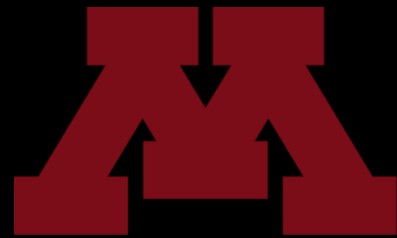


# Collaborative Geodesign in Practice

Len Kne

*University of Minnesota*

*lenkne@umn.edu*



# Transdisciplinary Team

- David Pitt Landscape Architecture
- Bryan Runck Geography
- Carissa Slotterback Policy
- Nick Jordan Agro Ecology
- David Mulla Soil Science
- Mike Reichenbach Adult Education
- Len Kne GISci and Technology
- Many more...

I'm the geek

points  
lines  
polygons

bits and bytes





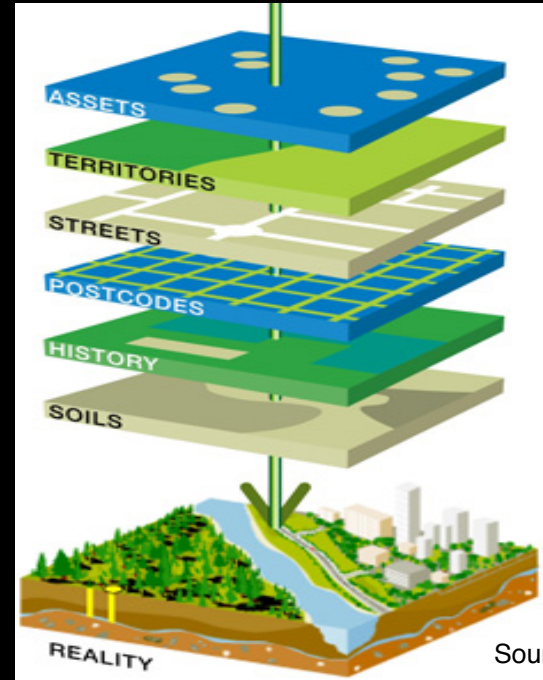
**U-SPATIAL**

Support for Spatial  
Research

# What is GIS?

A geographic information system (GIS) integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analyzing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

A GIS helps you answer questions and solve problems by looking at your data in a way that is **quickly understood and easily shared**.

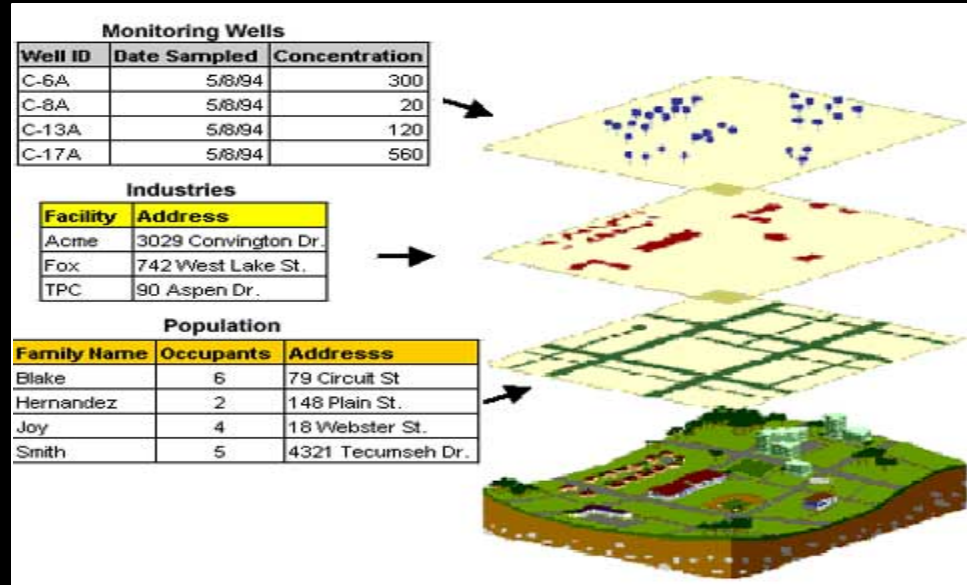


# Layers

Main concept of GIS and representing reality

Pull apart themes

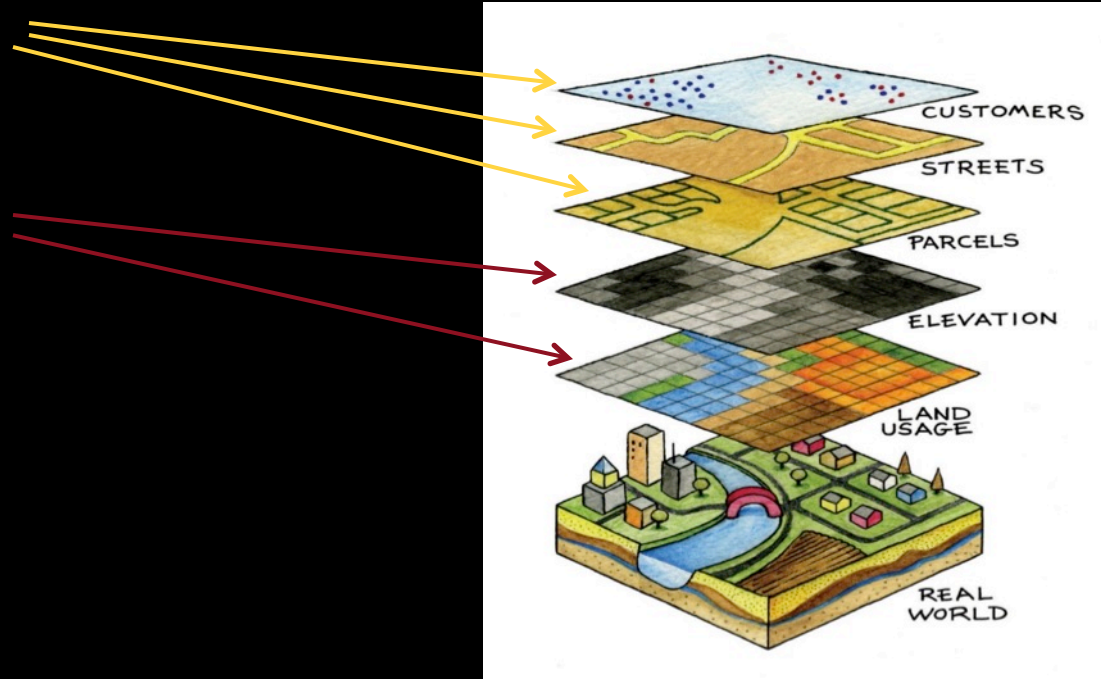
Each layer sits on top of another and has a unique relationship



# Types of Spatial Data

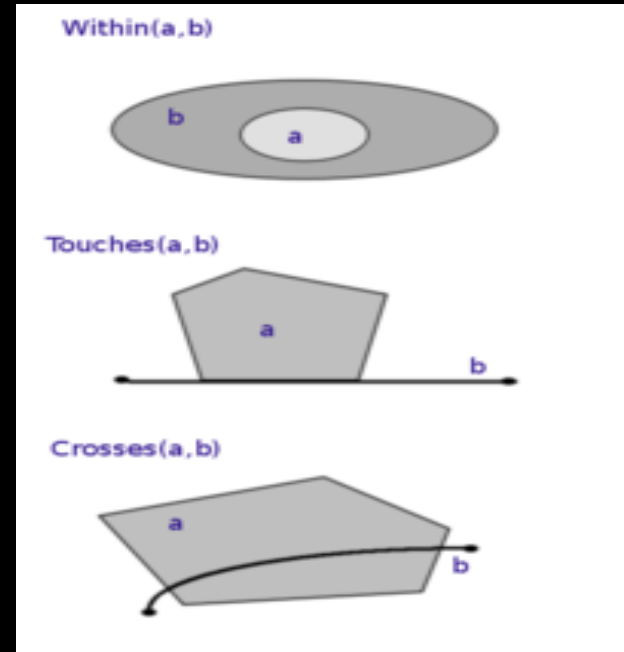
Vector Data

Raster Data



# Spatial Relationships

Spatial relationships  
define how these layers  
interact with one another  
“The Power of GIS”

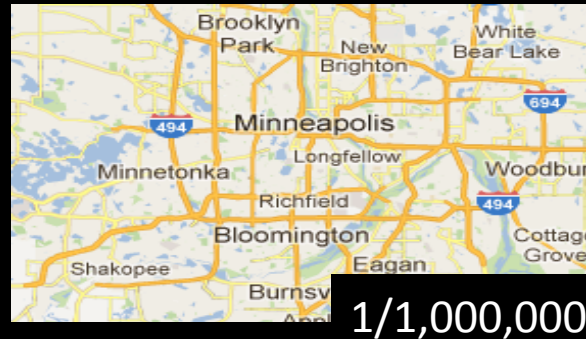
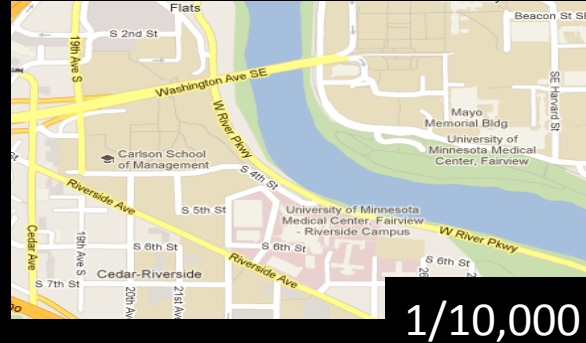


