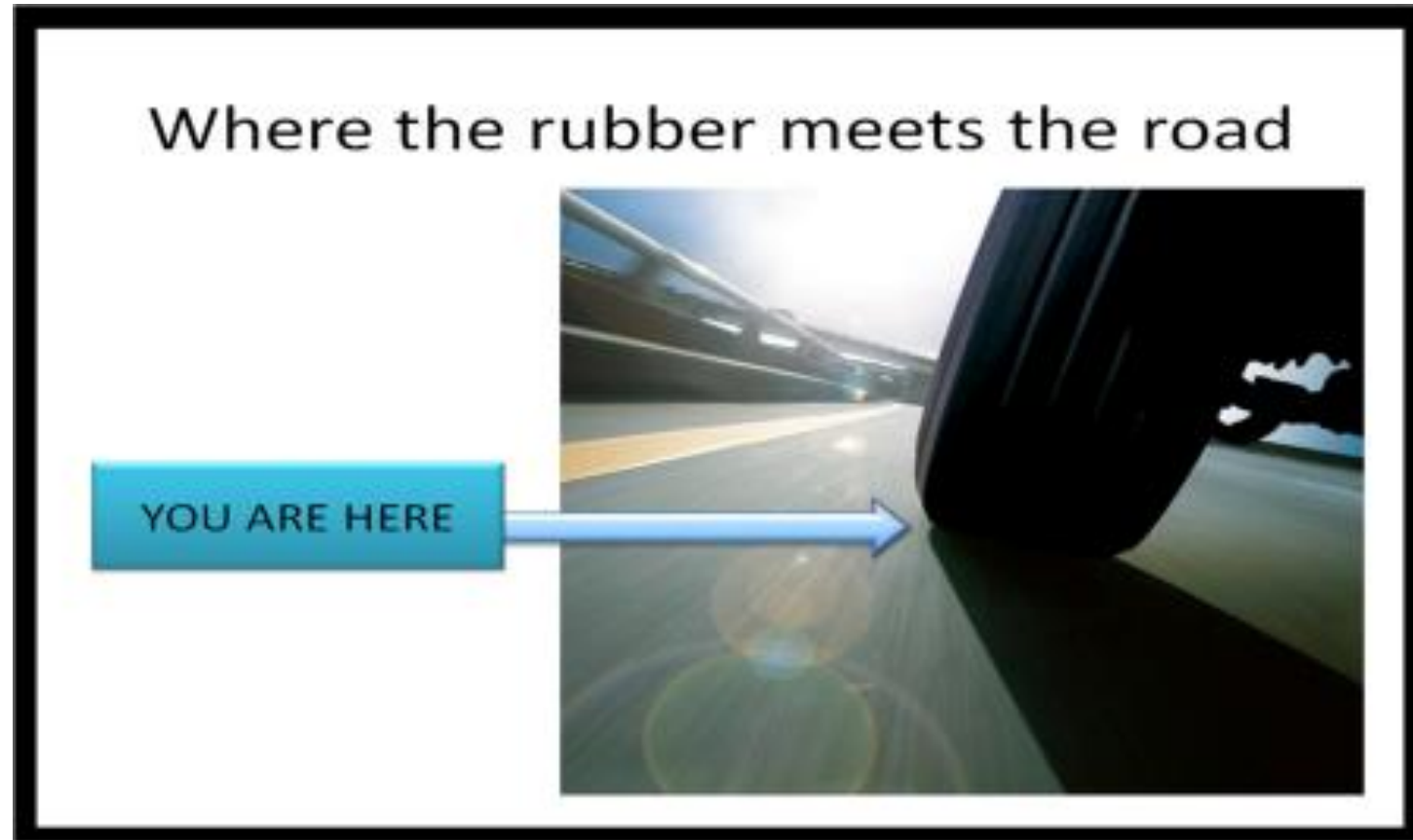


# Mapping Management Areas

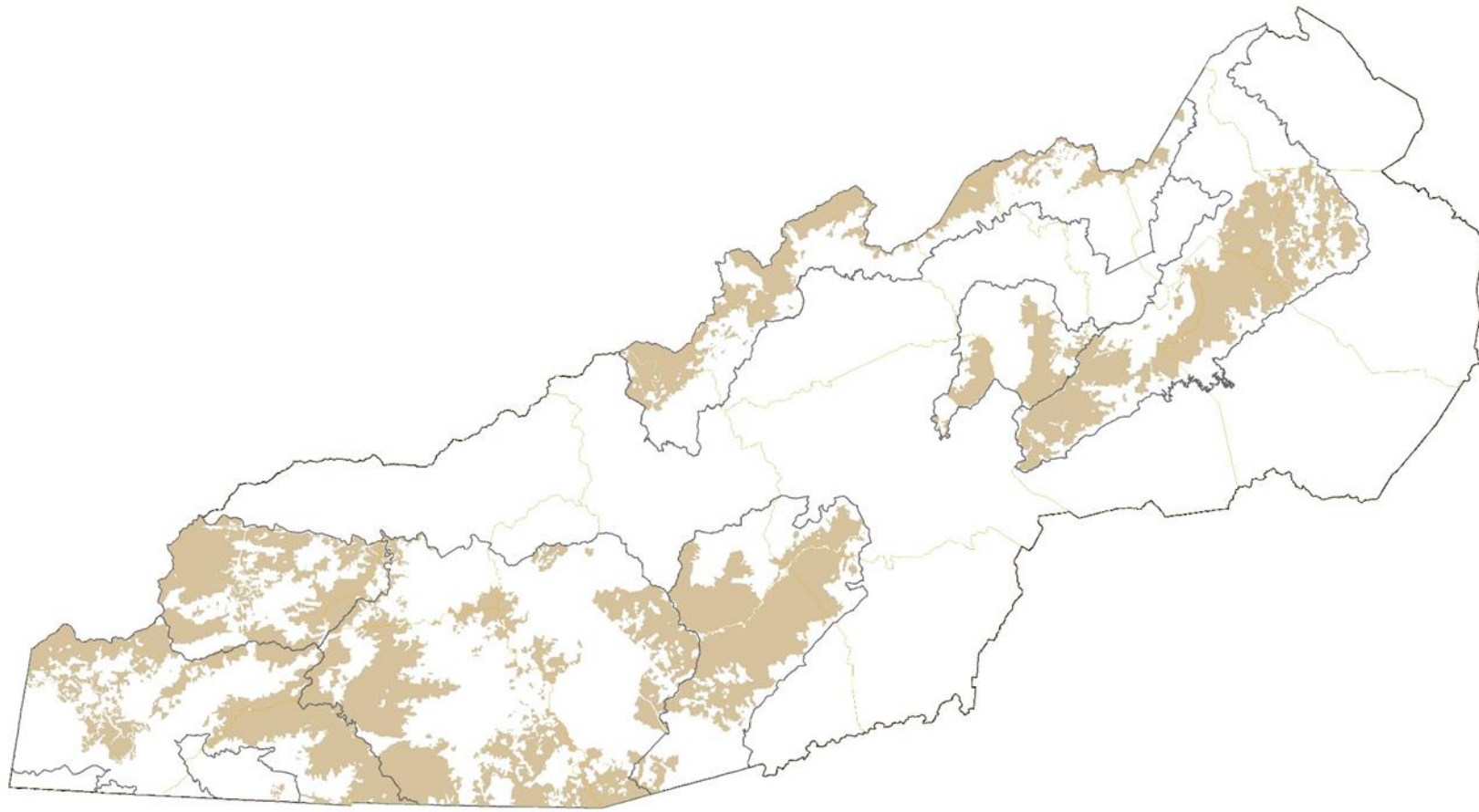


Map Group: Hugh Irwin, Ryan Jacobs, Josh Kelly, Gary Peters

## **Mapping Group Goals & Considerations:**

- Identification of MAs needs to be data-driven
- Needs to involve a clear decision framework
- First step is to look for areas of agreement, and then identifying areas that need more analysis

**Starting Place:** considering broad sets of data layers that identify priority areas for more active management, as well as for more conservation/natural area focus



