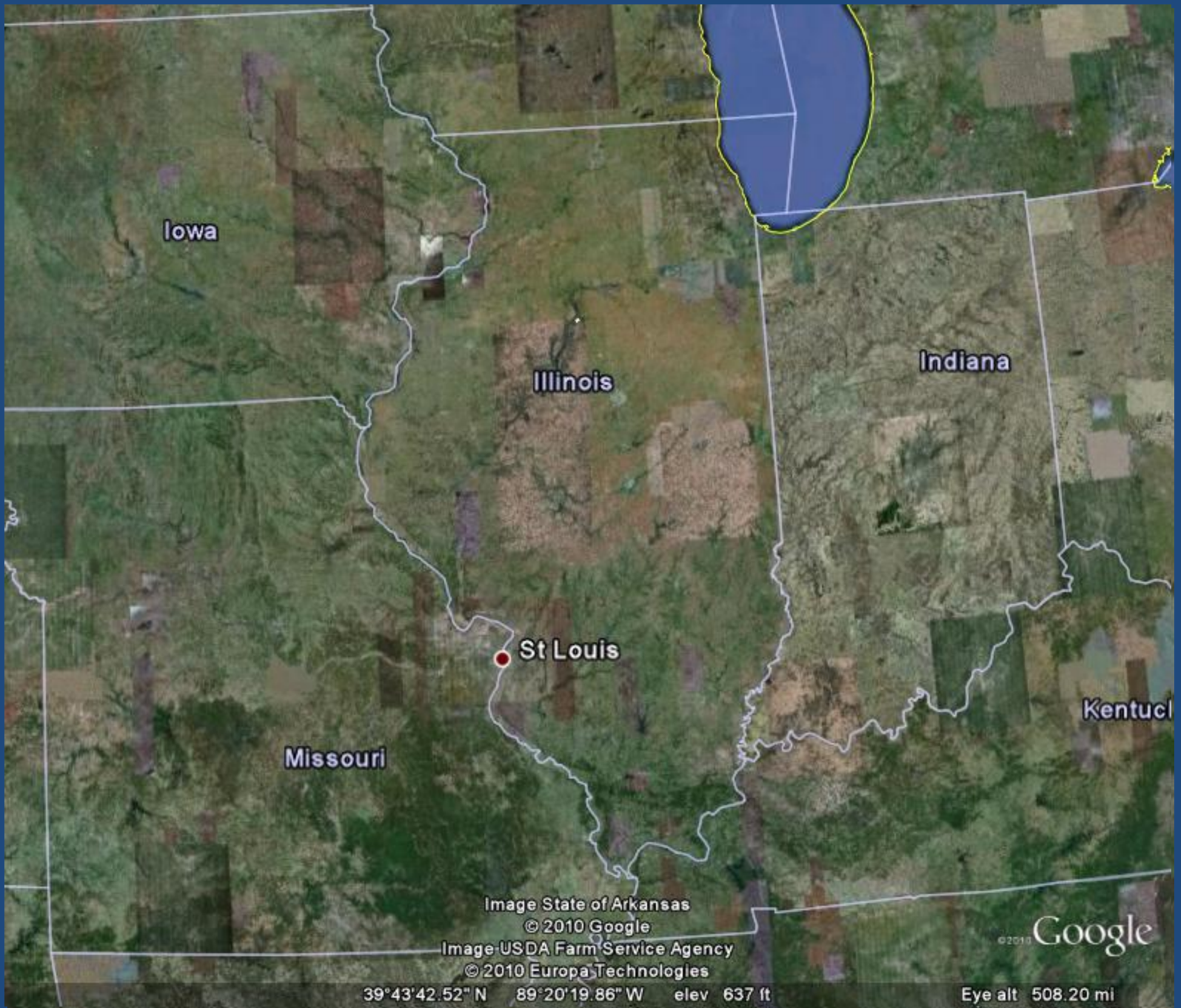


Letting It All Soak In: The Role of Nature in Protecting Water Resources

Jeff Walk, Director of Science
The Nature Conservancy in Illinois







Iowa

Illinois

Indiana