# Scale

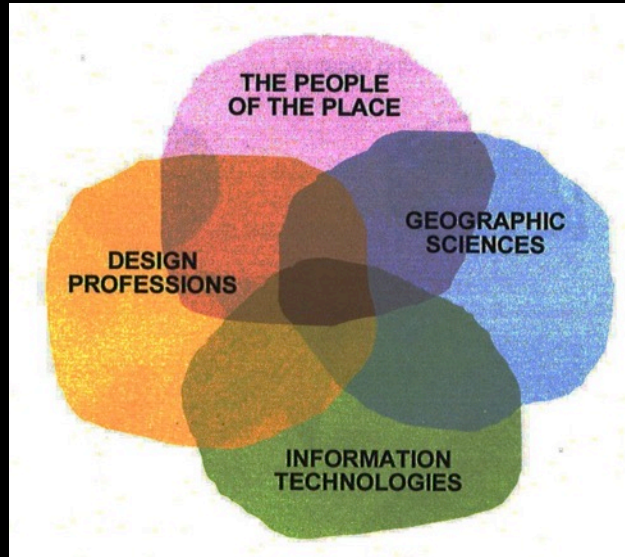
Real world to map  
representation

Spatial relationships are  
NOT affected by scale

Details are affected by scale  
and how entities are  
represented



# Definition of Geodesign

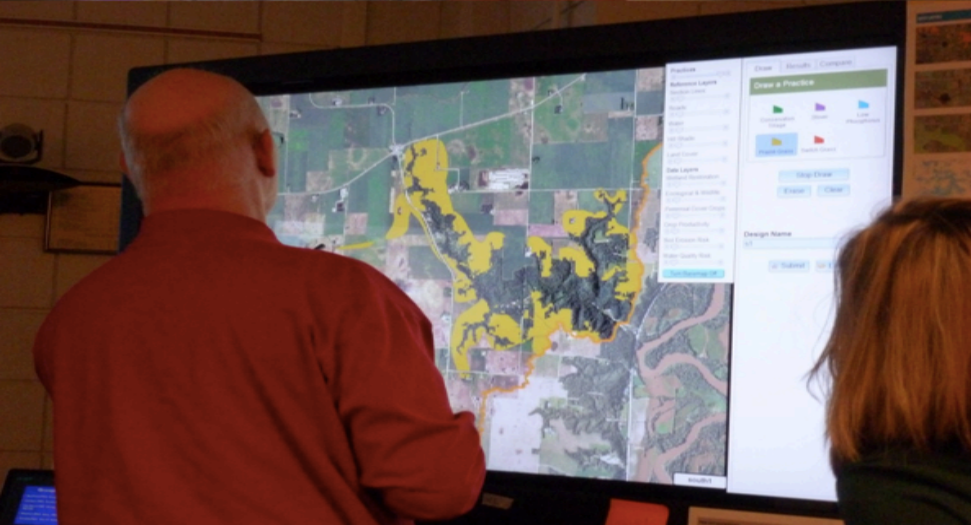
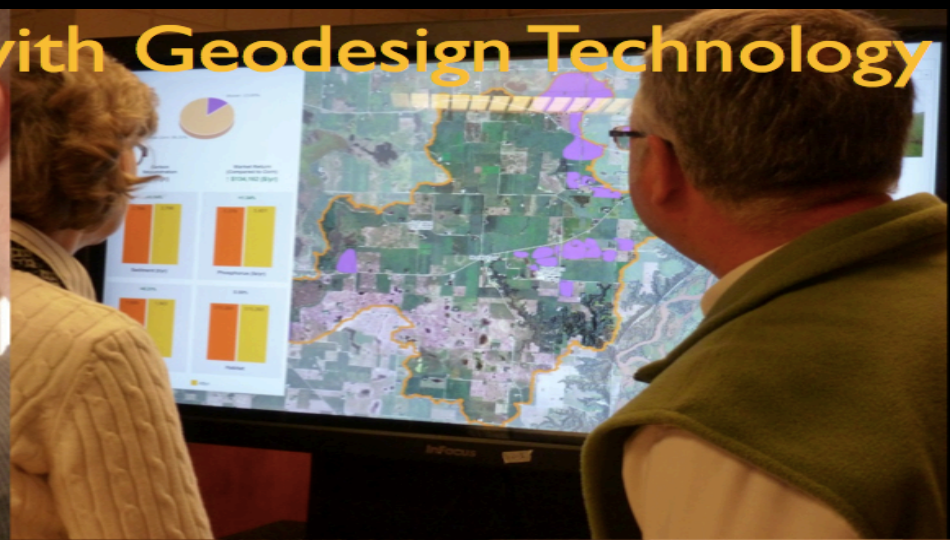


Geodesign requires collaboration among the design professionals, geographical sciences, information technologies, and the people of the place.

Carl Steinitz. 2012. *A Framework for Geodesign: Changing Geography by Design*. Redlands, CA: ESRI



# Stakeholder Engagement with Geodesign Technology



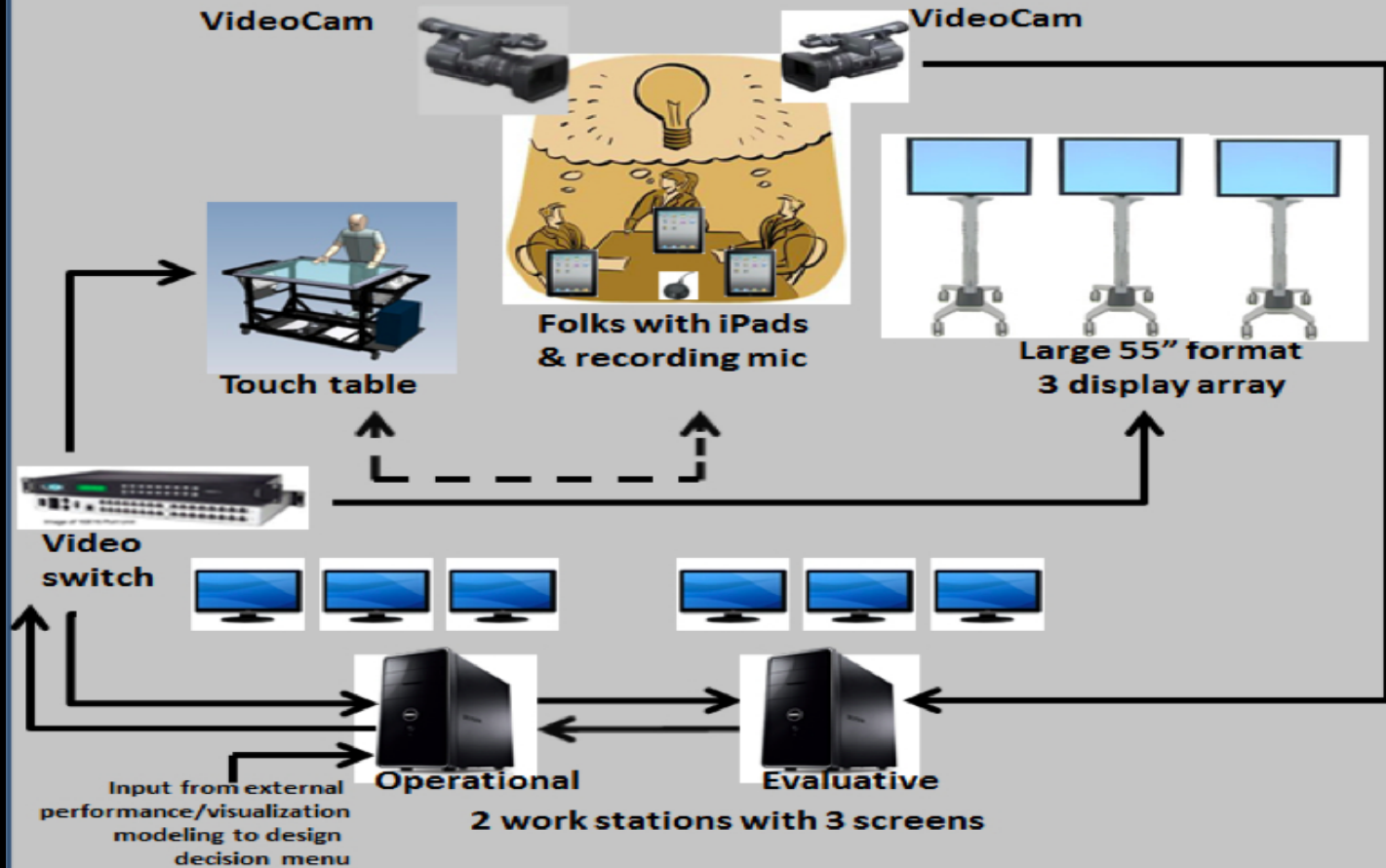


# The Decision Lab

Decision Lab Schematic



# Decision Lab Module



# The Lab

Division Lab Schematic



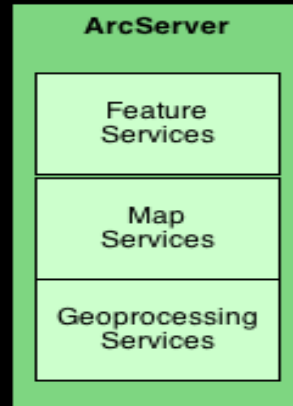
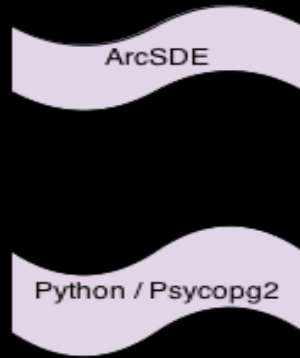
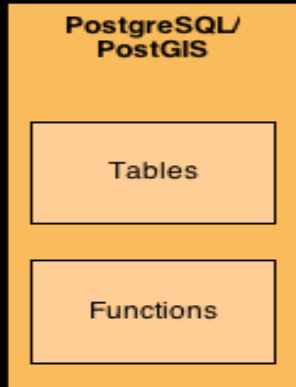
# Mobile Geodesign

