

# HIGH-RESOLUTION LAND COVER

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LAND USE UPDATE for the

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CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL

KC Filippino, Senior Water Resources Planner  
Hampton Roads Planning District Commission

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# What are we talking about?

- \* History of land cover & land use at the Bay

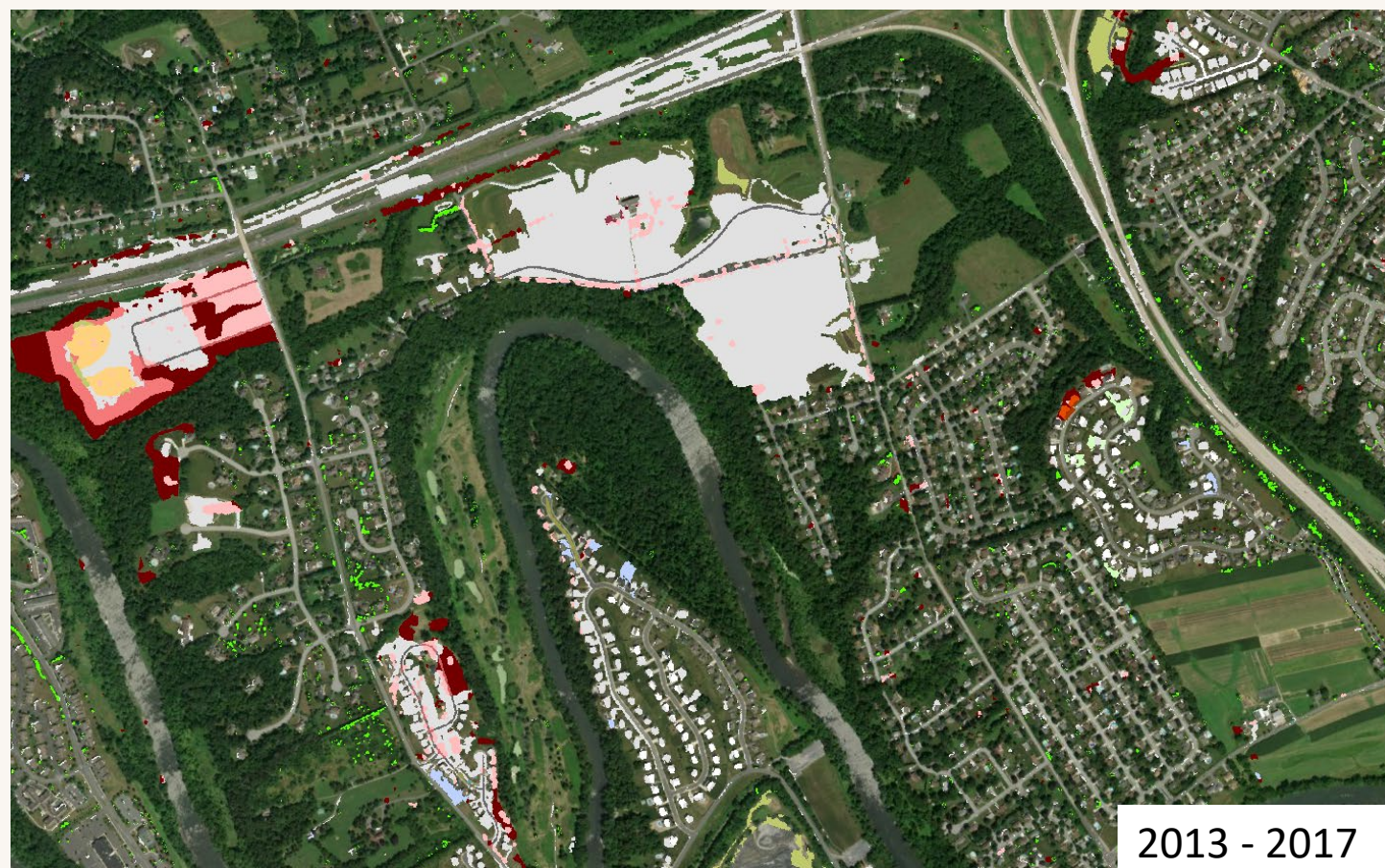
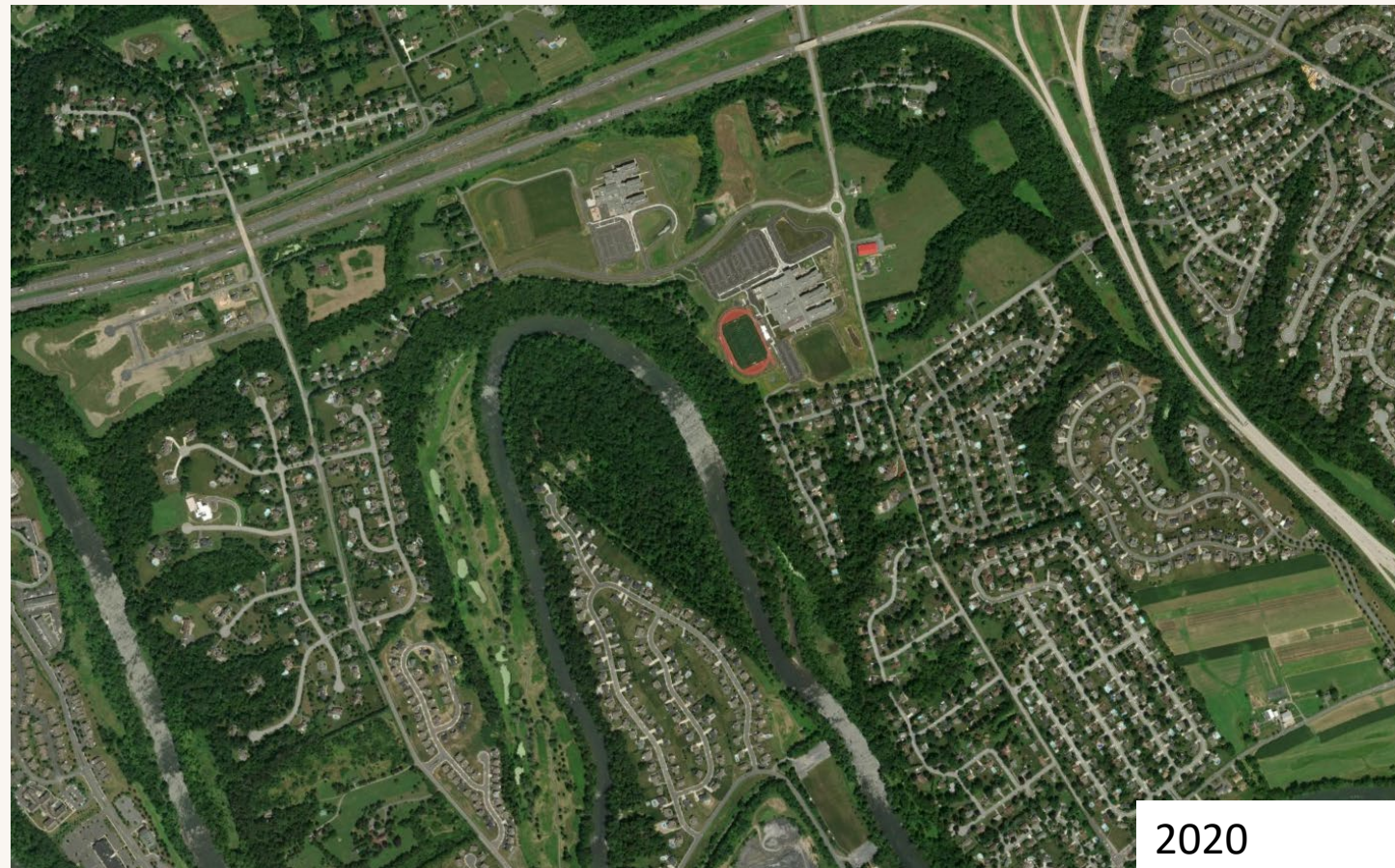
Program

- \* High-resolution land cover & land use update

- \* Data availability timeline

- \* Bay Program objectives

- \* How can these data products be useful to you?





# UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY of DATA PRODUCTION

Adapted from P. Claggett Mgmt. Board meeting 2/11/21

## 2004 – 2016

Moderate-resolution (30-meter) land use/ cover data coupled with Decennial Census of Population and Housing and USDA Agricultural Census data

## 2017– 2020

Produced and began using high-resolution (1-meter) land use/ cover with 16 classes, from 2013/ 14 imagery

## 2021– 2023

Produced and began using a second set of high-resolution land use/ cover with 60 classes, from 2017/ 18 imagery and the first high-resolution land use change dataset: 2013/ 14 to 2017/ 18.

## 2023 and beyond

Continue to produce comparable high-resolution land use/ cover data every four years through 2030.

# Current Land Cover & Land Use Development

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## Chesapeake Conservancy Conservation Innovation Center

Develop 1m Land  
Cover and Land Use  
datasets

Delineate stream  
channels and  
ditches

Map and track  
BMPs

Geospatial support

- 6-year Cooperative Agreement
  - CBP, USGS, CIC & partners
- 4 Objectives

# Current Land Cover & Land Use Development

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## Partnership Approach

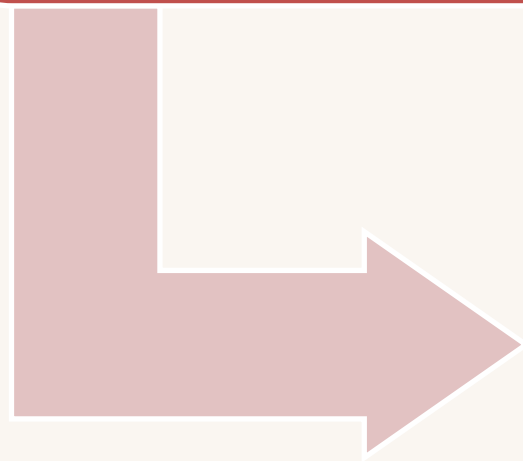
- Sector-specific workgroups evaluations
- Land Use Workgroup advises and vets datasets
- Water Quality GIT approves for incorporation into model



# Current Land Cover & Land Use Development

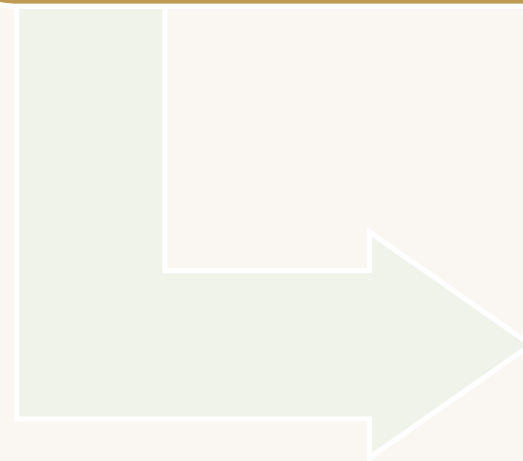
2017/18 Land  
Cover

- Version 1: Reviewed, some corrections, informed version 1 land use
- Version 2: Final product



