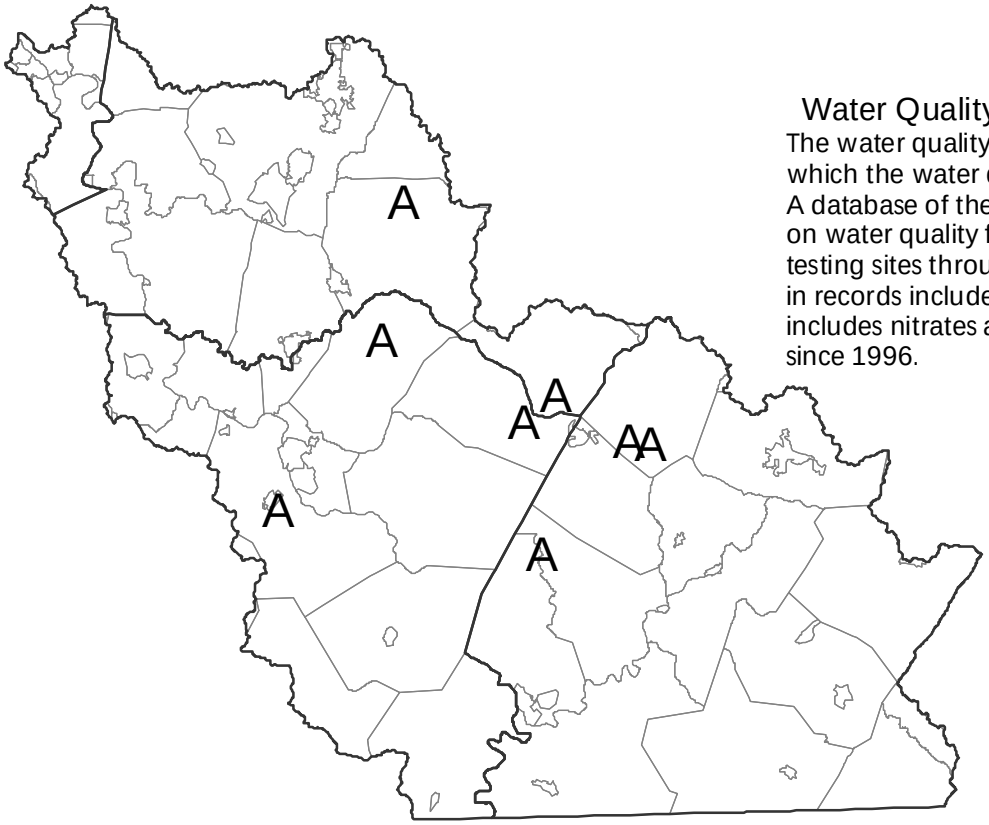
Approved Trout Waterbodies
Approved Trout Streams
Wilderness Trout Streams
Townships
County Boundary



Total Maximum Daily Load[10]

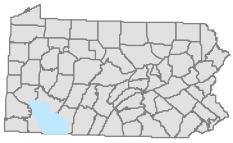
A Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) sets a ceiling on the pollutant loads that can enter a water body so the water body will meet water quality standards. The Clean Water Act requires states to list all waters that do not meet their water quality standards even after pollution controls required by law are in place. For these waters, the state must calculate how much of a substance can be put in the water without violating the standard and distribute that quantity to all the sources ofthe pollutant on that water body. A TMDL plan includes waste load allocations for point sources, load allocations for nonpoint sources, and a margin of safety.





Water Quality Testing Points[11]

The water quality testing points are locations at which the water quality is monitored by volunteers. A database of these points contains information on water quality from 1986 to the present from 622 testing sites throughout Pennsylvania. Information in records includes at least alkalinity and pH and includes nitrates and phosphates for some sites since 1996.



Water Resource Points[12]

A Water Resource is a DEP primary facility type related to the Water Use Planning Program. The sub-facility types related to Water Resources that are included are:

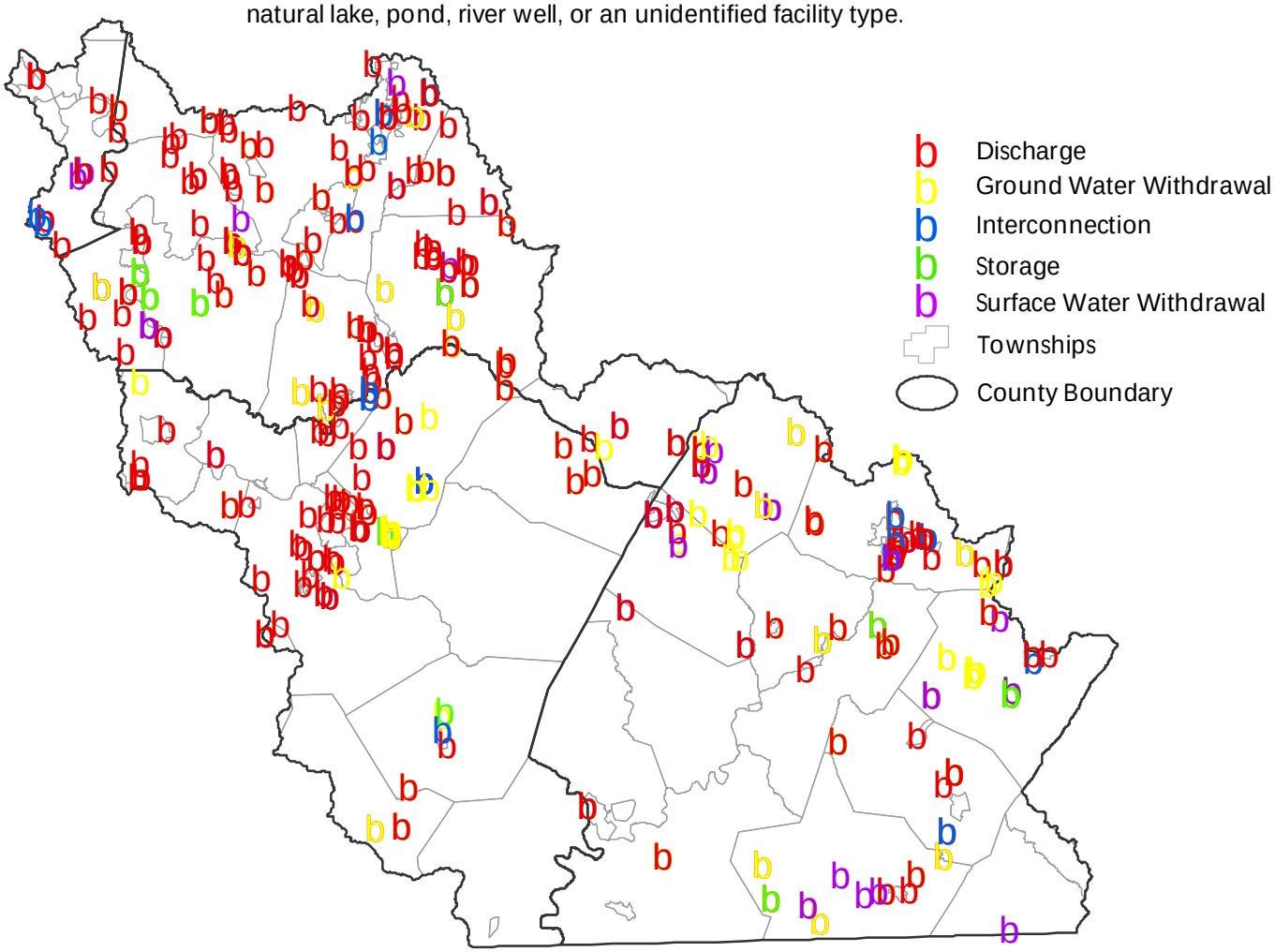
Discharge: represents the return of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be a sewage treatment plant, instream discharge, spray irrigation field, groundwater recharge, on-lot septic or an unidentified facility type.

Ground Water Withdrawal: represents the withdrawal of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be a well, spring, quarry, infiltration gallery, deep mine, surface mine or an unidentified facility type.

Interconnection: represents the point of interconnection between Water Resources primary facilities. The subfacility type may be for an interconnection between two public water supply agencies or between a public water supply agency and a commercial or industrial water user.

