

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

# WV R-EMAP Study: Multiple Objective Sampling Design Framework

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# WV R-EMAP PROJECT

## COLLABORATORS

- WV DNR WRS
- US EPA-NERL (Cincinnati) and TetraTech
- US EPA-NHEERL (Duluth)
- US EPA-NHEERL (Corvallis) and WV DEP
- US EPA Reg III (Wheeling)
- Canaan Valley Institute
- God (Tom DeMoss alternate)

## ROLES

- Field collections & IBI development
- Water quality data and IBI development
- Watershed characterization and classification
- WV “State-of-the-Streams” Report (305b data)
- Advisement
- Tech transfer/watershed studies
- Sanity and safety advisement

# BACKGROUND

## Year and/or Event

- 1972-FWPCA
- 1977-CWA
- 1981-Karr's IBI
- 1989-Plafkin *et al.* 1989
- 1992-Law Suits
- 1993-98 EMAP
- 2001-2003

## Action

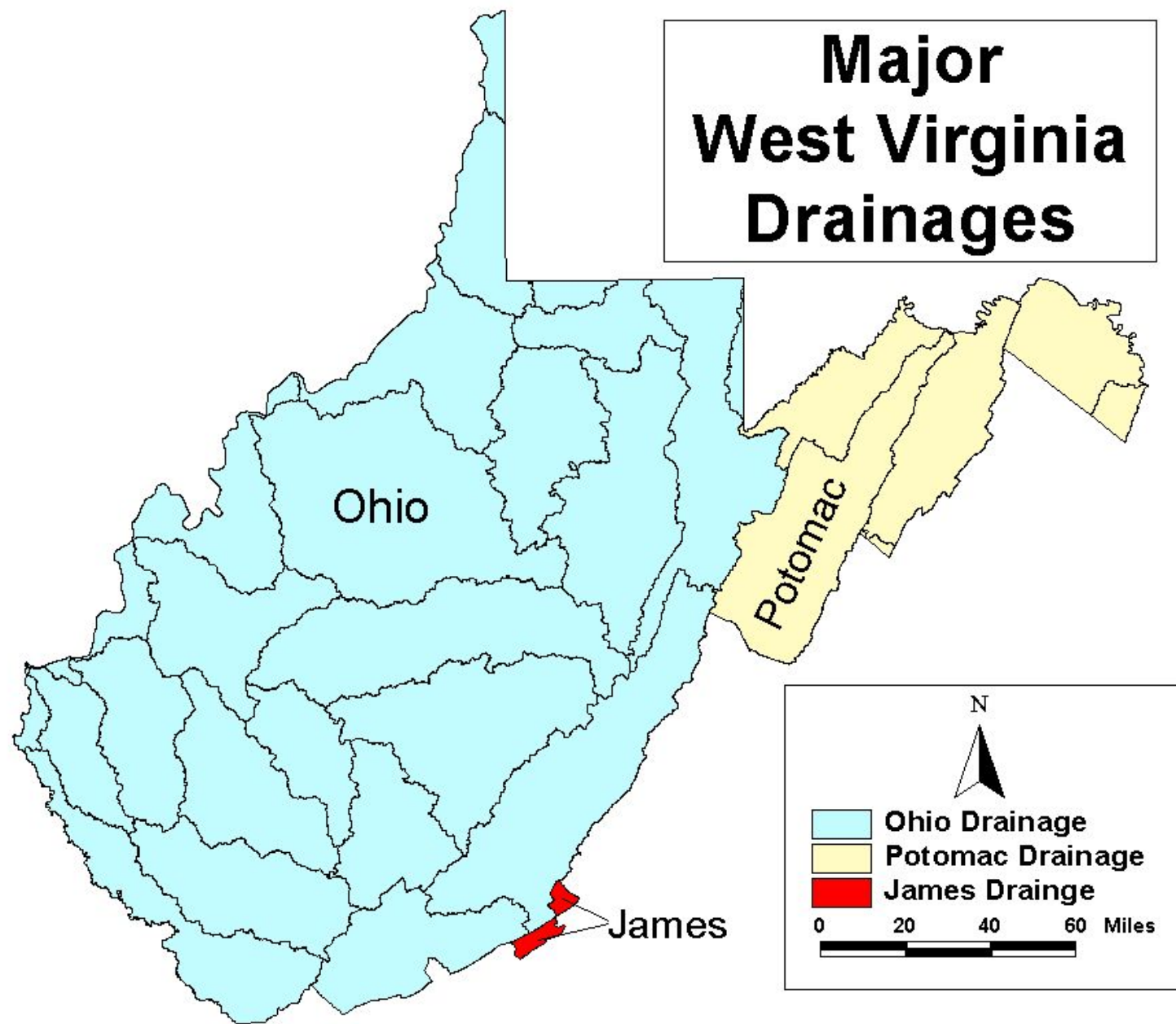
- "...restore and maintain chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Nation's waters."
- State Programs implement and emphasize chemical and invertebrate analysis
- Water Quality Assessment using fishes
- Encourage State Agency Use of RBPs
- EPA and States upgrade monitoring programs
- Mid-Atlantic Highland Collections (WV participates in 1998)
- R-EMAP funding for WV

# OBJECTIVES

“A Small Watershed Characterization, Classification, and Assessment for West Virginia utilizing EMAP Design and Tools”

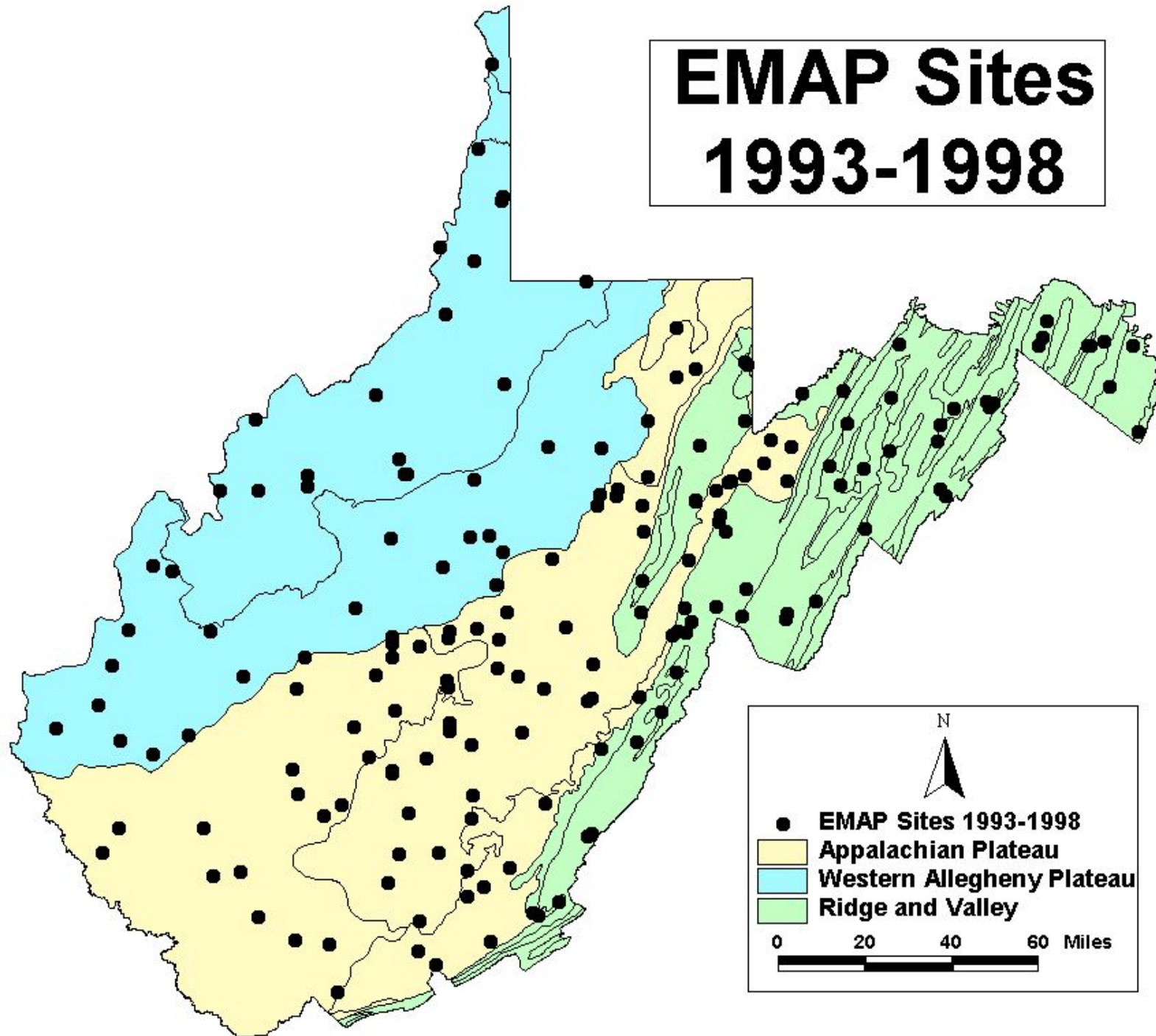
- Develop IBI specific to WV's wadeable streams and small watersheds utilizing a probability based design
  - Coldwater vs warmwater
  - Landscape-based prediction of thermal regime
- Develop and test a small watershed characterization and classification system to explain variation in reference condition (400-40000 ha watersheds)
- Establish baseline for assessing biological impairments by identifying stressor impacts and small watershed vulnerability
- Produce a “State-of-Streams” report (based on 5 years of statewide 305b data)

