

Integrated Modeling of Land Use and Land Cover Change

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Overarching Question

How do land management decisions affect terrestrial ecosystems?

Land-use and land-cover change model

Artificial representations of interactions in the land-use system

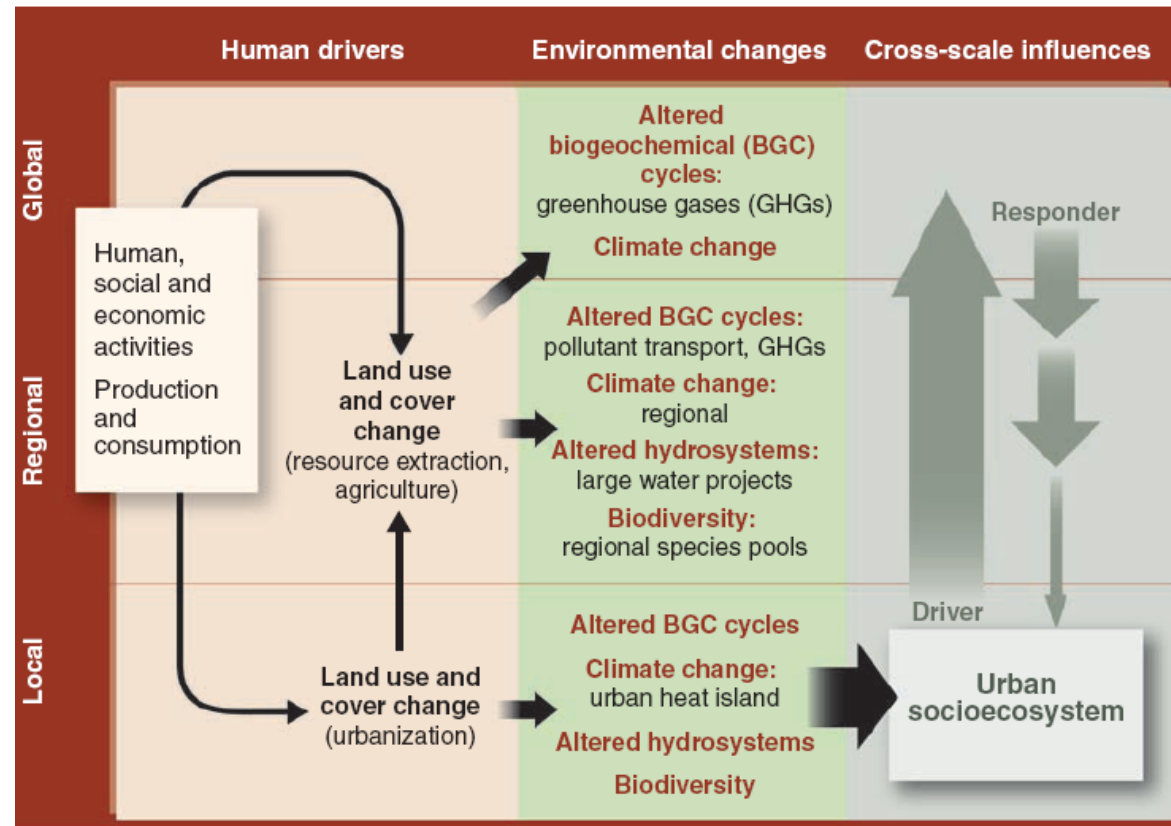
- Analyze the spatio-temporal dynamics
- Evaluate future development
- Test hypotheses

Methods

- Modelling and simulation
- Scenario exercise / alternative futures analyses

→ Sustainable natural resource management

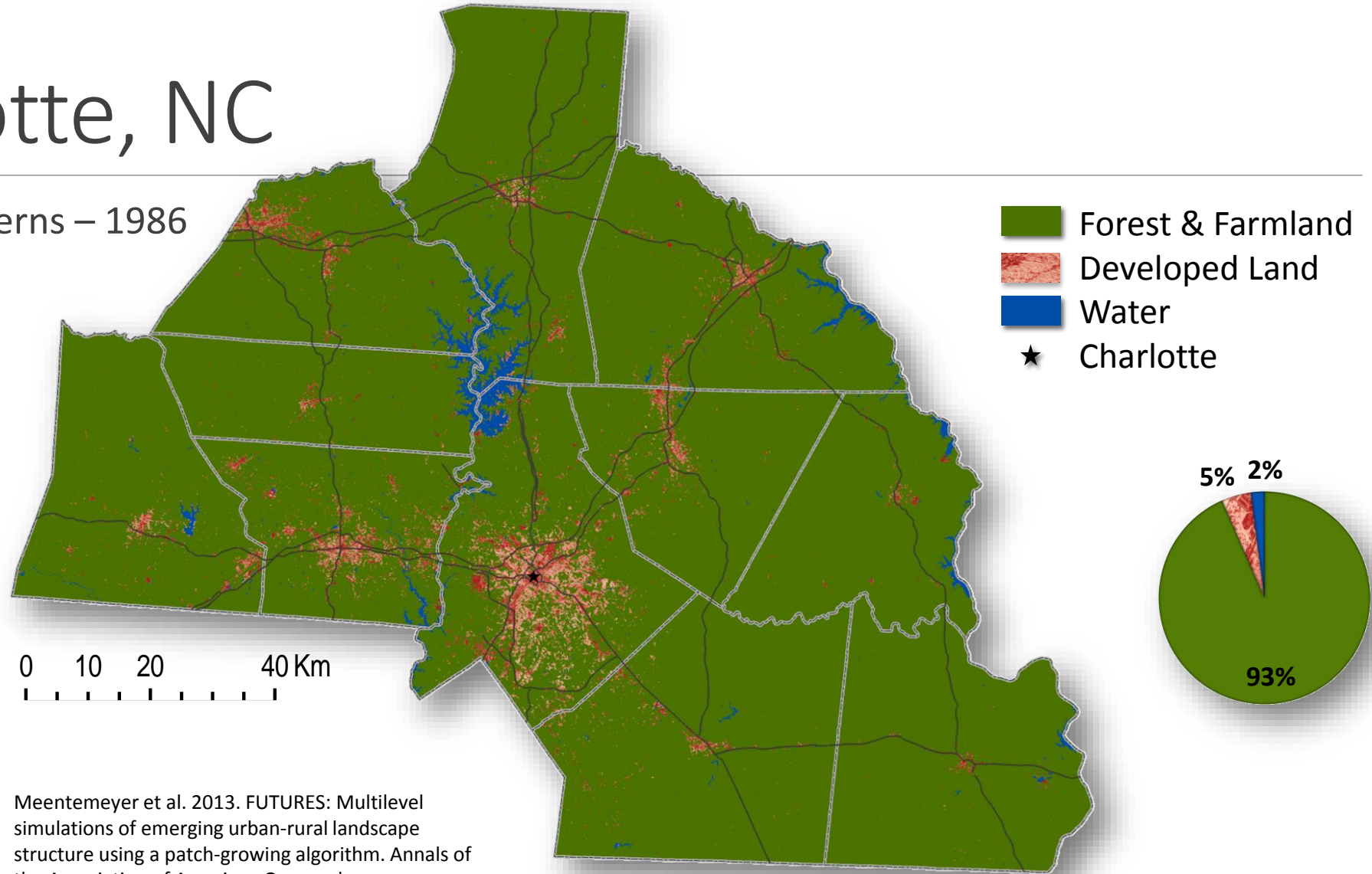
Urbanization



Grimm, N. et al. 2008. Global change and the ecology of cities. *Science* 319(5864): 756.

Charlotte, NC

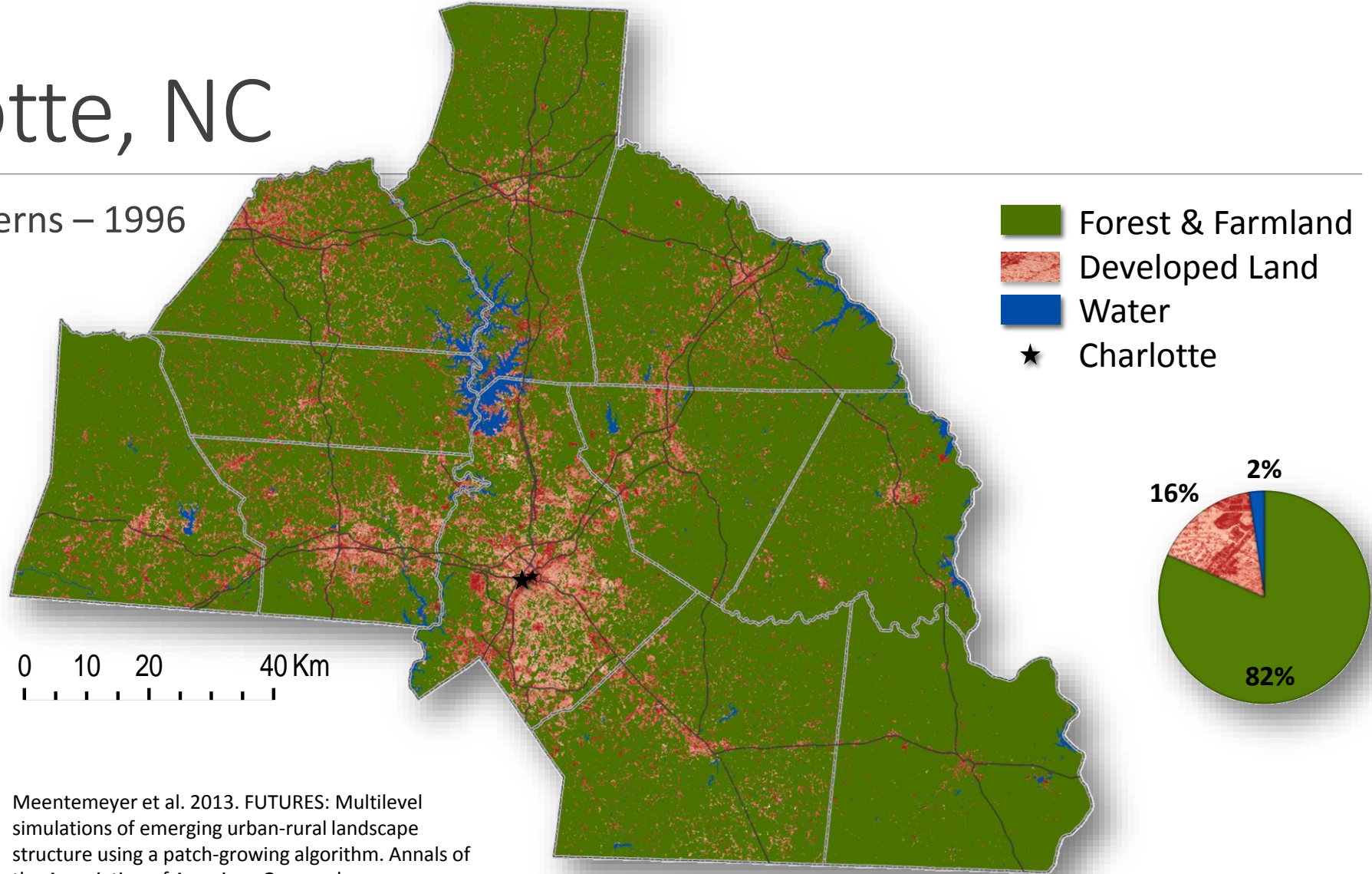
Observed Patterns – 1986



Meentemeyer et al. 2013. FUTURES: Multilevel simulations of emerging urban-rural landscape structure using a patch-growing algorithm. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*

Charlotte, NC

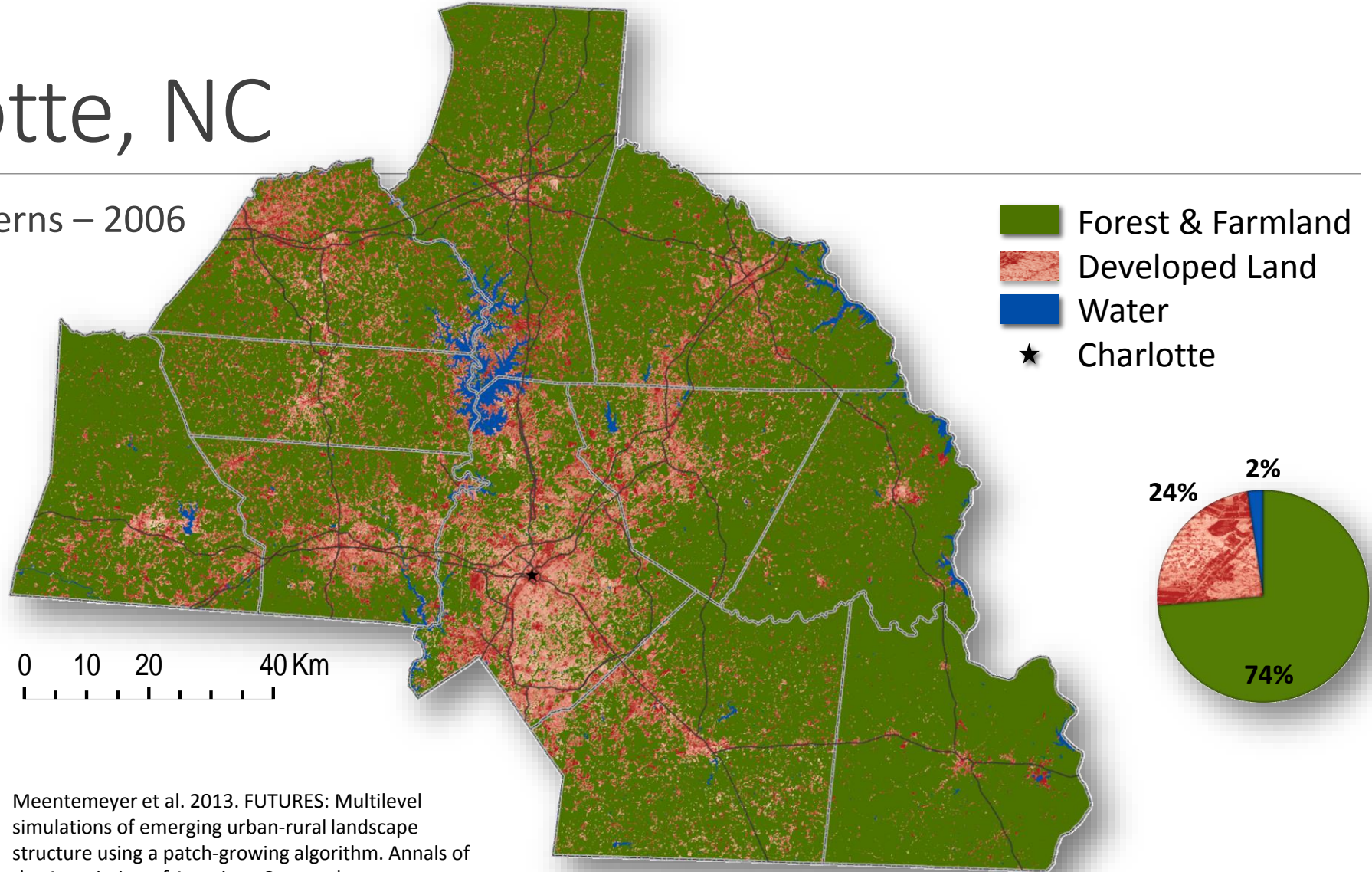
Observed Patterns – 1996



Meentemeyer et al. 2013. FUTURES: Multilevel simulations of emerging urban-rural landscape structure using a patch-growing algorithm. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*

