

# A look at recreation access and land use change: investigation of current landowner thoughts and decision-making processes

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# Justification

- Forests on the Edge (Stein et al, 2005), landownership changes, in-migration

The top 15 watersheds with increased housing density projected

	Watershed	Acres <sup>4</sup>	State(s)
• 1	Lower Penobscot	310,206	Maine
2	Deep	269,817	North Carolina
3	Upper Oconee	269,003	Georgia
4	Etowah	265,961	Georgia
5	Pamunkey	262,003	Virginia
6	Lower Cumberland	259,035	Kentucky and Tennessee
7	Upper Roanoke	257,110	Virginia
8	Lower Lead	242,758	Mississippi
9	Lower Pee Dee	239,558	North and South Carolina
10	Little Kanawha	225,760	West Virginia
11	Middle Hudson	221,384	New York and Massachusetts
12	Upper Green	215,579	Kentucky
• 13	Lower Androscoggin	213,808	Maine and New Hampshire
• 14	Lower Kennebec	210,005	Maine
15	North Branch Potomac	209,187	Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia

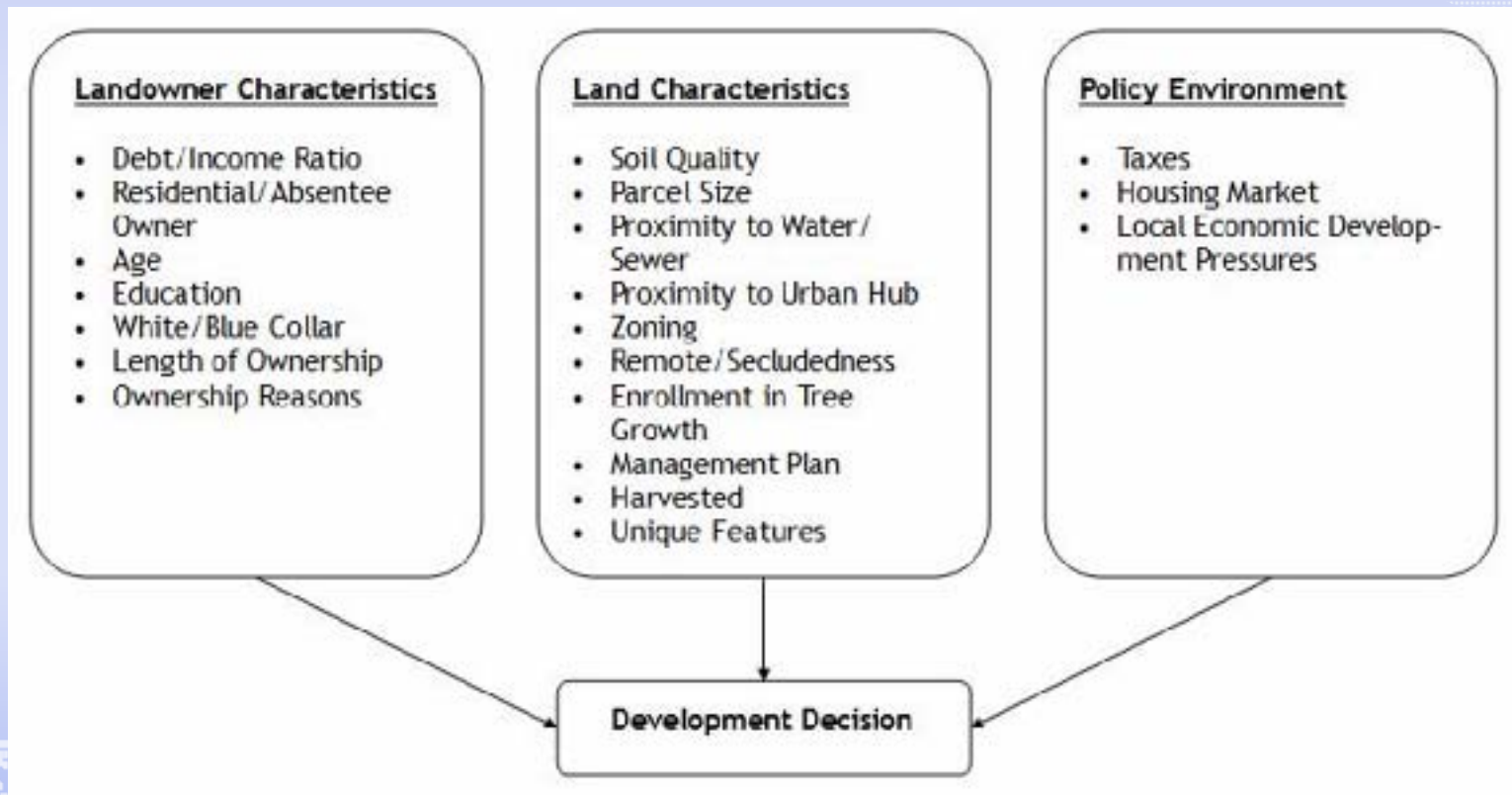
<sup>4</sup>Number of private forest acres projected to experience increase in housing density.