# STUDY AREA

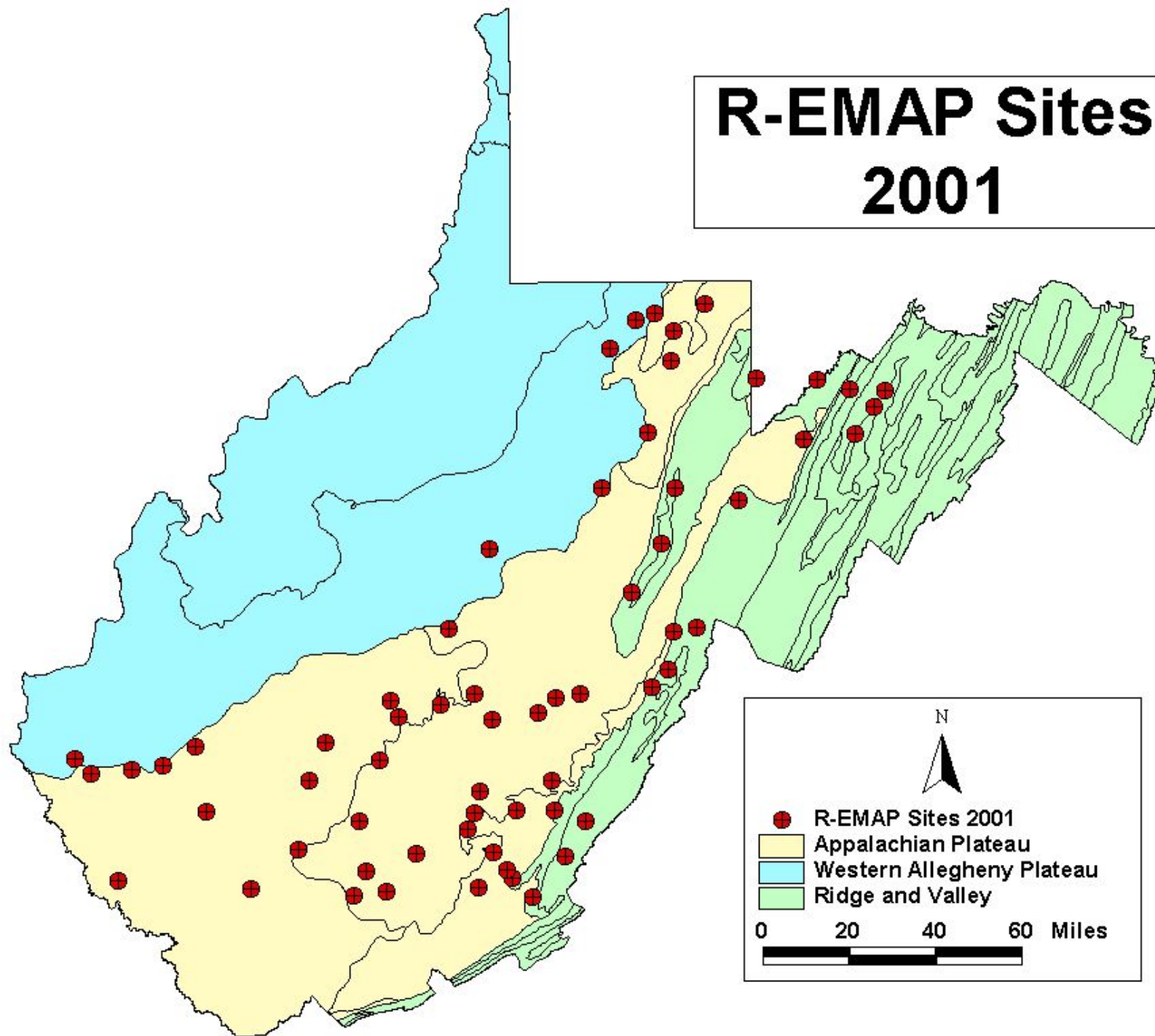




# EMAP Sites 1993-1998

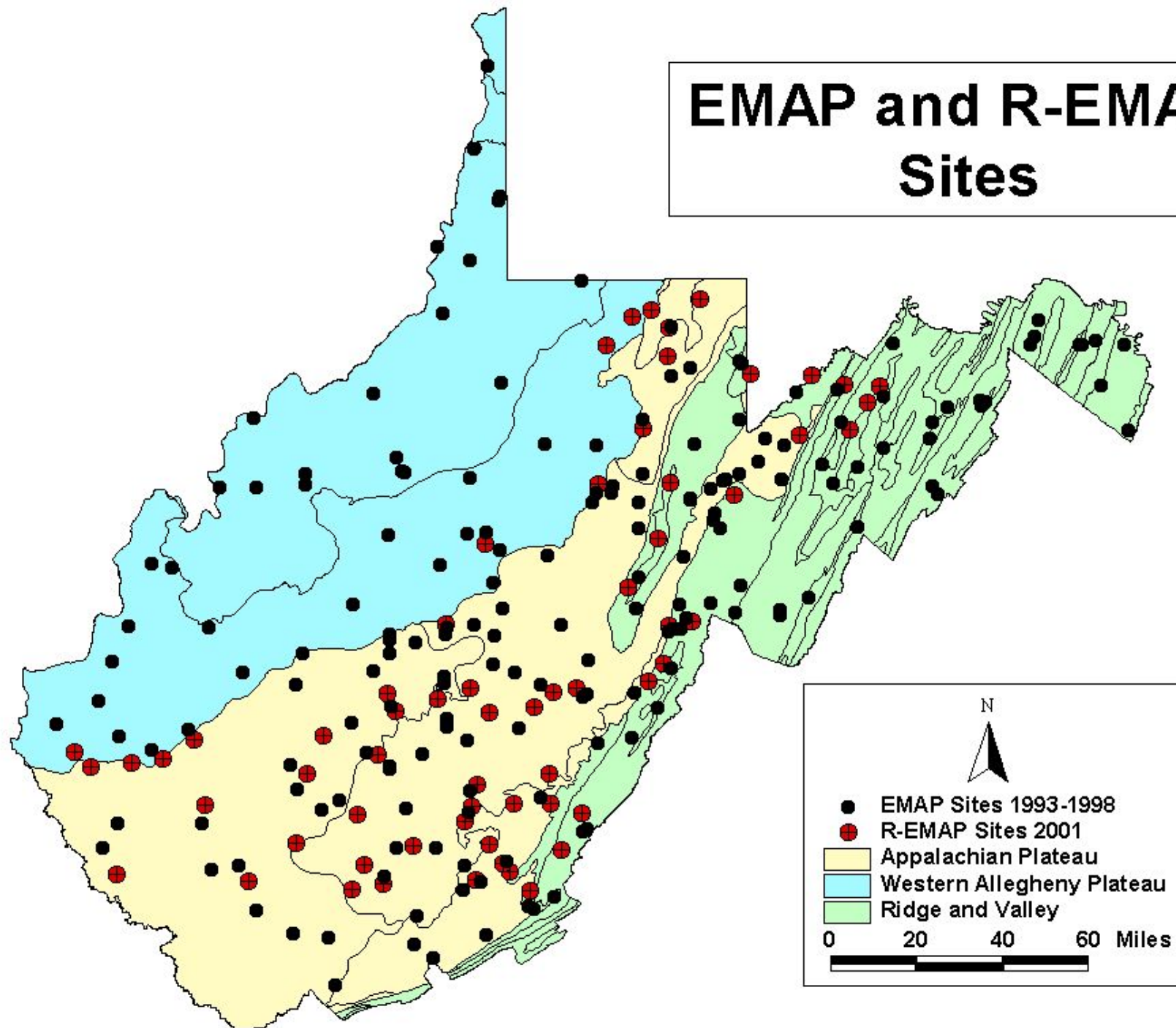


# R-EMAP Sites 2001

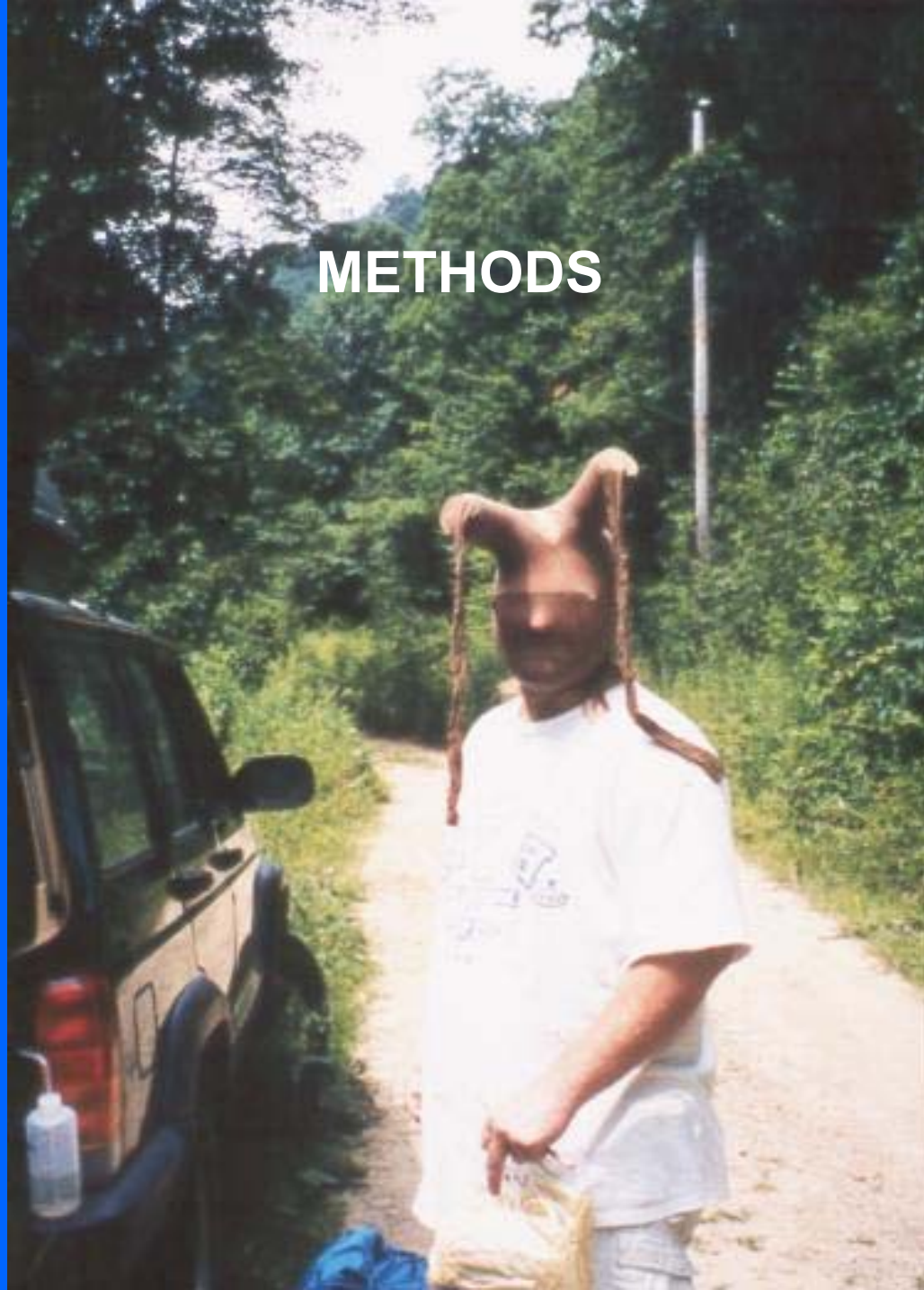




# EMAP and R-EMAP Sites



## METHODS



# FISH COLLECTION METHODS

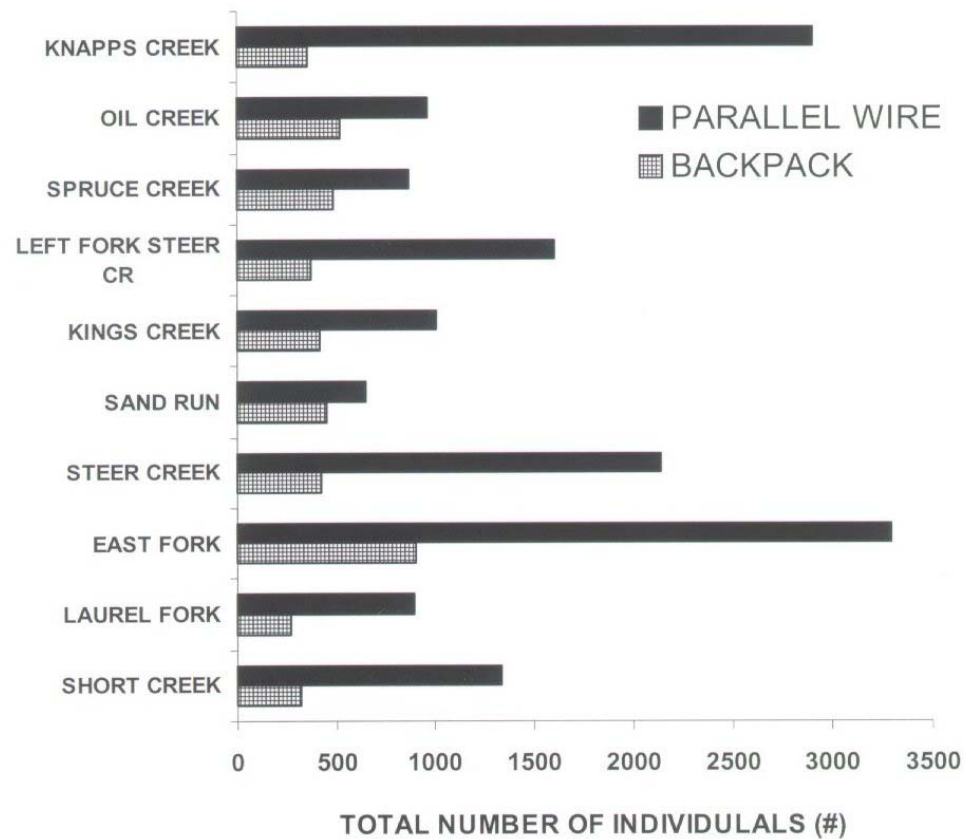
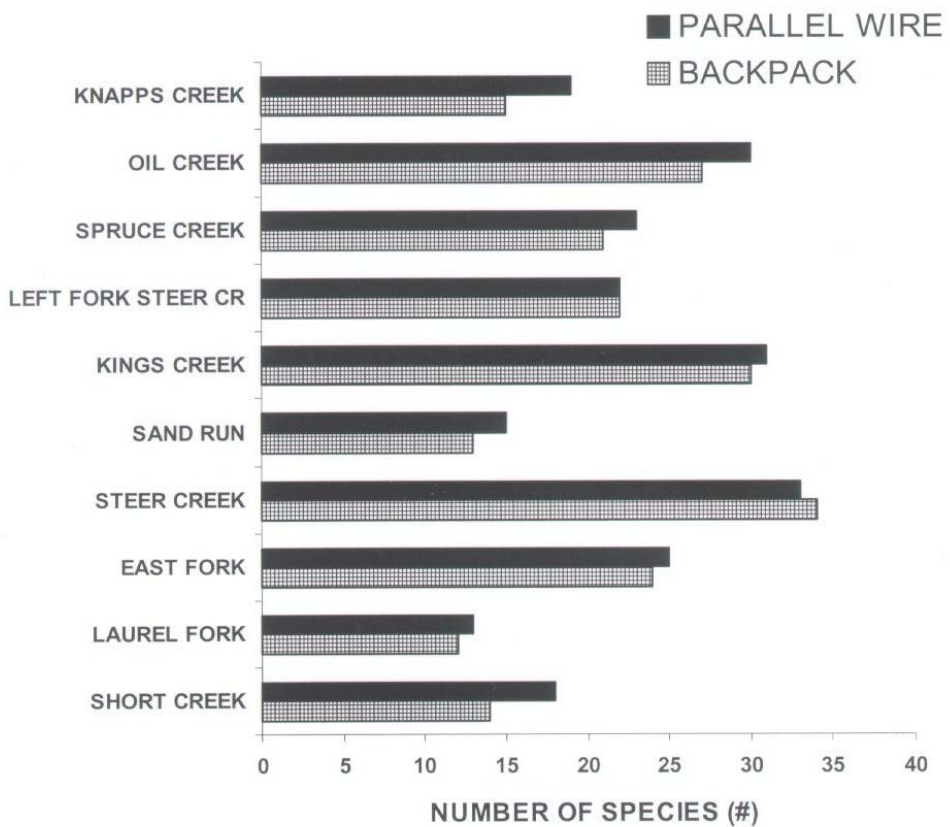




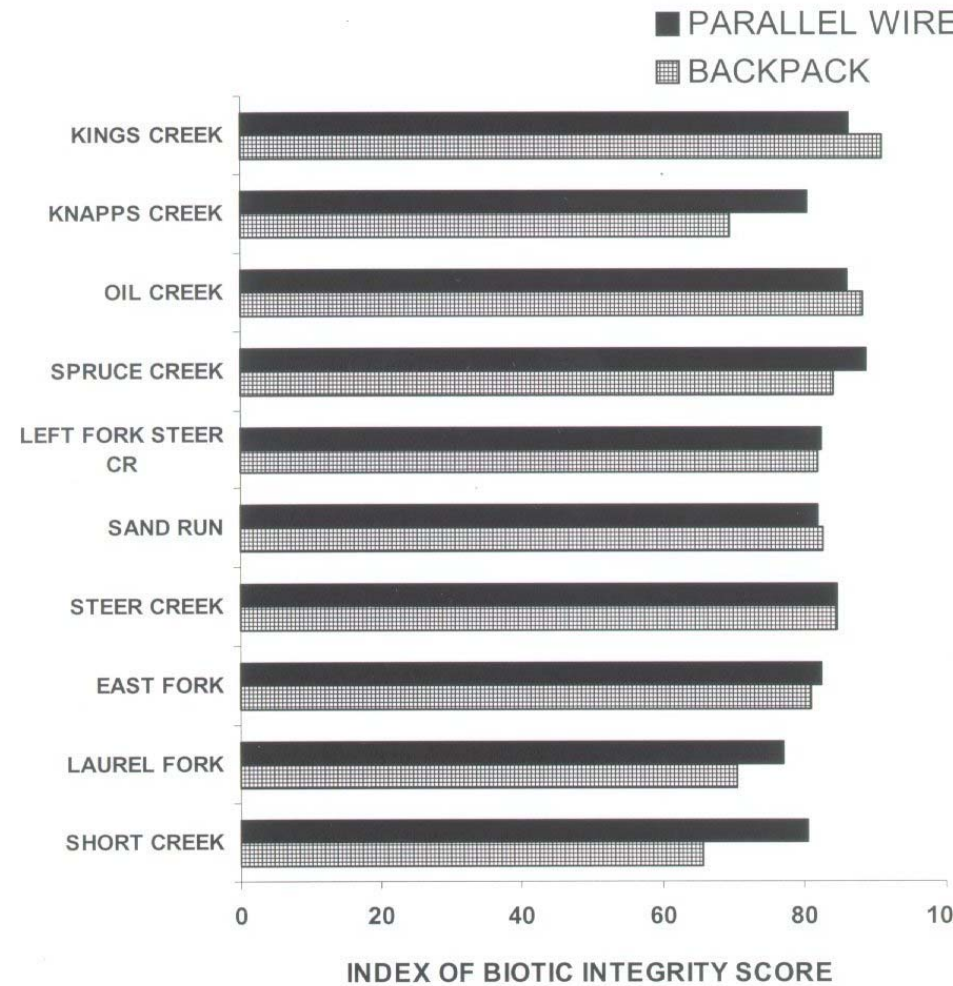
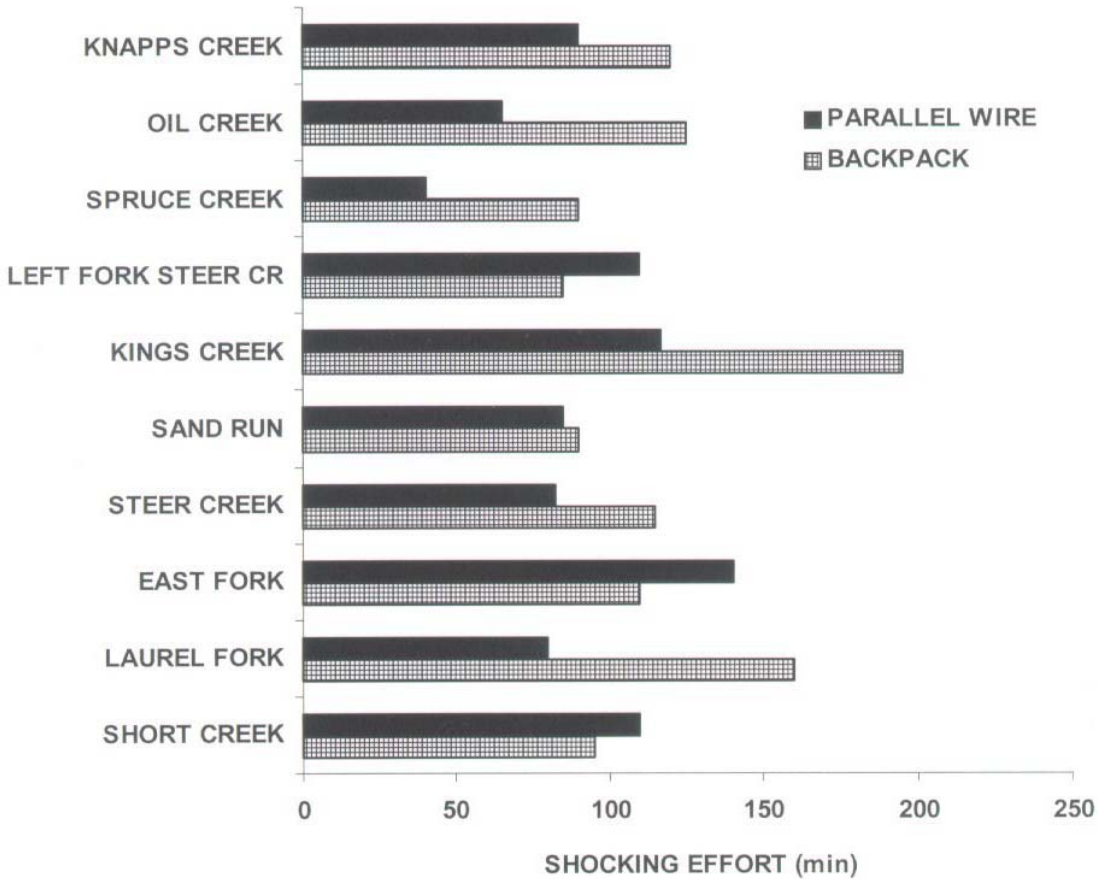