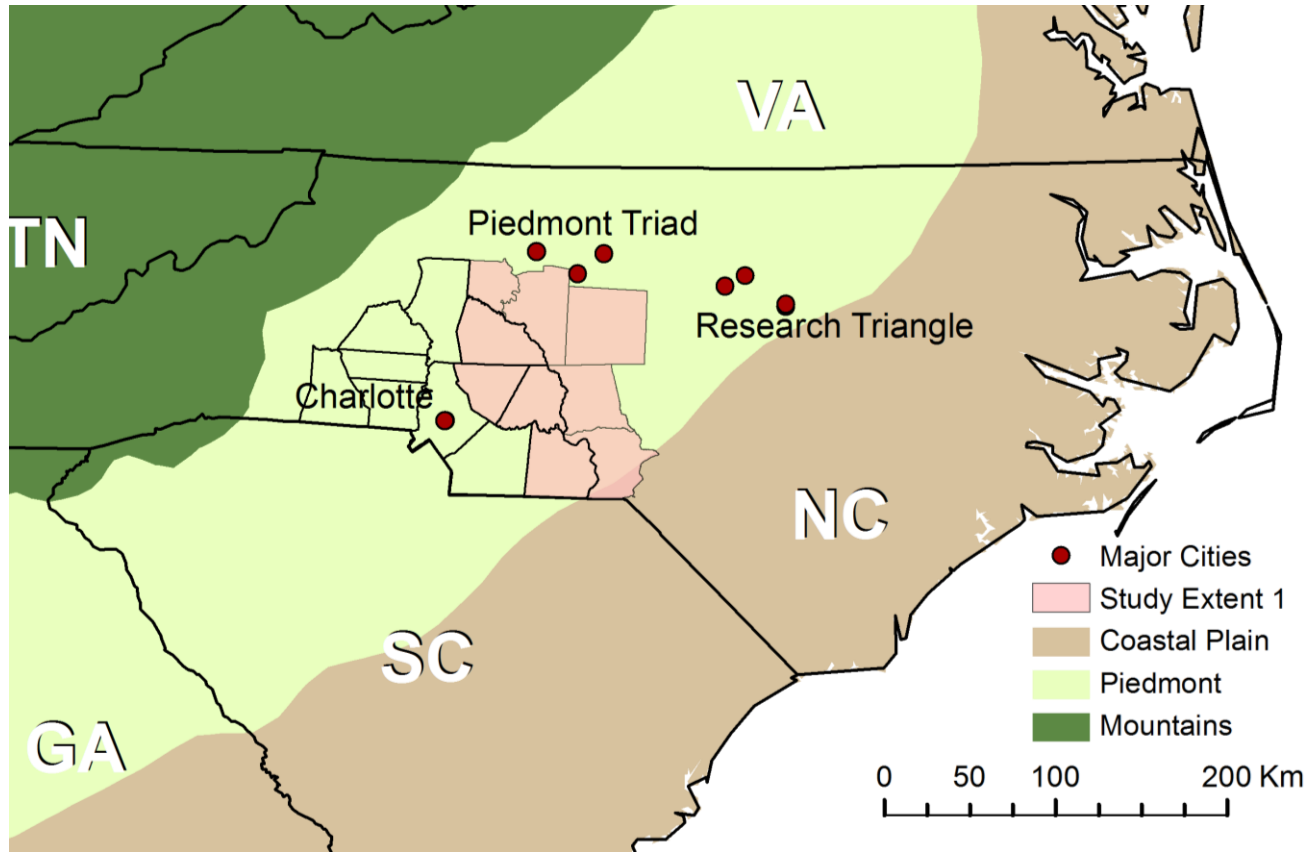
Charlotte, NC

Observed Patterns – 2006



Meentemeyer et al. 2013. FUTURES: Multilevel simulations of emerging urban-rural landscape structure using a patch-growing algorithm. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*

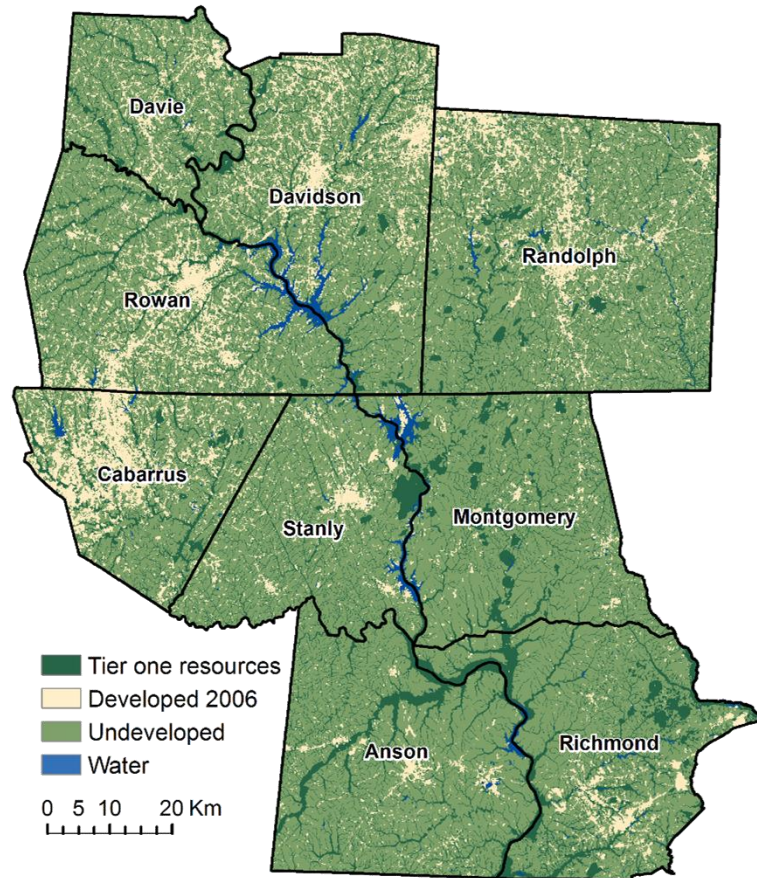
Charlanta Mega-region



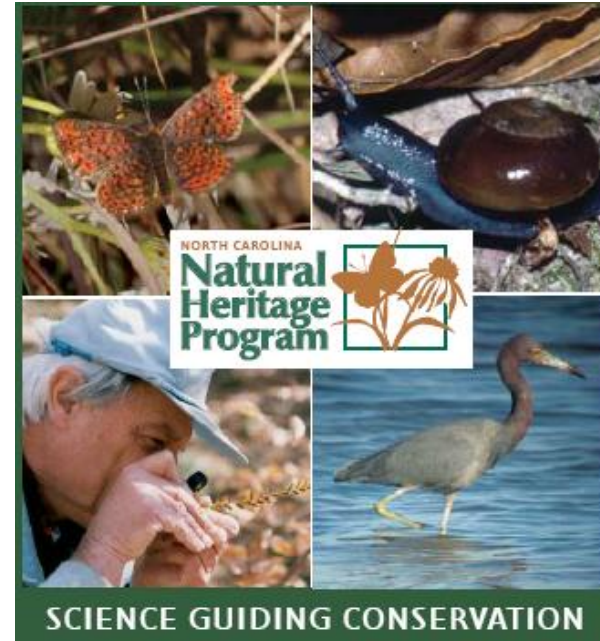
Objectives

1. Simulate urbanization patterns under different conservation based planning scenarios
2. Assess resulting impacts to different conservation planning goals

Conservation Planning Goals



1. Protect Priority Resources

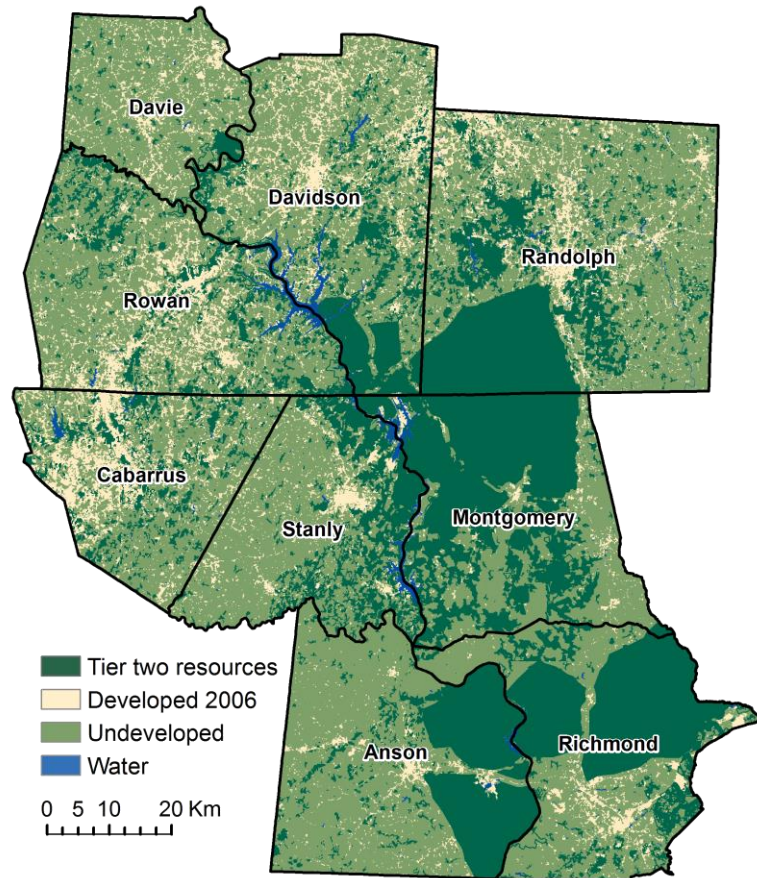


NCWRC. 2013. Green growth toolbox handbook.
<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Conserving/Programs/GreenGrowthToolbox.aspx>

Conservation Planning Goals



1. Protect Priority Resources



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Conservation Planning Goals

2. Limit Landscape Fragmentation

Conventional Subdivision

Farmland, grassland habitat and historical site are lost.



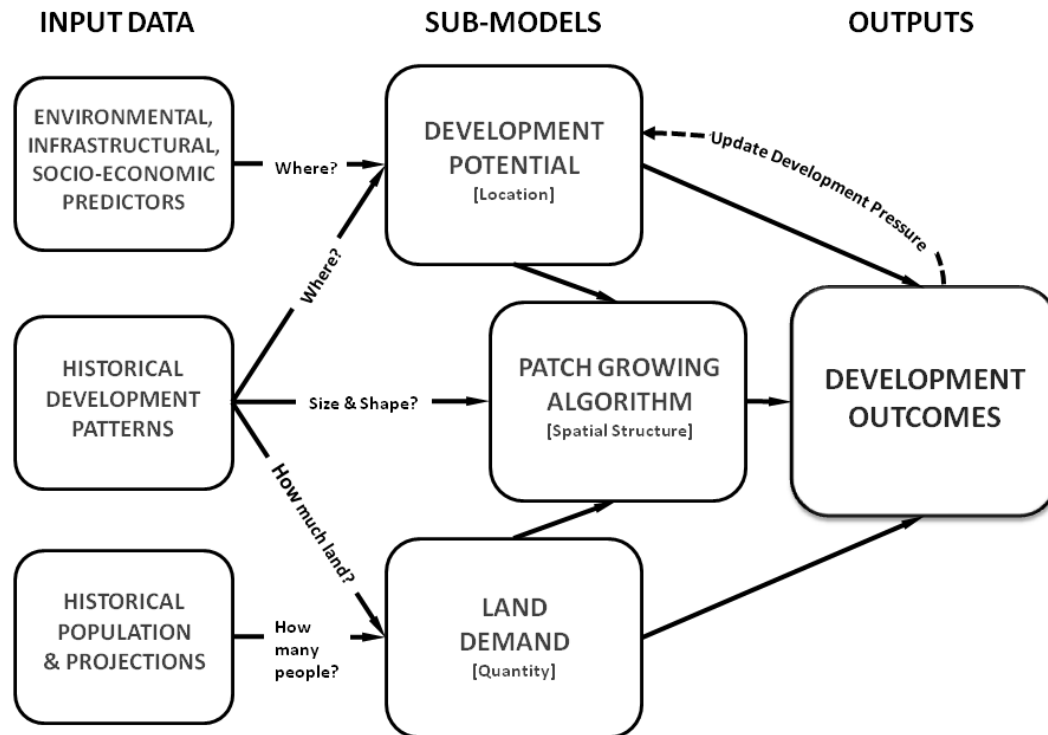
Image and information courtesy of Randall Arendt, from Arendt, R. M. Collins and A. Valentine (1996). *Open Space Design Guidebook: Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Region*. Prepared for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Media, PA, Natural Lands Trust.

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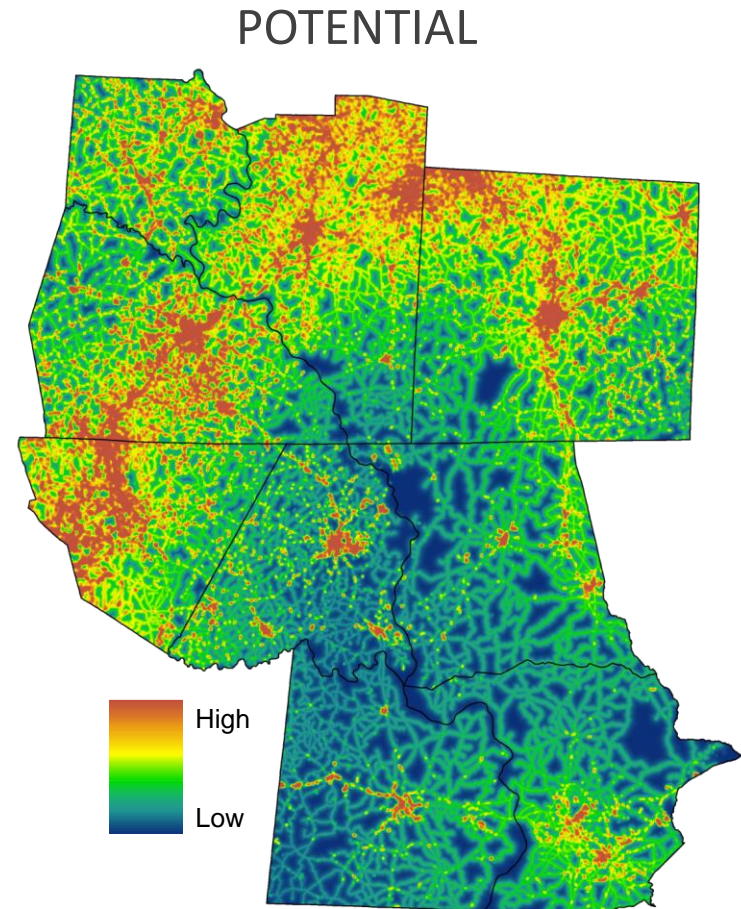
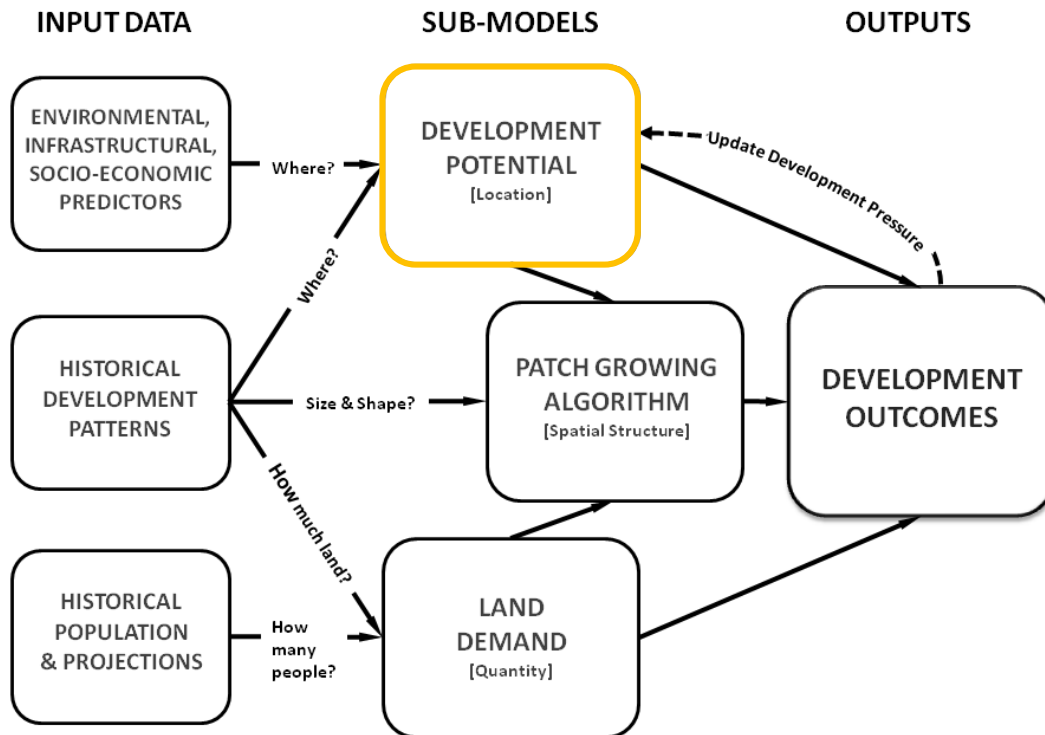