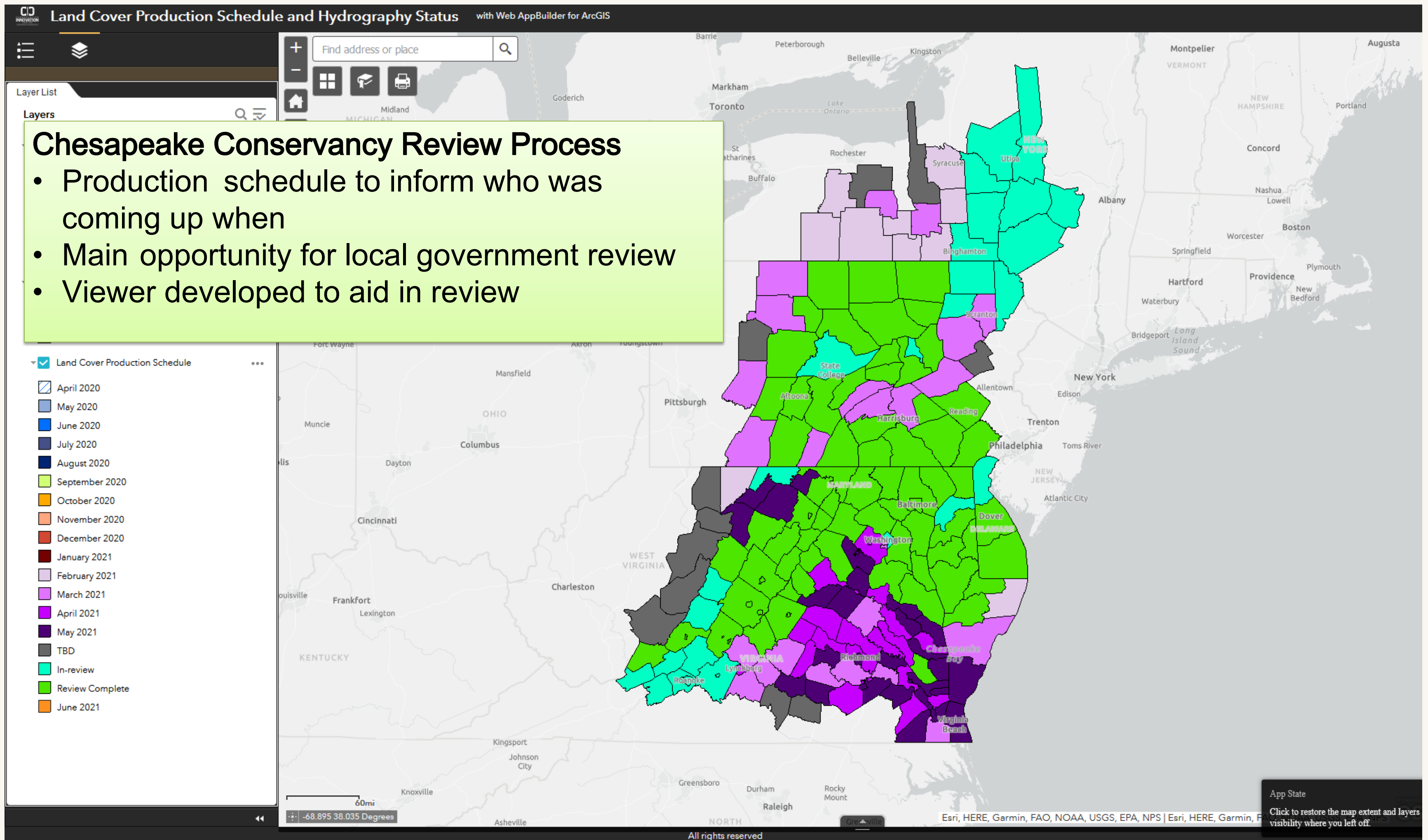
2017/18 Land  
Use

- Version 1: Informed change product
- Version 2: Final product



2013/14 –  
2017/18 Land  
Use Change

- Version 1: Some review, corrections, informed CAST21
- Version 2: Final product

