

# Caroline County Mapping Project Public Information Meetings

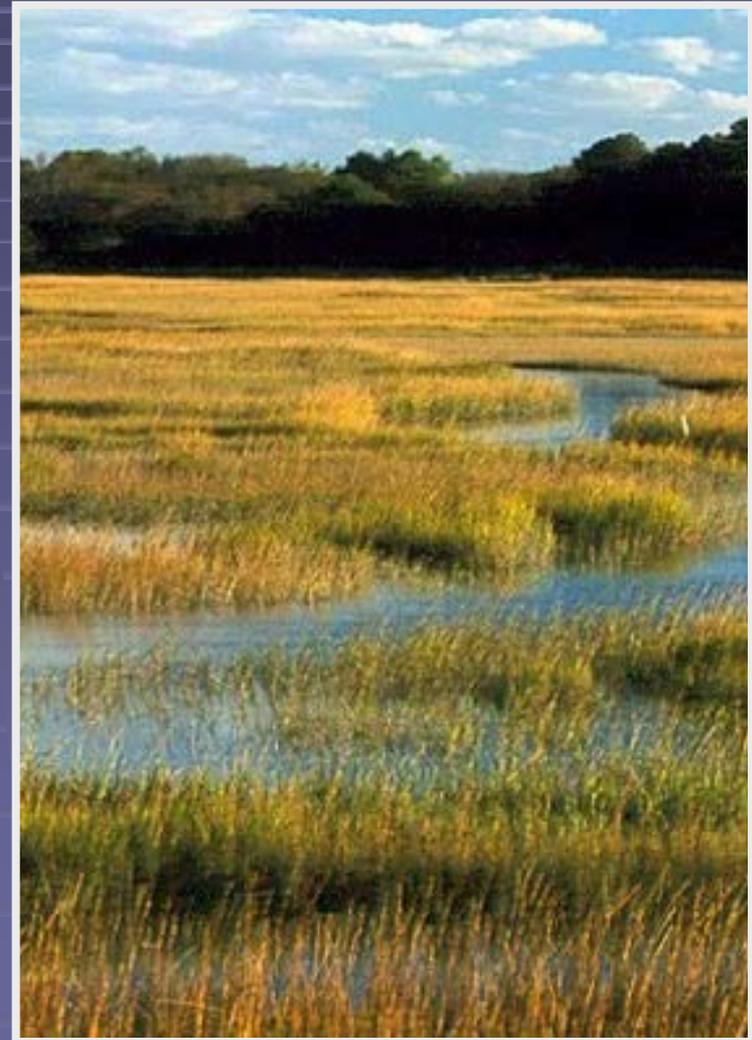
**Thursday, June 4, 2015**  
Colonel Richardson High School  
Auditorium  
25320 Richardson Road  
Federalsburg, Maryland 21632

**Monday, June 15, 2015**  
North Caroline High School  
Cafeteria  
10990 River Road  
Ridgely, Maryland 21660

**Critical Area Commission for the  
Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays and the  
Caroline County Department of Planning and Codes**