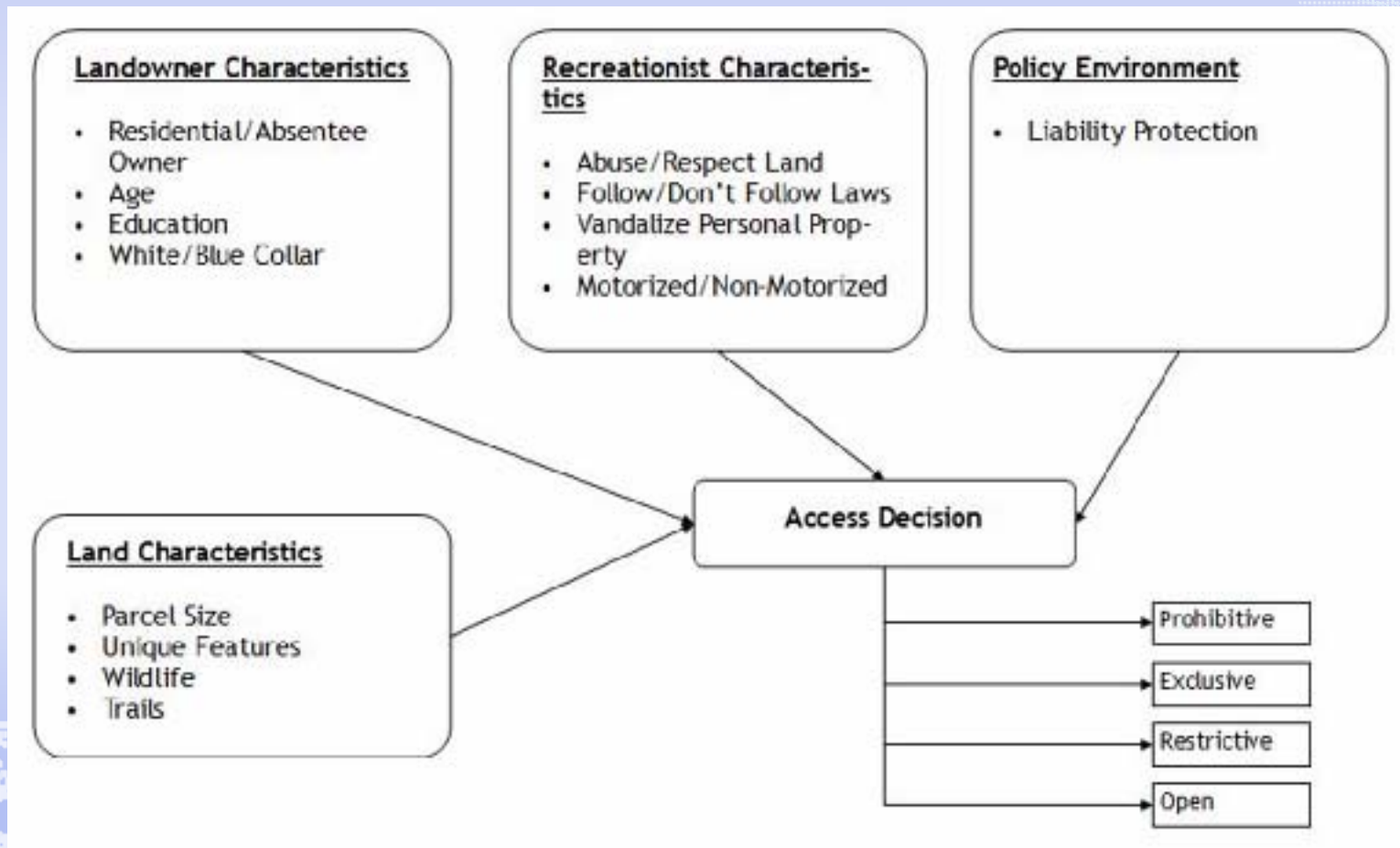
# Objectives

- ❑ Assess current recreation access
- ❑ Tie survey results to GIS info
- ❑ Make predictions about future recreation access
- ❑ Increase understanding of landowner decision-making
- ❑ Determine policy preferences

