

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration

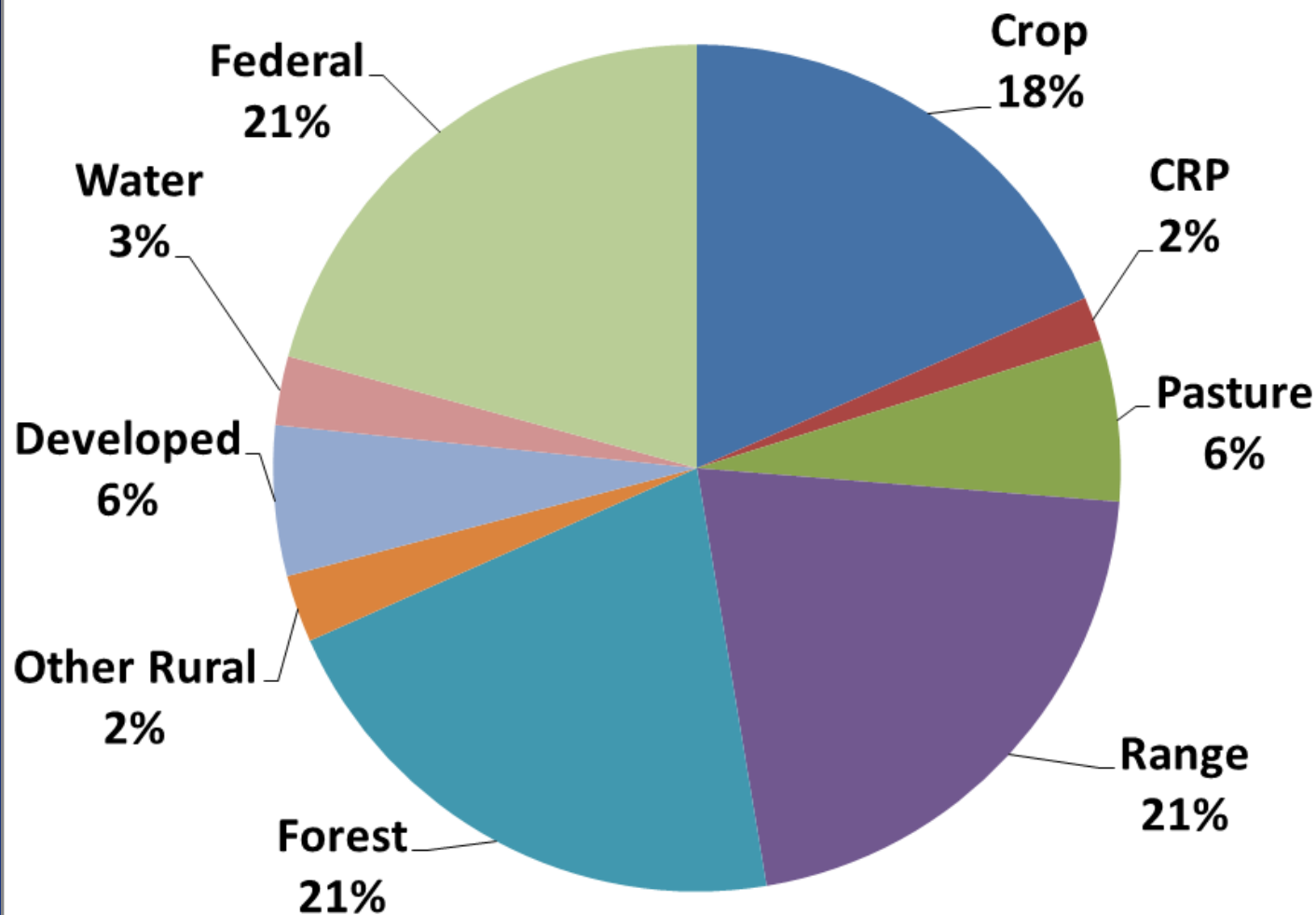
July 2013

Jason Weller, Chief, NRCS



Surface Area, by Land Use/Cover, 2007

Percent of Total Surface Area



Current population: 7 BILLION



In the next 90 years: 10 BILLION





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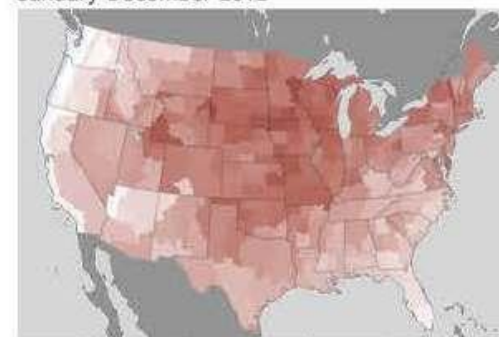
NCDC Announces Warmest Year on Record for Contiguous U.S.