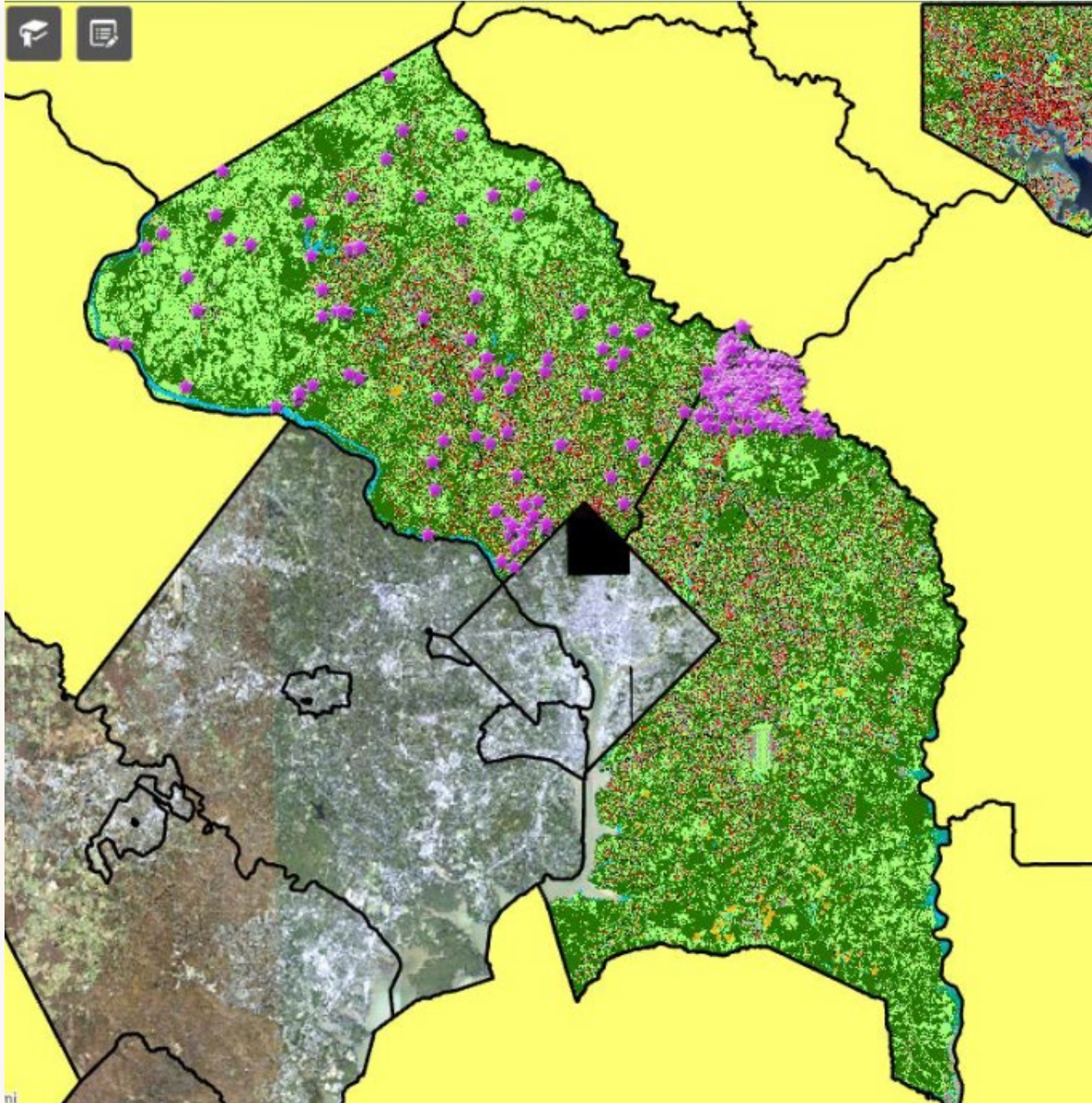




# Land Cover Data

## Production & Review

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- Opportunity for detailed review of land cover data by all 206 localities in Bay watershed
- Consistent process across localities and jurisdictions
- Over-classification of agriculture, turf grass, tree canopy in agriculture, & tree canopy over turf grass
- Under-classification of natural succession, harvested forest, wetlands, bare shore, suspended succession, & forest
- Developed a Version 1 Land Cover to inform Land Use



