



Evaluation of WorldView-2 and Landsat data to map freshwater marsh plant communities at different spatial scales for two Everglades landscapes

Daniel Gann¹, Jennifer Richards² and Andrew Gottlieb³

¹GIS-RS Center, Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA

²Department of Biological Sciences, Florida International University, Miami, FL, USA

³Atkins, Jacksonville, FL, USA

project funding provided by South Florida Water Management District

Introduction

value of vegetation maps to monitoring of wetland plant communities

- not only determined by **accuracy**
- but also by **spatial precision**
 - i.e., spatial resolution -> minimum mapping unit (MMU)
 - i.e., spatial variability of vegetation -> classification scheme

monitoring

- over **large spatial extents**
 - at **multiple spatial resolutions**
- methods requirements: **reproducibility and inexpensive**

method of choice: remote sensing → **“Detection” and “Scaling”**

Objective : Detection

Determine overall and class-specific detection accuracies

2 different **spatial resolutions** (spatial **precision**)

(1) WorldView2 → **high spatial resolution**

(2) Landsat → **medium spatial resolution**

2 levels of **classification scheme** (thematic **precision**)

(1) plant community level

(2) structural level

prediction level	model name	variable set	classifier
community class (comClass)	wetSeason	8 refl. bands of 11/2010	randomForest (rndFor)
	drySeason	8 refl. bands of 5/2011	
	biSeason	16 refl. bands of 2010/2011	
community structure (comStruc)	wetTexture	8 refl. bands and 16 text. layers of 11/2010	Ctree (cTree)
	dryTexture	8 refl. bands and 16 text. layers of 5/2011	
	biTexture	16 refl. bands and 32 text. Layers of 2010/2011	

- 1) **variable set**: spectral reflectance, first-order textural derivatives (variance) and for single- and dual-date imagery
- 2) **classifier**: single tree (cTree) vs. randomForest recursive partitioning
- 3) **prediction level**

evaluation metrics: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa

- 1) **model-based** cross-validated results
- 2) **design-based** post-classification stratified random samples

Objective : Scaling

Determine how **spatial aggregation** algorithms compare to maps classified at same resolution

(1) **morphological** aggregation algorithm

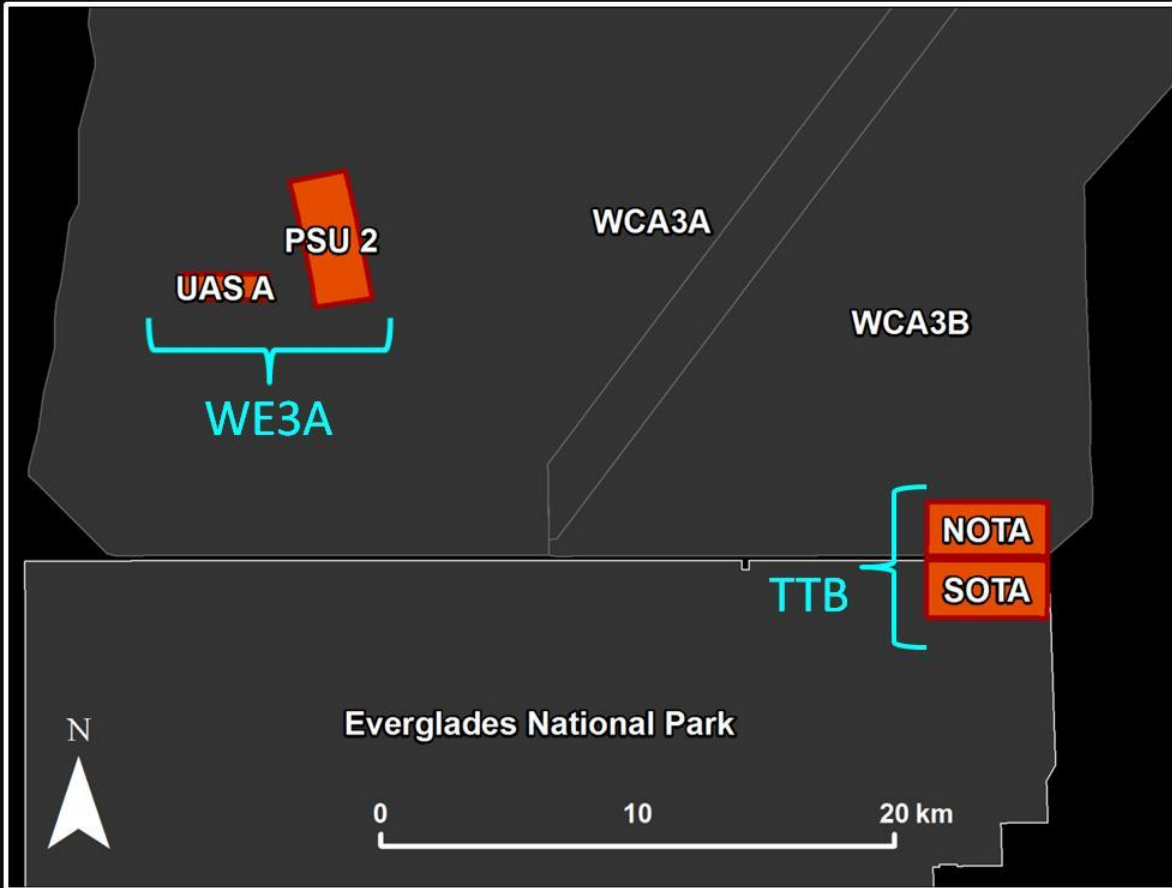
e.g., contiguous grid cells with the same class membership with area less than the minimum mapping unit are absorbed by the surrounding polygon

(2) **grid-based** (arbitrary origin) majority rule

e.g., an area of 25 2x2 m grid cells are aggregated to one grid cell of 10x10 m

evaluation metrics: areal coverage change of plant community abundances and changes in class diversity