According to NOAA scientists, the average temperature for the contiguous U.S. for 2012 was 55.3°F, which was 3.2°F above the 20th century average and 1.0°F above the previous record from 1998. The year consisted of the fourth warmest winter, a record warm spring, the second warmest summer, and a warmer-than-average autumn. Although the last four months of 2012 did not bring the same unusual warmth as the first 8 months of the year, the September through December temperatures were warm enough for 2012 to remain the record warmest year, by a wide margin.

The average precipitation total for the contiguous U.S. for 2012 was 26.57 inches, 2.57 inches below average, and the 15th driest year on record for the nation.

The U.S. Climate Extremes Index indicated that 2012 was the second most extreme year on record for the nation. The index, which evaluates extremes in temperature and precipitation, as well as landfalling tropical cyclones, was nearly twice the average value and second only to 1998.

January-December 2012

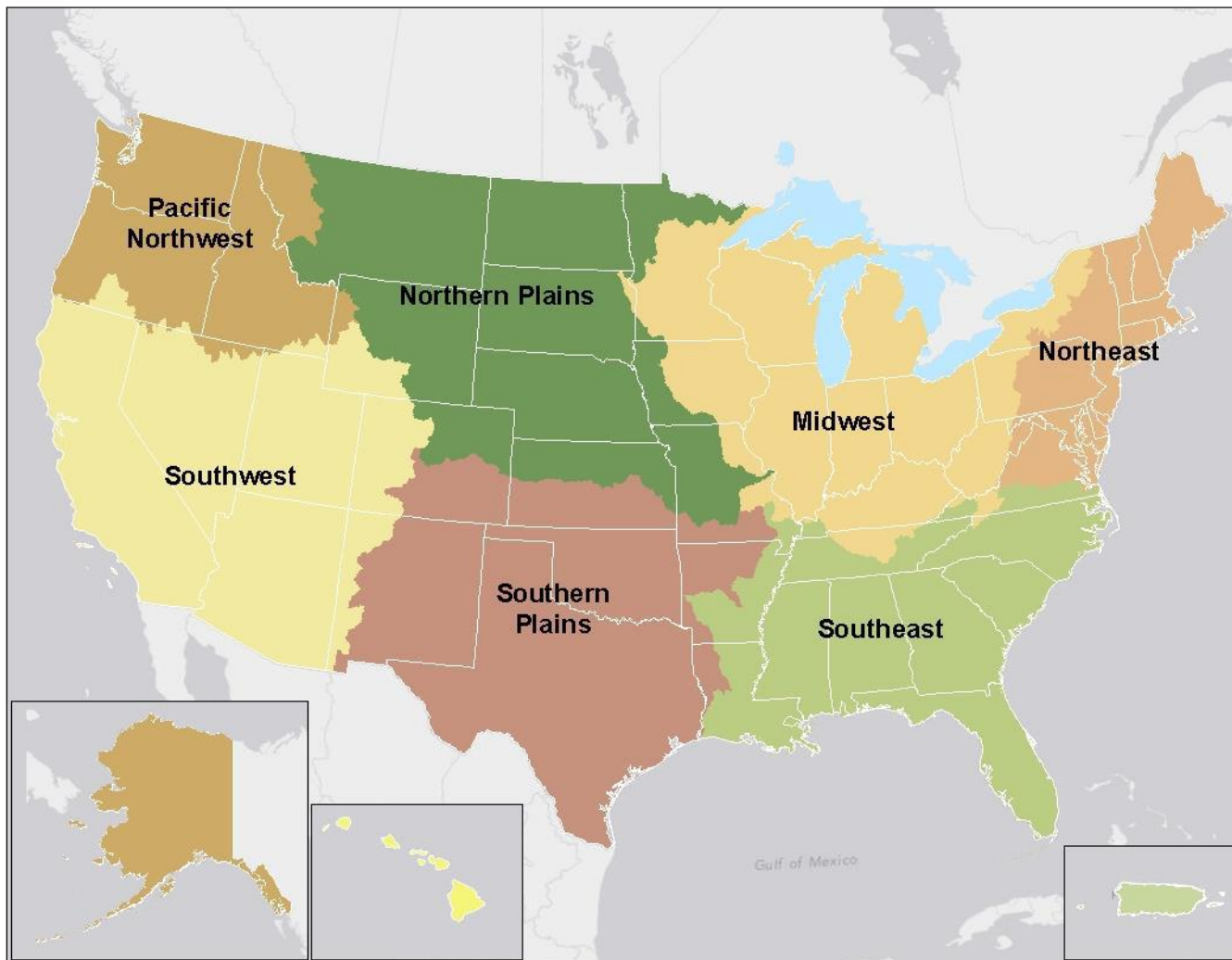


Difference from average temperature (°F)



