

Update on Geospatial Award: Objective 1 and Objective 2

Jeffrey Allenby, GISP

Director of Conservation Technology
jallenby@chesapeakeconservancy.org

Rachel Soobitsky

Geospatial Project Manager
rsoobitsky@chesapeakeconservancy.org

CBP Proposal

Objective 1: Land Cover Updates

- Partnering with University of Vermont

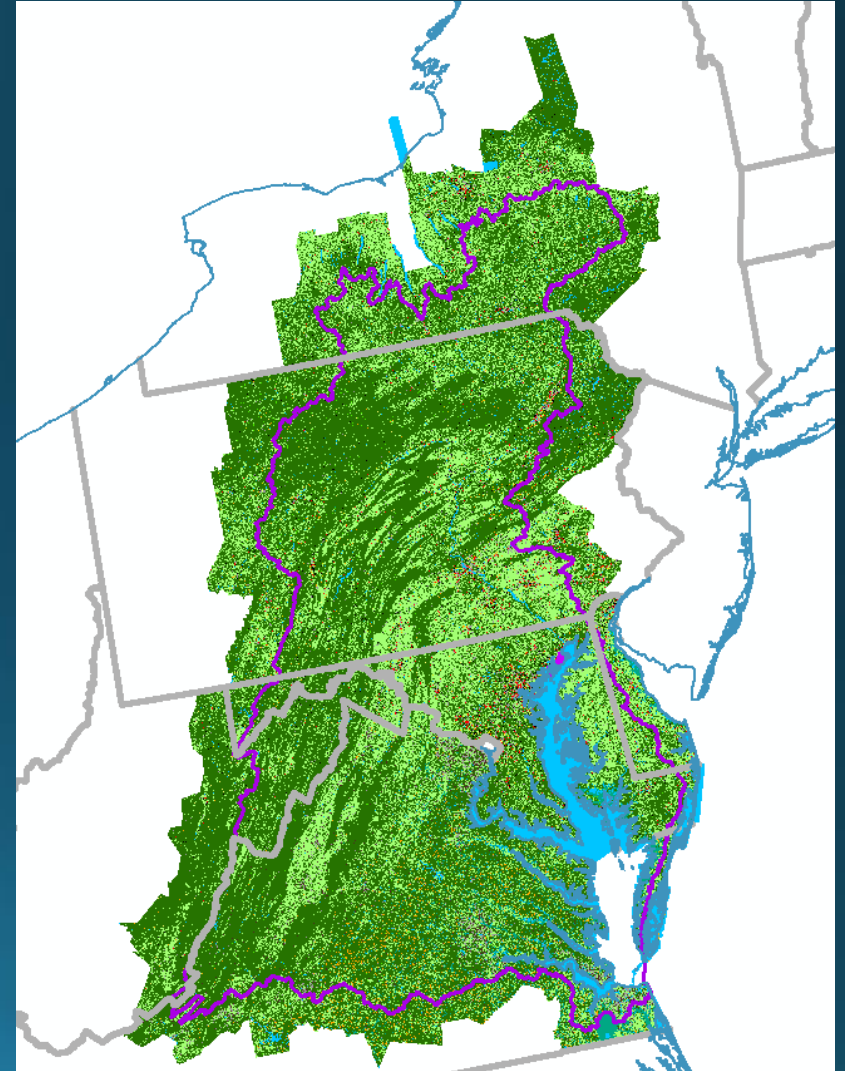
Objective 2: Hydrology & Ditches

- Partnering with UMBC

Objective 3: BMP Mapping & Tracking

- Partnering with Chesapeake Commons and Drexel University

Objective 4: General Geospatial Support



Objective 1: Long-term Land Cover/Land Use Monitoring Program Development and Implementation