Storage: represents the storage of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type represents raw or treated water storage and may be a quarry, standpipe, open off-stream reservoir, closed off-stream reservoir, instream reservoir, hydroelectric dam, natural lake, pond,silt dam, hydroelectric pumped storage or an unidentified facility type.

Surface Water Withdrawal: represents the withdrawal of water used at a Water Resources primary facility. The subfacility type may be an instream diversion, intake from a dam, natural lake, pond, river well, or an unidentified facility type.



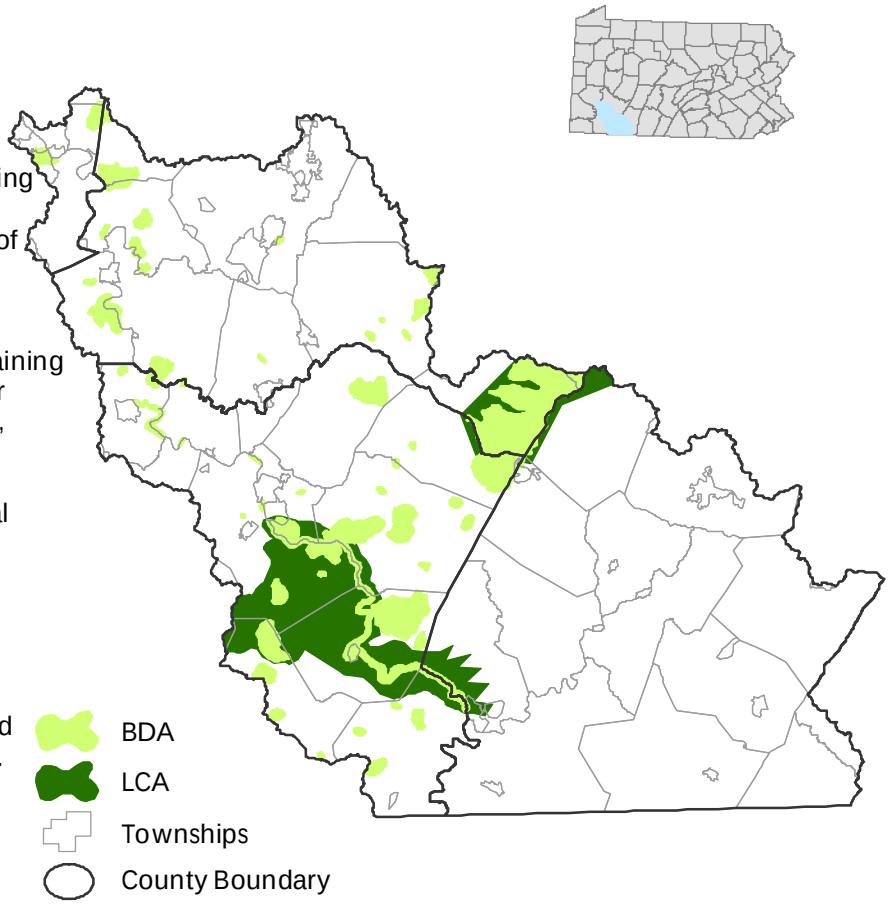
Natural Heritage Inventory Sites[13]

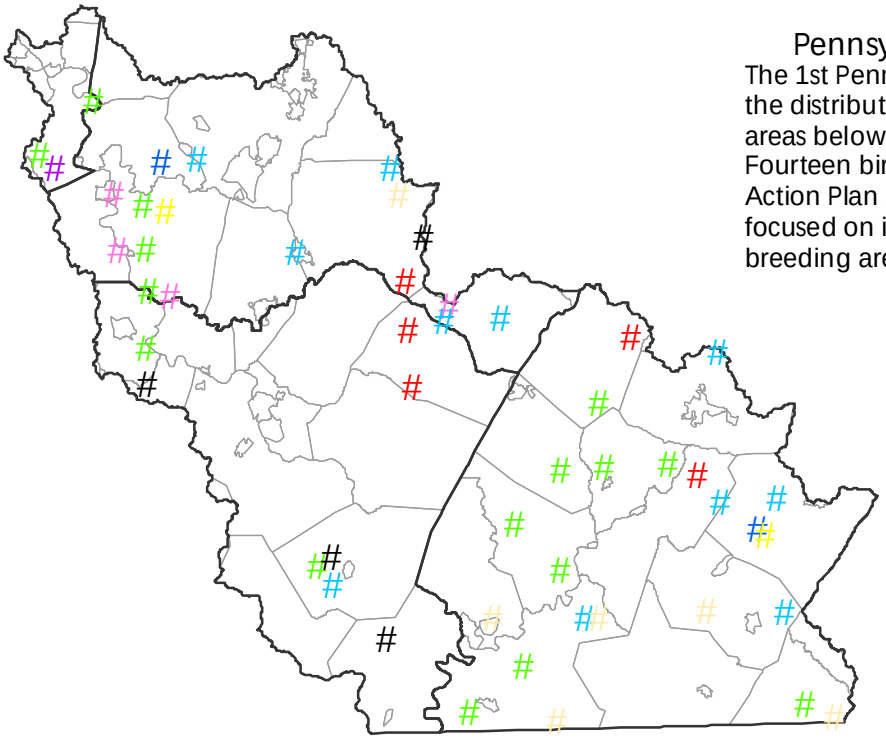
These areas are intended to identify outstanding floral, faunal, and geologic features, including natural communities (habitats) and locations of animal and plant species of special concern (endangered, threatened, or rare).

Area Types in this watershed include:

BDA - Biological Diversity Area - an area containing plants or animals of special concern at state or federal levels, exemplary natural communities, or exceptional native diversity. BDAs include both the immediate habitat and surrounding lands important in the support of these special elements.

LCA - Landscape Conservation Area - a large contiguous area that is important because of its size, open space, habitats, and/or inclusion of one or more Biological Diversity Areas. Although an LCA includes a variety of land uses, it typically has not been heavily disturbed and thus retains much of its natural character.

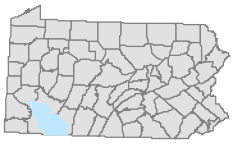




Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas[14]

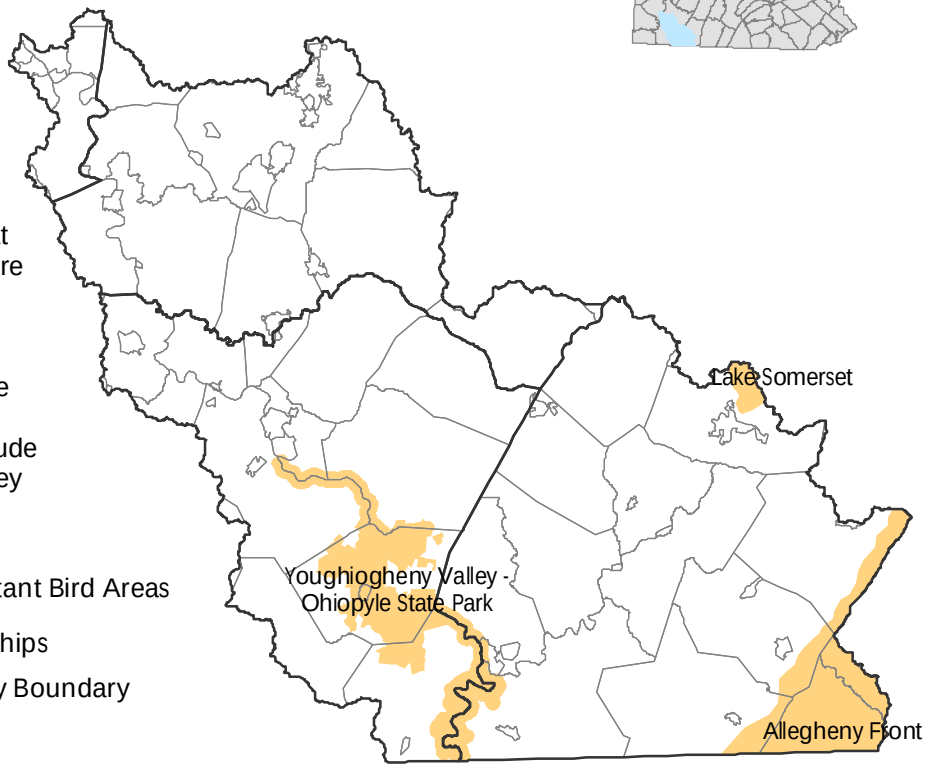
The 1st Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas (1992) assesses the distribution of breeding birds across the state. The areas below are confirmed breeding areas for species. Fourteen birds species from Pennsylvania's state Wildlife Action Plan associated with agricultural landscapes were focused on in this assessment, not all have confirmed breeding area in this watershed.