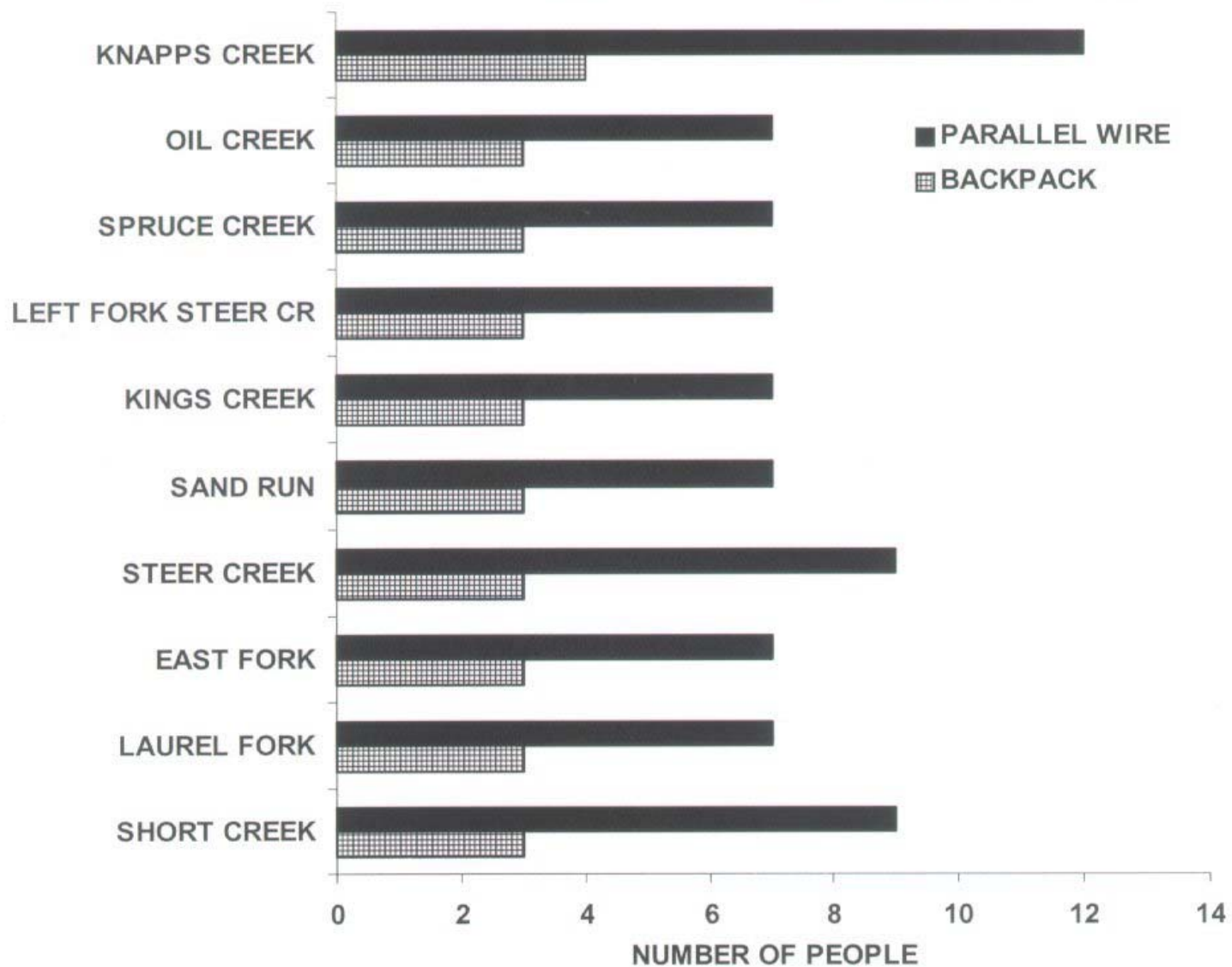




PARALLEL WIRE MEAN = 91.9(SD 28.49)  
 BACKPACK SHOCKER MEAN = 118.5(SD 34.96)



PARALLEL WIRE MEAN = 7.9 (SD 0.52)  
BACKPACK SHOCKER MEAN = 3.1 (SD 0.31)



# HABITAT MEASUREMENTS

(EMAP Protocols = Kaufman + Robinson 1998)

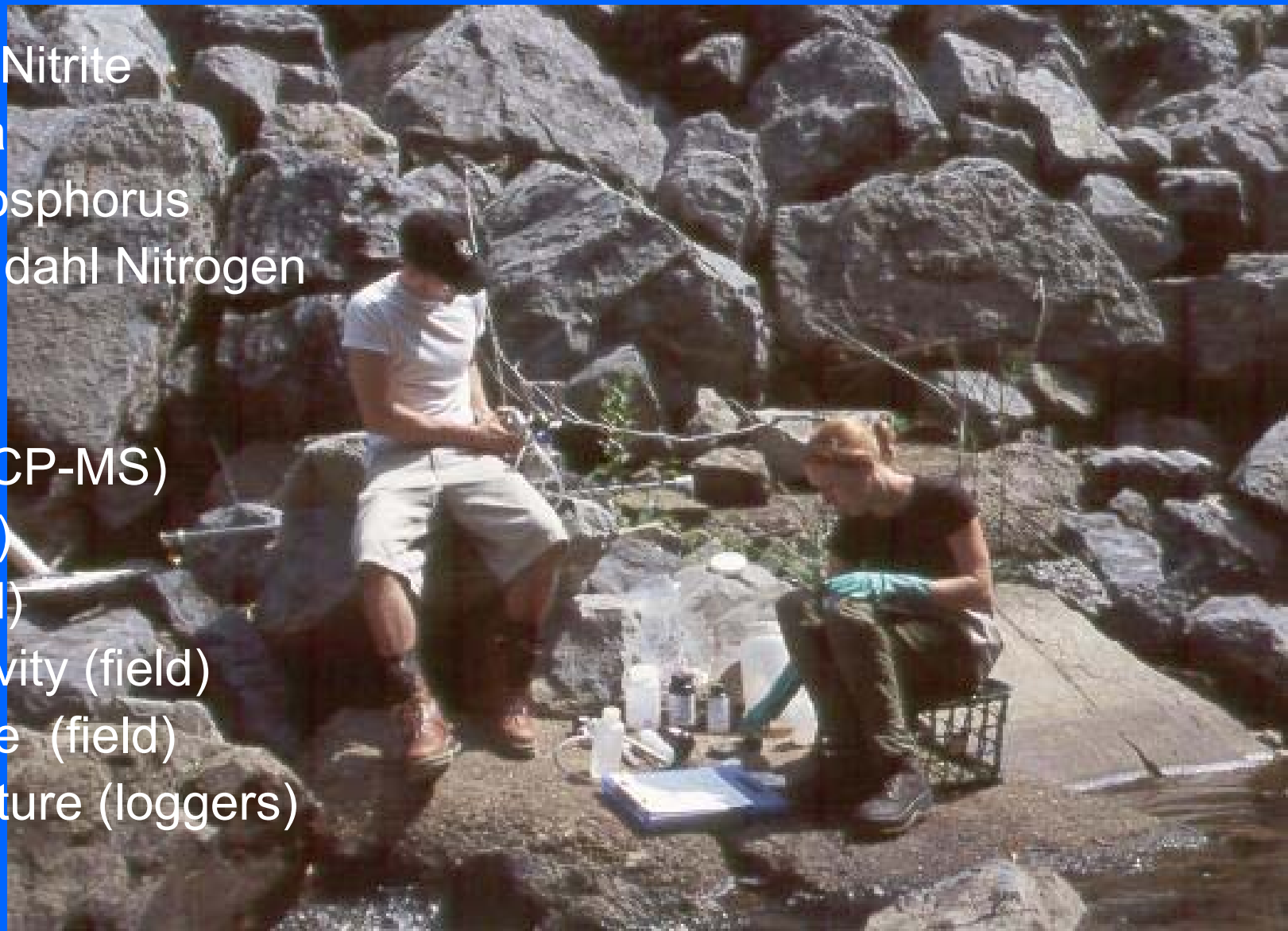
- Channel dimensions
- Gradient
- Substrate size and type
- Habitat complexity and cover
- Riparian vegetation and structure
- Anthropogenic alterations
- Channel-riparian interaction



# WATER QUALITY MEASUREMENTS

(EMAP protocols = Herlihy 1998)

- Nitrate + Nitrite
- Ammonia
- Total Phosphorus
- Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen
- Anions
- ANC
- Metals (ICP-MS)
- pH (field)
- DO (field)
- Conductivity (field)
- Discharge (field)
- Temperature (loggers)





# TEMPERATURE LOGGERS

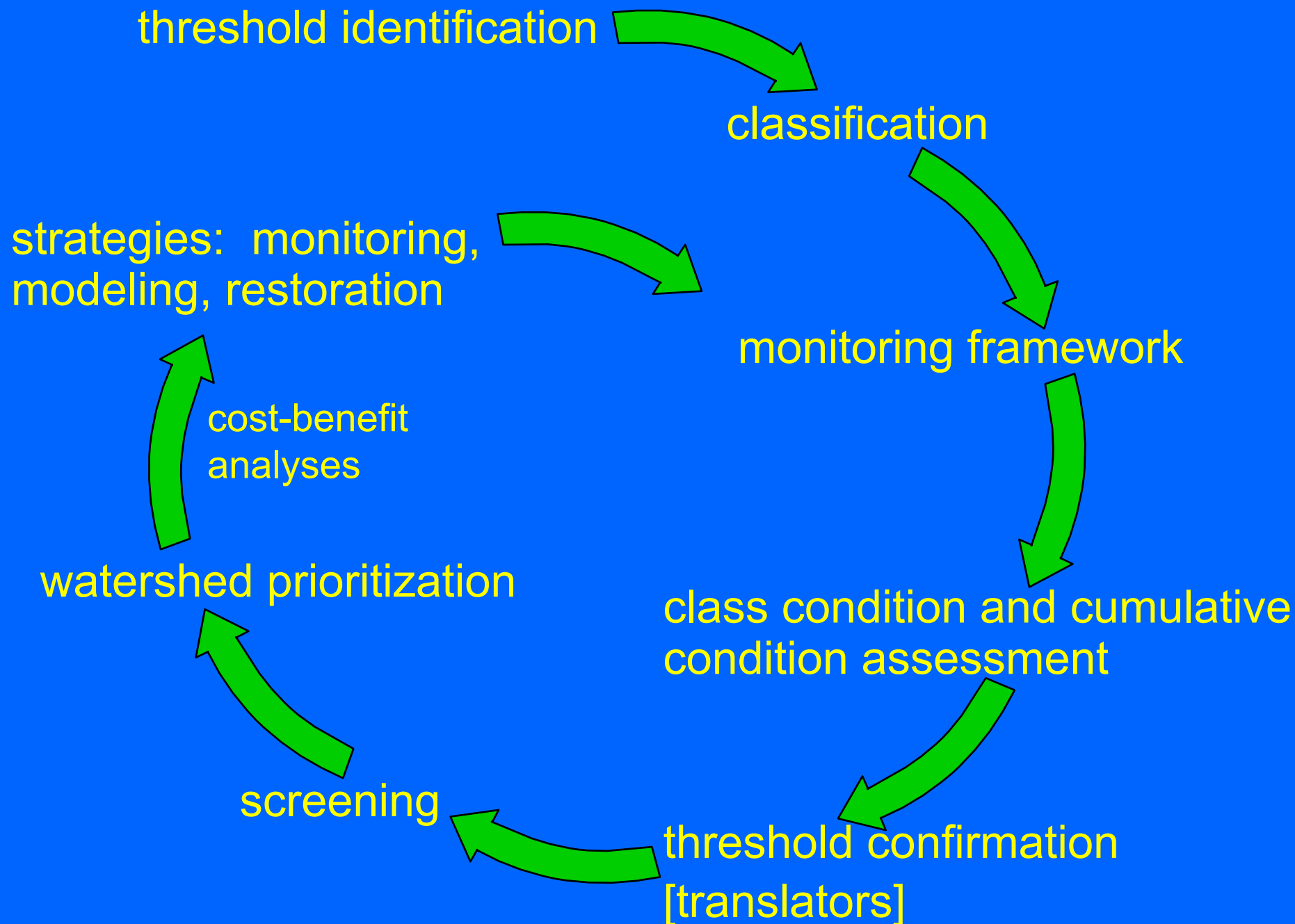


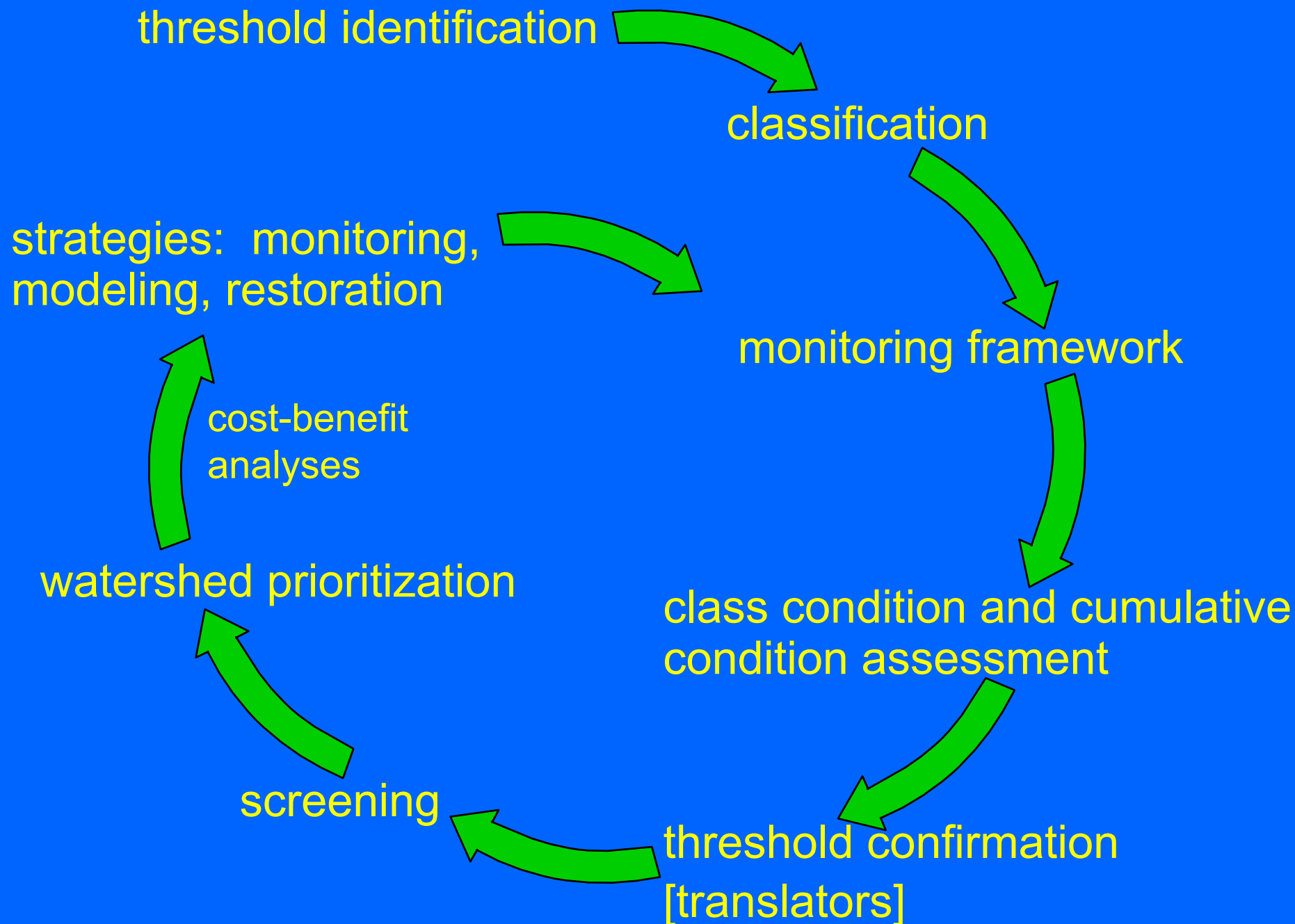
## Questions of interest for 305b vs 303d programs

