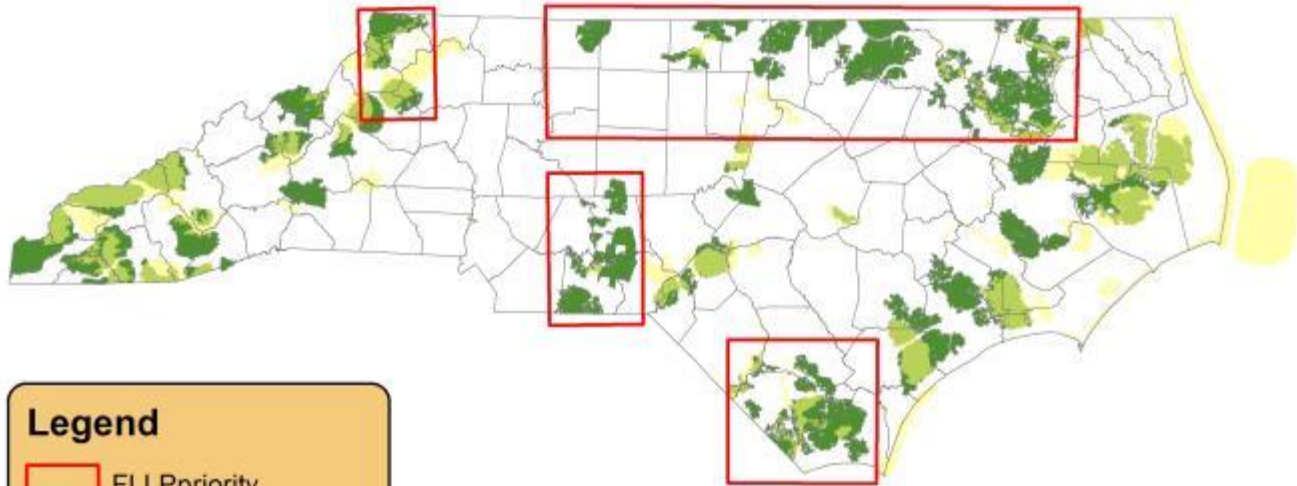


# Foresters for the Birds an Overview

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## Forest Land Bird Legacy Focal Areas



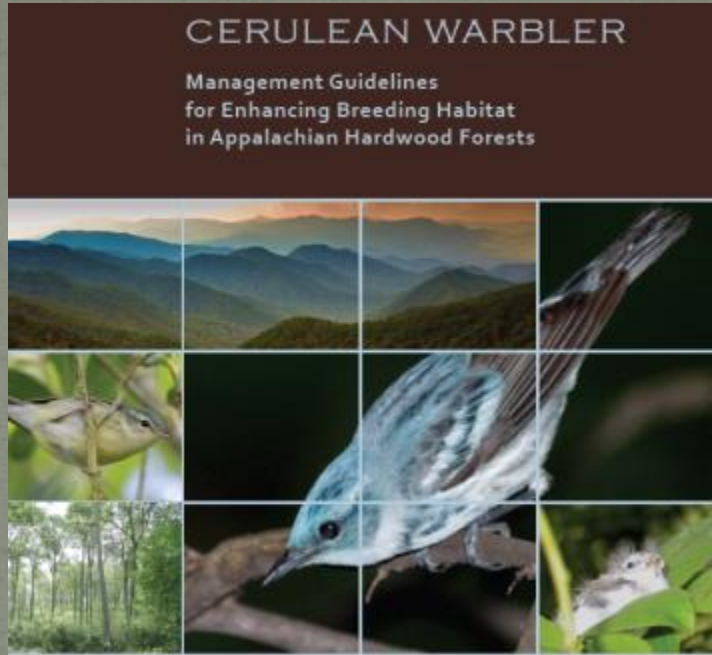
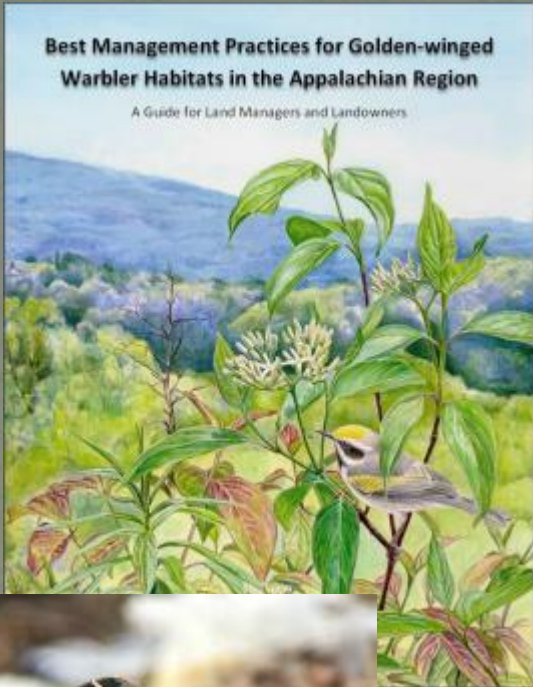
### Legend

-  FLL Priority
-  Important Bird Areas
-  Priority Forest Blocks

# The Need For A Conversation









# Why and What to Consider

- - What conditions support the range of needs of a range of priority taxa?
- - What is that status of the forested landscape with respect to such conditions?
- - How might such conditions be promoted/managed for at the stand/tract level?
- - Where within the landscape should we be striving to achieve such conditions?
- - How does meeting population objectives for birds relate to achieving both the "desired" extent and juxtaposition of such conditions across the landscape?
- - and, How do we help partners overcome obstacles to delivering necessary mgt/actions?