- # American Woodcock
- # Blackbilled Cuckoo
- # Bobolink
- # Dickcissel
- # Eastern Meadowlark
- # Grasshopper Sparrow
- # Redheaded Woodpecker
- # Whip-poor-will
- # Yellow Breasted Chat
- Townships
- County Boundary



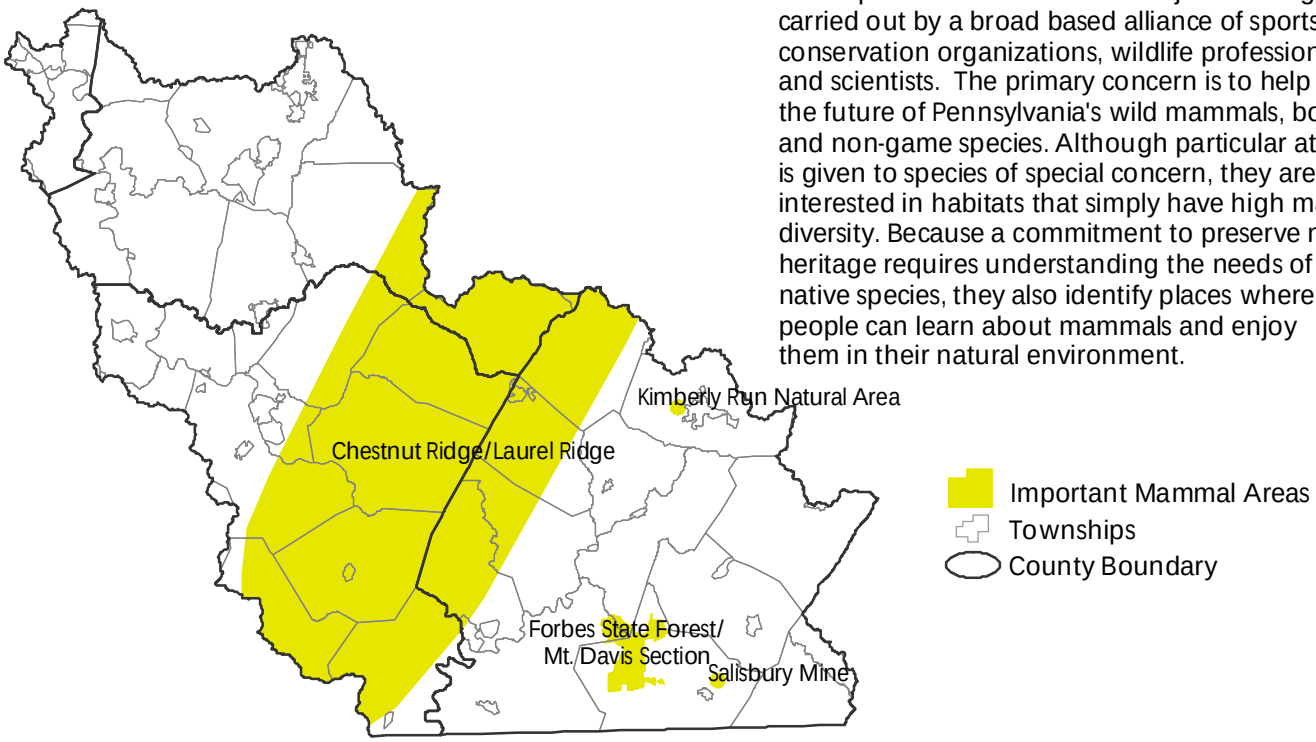
Important Bird Areas[15]

Important Bird Areas (IBA) are sites that provide essential habitat for one or more species of bird. IBAs include sites for breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. IBAs may be a few acres or thousands of acres, but usually they are discrete sites that stand out from the surrounding landscape. IBAs may include public or private lands, or both, and they may be protected or unprotected.

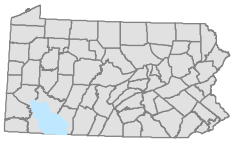


Important Mammal Areas[16]

The Important Mammal Areas Project is being carried out by a broad based alliance of sportsmen, conservation organizations, wildlife professionals, and scientists. The primary concern is to help ensure the future of Pennsylvania's wild mammals, both game and non-game species. Although particular attention is given to species of special concern, they are also interested in habitats that simply have high mammal diversity. Because a commitment to preserve natural heritage requires understanding the needs of native species, they also identify places where people can learn about mammals and enjoy them in their natural environment.

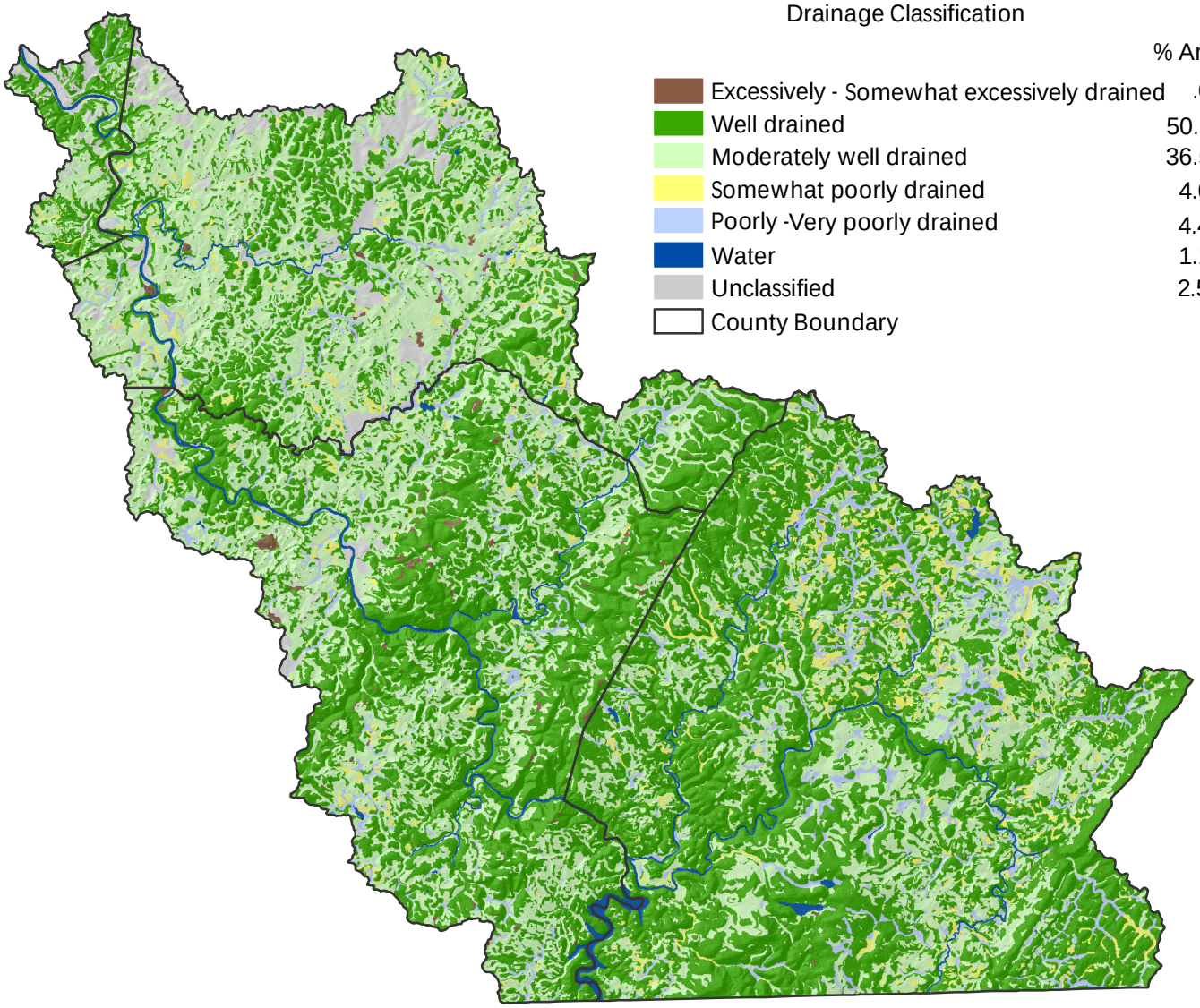


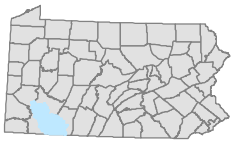
Soils [17]