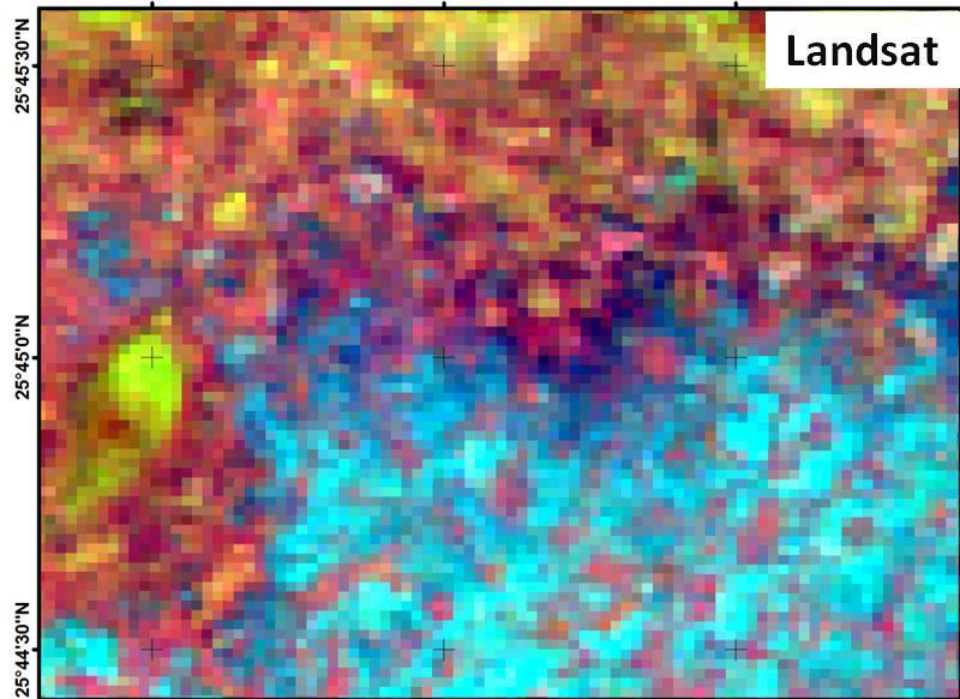
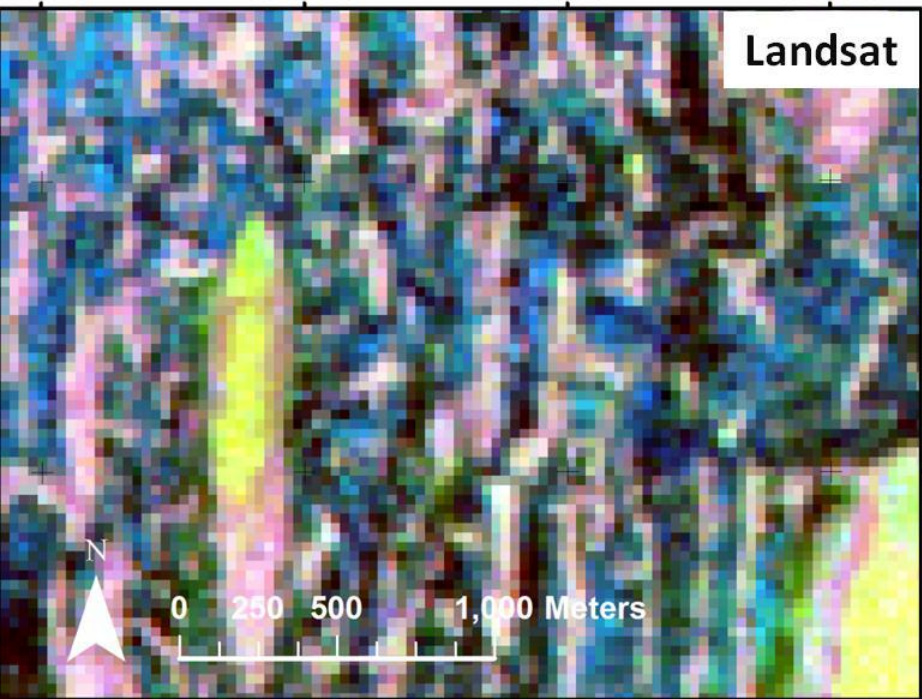
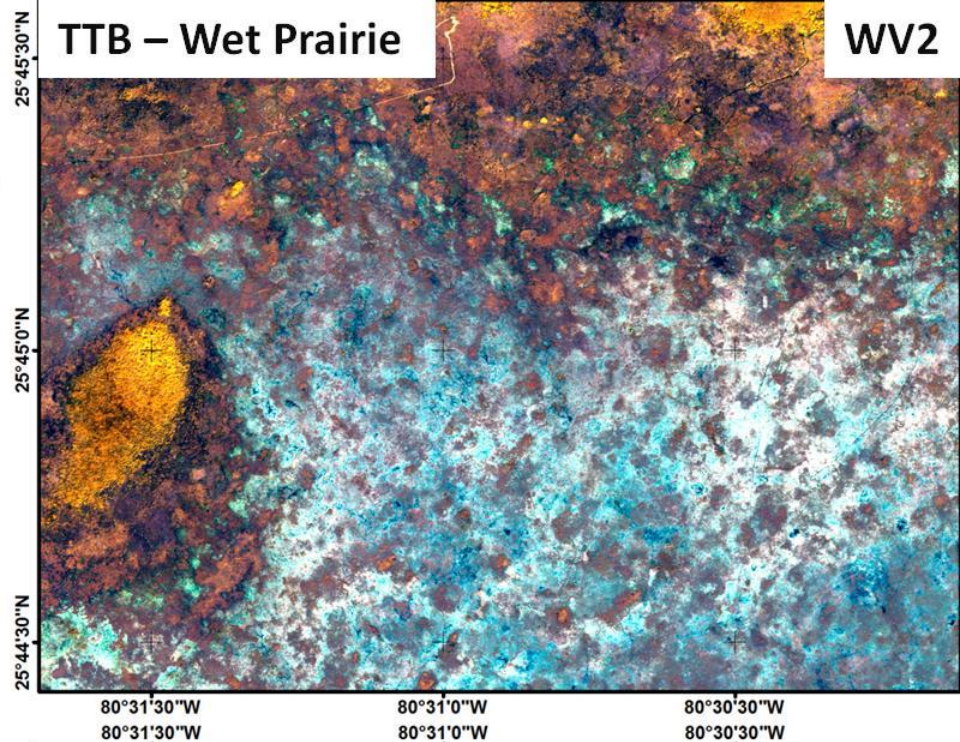
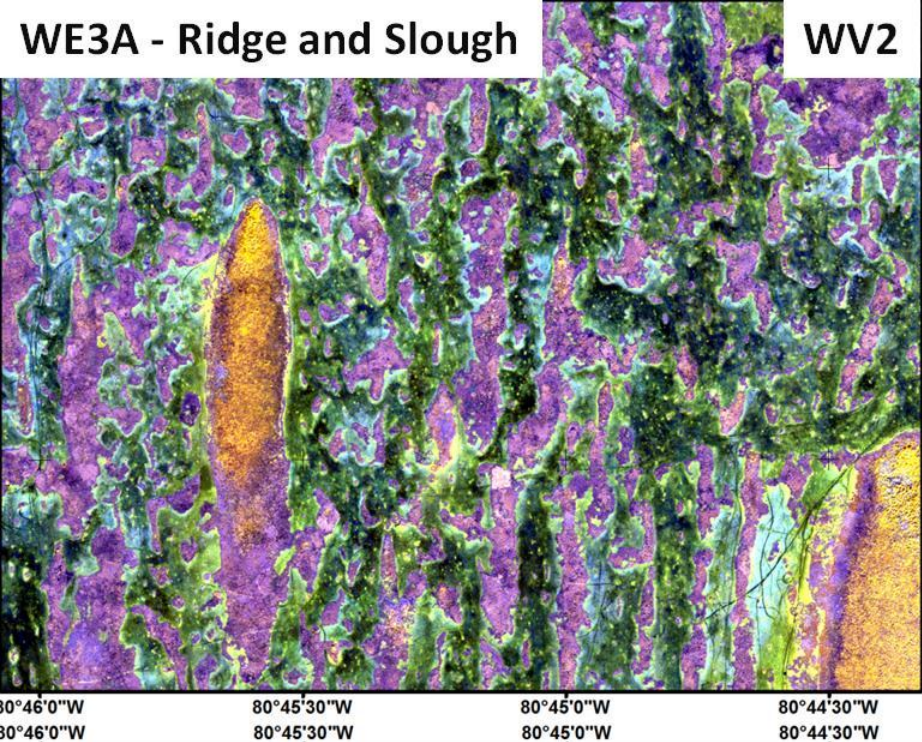
Study Areas



2 landscape formations

1) *Wet Prairie, Shrubland*
Tamiami Trail Bridge (TTB)
NOTA & SOTA

2) *Ridge, Slough, Tree Island*
WEstern 3A (WE3A)
PSU 2 & UAS A



Classification Scheme

2 landscape formations

Wet Prairie, Shrubland

TTB (NOTA; SOTA)

Ridge, Slough, Tree Island

WE3A (PSU 2; UAS A)