St Louis

Missouri

Kentucky

Image State of Arkansas

© 2010 Google

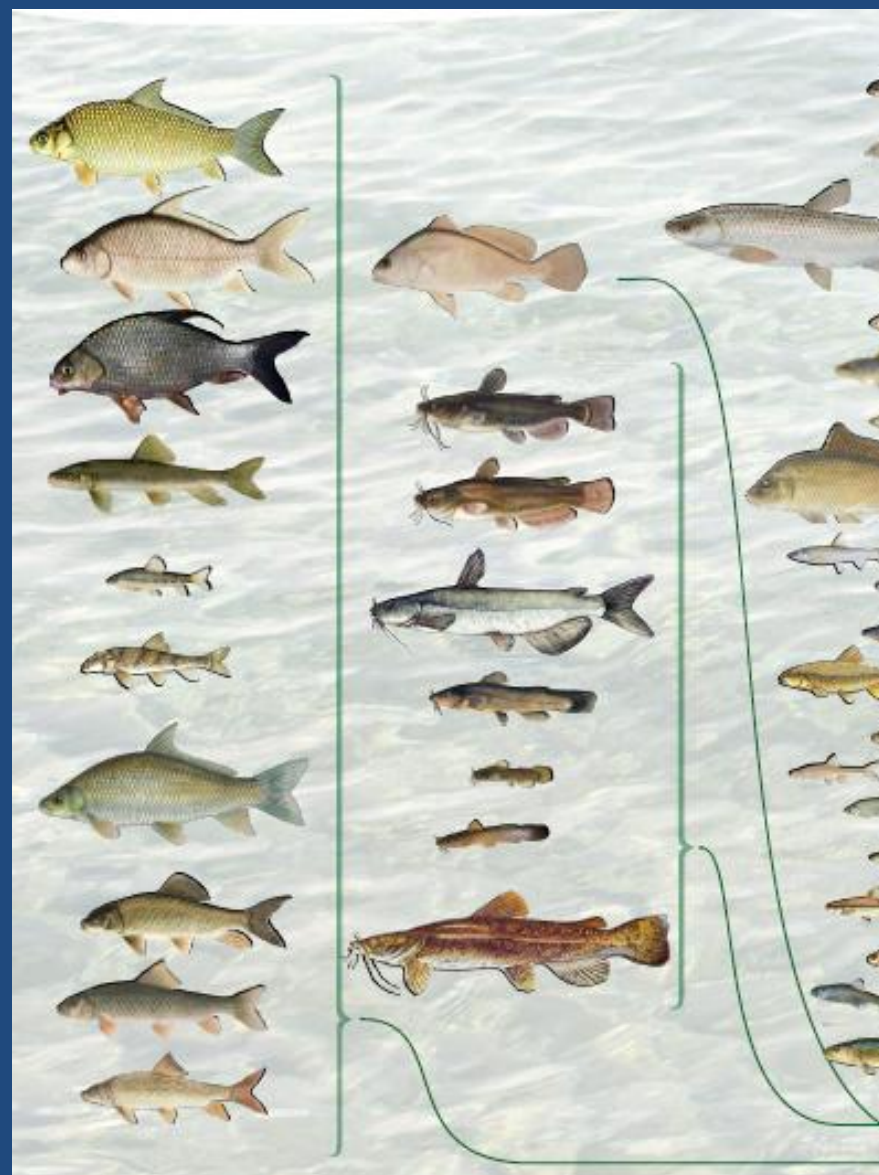
Image USDA Farm Service Agency

© 2010 Europa Technologies

39°43'42.52" N 89°20'19.86" W elev 637 ft