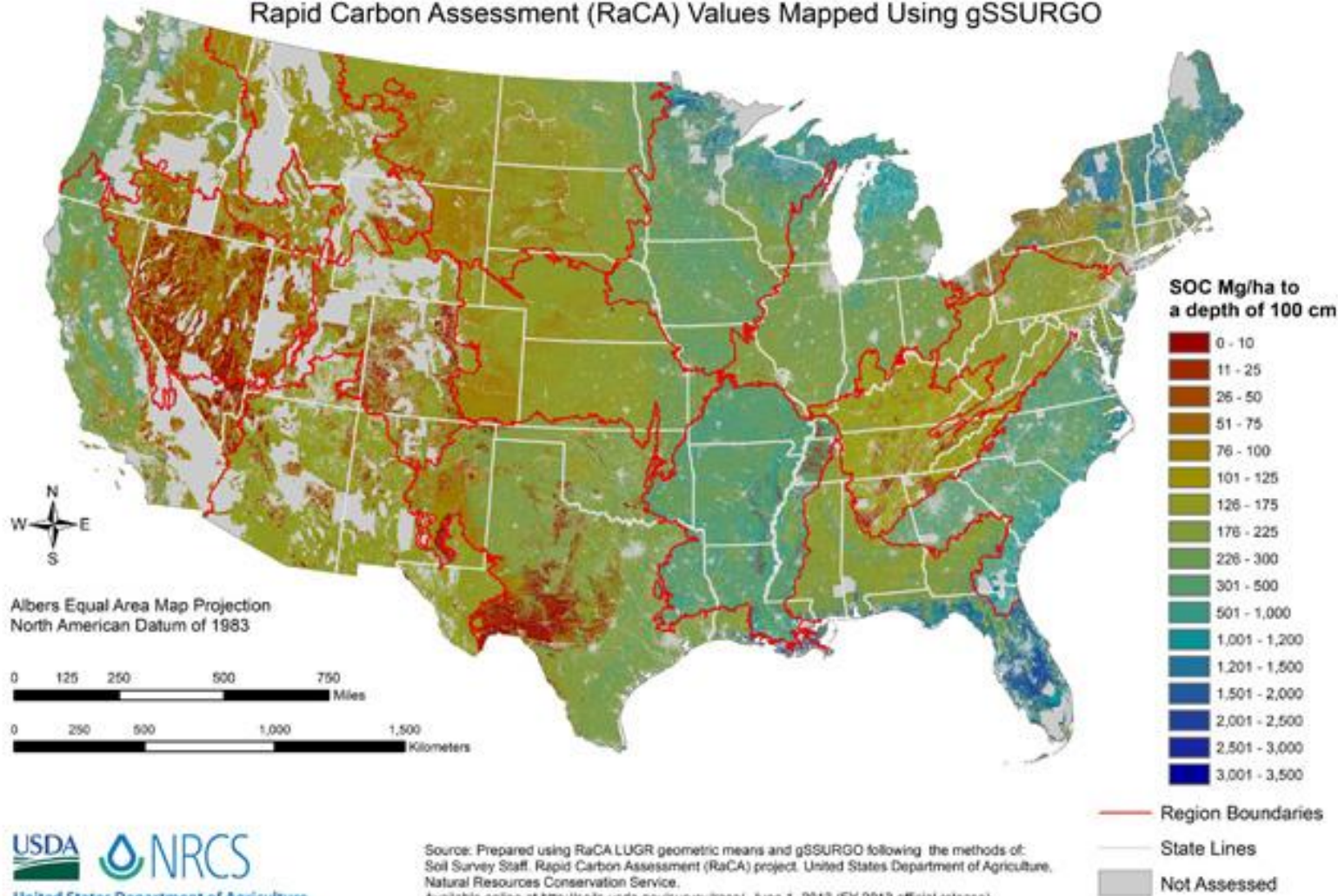
Difference from average annual temperature in 2012 compared to the 1981–2010 average. Map by NOAA climate.gov team. Large versions of annual and monthly maps are available for reuse.

USDA Regional Hubs for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change



Soil Organic Carbon Stocks

Rapid Carbon Assessment (RaCA) Values Mapped Using gSSURGO



Albers Equal Area Map Projection
North American Datum of 1983

0 125 250 500 750
Miles

0 250 500 1,000 1,500
Kilometers

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cometfarm.nrel.colostate.edu

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COMET FARM | USDA | NRCS | Colorado State | whole farm and ranch carbon and greenhouse gas accounting and reporting

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What is COMET-FARM™ ?

COMET-FARM™ is a **whole farm and ranch carbon and greenhouse gas accounting system.**

The tool guides you through describing your farm and ranch management practices including alternative future management scenarios. Once complete, a report is generated comparing the carbon changes and greenhouse gas emissions between your current management practices and future scenarios.


[Start Using COMET-FARM](#)

Choose Activities




Choose the management activities you want to audit – field management, livestock, and/or energy use.

Define Management



Enter the management data and future management scenarios for the chosen activities.