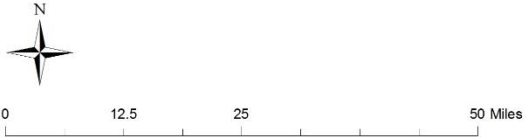
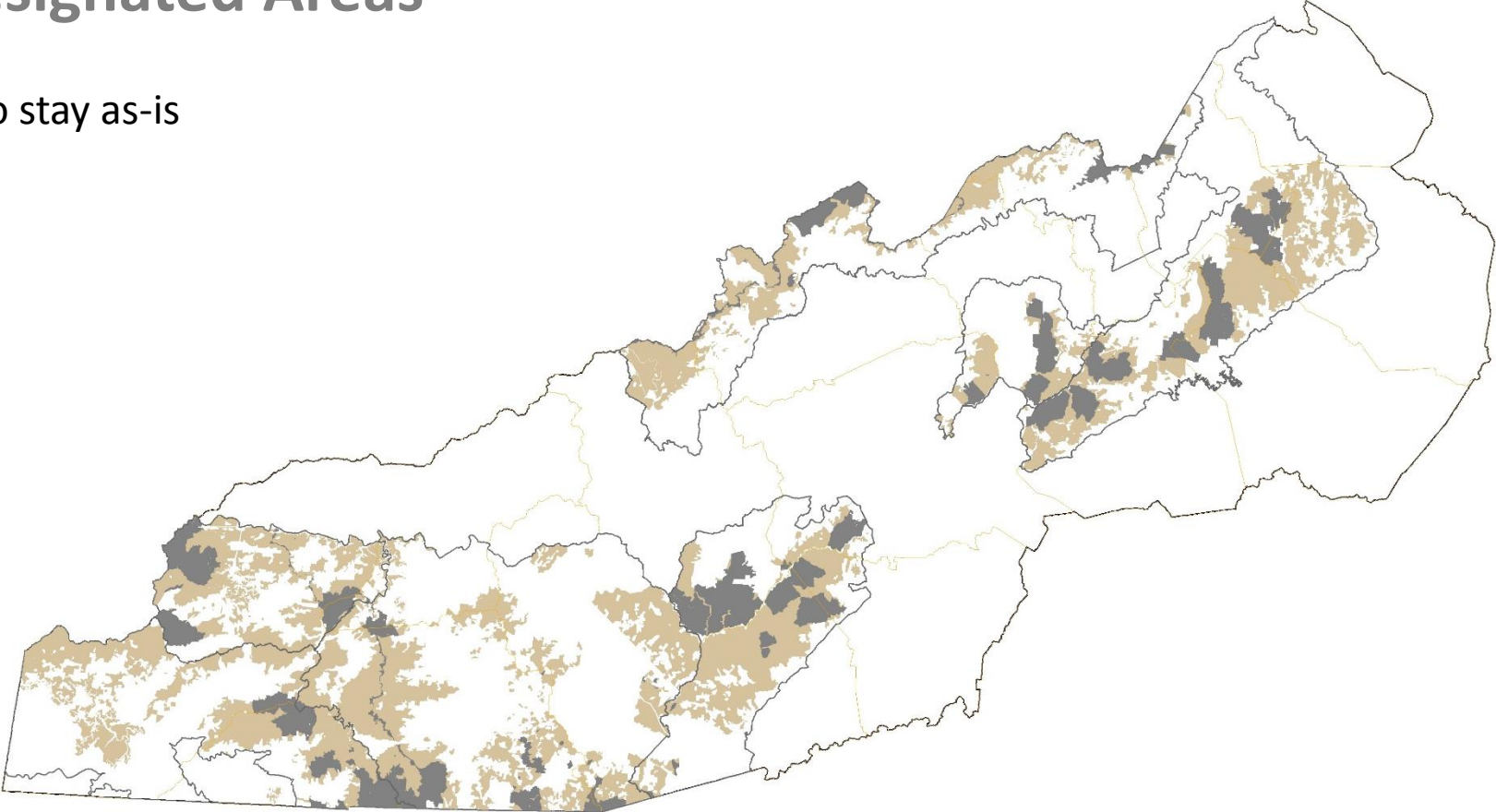
0 12.5 25 50 Miles