©2010 Google

Eye alt 508.20 mi

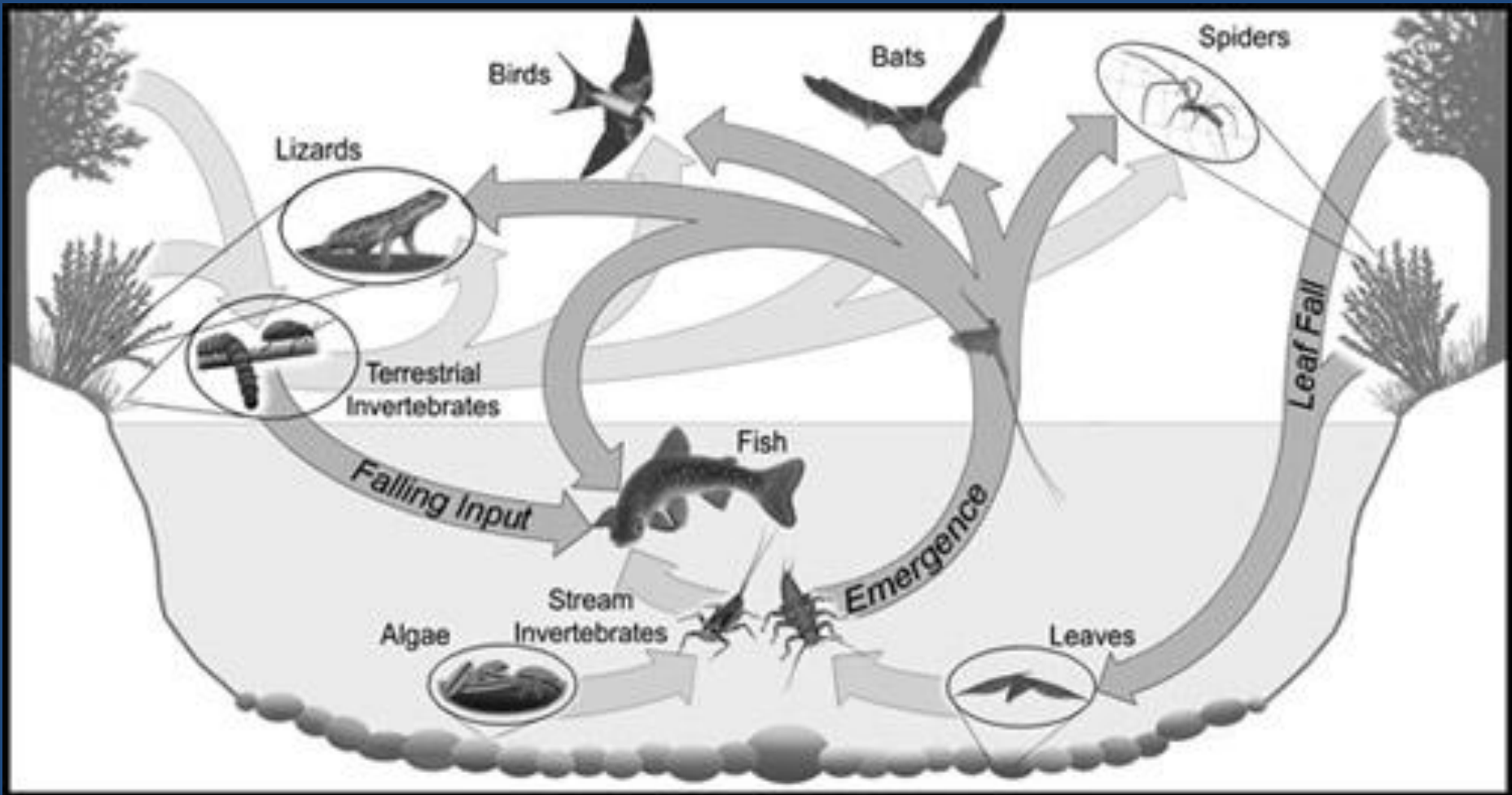


Friends of Kickapoo Creek



Tim Lindenbaum, TNC

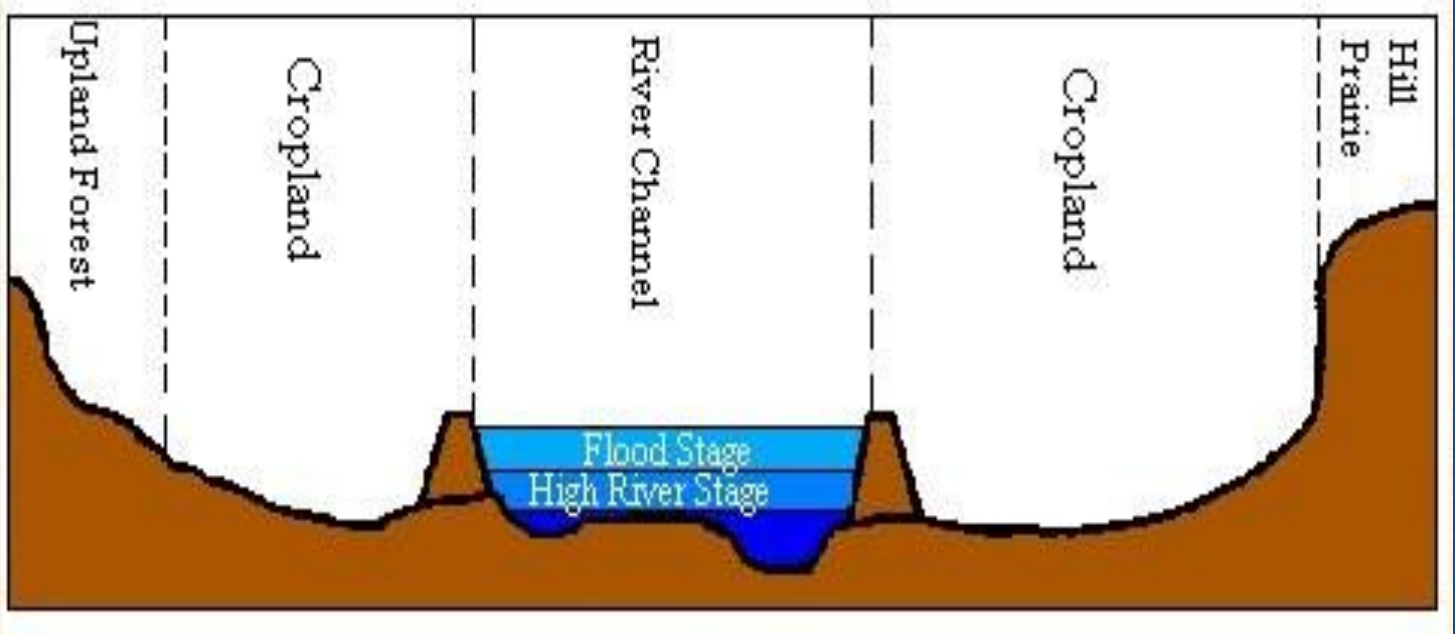
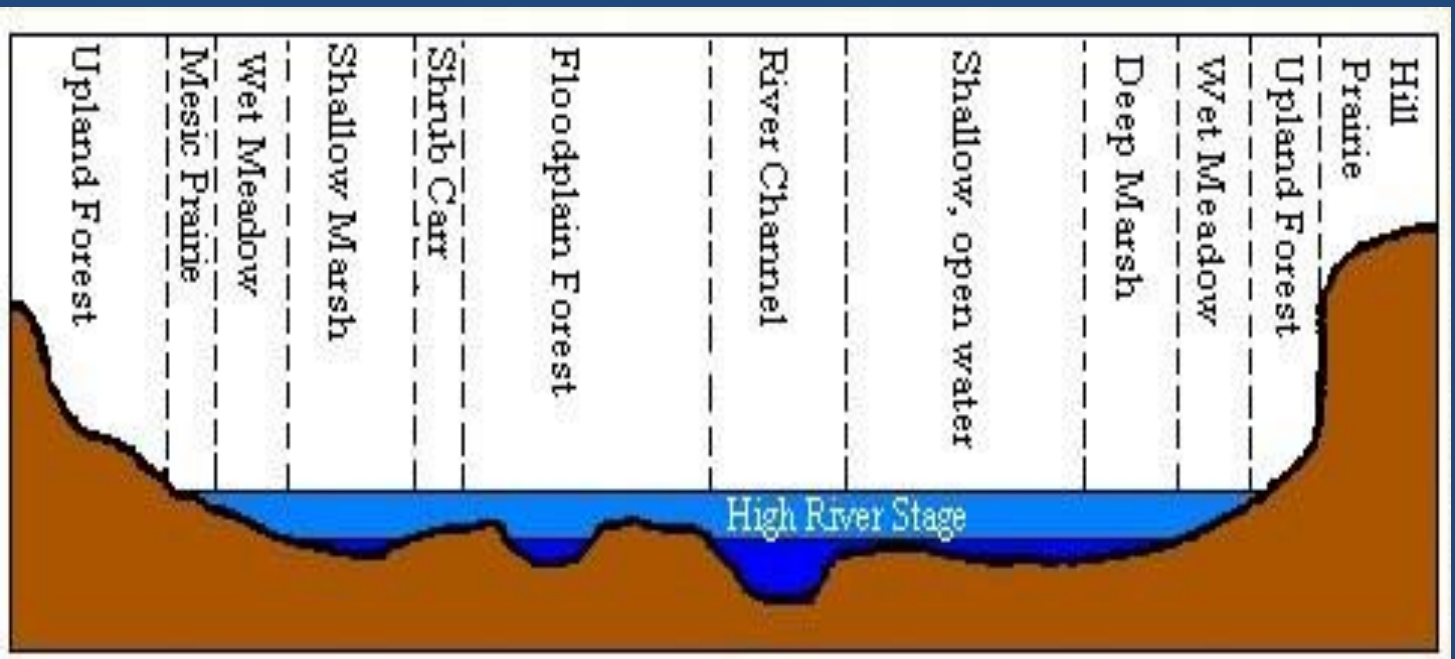