Partnership

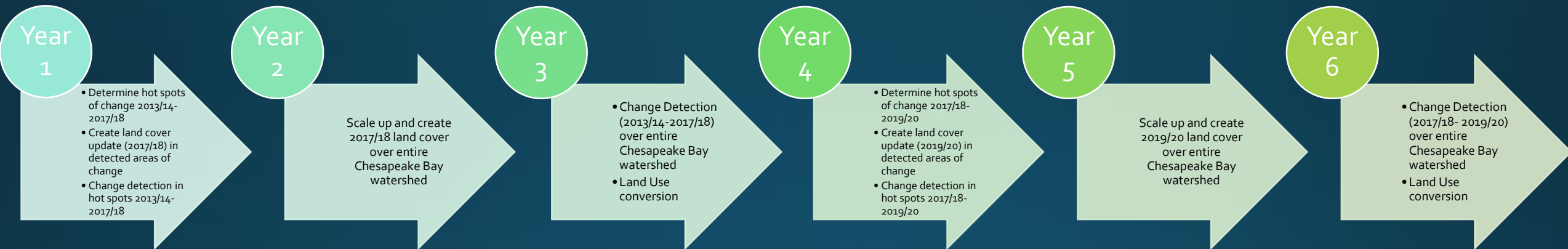


Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.