**Legend**

- Ranger District Boundaries
- Counties
- FS lands

# Currently Designated Areas

For now assumed to stay as-is



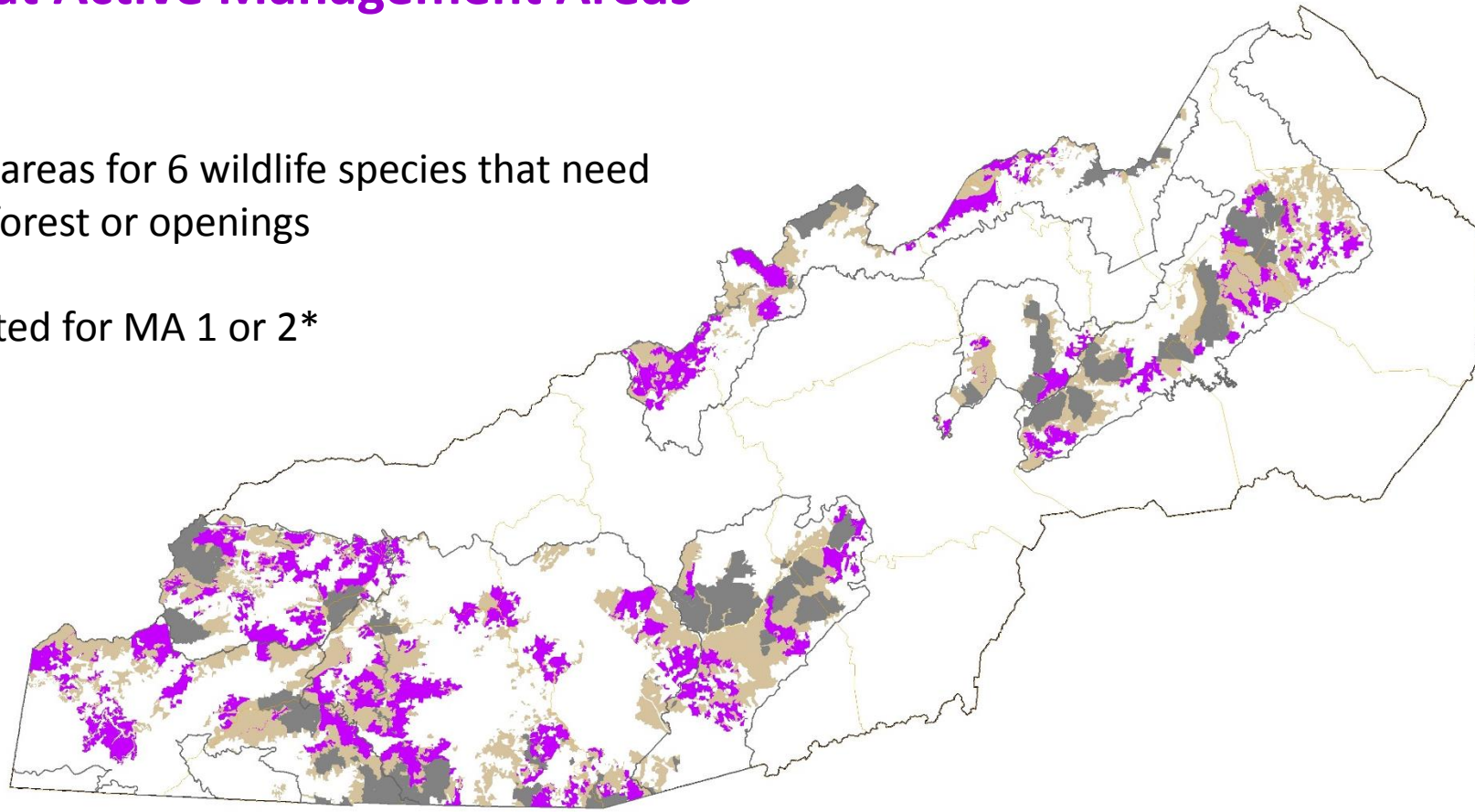
**Legend**

- Ranger District Boundaries
- Counties
- Currently Designated Areas= MA 4 or other
- FS lands

# Wildlife Habitat Active Management Areas (WHAMAs)






Composite priority areas for 6 wildlife species that need early successional forest or openings

