

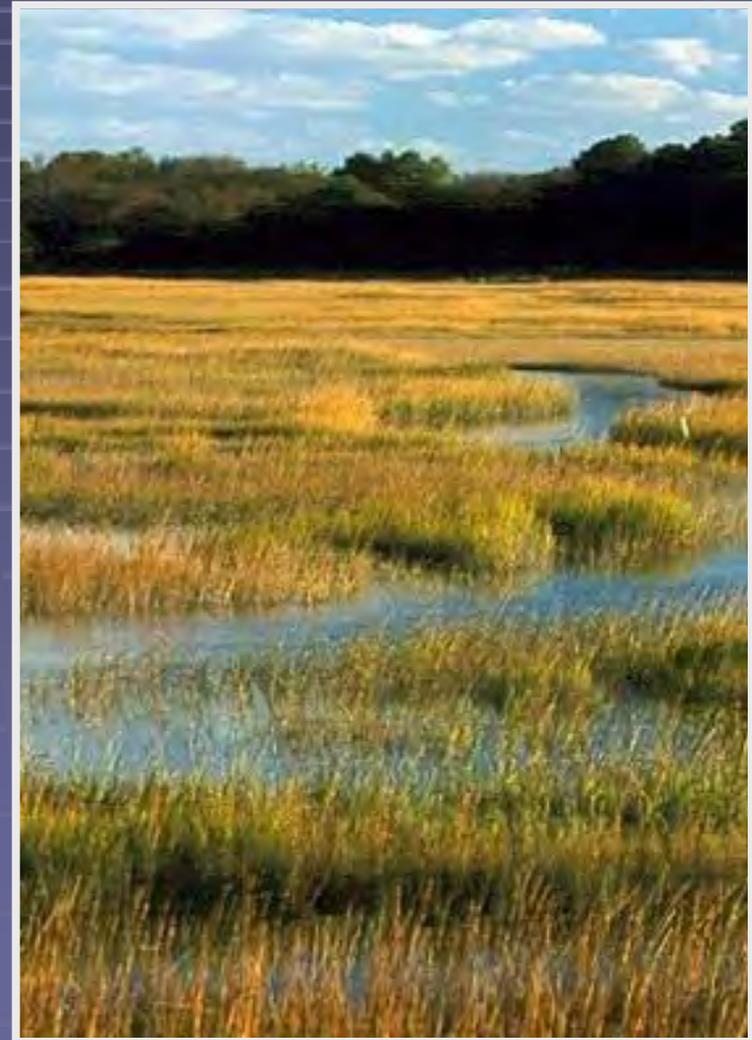
Baltimore  
Mapping Project  
Public Information Meeting

Wednesday, June 13, 2018  
Baltimore Department of Planning  
Stanton Board Room  
417 East Fayette Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**Critical Area Commission for the  
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays and the  
City of Baltimore Planning and Zoning**

# What Is the Critical Area Program?

- Based on Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Act passed in 1984
- Land use and resource protection program implemented at the local level
- Involves additional regulatory requirements for development activity and changes in land use within the Critical Area