# 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

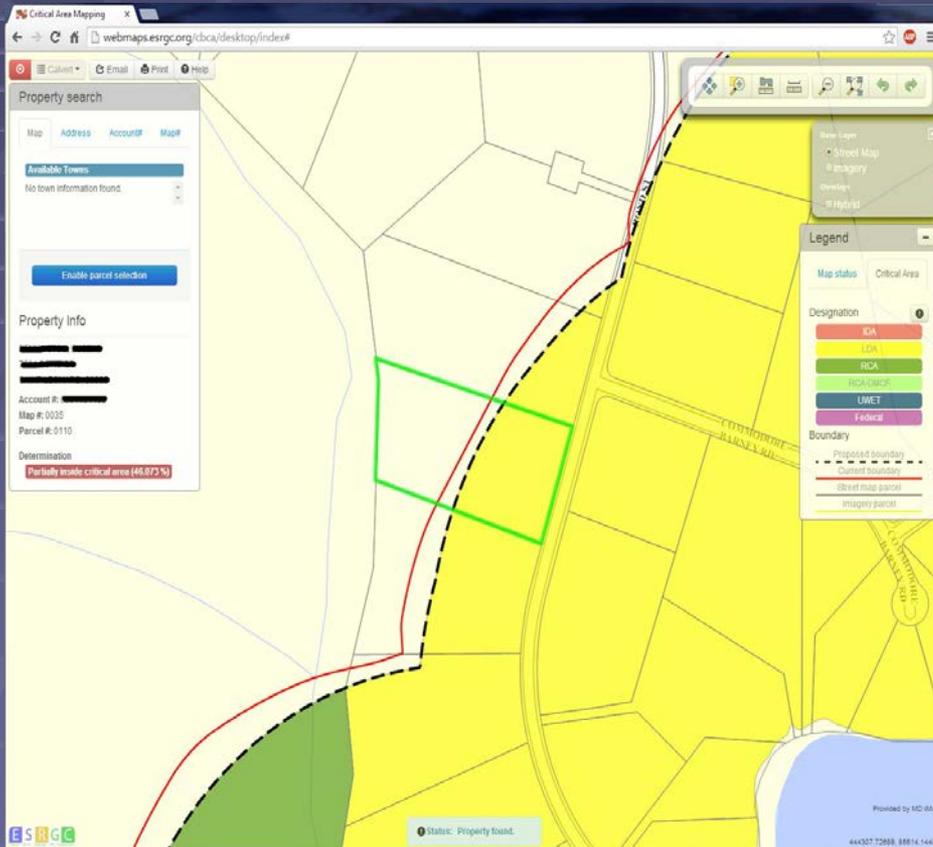


# House Bill 1253 – Mapping Provisions



- 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



# 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.



# Mapping Process

## Create Shoreline

- Salisbury University staff use current aerial imagery (True Color) to identify shoreline (areas of open water)



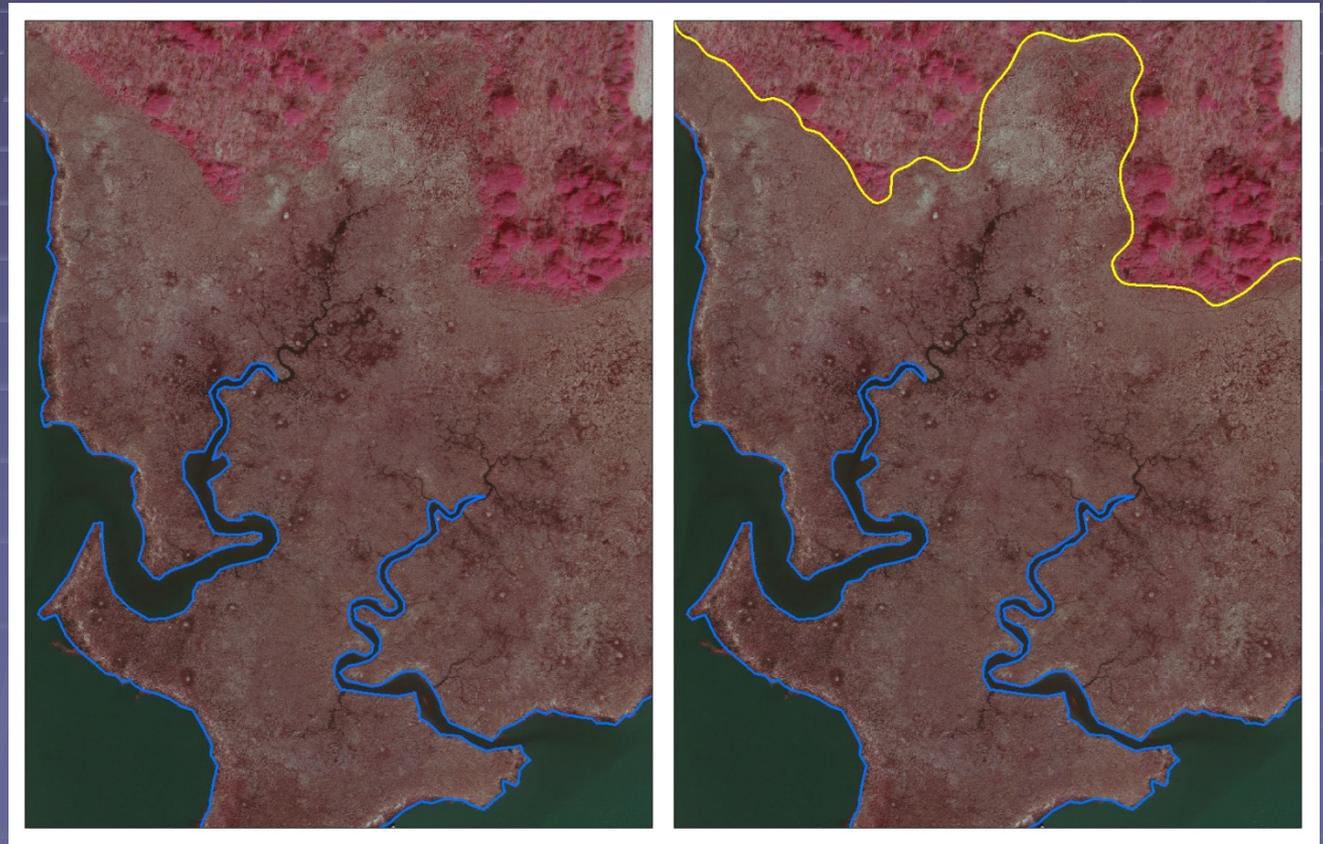
- Factors to consider:

- Mean high-tide
- Location of water at time of image capture
- Consideration was given to tree canopy/shadows

# Mapping Process

## Create Wetlands

- Salisbury University staff use current aerial imagery (CIR) to identify landward edge of wetlands

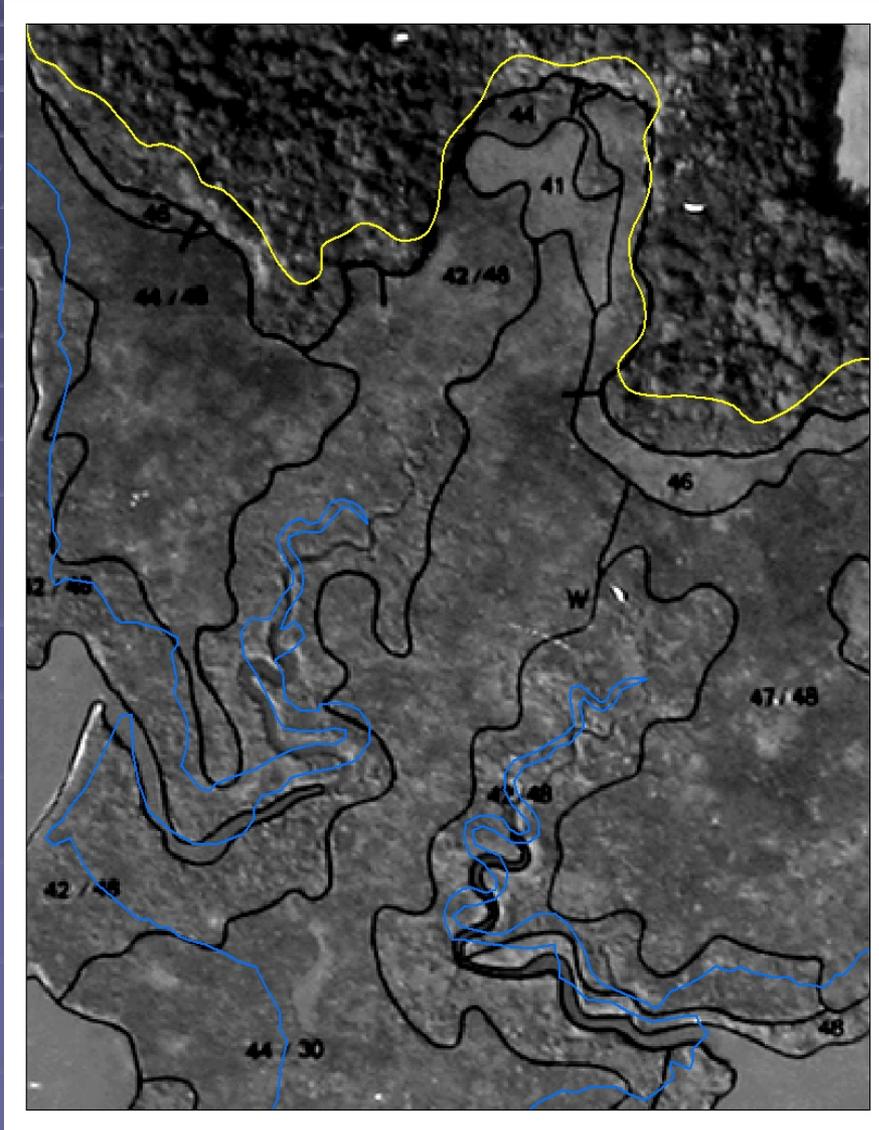


- Factors to consider:

- Vegetation patterns
- Location of wetlands in previous years
- Multiple sources of data needed to confirm