# Land Cover

**Water, Impervious surfaces, trees, wetlands, structures, herbaceous, shrubland, tree canopy, etc.**

# Land Use

## Water

- Lentic
  - Estuary
  - Lakes and Ponds

## Wetlands and Water Margins

- Tidal
- Riverine (non-tidal)
- Terrene/Isolated (non-tidal)
- Bare Shore

## Forest

- Forest ( $\geq 1$  acre, 240-ft width)
- Other Tree Canopy
- Harvested Forest ( $\leq 3$  years)
- Natural Succession

## Production

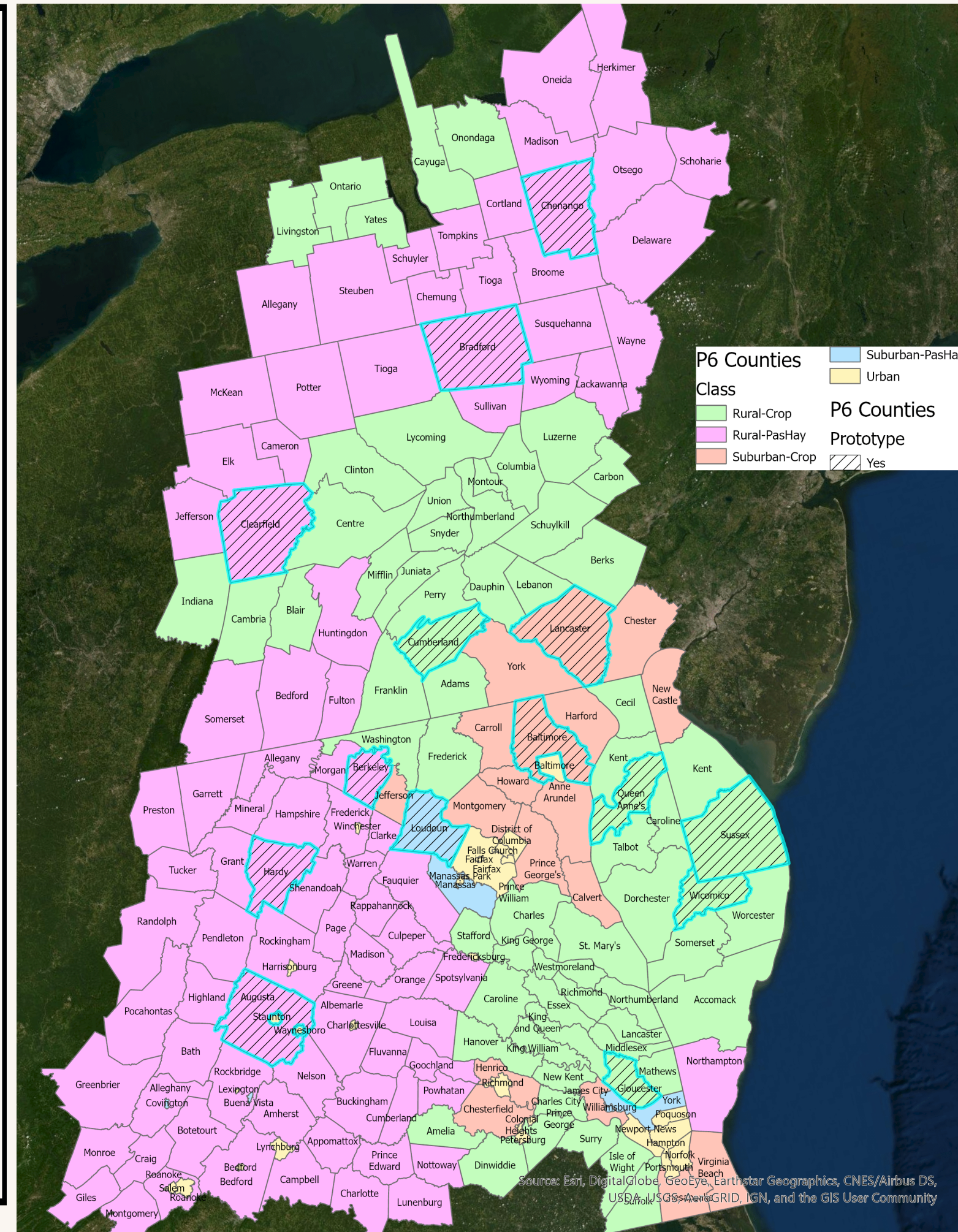
- Agriculture
  - Cropland
  - Pasture/Hay
  - Orchard/Vineyard
- Extractive (active mines)
- Solar Fields
  - Impervious
  - Pervious