Rain Infiltration



Impervious Surfaces

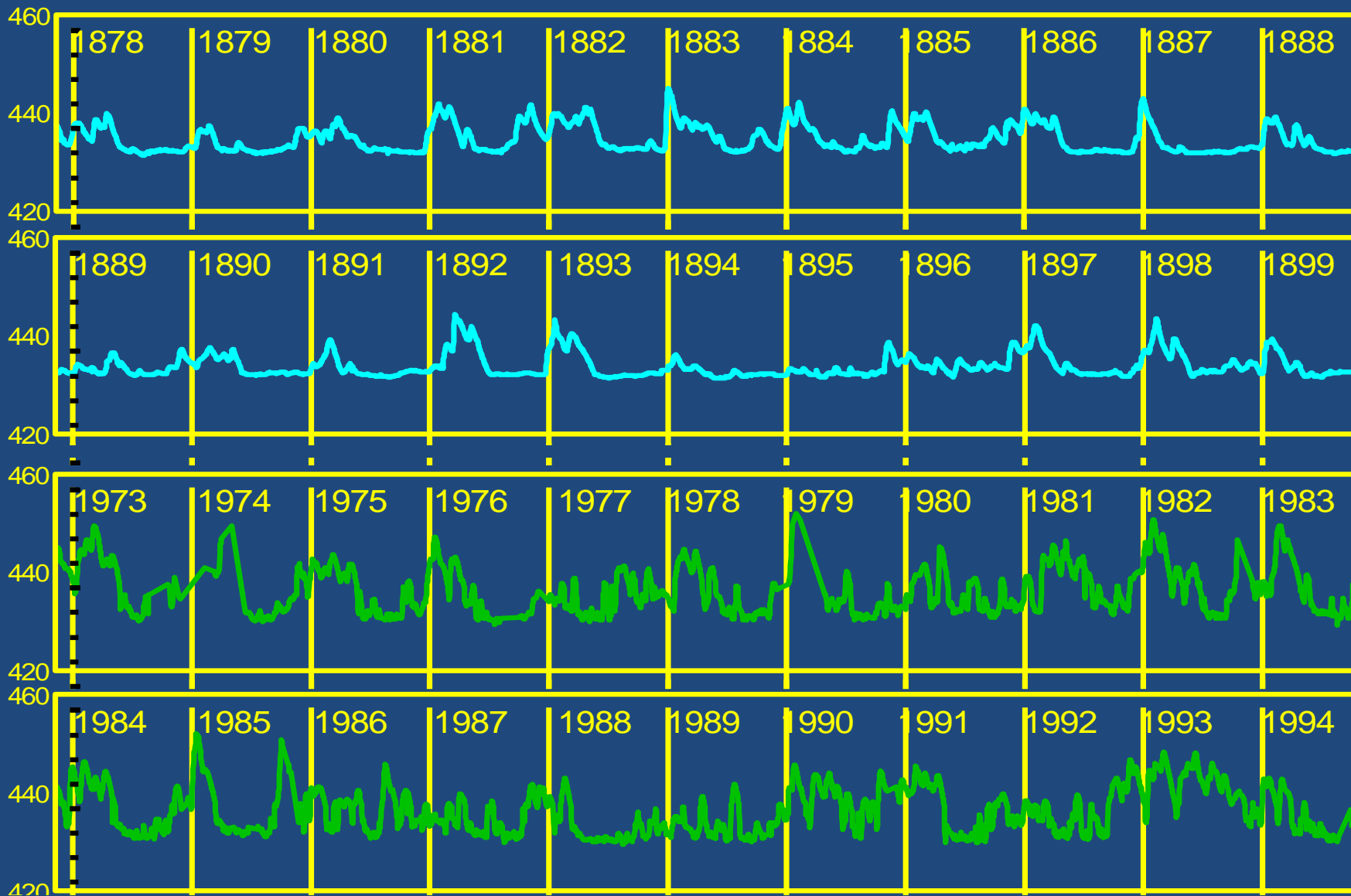


Natural

Engineered



McLean County - Krista Kirkham, TNC



gauge data from Copperas Creek



Gensberg Markham Prairie - Ron Panzer



Ohio State University's Olentangy River Wetland Research Park

**Water
Quality**

**Flood
Storage**

**Groundwater
Recharge**

**Carbon
Storage**

Biodiversity



Emiquon Preserve - Michael Jeffords

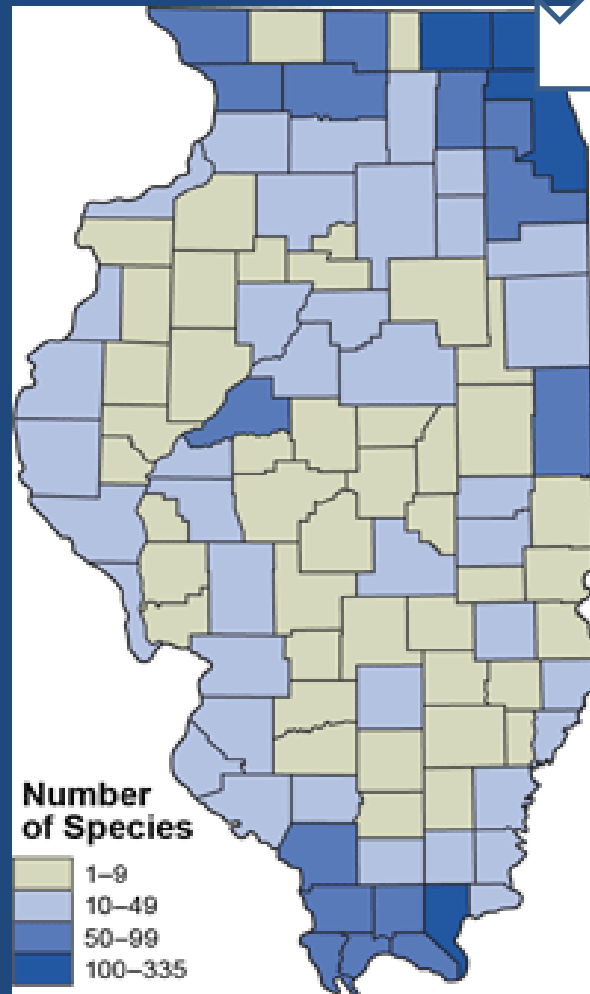
Wetlands Host 40% of Endangered Species...



Cook County, IL; photo by [Mike Redmer](#)