Drainage Classification

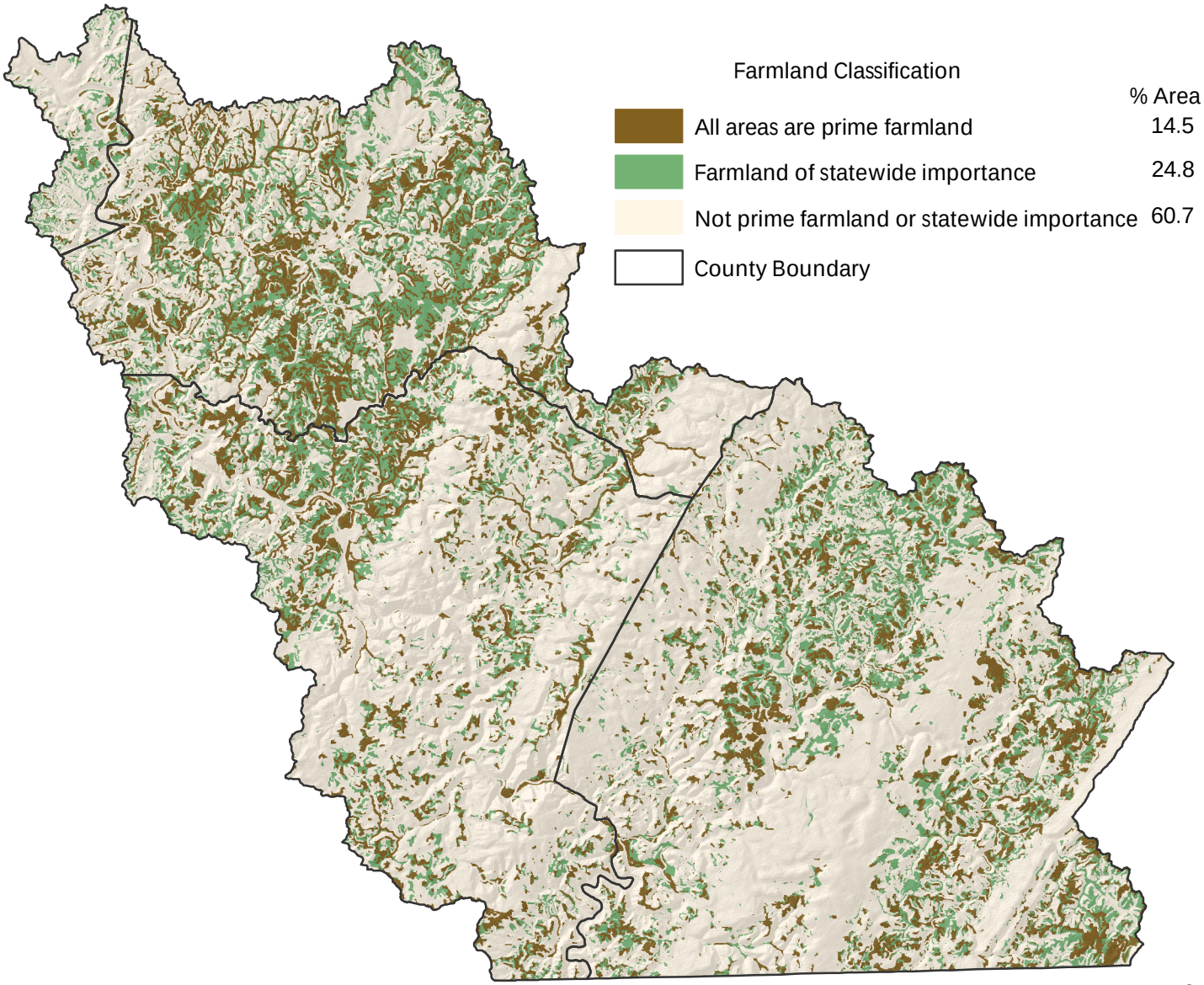
Drainage class (natural) refers to the frequency and duration of wet periods under conditions similar to those under which the soil formed. Alterations of the water regime by human activities, either through drainage or irrigation, are not a consideration unless they have significantly changed the morphology of the soil. Seven classes of natural soil drainage are recognized -- excessively drained, somewhat excessively drained, well drained, moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained, poorly drained, and very poorly drained. These classes are defined in the "Soil Survey Manual."

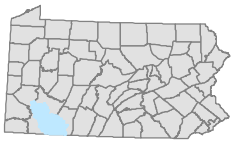




Farmland Classification

Farmland classification identifies soil map units as prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, farmland of local importance, or unique farmland. Farmland classification identifies the location and extent of the most suitable land for producing food, feed, fiber, forage, and oilseed crops. NRCS policy and procedures on prime and unique farmlands are published in the Federal Register, Vol. 43, No. 21, January 31, 1978.