## Developed

- Impervious
  - Roads
  - Structures
  - Other Impervious (Parking Lots, Driveways, Railroads, etc.)
  - Tree Canopy over Impervious
- Pervious
  - Turf Grass
  - Bare Developed
  - Suspended Succession
  - Tree Canopy over Turf Grass

# Land Use Development

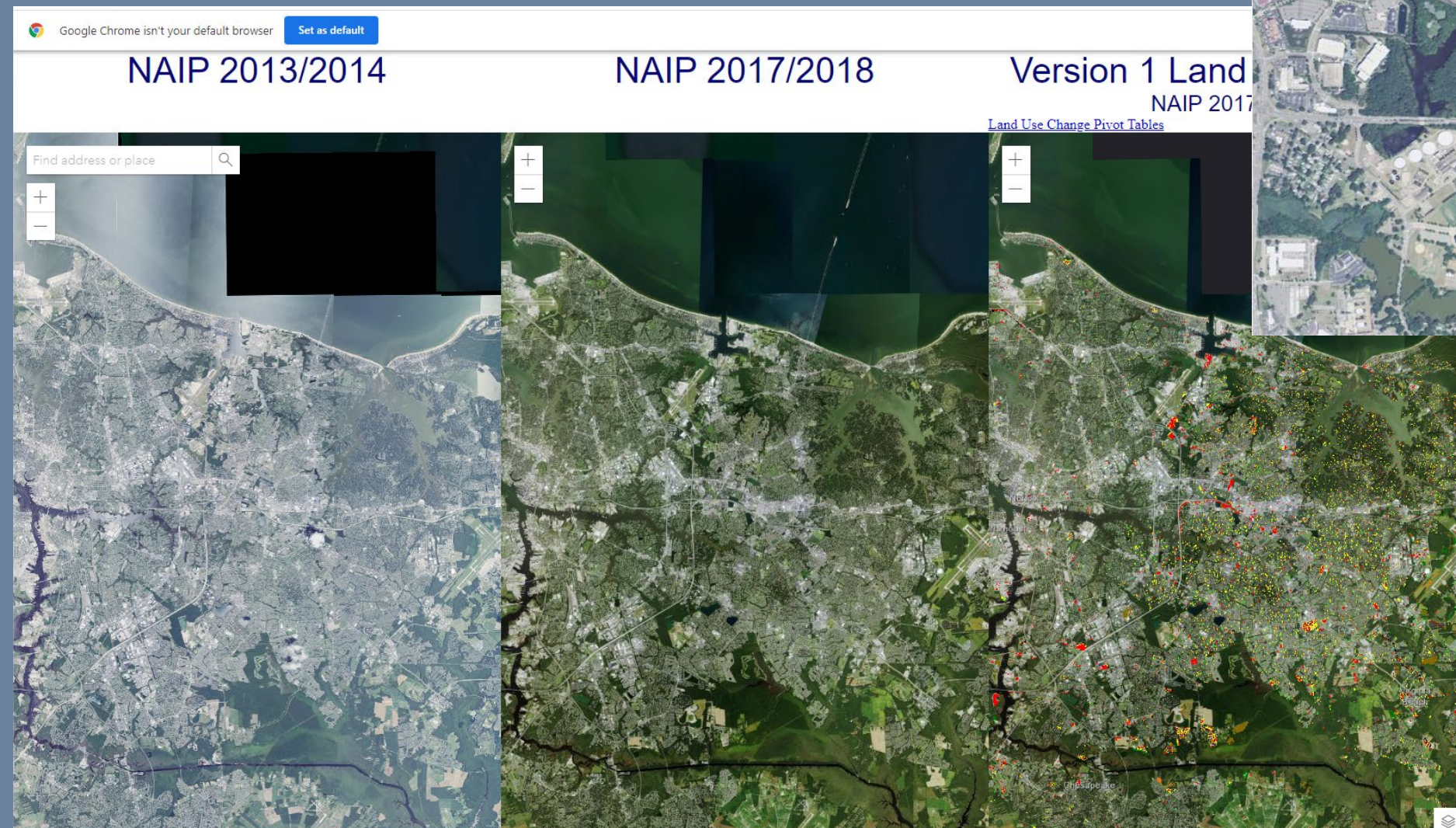
- 14 prototype counties chosen
- Represented a range of land use types to evaluate
- Opportunity to test decision rules for conversion of land cover to land use
- Two-fold analysis – Is the new land use accurate? And Is the change detection accurate?
- Automate for remaining Bay watershed localities