FUTURES

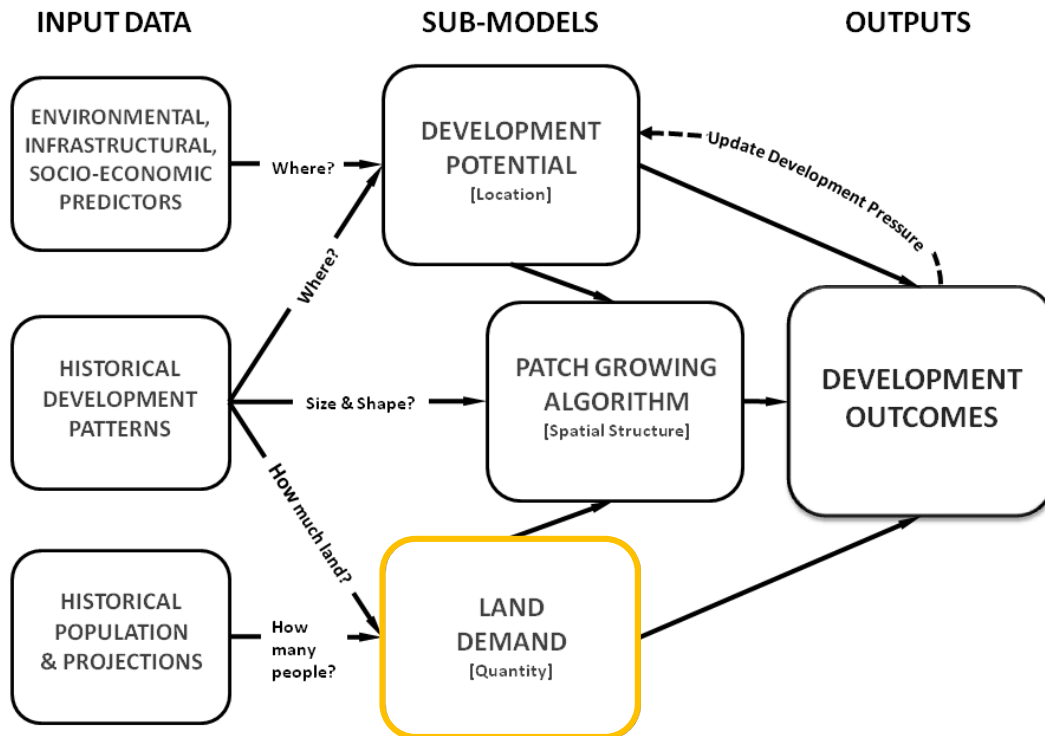


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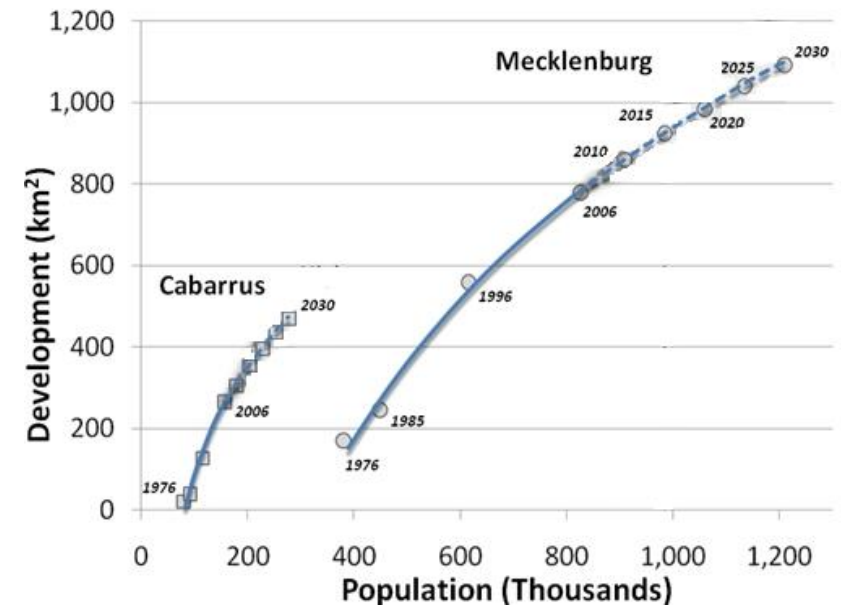
FUTURES



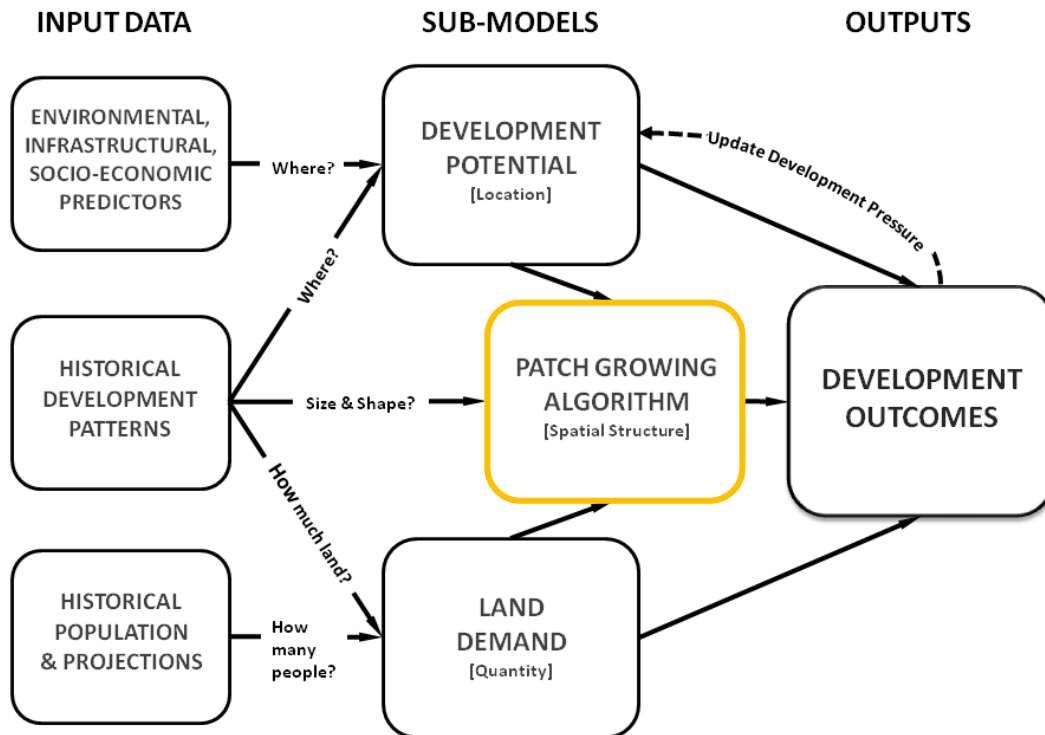
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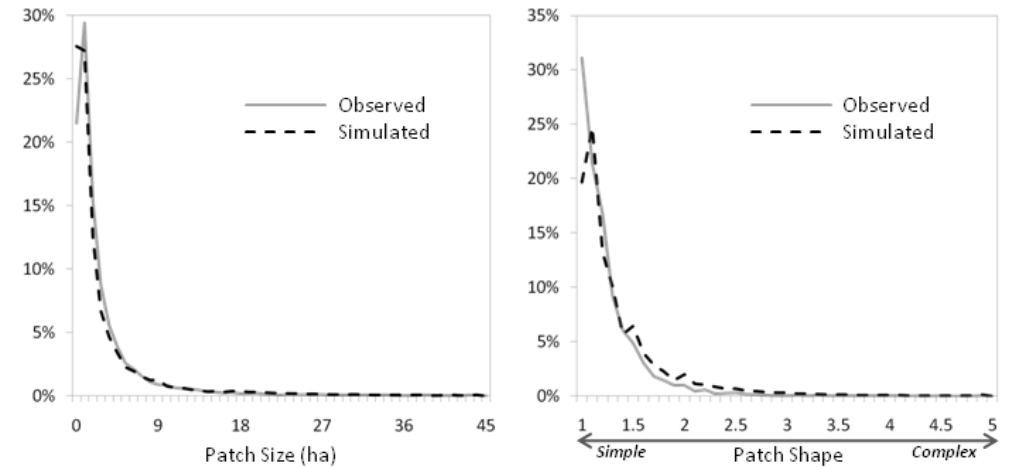
DEMAND



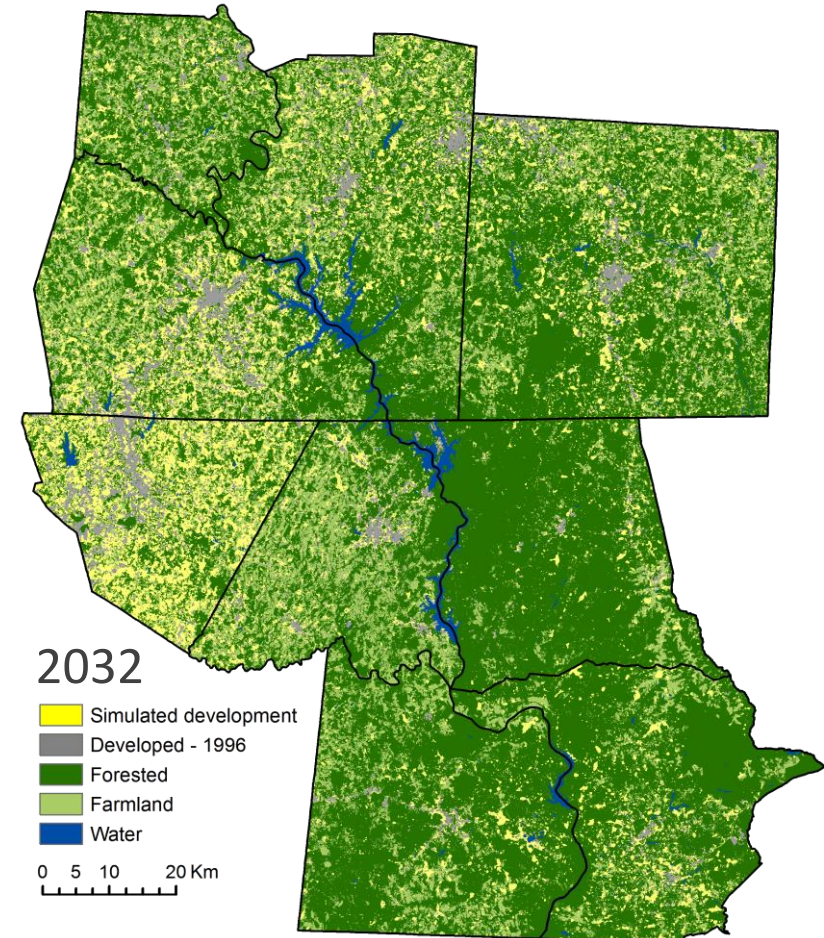
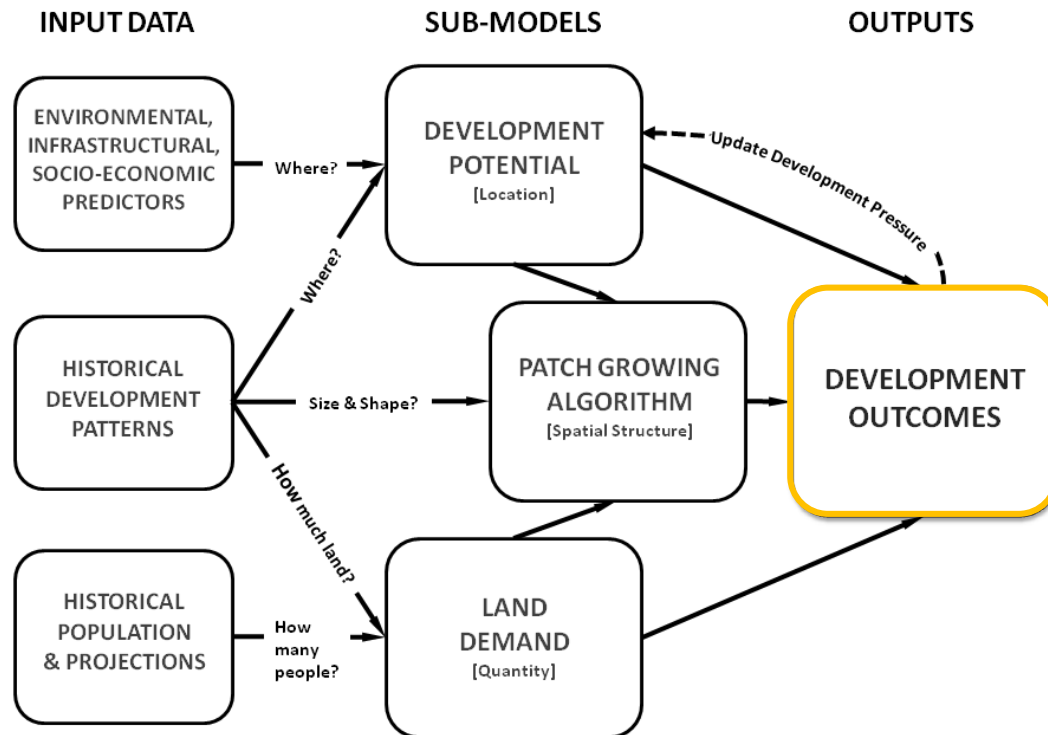
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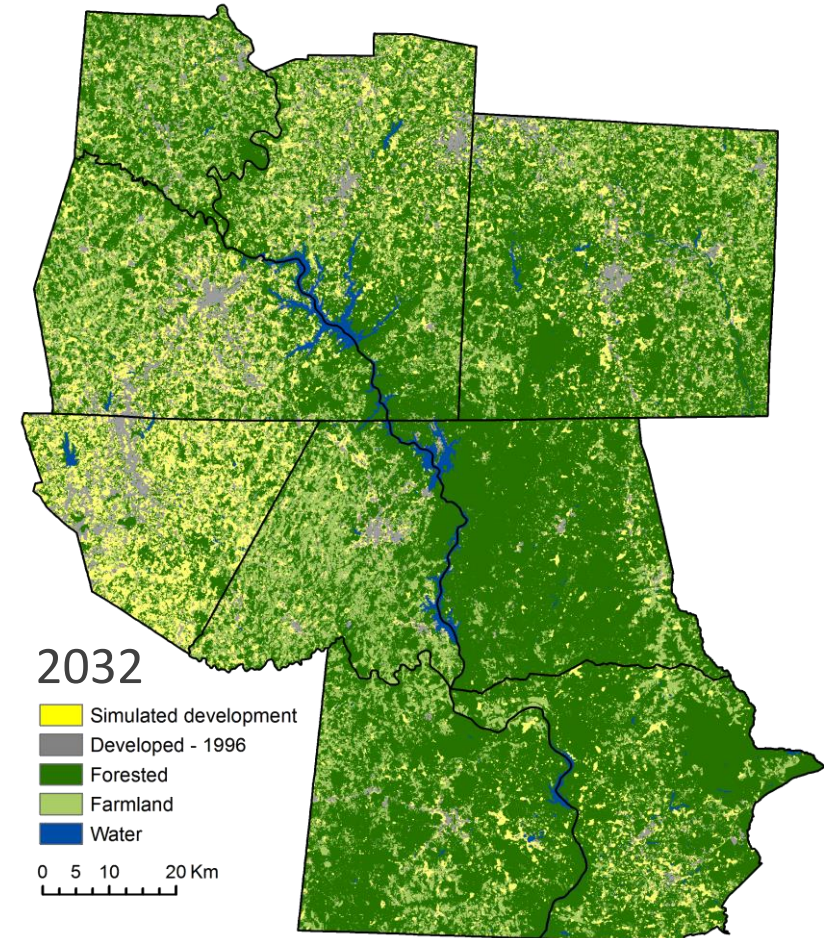
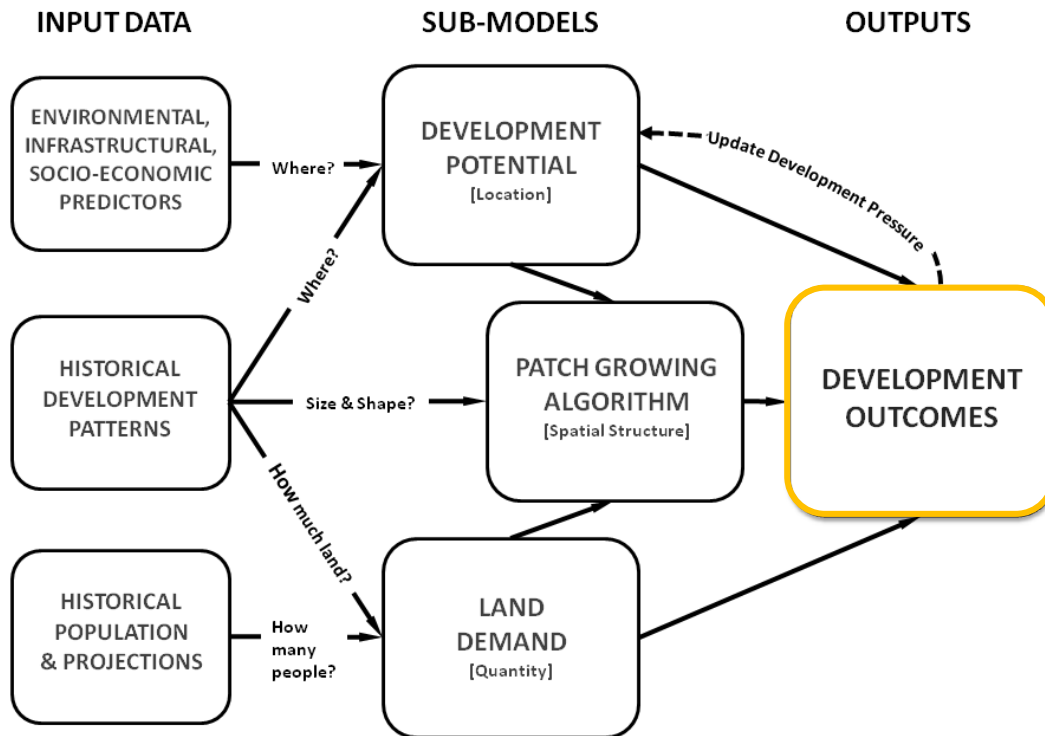
PGA