Run Report




Run the report to see how greenhouse gas emissions based on your current management compare to future management scenarios.

The Quick Energy Tool

Quick Energy is a stand-alone tool that allows you to calculate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions based on anticipated fuel savings. You can use Quick Energy by itself or in conjunction with your COMET-FARM user account.


[Go to Quick Energy Tool >>](#)

Why should I use COMET-FARM?




COMET-FARM estimates the 'carbon footprint' for all or part of your farm/ranch operation and allows you to evaluate different options. [more...](#)

How do I use COMET-FARM?




Choose the management activities you want to investigate. Describe the management practices and possible future management scenarios. [more...](#)

What information do I need?




You will need information on your field and livestock management practices. Find out more here. [more...](#)

Is my information safe?



You may use COMET-FARM in one of two ways – as a registered or unregistered user. [more...](#)

How are my results calculated?



The system uses your information on management practices with information on climate and soil conditions to run a series of models. [more...](#)

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Wetlands Reserve Program





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United States Department of Agriculture
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unlock your farm's
potential
www.nrcs.usda.gov

Soil Health Management Systems can:

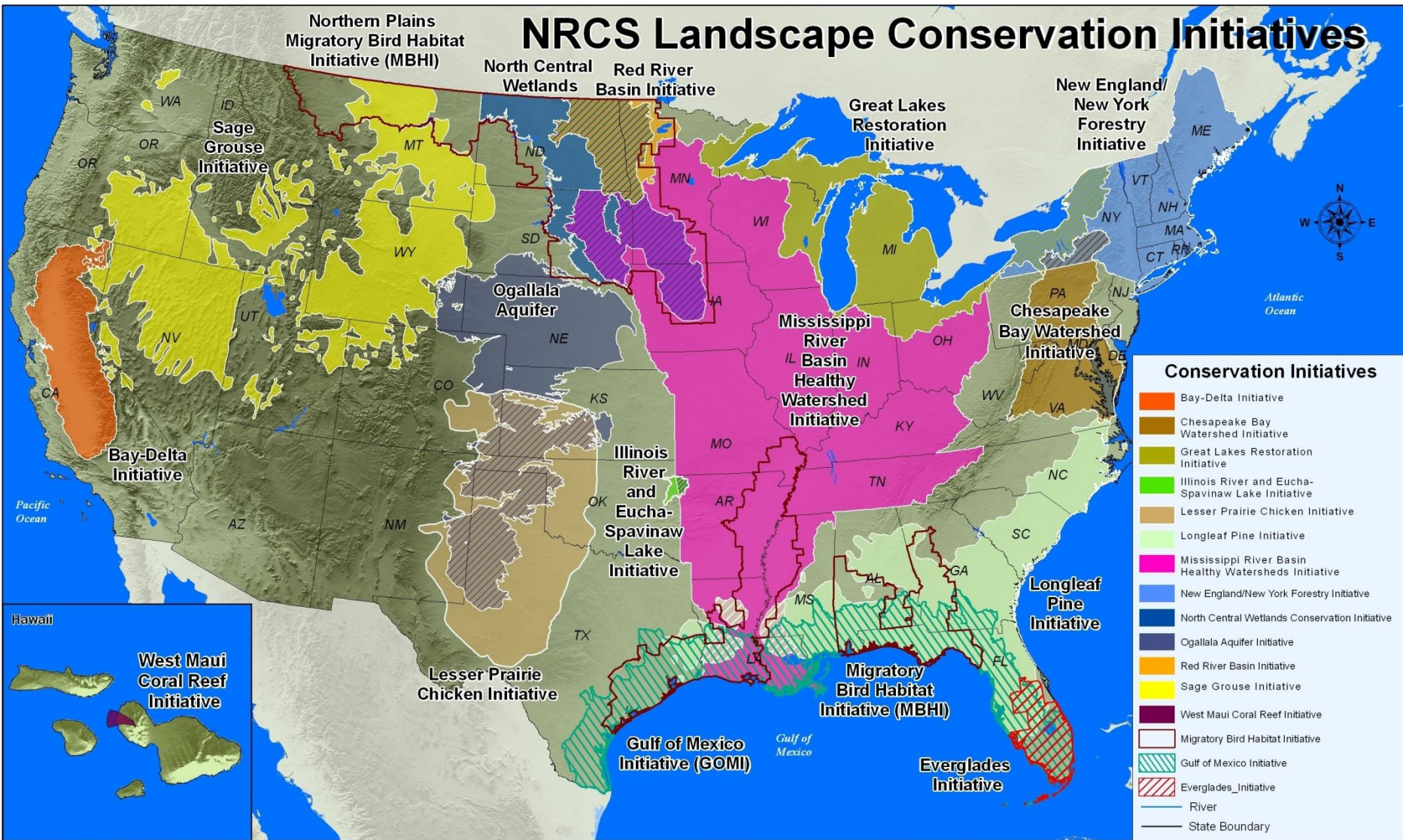
- **reduce** input costs,
- **protect** against drought and
- **increase** production.