## Supplementary Data

# Georeferenced Tidal Wetlands Maps



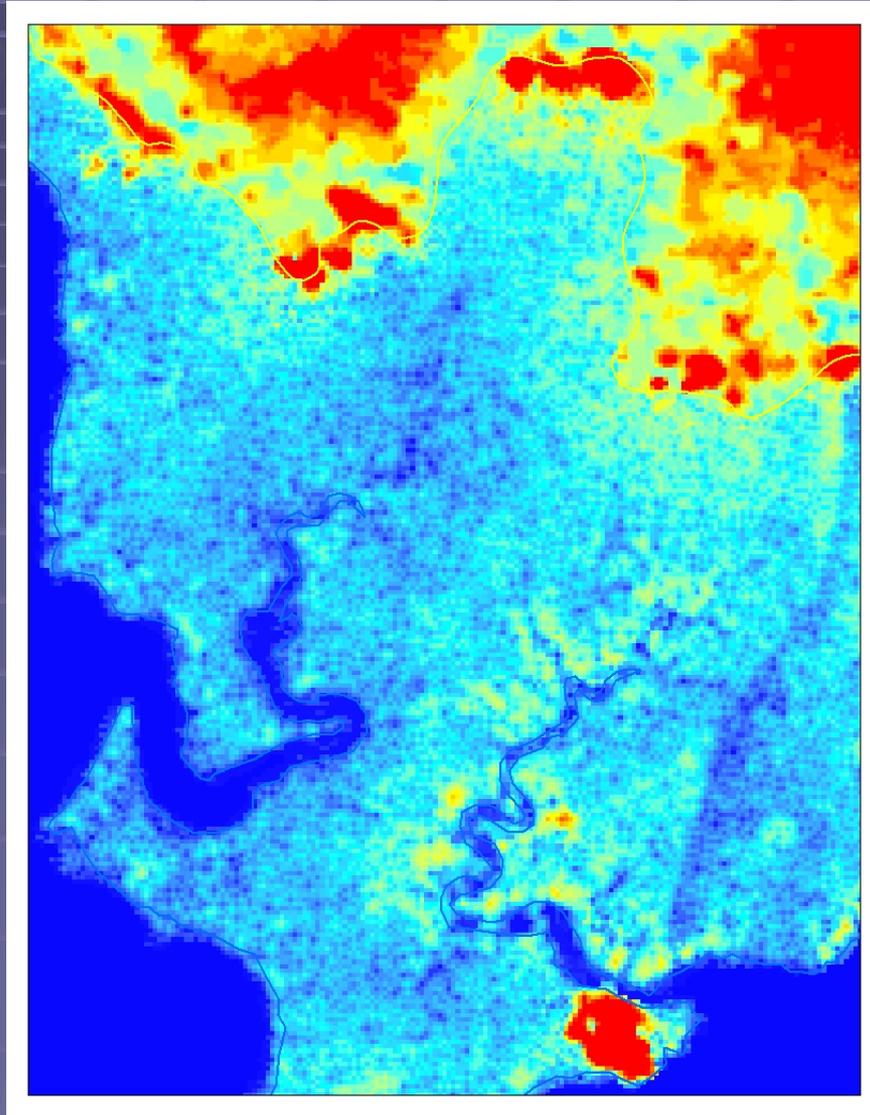
# Supplementary Data

## County Topography



# Supplementary Data

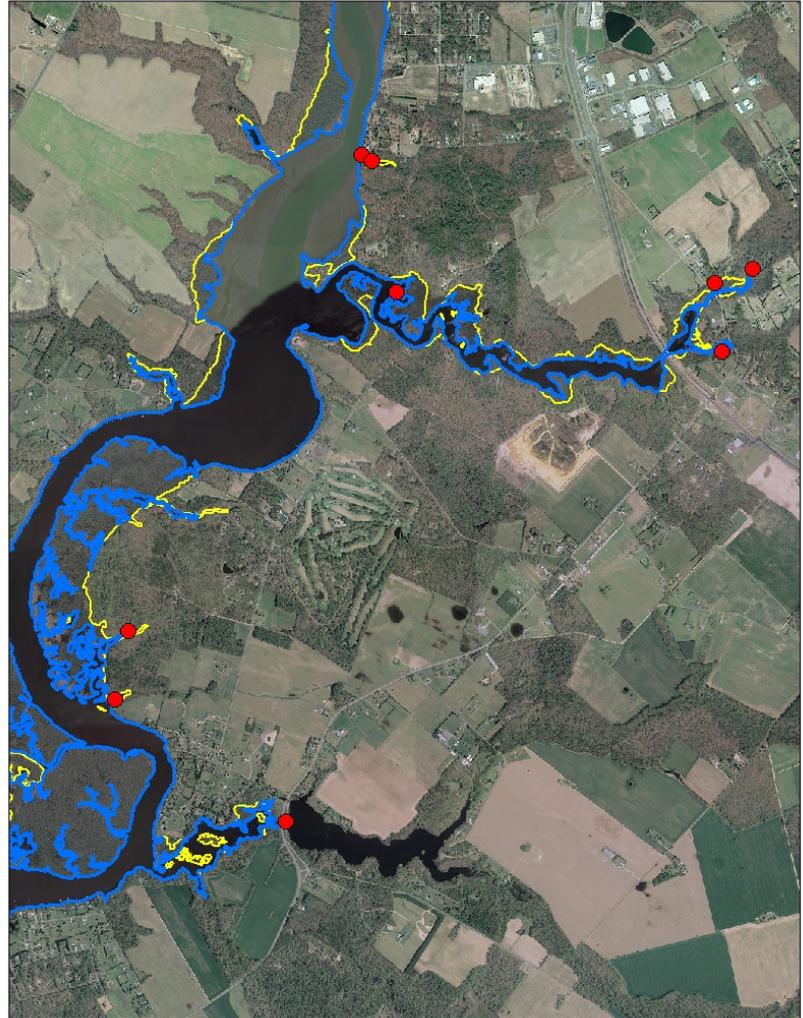