# Mobile Geodesign

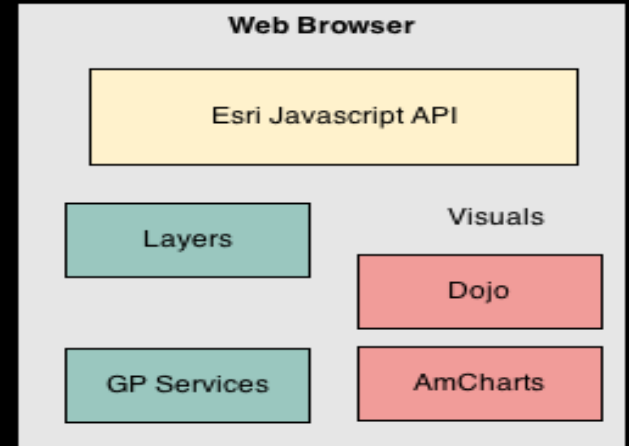


# System Architecture

Server

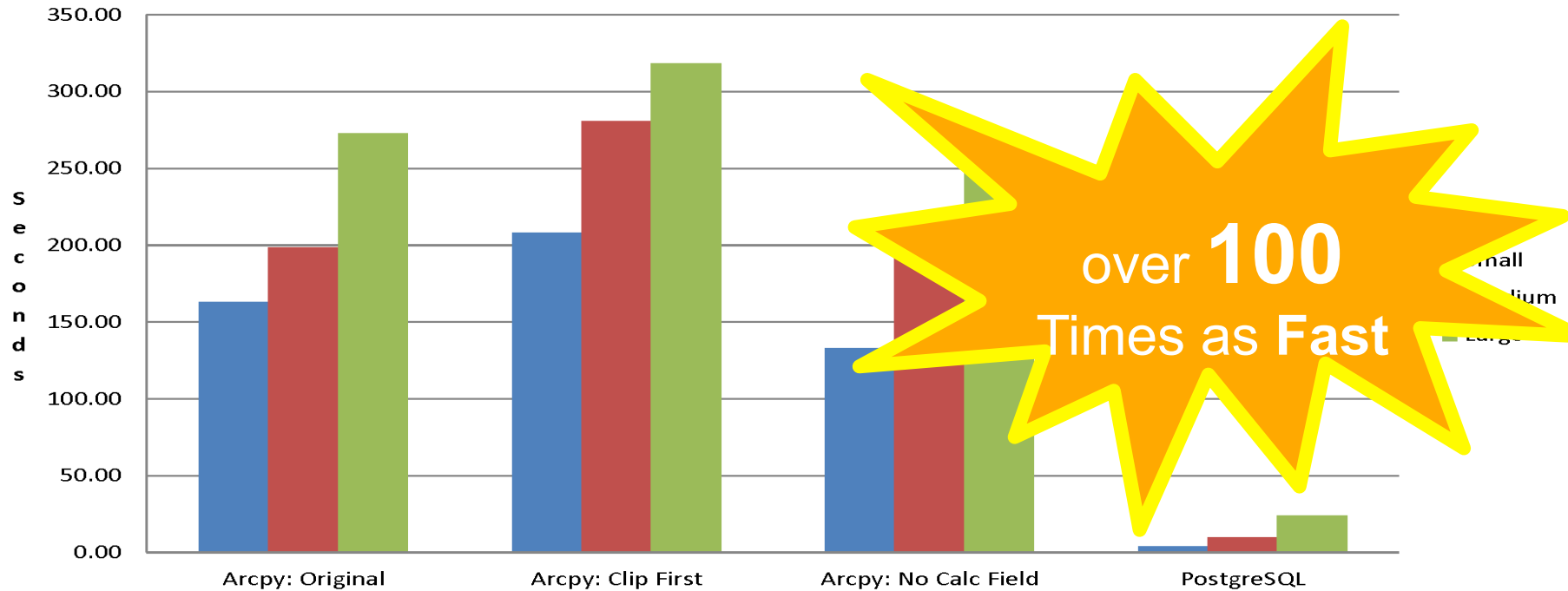


Client



# Model Method Time Test Results

## Geodesign Method Comparison Arcpy vs. PostgreSQL



# Case Study 1



# Seven Mile Creek Watershed

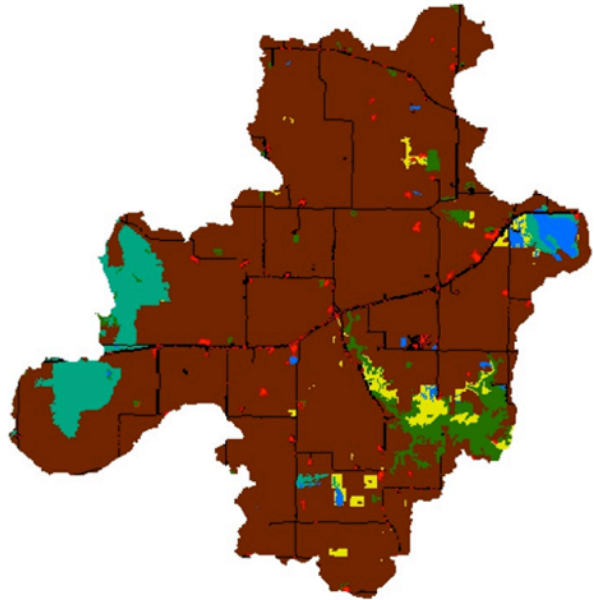


Minnesota

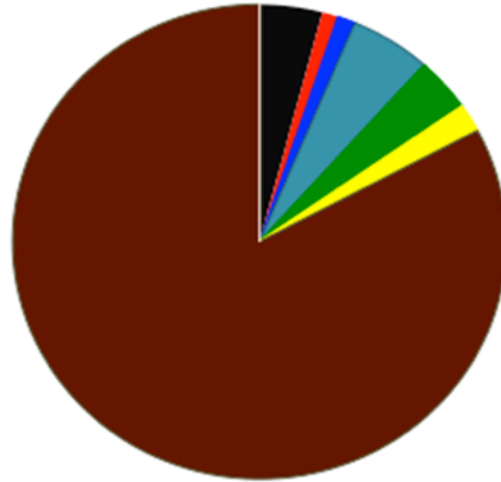
Nicollet County

Seven Mile Creek  
watershed

# Current Land Use



Area 95 km<sup>2</sup>



> 80% corn/soybean

- Roads
- Residential
- Water
- Wetland
- Forest
- Grassland
- Switchgrass
- Conventional tillage
- Conservation tillage
- Low P fertilizer



Land Cover >>> Water Quality

# Solution? Strategic Biomass Production to Create Multifunctional Landscapes

Provide **ecosystem services**

- Water quality
- Biodiversity
- Food, fiber, fuel

# Stakeholders' Goal: find win-win-win-wins

↓ TSS (SWAT modeling)

↓ Total P (SWAT modeling)

↓ Runoff (SWAT modeling)

↑ Habitat value (DNR modeling)

↑ Market return (UMN modeling)

↑ Landscape appearance of practices included in design

↑ Carbon sequestration (InVest modeling)




# Solution? Land cover



# Solution? Land cover


# How?

A photograph of a diverse native grass mixture with various species and colors, including tall brown stalks and yellow and purple flowers.

Native Grass Mixture

A photograph of a dense field of green switchgrass.

Switchgrass


A photograph of large bales of corn stover covered in blue plastic mulch, sitting in a field.

Corn Stover



Solution? Land cover


# Collaboration + Geodesign

A field of tall, diverse native grasses with various colors and textures.

Native Grass Mixture

A field of dense, green switchgrass with long, narrow leaves.

Switchgrass

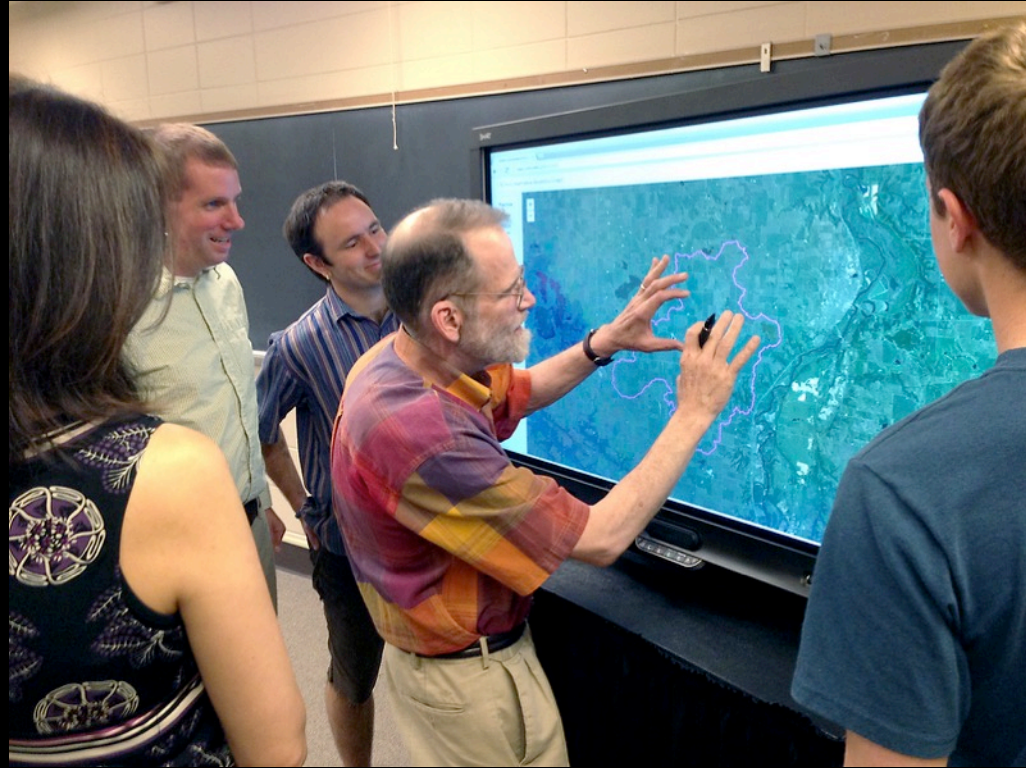
A field of dry, brown corn stover with a blue tarp covering a pile of it.

