# WATERShed Characterization And Prioritization for Environmental Results

# WA BERNER A GIS-based Framework for Identifying Priority Watersheds

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May 2014

# **Outline for Today**

- Examples of tools designed to assist in setting locational priorities
  - Money Magazine: Best Places to Retire
  - USDA Forest Service Spatial Analysis Tool
- What is WARPE - How does it work
- What types of data does it consider
  - Designated Uses, Impairments, Drinking Water, Nutrient Yields, Socio-economic, Impervious Cover, ...
- Hypothetical sample applications
  - MA: Designated Uses
  - OH: Nutrients
  - VT: Protection

# Where Would You Like to Retire?

- Many possible factors to consider
- Factors vary in importance from person to person

Best places to retire	- Microsoft	Internet	Explorer								_	
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### **USDA Forest Service Spatial Analysis Project**

- Aid States in setting priorities for fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks
- Esri contracted to develop GIS tool to engage public
- 13 key data layers developed by the Forest Service, States could add more
- Weightings assigned to layers by public/land managers to reflect relative importance



Source: Montana Forest Stewardship Spatial Analysis Project, Dec. 2006

WATERSCAPE Mission Statement: Recognizing resource limitations, WATERSCAPE facilitates public engagement and eases the setting of TMDL priorities by enabling States and Tribes to quickly visualize maps and compare alternative prioritization scenarios that reflect their own value system

#### How WATERSCAPE Works:

- Developed by Esri as add-on to ArcGIS
  - <u>No additional cost to user beyond ArcGIS license</u>
  - Full Esri GIS capabilities maintained, e.g. add roads or county borders as locational aids
  - Scale: HUC12 from Release 2 NHDPlus, clipped at State borders (coterminous US)
- Combines two types of "scored" State-normalized HUC12 data on properties (e.g., values/stressors) of interest in order to identify priority watersheds
  - 1. Relative Intrinsic Score percentile ranking of the density of each property of interest in each HUC12 in the State compared to the density of that property in other HUC12s in that State
  - 2. Assigned Weighting Score a value of 0-100% is assigned to each property by the user to reflect the desired extent to which that property should factor into the overall HUC12 selection vs. other properties, i.e. each property's relative importance
  - User then selects all or some of the HUC12s identified
    - Manual selection option available to supplement scored selection

# WA Data Layers for HUC12 Properties

- EPA developing core set of State-normalized data layers reflecting relative intrinsic density of values/stressors in HUC12s (clipped at State borders);
  - Drinking water
    - Source water protection area for surface intakes
    - Population served by surface drinking water systems
    - Ground water well density
  - 🛨 Designated use (Jan 2014 305(b) summaries) parent categories
    - Drinking water, recreation, agriculture, aesthetic, aquatic harvest, industrial, fish/shellfish/wildlife, exceptional
  - **★** Impaired waters (Jan 2014 303(d) summaries)
    - All impairments, nutrient-related, all but nutrient-related, pathogens, all but pathogens, sediment, all but sediment, temperature, all but temperature
  - 🛠 Nutrient yield USGS SPARROW estimates for N and P from agricultural sources; other source groupings possible
  - **★** Category 1 waters (all designated uses being met) useful for informing protection opportunities
  - 🖈 Impervious cover 2010 and 2040, based on EPA ORD's ICLUS Project (Integrated Climate and Land Use Scenarios)
  - **★** Environmental Justice combination of % low income and % minority
  - ★ Economic stress composite of families living in poverty, unemployment rate, educational attainment, per capita income, and housing affordability
  - 🛣 Climate change NHDPlus Futures being developed in partnership with USGS
  - Habitat
    - Aquatic and wetland T & E species
    - Fish habitat degradation
  - 🛠 Recovery Potential first-order screening
- More to come; States/Tribes can add their own

Key to Data Availability Completed



# Example MARSCAPE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring:

#### **Drinking Water – Source Water Protection Areas**

#### What are Source Water Protection Areas (SPAs)?

- Developed by EPA Office of Groundwater and Drinking Water (OGWDW) with locational information from fall 2010 SDWIS data
- NHDPlus used to identify catchments encountered by traveling 1 day upstream from surface drinking water intakes
  - Developed for > 9,300 intakes nationwide



(1) Navigate 24 hours time of travel(TOT) upstream from georeferenceddrinking water facility points alongNHDPlus flowlines

(2) Identify NHDPluscatchments related to the24 hour TOT flowlines

(3) Dissolve catchment boundaries to create 24 hour TOT SPA

https://statusdw.rti.org/DWMA\_Introduction.htm

7

#### Example MACRARE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Drinking Water – Source Water Protection Areas (cont.)