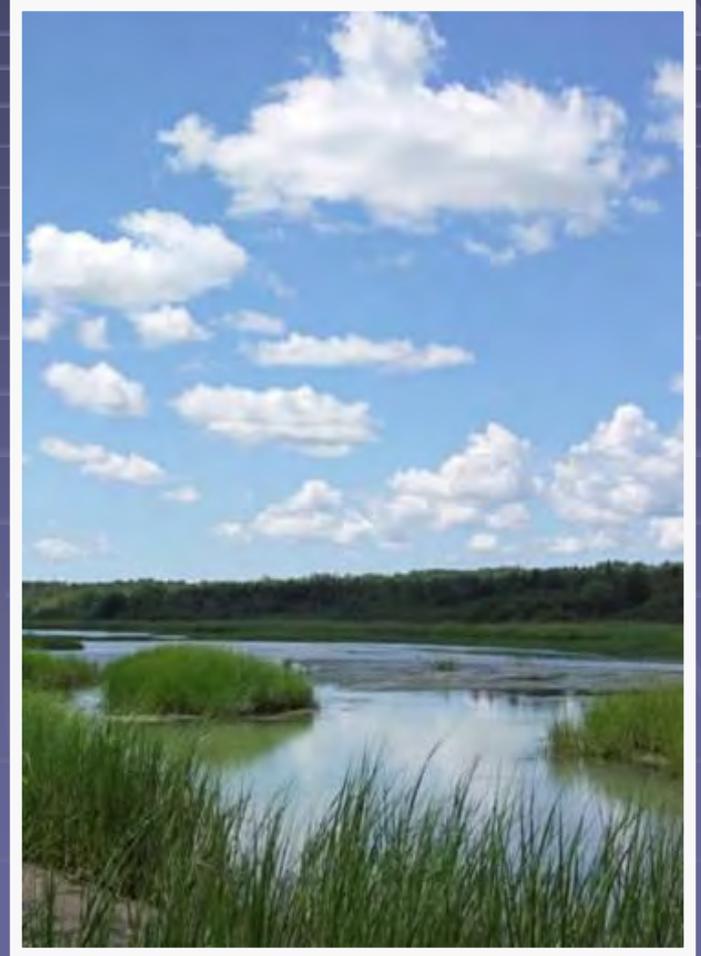
# Where Is the Critical Area?

- All waters of the Chesapeake Bay, the Atlantic Coastal Bays, and their tributaries to the head of tide
- All land under these waters
- All land within 1,000 feet of the landward edge of tidal waters and tidal wetlands
- Approximately 11% of the State and 680,000 acres



# Why Update the 1,000-foot Critical Area Boundary Line?

- Original maps based were based on 1972 Tidal Wetlands Maps
- Boundary was drawn manually
- Extensive changes to the landscape, shoreline, and wetlands
- Critical Area boundary needs to be web-accessible
- Digitally generated 1,000-foot boundary will be more accurate, consistent, and uniform