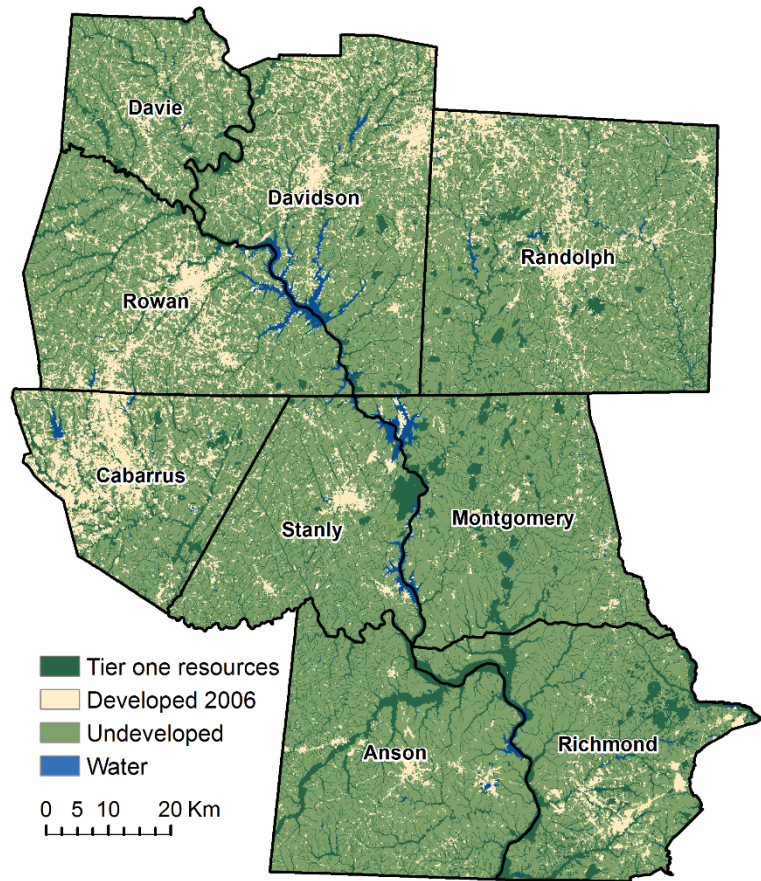
FUTURES



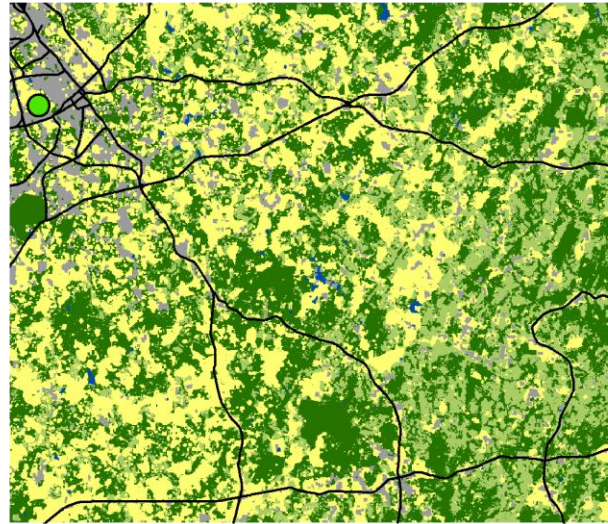
Scenario 1. Status Quo Growth



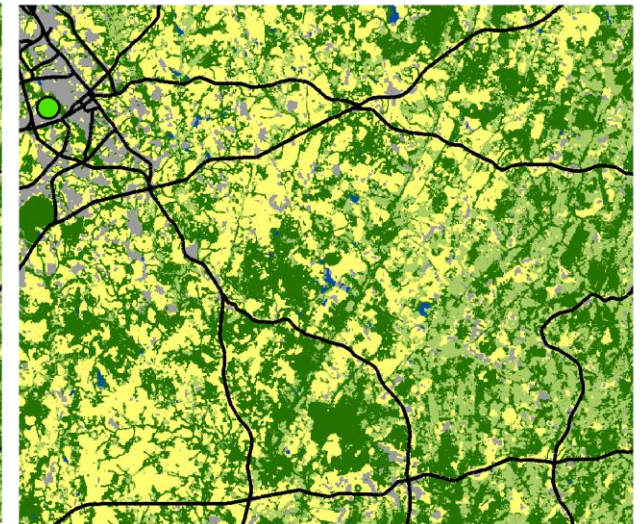
Scenario 2. Development Exclusion



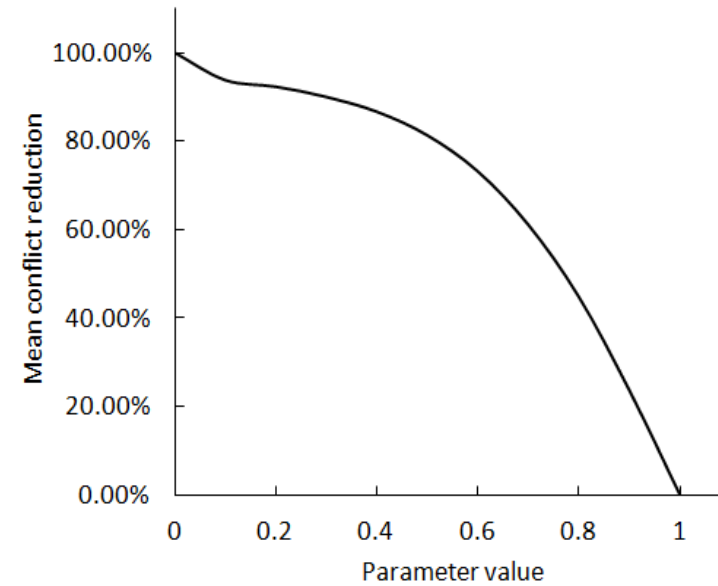
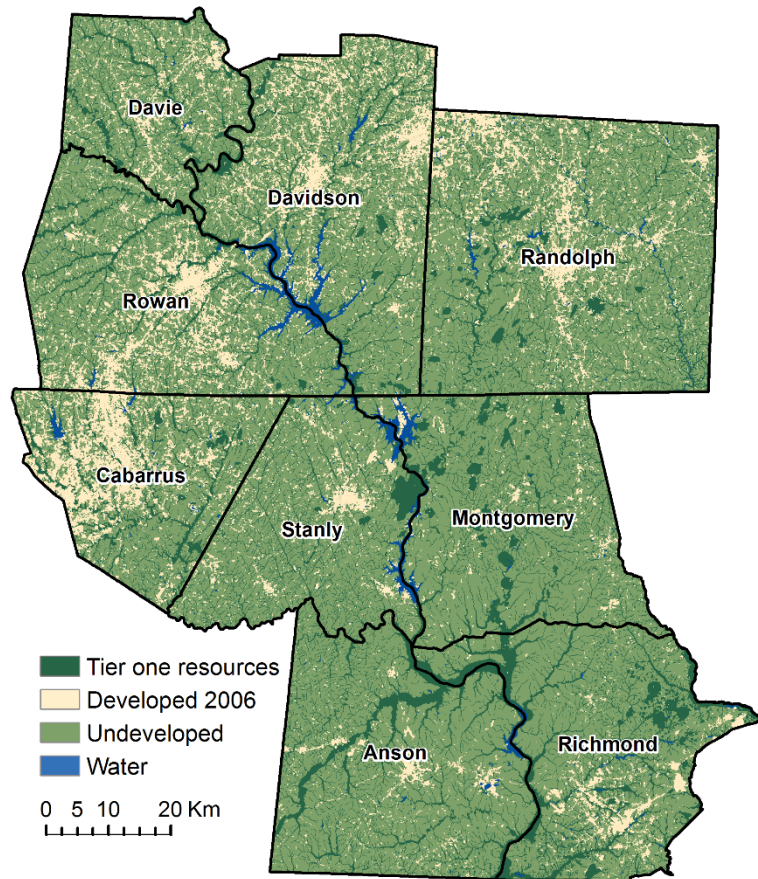
Status Quo



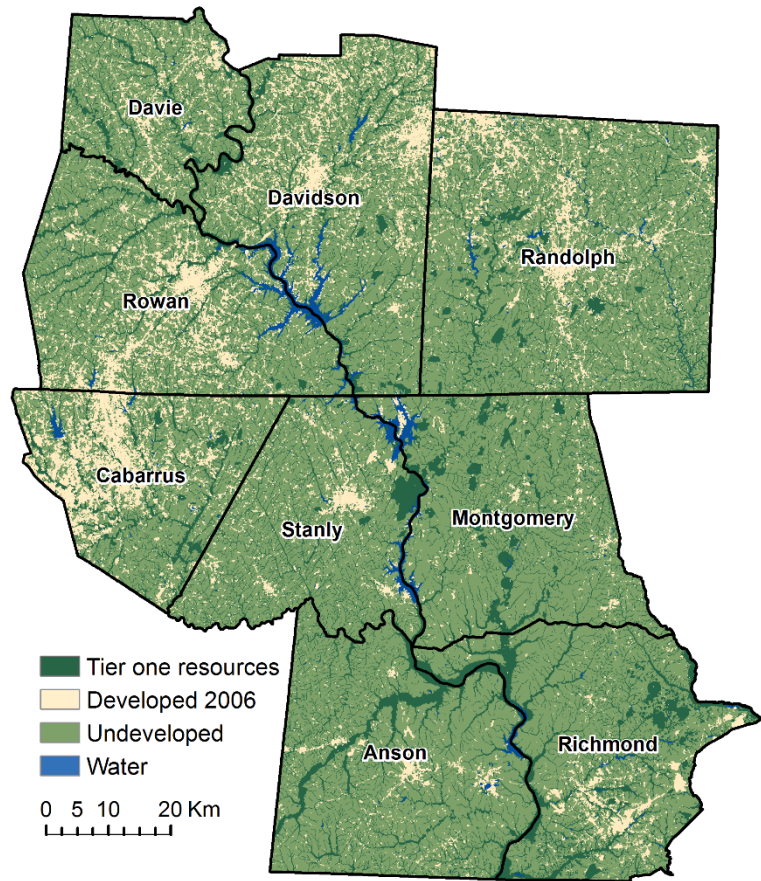
Development Exclusion



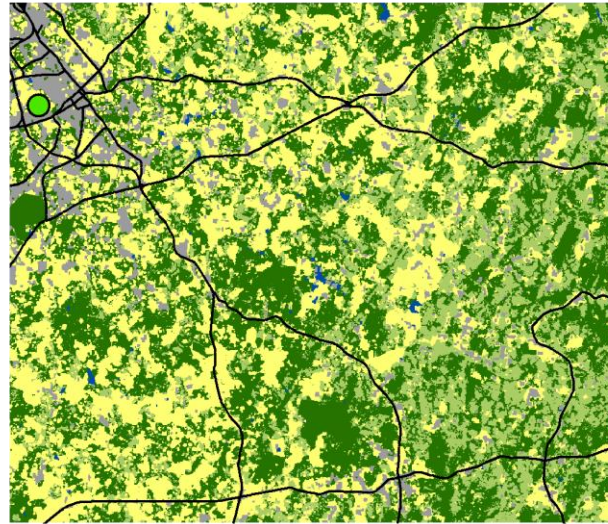
Scenario 3. Development Constraint



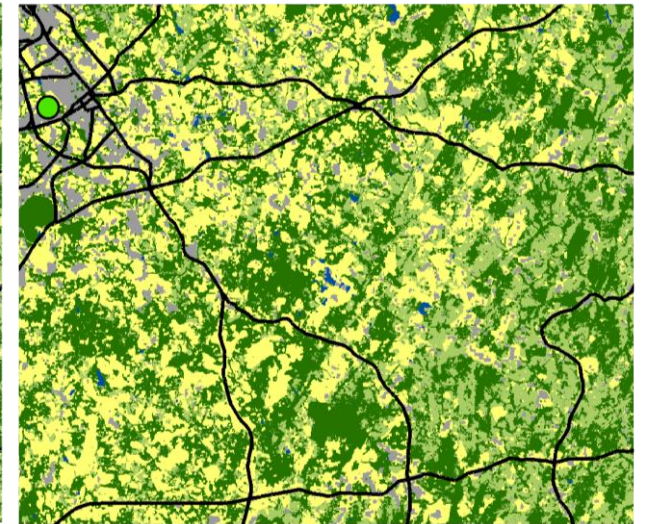
Scenario 3. Development Constraint



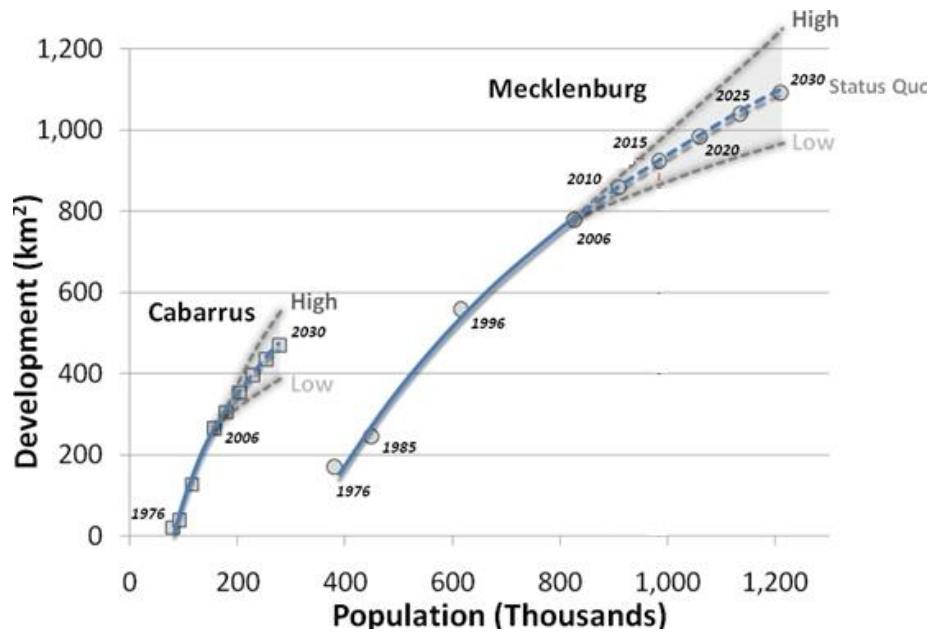
Status Quo



Development Constraint

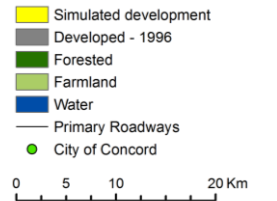
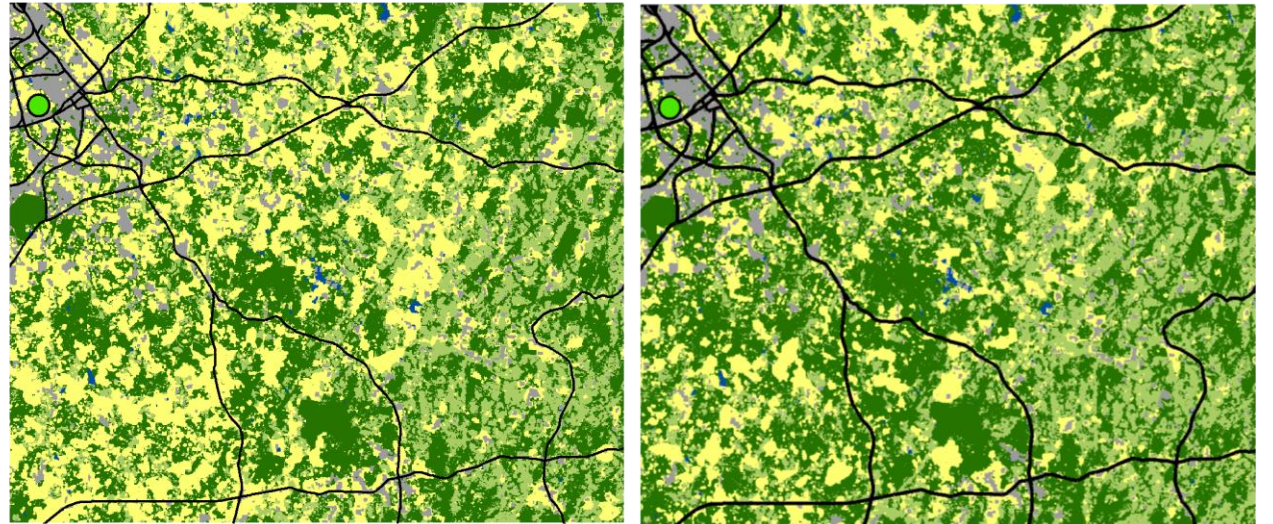