## **LiDAR**



# Mapping Process

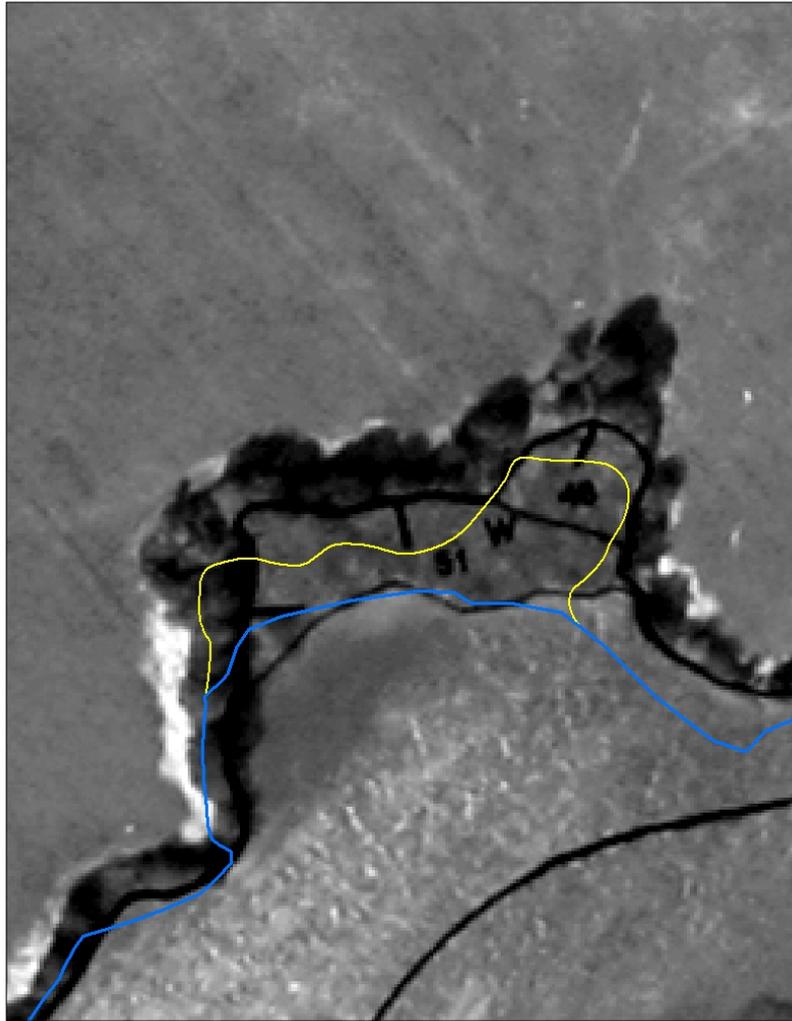
## Review Points Identified

- 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