- 305b assessments
  - % impaired water bodies by region
  - temporal trends in impairment by region
- 303d listings
  - site-specific identification of all impaired water bodies
  - probability of impairment by watershed class to facilitate extrapolation

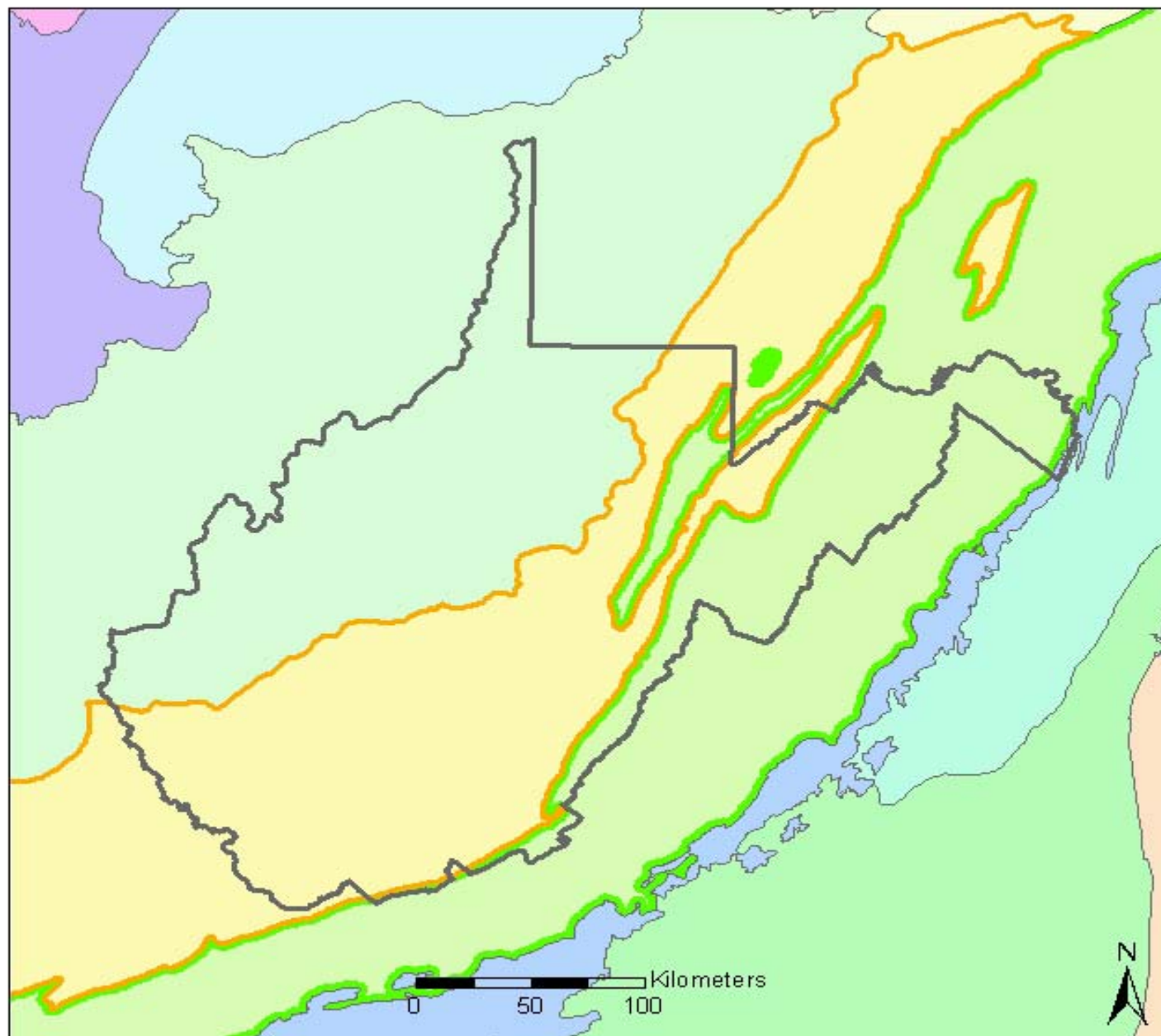
## Combined approaches for consolidated assessment and listing methods

- Monitor all water bodies - prob not feasible
- Probability sample w RTS (EMAP) design to spatially distribute sample points
- Random-stratified design using watershed units (12-digit HUCs)









## West Virginia Ecoregions

Central Appalachian  
Ridges and Valleys and  
Central Appalachian Plateau

### Legend

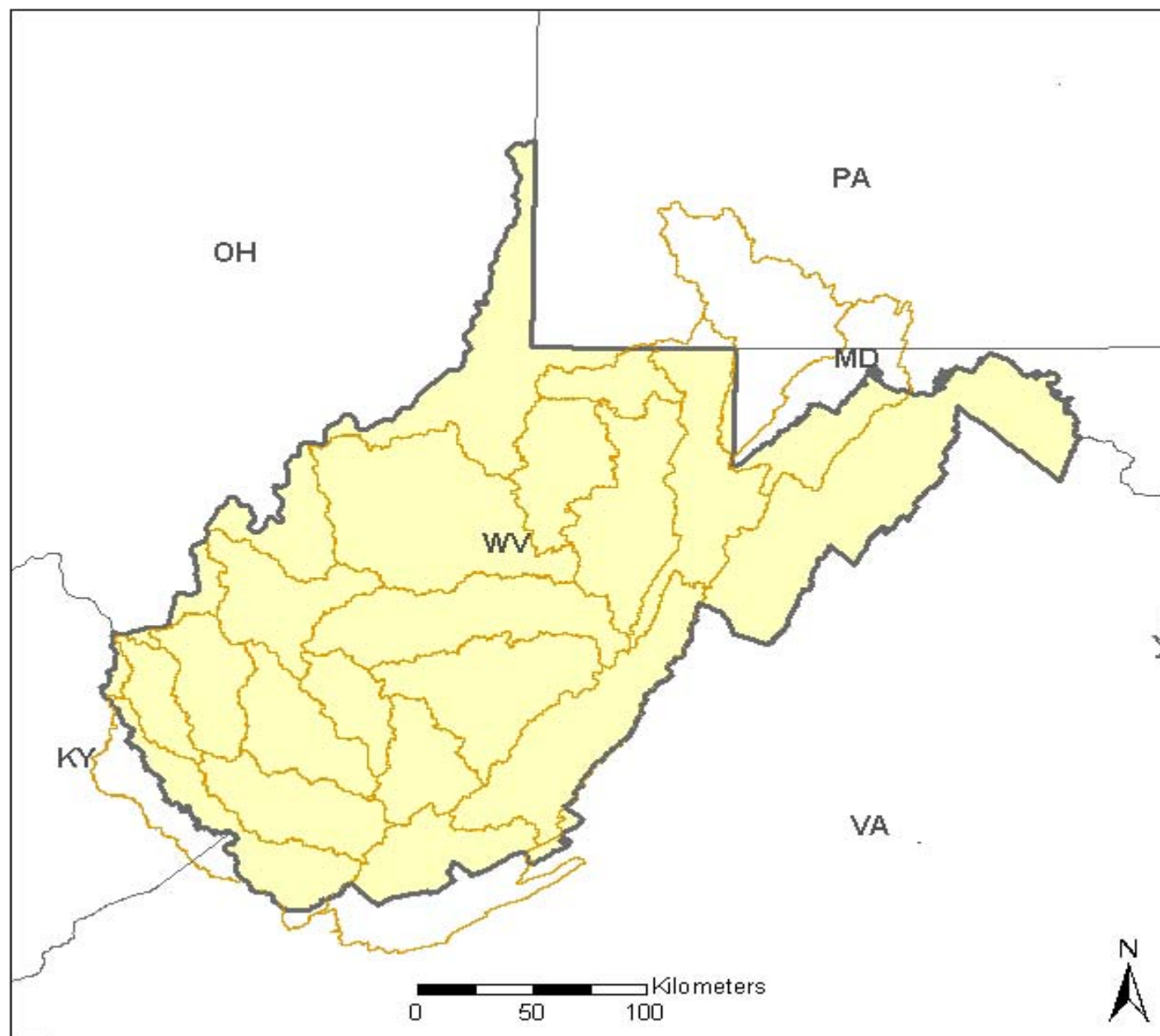
West Virginia

### Ecoregions

- Blue Ridge Mountains
- Central Appalachian Ridges and Valleys
- Central Appalachians
- Eastern Corn Belt Plains
- Erie/Ontario Lake Hills and Plain
- Huron/Erie Lake Plains
- Interior Plateau
- Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain
- North Central Appalachians
- Northern Piedmont
- Piedmont
- Southeastern Plains
- Western Allegheny Plateau




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## West Virginia with 8-Digit HUC Boundaries

(With 10 and 12-Digit Data Available)

### Legend

-  West Virginia
-  State Boundaries
-  8-digit HUCs



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## West Virginia with 8 and 10-Digit HUC Boundaries




(Clipped to State Boundary)



0 50 100 Kilometers



### Legend

-  West Virginia
-  8-digit HUC boundaries
-  10-digit HUC boundaries



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## West Virginia with 8, 10, and 12-Digit HUC Boundaries





(Clipped to State Boundary)



0 50 100 Kilometers

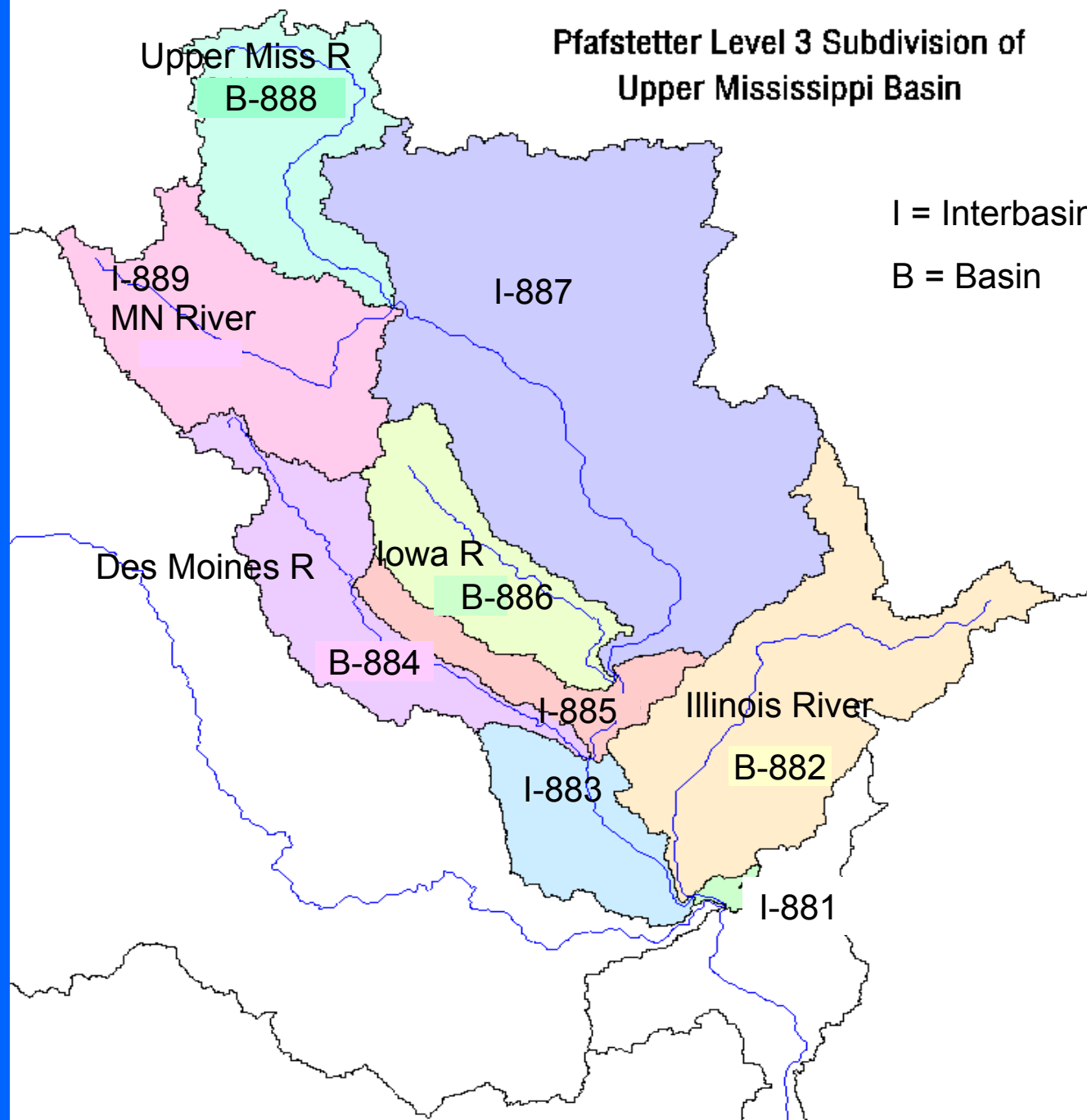


### Legend

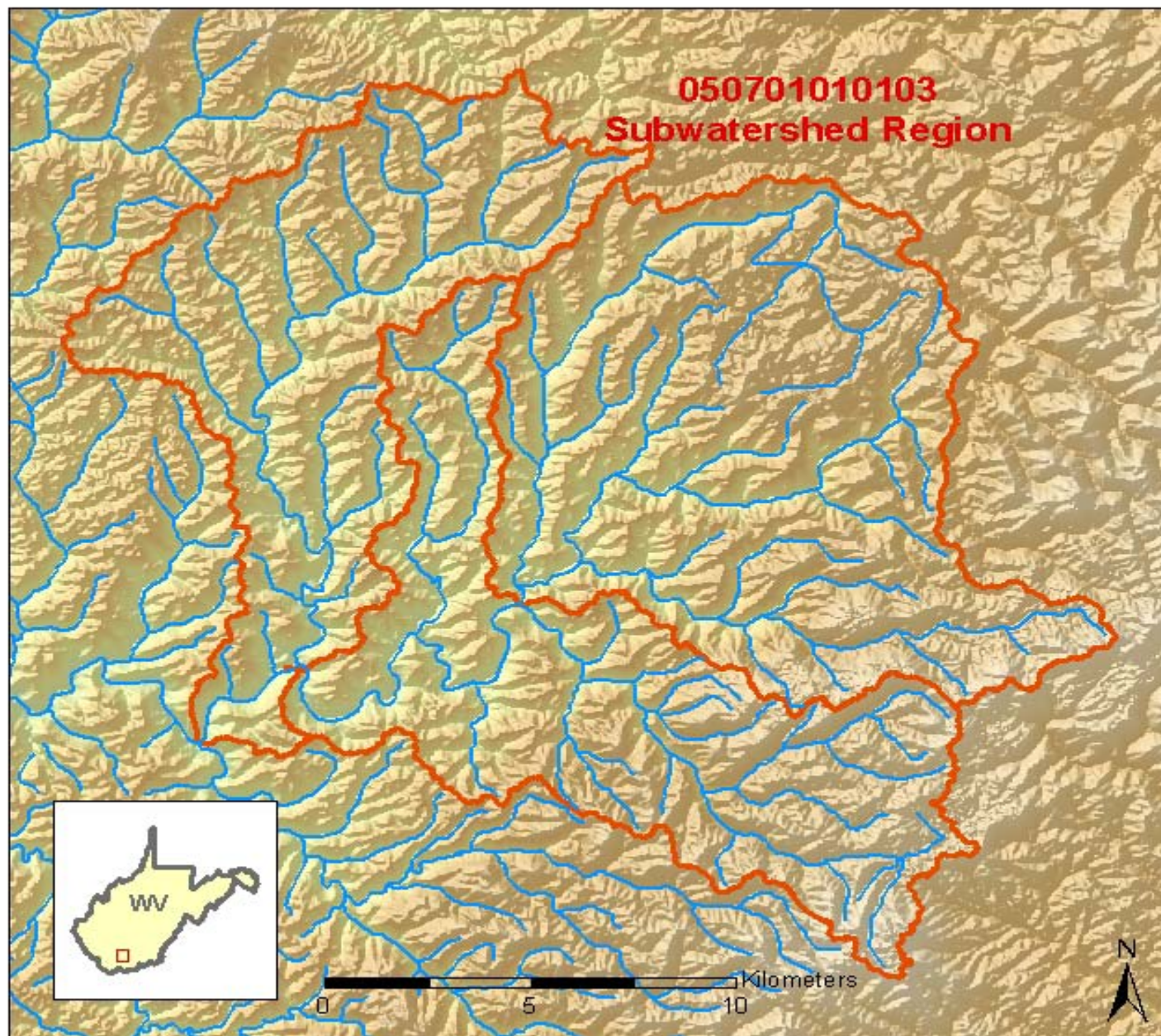
-  West Virginia
-  8-digit HUC boundaries
-  10-digit HUC boundaries
-  12-digit HUC boundaries