Scenario 4. Reduced Demand

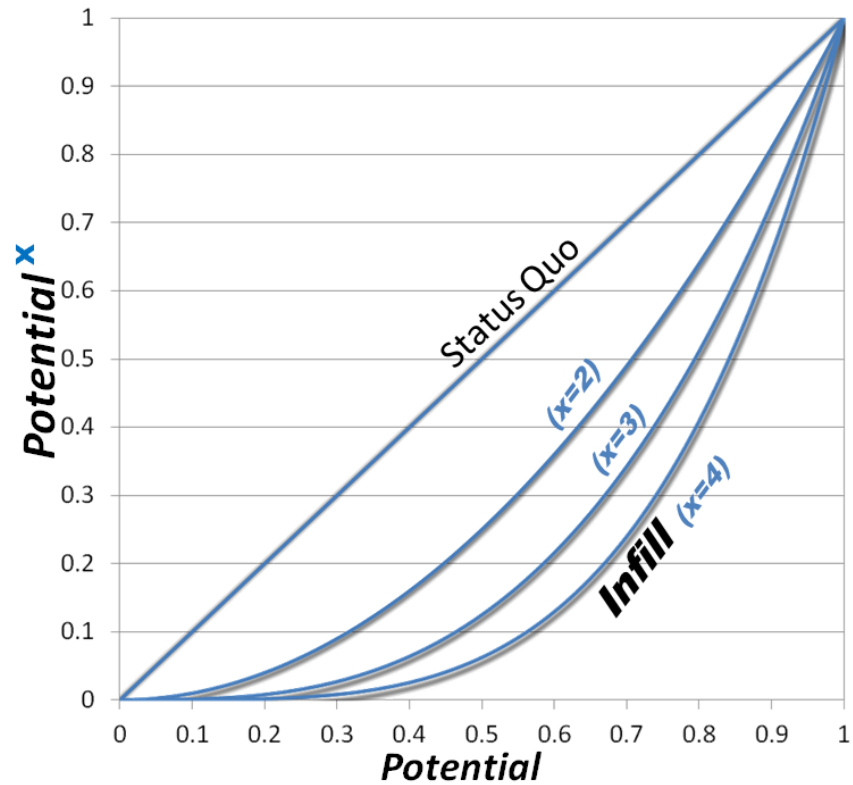


Status Quo

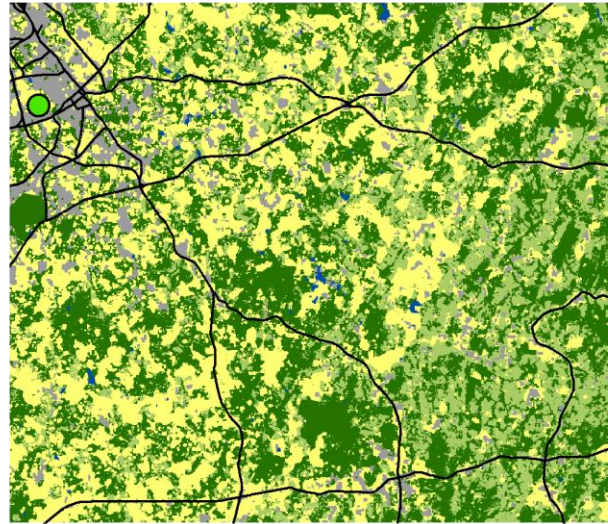
Reduced Demand



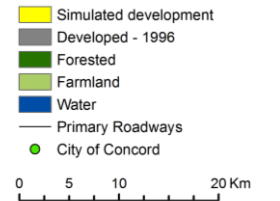
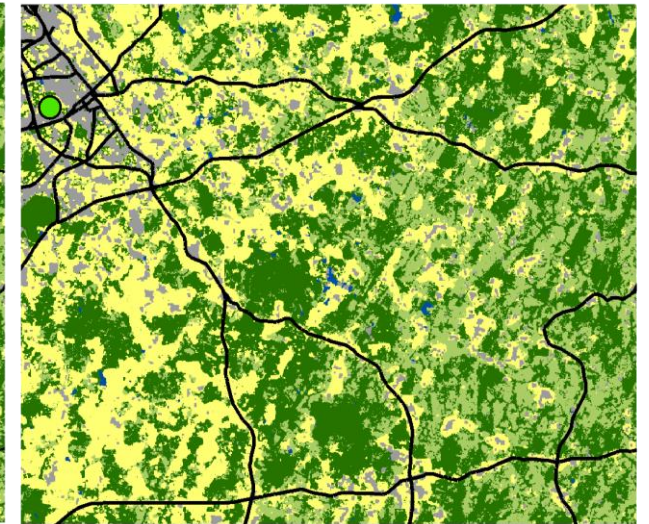
Scenario 5. Infill Development



Status Quo



Infill

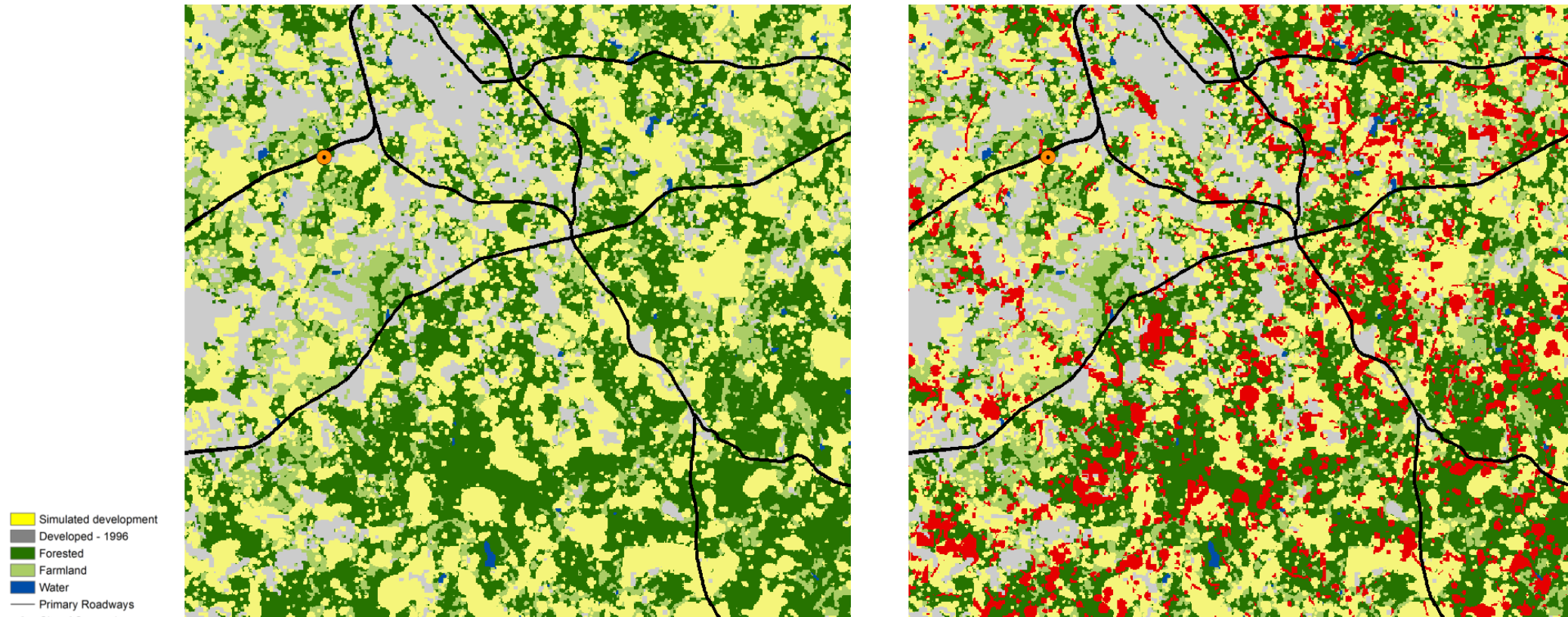


Scenarios 6-9

- 6. Reduced Demand + Infill
- 7. Reduced Demand + Development Constraint
- 8. Infill + Development Constraint
- 9. Reduced Demand + Infill + Development Constraint

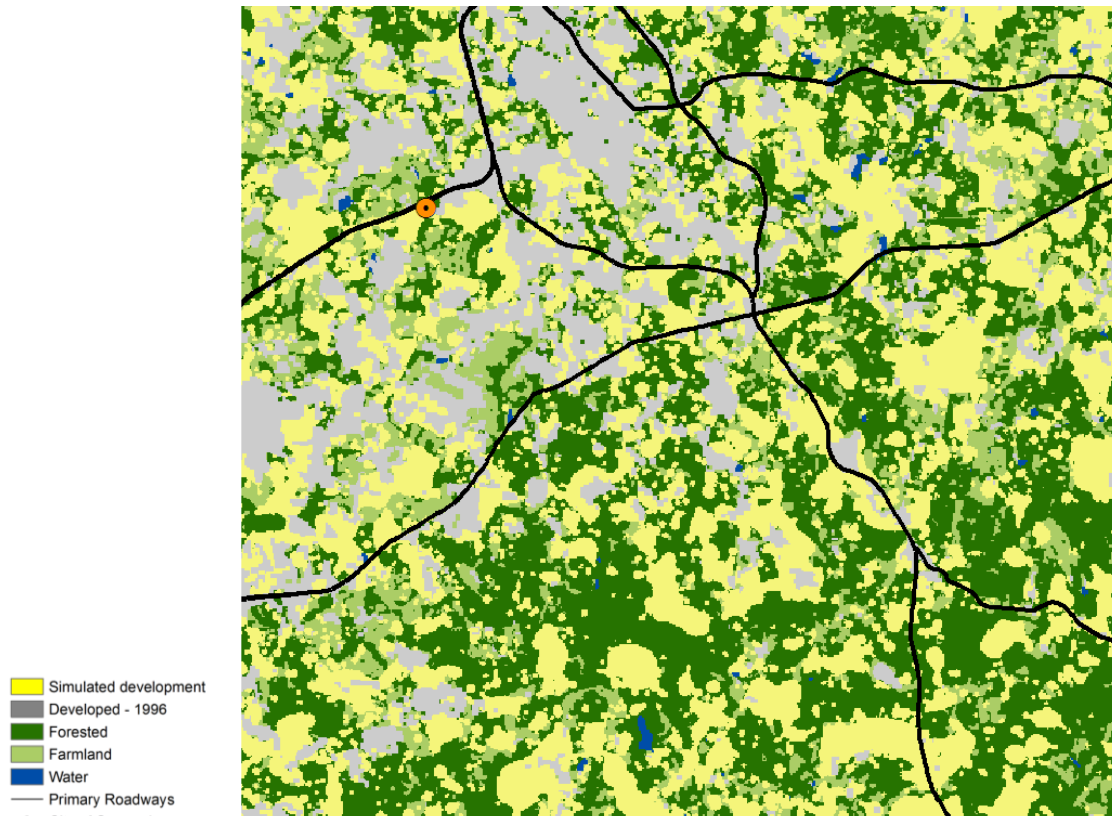
Analyze Outcomes

1. Conflicts: Impacts to priority resources



Analyze Outcomes

2. Patterns: Impacts to forest and farmland



Conventional Subdivision

Farmland, grassland habitat and historical site are lost.



Image and information courtesy of Randall Arendt, from Arendt, R., M. Collins and A. Valentine (1996). *Open Space Design Guidebook: Albemarle Pamlico Estuarine Region*. Prepared for the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Media, PA, Natural Lands Trust.

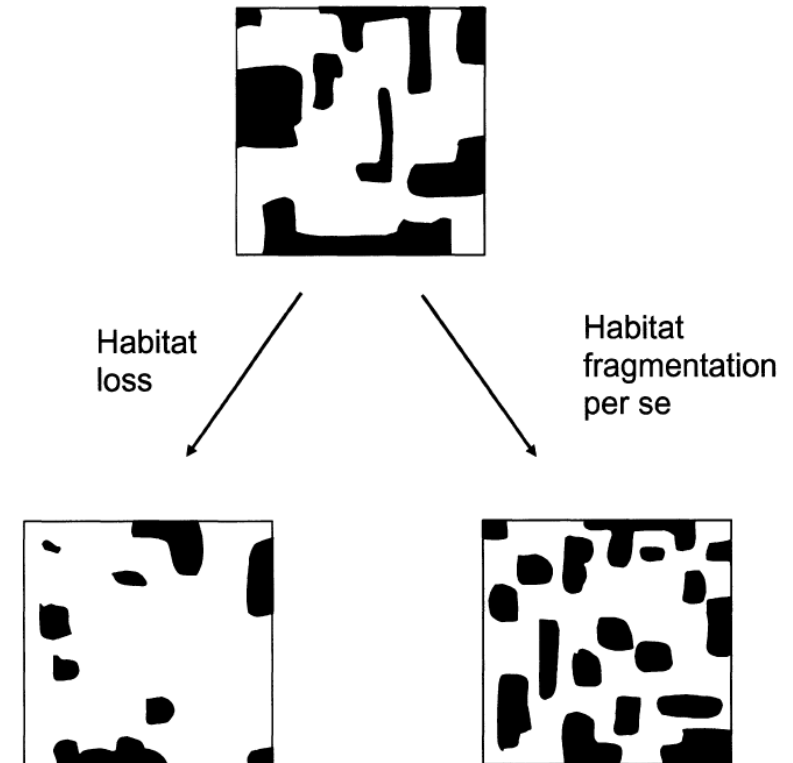
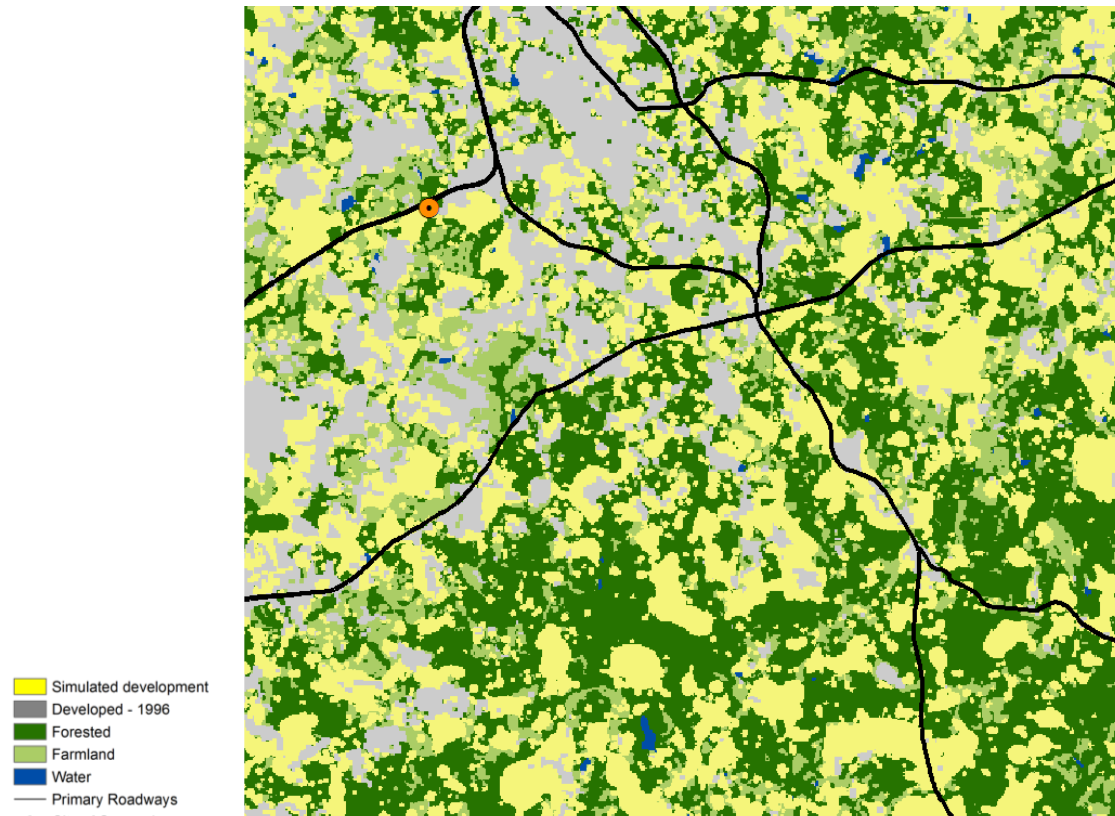
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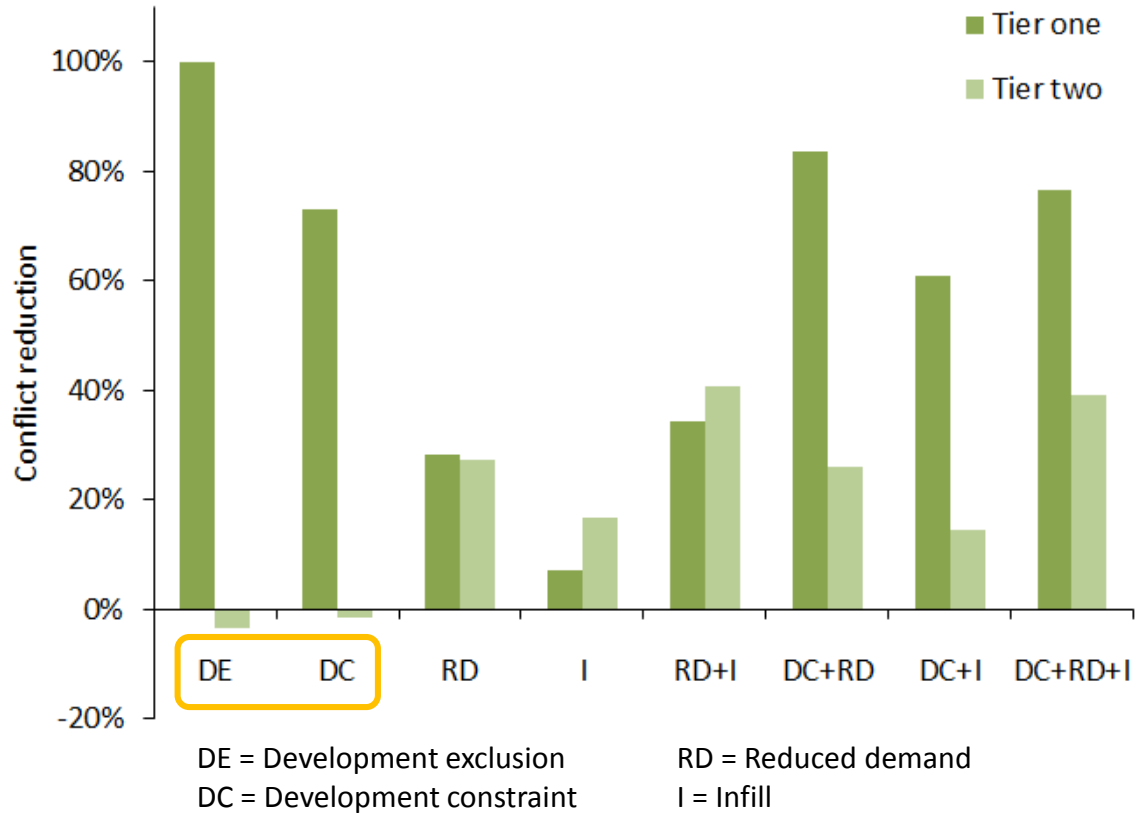
Analyze Outcomes