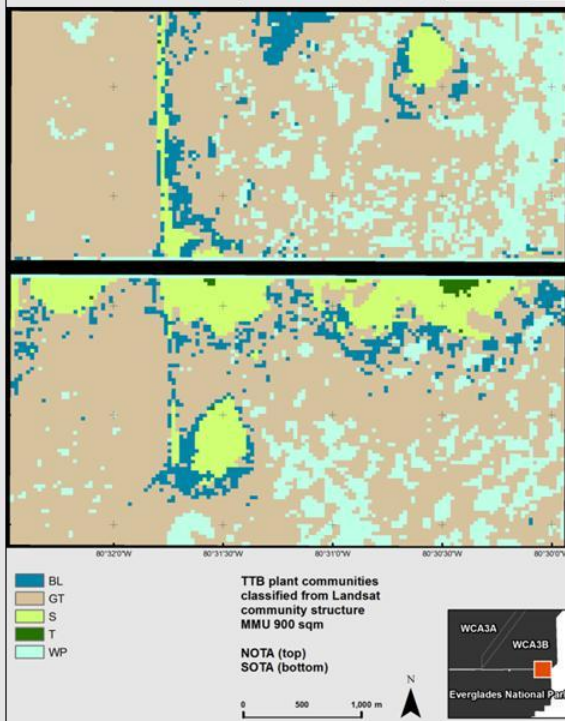
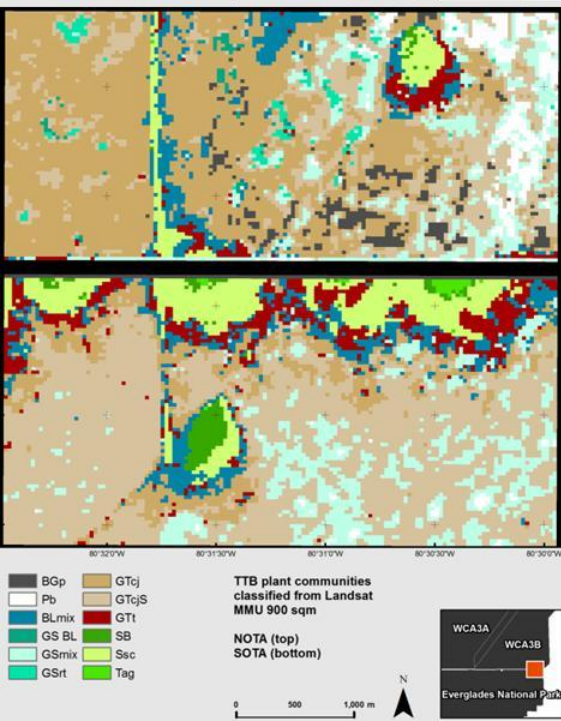
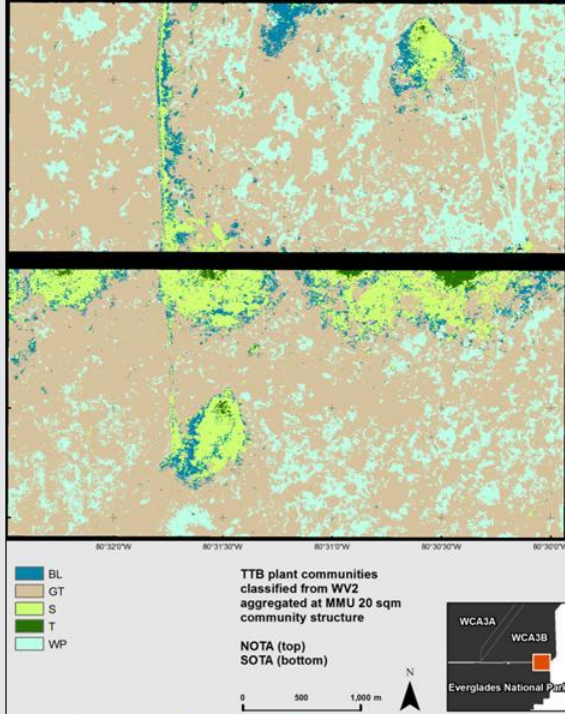
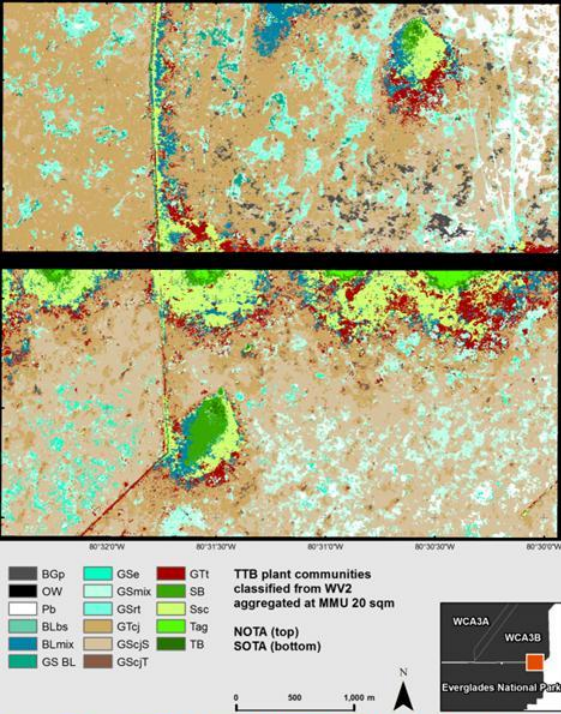
community structure	community class	community class description	TTB	WE3A
SL	Flno	<i>Nymphaea odorata</i>	0	1
SL	FLu	<i>Utricularia ssp.</i>	0	1
SL	_Pf	floating periphyton mat	0	1
SL	_OW	open water in Slough matrix	0	1
BL	BLmix	Broadleaf mix (i.e., <i>Sagittaria</i> , <i>Pontederia</i> , <i>Crinum</i> , <i>Peltandra</i>)	1	1
BL	BLpv	<i>Peltandra virginica</i>	1	1
BL	BLbs	<i>Blechnum serrulatum</i>	1	1
WP	GS_BL	short graminoid broadleaf mix	1	0
WP	GSmix	short graminoid mix (i.e., <i>Eleocharis</i> , <i>Panicum</i> , <i>Rynchospora</i>)	1	0
WP	Gse	<i>Eleocharis ssp.</i>	1	0
WP	GSrt	<i>Rhynchospora tracyi</i>	1	0
WP	_Pb	benthic periphyton mat	1	0
WP	_BGp	bare ground peat (w/wo water)	1	0
GT	GTcj	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i>	1	1
GT	GTcjS	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i> Short	1	0
GT	GTcjT	<i>Cladium jamaicense</i> Tall	1	1
GT	GTt	<i>Typha ssp.</i>	1	1
S	Ssc	<i>Salix caroliniana</i>	1	1
S	SB	Bayhead (i.e., <i>Annona</i> , <i>Myrica</i> , <i>Persea</i> , <i>Magnolia</i>)	1	1
T	TB	Bayhead (i.e., <i>Annona</i> , <i>Myrica</i> , <i>Persea</i> , <i>Magnolia</i>)	1	1
T	Tag	<i>Annona glabra</i>	1	0
total number of classes			17	13

Results : Detection TTB

top: WV2

left: community level

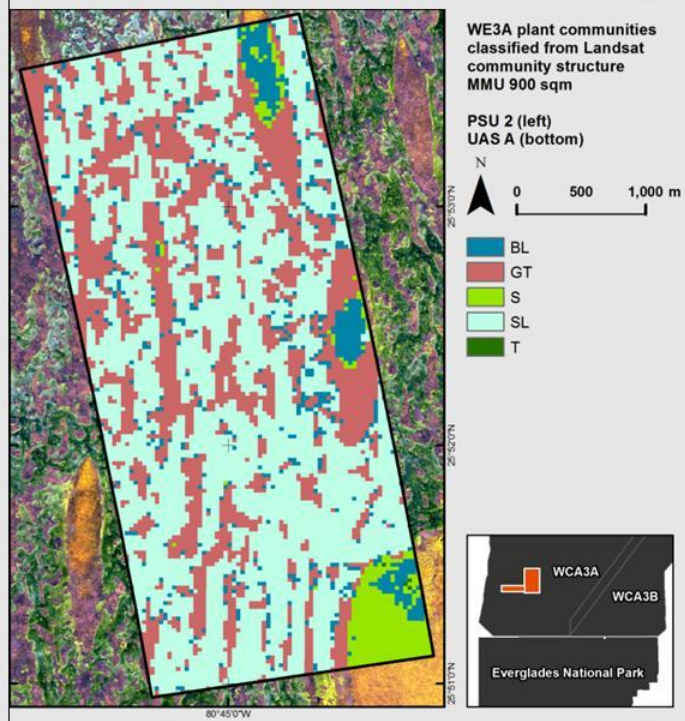
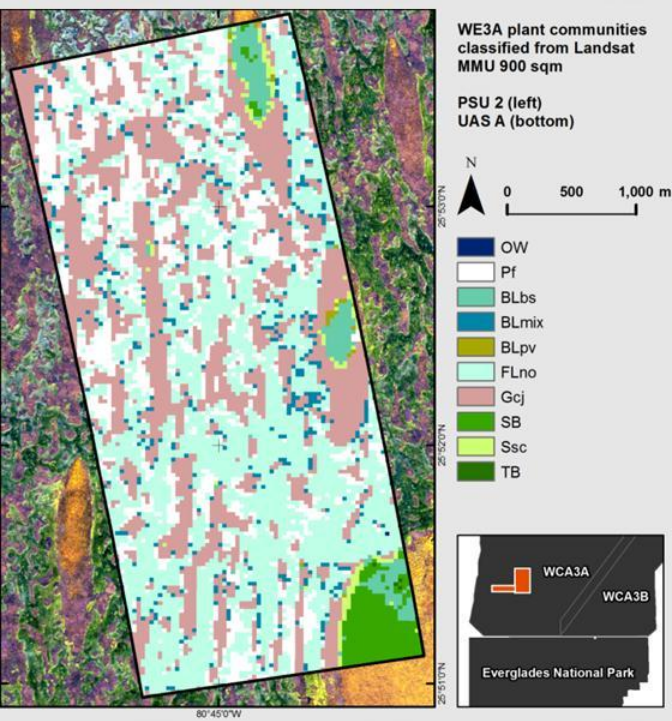
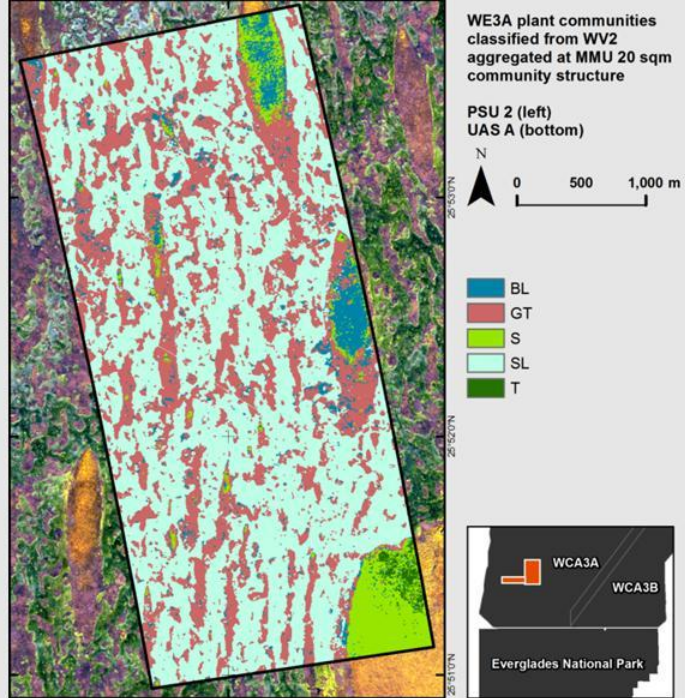
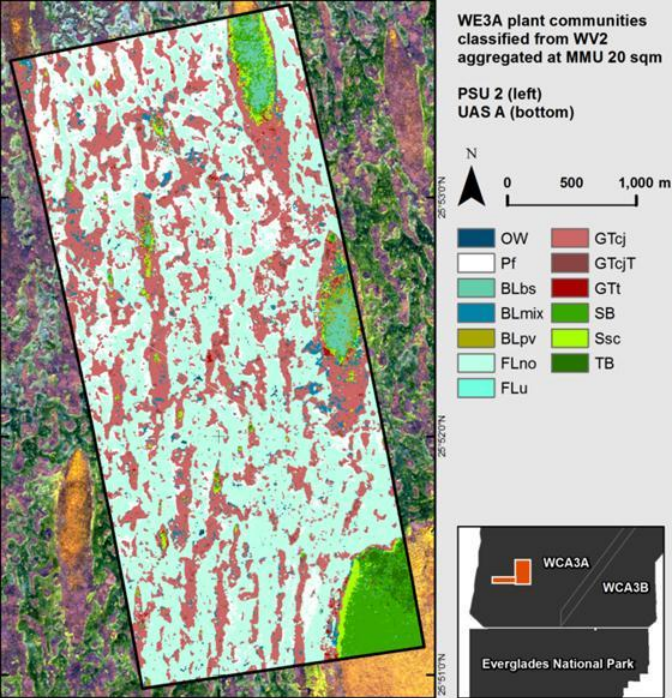
right: structural level