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**HUC 050701010103  
Region with NHD and  
Shaded NED**

**Legend**

**NED Value (meters)**



High : 1481

Low : 68



NHD stream reaches



050701010103 Region



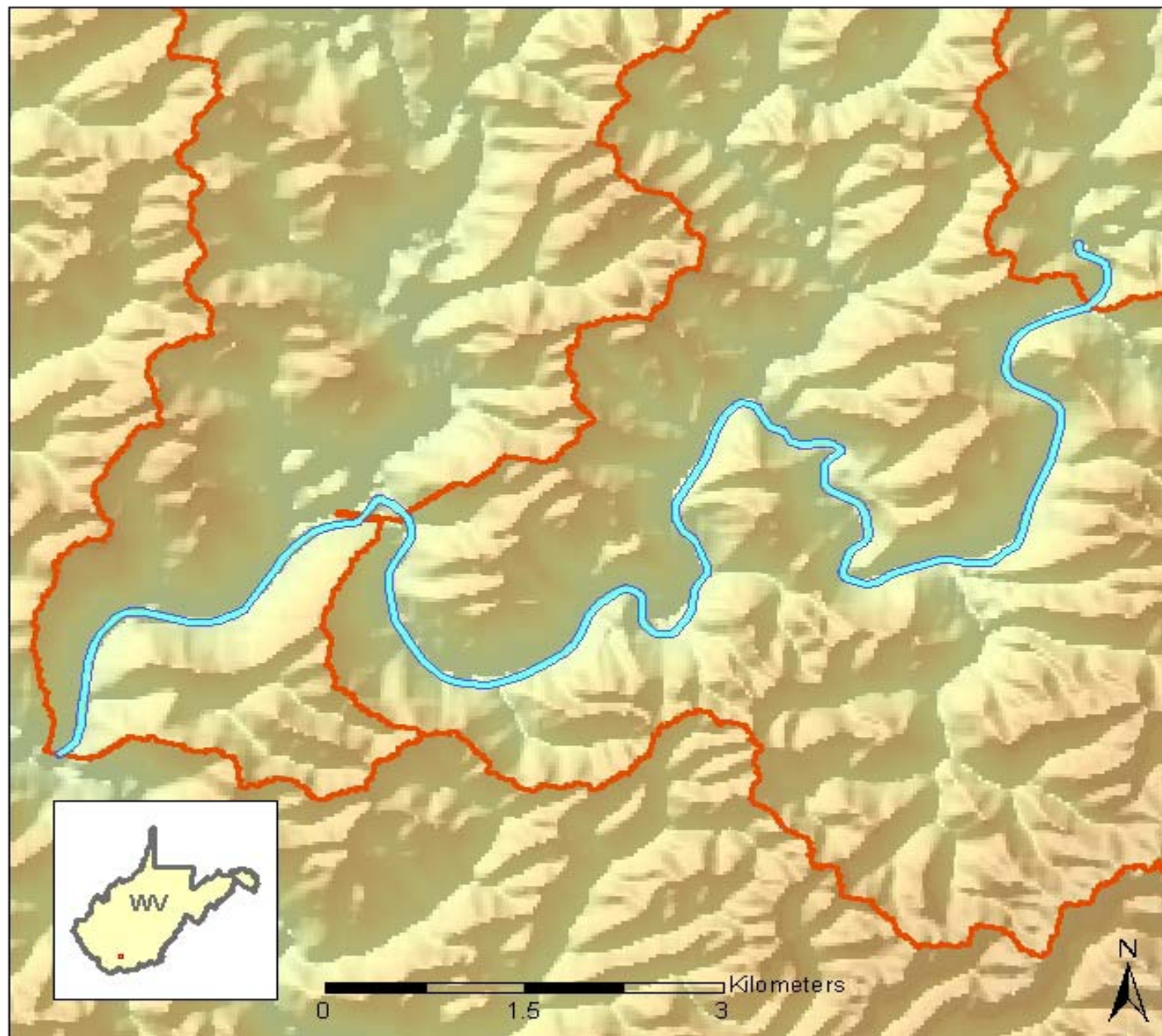
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## Potential variables<sup>1</sup> affecting peak flow for West Virginia streams

- watershed area
- channel slope
- watershed storage
- percent forest
- main channel length
- elevation
- snowfall
- average annual precipitation
- soil infiltration rate
- average minimum January temperature

- <sup>1</sup> from Frye, P.M. and G.S. Runner. 1970. A proposed streamflow data program for West Virginia. US Dept. of the Interior Geological Survey Water Resources Division, Open-file report, Charleston, WV.





## HUC 050701010103 Region with NHD and Shaded NED

Main Channel Buffer

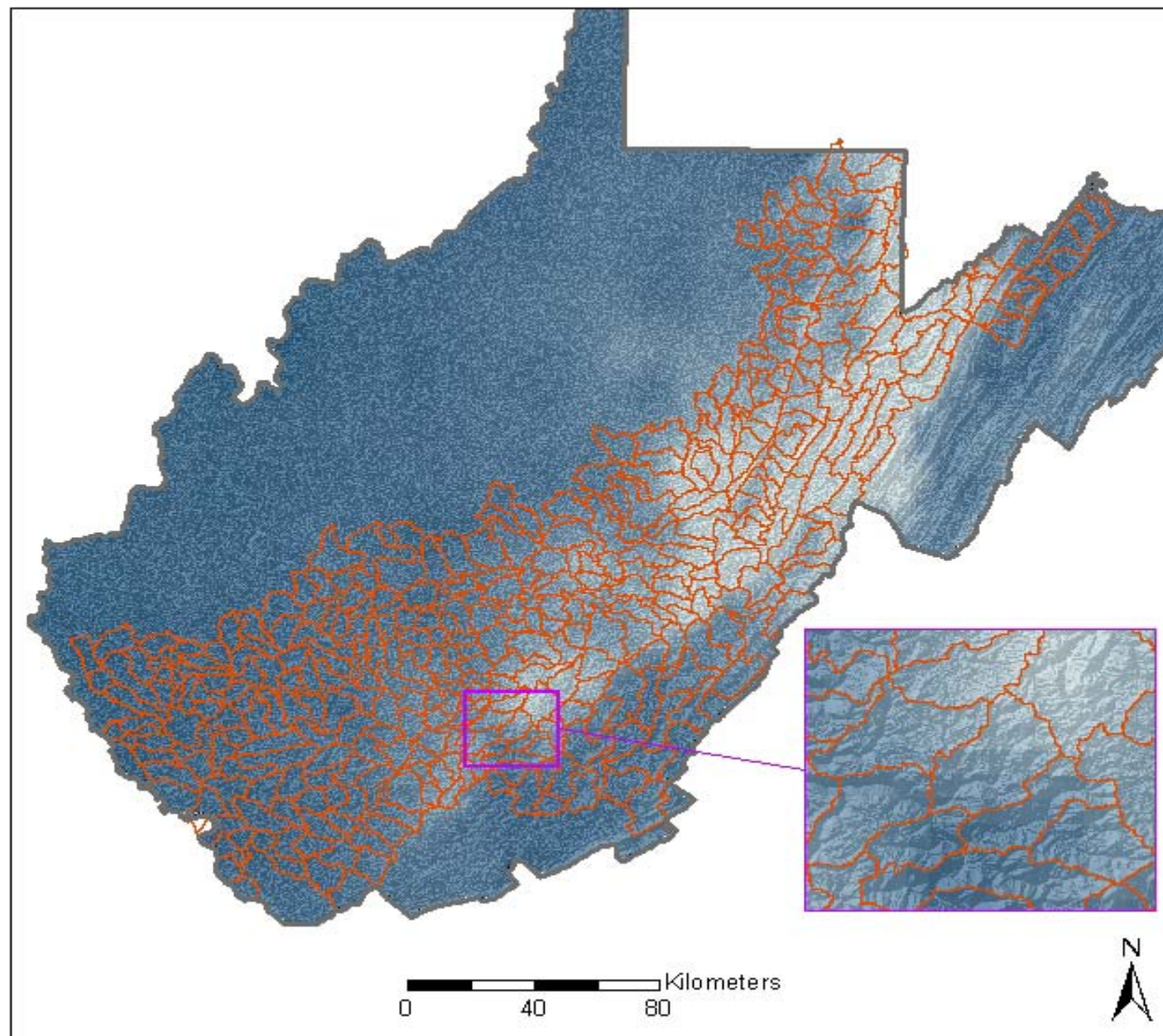
### Legend

#### NED Value (meters)

- High : 1481
- Low : 68
- 050701010103 Region
- Main channel
- Main channel buffer

## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

(PRISM Average Annual Snowfall)



### Legend

- West Virginia
- 12-digit HUCs (joined)

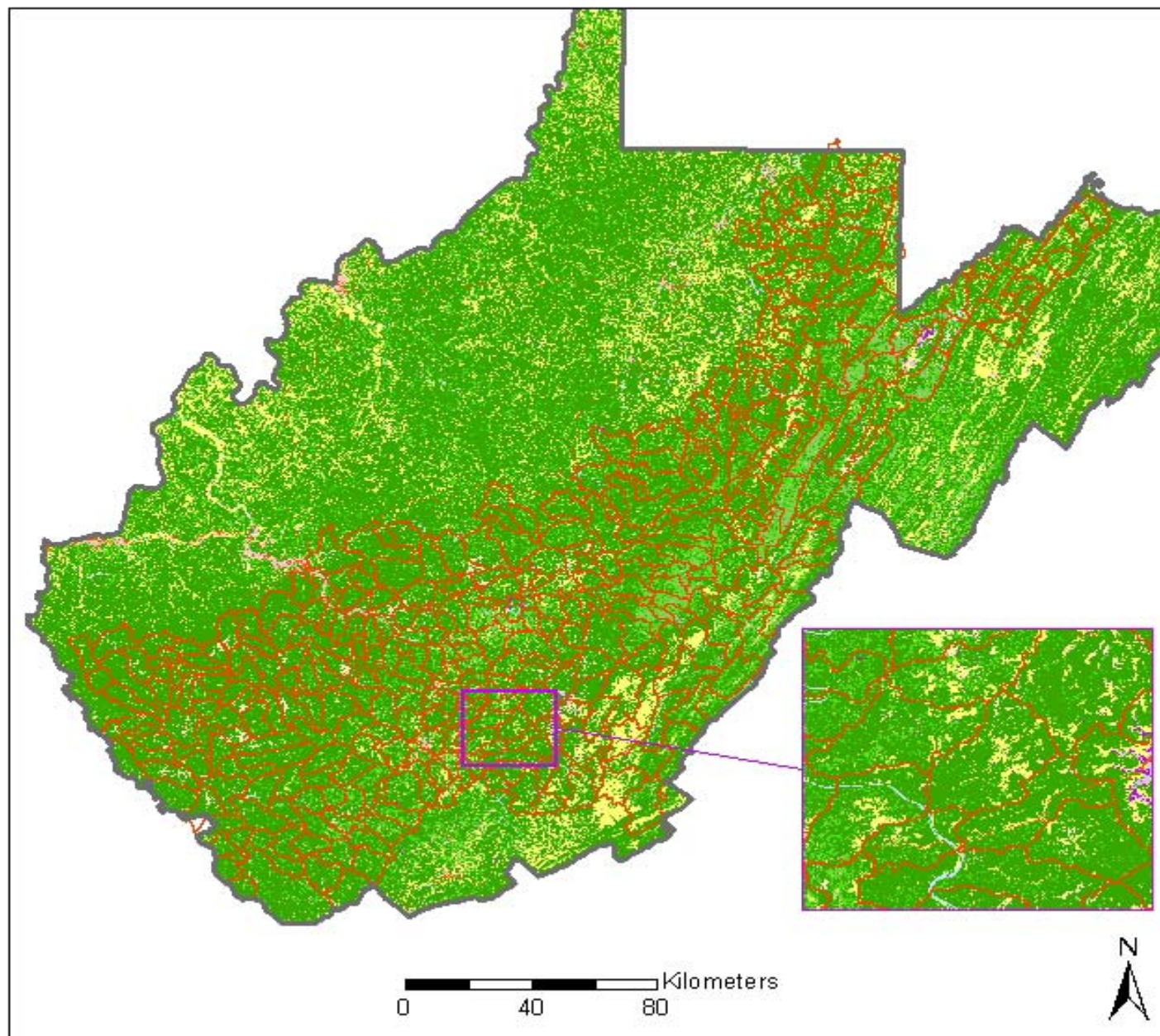
### PRISM Value (mm)

- High : 4588
- Low : 286



## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

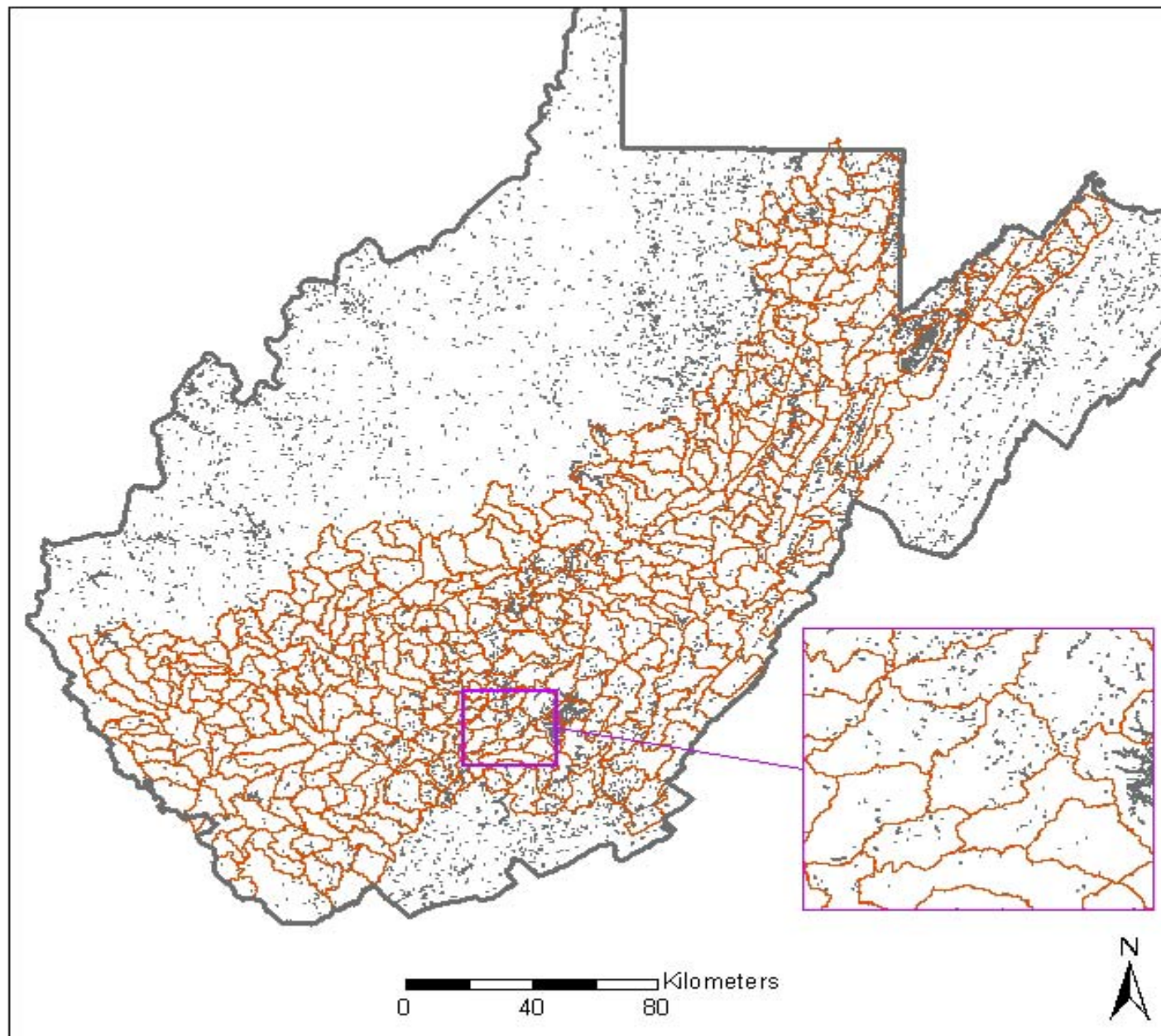
(Mining-Modified NLCD)