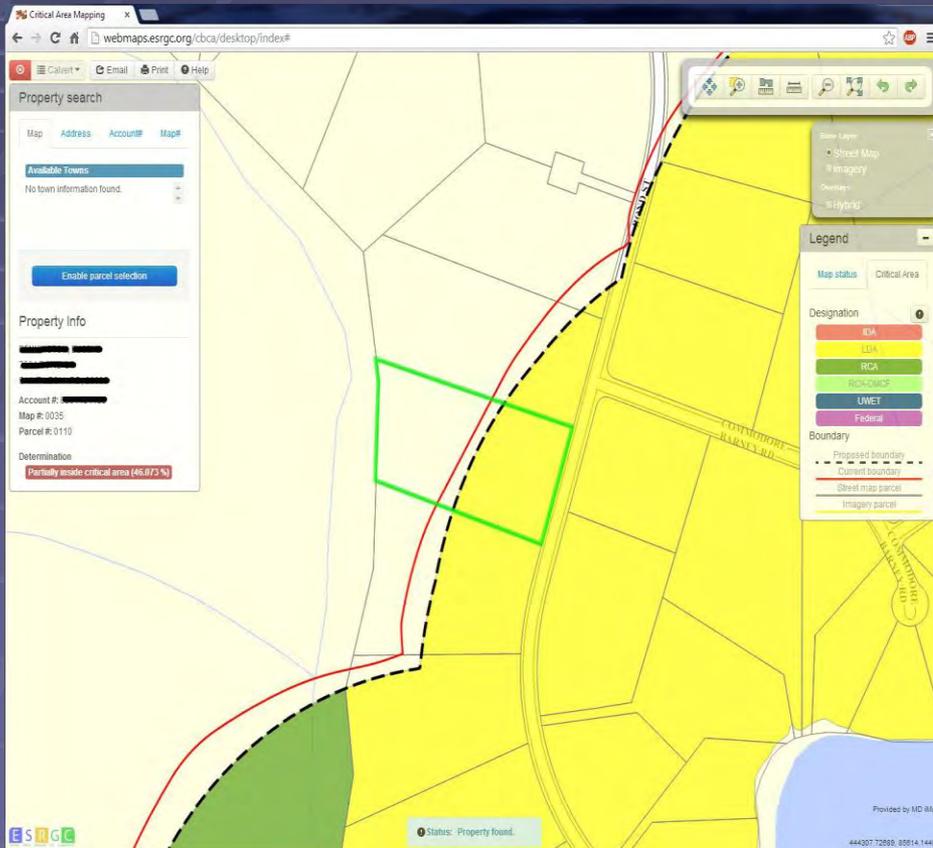


# House Bill 1253 – Mapping Provisions



- Requires change from Critical Area delineated on 1972 Tidal Wetlands Maps to Critical Area delineated on Statewide Base Map
- State and local governments to work cooperatively to develop maps

# What Does this Mean for My Property?



- The Critical Area boundary line is being changed on your property and that at least a portion of your property will be subject to the State-mandated Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Law

# Critical Area Designations

## Three Critical Area Designations:

### Intensely Developed Area

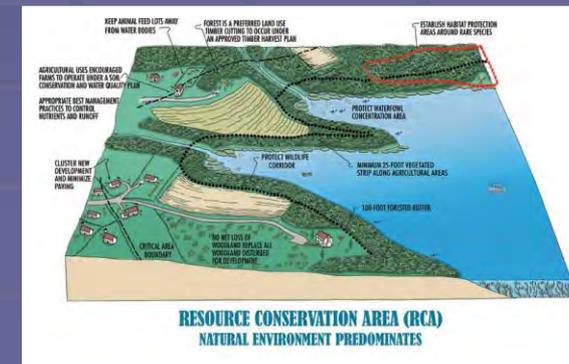
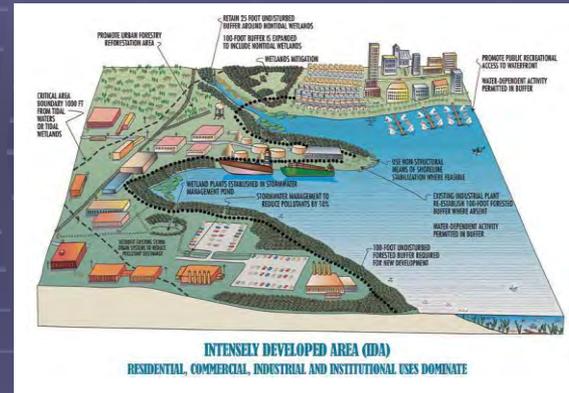
Generally will require some form of stormwater management

### Limited Development Area

Generally will require lot coverage (impervious surface limits) and clearing limits.

### Resource Conservation Area

In addition to the requirements for LDA, there is density requirement of one dwelling unit per 20 acres



# Lots Now Proposed for Inclusion in the Critical Area

- Existing structures and uses are considered grandfathered.
- Future development activities that will require a building permit will be subject to the County's Critical Area requirements.



# ESRGC Services:

- Data collection/analysis
- Technical support
- Equipment loans
- Provide interns
- GIS training
- Web mapping