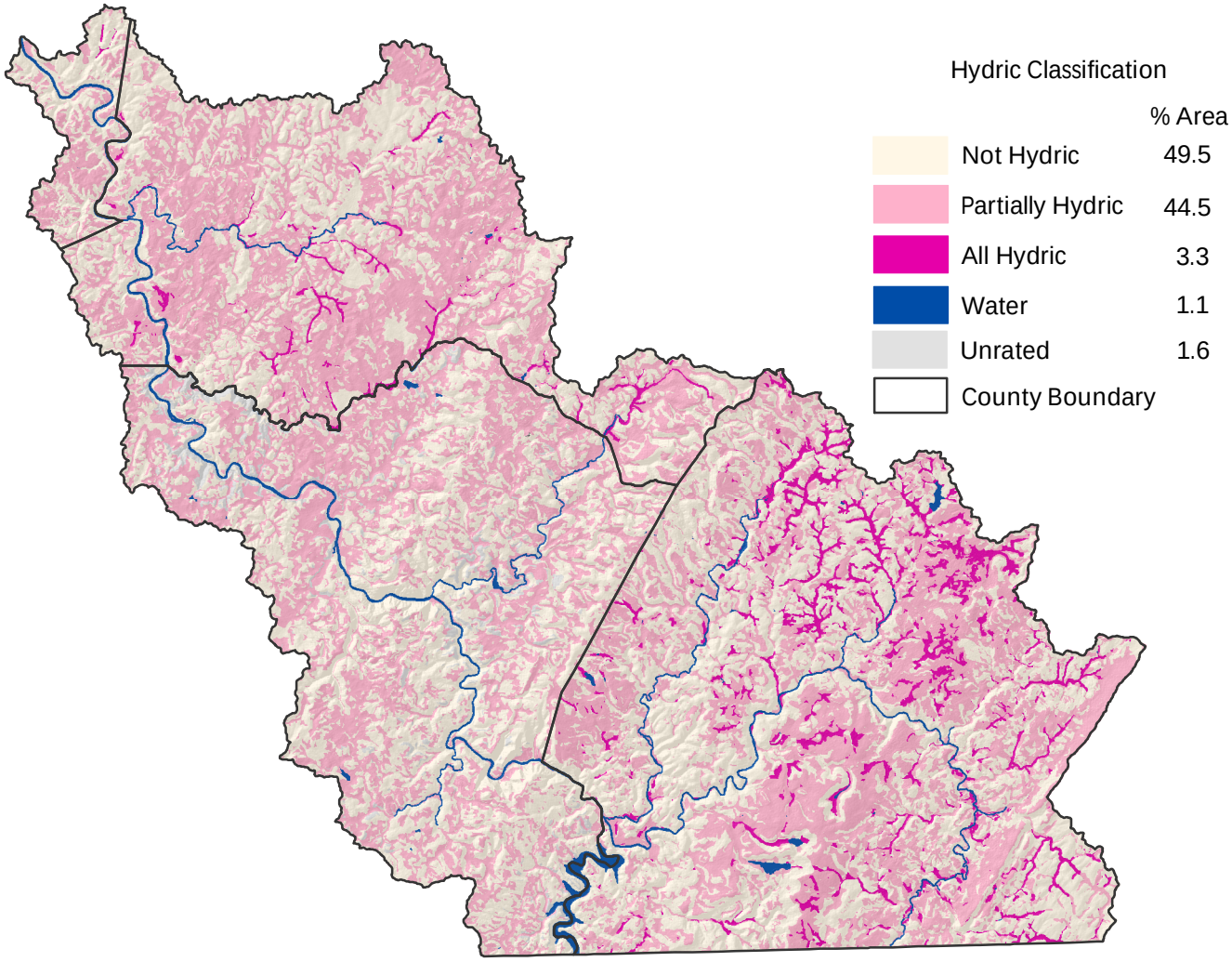


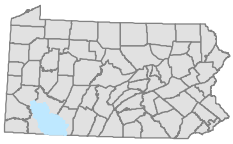


Hydric Soil Classification

This rating provides an indication of the proportion of the map unit that meets criteria for hydric soils. Map units that are dominantly made up of hydric soils may have small areas, or inclusions, of nonhydric soils in the higher positions on the landform, and map units dominantly made up of nonhydric soils may have inclusions of hydric soils in the lower positions on the landform.

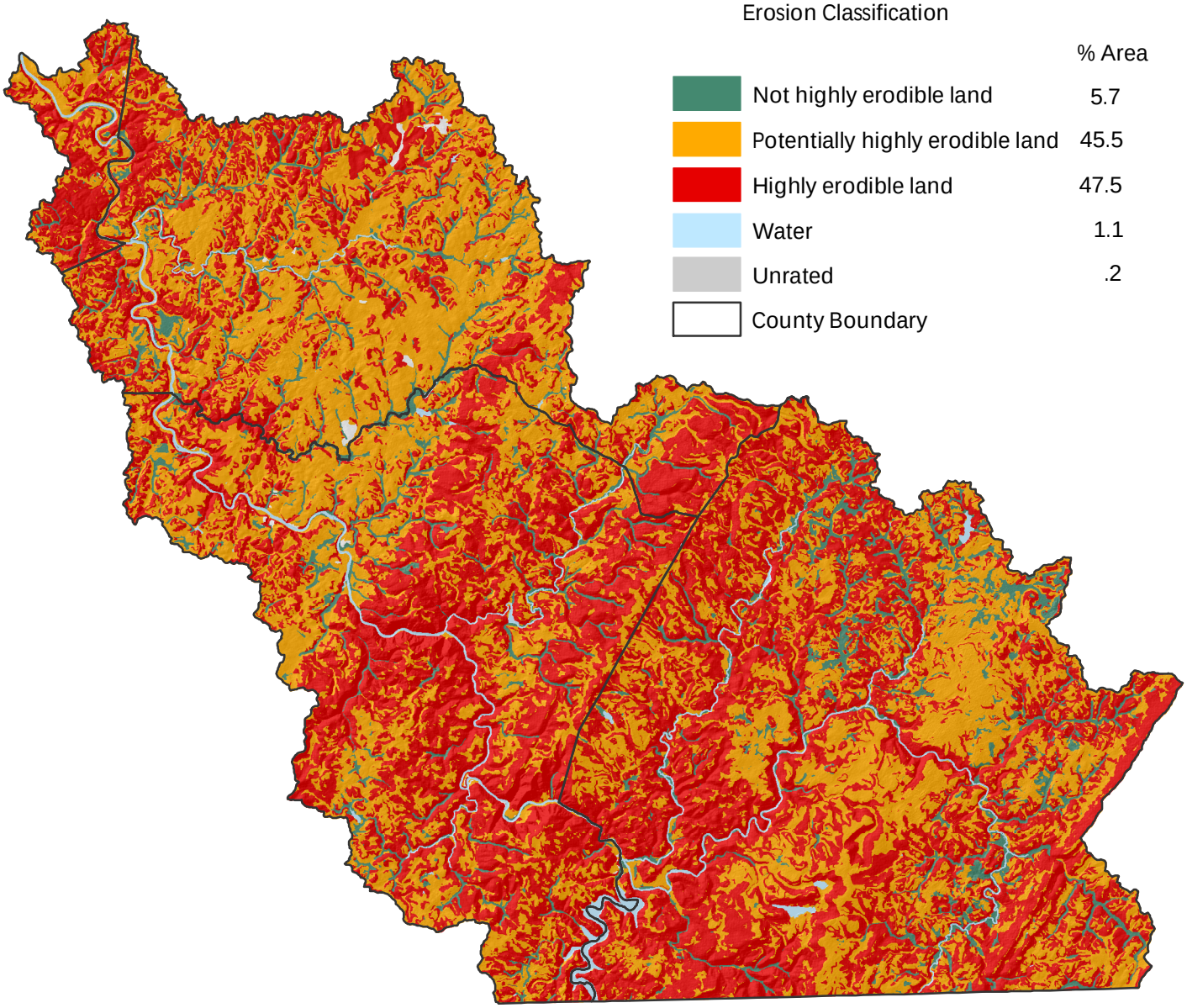
Hydric soils are defined by the National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils (NTCHS) as soils that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (Federal Register, 1994). These soils, under natural conditions, are either saturated or inundated long enough during the growing season to support the growth and reproduction of hydrophytic vegetation.

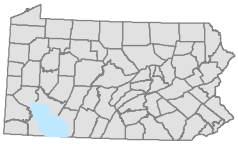




Highly Erodible Land

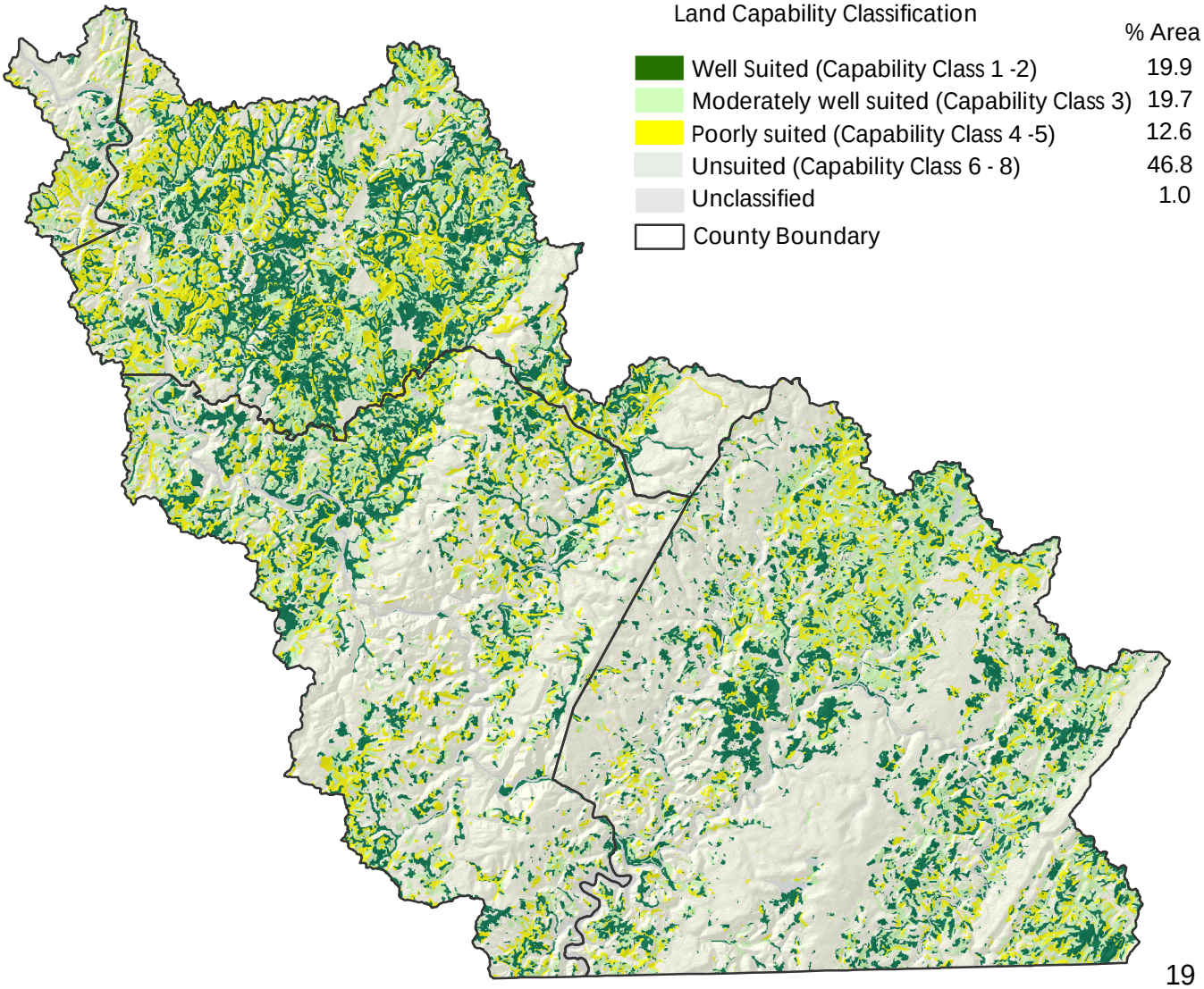
A soil map with an erodibilty index (EI) of 8 or greater is considered to be highly erodible land (HEL). The EI for a soil map unit is determined by dividing the potential erodibility for the soil map unit by the soil loss tolerance (T) value established for the soil in the FOTG as of January 1, 1990. Potential erodibility is based on default values for rainfall amount and intensity, percent and length of slope, surface texture and organic matter, permeability, and plant cover. Actual erodibility and EI for any specific map unit depends on the actual values for these properties.