Corn Stover



# Collaborative Geodesign Workshops

- 8 meetings
  - 4 background
  - 4 with tool









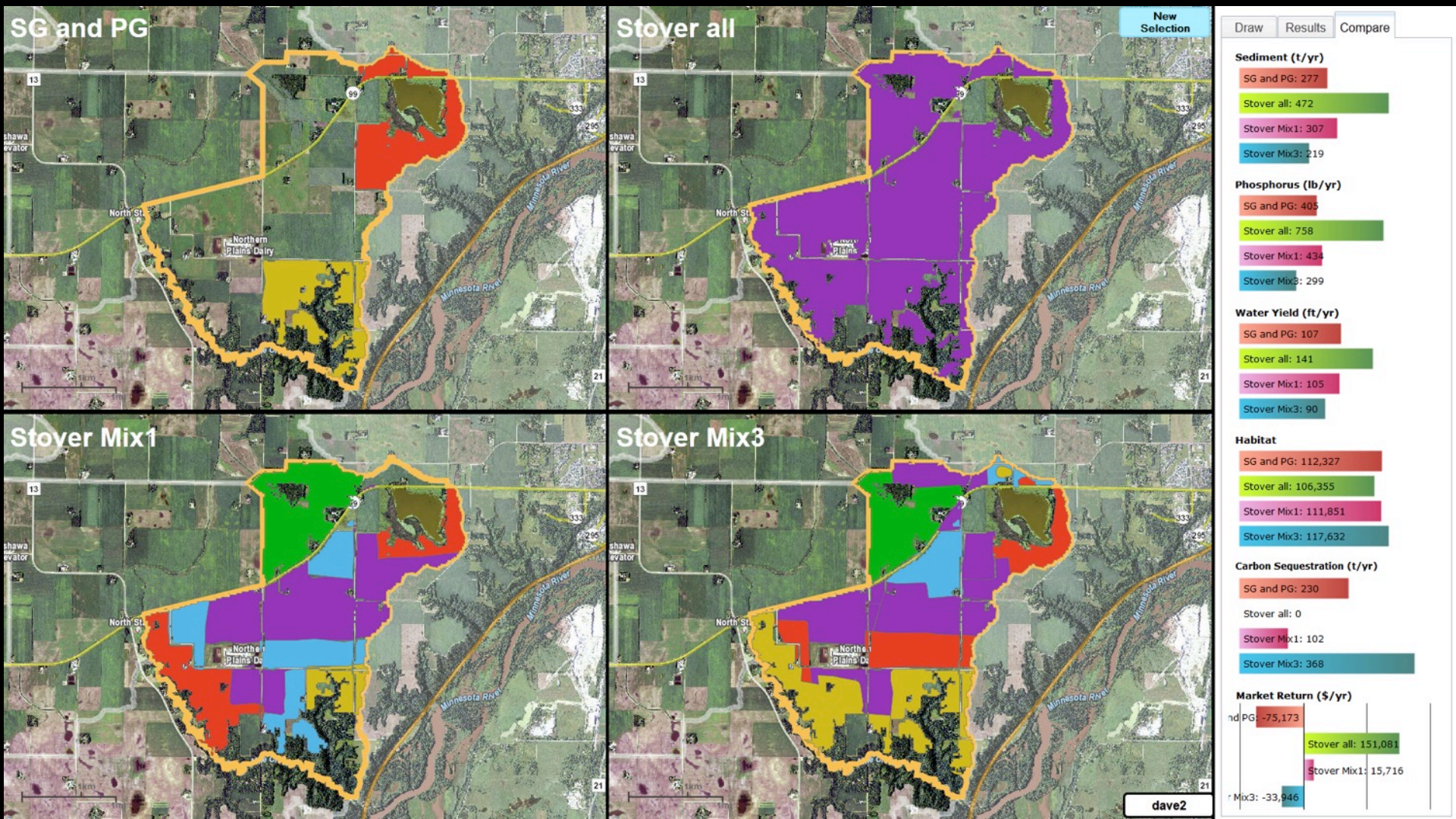




# Show video

- <https://youtu.be/nXdW81Q7Kyl?t=40s>





# Collaborative Geodesign Results

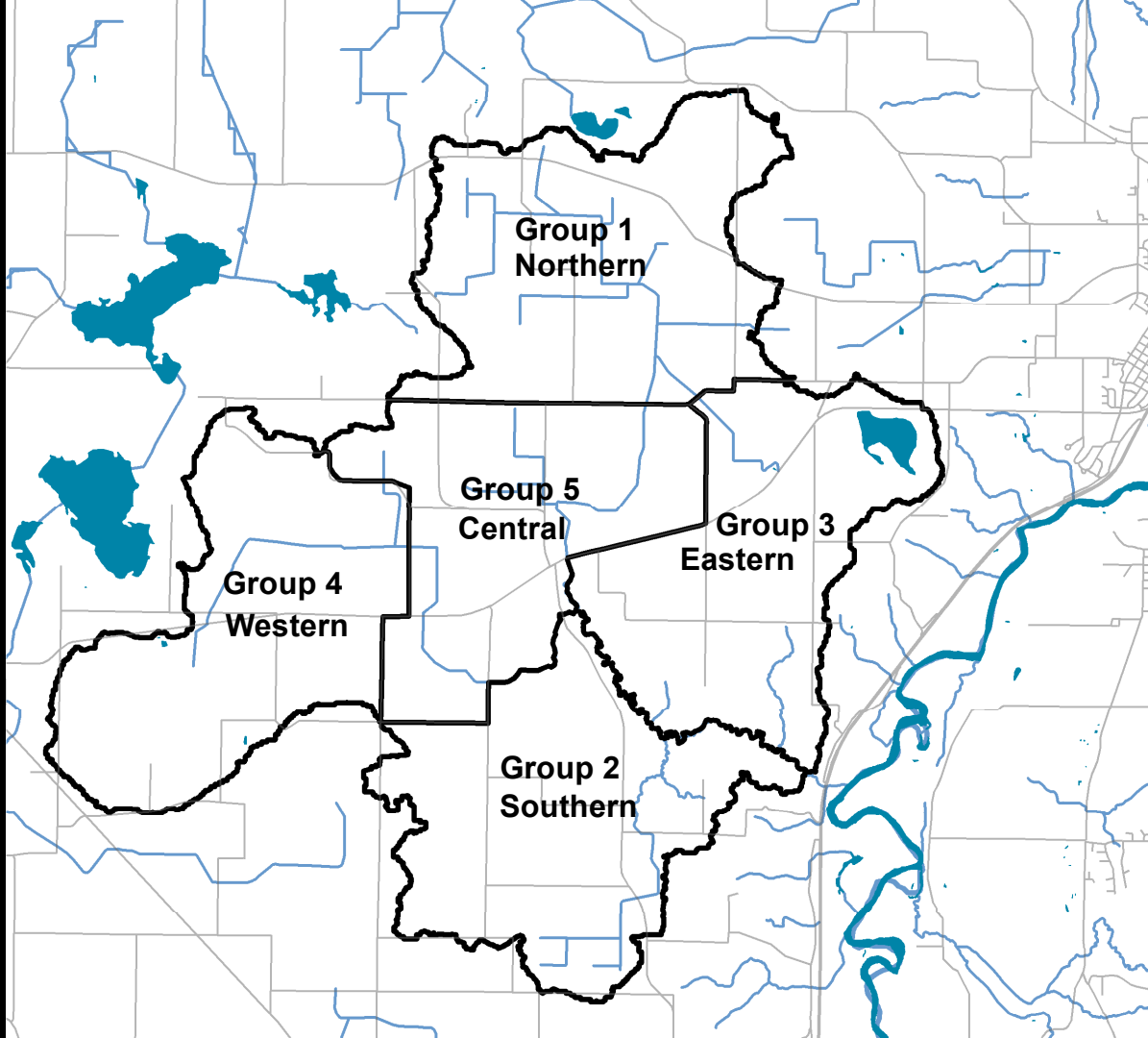
How did participants respond to the quantitative feedback and alter their designs?