University of Vermont
Spatial Analysis Lab

Work Plan Overview

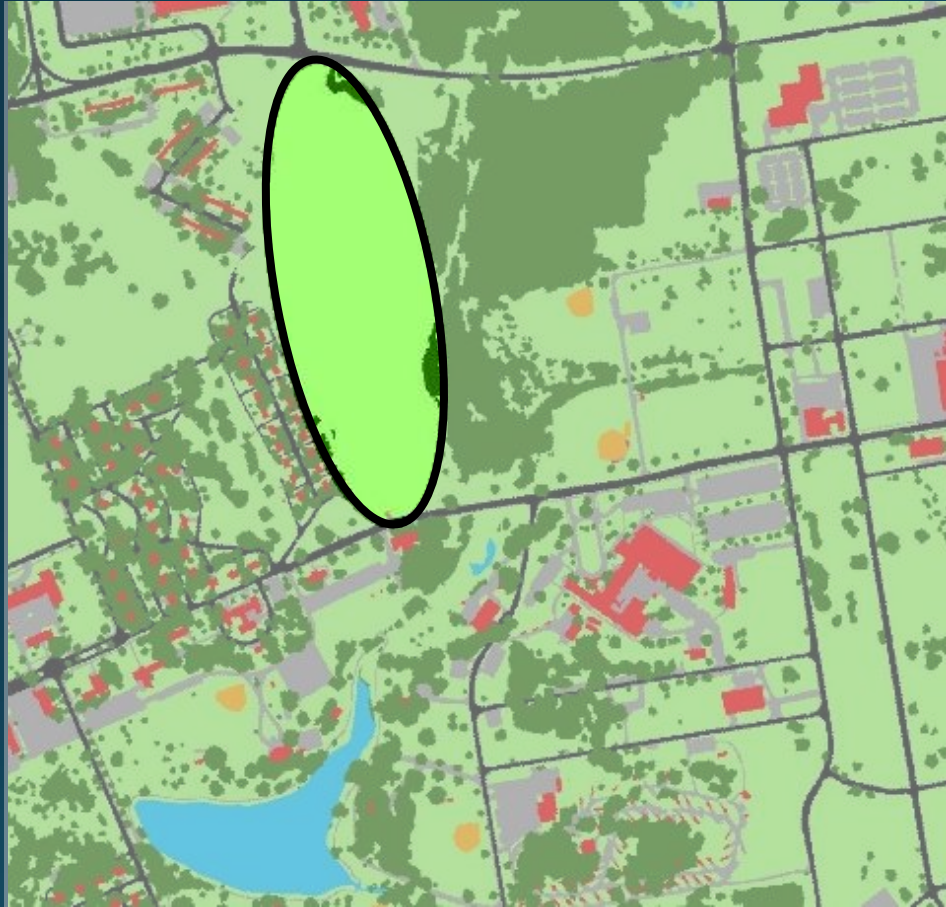


Change Detection

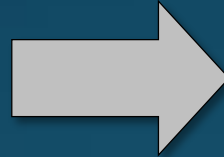


University of Vermont
Spatial Analysis Lab

CID
CONSERVATION
INNOVATION
CENTER
CHESAPEAKE CONSERVANCY



2007

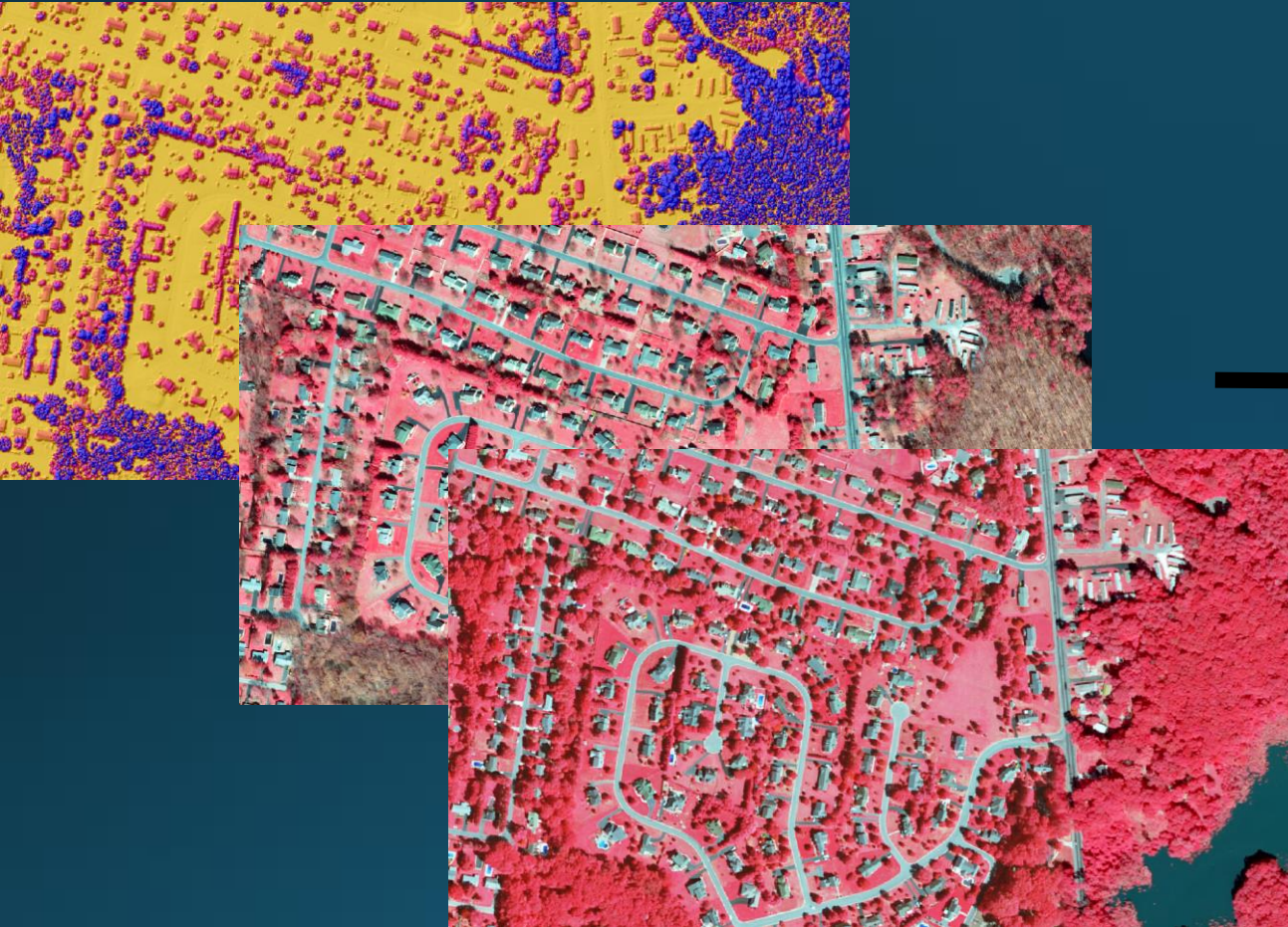


2013

Land Cover Update



University of Vermont
Spatial Analysis Lab



Background	Tree Canopy
Barren	Tree Canopy Over Other Impervious
Low Vegetation	Tree Canopy Over Roads
Other Impervious	Tree Canopy Over Structures
Roads	Water
Scrub-Shrub	Wetlands (emergent)
Structures	