www.habitatproject.org



IDNR 1993

...Most of Which Occur in the Chicago Region

More than 50% of wetlands in lower 48 states drained or filled

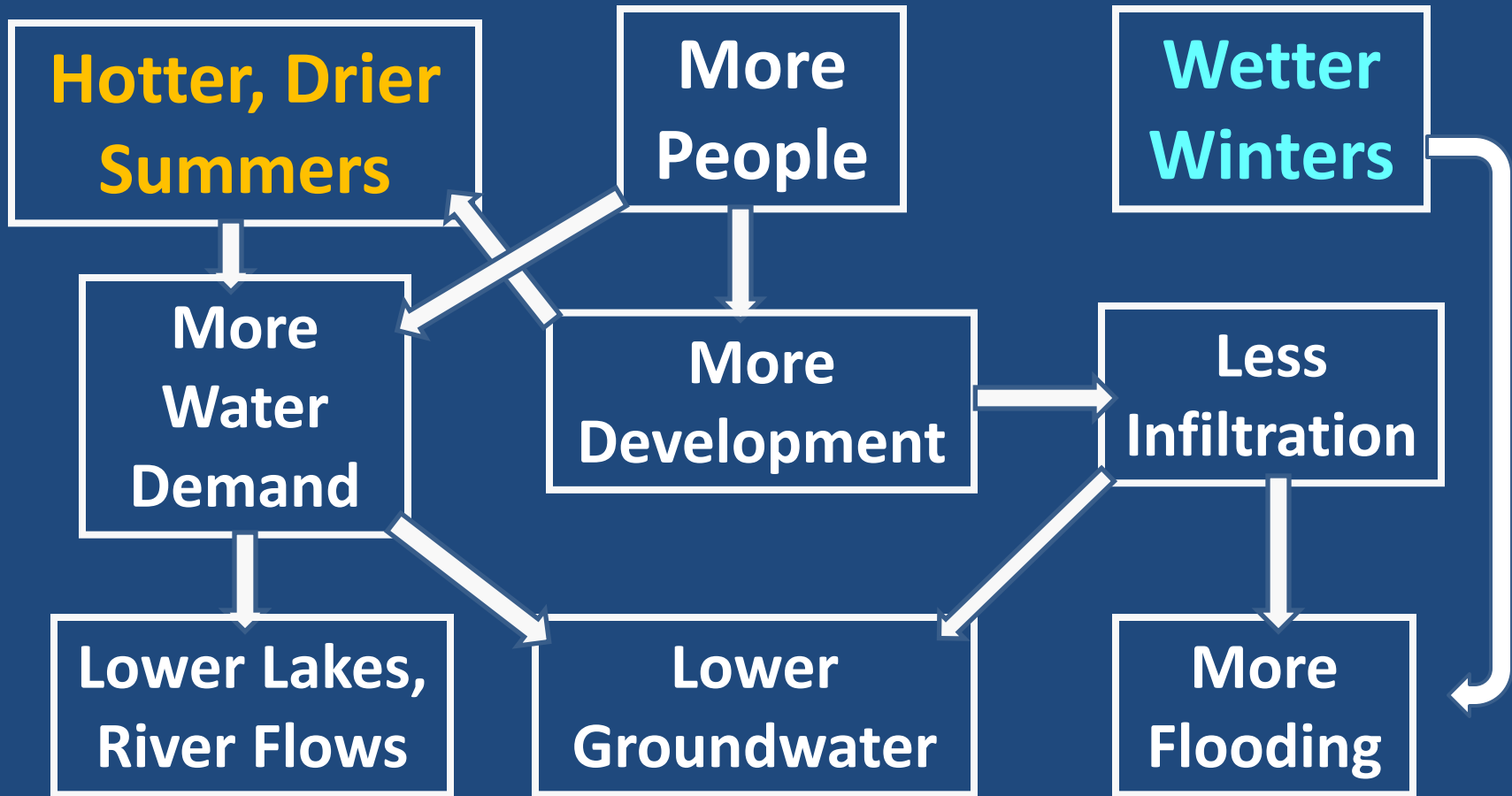


Figure 2. States with notable wetland loss, 1780's to mid-1980's. (Source. Modified from Dahl, 1990.)

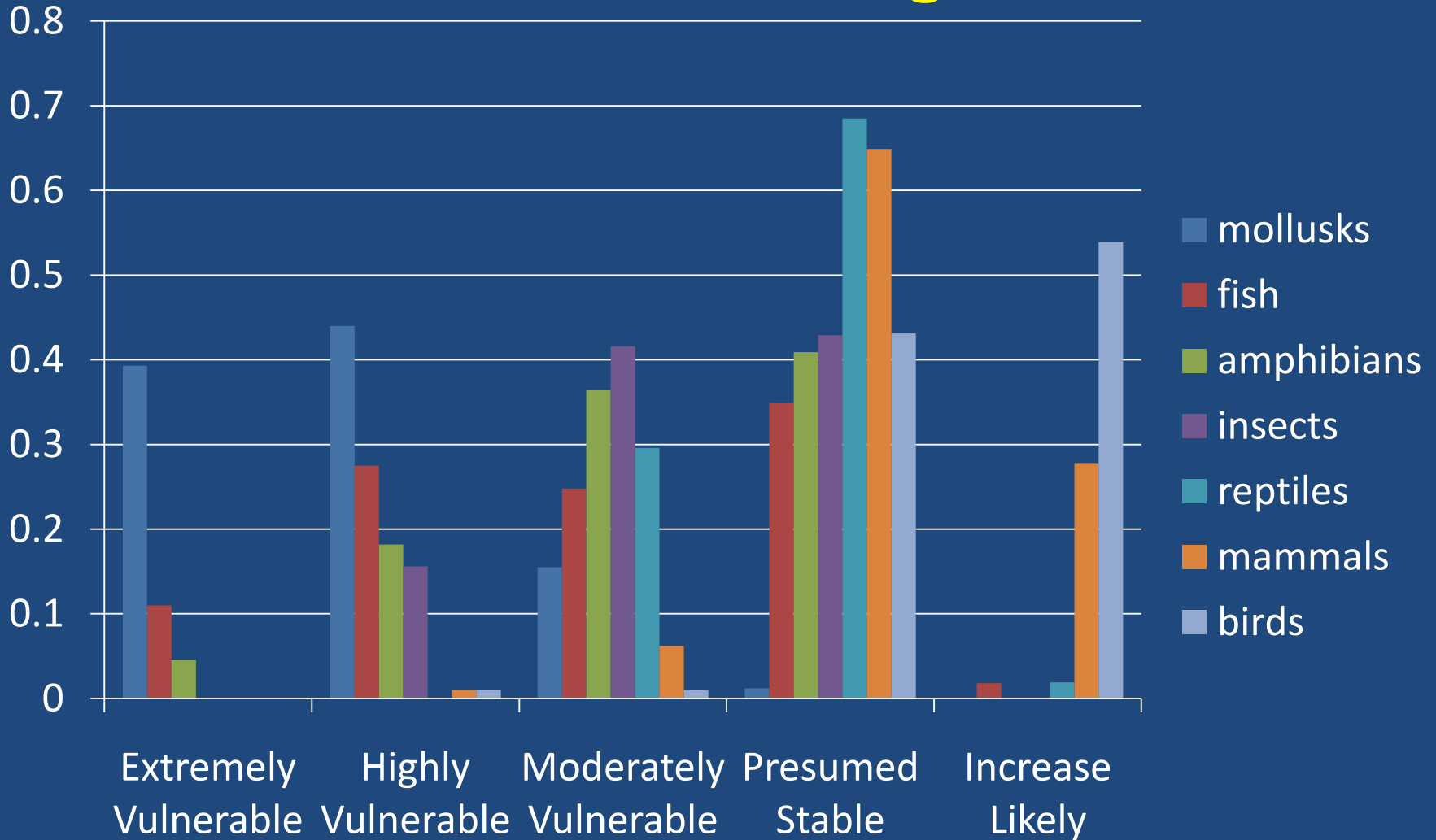


Franklin Farm – Tim Lindenbaum, TNC

Climate Change & Growth Magnify Our Water Issues



Aquatic Wildlife Are More Vulnerable to Climate Change





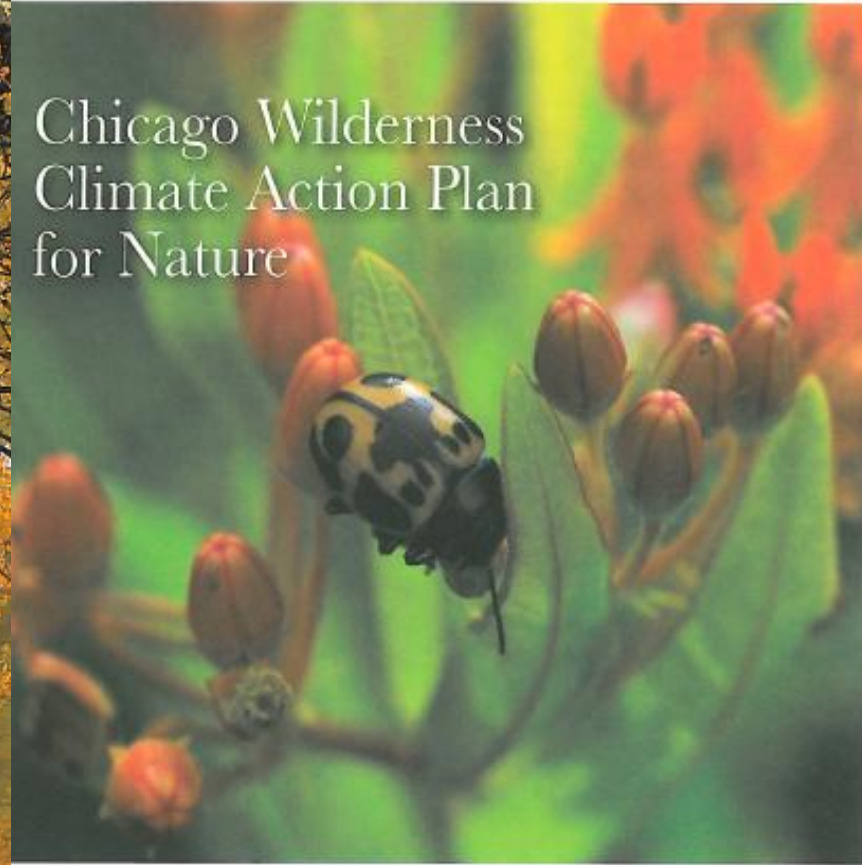
THE ILLINOIS WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN



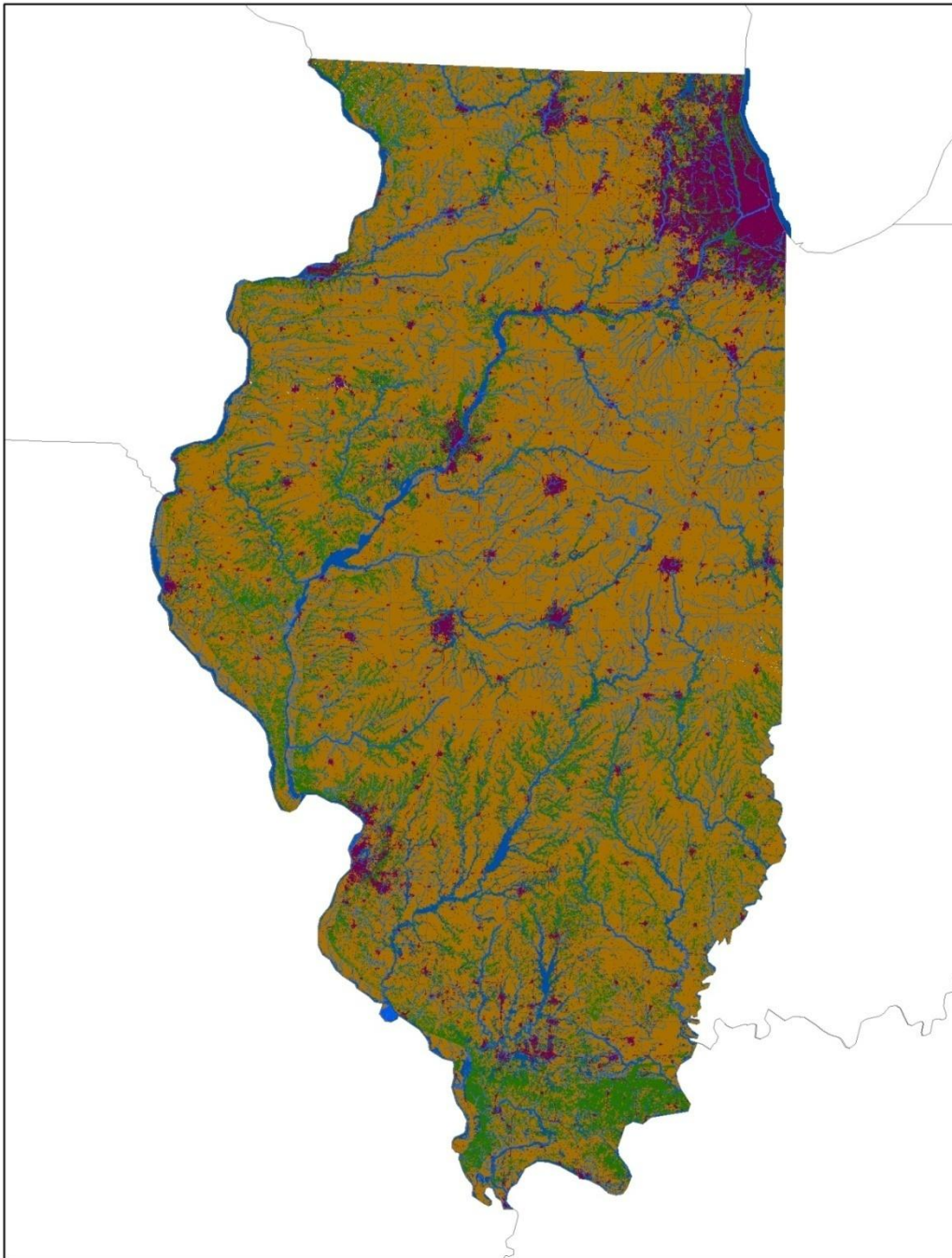
DEFINING A
VISION FOR
CONSERVATION
SUCCESS

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Chicago Wilderness
Climate Action Plan
for Nature