Learn how to **unlock the secrets in YOUR soil** today!

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

unlock the
SECRETS
IN THE
SOIL

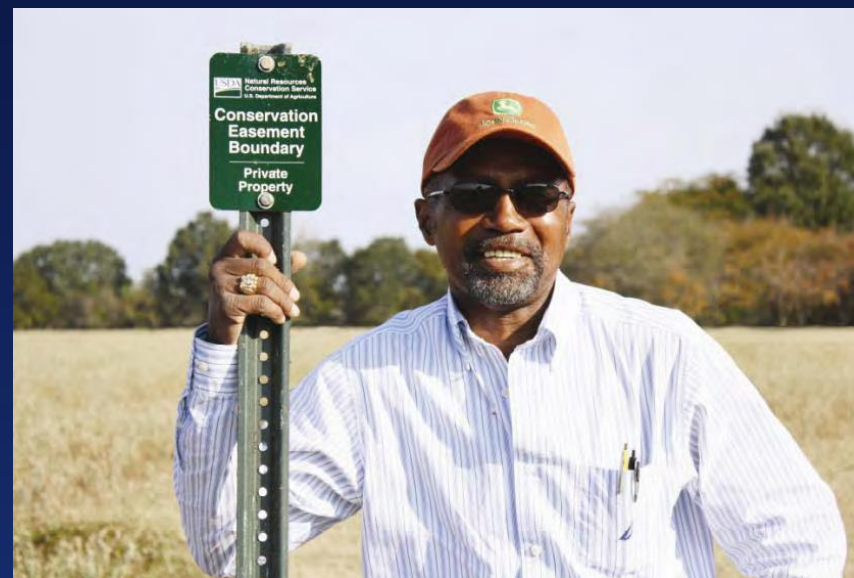
NRCS Landscape Conservation Initiatives



- Conservation Initiatives**
- Bay-Delta Initiative
 - Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative
 - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative
 - Illinois River and Eucha-Spavinaw Lake Initiative
 - Lesser Prairie Chicken Initiative
 - Longleaf Pine Initiative
 - Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative
 - New England/New York Forestry Initiative
 - North Central Wetlands Conservation Initiative
 - Ogallala Aquifer Initiative
 - Red River Basin Initiative
 - Sage Grouse Initiative
 - West Maui Coral Reef Initiative
 - Migratory Bird Habitat Initiative
 - Gulf of Mexico Initiative
 - Everglades_Initiative
 - River
 - State Boundary



Adron Belk, Mississippi



Donald Williams, Louisiana

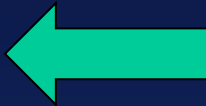
NRCS National Water Quality Initiative FY2012 Approved Watersheds