bottom: Landsat

left: community level

right: structural level



Results : Detection WE3A

top: WV2

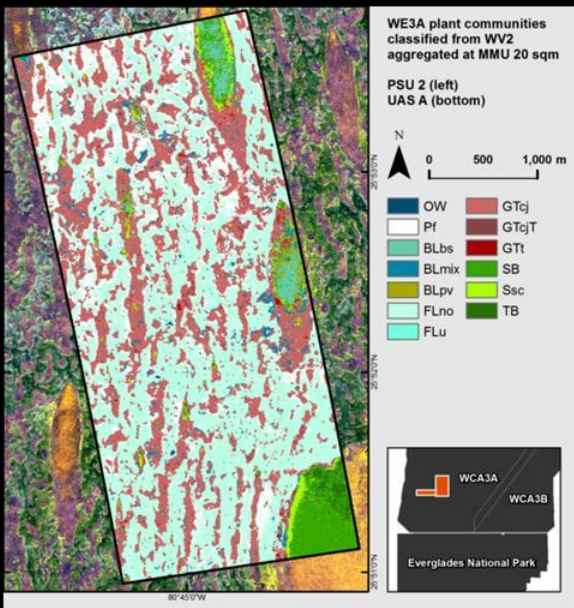
left: community level

right: structural level

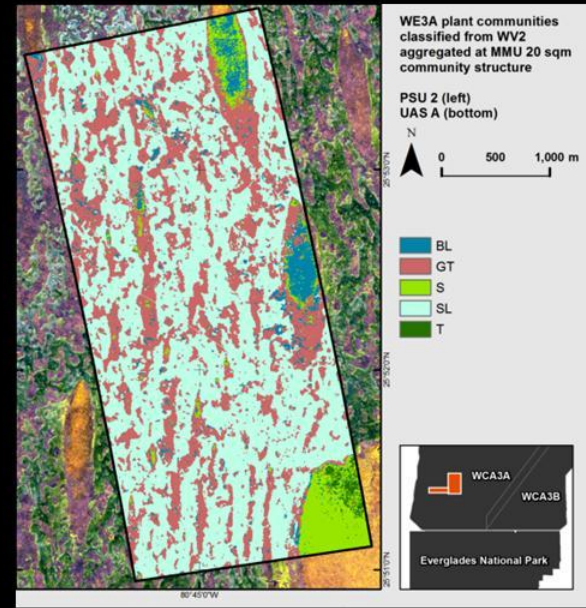
bottom: Landsat

left: community level

right: structural level

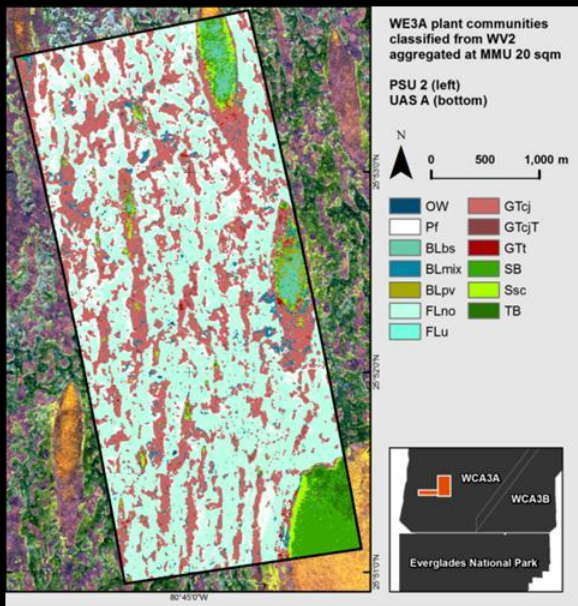


evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

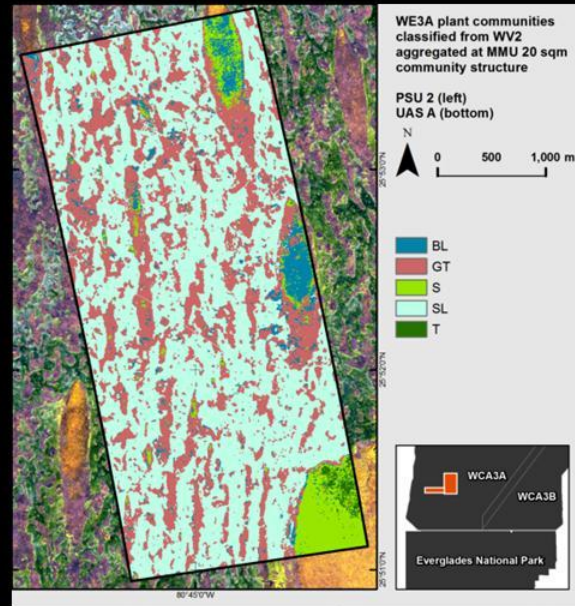


	_OW	_Pf	BLbs	BLmix	BLpv	FLno	FLu	GTcj	GTcjT	GTt	SB	Ssc	TB	r.T	c.E	c.E (%)
_OW	95	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	0.06	5.94
_Pf	0	578	0	3	0	44	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	638	0.09	9.40
BLbs	0	0	44	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	56	0.21	21.43
BLmix	1	0	0	197	7	4	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	218	0.10	9.63
BLpv	0	0	1	3	51	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	59	0.14	13.56
FLno	4	50	0	21	9	1060	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	1151	0.08	7.91
FLu	0	2	0	0	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	0.03	2.86
GTcj	0	0	0	9	7	5	0	520	24	11	0	3	0	579	0.10	10.19
GTcjT	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	70	2	0	0	0	80	0.13	12.50
GTt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	82	0	1	0	91	0.10	9.89
SB	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	67	2	3	80	0.16	16.25
Ssc	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	92	0	101	0.09	8.91
TB	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	93	96	0.03	3.13
c.T	100	630	50	240	75	1120	80	550	100	100	75	100	100	3017		3320
o.E	0.05	0.08	0.12	0.18	0.32	0.05	0.15	0.05	0.30	0.18	0.11	0.08	0.07			
o.E (%)	5.00	8.25	12.00	17.92	32.00	5.36	15.00	5.45	30.00	18.00	10.67	8.00	7.00			
acc (%)	95.00	91.75	88.00	82.08	68.00	94.64	85.00	94.55	70.00	82.00	89.33	92.00	93.00			
oa (%)	90.87															
K̂	88.69															