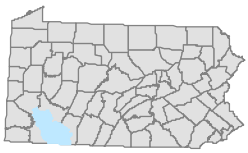


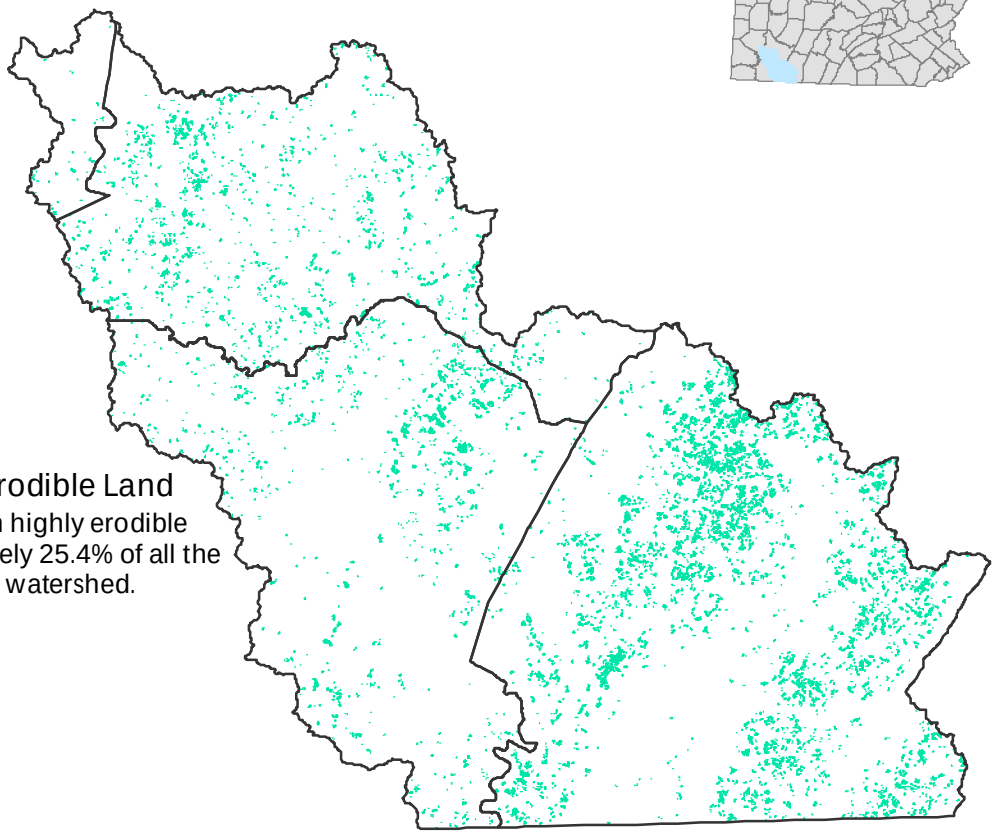


Land Capability Classification

Land capability classification shows, in a general way, the suitability of soils for most kinds of field crops. Crops that require special management are excluded. The soils are grouped according to their limitations for field crops, the risk of damage if they are used for crops, and the way they respond to management. The criteria used in grouping the soils do not include major and generally expensive landforming that would change slope, depth, or other characteristics of the soils, nor do they include possible but unlikely major reclamation projects. Capability classification is not a substitute for interpretations that show suitability and limitations of groups of soils for rangeland, for woodland, and for engineering purposes.