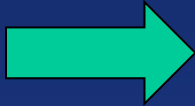


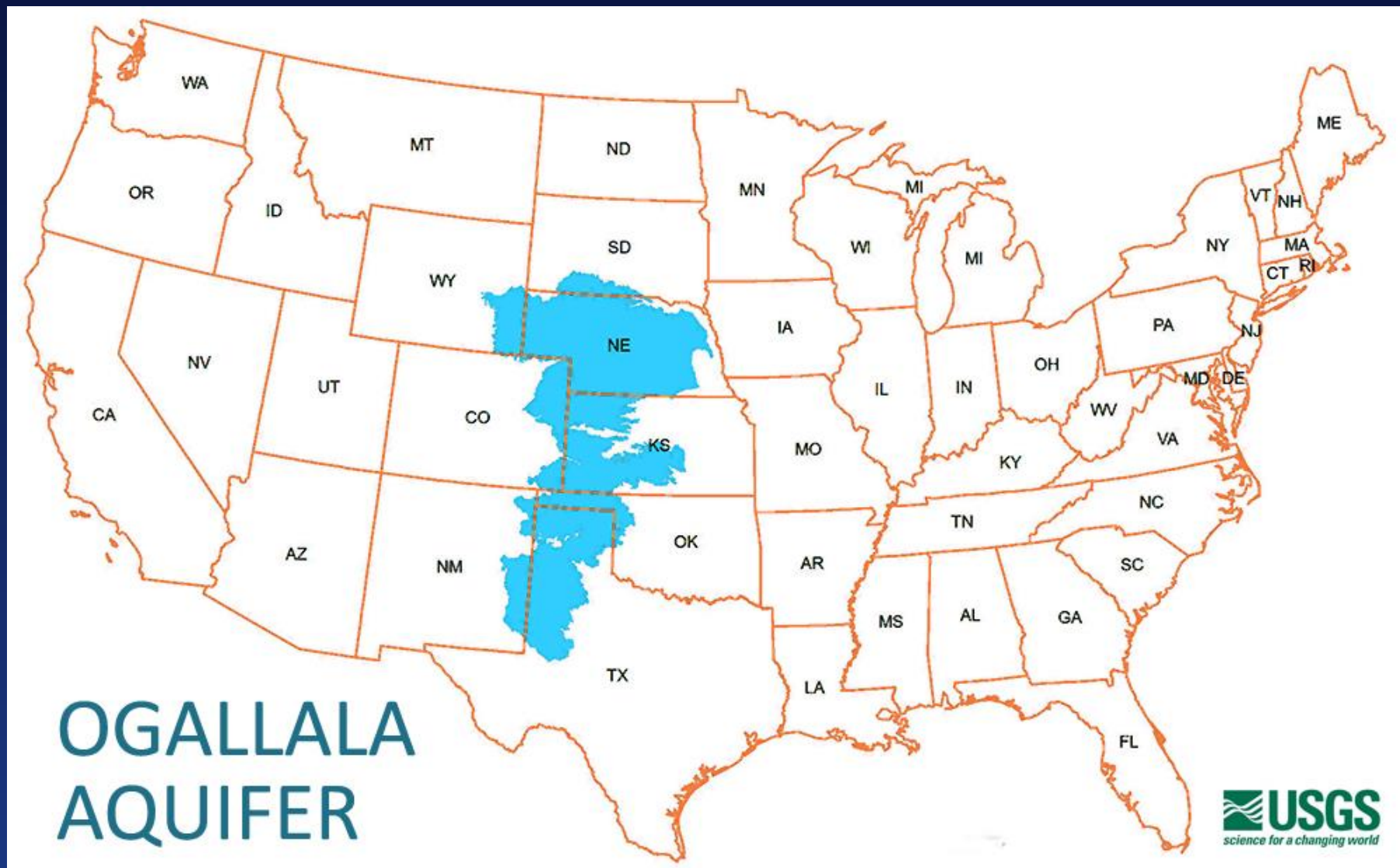
Geneva County,
Alabama

Need for a
sediment basin



Installation of
sediment basin with
pipe and grass to
filter sediment
before entering
stream