# Land Use Change Analysis

- Viewer aided in capturing Land Use change from 2013/14 to 2017/18
- Discrepancies and inaccuracies documented
- Final (Version 2) of land use change being developed



- Forest to impervious non-roads
- Forest to tree canopy over turf grass
- Mixed open to turf grass



# Data Availability Timeline



## Final Data Products:

V2 Land Cover (2017/ 18)

V2 Land Cover Change (2013/ 14 – 2017/ 18)

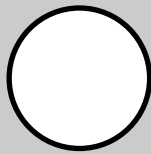
V2 Land Use (2017/ 18)

V2 Land Use Change (2013/ 14 – 2017/ 18)



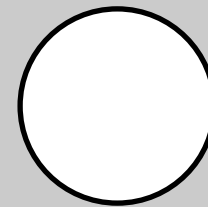
Nov. 2021

Incorporate Version 1 of  
2013/14 to 2017/18 Land  
Use change into CAST21  
for modeling purposes



Feb. 2022

Public versions (V2)  
published



June 2022

Accuracy  
assessments and  
lessons learned  
made available

Simultaneously, gathering new data to  
repeat process on a shorter time scale  
for CAST23



# Big picture CBP data objectives



- 1. Measure rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion, and the extent and rate of change in impervious surface coverage.*
- 2. Quantify the potential impacts of land conversion to water quality, healthy watersheds and communities.*
- 3. Launch a public awareness campaign to share this information with citizens, local governments, elected officials and stakeholders.*

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Expectations and outcomes as presented by P.  
Claggett to Management board

# Uses in Hampton Roads & Beyond

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- Impervious cover calculations to inform policy decisions for using Intensity, Duration, & Frequency safety factors
  - Development patterns, change over time to inform loading rate estimates
  - Tree canopy assessments
  - Regional conservation corridors, resilience, and flooding evaluations
  - Chesapeake Conservancy already has long list of use cases
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# What about your local or regional needs?

- How is this data meaningful to you?
- What can you do with high-resolution, 1-m, land use/land cover data?
- How often would you need it to be updated?
- Would it replace the need for locality's to do this on their own?
- How should data be delivered? (Viewers, spreadsheets, GIS, etc.)

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More details about the multi-year effort and potential outcomes can be found at the [Chesapeake Conservancy's website](#).