Land Use Conversion

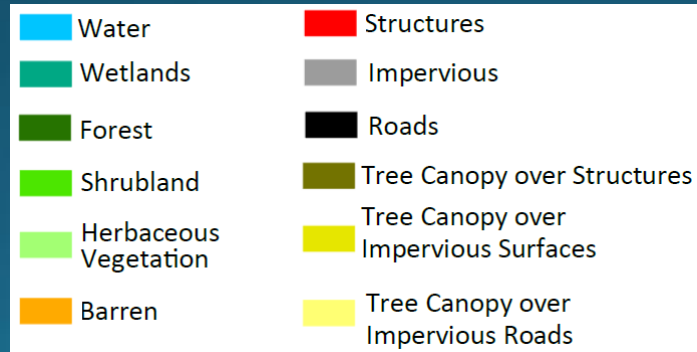
2013 NAIP Imagery



2013 Land Cover








2013 Land Use



Determine secondary classes

Original 12 Classes

	Water
	Wetlands
	Tree Canopy
	Shrubland
	Herbaceous Vegetation
	Barren
	Structures
	Impervious Surfaces
	Impervious Roads
	Tree Canopy over Structures
	Tree Canopy over Impervious Surfaces
	Tree Canopy over Impervious Roads

Potential secondary classes:

- Aquaculture
- Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
- Deciduous vs. Evergreen
- Nursery
- Orchard
- Center Pivot
- Grass Filter Strips
- Vineyard
- Pasture
- Greenhouses
- Animal operations
- Wetlands (additional classifications)

What classes matter to you?

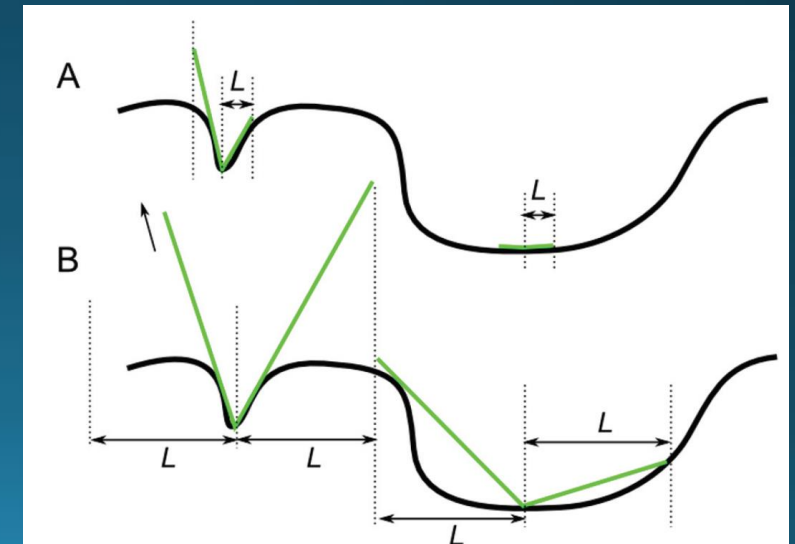
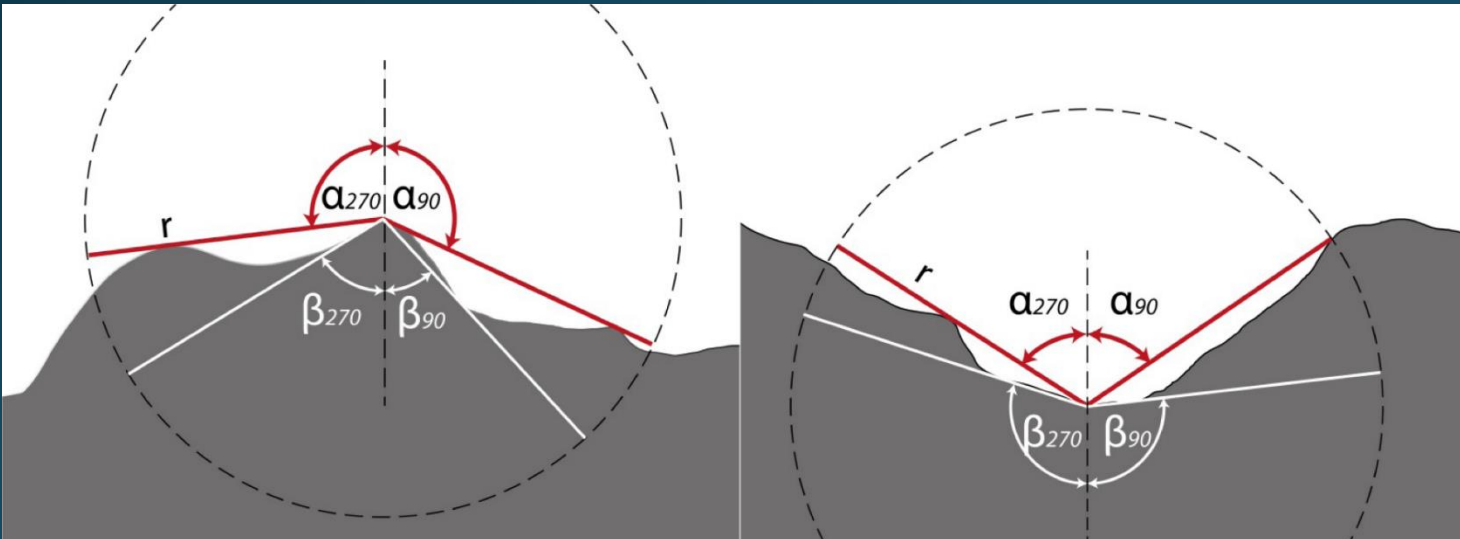
Objective 2: Hydrology Mapping Supporting Targeted Restoration and Protection