Generally more suited for MA 1 or 2\*



0 12.5 25 50 Miles

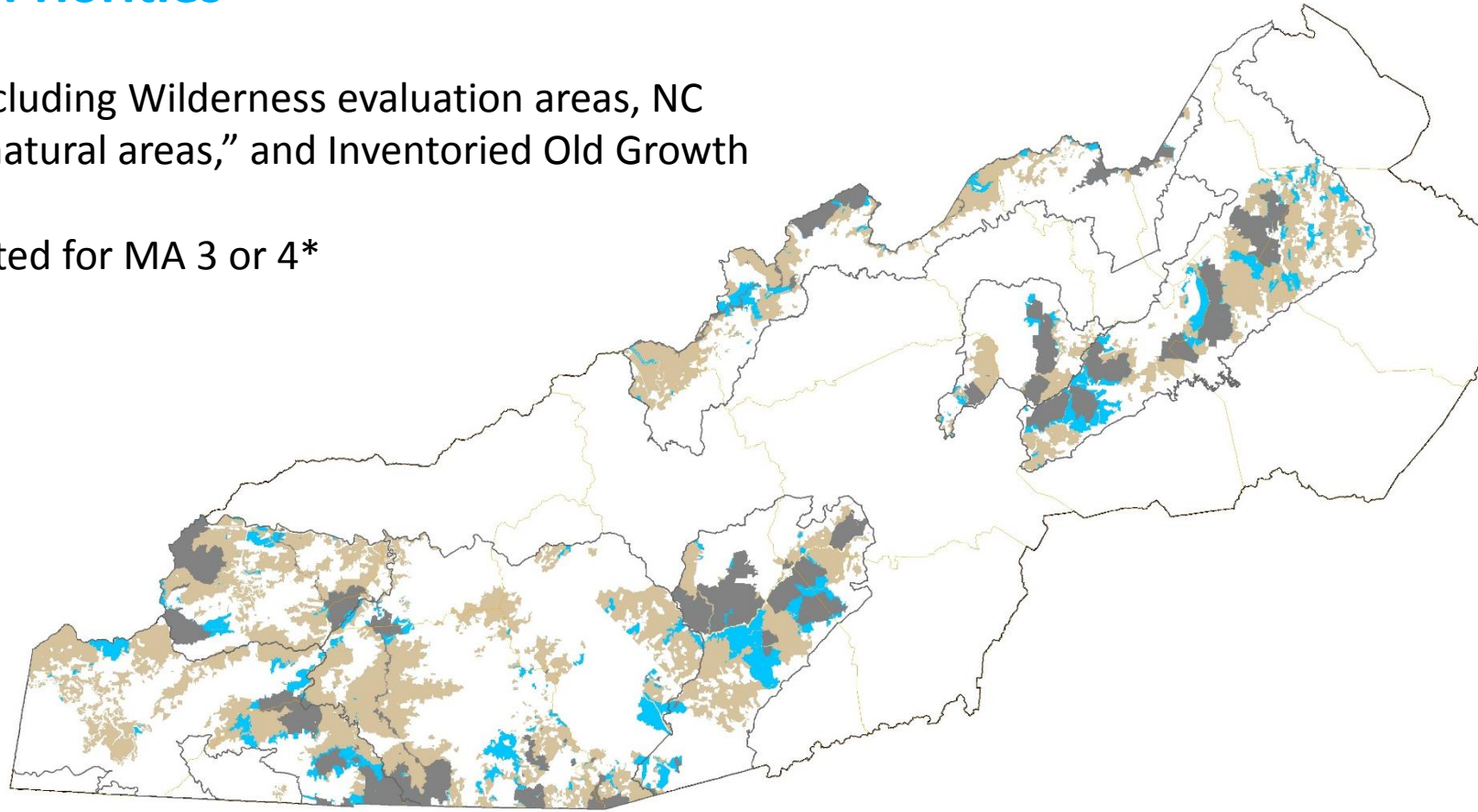
## Legend

-  Ranger District Boundaries
-  Counties
-  Wildlife Habitat Active Management (no overlap)= MA1-3, depending
-  Currently Designated Areas= MA 4 or other
-  FS lands

# Natural Areas Priorities

Composite layer including Wilderness evaluation areas, NC Natural Heritage “natural areas,” and Inventoried Old Growth