SPAs typically extend beyond the HUC12 containing the intake

HUC12s containing SPA area (shown in gray)

+ EPA policy prohibits public dissemination of drinking water intake locations due to water security concerns

+ Same concern for SPAs

+ EPA has released HUC12 summaries of intake density

+ Targeting only HUC12s that contain the intake often overlooks other upstream areas that immediately influence drinking water quality

Note too that the intake shown is in the upstream-most portion of the HUC12 containing it

SPA (shown with diagonal lines)

HUC12 containing intake

Intake

### Example MARGE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Drinking Water – Source Water Protection Areas (cont.)

#### SPAs often overlap – we use cumulative SPA percent scoring

California

+ Note that 2 of the 3 HUC12s with the highest cumulative % of SPA area do not have intakes in them



Intake

## **Example MARGE** Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Drinking Water – Source Water Protection Areas (cont.)

#### **Decile Grouping of State-normalized HUC12s**





Drinking Water System Population Served Scoring

### **Example MARGE** Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Designated Uses and Impaired Waters – Catchment Area

#### How many miles are in an acre?

- Point, line (river/stream), and polygon (pond/lake) geometries are used by States to classify waters for designated uses and to report impairments
- Challenge to score HUC12s Solution: catchment area



be ranked against other HUC12s in that State

# Example MACROCAPE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring:

#### **Designated Uses and Impaired Waters – Catchment Area (cont.)**

Process from previous slide repeated for all points, lines and polygons in each HUC12 in order to calculate total area of interest, i.e. sum of the intersecting catchments
Decile groupings (intrinsic WATERSCAPE scores) then derived for each State



Decile groupings of ID and MT HUC12s based on waters with a "Recreation" designated use

#### **Example MACESEARE** Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Designated Uses and Impaired Waters – Catchment Area (cont.)



Decile groupings of NY HUC12s based on waters with nutrient-related\* impairments

\* Nutrient-related parent categories include: algal growth, ammonia, noxious aquatic plants, nutrients, and organic enrichment/ oxygen depletion

#### **Example MACHERE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring:** Designated Uses and Impaired Waters – Catchment Area (cont.)



Decile groupings of WV HUC12s based on Category 1 waters – meeting all designated uses

#### **Example MACOUNTE** Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Census Data-based Properties – EJ and Economic Stress

.



- HUC12 in IL shown in beige
- 4 intersecting block groups shown in rose
- Clockwise from upper left, HUC12 area comprised of 40.2% from block group 5004, 28.6% from block group 5001, 7.0% from 5002, and 24.2% from 5003
   These block group weightings are used to compute HUC12-scale properties from Census data

Note: There are approximately 216,000 block groups in the lower 48 States; they generally contain 600-3000 people

#### **Example MACRAPE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring:** Census Data-based Properties – EJ and Economic Stress (cont.)

#### **Environmental Justice (EJ)**

- Comprised of block group % minority and % low income (2 times poverty level) from latest Census data
  - Primary sociodemographic from EPA's EJSCREEN tool\*
- HUC12 scoring normalized for each State based on area weighting of block groups as outlined in previous slide



#### Decile groupings of MO HUC12s for EJ

\* See: http://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/plan-ej/index.html?

#### **Example MACRAFE** Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: Census Data-based Properties – EJ and Economic Stress (cont.)

#### **Composite Economic Stress Index**

- Based on process developed by the Sonoran Institute;\* applied at block group scale and updated to reflect newer data
- Unemployment rate
- % of families living in poverty
- Educational attainment (% with college degree)
- Per capita income
- Housing affordability (mobility) median family income divided by median house price in county



Decile groupings of GA HUC12s for Economic Stress

\* Profile of the Rural Inland Northwest, Measures of Natural and Socioeconomic Distress. Sonoran Institute, Jan. 2005

#### Example MARGE Intrinsic HUC12 Scoring: SPARROW Incremental Agriculture N and P Yield\*





Decile groupings of LA HUC12s based on SPARROW-derived incremental agriculture yields for N (left) and P (right)

- How else would you like to see SPARROW yields grouped by source?
  - Point sources
  - Air deposition
  - ...?

\* Provisional permission granted by USGS to use the SPARROW incremental agriculture N and P yield results pending further 18 documentation on the methodology used to derive the HUC12 estimates