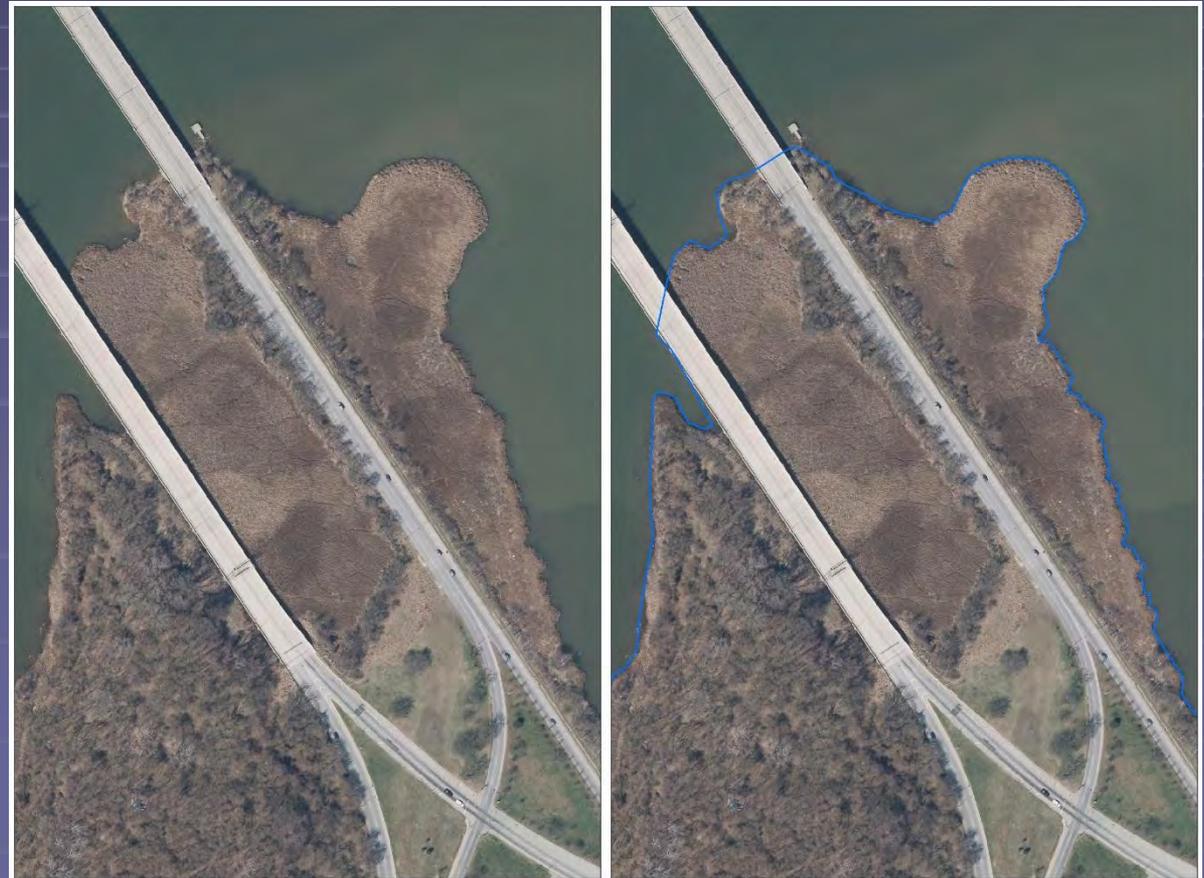
# ESRGC Tasks:

- **Pilot project**
  - **Baltimore / Talbot County**
- **Compile data sources**
- **Digitize shoreline, tidal wetlands, and the Critical Area**
- **Create web application**
- **Manage project**

# Mapping Process

## Digitize Shoreline

- Current aerial imagery (True Color) is used to identify shoreline (areas of open water)



- Factors considered:
  - Mean high-tide
  - Location of water at time of image capture
  - Estimation of high-tide limit based on photo interpretation and other data