	SL	BL	GT	S	T	r.t	c.E	c.E (%)
SL	1922	36	16	0	0	1974	0.03	2.63
BL	4	300	8	9	4	325	0.08	7.69
GT	4	22	714	3	0	743	0.04	3.90
S	0	6	12	160	3	181	0.12	11.60
T	0	1	0	3	93	97	0.04	4.12
c.T	1930	365	750	175	100	3189		3320
o.E	0.00	0.18	0.05	0.09	0.07			
o.E (%)	0.41	17.81	4.80	8.57	7.00			
acc (%)	99.59	82.19	95.20	91.43	93.00			
oa (%)	96.05							
K̂	93.30							



evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

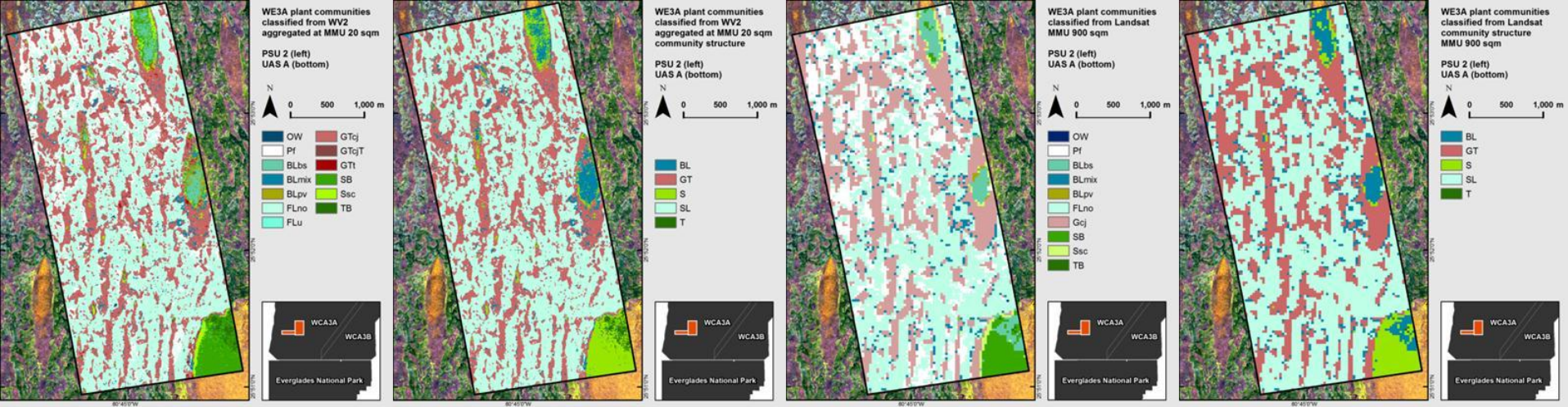


	OW	Pf	BLbs	BLmix	BLpv	FLno	FLu	GTcj	GTcjT	GTt	SB	Ssc	TB	r.T	c.E	c.E (%)
_OW	95	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	0.06	5.94
_Pf	0	578	0	3	0	44	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	638	0.09	9.40
BLbs	0	0	44	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	56	0.21	21.43
BLmix	1	0	0	197	7	4	0	7	0	0	0	0	2	218	0.10	9.63
BLpv	0	0	1	3	51	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	59	0.14	13.56
FLno	4	50	0	21	9	1060	0	6	1	0	0	0	0	1151	0.08	7.91
FLu	0	2	0	0	0	0	68	0	0	0	0	0	0	70	0.03	2.86
GTcj	0	0	0	9	7	5	0	520	24	11	0	3	0	579	0.10	10.19
GTcjT	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7	70	2	0	0	0	80	0.13	12.50
GTt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	82	0	1	0	91	0.10	9.89
SB	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	67	2	3	80	0.16	16.25
Ssc	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	92	0	101	0.09	8.91
TB	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	93	96	0.03	3.13
c.T														3017	3320	
o.E														3320		
o.E (%)	5.00	8.25	12.00	17.92	32.00	5.36	15.00	5.45	30.00	18.00	10.67	8.00	7.00			
acc (%)	95.00	91.75	88.00	82.08	68.00	94.64	85.00	94.55	70.00	82.00	89.33	92.00	93.00			
oa (%)														90.87		
K̂														88.69		

	SL	BL	GT	S	T	r.t	c.E	c.E (%)
SL	1922	36	16	0	0	1974	0.03	2.63
BL	4	300	8	9	4	325	0.08	7.69
GT	4	22	714	3	0	743	0.04	3.90
S	0	6	12	160	3	181	0.12	11.60
T	0	1	0	3	93	97	0.04	4.12
c.T						3189	3320	
o.E	0.00	0.18	0.05	0.09	0.07	3320		
o.E (%)	0.41	17.81	4.80	8.57	7.00			
acc (%)	99.59	82.19	95.20	91.43	93.00			
oa (%)						96.05		
K̂						93.30		

	SL	BL	GT	S	T	r.t	c.E	c.E (%)
SL	1919	33	8	0	0	1960	0.02	2.09
BL	6	307	8	8	4	333	0.08	7.81
GT	5	17	724	4	0	750	0.03	3.47
S	0	7	10	161	3	181	0.11	11.05
T	0	1	0	2	93	96	0.03	3.13
c.T						3204	3320	
o.E	0.01	0.16	0.03	0.08	0.07	3320		
o.E (%)	0.57	15.89	3.47	8.00	7.00			
acc (%)	99.43	84.11	96.53	92.00	93.00			
oa (%)						96.51		
K̂						94.09		

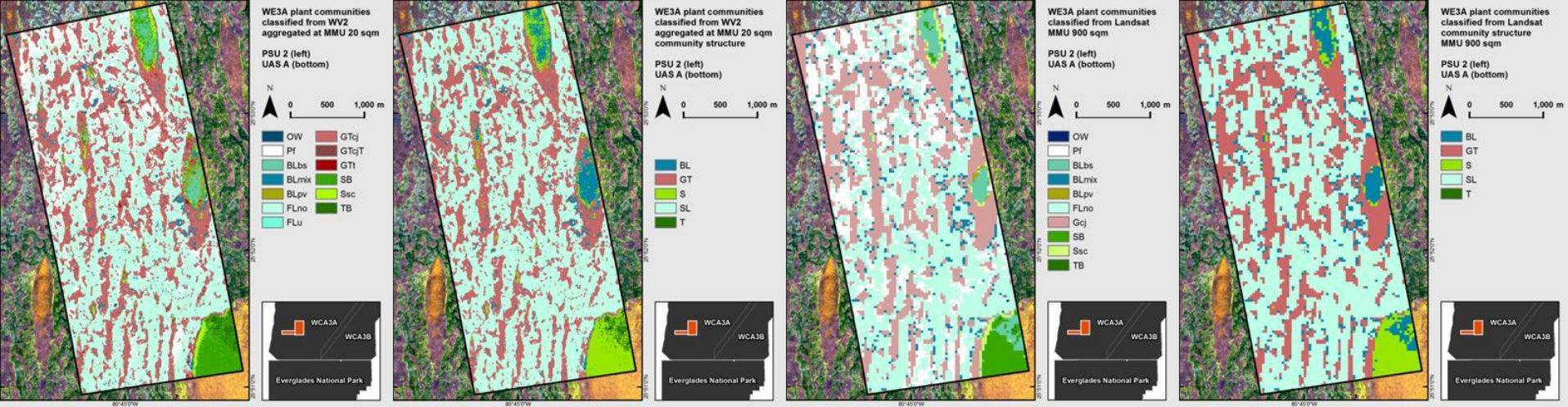




models		accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set							
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.51	94.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-

evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

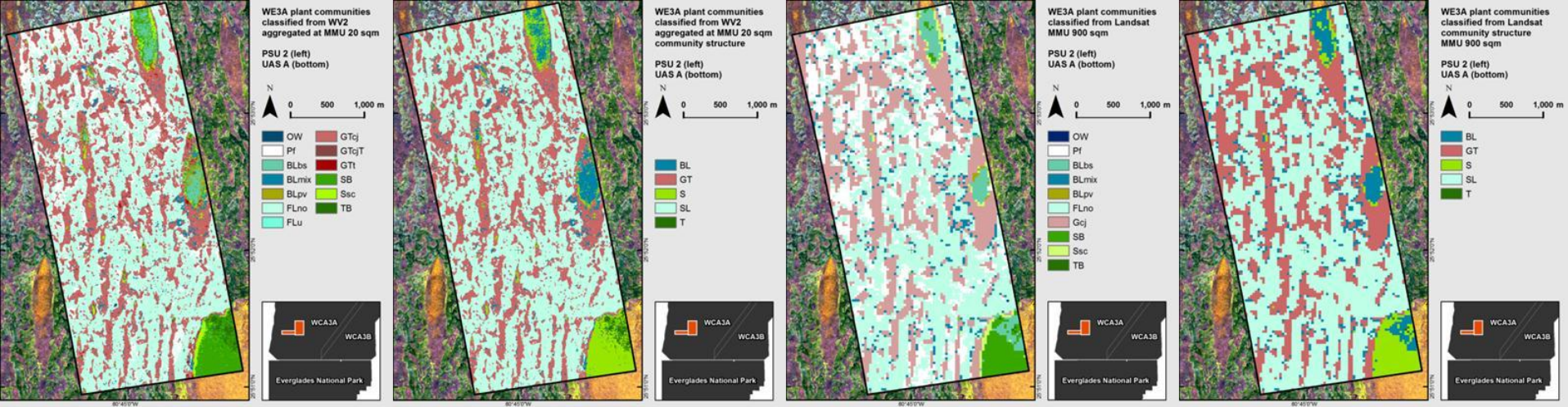
1) model-based - cross-validated results (oaMod; kaMod)



models				accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set					
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.51	94.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-

evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

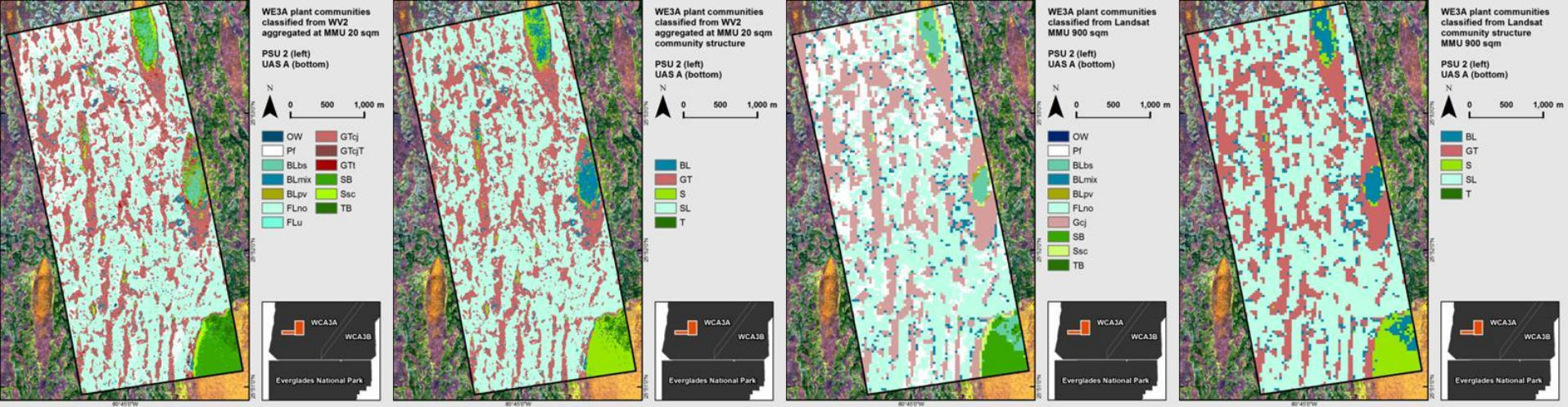
1) model-based - cross-validated results (oaMod; kaMod)



models				accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set					
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.51	94.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-

evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

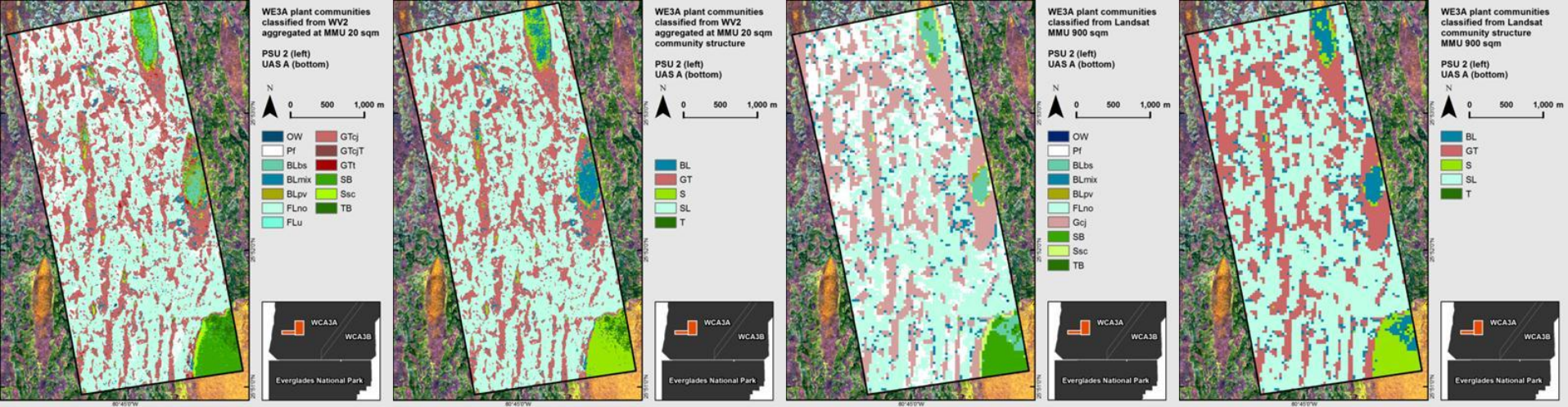
1) model-based - cross-validated results (oaMod; kaMod)



models				accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set					
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.51	94.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-

evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

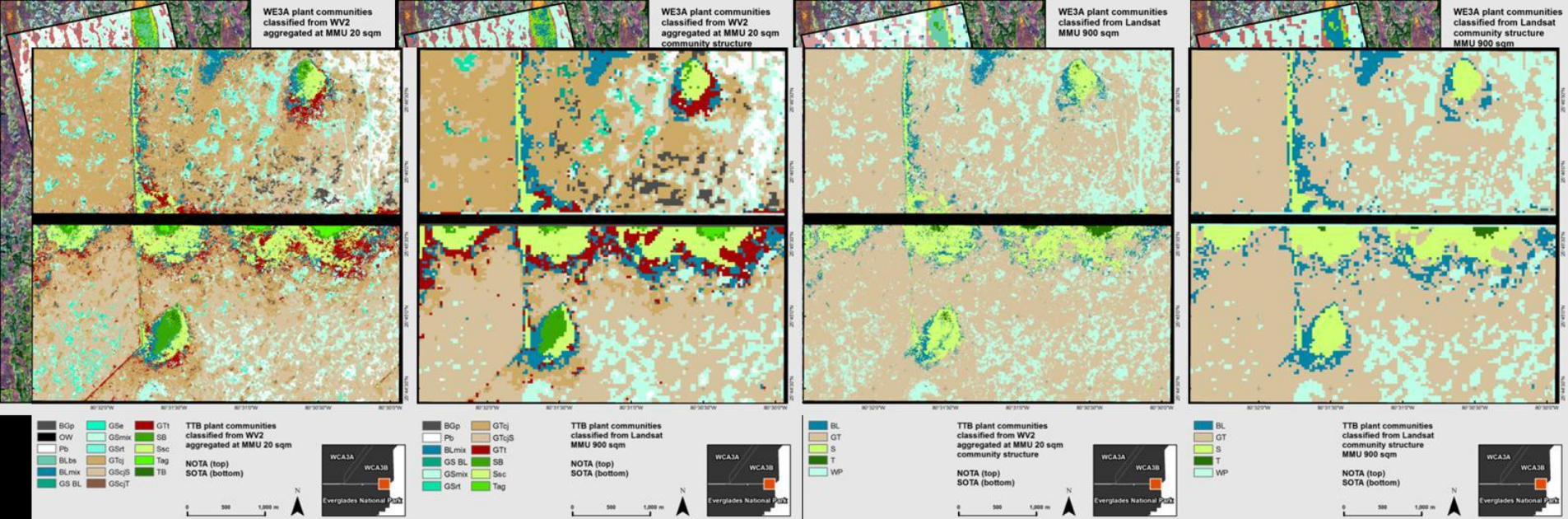
1) model-based - cross-validated results (oaMod; kaMod)



models		accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set							
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.51	94.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-

evaluation: overall and class-specific accuracies and Kappa statistic estimates

- 1) model-based - cross-validated results (oaMod; kaMod)
- 2) design-based - post-classification stratified random samples (oaDes; kaDes)