Generally more suited for MA 3 or 4\*



0 12.5 25 50 Miles



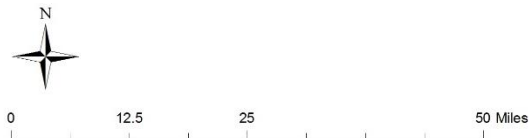
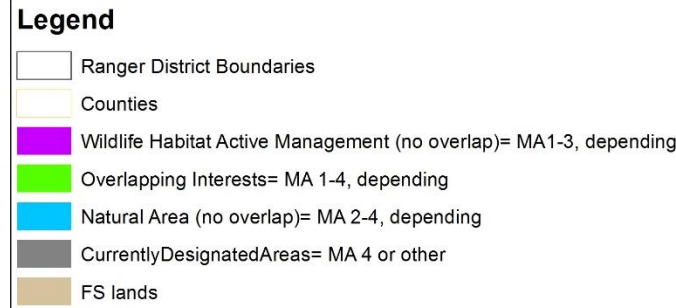
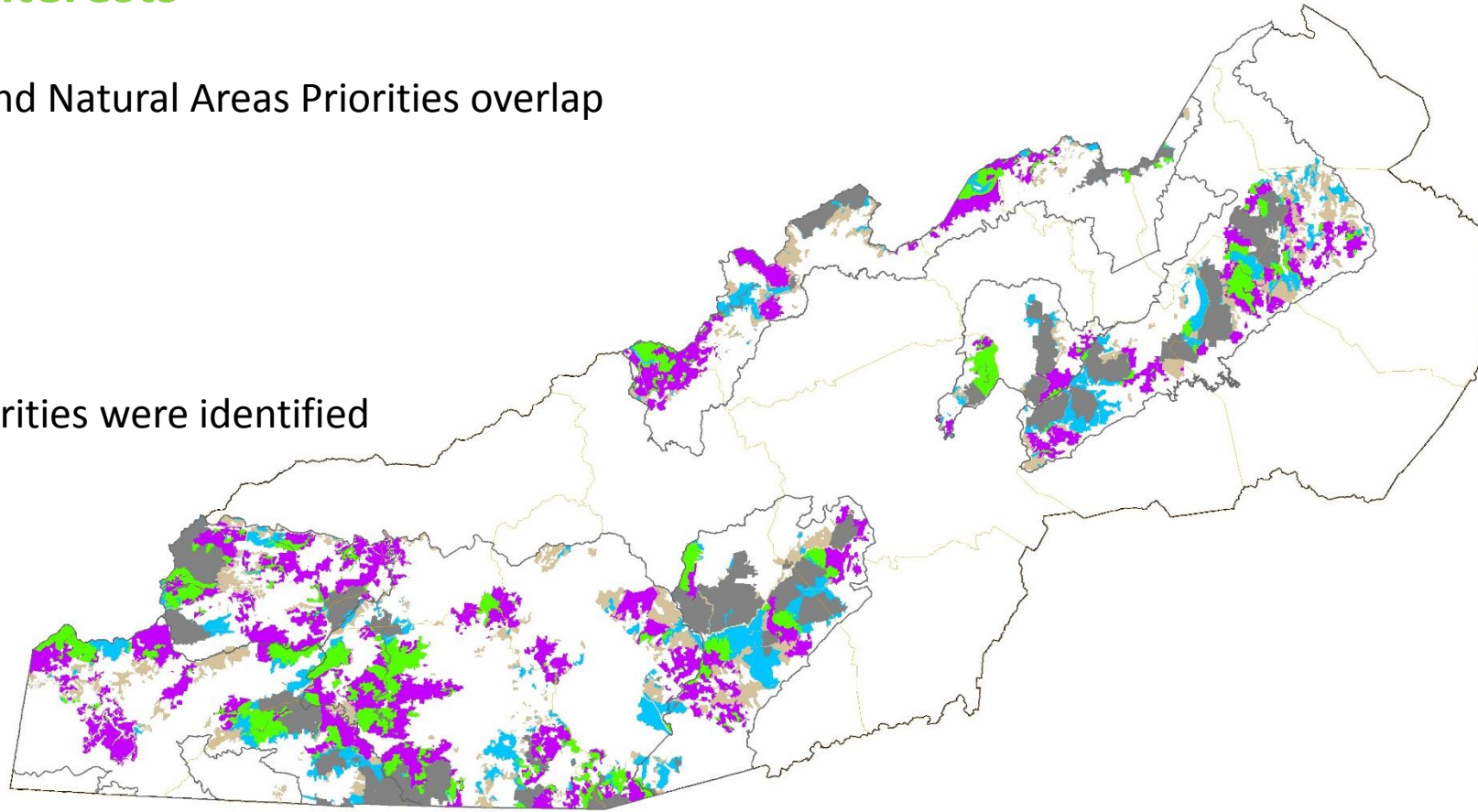