# Mapping Process

## Digitize Wetlands

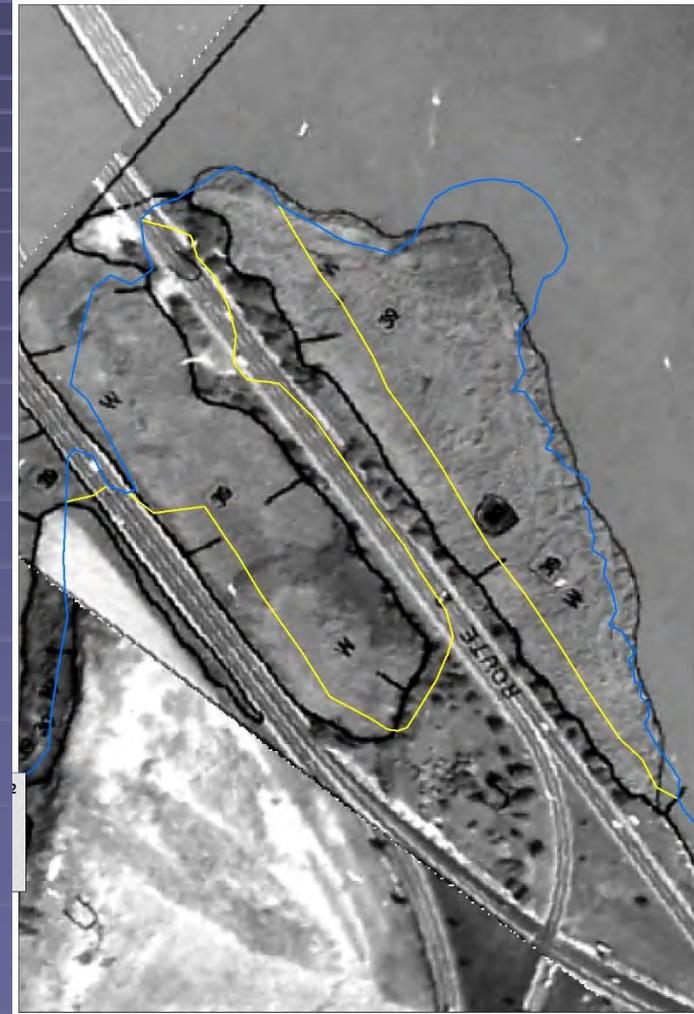
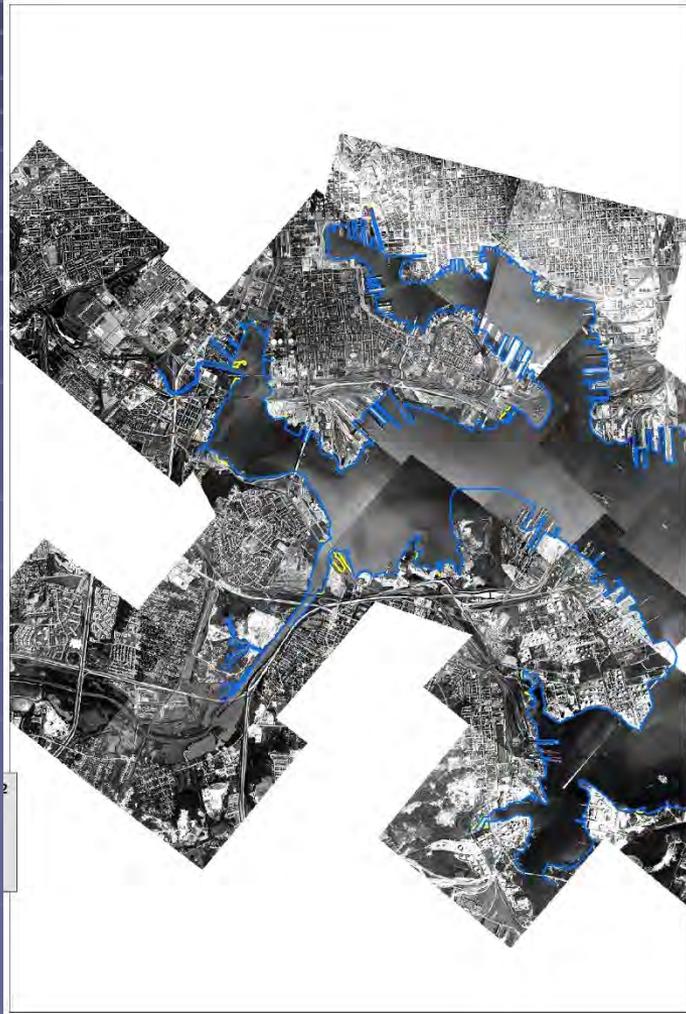
- Current aerial imagery (CIR) is used to identify landward edge of tidal wetlands