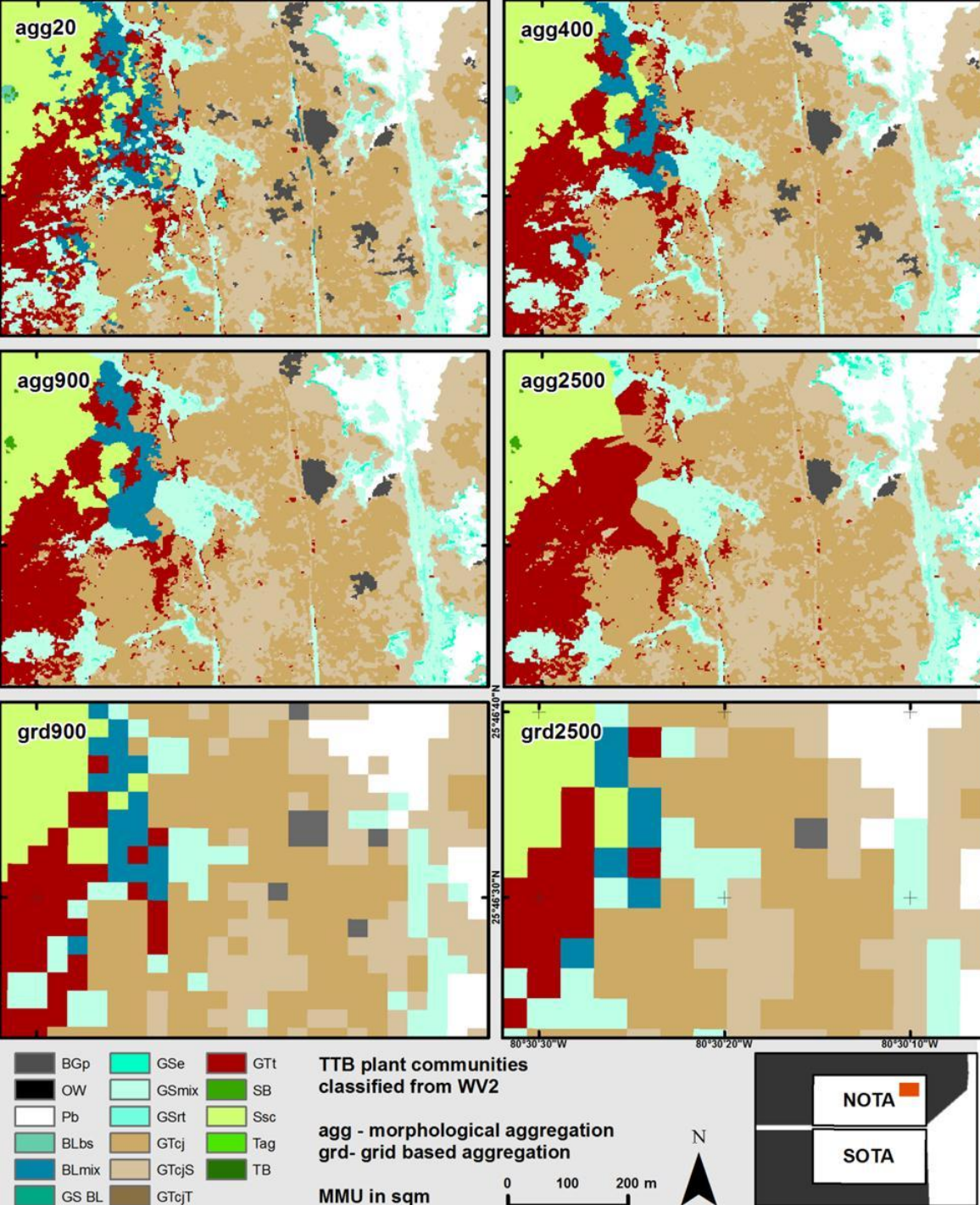


models				accuracy				model based overall accuracy by variable set					
roi	img	clf	predLevel	oaMod	kaMod	oaDes	kaDes	wet	dry	bi	wetTxt	dryTxt	biTxt
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comClass	87.68	84.76	-	-	81.27	63.64	84.10	84.91	69.55	87.68
WE3A	wv2	cTree	comStruc	94.61	90.81	-	-	90.96	85.24	93.16	91.60	89.34	94.61
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comClass	90.87	88.69	-	-	81.36	64.67	86.99	86.66	73.10	90.87
WE3A	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	96.05	93.30	88.89	85.56	91.27	86.81	94.04	93.77	90.51	96.05
WE3A	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.07	91.22	73.56	61.06	90.10	79.46	93.07	-	-	-
WE3A	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	96.29	94.70	85.13	73.48	-	-	-	-	-	-
TTB	wv2	cTree	comClass	79.70	77.13	-	-	68.43	65.36	76.63	73.42	72.38	79.70
TTB	wv2	cTree	comStruc	91.33	86.72	-	-	85.36	84.49	89.41	88.47	85.43	91.33
TTB	wv2	rndFor	comClass	85.77	85.65	-	-	72.68	66.95	81.52	79.63	74.10	85.77
TTB	wv2	rndFor	comStruc	94.10	90.86	91.99	89.34	85.97	85.60	91.70	90.52	88.94	94.10
TTB	wv2	rndFor	classAggStruc	94.60	91.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TTB	ls	rndFor	comClass	93.98	93.04	68.90	68.90	78.83	90.15	93.98	-	-	-
TTB	ls	rndFor	classAggStruc	98.16	97.41	82.53	62.42	-	-	-	-	-	-

Results : Scaling

TTB - NOTA

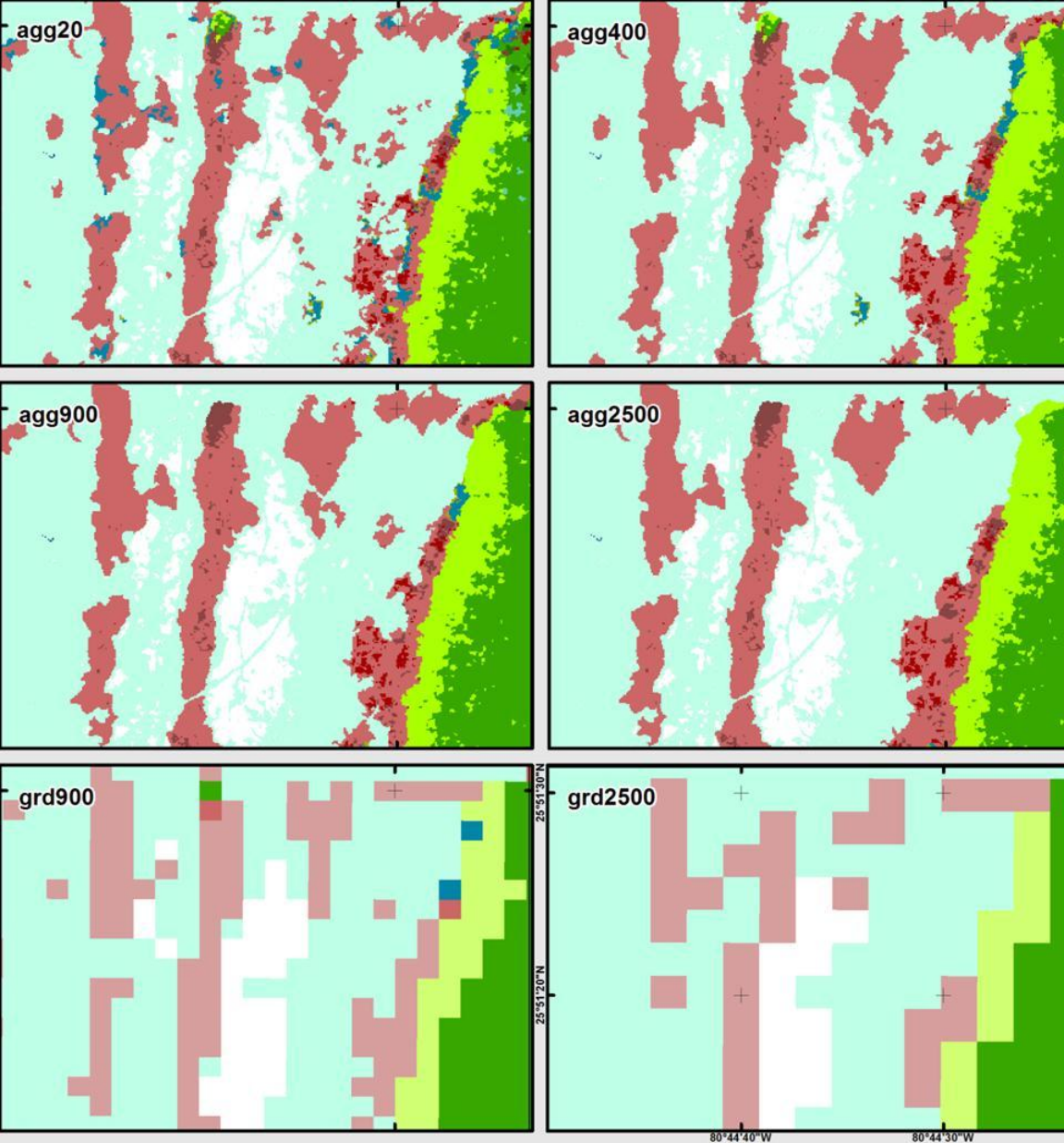
- 1) grid-based spatial aggregation (grd)
- 2) morphological spatial aggregation (agg)