Chicago
Wilderness



Habitat-Based

Streams

Wetlands

Forests

Farmland & Prairie

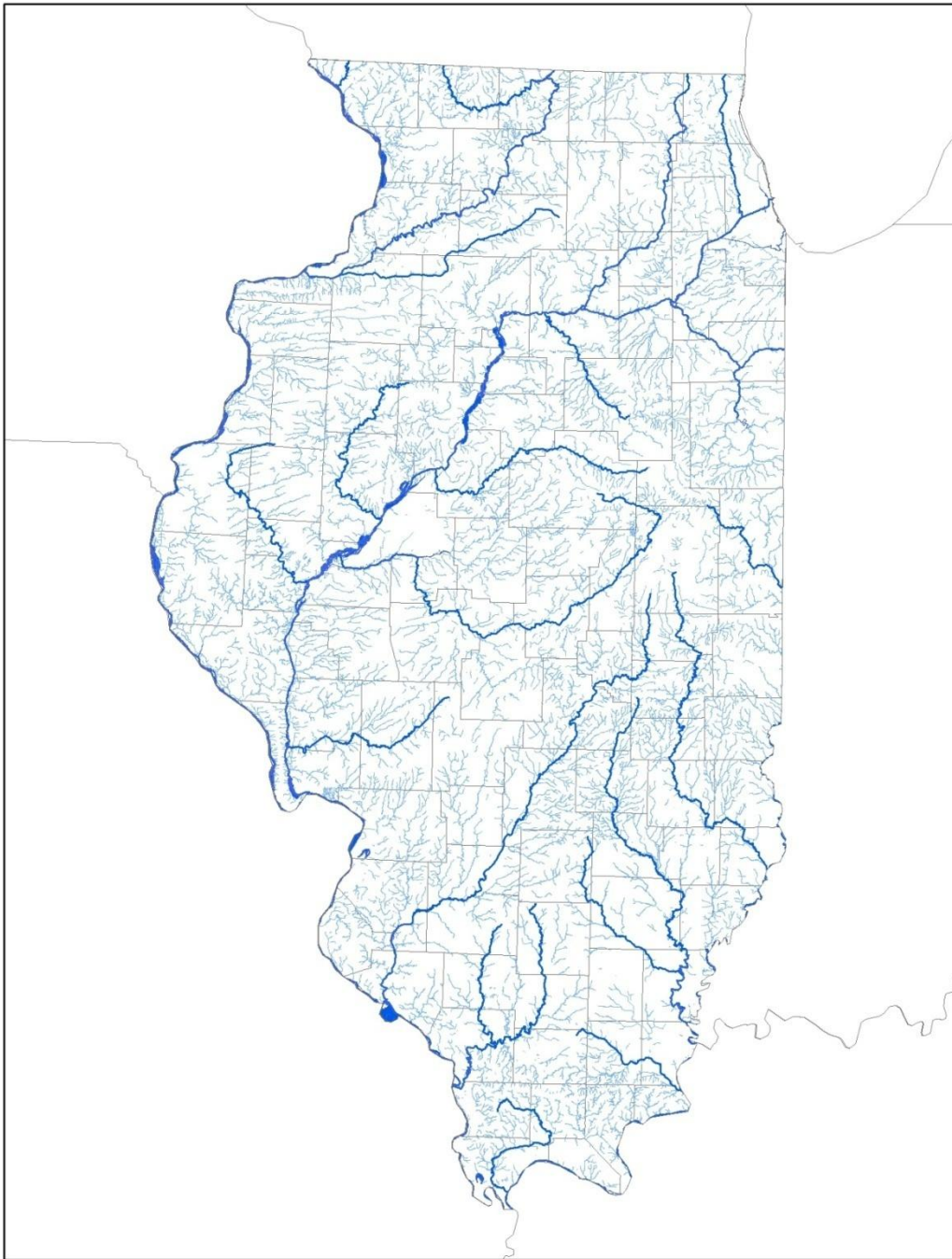
Green Cities

Cross-Cutting

Invasive Species

Land & Water

Stewardship



Habitat-Based Streams

Wetlands

Forests

Farmland & Prairie

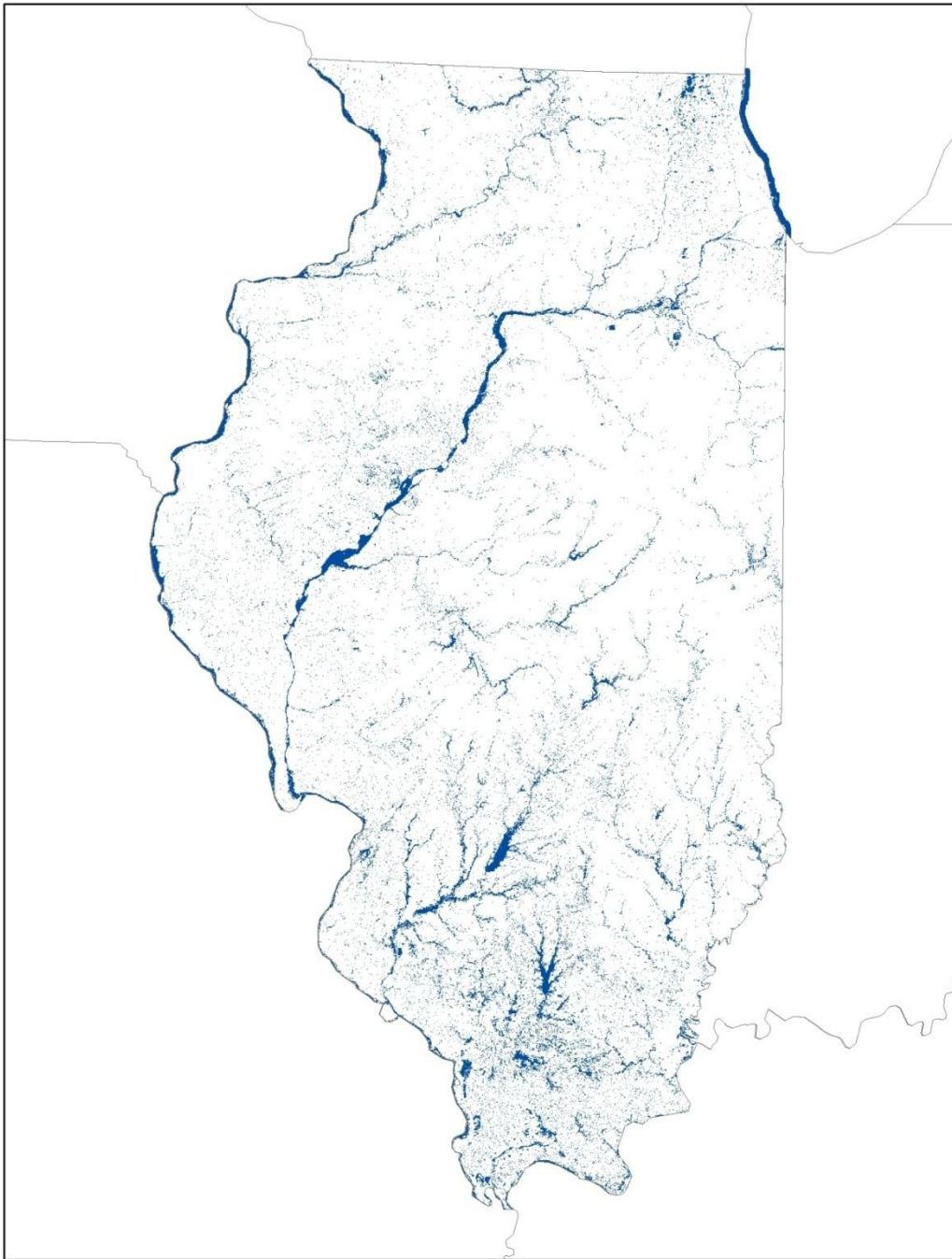
Green Cities