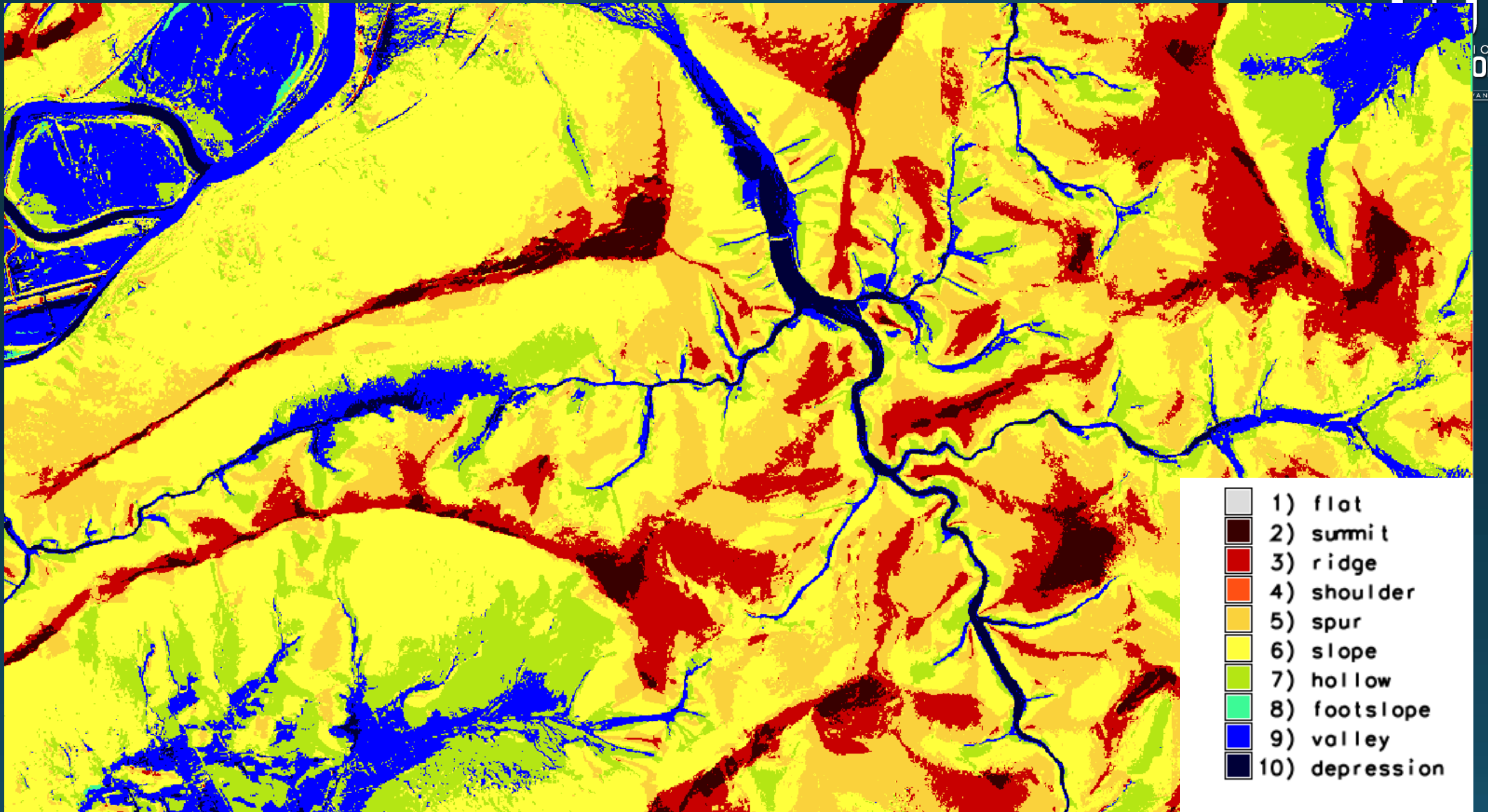
What is geomorphon?