# Overlapping Interests

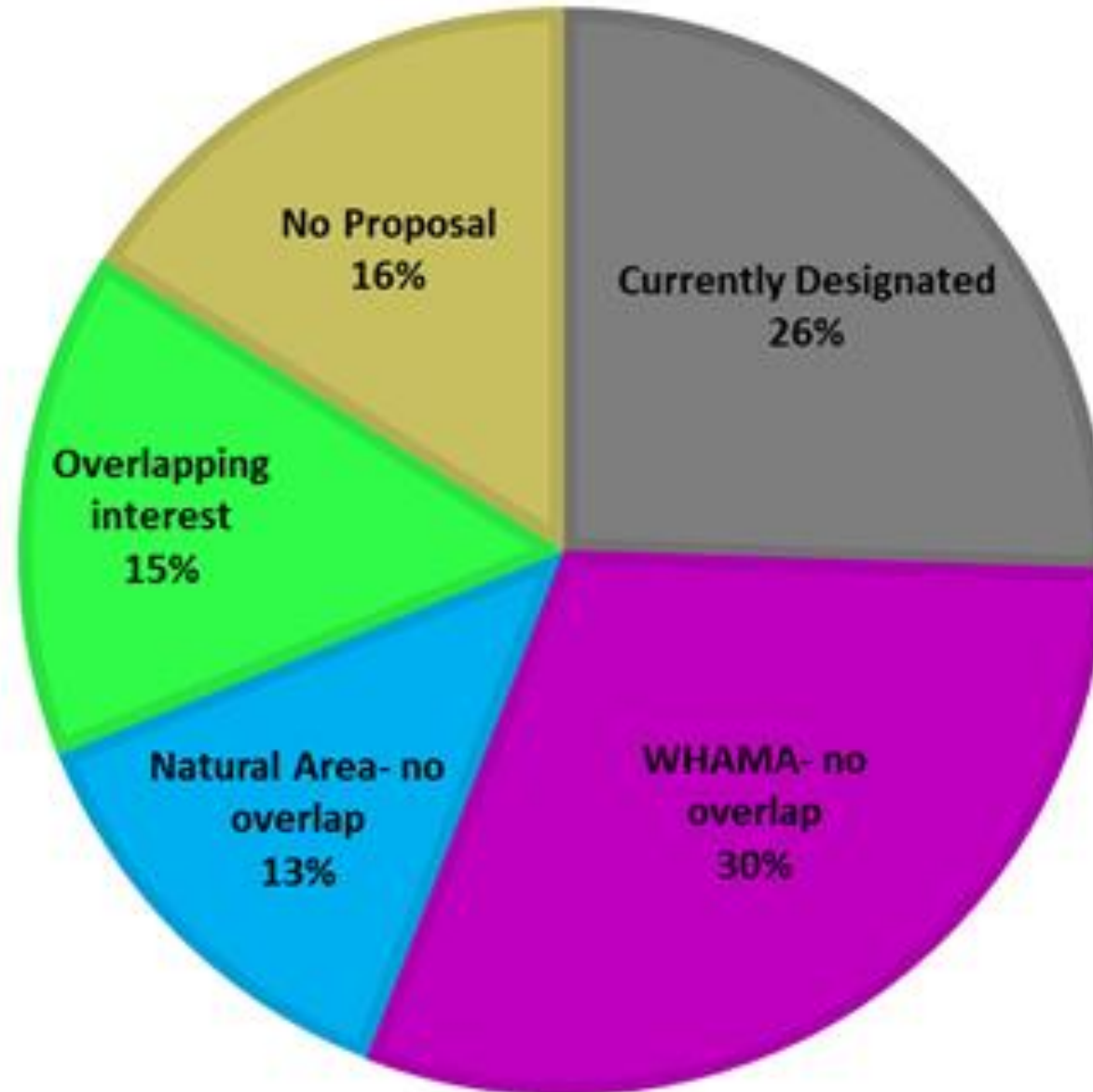
Where WHAMAs and Natural Areas Priorities overlap

## No Proposal

Where neither priorities were identified



## Composition of the N-P Forests within each category





# Drafting a Decision Framework for Determining Management Area

Example:

1. Is the area designated by Federal Regulations (Wilderness, WSA, IRA, etc.)  
Yes.....Managed in Compatible Management Areas  
No.....Go to #2
2. Is the area a priority for active wildlife management or natural areas?  
Yes.....Go to #3  
No.....Go to **No Proposal**
3. Is there an overlap between the two sets of priorities?  
Yes.....Go to **Overlapping Proposals**  
No.....Go to #4
4. Is this a Wildlife Habitat Active Management Area with no overlap with natural area priorities?  
Yes.....Go to **Wildlife Habitat Active Management Area – no overlap**  
No.....Go to **Natural Area Priorities – no overlap**

## **Additional Information to Refine MAs:**

- Roads and Access considerations
- Current forest restoration needs (e.g. oak regen, chestnut restoration, SLID stands, etc.)
- Maintained wildlife openings
- Old growth
- Recent timber harvest areas (e.g. 0-20, 20-40 years)
- Site-specific information