Results : Scaling

WE3A - PSU 2

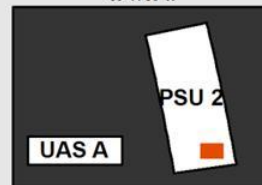
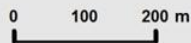
- 1) grid-based spatial aggregation (grd)
- 2) morphological spatial aggregation (agg)



WE3A plant communities
classified from WV2

agg - morphological aggregation
grd- grid based aggregation

MMU in sqm

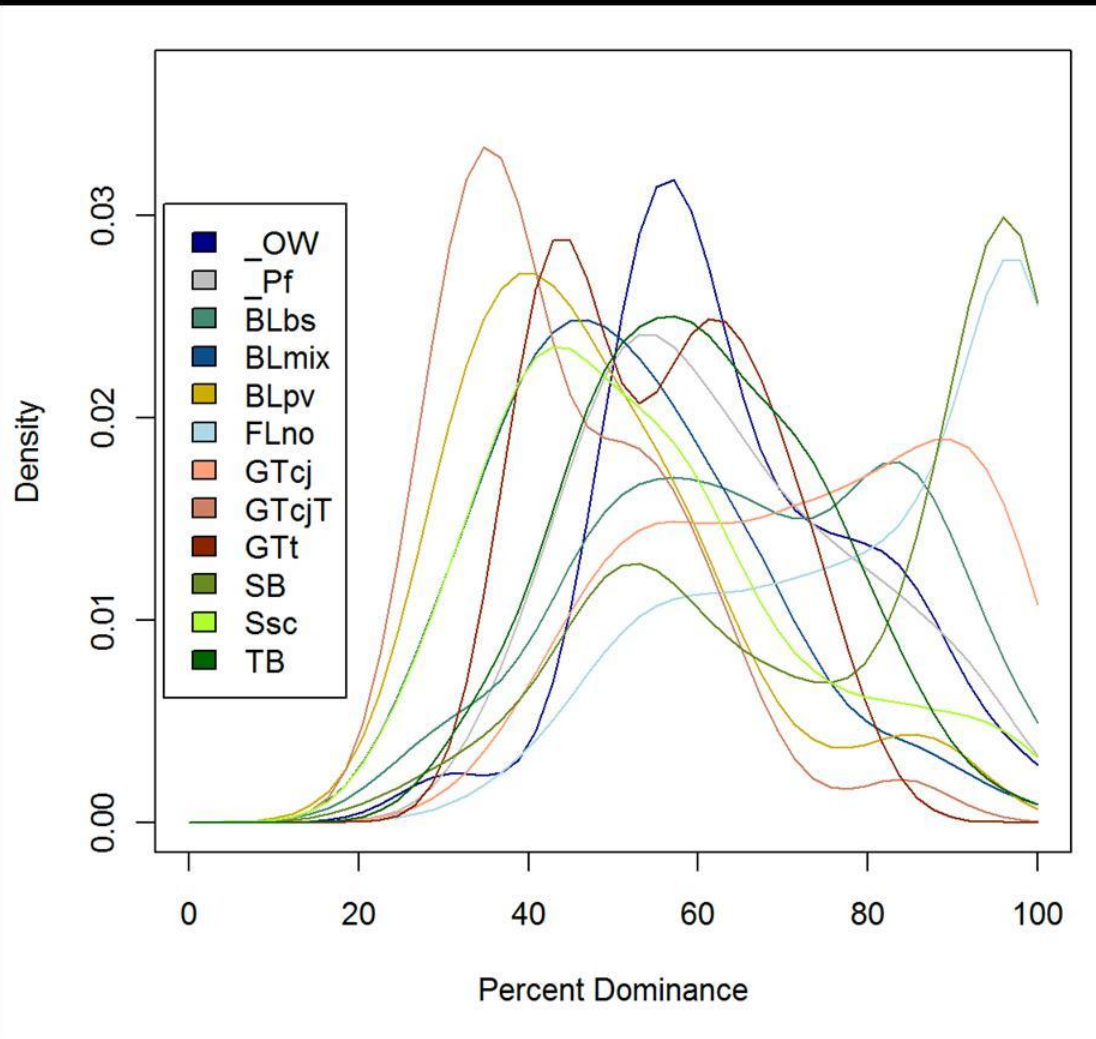


Results Scaling WE3A

comClass	wv2	mmu20	mmu40	mmu400	mmu900	grd900	ls	mmu2500	grd2500
_OW	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.3
_Pf	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.6	9.7	7.2	16.7	10.0	6.0
BLbs	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	2.4	1.3	1.4
BLmix	3.7	3.3	3.0	1.6	1.2	1.2	5.1	0.9	0.7
BLpv	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.6
FLno	46.6	46.6	46.6	47.2	47.6	50.1	39.4	48.8	51.8
FLu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	0.0	-
GTcj	31.1	31.5	31.8	32.8	32.7	34.1	32.5	31.7	34.7
GTcjT	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.2	-	1.1	0.0
GTt	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	-	0.3	0.0
SB	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.9
Ssc	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.9	1.1
TB	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.5
total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
diversity	13	13	13	13	13	12	10	13	12

comClass	wv2	mmu20	mmu40	mmu400	mmu900	grd900	ls	mmu2500	grd2500
_OW	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-55.3	-55.6	0.0	-70.1
_Pf	9.4	0.0	0.0	2.1	3.2	-23.5	77.7	6.4	-36.6
BLbs	1.3	0.0	0.0	7.7	7.7	3.5	84.6	0.0	9.4
BLmix	3.7	-10.8	-18.9	-56.8	-67.6	-68.6	37.8	-75.7	-80.4
BLpv	0.8	0.0	0.0	-12.5	-12.5	-30.5	-75.0	-12.5	-27.3
FLno	46.6	0.0	0.0	1.3	2.1	7.6	-15.5	4.7	11.2
FLu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	0.0	-
GTcj	31.1	1.3	2.3	5.5	5.1	9.7	4.5	1.9	11.5
GTcjT	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-77.7	-	10.0	-96.2
GTt	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-79.9	-	0.0	-86.8
SB	2.9	0.0	3.4	3.4	0.0	4.5	-17.2	0.0	1.1
Ssc	1.5	0.0	0.0	-20.0	-26.7	-12.0	-26.7	-40.0	-28.3
TB	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	-20.0	-6.6	-100.0	0.0	-5.5
total	100	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
diversity	13	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-7.7	-23.1	0.0	-7.7

Conclusion Scaling



Class distribution for 30x30 m grid when dominant

- determine new class definitions **vary across spatial scales**
- determine consistency of class definitions across scales
- determine how definition stability affects **mapping consistency and accuracy**

Summary

- achieved high levels of detection accuracies for most plant communities
- most accurate models: bi-seasonal; spectral reflectance + texture
- predicting structural class performed slightly better than community class
- post-classification hierarchical aggregation resulted in significantly better results than classification at structural level
- morphological aggregation preserved general community boundaries at much higher precision than grid-based aggregation methods
 - more reliable assessment of landscape configuration and detection of expansion and contraction of communities

ftp://gisrsftp.fiu.edu/Share/gann/4500058664_synthesisReport.pdf