# Collaborative Geodesign Research

- 8 Surveys
- 2 Sets of interviews
- 1 focus group

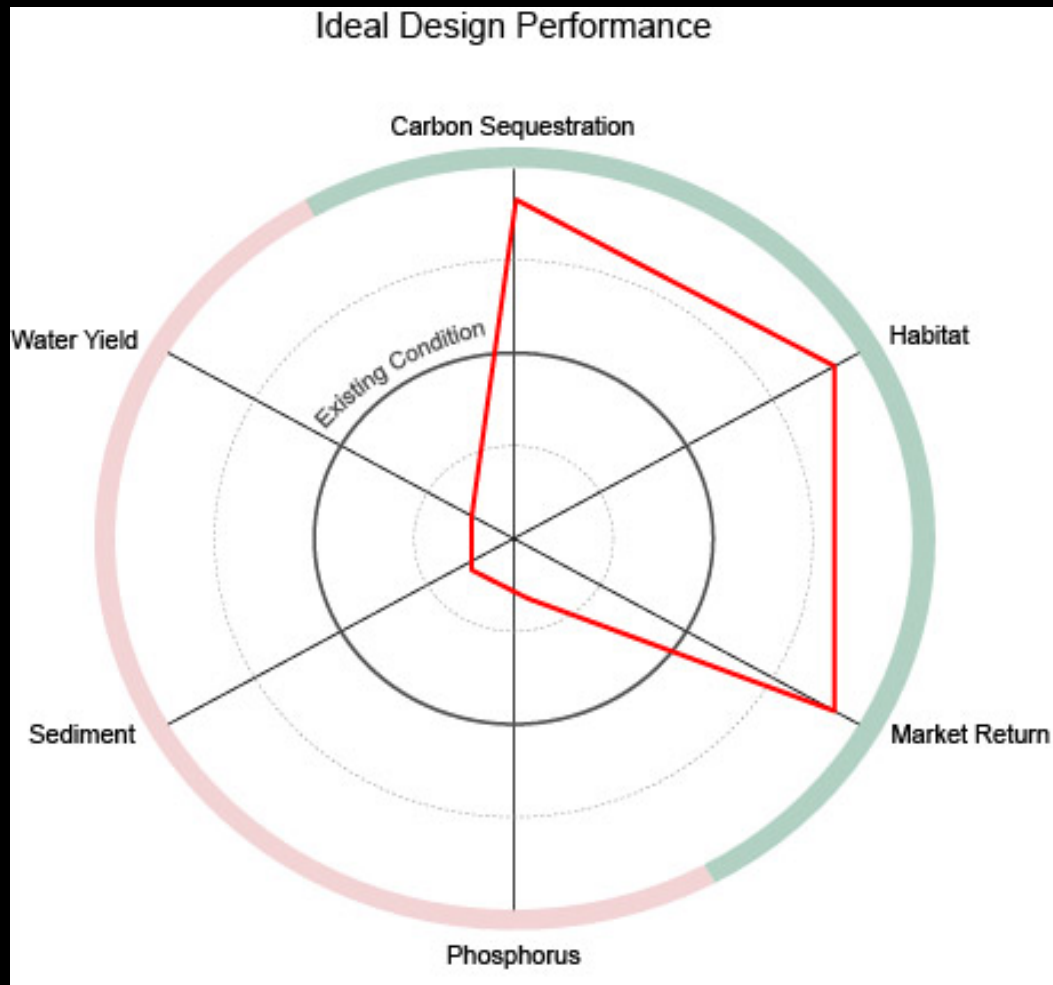
# Subwatershed Design Areas

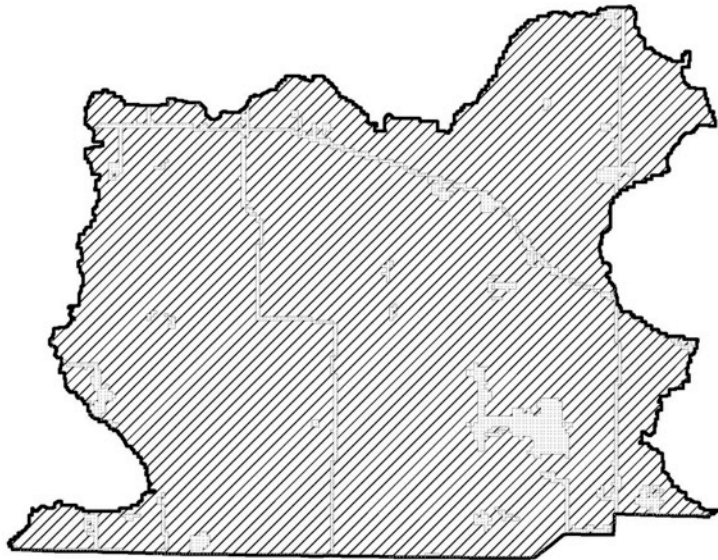


- Roads
- Lakes
- Streams
- Minnesota River

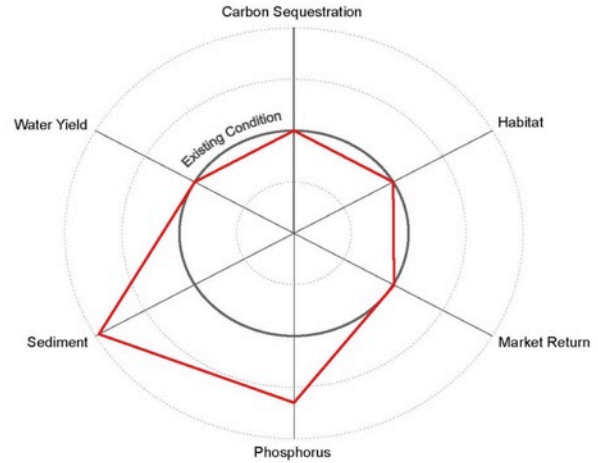


Win-Win  
Win-Win  
Win-Win

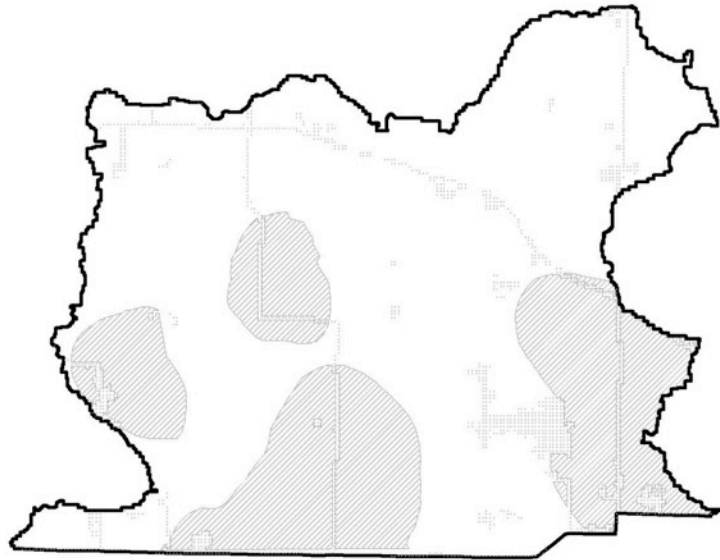




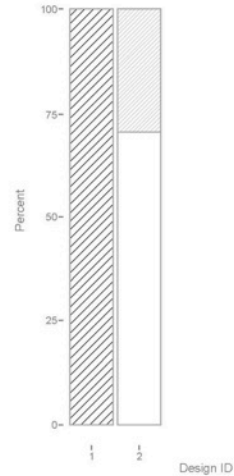
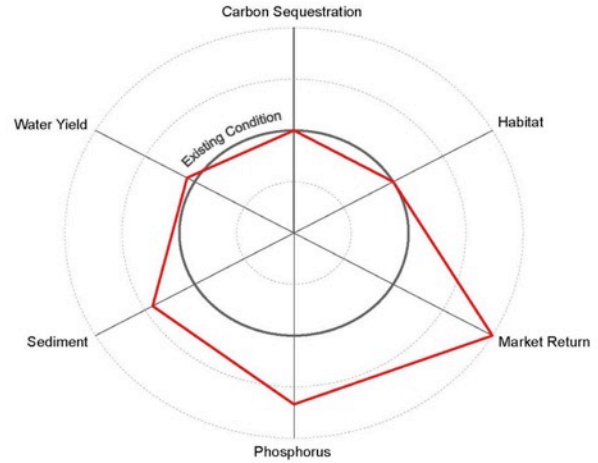
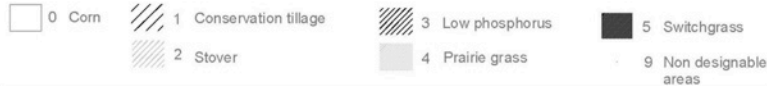
Land use practice



Design ID



Land use practice



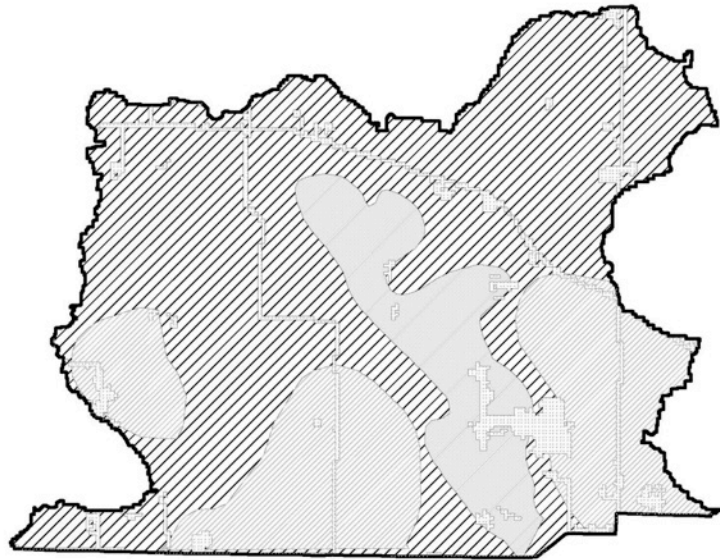


Group: 1

Design name:

North cons tillage minus  
stover and prairie

ID: 3



Land use practice



0



1



2

Stover

Conservation tillage



3



4



5



9

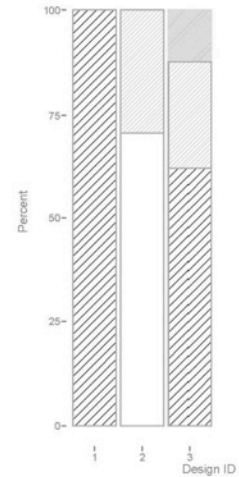
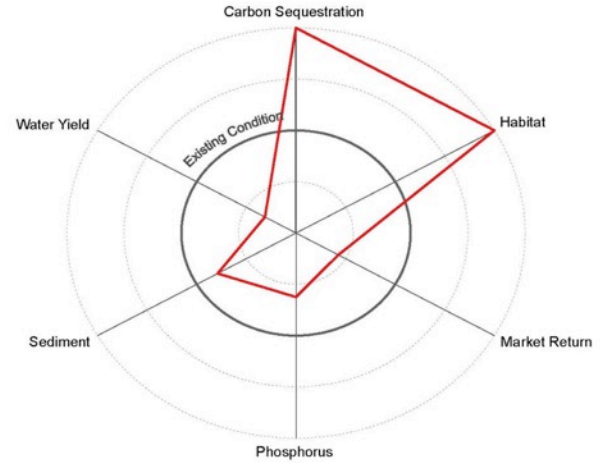
Non designable  
areas

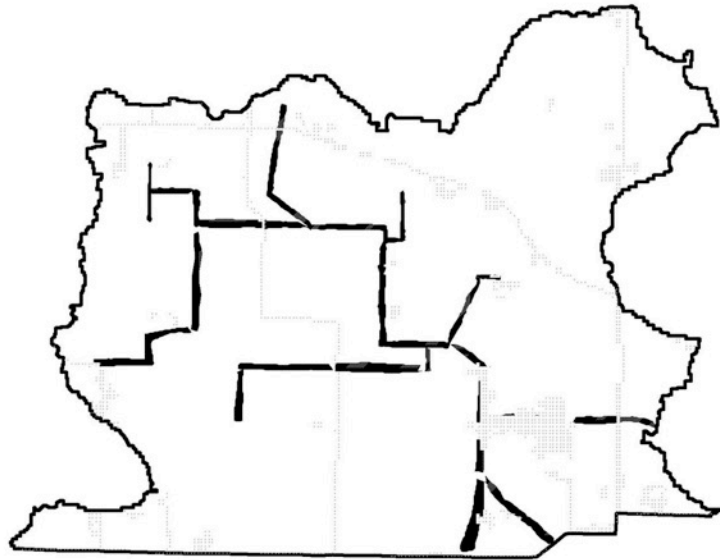
Switchgrass

Non designable  
areas

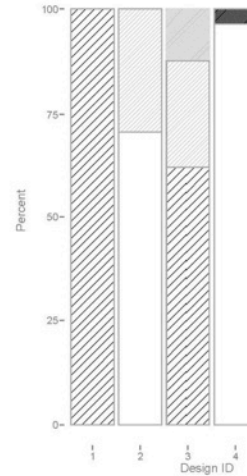
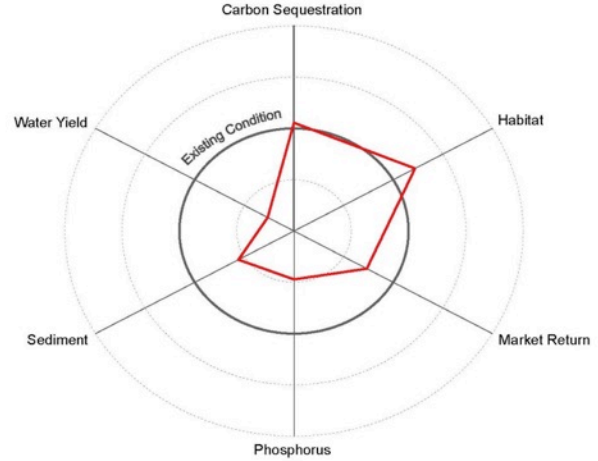
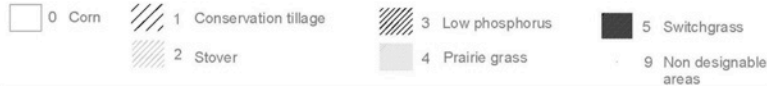