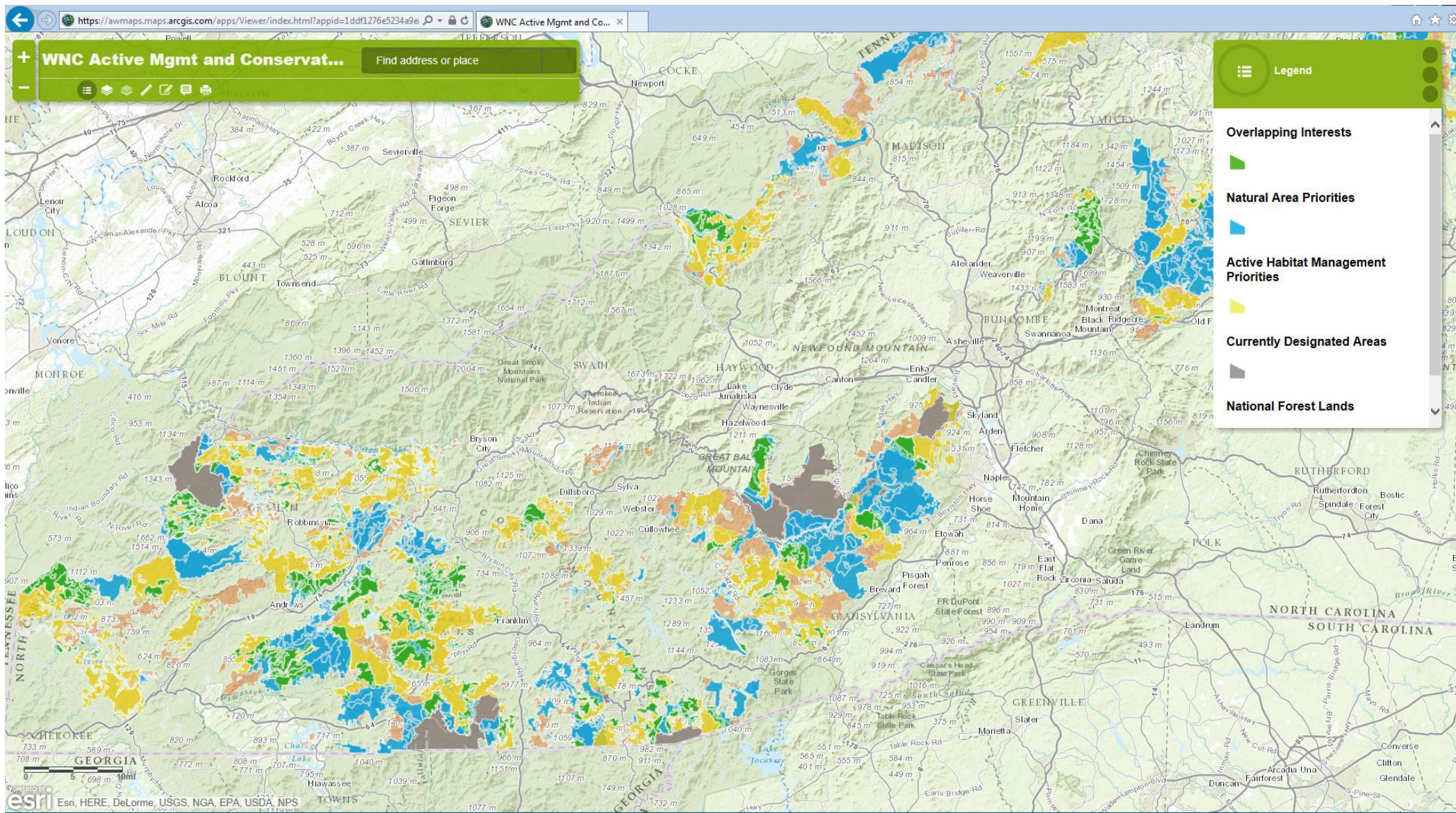
## **Next Steps:**

- Refine decision framework, incorporating additional information
- Fine-scale look at particular areas of overlapping priorities
- Look at specific Natural Areas to determine how they could better inform MA direction, and whether some can be imbedded in MAs 1-4, or if they need special designation



Data layers are available for everyone to explore online, no special software needed

<http://arcg.is/1QVrwbV>



Thanks to Kevin Colburn for making this available



# Questions/Comments/Discussion

**Webmap Link:**

<http://arcg.is/1QVrwbV>