- Terrain classification algorithm developed by Jasiewicz and Stepinski (2013)
- Operates based on line-of-sight principles
- Classifies terrain into discrete, constituent features
- Like land cover but for terrain

Underlying principles

- Operates on line-of-sight principles within a search radius, L
- Integrates *zenith* angle, measured above ground (i.e. positive openness) and *nadir* angle, measured below ground (i.e. negative openness)
- Allows for identification of features at multiple scales



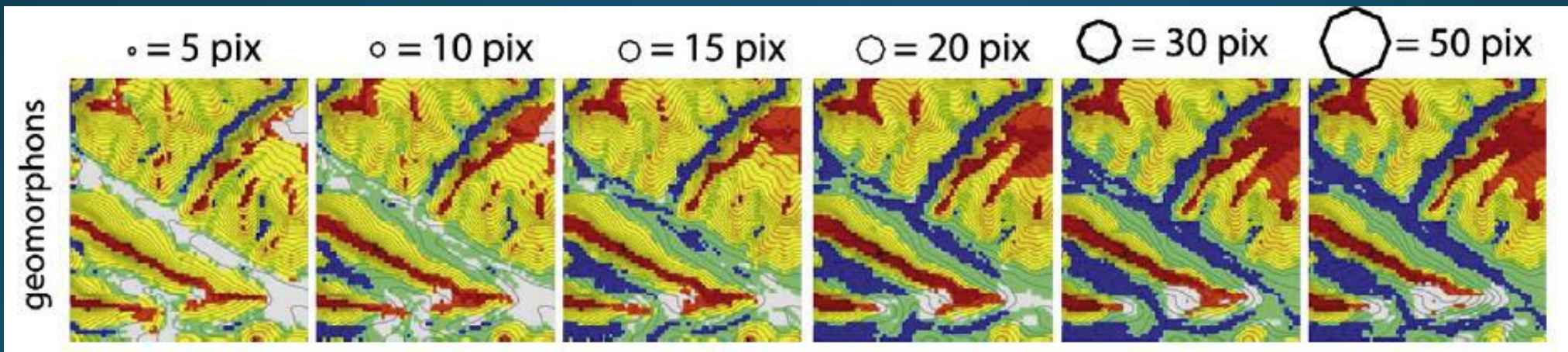


Parameters

- Outer search radius
- Inner search radius
- Flatness threshold
- Many optional outputs including relative elevation, maximum elevation difference, length, width, azimuth, and others