0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles





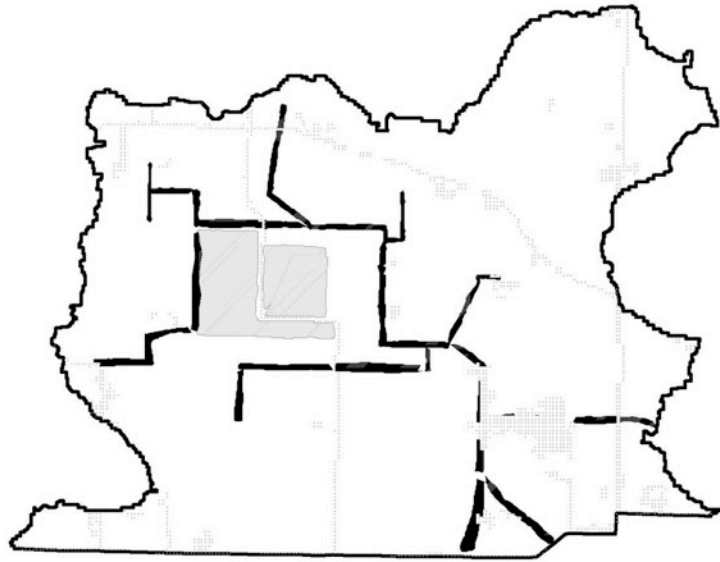
Land use practice



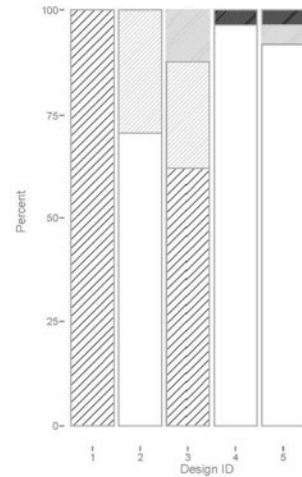
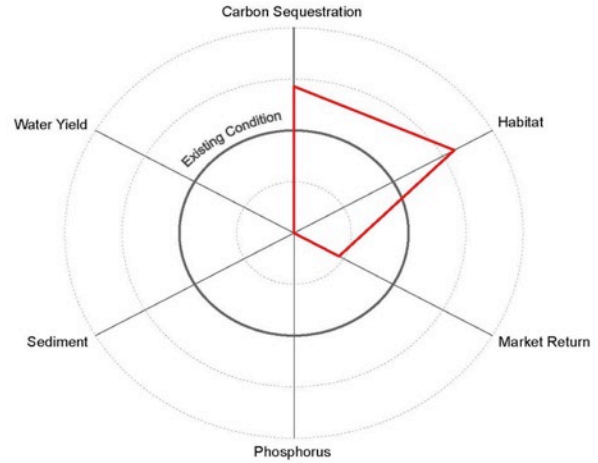
Group: 1

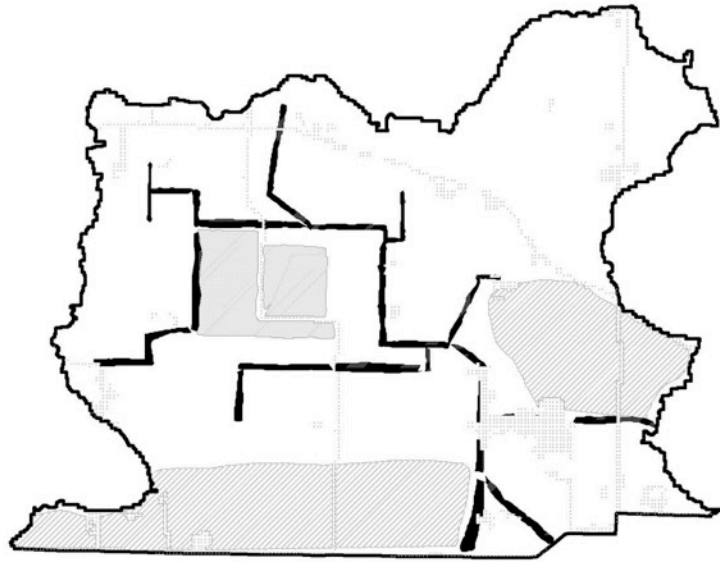
Design name: nbuffers.PG

ID: 5

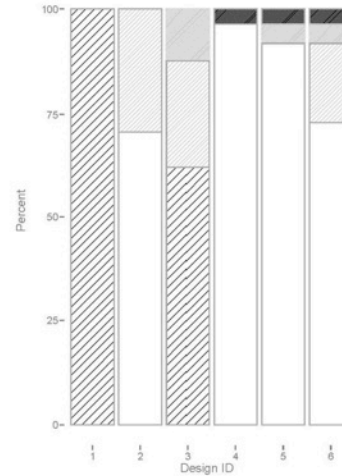
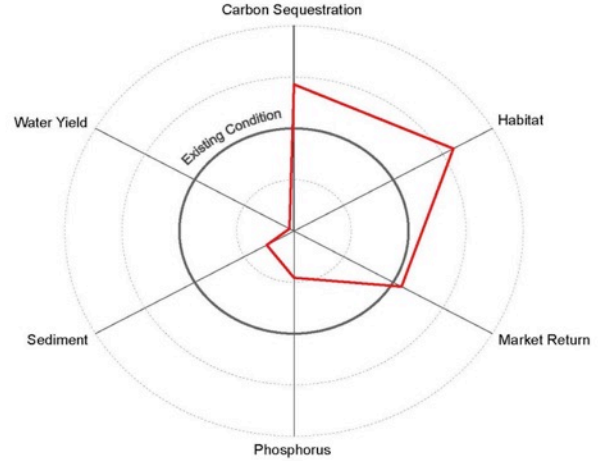
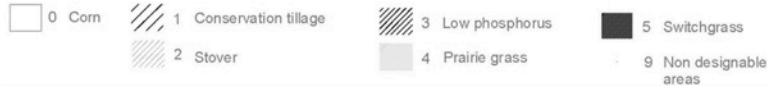


Land use practice





Land use practice



# Phases?

tinkering

integration

strategic

regression



The geodesign “technology is wonderful but has its [technical] problems”

*... What was unique was the use of [geodesign] in the context of the conversation we were having about the [landscape]... it allowed people to perhaps unintentionally lower those proposed barriers that they might normally have.*

# Case Study 2

# LA Studio



## Multifunctional Landscape Plan for Laketown Township and Eagleton, MN



*\*Laketown Township Study Region within MN*

*\*View of Carver Creek from proposed location of Eagleton*

Prepared May 14th, 2015  
S I N Planners + Design, LLC  
Drew Ingvalson, Katrina Nygaard & Zachary Sippel



SIPPEL  
INGVALSON  
NYGAARD



Remove

Clear

Stop Draw



Save

Load designs: habco1

Analyze

Settings

Section lines

Major roads

Streams

Lakes

Planned development

Existing development

Land cover

Hillshade

Biodiversity

Significant resources

Water quality

Development suitability

Designs

Group name

group1

habco1(no result)

Town Area

None

Openspace Area

None

Biodiversity

None

Water Quality

None

Significant Resource

None

Development Suitability

None

Final Score

None



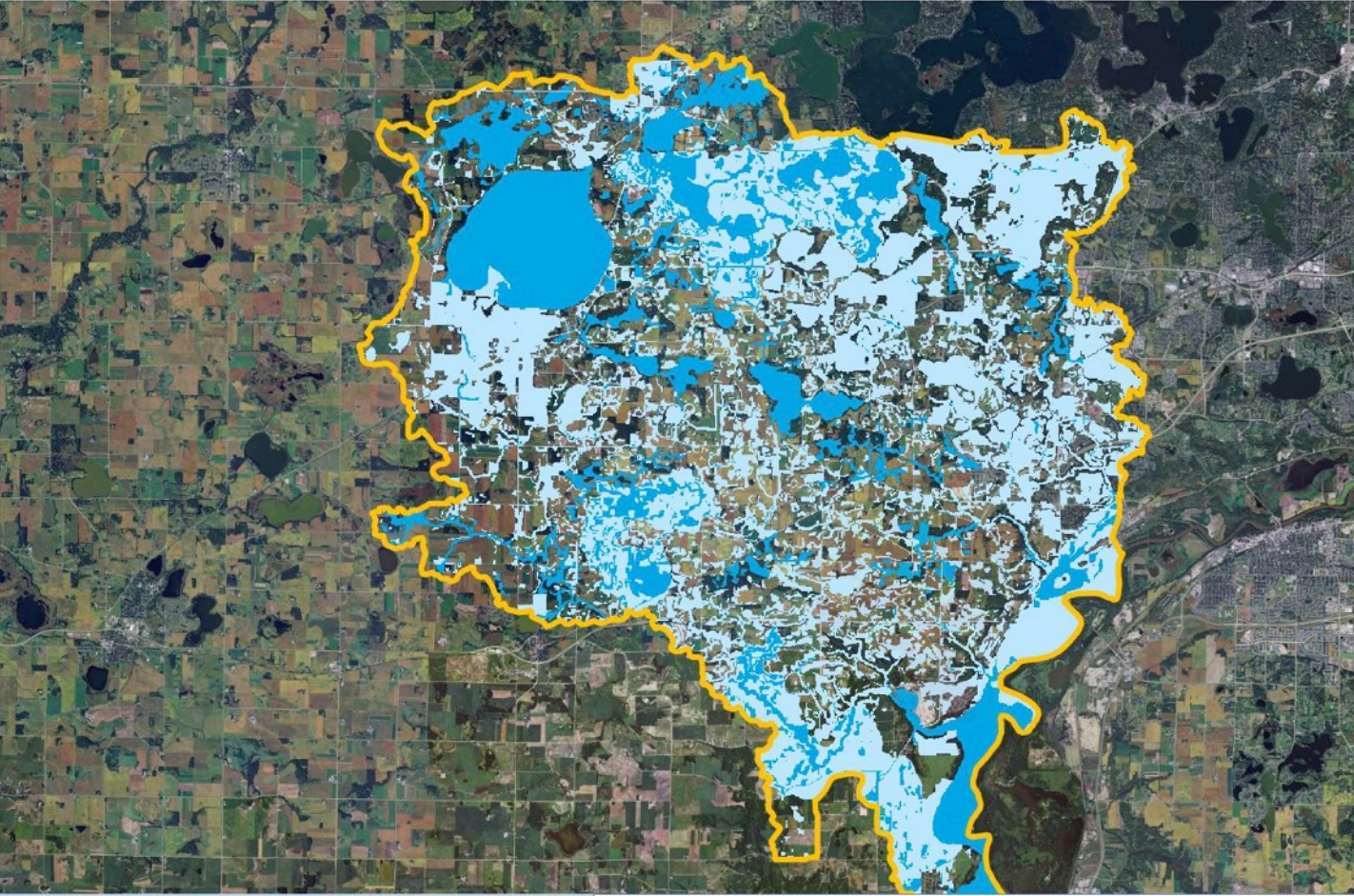
- Section lines
- Major roads
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planned development
- Existing development
- Land cover
- Hillshade
- Biodiversity
- Significant resources
- Water quality
- Development suitability
- Designs