2. Patterns: Impacts to forest and farmland

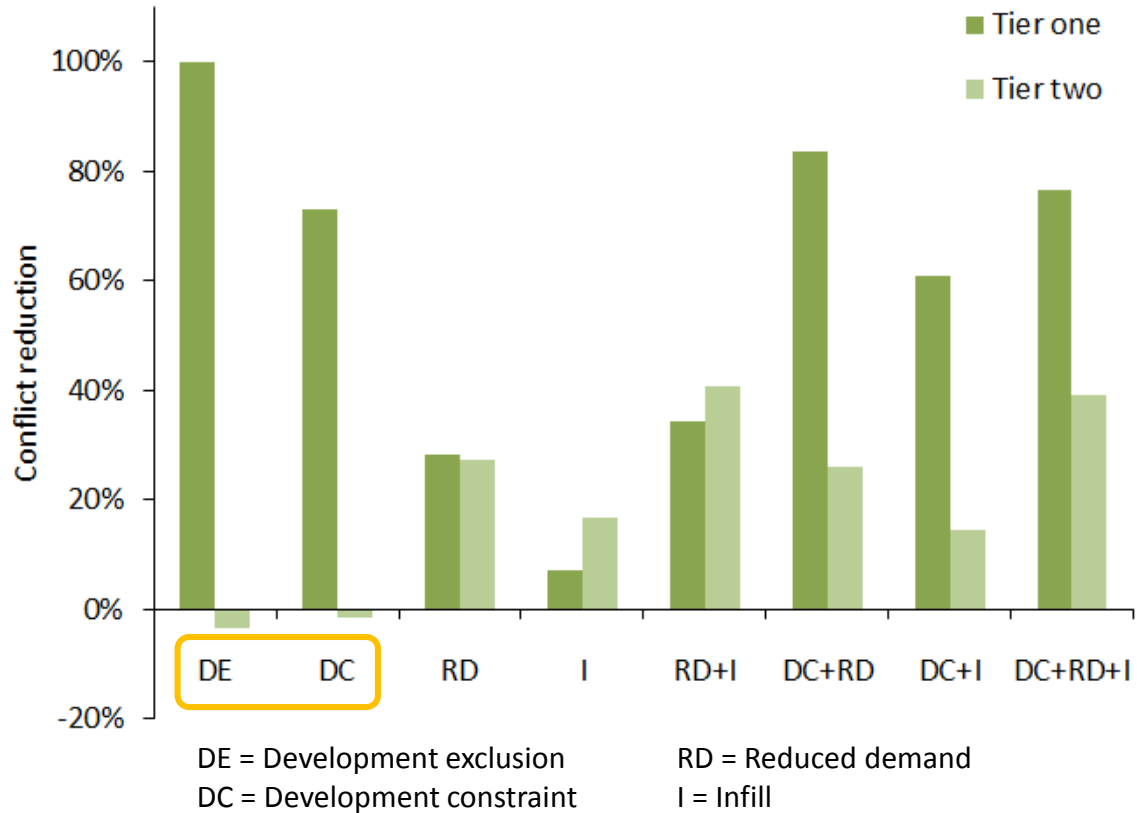


Fahrig, L. 2003. Effects of habitat fragmentation on biodiversity. Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics 34: 487-515.