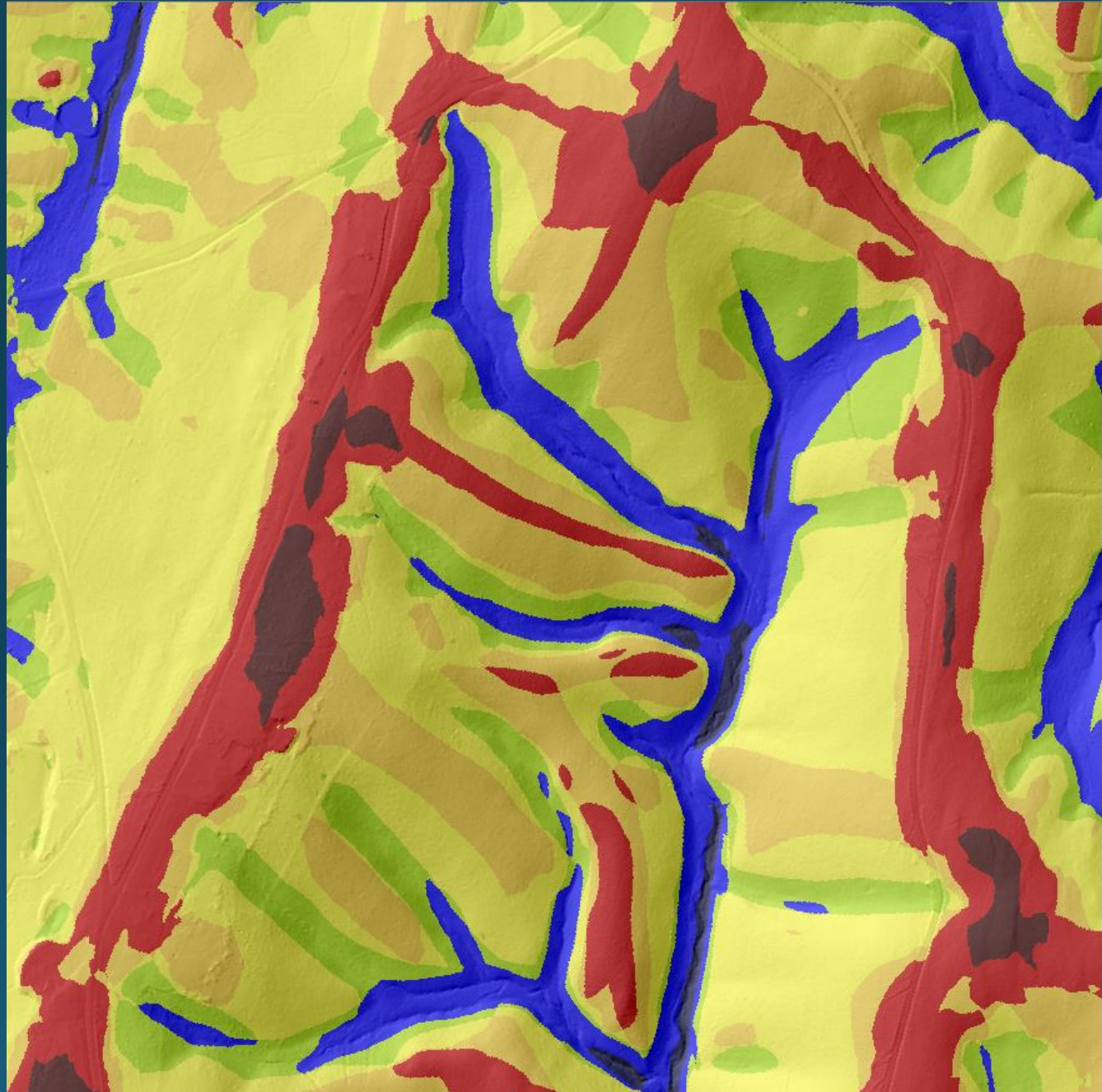
Search radii

- Search radii control how features will be identified
- Could theoretically be infinitely large to capture features at all scales; in reality there is a point of diminishing returns
- Inner search radius – cells immediately surrounding focal cell out to this distance will be ignored (useful to further manipulate output)