- Group name
- group1
- habco1(no result)
- Town Area
- None
- Openspace Area
- None
- Biodiversity
- None
- Water Quality
- None
- Significant Resource
- None
- Development Suitability
- None
- Final Score
- None



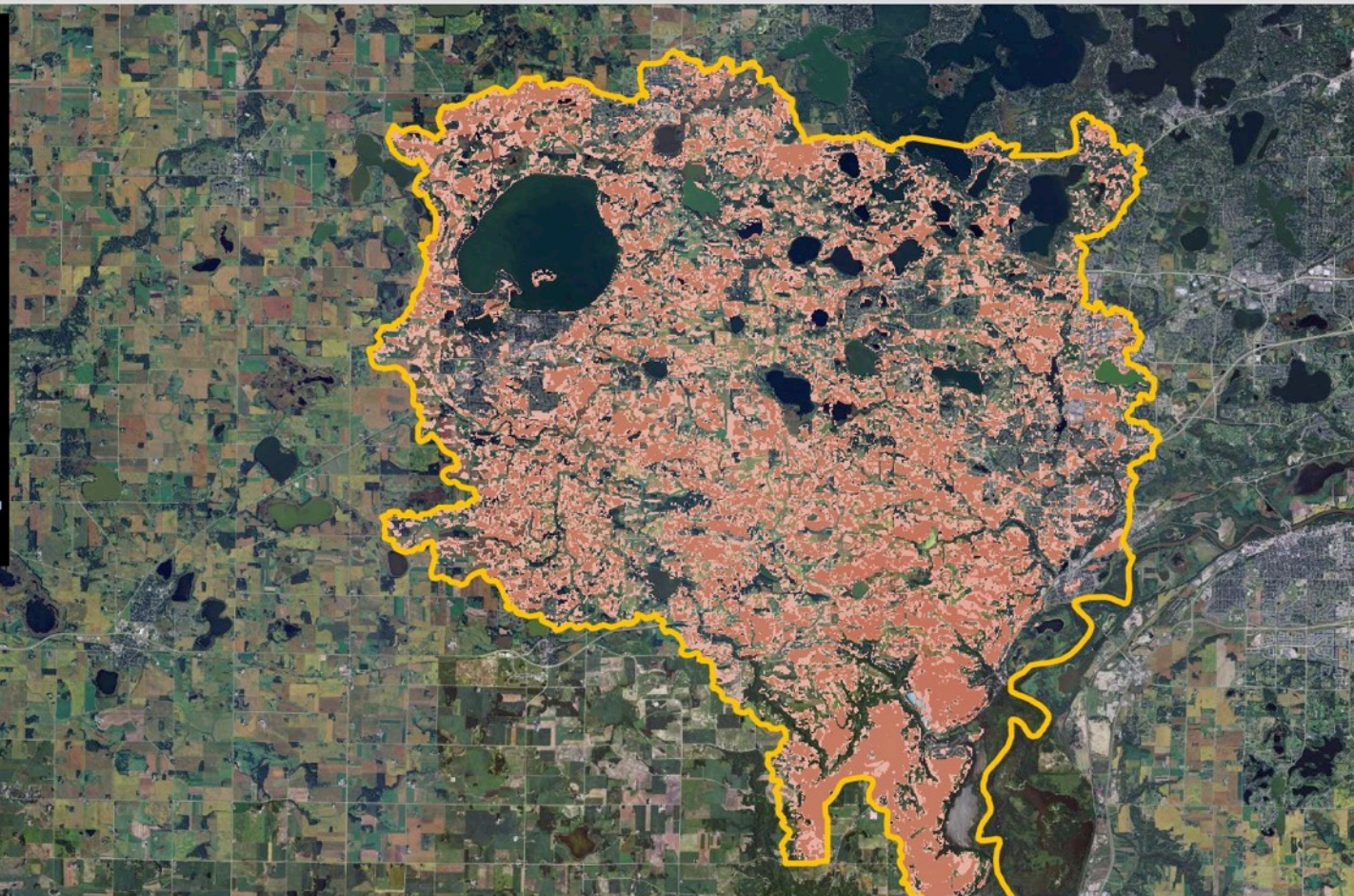
- Section lines
- Major roads
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planned development
- Existing development
- Land cover
- Hillshade
- Biodiversity
- Significant resources
- Water quality
- Development suitability
- Designs



- Group name
- group1
- habco1(no result)
- Town Area
- None
- Openspace Area
- None
- Biodiversity
- None
- Water Quality
- None
- Significant Resource
- None
- Development Suitability
- None
- Final Score
- None



- Section lines
- Major roads
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planned development
- Existing development
- Land cover
- Hillshade
- Biodiversity
- Significant resources
- Water quality
- Development suitability
- Designs



- Group name  
**group1**
- habco1(no result)
- Town Area**  
None
- Openspace Area**  
None
- Biodiversity**  
None
- Water Quality**  
None
- Significant Resource**  
None
- Development Suitability**  
None
- Final Score**  
None



Remove

Clear

Stop Draw



Save

Load designs: habfo

Analyze

Settings

Section lines

Major roads

Streams

Lakes

Planned development

Existing development

Land cover

Hillshade

Biodiversity

Significant resources

Water quality

Development suitability

Designs

Group name

group1

habfo(completed)

**Town Area**

4130 Acres

**Openspace Area**

993 Acres

**Biodiversity**

4.54

**Water Quality**

25.94

**Significant Resource**

37.13

**Development Suitability**

-32.56

**Final Score**

-4.46 (1.39)

**Comments**

None



- Section lines
- Major roads
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planned development
- Existing development
- Land cover
- Hillshade
- Biodiversity
- Significant resources
- Water quality
- Development suitability
- Designs