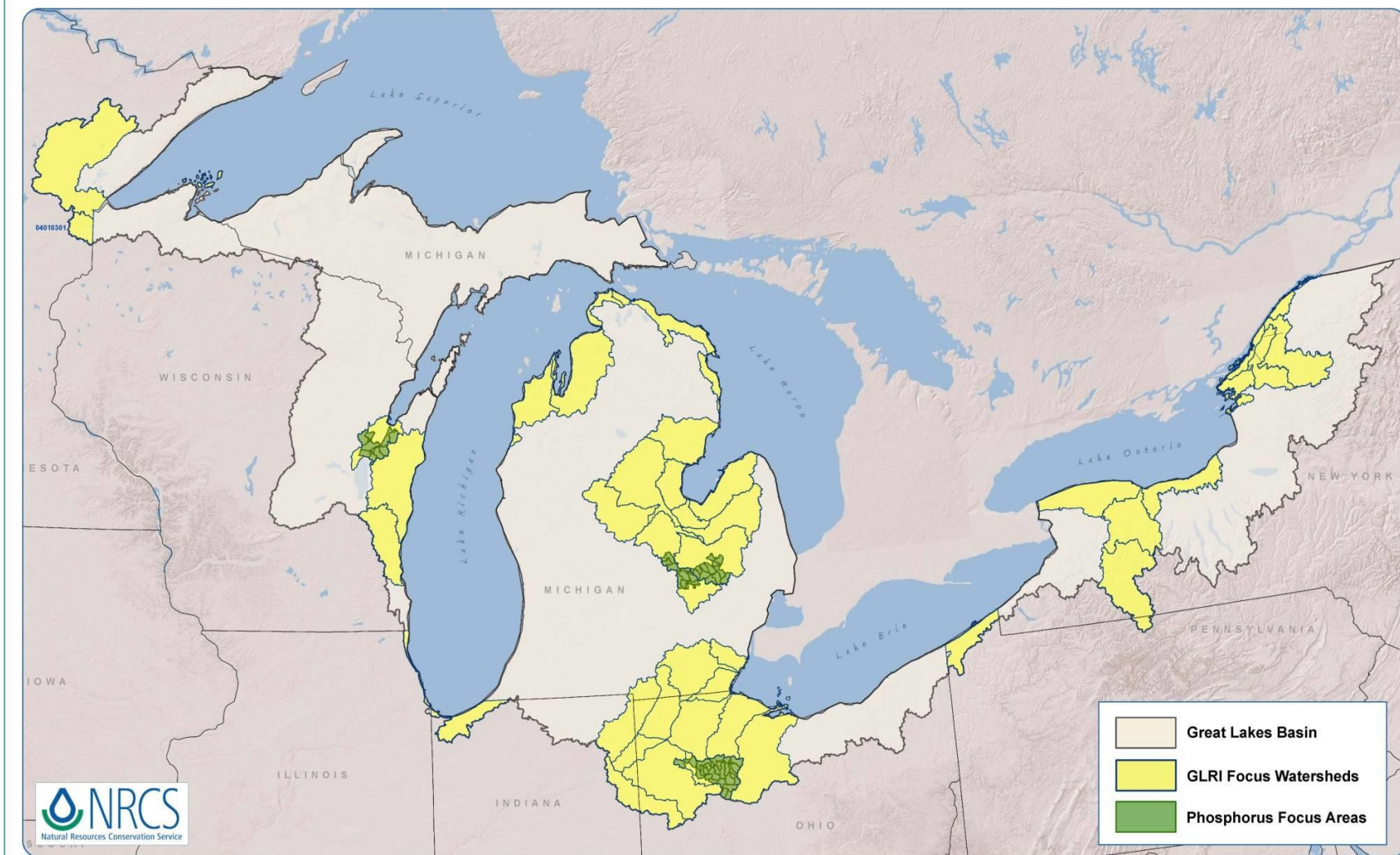




**OGALLALA
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Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) Priority Watersheds and Phosphorus Focus Areas



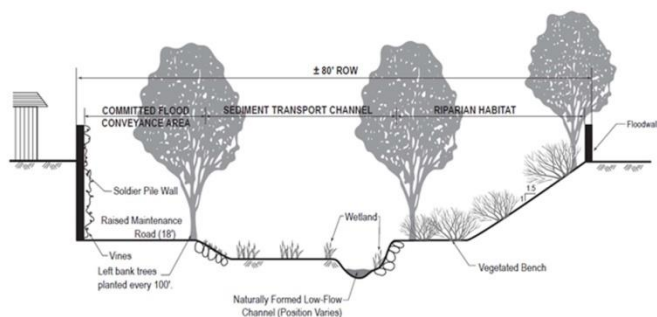


11,800 flood
control dams

1,300
watersheds

47 states and
Puerto Rico

Lower Silver Creek Reach 4c (upstream of Capitol Expwy)



Cross section

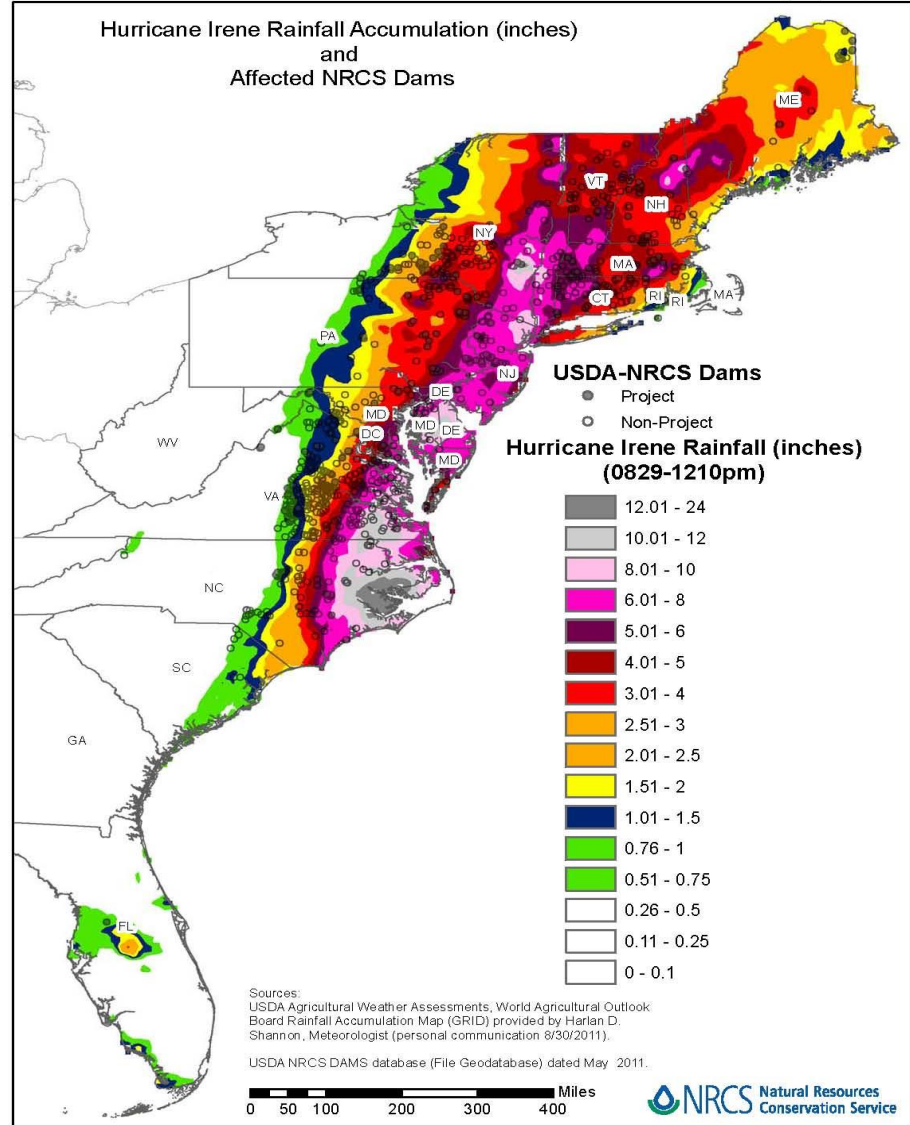
East Fork Above Lavon Watershed:
McKinney, TX