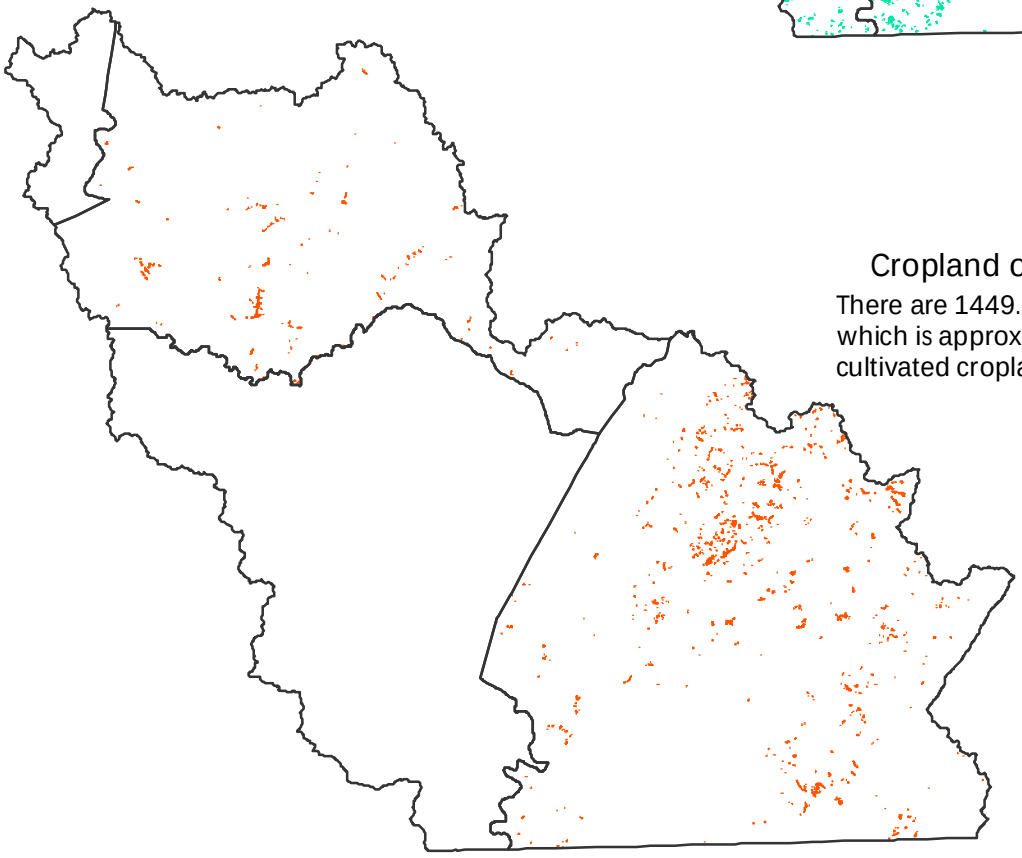






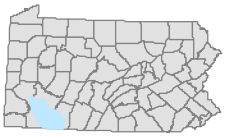
Cropland on Highly Erodible Land

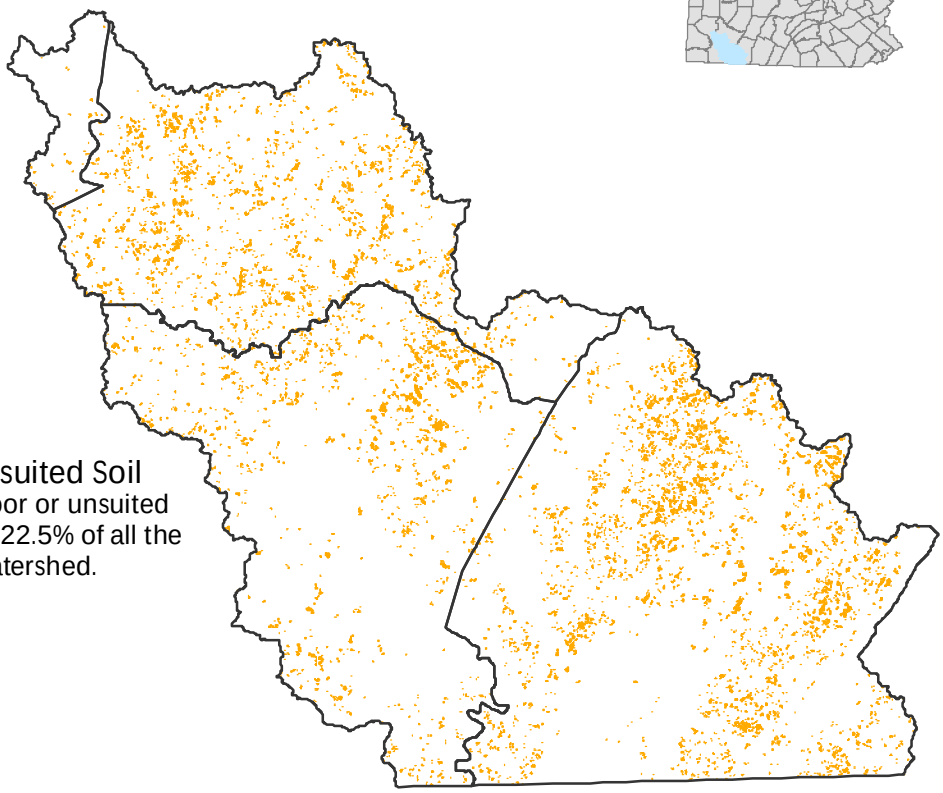
There are 9979.1 acres on highly erodible land, which is approximately 25.4% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



Cropland on Hydric Soils

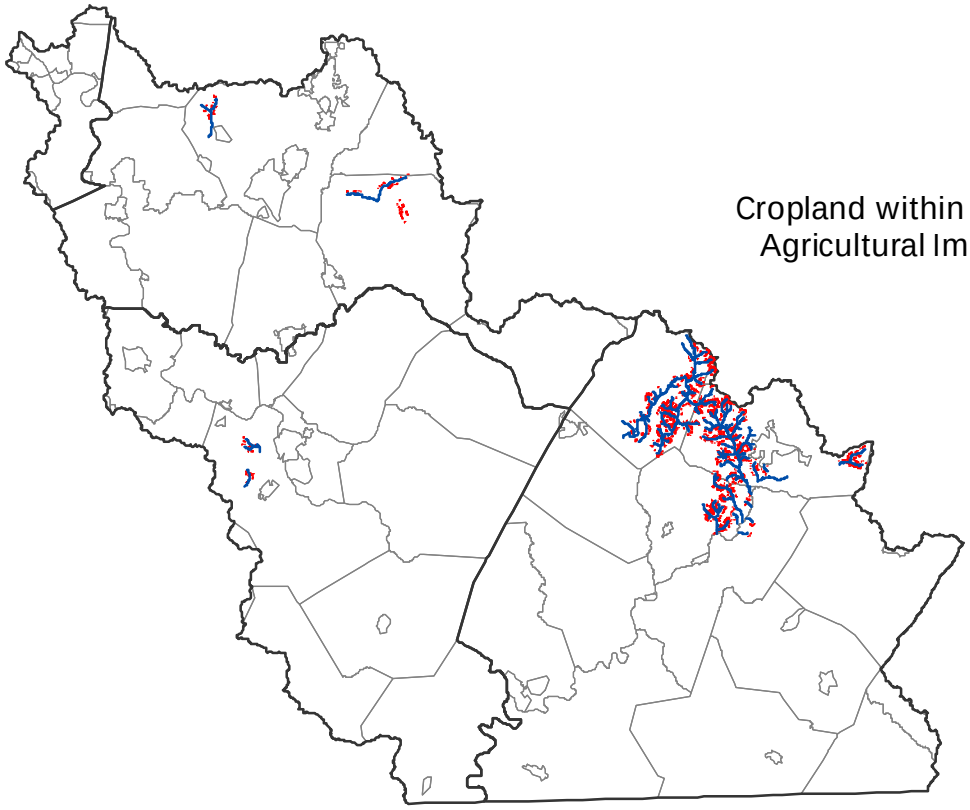
There are 1449.5 acres on hydric soils, which is approximately 3.7% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



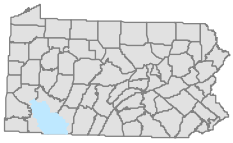


Cropland on Poor or Unsuited Soil

There are 8869.0 acres on poor or unsuited land, which is approximately 22.5% of all the cultivated cropland in the watershed.



Cropland within 1000 feet of an Agricultural Impaired Stream



Resource Concerns

Major resource concerns in the area include:

- erosion
- reduction of organic matter on cropland
- land slippage
- acid mine drainage
- sedimentation
- gullying
- surface compaction
- productivity of soils

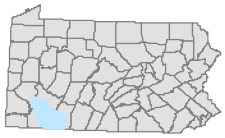
Conservation Practices

Common conservation practices for cropland:

- crop rotation
- contour farming
- conservation tillage
- buffers
- nutrient management
- cover crops
- diversions
- grassed waterways

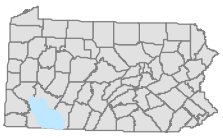
Common conservation practices for pastureland:

- prescribed grazing
- watering systems
- fencing
- manage livestock access to streams
- pasture planting
- nutrient management



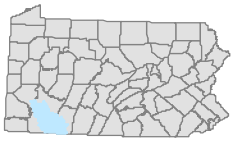
PRS Performance Measures[18]

	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY06	Total
Total Conservation Systems Planned (acres)	1340	6435	4891	5844	5240	NA	4500	5517	33,767
Total Conservation Systems Applied (acres)	706	1730	5321	6064	4694	NA	3372	3346	25,233
Key Conservation Treatments									
Waste Storage Facility (number)	3	1	6	2	4	0	1	1	18
Riparian Forest Buffer (acres)	0	206	80	178	164	5	38	89	760
Erosion Control Total Soils Saved (tons/year)	47	596	1545	3797	2187	NA	NA	NA	8,172
Nutrient Management (acres)	0	166	1386	2117	4653	292	461	119	9,194
Pest Management (acres)	0	0	129	14	0	0	143	378	664
Prescribed Grazing (acres)	192	561	747	313	823	328	612	388	3,964
Tree and Shrub Establishment (acres)	0	2	58	131	52	1	0	62	306
Residue Management (acres)	65	605	868	184	409	0	452	470	3,053
Wildlife Habitat (acres)	247	207	1668	2512	1275	40	491	520	6,960
Wetlands Created, Restored, or Established	0	2	44	35	55	3	41	1	181
Acres in Conservation Programs									
Conservation Technical Assistance									
Planned	449	3557	2575	3435	3857	NA	1651	3638	19,162
Applied	256	1036	3037	3076	2748	NA	1810	1747	13,710
Conservation Reserve Program									
Planned	586	131	1497	1792	829	NA	1048	1295	7,178
Applied	0	0	1372	2584	1042	NA	526	817	6,341
Environmental Quality Incentive Program									
Planned	84	362	108	0	210	NA	1850	548	3,162
Applied	157	326	108	58	276	NA	574	577	2,076
Farmland Protection Policy/Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program									
Planned	110	116	52	0	0	NA	0	0	278
Applied	110	0	169	0	0	NA	0	0	279
Forestry Incentive Program									
Planned	0	0	32	0	0	NA	0	0	32
Applied	0	0	32	50	3	NA	0	0	85
Grasslands Reserve Program									
Planned				0	0	NA	49	0	49
Applied				0	0	NA	49	0	49
Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative									
Planned	165	1162	938						
Applied	138	389	1010						
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program									
Planned	0	98	27	40	0	NA	27	0	192
Applied	0	51	33	13	24	NA	22	0	143
Wetlands Reserve Program									
Planned	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0
Applied	0	0	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0