### Legend

- West Virginia
- 12-digit HUCs (joined)
- Mining-Modified NLCD**
- Open Water
- Low Intensity Residential
- High Intensity Residential
- Commercial/Industrial/Transportation
- Bare Rock/Sand/Clay
- Quarries/Strip Mines/Gravel Pits
- Transitional
- Deciduous Forest
- Evergreen Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Pasture/Hay
- Row Crops
- Urban/Recreational Grasses
- Woody Wetlands
- Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands





## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

(NWI)

### Legend

- West Virginia
- 12-digit HUCs (joined)

### NWI SYSTEM

- Lacustrine
- Palustrine

# Analysis of factors affecting peak flow for West Virginia streams in Central Appalachian Plateau and Ridge and Valley Province

**Potential variables:** watershed area, channel slope, watershed storage, percent forest, main channel length, elevation, snowfall, average annual precipitation, soil infiltration rate, and average minimum January temperature

## Results of regression analysis (Mallow's Cp statistic)

$$Q_2 = A^a P^p T^t S_n^{sn} S_t^{st}$$

where Q2 = 2-year peak flow

A = watershed area

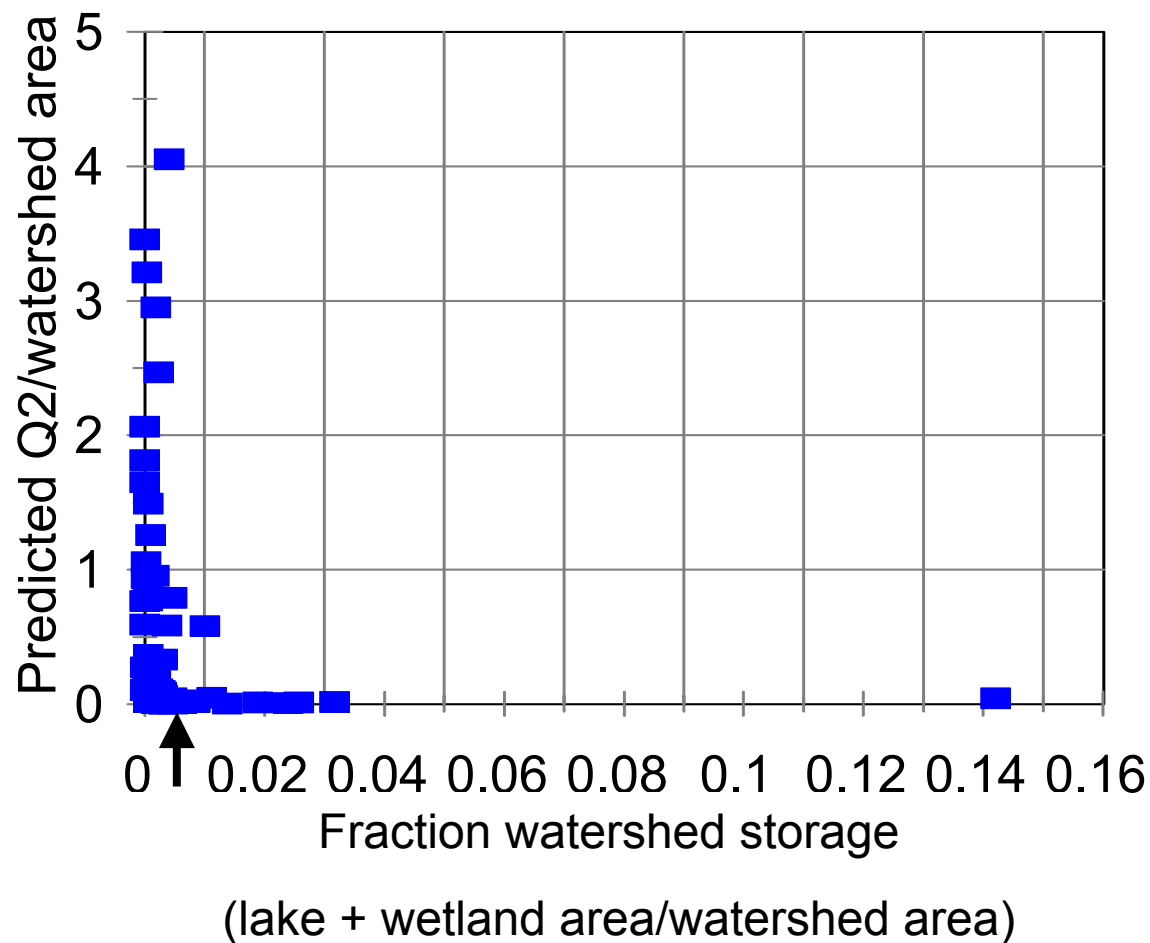
P = average annual precipitation

T = average minimum January temperature

S<sub>n</sub> = snowfall

S<sub>t</sub> = watershed storage

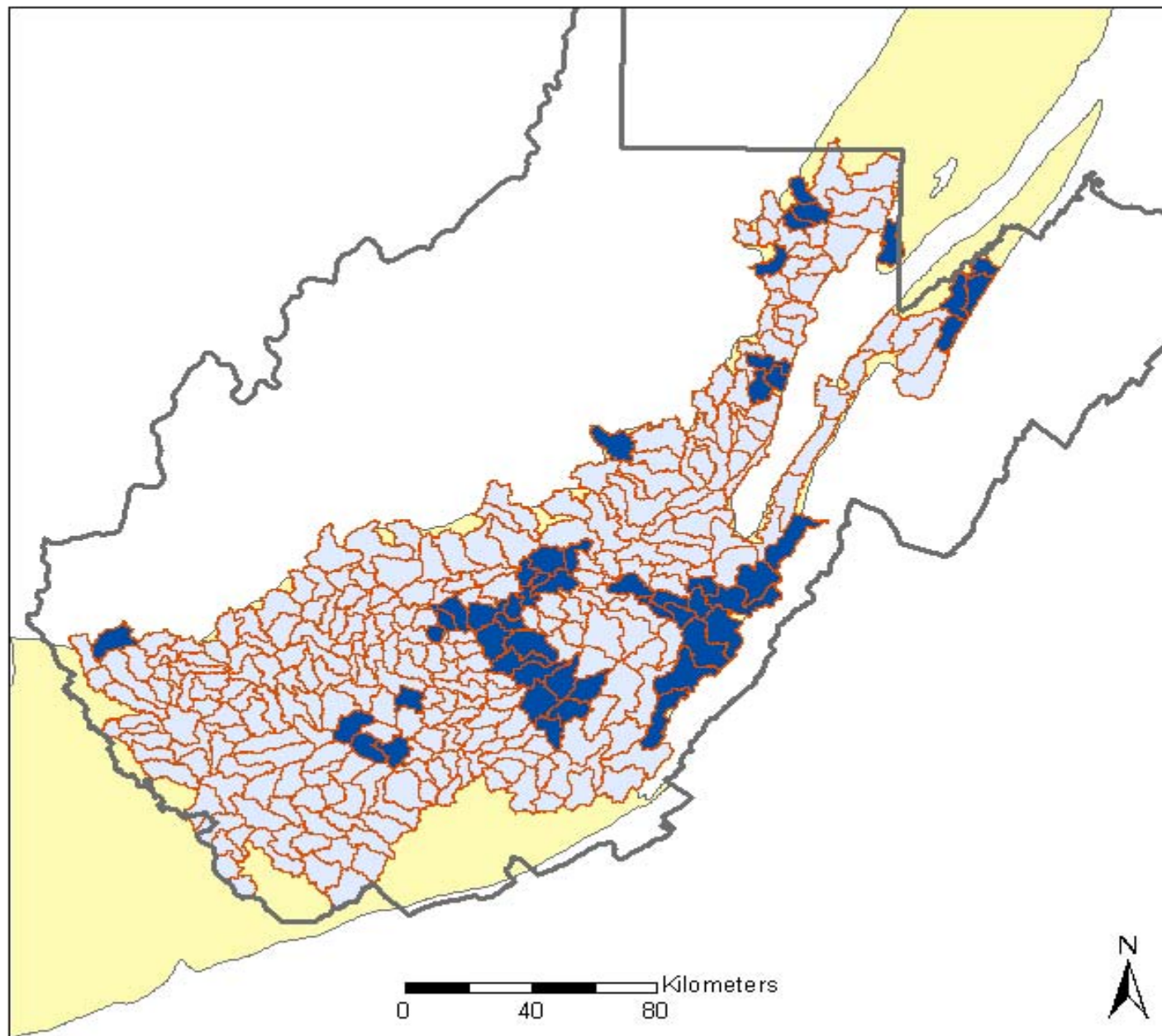
# Graphical analysis of WV hydrologic threshold



## Potential Land-Use Threshold Values for WV

- Peak flow equations ( $Q_5$ ,  $Q_{10}$ ) for full state
  - % forest alone showed no threshold effect
  - forest \* (snowfall \* Jan min temp) : “noisy” threshold
- Agriculture
  - MD Biological Stream Survey Data
  - water quality threshold at > 25% (Berrigan et al, unpubl.)
- Impervious surface area
  - >10-15% (most literature sources)
  - species shifts at > 2% (MD BSS Data)
- Mining
  - Peak flow model results: >30% disturbed area (Scott 1984)
  - Disturbed area analogous to impervious area: > 10%





## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

Low vs. High Storage

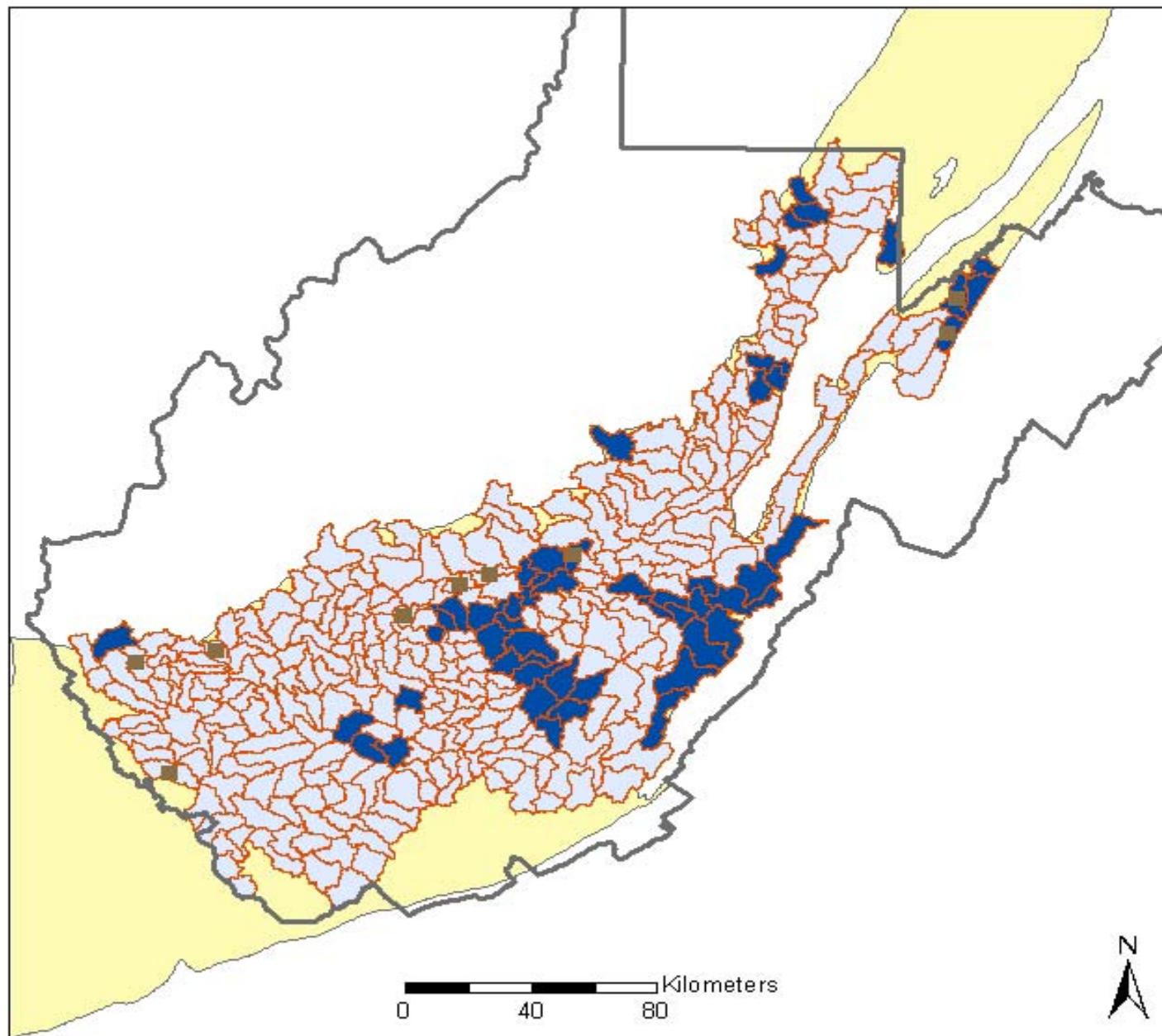
### Legend

- West Virginia
- Central Appalachians
- Low storage
- High storage



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## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