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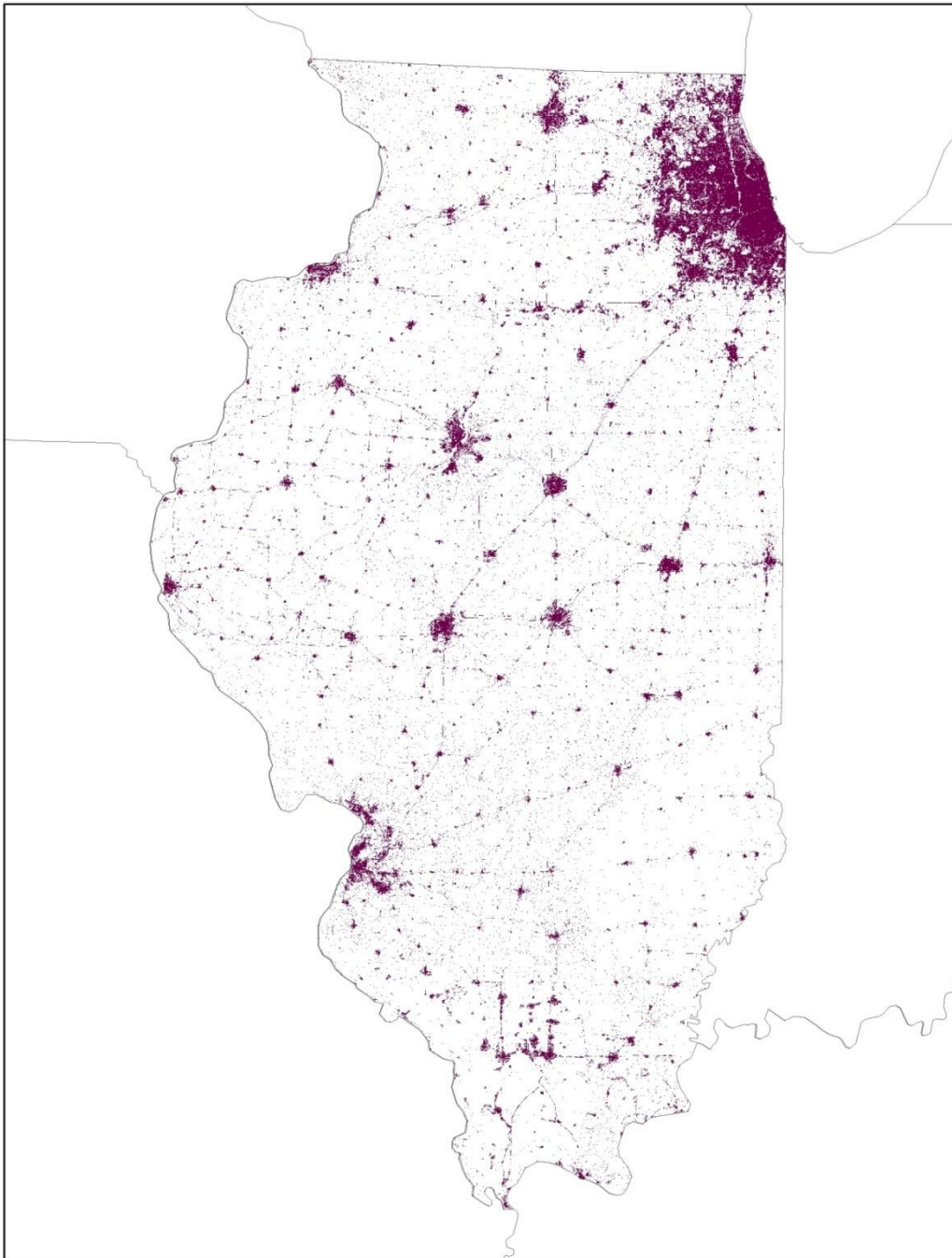
Green Cities

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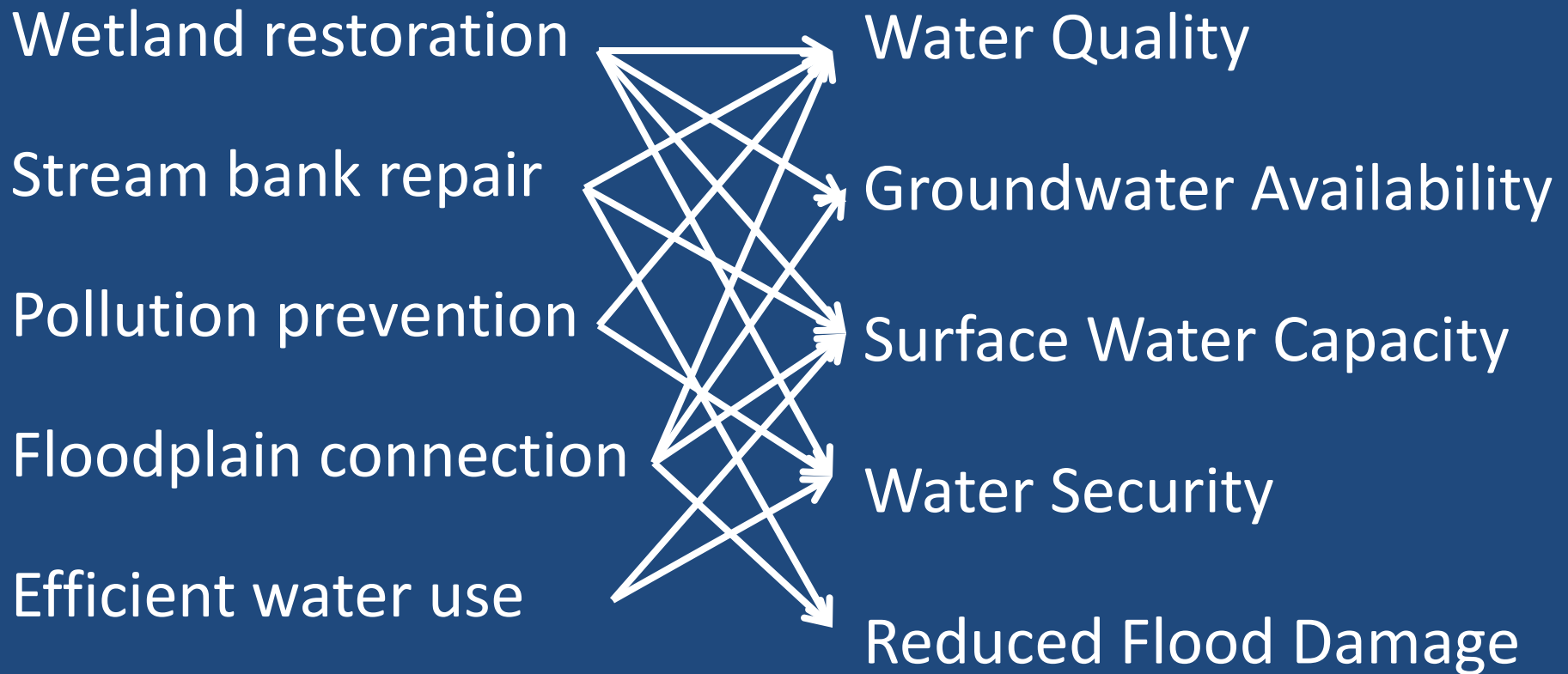
Cross-Cutting

Invasive Species

Land & Water

Stewardship

Nature-Based Strategies Benefit Biodiversity and Our Water Supplies





Mackinaw River - Tim Lindenbaum, TNC