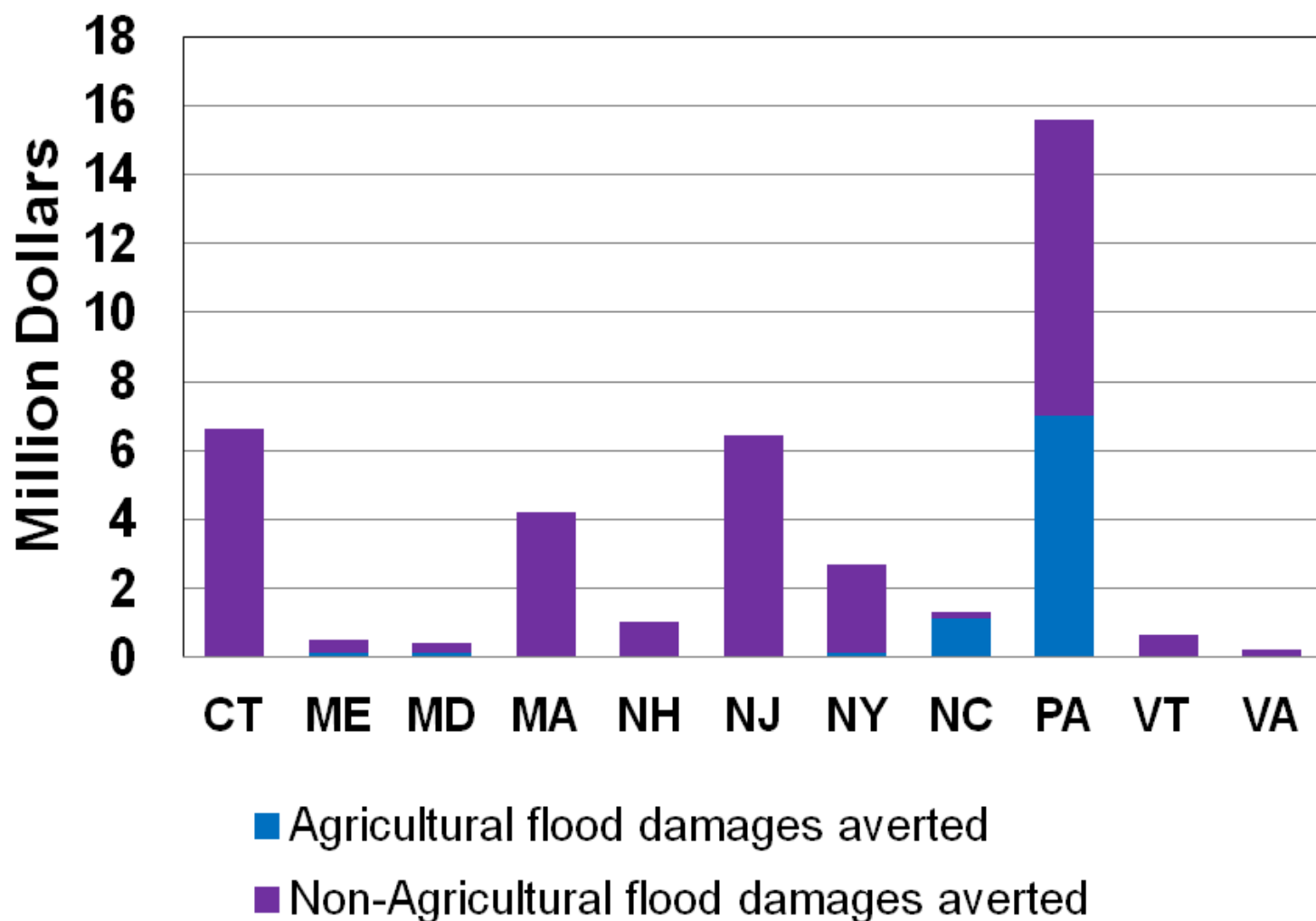
Gwinnett County, Georgia



USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Hurricane Irene Emergency Response



Hurricane Irene Flood Damages Averted



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Data Sources



Dams Users USGS Gages 01202 00302 04505

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United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