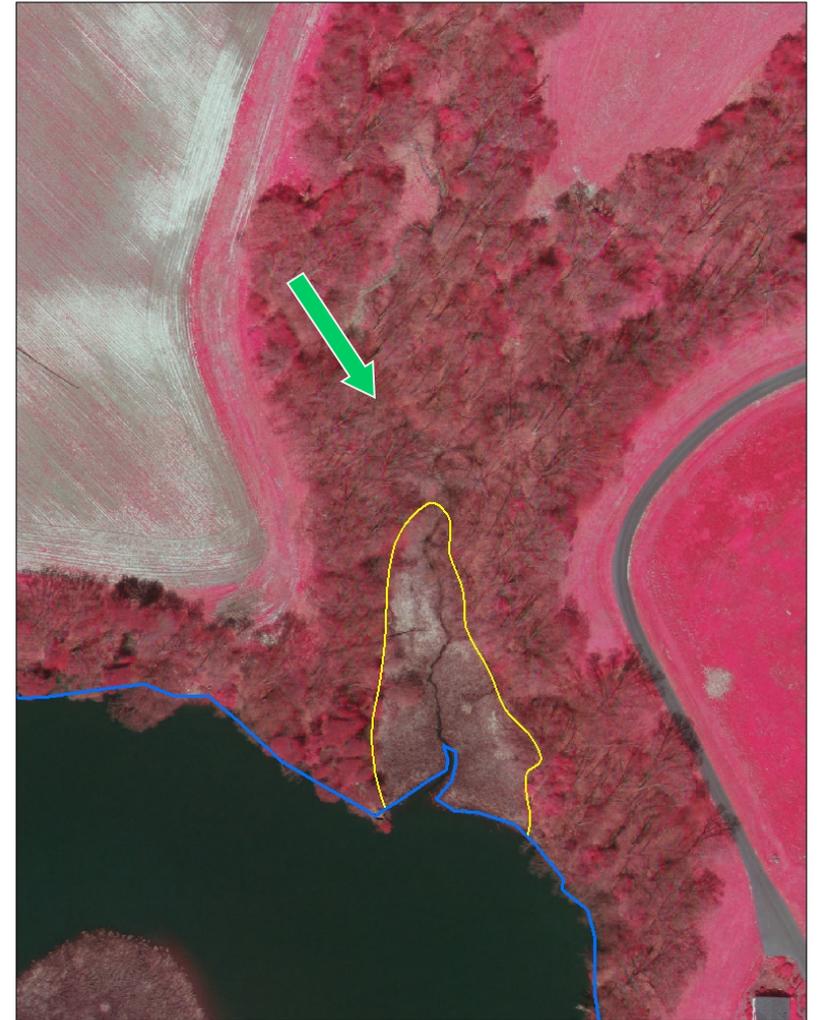
# Common Mapping Issues

## Small Change in Wetlands



# Common Mapping Issues

## Loss of Wetlands



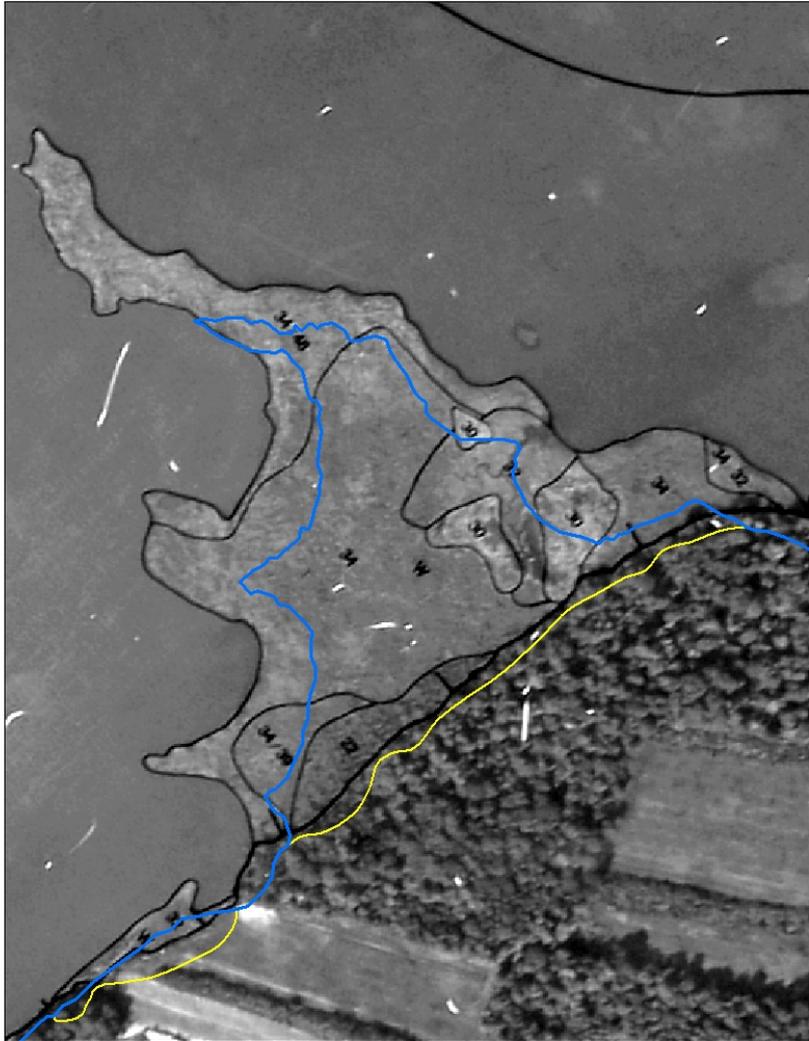