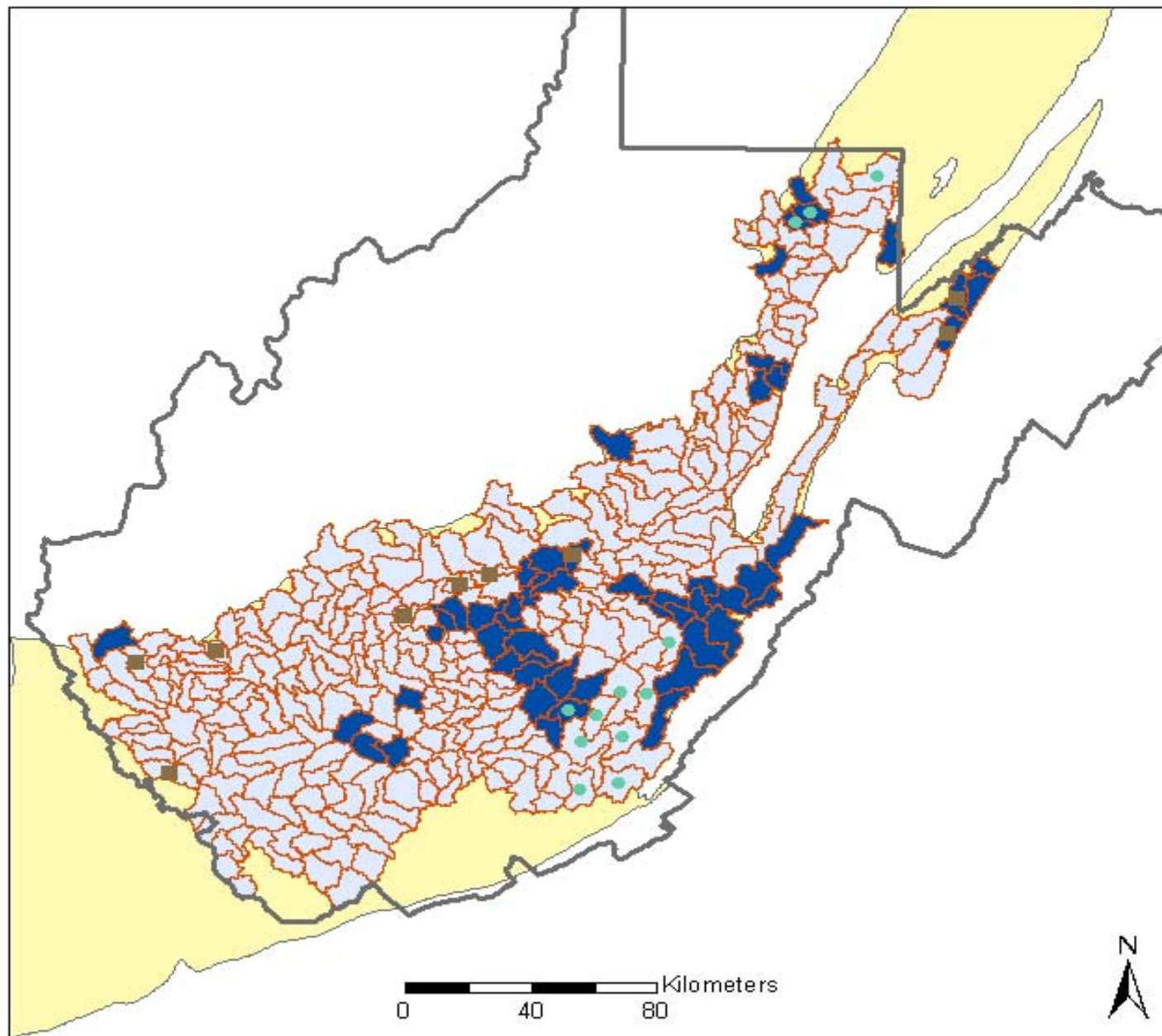
Low vs. High Storage with High Mining

### Legend

-  West Virginia
-  Central Appalachians
-  Low storage
-  High storage
-  High mining



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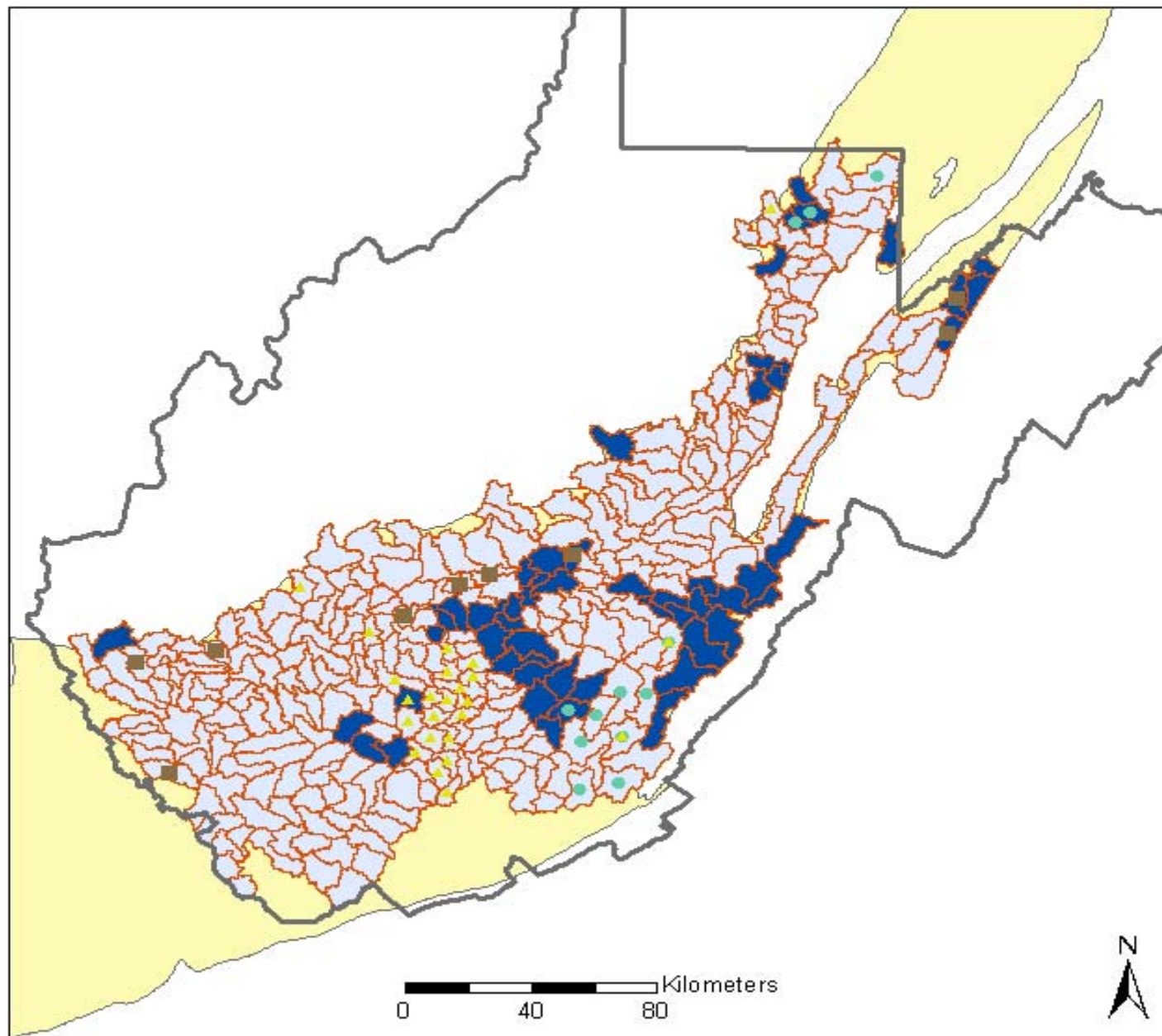
## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

Low vs. High Storage with  
High Mining  
High Agriculture

### Legend

- West Virginia
- Central Appalachians
- Low storage
- High storage
- High mining
- High agriculture












## Derivation of Watershed Attributes

Low vs. High Storage with  
High Mining  
High Agriculture  
High Impervious Surface

### Legend

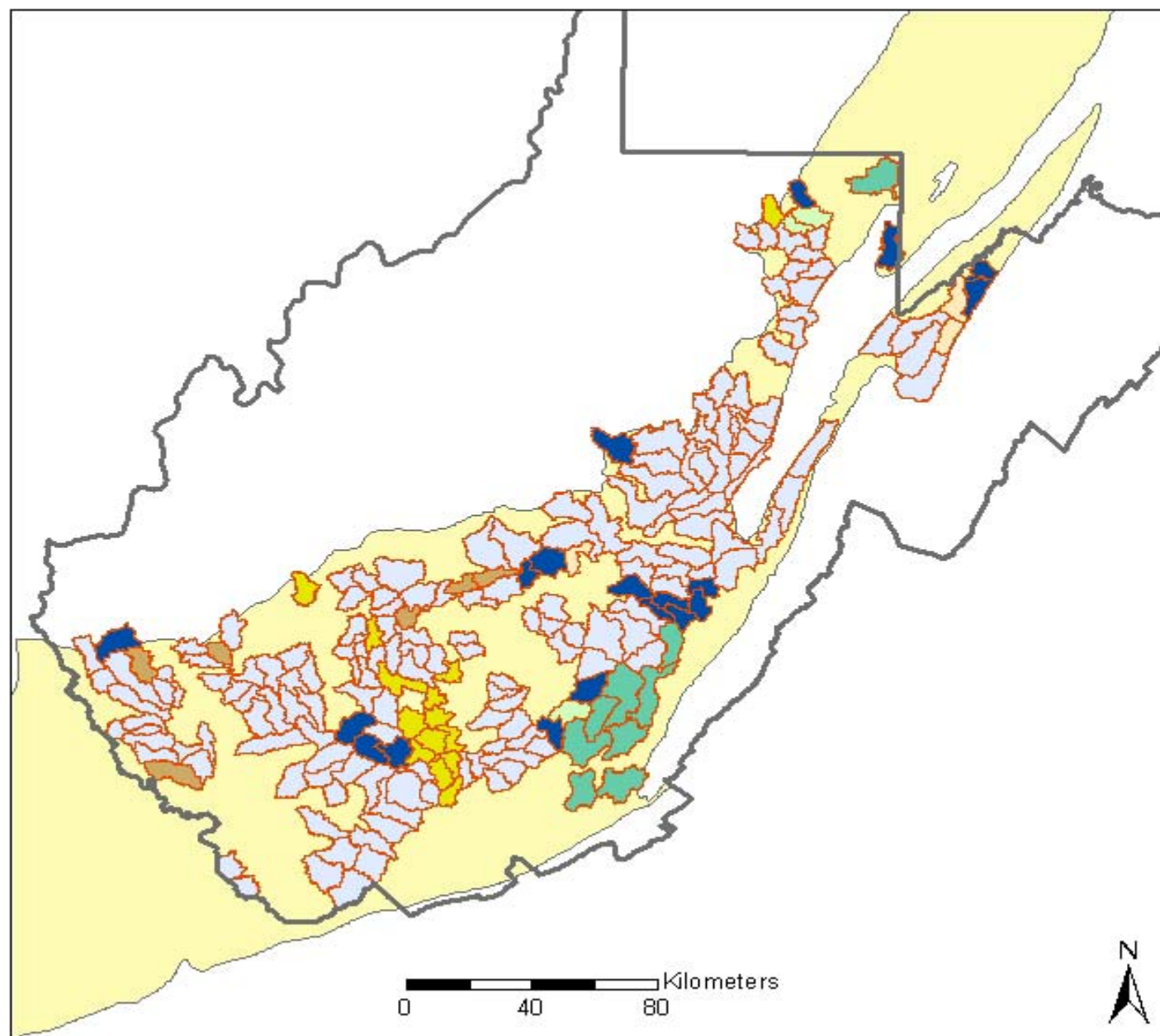
-  West Virginia
-  Central Appalachians
-  Low storage
-  High storage
-  High mining
-  High agriculture
-  High impervious



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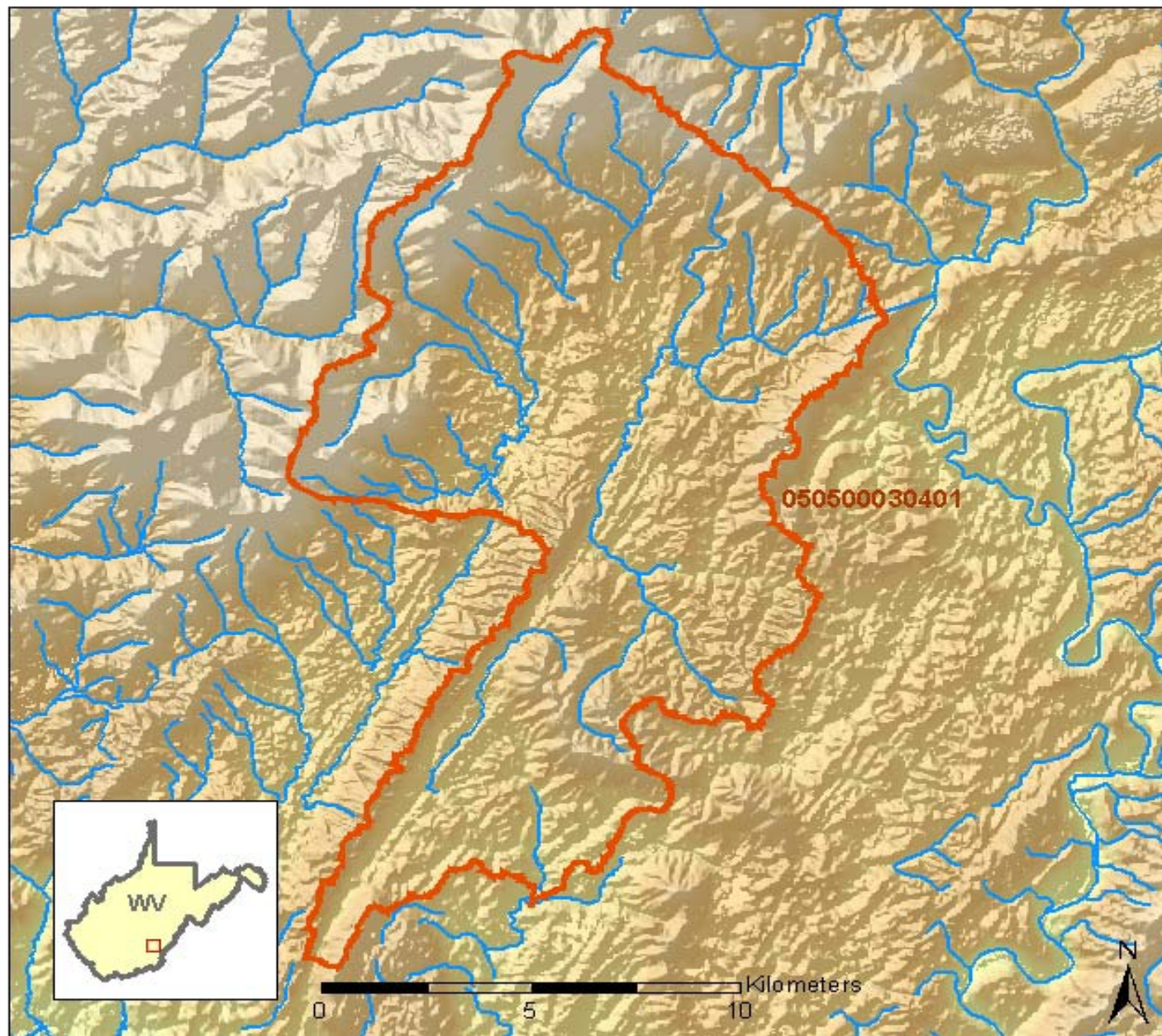
## Final Watershed Classes



### Legend

- West Virginia
- Central Appalachians
- Reference, low storage
- Reference, high storage
- High mining, low storage
- High mining, high storage
- High agriculture, low storage
- High agriculture, high storage
- High impervious, low storage
- High impervious, high storage



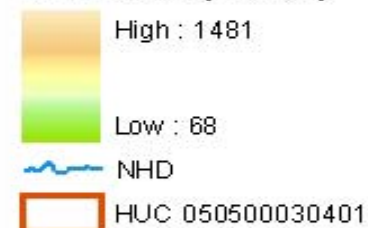


## Random-Stratified Selection Process

Example of HUC Removed From Sampling Process  
(Internal Drainage)