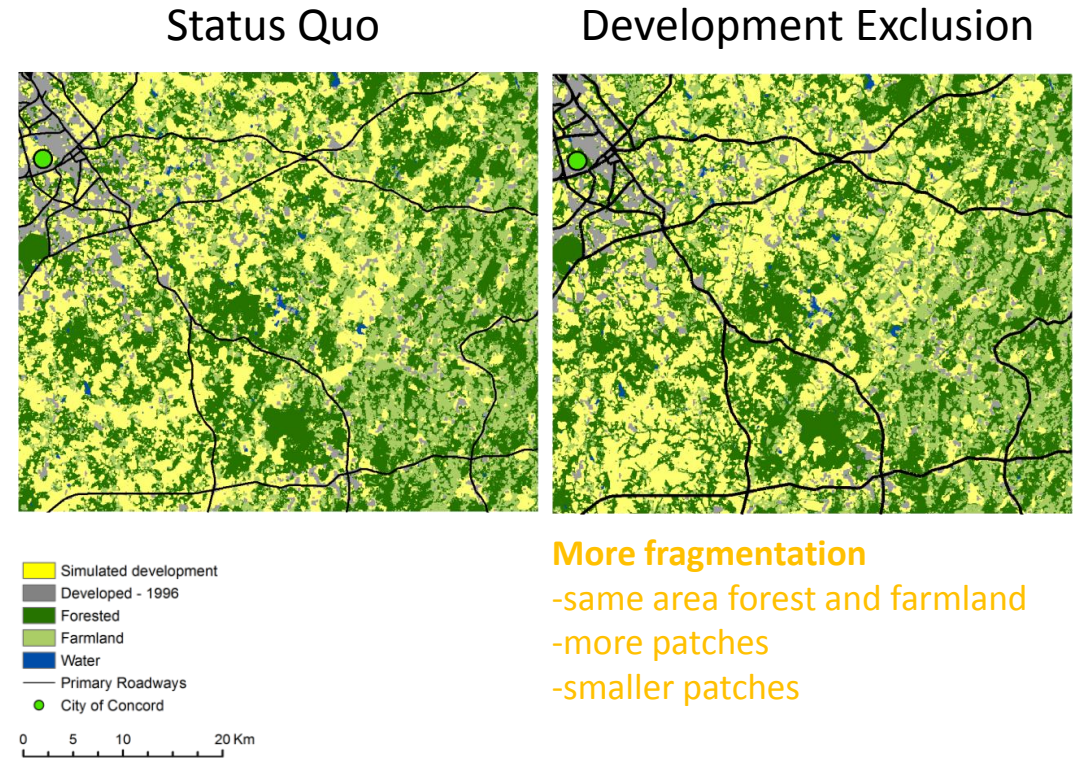
Conflicts



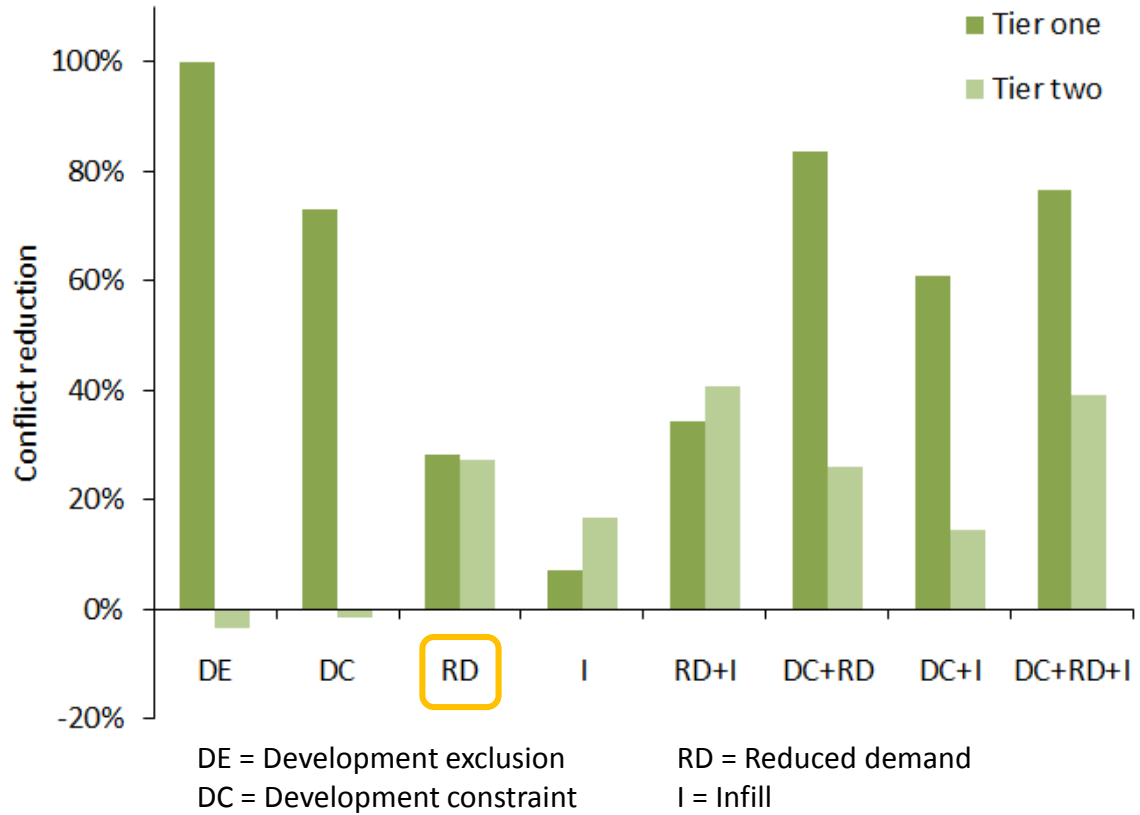
Conflicts



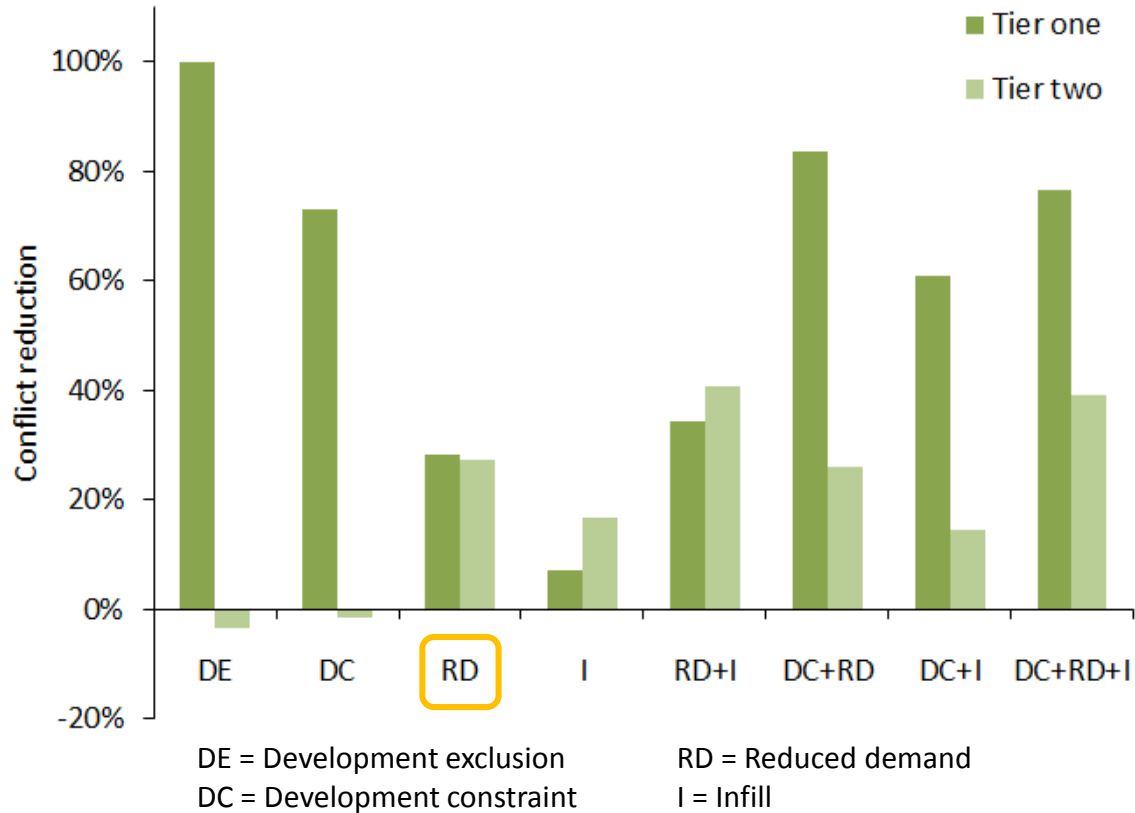
Patterns



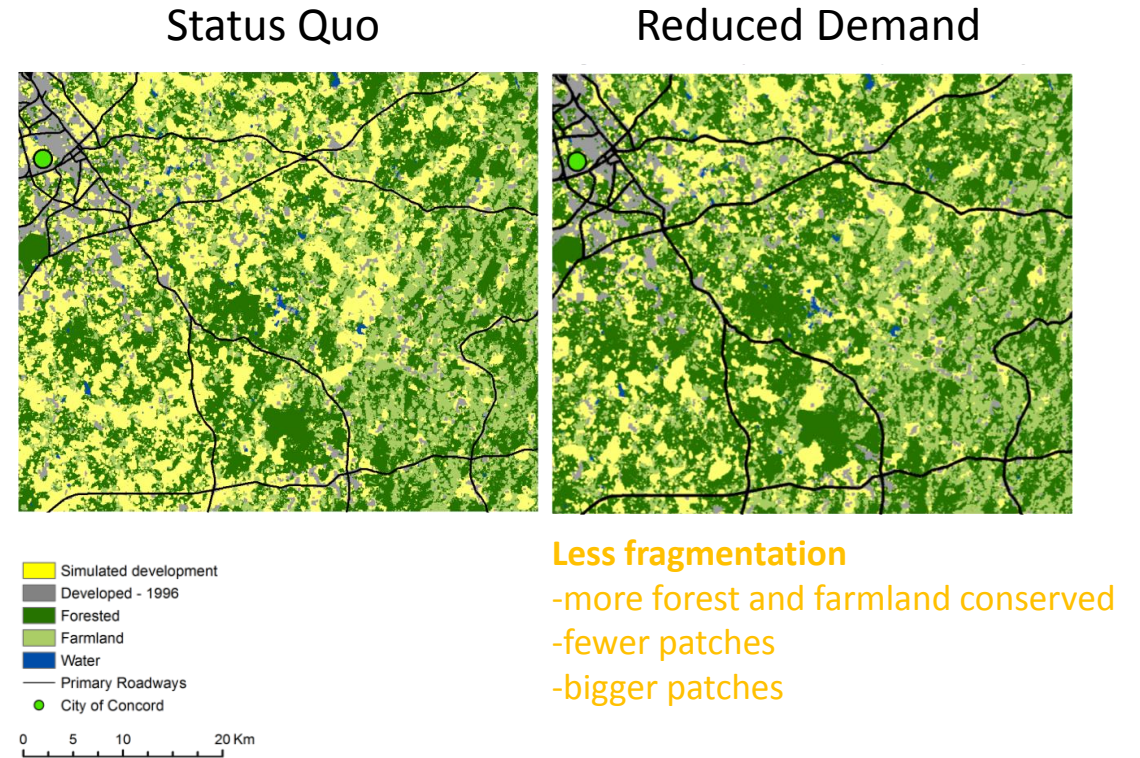
Conflicts



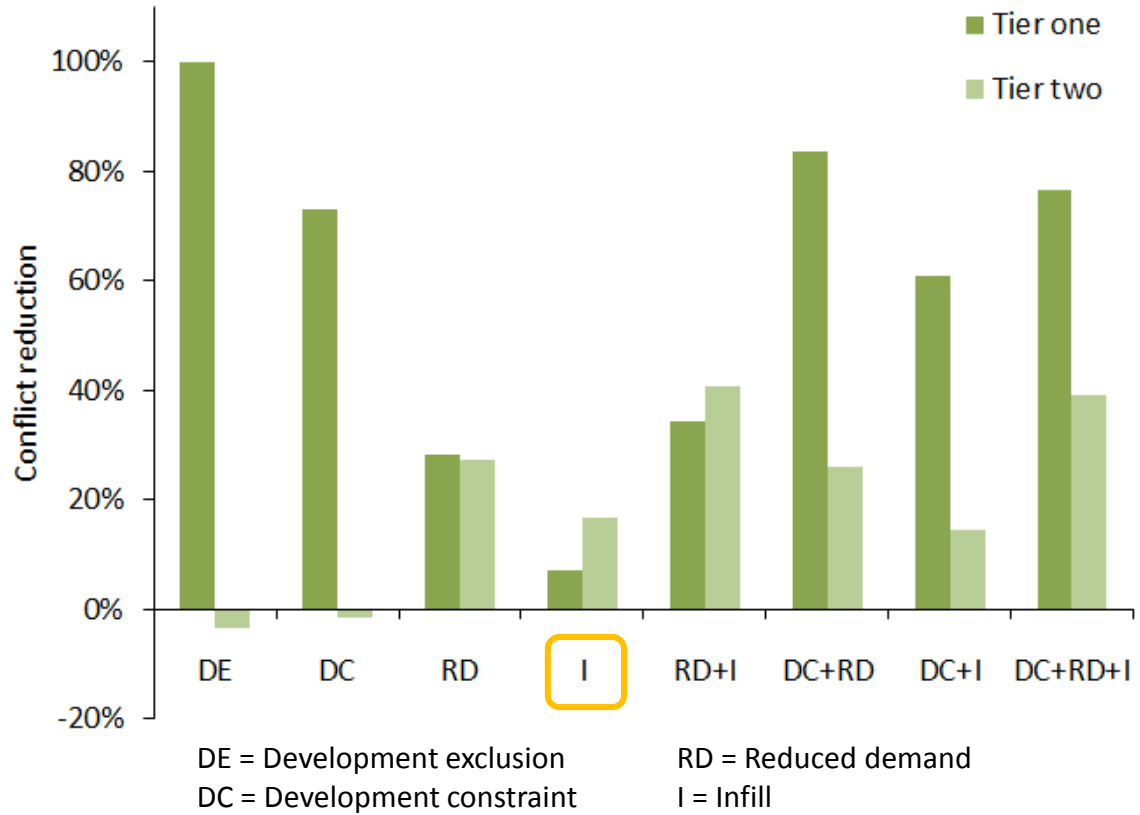
Conflicts



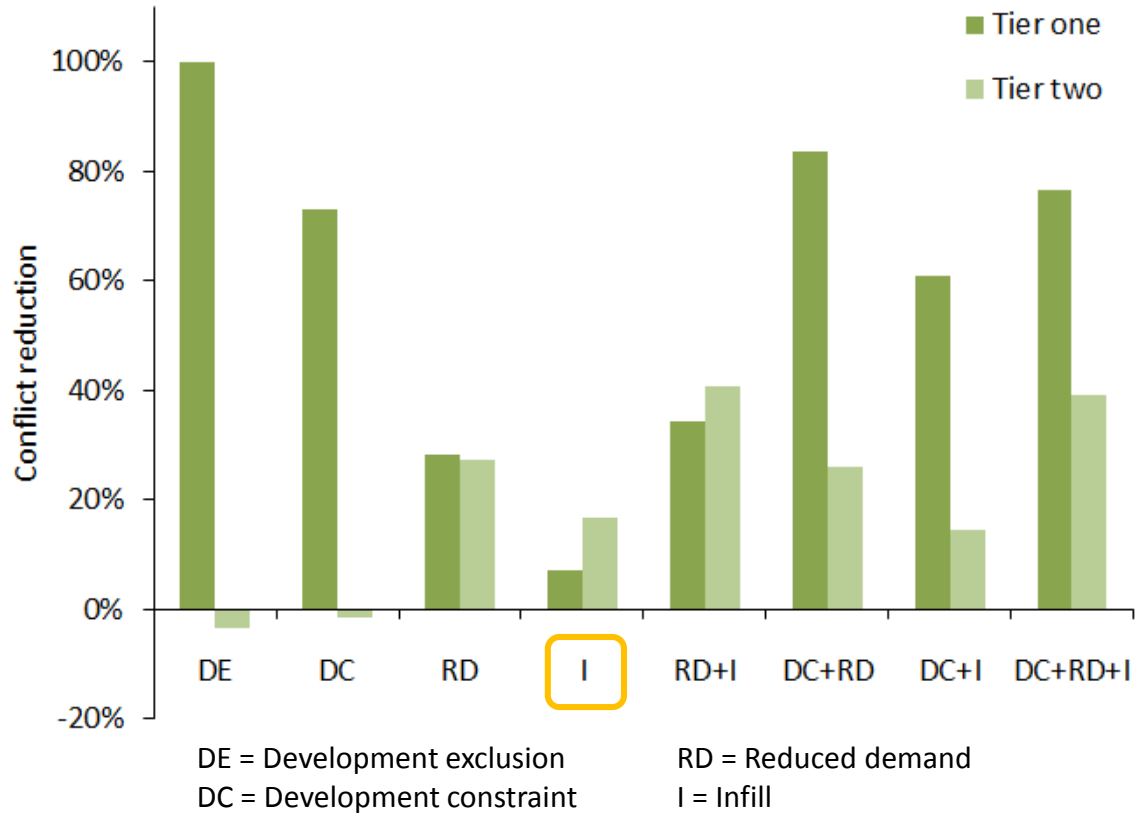
Patterns



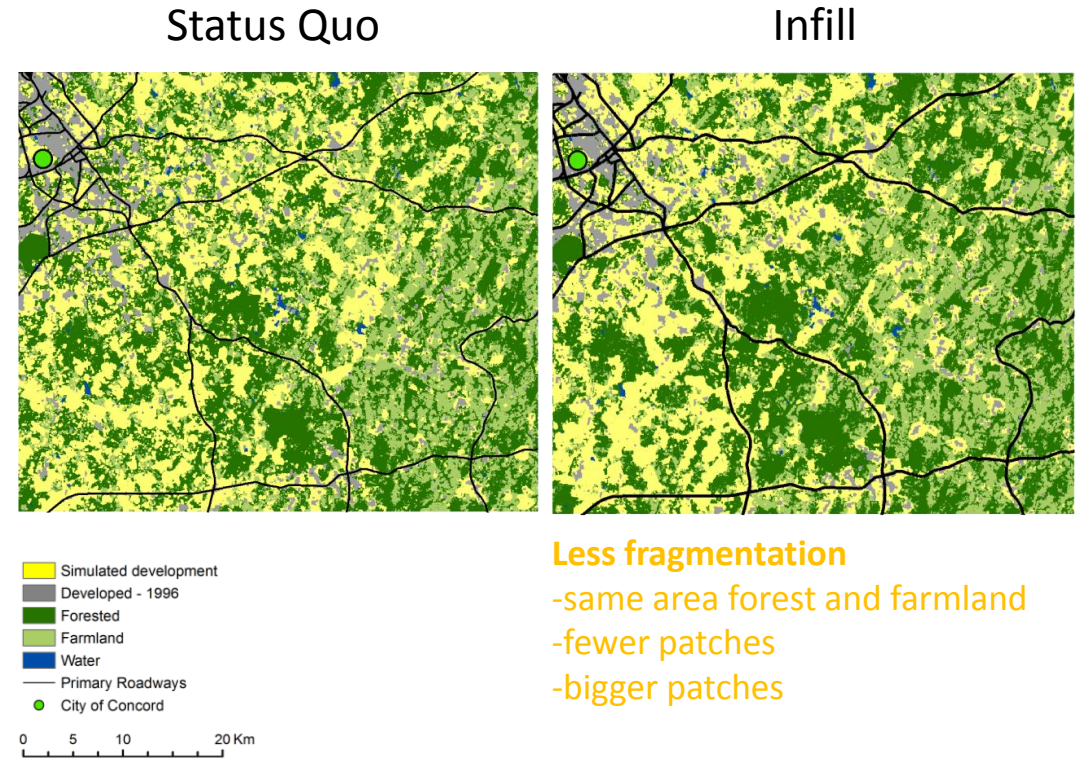
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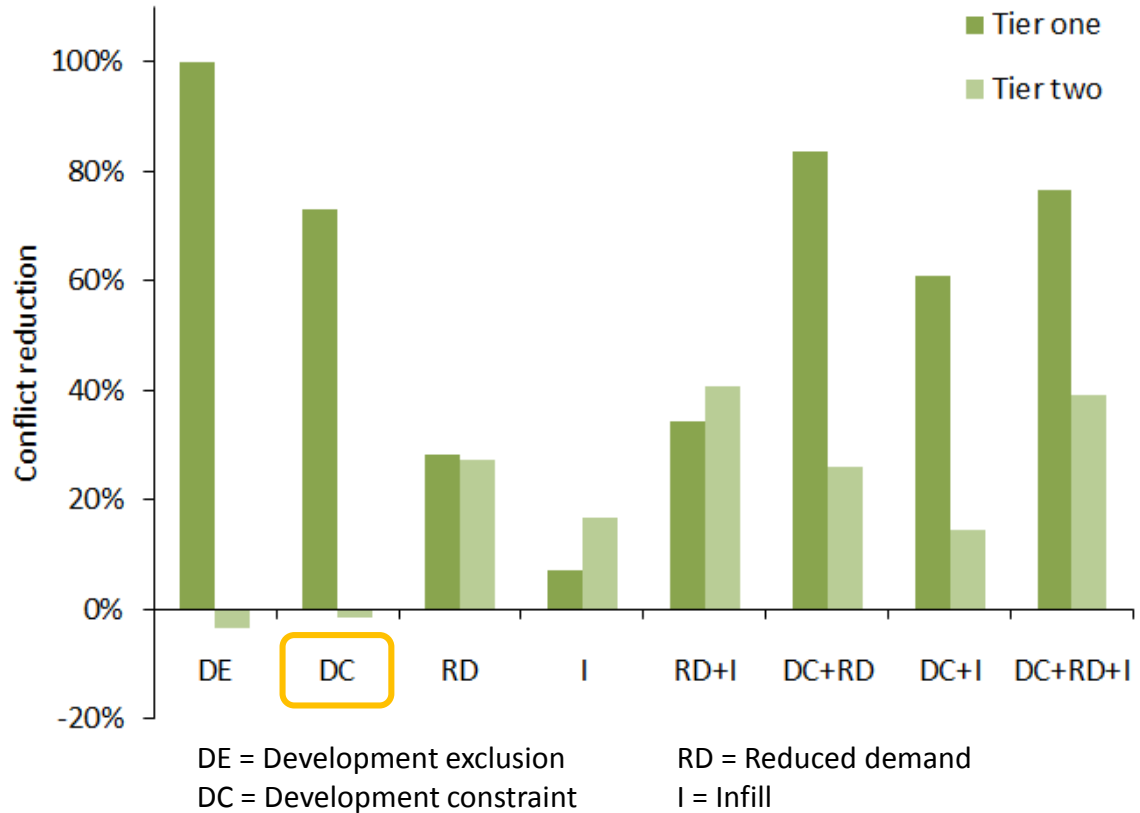
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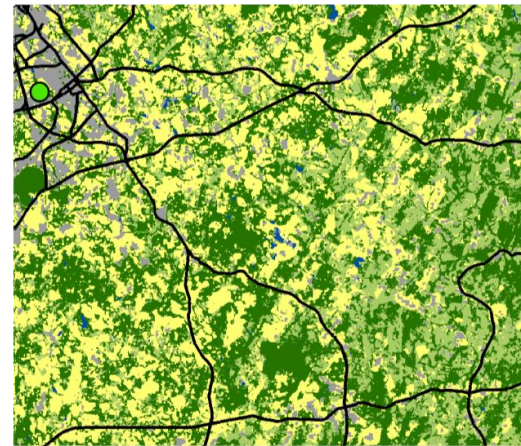
Patterns