# Common Mapping Issues

## Change in Extent of Wetlands

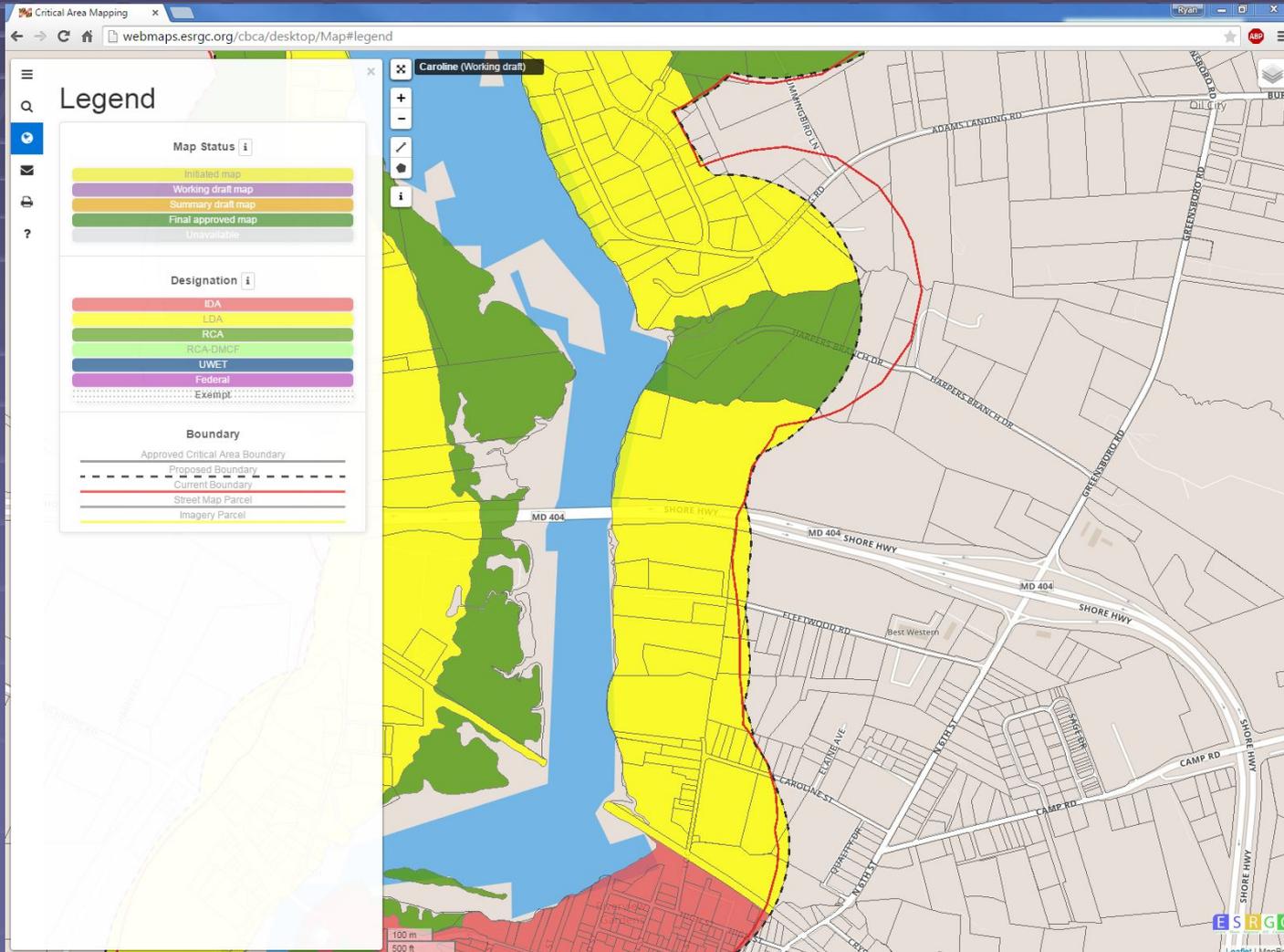


# Common Mapping Issues

## Natural Changes in Wetlands



# Critical Area Mapping Web Map



For further information:

[www.dnr.state.md.us/criticalarea/mapupdate.html](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/criticalarea/mapupdate.html)

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