# Literature Review

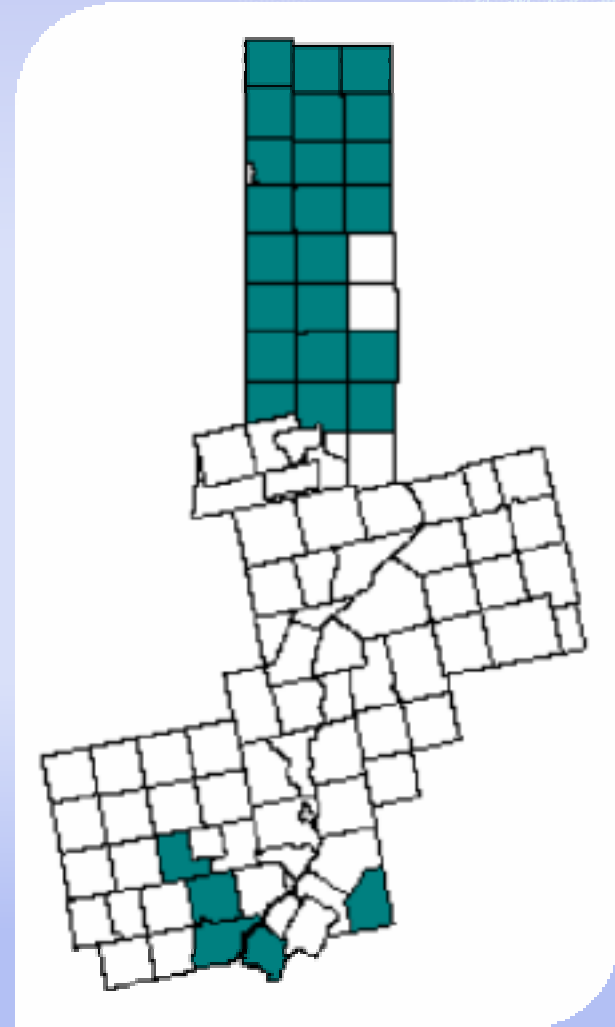


# Literature Review



# Methods

- Unorganized and organized study areas

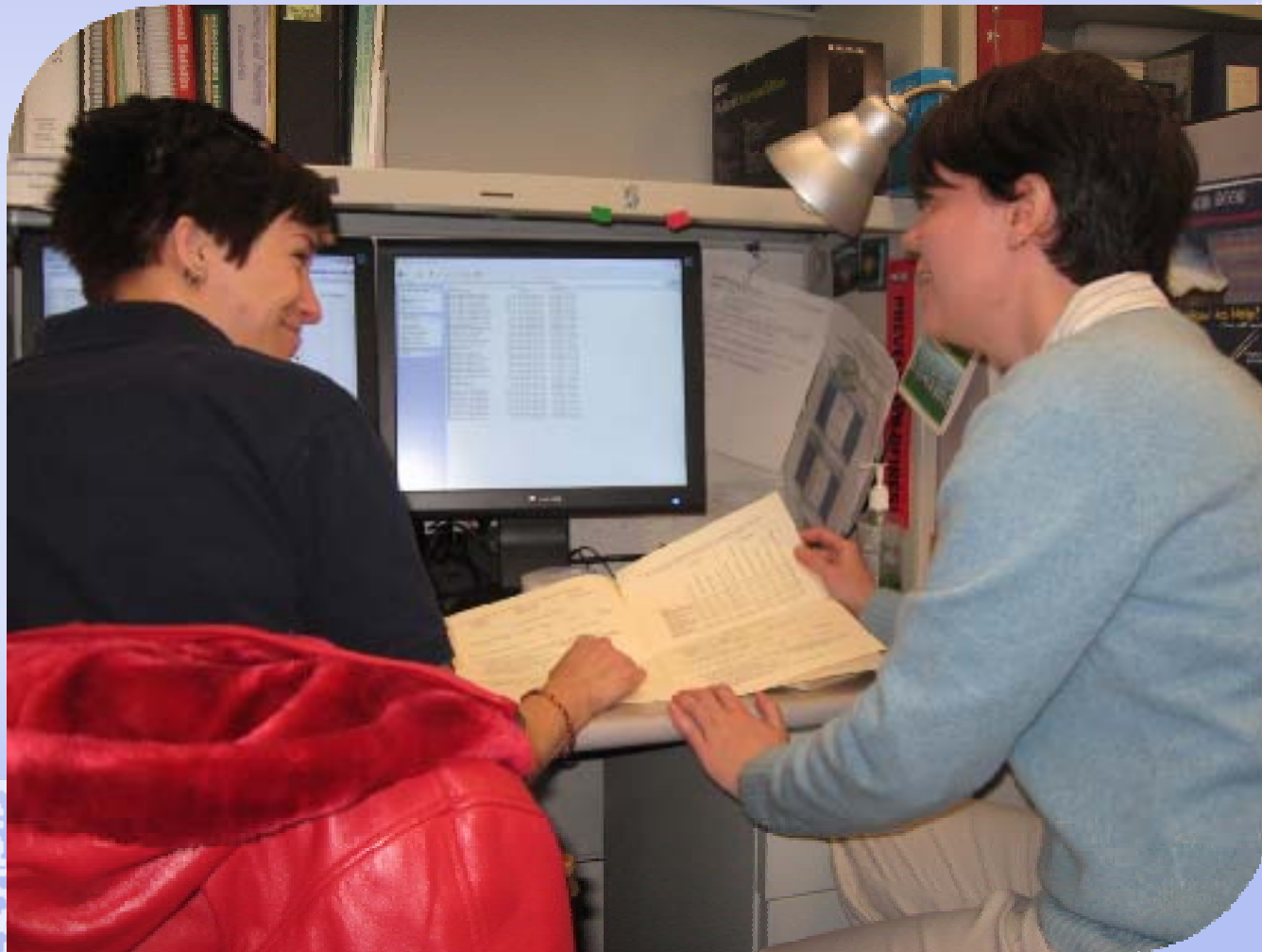


# Methods

- ❑ 2500 surveys
- ❑ Followed *Dillman's Tailored Design Method, 2007 Update*



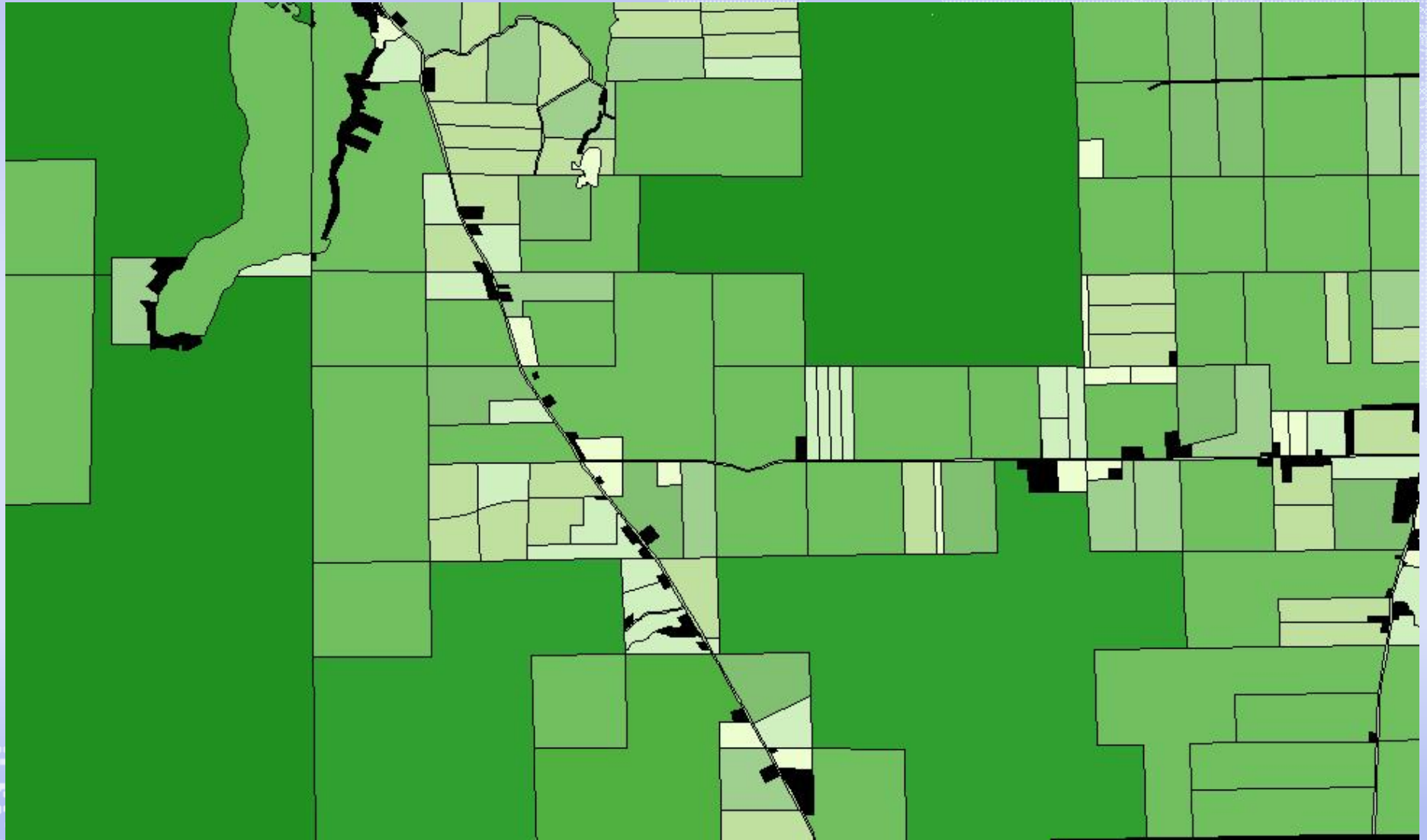
# Current Status

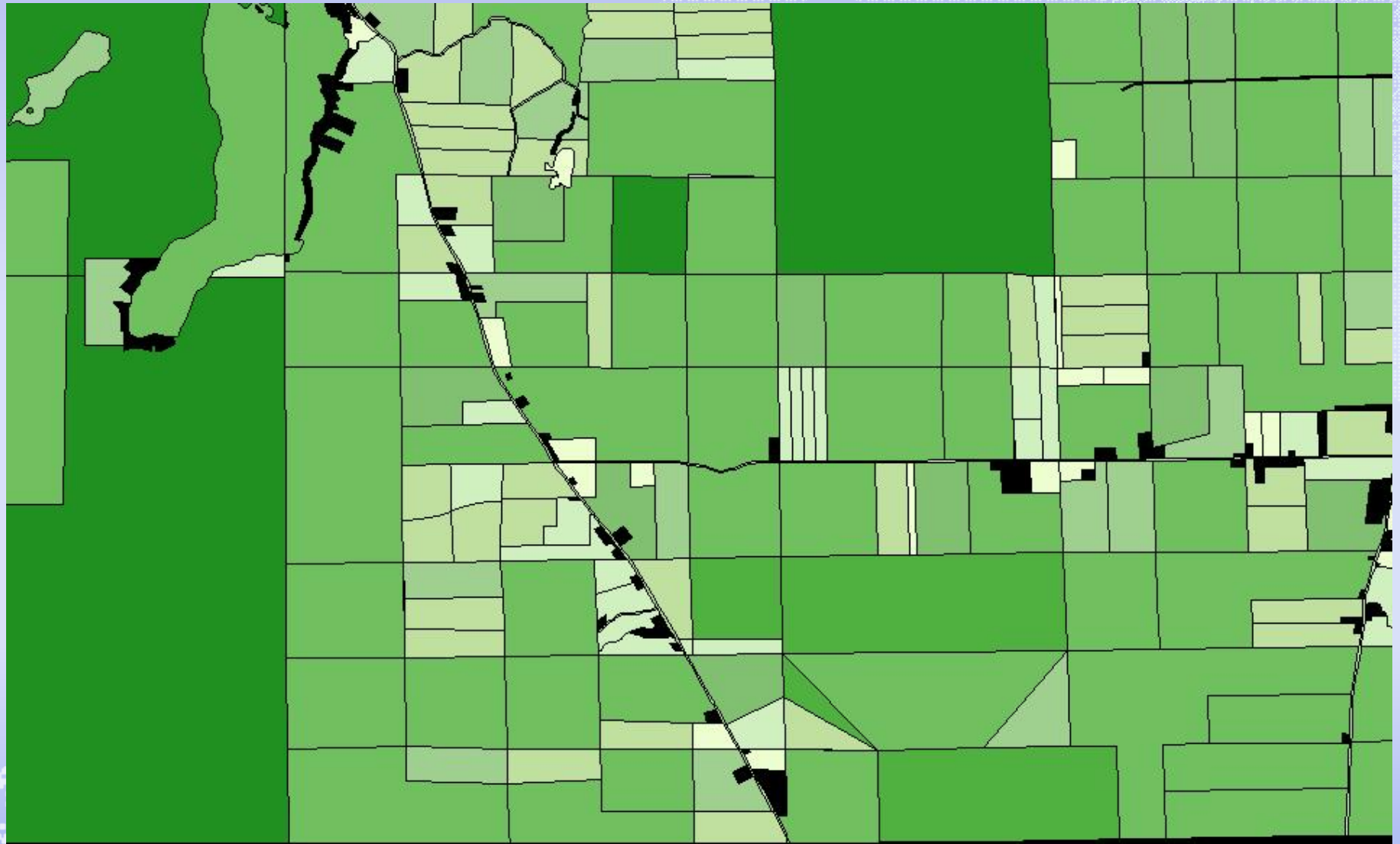


# Current Status

- ❑ Land seems to be for personal enjoyment
- ❑ Hunting seems to be most frequent problem
- ❑ ATVs an issue for industrial owners







# Stakeholders

- Official:
  - Sue Lessard, Town of Hampden
  - Tom Doak, Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine



# Stakeholders

- Unofficial:
  - Dan Mitchell, ATV Maine



# Stakeholders

- Unofficial:
  - Several large land holders (>10,000 acres)



# Benefits and Drawbacks

- ❑ Very nimble
- ❑ Greater focus on stakeholders
- ❑ EES590 course requirement



# Wants/Needs

- Expectable:
  - Underestimated human resources needed
    - $1250/8.5/4.0/5.0 = 7$  solid weeks of data entry!
  - Thanks, USPS!
    - \$0.68 -> \$1.14
  
- Unexpected:
  - Incredible diversity of landowners



# Possible Changes/Extensions

- ❑ Changing methodology: for diverse landowners
- ❑ Changing focus: changing societal values about land, land tenure, property rights, etc.
- ❑ Enhance existing web outreach:
  - <http://www.forest.umaine.edu/recreation/recreation.htm>
- ❑ Add equal land use component