# WARPE HUC12 Scoring Scheme

		HUC #1 HUC #2 HUC #3		HL	JC #4	HUC #5					
	User	Intrinsic				Intrinsic				Intrinsic	
Property	Assigned	нис	Total HUC	Intrinsic	Total HUC	нис	Total HUC	Intrinsic	Total HUC	нис	Total HUC
. iopeity	Weight	Score	Score	HUC Score	Score	Score	Score	HUC Score	Score	Score	Score
	(%)	(0 - 10)	(B)(C)/100	(0 - 10)	(B)(E)/100	(0 - 10)	(B)(G)/100	(0 - 10)	(B)(I)/100	(0 - 10)	(B)(K)/100
Property 1	20	0	0	4	0.8	5	1	0	0	0	0
Property 2	10	2	0.2	2	0.2	5	0.5	0	0	0	0
Property 3	0	1	0	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Property 4	10	3	0.3	0	0	4	0.4	0	0	0	0
Property 5	5	0	0	2	0	2	0.1	0	0	0	0
Property 6	5	5	0.25	1	0.05	2	0.1	0	0	0	0
Property 7	10	5	0.5	0	0	5	0.5	0	0	0	0
Property 8	3	1	0.03	3	0.09	0	0	0	0	0	0
Property 9	2	4	0.08	3	0.06	0	0	1	0.02	0	0
Property 10	15	0	0	3	0.45	5	0.75	0	0	0	0
Property 11	10	0	0	2	0.2	3	0.3	0	0	0	0
Property 12	10	0	0	1	0.1	3	0.3	0	0	0	0
TOTAL			1.36		1.95		3.95		0.02		0

 A given HUC's total score is the product of the user assigned weight (0-100%) multiplied by the intrinsic HUC score (0-10) for each property

- In the above example, there are 12 properties, with non-zero weightings assigned to 11 of them (the user has chosen not to consider Property #3 in this case)
- The Total HUC score for HUC #1 = 1.36; HUC #2 = 1.95; HUC #3 = 3.95; and HUC #4 = 0.02. HUC #5's total = 0, thus it will not be displayed on the map with an assigned color.



# Hypothetical Example MARSE Application: Designated Uses in Massachusetts



# Example MARSE Application: Designated Uses in Massachusetts (cont.)

1. Select MA HUCs as study area

2. Select properties of interest from "Properties" dropdown; will populate in "Assign Property Weights" window

Assign weightings until reach
 100% total

Note "Remaining weight to assign" feature lets you know when you've assigned 100% and turns from red to green

4. Hit "Calculate Scores" when ready to produce map

#### WATERSCAPE User Interface

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	Designated Use	Fish Shellfish and Wild	9 Ilife Protection and Propagal	ion 🗖 5		
	Designated Use	Industrial			0	
	Designated Use	Other			0	Ξ
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	Designated Use	Recreation		30		
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21

#### Example MACRAPE Application: Designated Uses in Massachusetts (cont.)

#### Map of MA HUC12s from Designated Use Prioritization Assigned on Previous Slide



# Example MARSE Application: Designated Uses in Massachusetts (cont.)

#### In addition to a map, a report can be generated to document steps and resulting HUC12 scores

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6	MA_010900	040101	10	900040	101		8.5				
7	MA_010802	040106	10	802040	106		8.05				
8	MA_010700	040202	10	700040	202		8				
9	MA_010700	061403	10	700061	403		8				
10	MA_010900	020106	10	900020	106		7.55				
11	MA_010700	061402	10	700061	402		7.5				
12	MA_010700	061404	10	700061	404		7.5				
13	MA_010802	040203	10	802040	203		7.5				
14	MA_010900	020103	10	900020	103		6.6				
15	MA_010700	040201	10	700040	201		6.5				
16	MA_010700	050102	10	700050	102		6.5				
17	MA_010900	030101	10	900030	101		6.5				
18	MA_010900	030102	10	900030	102		6.5				
19	MA_010900	010902	10	900010	902		6.05				
20	MA_010802	020204	10	802020	204		6				
21	MA_010802	040201	10	802040	201		6				
22	MA_010802	060104	10	802060	104		6				
23	MA_010900	010402	10	900010	402		6				
24	MA_010900	040803	10	900040	803		6				
25	MA_010900	010302	10	900010	302		5.5				
26	MA_010900	020105	10	900020	105		5.5				
27	MA_010900	040202	10	900040	202		5.5				
28	MA_010700	061207	10	700061	207		5				
29	MA_010700	061301	10	700061	301		5				
30	MA_010700	061303	10	700061	303		5				
31	MA_010802	030105	10	802030	105		5				
32	MA_010802	030301	10	802030	301		5				
33	MA 010802	040202	10	802040	202		5				