- Factors considered:
  - Vegetation patterns
  - Consideration was given to tree canopy/shadows
  - Multiple sources of data needed to confirm



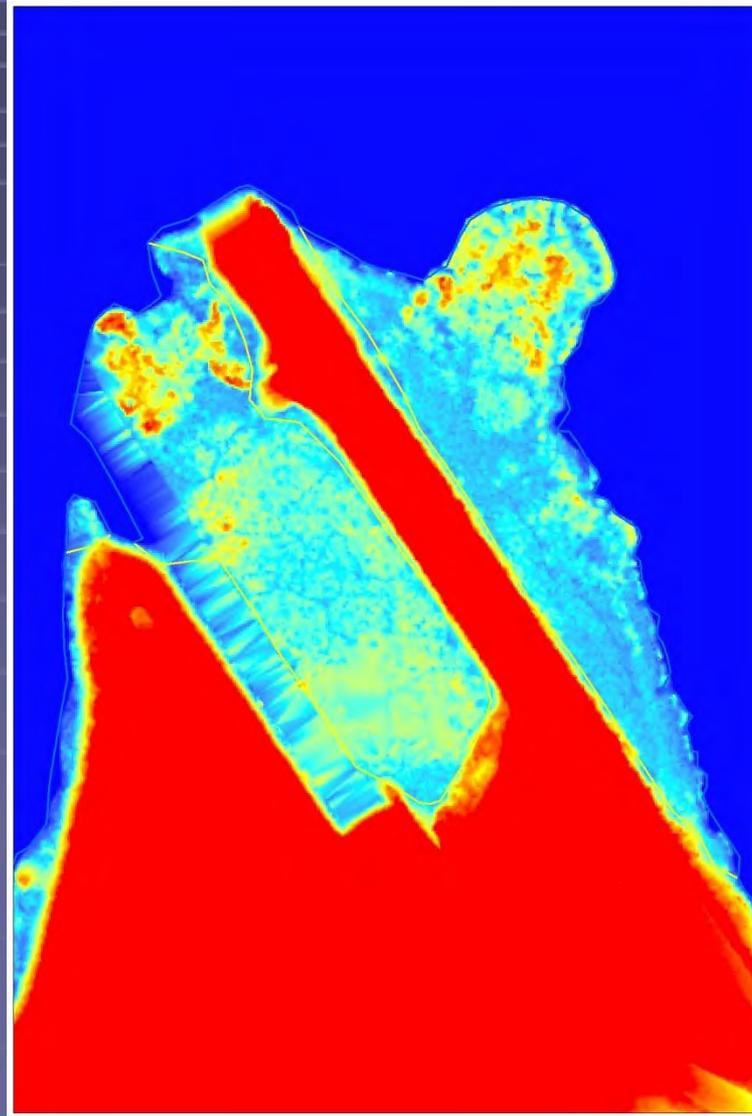
## Supplementary Data

# Georeferenced Tidal Wetlands Maps



# Supplementary Data

## **LiDAR**



# Mapping Process

## Proposed Critical Area Boundary



# Mapping Process

## Compare Critical Area Boundaries



# Mapping Process

## Review Points Identified

- Discrepancies, anomalies, inconsistencies identified by Salisbury University, CAC, DNR, and local governments as Review Points
- Using WebEx/conference calls, all “Review Points” are jointly analyzed
- Additional resources (permits, historical aerials, etc.) necessary to resolve issues are identified
- Ground truthing is done when needed