Competing Policies

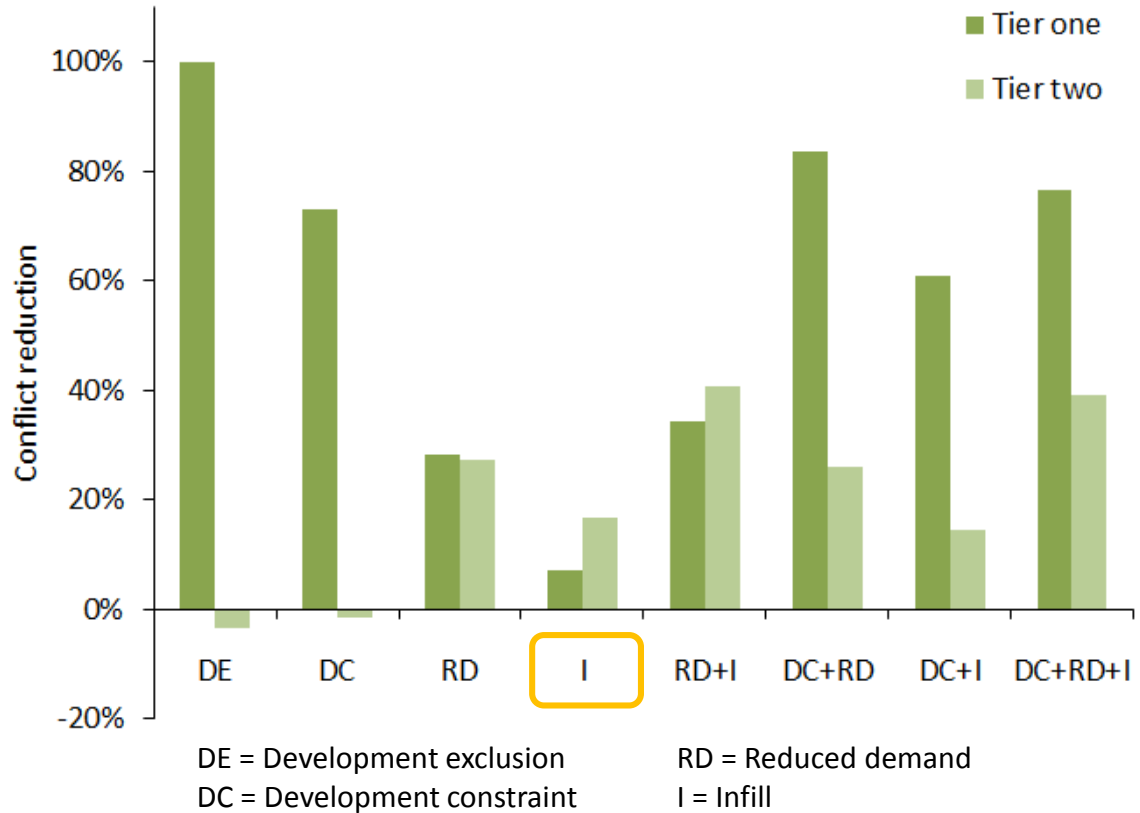


Development Constraint

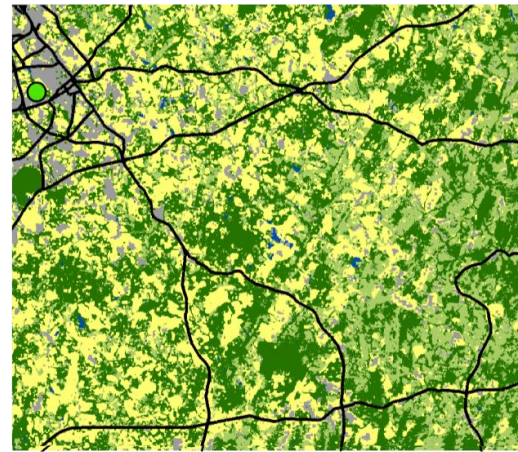


More fragmentation

Competing Policies

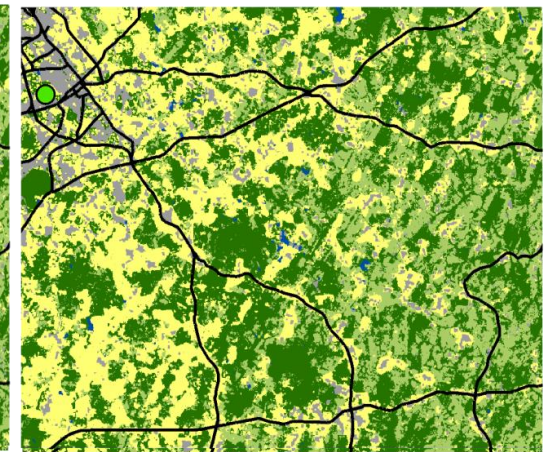


Development Constraint



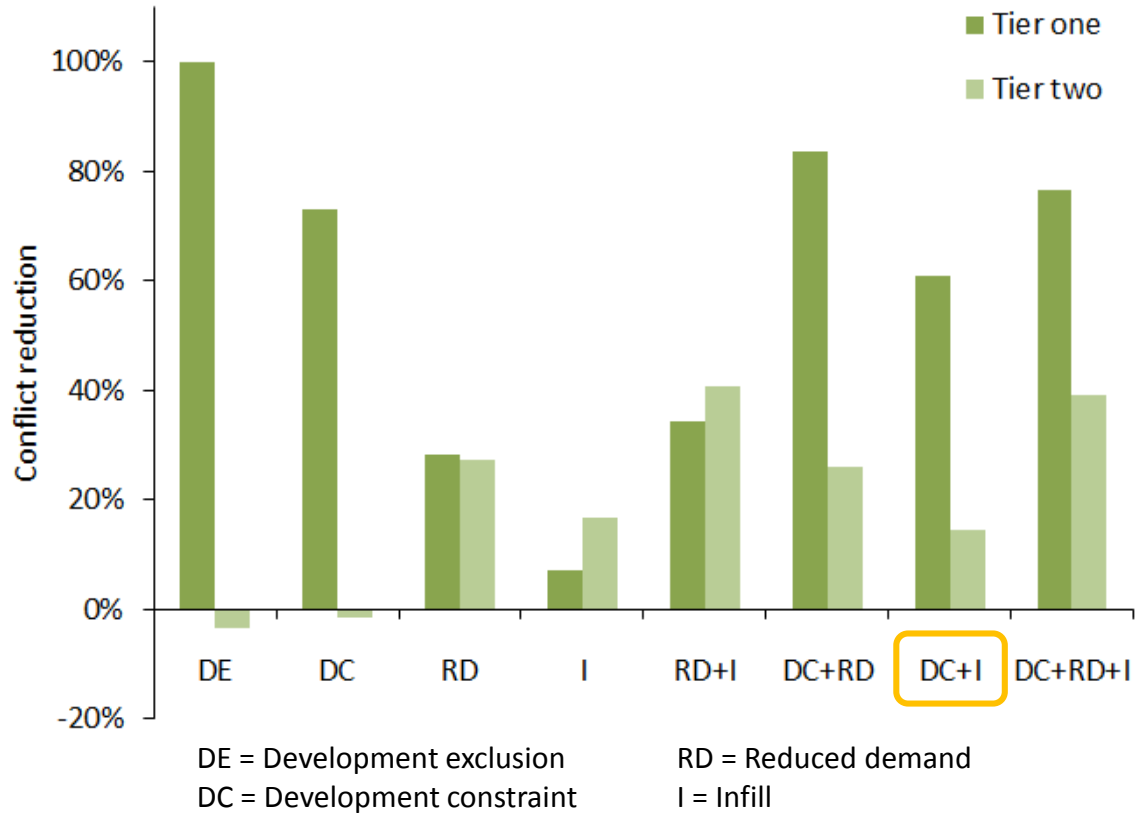
More fragmentation

Infill

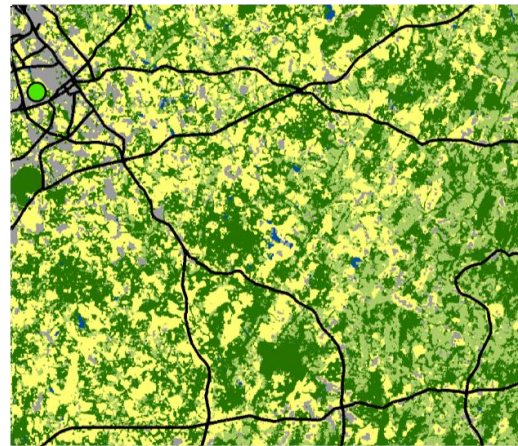


Less fragmentation

Competing Policies

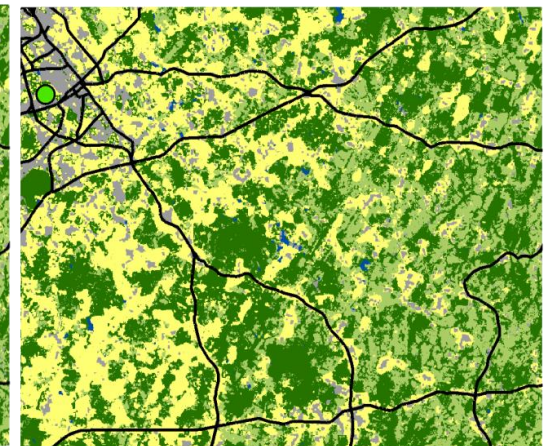


Development Constraint



More fragmentation

Infill



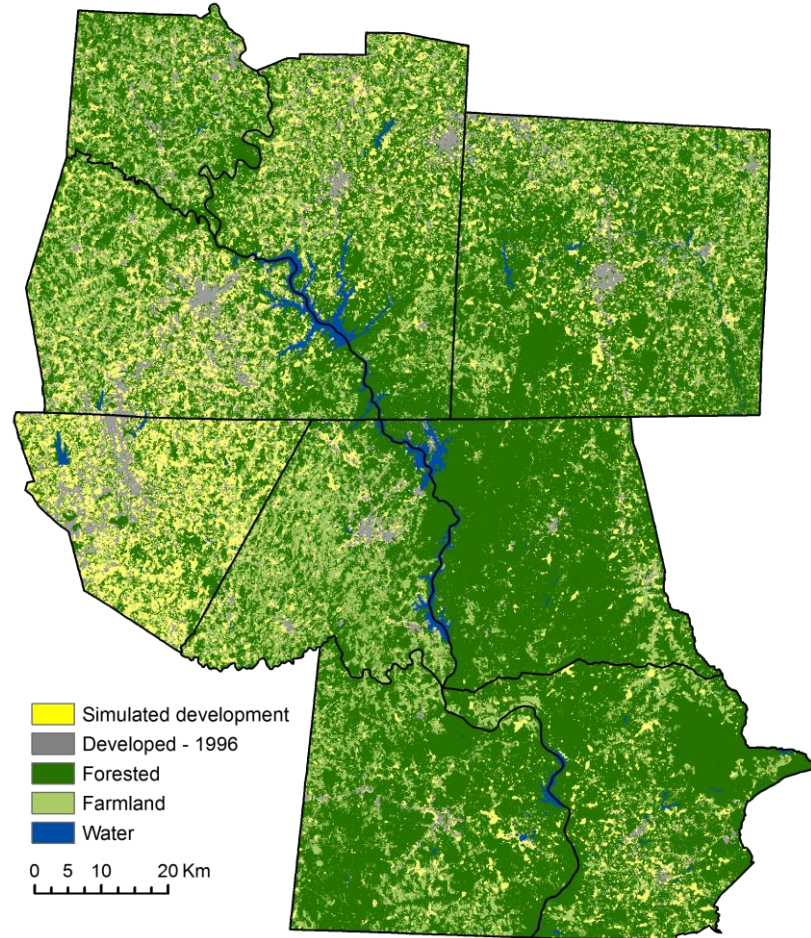
Less fragmentation

Less fragmentation than **Development Constraint**
More fragmentation than **Infill**

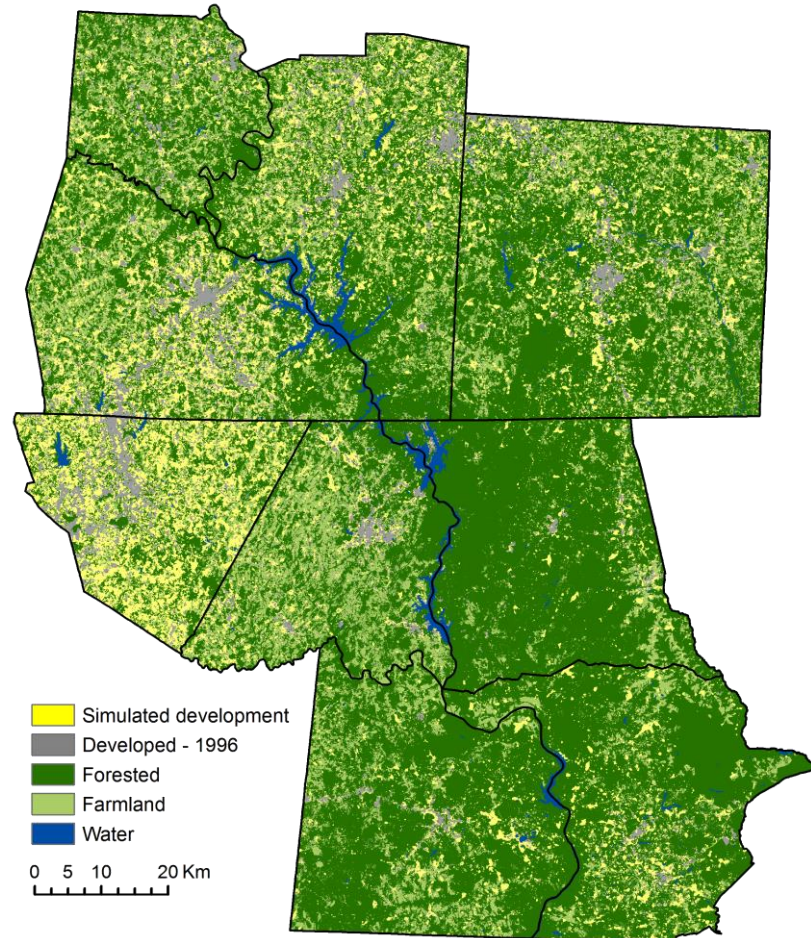
Conclusions

- Explored urbanization scenarios based on hypothetical land use policies
- Used unique modeling method to represent conservation planning strategies
- No single strategy was best for achieving all conservation goals
- Effective planning requires assessment of tradeoffs between different priorities

Applications and Limitations



Applications and Limitations



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Thank You!

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FUTURES Performance

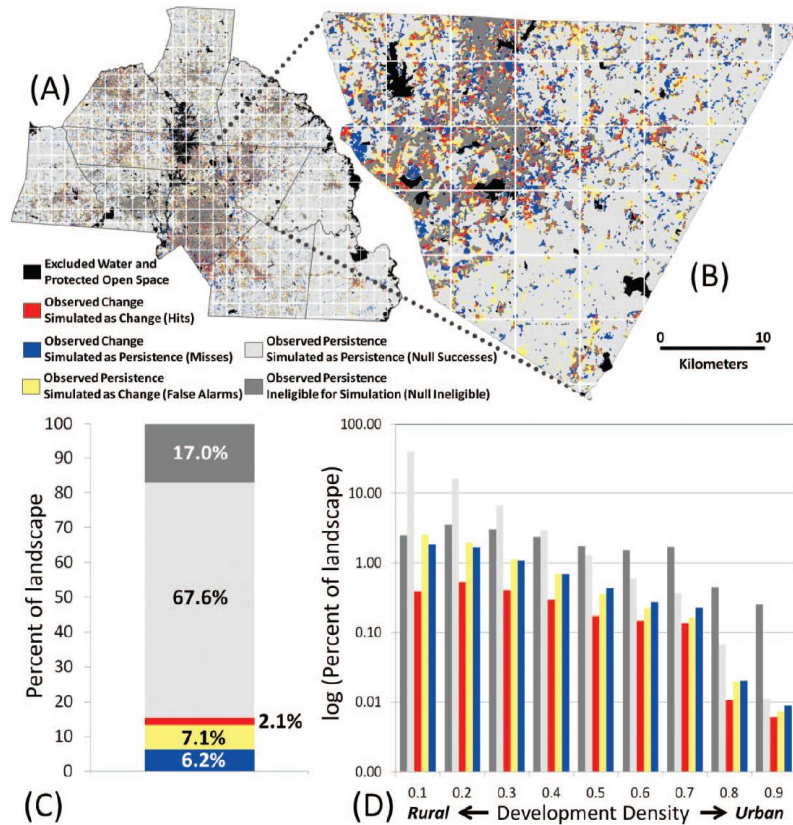


Figure 5. Cell-level model performance based on simulation successes and errors across study system. (A) Spatial distribution of successes and errors comparing 1996–2006 observed and simulated change. The 6×6 km lattice (white grid) used to analyze successes and errors by block and along development density gradient. (B) Successes and errors in Cabarrus County. (C) Proportions of successes and errors for entire landscape. (D) Distribution of block-summarized successes and errors along development density gradient (bin interval of 0.1). Map legend also applies to (C) and (D) with the exception of excluded water and protected open space. (Color figure available online.)

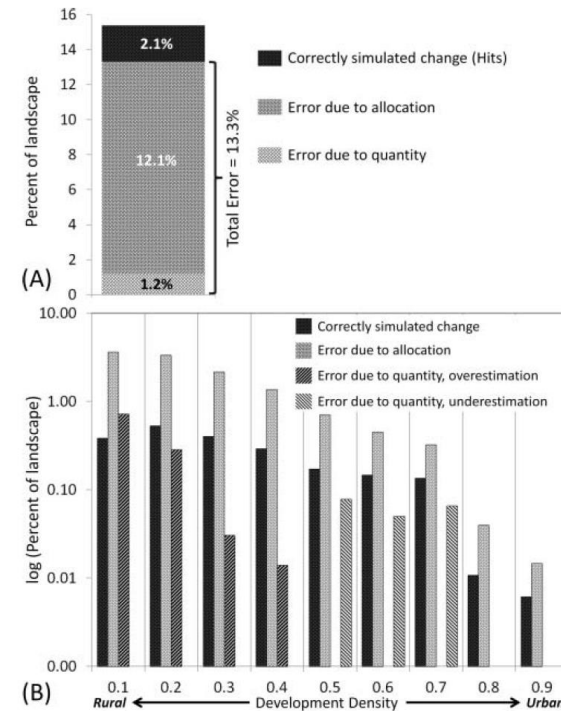


Figure 6. Cell-level model performance based on accuracy of simulated change (1996–2006) across study system. (A) Proportions of errors and correctly simulated change for entire landscape. (B) Distribution of errors and correctly simulated change along development density gradient (bin interval of 0.1). Overestimation indicates false alarms > misses; underestimation indicates false alarms < misses. Missing bars indicate no error in category.

FUTURES Performance

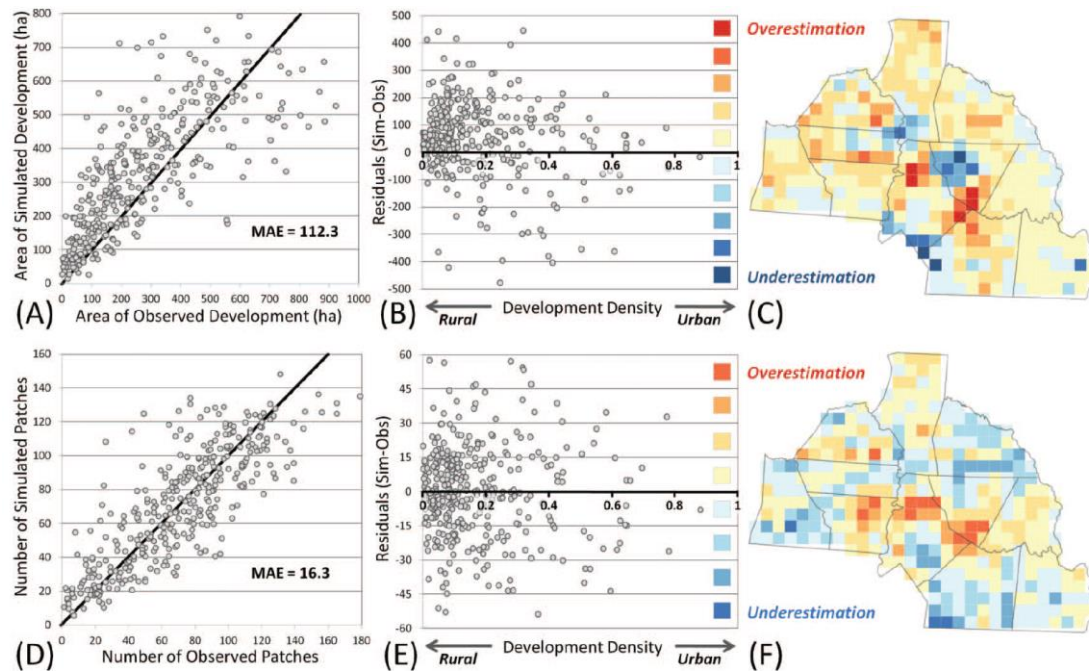


Figure 7. Patch-level model performance comparing 1996–2006 observed and simulated patch area and number of patches, summarized by blocks across study system. (A) Total patch area (ha) of observed and simulated development plotted along one-to-one line and with mean absolute error (MAE) reported. (B) Residuals of total area (ha) of development plotted along development density gradient and (C) spatial distribution of residuals indicate overestimates in North and East Charlotte and rural areas. (D) Number of observed and simulated patches of development plotted along one-to-one line and with MAE reported. (E) Residuals of number of patches of development plotted along development density gradient and (F) spatial distribution of residuals indicate over- and underestimation vary across region with overestimates in transitioning areas of North and East Charlotte. Blocks with > 50 percent of area beyond study system boundary were excluded. (Color figure available online.)