#### EPA Waterscape Report

4/16/2014 3:32 PM

Analysis	Summary
Title	
Study Area	

MA
MA
All Properties
MA Designated Use Prioritization

#### Steps

Type Description

> tep Action Description Score Calculation Designated Use Weights

#### Weights

Group	Property	Invert	Weight	Step
Impaired Waters	All Impairments	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	All Impairments minus Nutrients related	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	Nutrient related Impairment	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	All Impairments minus Pathogens	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	Pathogen Impairment	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	All Impairments minus Sediment	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	Sediment Impairment	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	All minus Temperature	0	0	0
Impaired Waters	Temperature	0	0	0
Socio-Economic	EJSCREEN PrDemind	0	0	0
Socio-Economic	Economic Indicator	0	0	0
SPARROW	SPARROW N ag yield	0	0	0
SPARROW	SPARROW P ag yield	0	0	0
Impervious Cover	ICLUS2010	0	0	0
Impervious Cover	ICLUS2040	0	0	0
Designated Use	Aesthetic Value	0	5	1
Designated Use	Agricultural	0	0	0
Designated Use	Aquatic Life Harvesting	0	10	1
Designated Use	Fish Shellfish and Wildlife Protection and Propagation	0	5	1
Designated Use	Industrial	0	0	0
Designated Use	Other	0	0	0
Designated Use	Public Water Supply	0	50	1
Designated Use	Recreation	0	30	1
Designated Use	Category 1	0	0	0
Drinking Water	PCT Overlapping SPA Area	0	0	0

23



- See GIS "Dealer" in the Lobby for a Demo in your State
- Volunteer to test in your State
  - Pre-loaded WAZEREAPE
     can be downloaded from
     Esri website
    - No cost beyond your existing Esri license
  - User's Manual, "how-to" webinars to follow

# Supplemental Hypothetical Examples

of

# Advanced WA CREAPE Applications

Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio
Protection Prioritization in Vermont

# Hypothetical Example MARGE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio

A Multi-step Example – can narrow domain after each step

- 1. Find HUC12s with concentrated "Values" -
  - Identify HUC12s that are either designated for drinking water or recreation use or have surface drinking water SPA area in them

#### 2. Evaluate nutrient "Stressors" –

- A) Select HUC12s that have nutrient-related impairments
- B) Identify HUC12s that rank in the top 20% based on agriculture-related N incremental yields from SPARROW
- 3. Find subset of HUC12s from Step 1 that are also in Step 2A
- 4. From Step 3, find subset of HUC12s that are also in Step 2B

# Example MARSEAPE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio (cont.)

1. Find HUC12s with concentrated "Values" -

Identify HUC12s that are either designated for drinking water or recreation use or have surface drinking water SPA area in them

EPA Waterscape		
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Drinking Water         PCT Overlapping SPA Area         34           Designated Use         Public Water Supply         33	3 < score ≤ 4 4 < score ≤ 5 5 < score ≤ 6 6 < score ≤ 7	
Remaining weight to assign 100 Calculate Scores Save Scores	<pre>&gt; &lt; score 5 8</pre>	
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# Example MARRE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio (cont.)

#### 2A. Select HUC12s with nutrient-related impairments

EPA Waterscape	□×	
Analysis Title Study Area Properties	A Port /////	
OH  OH  All Properties		
OH Nutrient Prioritization New Open		
Analysis Step	Assign 100% Weightin	g to Nutrient Impairment Property
Source OH_S2 Target OH_S3		8
Generate Subset       Select Features       0 <          Step2Score          Step2Score          Selection		
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Impaired Waters All minus Temperature 0 0	□ 0 ■ 0 < score < 1	
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Remaining weight to assign 100 Calculate Scores Save Scores	4 \$ \$00F \$ 3 3 \$ \$core \$ 4 4 \$ \$core \$ 5 5 \$ \$core \$ 6 6 \$ \$core \$ 7	
Analysis Summary	7 < score ≤ 8 8 < score ≤ 9	
Step Action Layer Description	■ 9 < score ≤ 10 □ ObioNutrientPrioritization S1	
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# Example MARSCAPE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio (cont.)

#### 2B. Identify HUC12s in top 20% of Incremental Agriculture N Yield



### Example MACRAPE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio (cont.)

3. Find subset of HUC12s from Step 1 that are also in Step 2A, i.e., those that have either a drinking water or recreation designated use or have SPA area in them **AND** have nutrient-related impairments



# Example MARSE Application: Nutrient Prioritization in Ohio (cont.)

4. From Step 3, find subset of HUC12s that are also in Step 2B, i.e., those that have either a drinking water or recreation designated use or have SPA area in them and have nutrient-related impairments **AND** rank in the top 20% of agriculture incremental N yield



#### Hypothetical Example MARGE Application: Protection in Vermont

- 1. Identify HUC12s with impairments
  - Make a "Switch" selection to identify watersheds with no known/georeferenced impairments, i.e. select HUC12s not colored in below left image
- 2. From HUC12s identified in Step 1, select those ranking in top 50% in terms of waters meeting all designated uses, i.e. "clean" waters
- 3. From HUC12s identified in Step 2, identify those projected to receive the highest 20% of impervious cover stress in 2040



32

# Example MARSEAPE Application: Protection in Vermont (cont.)

#### **Final Map**

Identified 8 HUC12 watersheds that have no known/georeferenced impairments AND rank in top 50% of concentration of Category 1 "clean" waters AND rank in the top 20% of projected 2040 impervious cover stress