Social and Census Data [19]

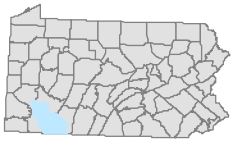
	Allegheny	Fayette	Somerset	Westmoreland	Total
Farms (number)	22	484	576	418	1,500
Land in farms (acres)	1,588	61,892	107,642	46,649	217,771
Total cropland (acres)	902	3,328	65,038	32,001	101,269
Principal operator by primary occupation - Farming (number)	10	22	341	201	574
Farms by Size					
1 to 9 acres	5	35	40	38	118
10 to 49 acres	8	141	87	115	351
50 to 179 acres	6	217	255	197	675
180 to 499 acres	2	74	151	58	285
500 to 999 acres	0	12	31	9	52
1,000 acres or more	0	6	11	2	19
Livestock and Poultry					
Cattle and calves inventory (farms)	6	305	353	199	863
Cattle and calves inventory - Beef cows (farms)	5	248	162	138	553
Cattle and calves inventory - Milk cows (farms)	0	34	154	34	222
Hogs and pigs inventory (farms)	1	46	48	32	127
Sheep and lambs inventory (farms)	2	29	31	28	90
Layers 20 weeks old and older inventory (farms)	3	39	60	38	140
Broilers and other meat-type chickens sold (farms)	0	3	3	6	12
Crops Harvested					
Corn for grain (acres)	44	3756	6775	4511	15,086
Corn for silage or greenchop (acres)	11	1700	7066	1235	10,012
Wheat for grain, all (acres)	18	180	67	722	987
Oats for grain (acres)	19	592	3511	1091	5,213
Barley for grain (acres)	1	135	599	158	893
Soybeans for beans (acres)	4	561	712	1890	3,167
Forage - land used for all hay and all haylage, grass silage, and greenchop (acres)	364	18,389	28,979	12,591	60,323
Vegetables harvested for sale (acres)	42	325	90	334	791
Land in orchards (acres)	5	47	67	53	172
Total cropland harvested (acres)	572	25,731	46,919	22,704	95,926
Farm Operator by Ethnicity					
White	31	683	897	598	2,209
Black or African American	0	0	0	4	4
Asian	0	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	0	1	14	7	22
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0	1	0	1
Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0
Women	10	158	249	168	585



Partnership Groups:

A cooperative project involving NRCS and conservation partners, including:

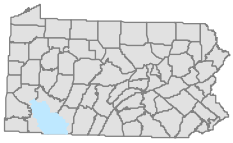
- State Conservation Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Grazing/Forage Lands Conservation Coalition
- Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission



Footnotes/Bibliography

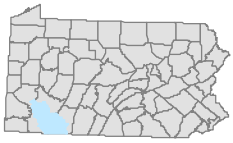
All data is provided "as is". There is no warranties, express or implied, including the warranty of fitness for a particular purpose, accompanying this document. Use for planning purpose only.

1. Common Resource Area
   Common Resource Area (CRA) delineation is defined as a geographical area where resource concerns, problems, or treatment needs are similar. More information can be found online at http://soils.usda.gov/survey/geography/cra.html
2. National Elevation Dataset (NED)
   The NED is a seamless mosaic of the best-available elevation data. The primary source data were the USGS 7.5-minute (30-meter or 10-meter resolution) DEM's. A hillshade grid was also created using the DEM and used to creare a 3-D effect. More inforamtion on NED can be found online at http://ned.usgs.gov/
3. Land Use / Land Cover 2001
   Land Use / Land Cover map was created using the National Land Cover Dataset. The National Land Cover Dataset was compiled from Landsat satellite TM imagery with a spatial resolution of 30 meters and supplemented by various ancillary data (where available). More inforamtion can be found online at http://landcover.usgs.gov/
4. Average Annual Precipitation
   The average annual precipitation data for this map layer were produced through a partnership between NRCS and the Spatial Climate Analysis Service at Oregon State University (OSU). The average annual precipitation is from 1961 through 1990. More information can be found online at http://www.ncgc.nrcs.usda.gov/products/datasets/climate/index.html
5. National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)
   The NWI maps do not show all wetlands since the maps are derived from aerial photointerpretation with varying limitations due to scale, photo quality, inventory techniques, and other factors. More information can be found online at http://www.fws.gov/nwi/
6. Impaired Streams
   Impaired Streams were derived from Pennsylavania Department of Protection Office of Water Management, 2006 list on Non-Attaining Streams. More information can be found on DEP website at http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/default.asp
7. Abandoned Mine Land
   Abandoned Mine Land data was received from the Office of Surface Mining. The data set shows the approximate location of Abandoned Mine Land Problem Areas containing public health, safety, and public welfare problems created by past coal mining. More information can be found online at http://www.osmre.gov/osmaml.htm
8. Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams
   Exceptional Value and High Quality Streams were taken from the Chapter 93 data layer received from Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. For more information on what qualifies a stream as exceptional value or high quality or any information on Chapter 93 streams go to http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/025/chapter93/chap93toc.html



Footnotes/Bibliography

9. Pennsylvania Trout Waters
   Pennsylvania Trout Water data is compiled by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. This layer was created based on the 1:24000 National Hydropahy Dataset (NHD) water bodies layer. More information can be found online at http://www.fish.state.pa.us/fishpub/summary/troutwaters.html
10. Total Maximun Daily Load (TMDL)
    TMDL is the sum of the individual waste load allocations and load allocations which would not produce a violation of water quality standards. The data used is from 2003, the PA Department of Environmental Protection is currently working on updating the GIS data available. More information can be found on TMDL locations in PA at http://www.dep.state.pa.us/watermanagement_apps/tmdl/, and/or nationally at http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/
11. Water Quality Testing Points
    Water Quality Testing Points monitor water quality with emphasis on stream acidity in Pennsylvania with an assoiciated database. The database contains more than 33,466 records on water quality from 1986 to the present from 622 testing sites throughout Pennsylvania. Information in the records includes alkalinity and Ph and includes nitrates and phosphates for some sites since 1996.
    The information is maintained by the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring. More information can be found online at http://alpha.dickinson.edu/storg/allarm/allarm%20projects/database.htm
12. Water Resource Points
    A Water Resource is a DEP primary facility type related to the Water Use Planning Program. More information can be found http://www.depweb.state.pa.us/dep/site/default.asp
13. Natural Heritage Inventory Sites
    The Natural Areas polygons were developed by the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) County Natural Heritage Inventory (CNHI) Program. Natural Areas were identified using map and air photo interpretation, aerial rconnaissance, and field surveys. More information and county reports can be found online at http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us/
14. Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas
    Data was taken for the 1st Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas (1992). For this watershed assessment, fourteen bird species were chosen to be focused on. More information about all bird species can be obtained at http://www.carnegiemnh.org/atlas/home.htm
15. Important Bird Areas
    The Important Bird Areas Program (IBA) is a global effort to identify and conserve areas that are vital to birds and other biodiversity. For more information nationally and/or on the state level go to http://www.audubon.org/bird/iba/
16. Important Mammal Areas
    Important Mammal Areas Project, IMAP, the first program of it's kind, was created by the Mammal Technical Committee of the Pennsylvania Biological Survey (PaBS). For more inforamtion go online to http://www.pawildlife.org/imap.htm



Footnotes/Bibliography

17. Soils

    Soil Survey spatial and tabular data were used for the following survey areas:

    Allegheny County (PA003)
    Fayette County (PA051)
    Somerset County (PA111)
    Westmoreland County (PA129)

    Spatial and tabular data an be downloaded at http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov/

18. Performance Results System (PRS)

    PRS data was extracted from PRS by year, conservation system, conservation practice, and proagrams by hydrologic unit code. More information can be found online at the PRS homepage http://ias.sc.egov.usda.gov/prshome/

19. Social and Census Data

    Ag census data and ethnicity data were downloaded from the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The data was adjusted by percent of Hydrologic unit in the county. More inforamtion can be found online at http://www.nass.usda.gov/Census_of_Agriculture/index.asp

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."