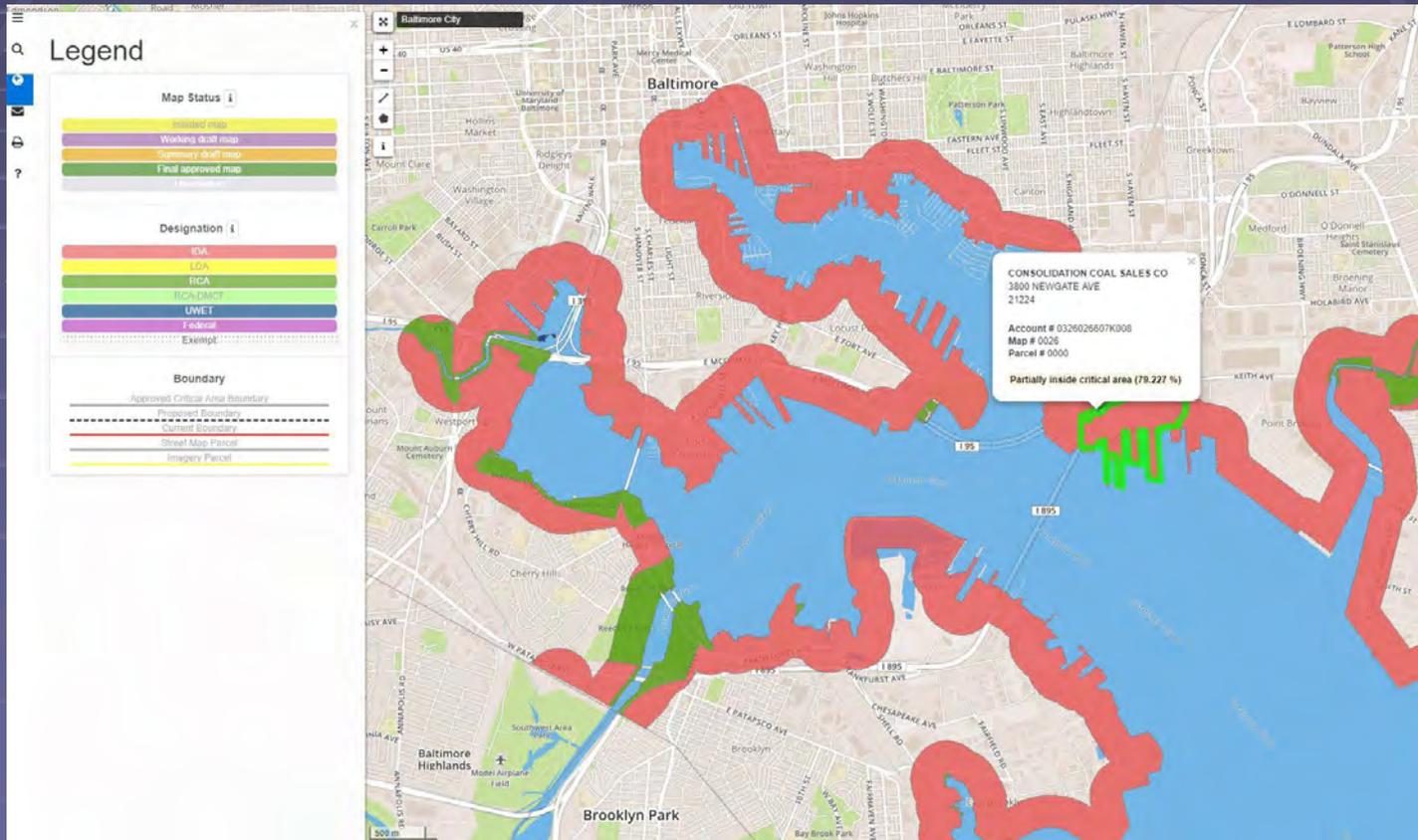


# Mapping Process

## Proposed Critical Area



# Critical Area Mapping Web Map



# For further information:

[http://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/Pages/map\\_update.aspx](http://dnr.maryland.gov/criticalarea/Pages/map_update.aspx)

**Critical Area Commission for the  
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