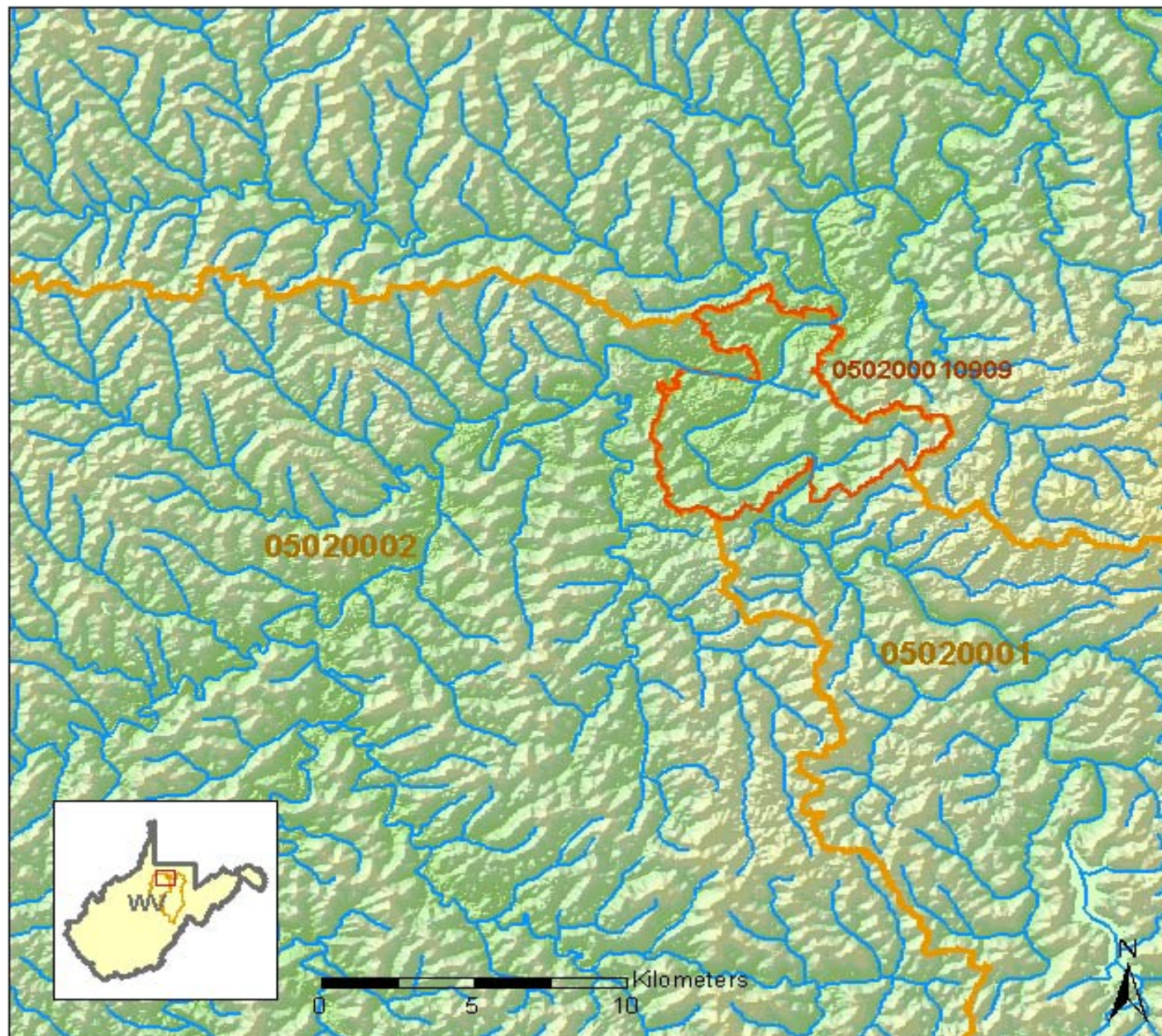
### Legend

#### NED Value (meters)



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## Random-Stratified Selection Process

Example of HUC Removed From Sampling Process

(12-Digit HUC with Upstream 8-Digit HUC)

### Legend

#### NED Value (meters)

High : 1481

Low : 68

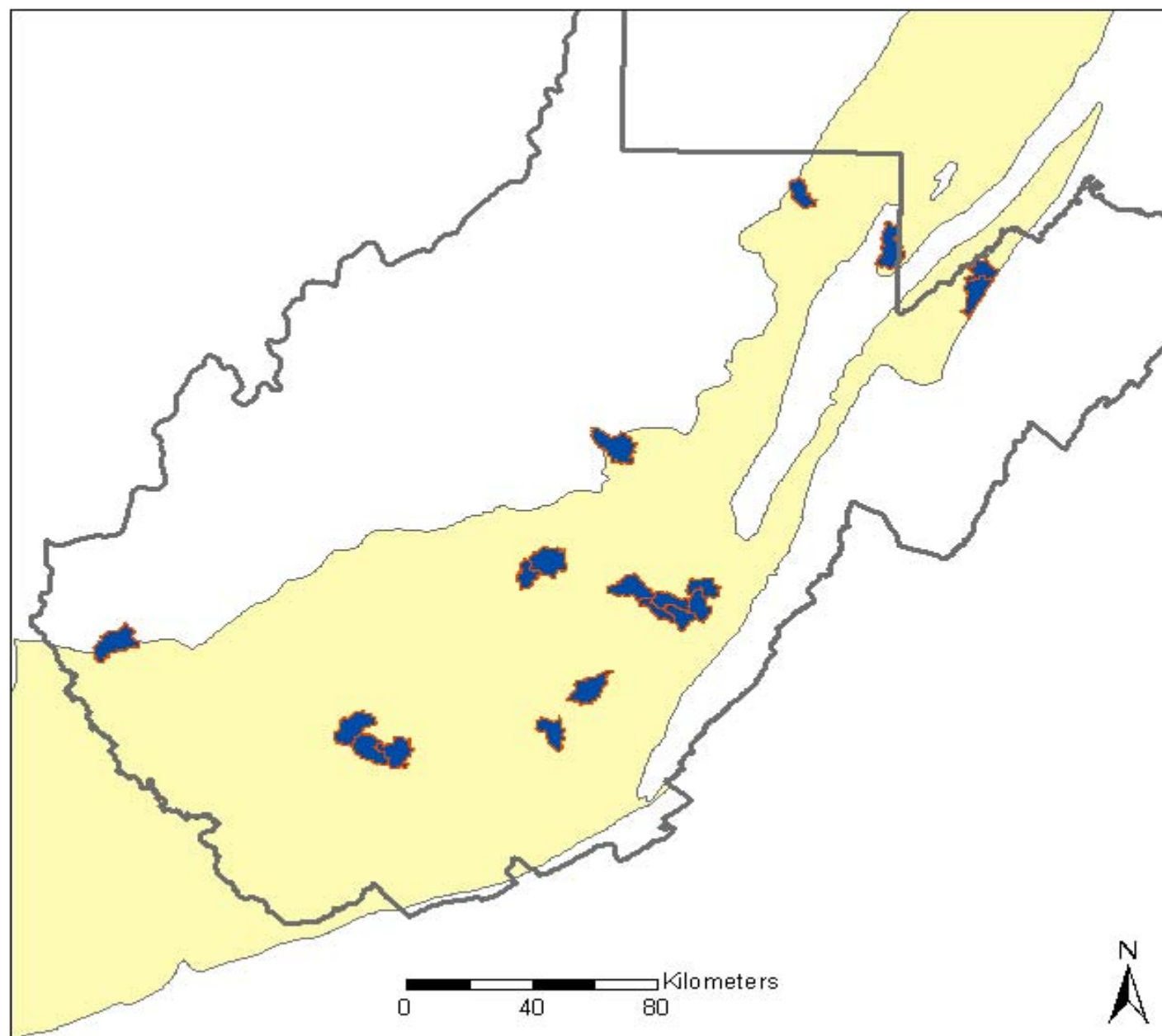
NHD

HUC 050200010909

8-digit HUCs






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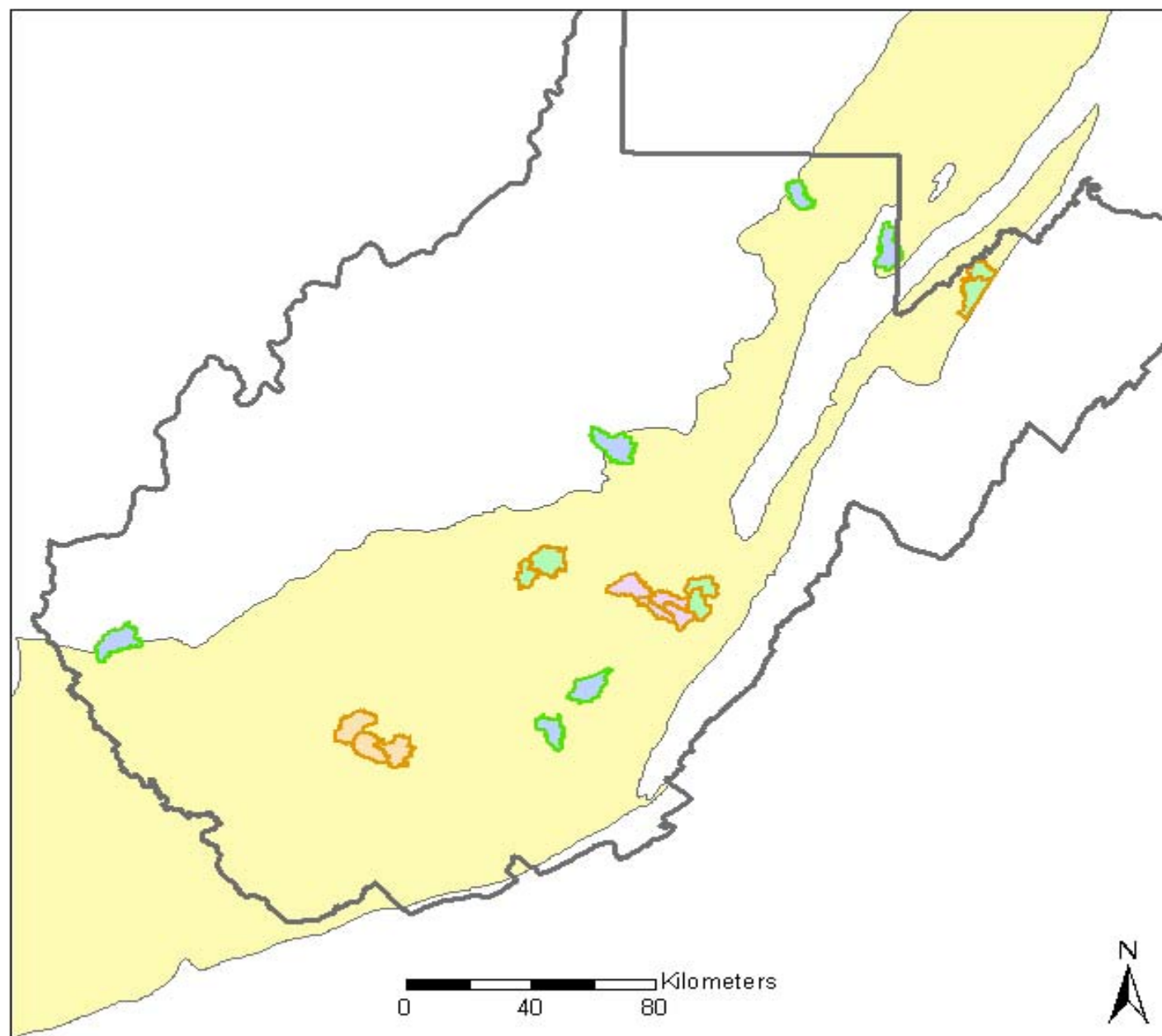
## Random-Stratified Selection Process

Weighting Procedure

### Legend

-  West Virginia
-  Central Appalachians
-  Reference, high storage





## Random-Stratified Selection Process

Weighting Procedure

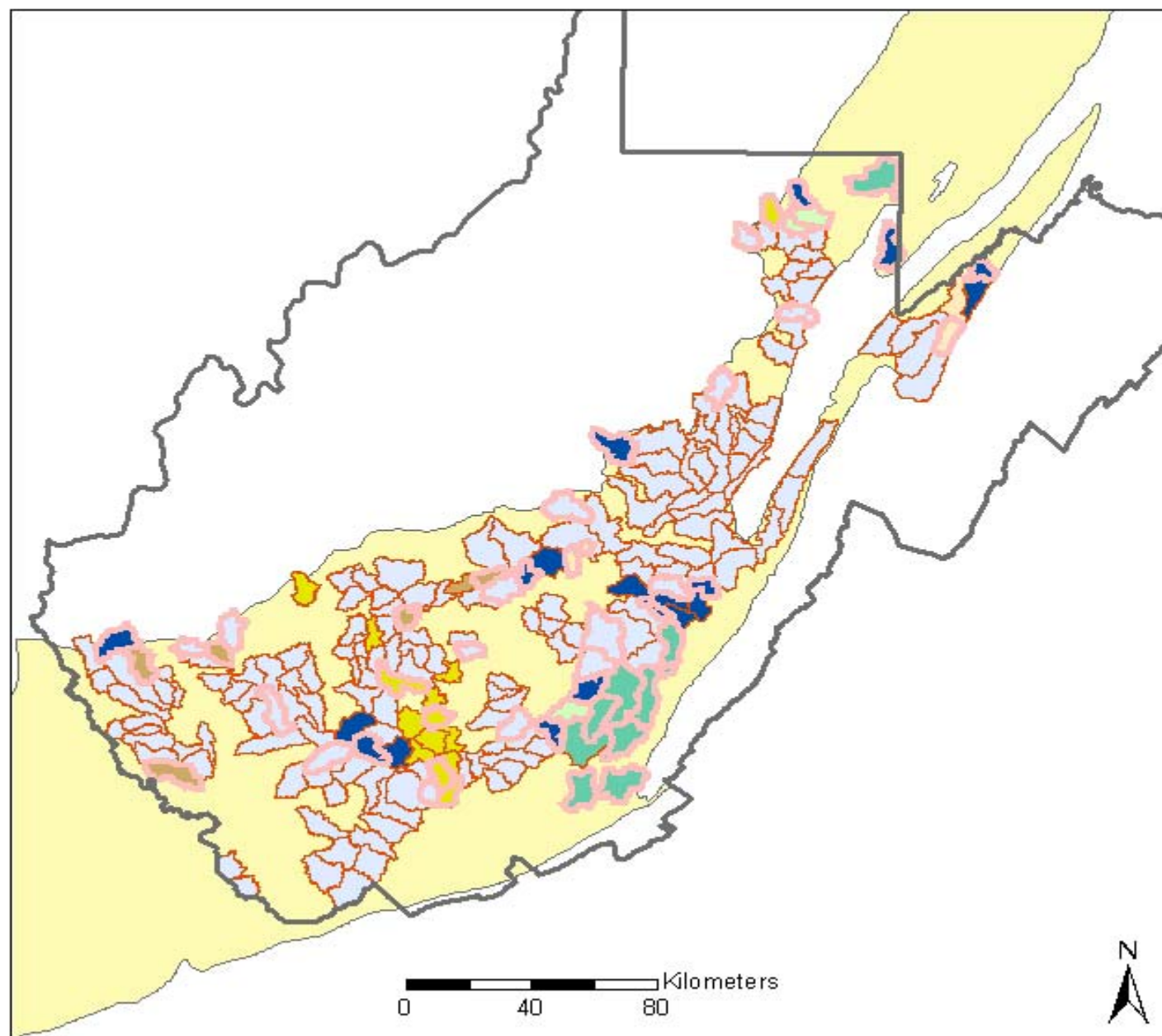
### Legend

- West Virginia
- Central Appalachians
- Independent 12-digit HUCs
- Dependent 12-digit HUCs

### Inclusion Probabilities

- 0.013
- 0.018
- 0.026
- 0.053

## Random-Stratified Selection of HUCs for Sampling



### Legend

- West Virginia
- Central Appalachians
- HUCs selected for sampling
- Reference, low storage
- Reference, high storage
- High mining, low storage
- High mining, high storage
- High agriculture, low storage
- High agriculture, high storage
- High impervious, low storage
- High impervious, high storage

## Next steps

- Site selection for 2002 within W Alleghany Plateau
- Preliminary data analysis
  - Confirm thresholds
  - Compare fish community, habitat condition across watershed classes
  - Evaluate probability of impairment
  - Multivariate analysis to confirm main driving factors
  - Methods for predicting thermal regime and associated fish community reference condition
  - IBI development



# Use of Classification and Regression Tree (CART)

## Analysis to Identify Hydrologic Thresholds for W Alleghany Plateau

Q2/watershed area



Split	Variable	PRE	Improvement
1	PSTORAGE	0.594	0.594
2	MCLENGTH	0.667	0.073

%storage < 0.031

Main channel length (km) < 13.5