Group name  
**group1**

wqfo(completed)  
**Town Area**  
4153 Acres

**Openspace Area**  
992 Acres

**Biodiversity**  
3.63

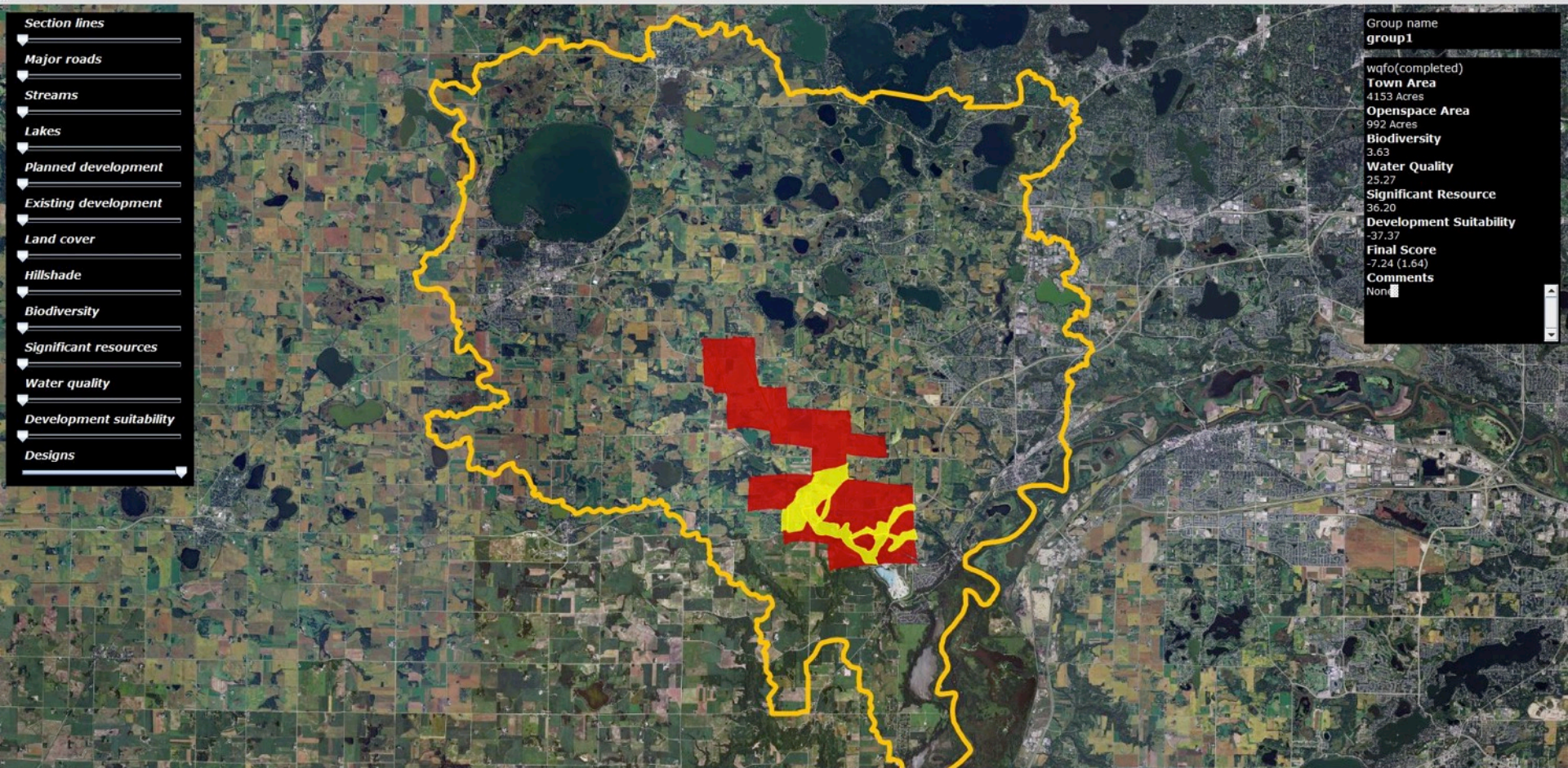
**Water Quality**  
25.27

**Significant Resource**  
36.20

**Development Suitability**  
-37.37

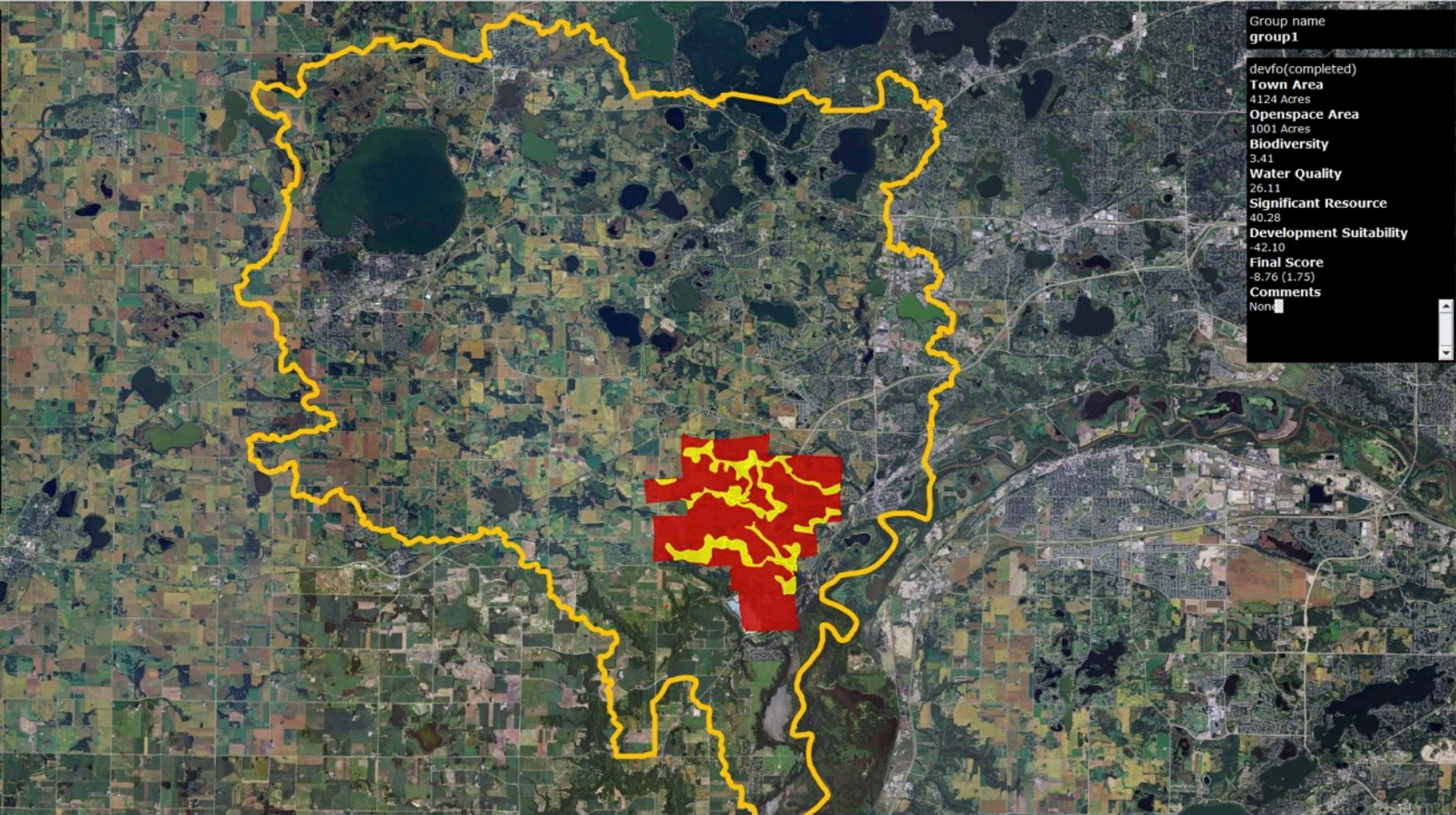
**Final Score**  
-7.24 (1.64)

**Comments**  
None





- Section lines
- Major roads
- Streams
- Lakes
- Planned development
- Existing development
- Land cover
- Hillshade
- Biodiversity
- Significant resources
- Water quality
- Development suitability
- Designs



Group name  
**group1**

devfo(completed)  
**Town Area**  
4124 Acres

**Openspace Area**  
1001 Acres

**Biodiversity**  
3.41

**Water Quality**  
26.11

**Significant Resource**  
40.28

**Development Suitability**  
-42.10

**Final Score**  
-8.76 (1.75)

**Comments**  
None

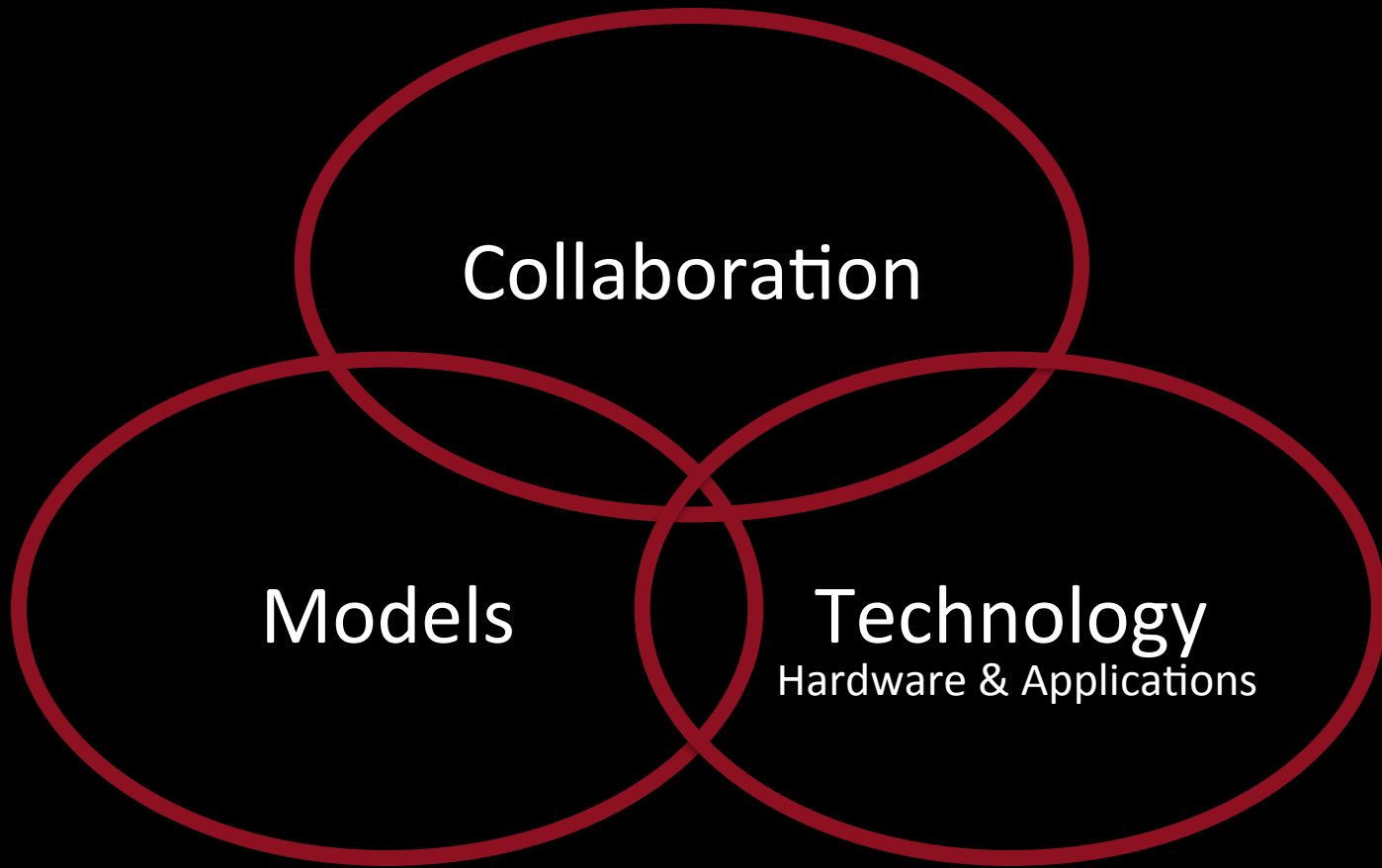


<b>Development Alternative</b>	<b>Town Area (acres)</b>	<b>Open Space Area (acres)</b>	<b>Biodiversity</b>	<b>Water Quality</b>	<b>Significant Resources</b>	<b>Development Suitability</b>	<b>Overall Score (dev/harm)</b>
Eagleton	5125	1001	3.41	26.11	40.28	-42.10	1.75
A	5145	992	3.63	25.27	36.20	-37.37	1.64
B	5122	1000	5.85	28.27	33.75	-34.69	1.48

**Table 1: Development Suitability Metrics**

# Collaborative Geodesign Impact

1. Iterative, exploring design process
2. Potentially added complexity
3. Bounds group expectations
4. Decreases barriers between people



Collaboration

Models

Technology  
Hardware & Applications

# Funding

- USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant Program
- U-Spatial, University of Minnesota
- Office of the VP for Research, University of Minnesota
- Institute for Renewable Energy and Environment, UMN
- MnDRIVE

# Thank you

Len Kne

*University of Minnesota*

*lenkne@umn.edu*