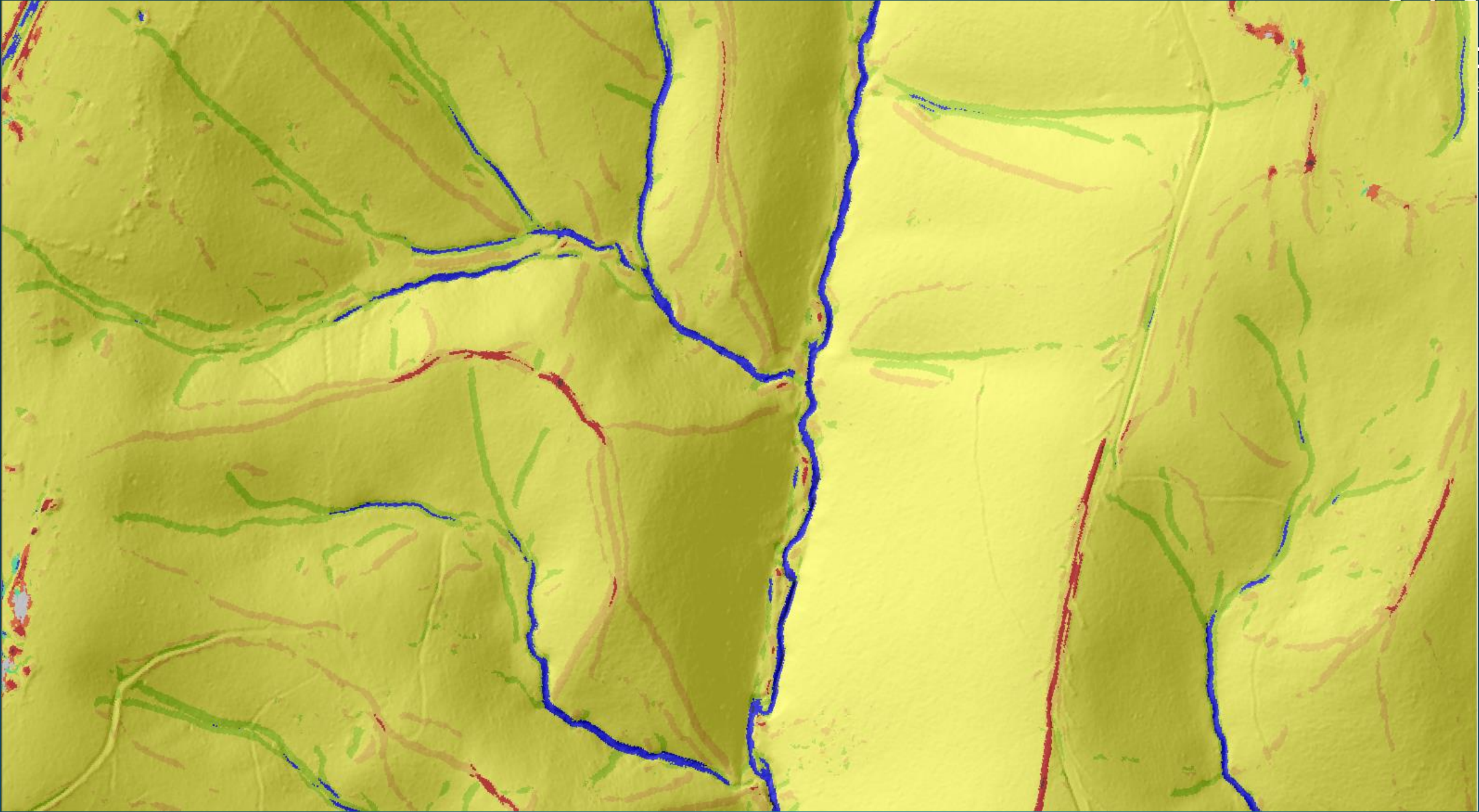
Application: stream valleys

- Stream valleys are generally large features – can be readily identified using 10-m or coarser DEM, LiDAR not necessary
- Outer search radius large enough to include valley walls but not excessively large
- Moderate skip radius can be used to prevent local irregularities in DEM from interfering with sightlines to valley walls
- Result: valley walls are the dominant features along sightlines thus resulting in stream valleys being classified as “Valley” or “Hollow”



Application: stream channels

- Greater level of detail in LiDAR DEM advantageous
- Outer search radius does not need to be large; wide enough to cover channels but not much more
- No skip radius; ensure that pixels immediately surrounding focal cell are analyzed
- Result: algorithm is “tricked” into thinking channel banks are valley walls because it can’t see much further, stream channels classified as “Valley”, much of the remaining landscape classified as “Slope”



Resources

- Jasiewicz, J., & Stepinski, T. F. (2013). Geomorphons—a pattern recognition approach to classification and mapping of landforms. *Geomorphology*, 182, 147-156.
- Stepinski, T. F., Jasiewicz, J. (2011) Geomorphons - a new approach to classification of landforms. *Geomorphometry Conference, Redlands CA*
- Online web app: <http://sil.uc.edu/geom/app>
- GRASS GIS extension:
<https://grass.osgeo.org/grass74/manuals/addons/r.geomorphon.html>
- Fun video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQ_oAr2sOoQ



conservationinnovationcenter.org

jallenby@chesapeakeconservancy.org
rsoobitsky@chesapeakeconservancy.org