# Goals

Have uniform criteria for comparing the importance of different forest blocks throughout the Atlantic Flyway for supporting bird populations (prioritizing our work)

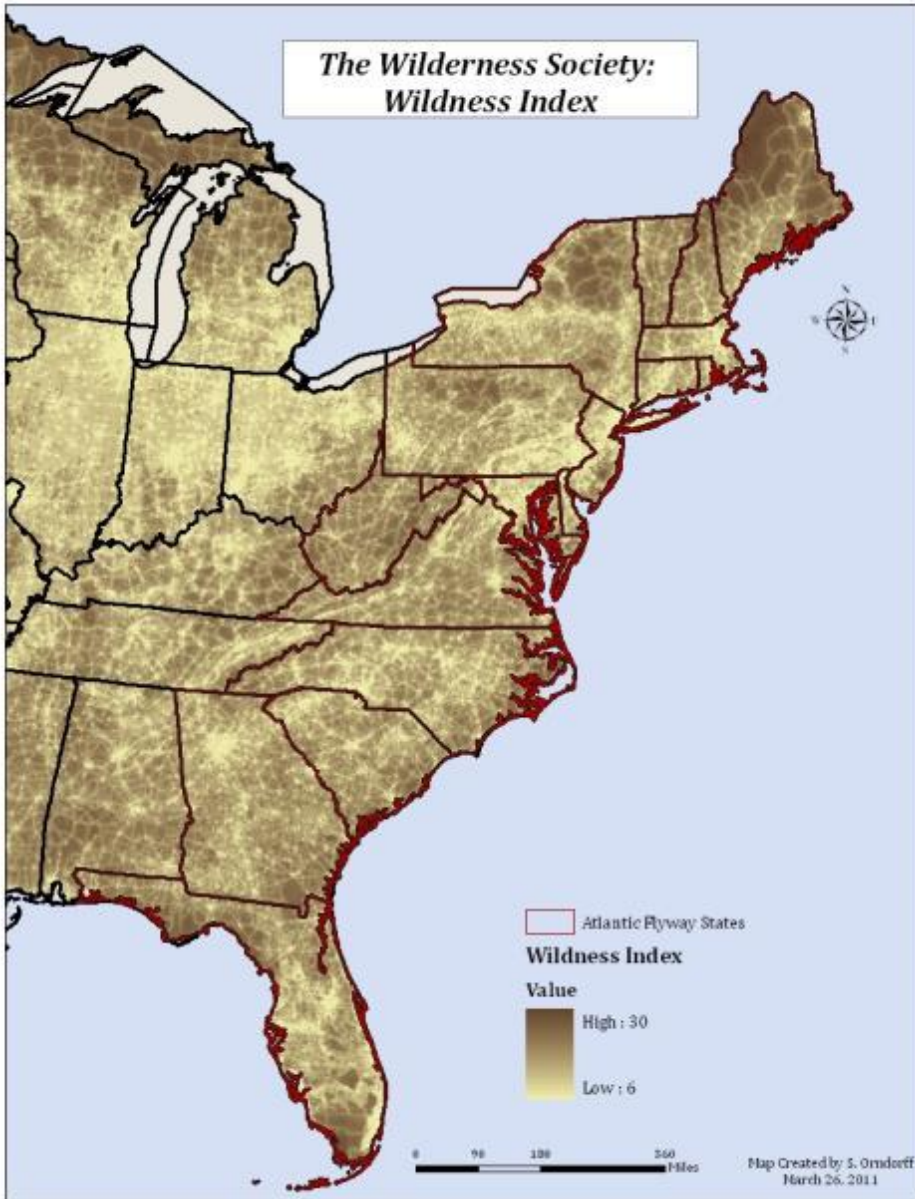
Satisfy A<sub>3</sub> and B<sub>3</sub> IBA criteria (species assemblage criteria)

- Biome restricted ones (>80% of pop) (A<sub>3</sub>)
- BCR restricted ones (>30% of pop, or PIF CS or RS ranking) (B<sub>3</sub>)
- State level assemblages (D<sub>3</sub>)



# Analysis

- Define polygons (put lines on maps)
  - Use Wilderness Index scores ( $\geq 19$  out of 30)
  - Only include areas of  $> 1200$  a
- Assess value of each block
  - Index of four components
    - Total Forest Cover
    - Forest intactness (% forest cover within polygon)
    - Bird richness (number of target species for biome or BCR)
    - Bird abundance (relative no. of individuals of target species)
- Rank blocks
  - Within biome
  - Within BCR
  - Within subregion of BCR (FIA supersection)
  - Within state portion of subregion of BCR

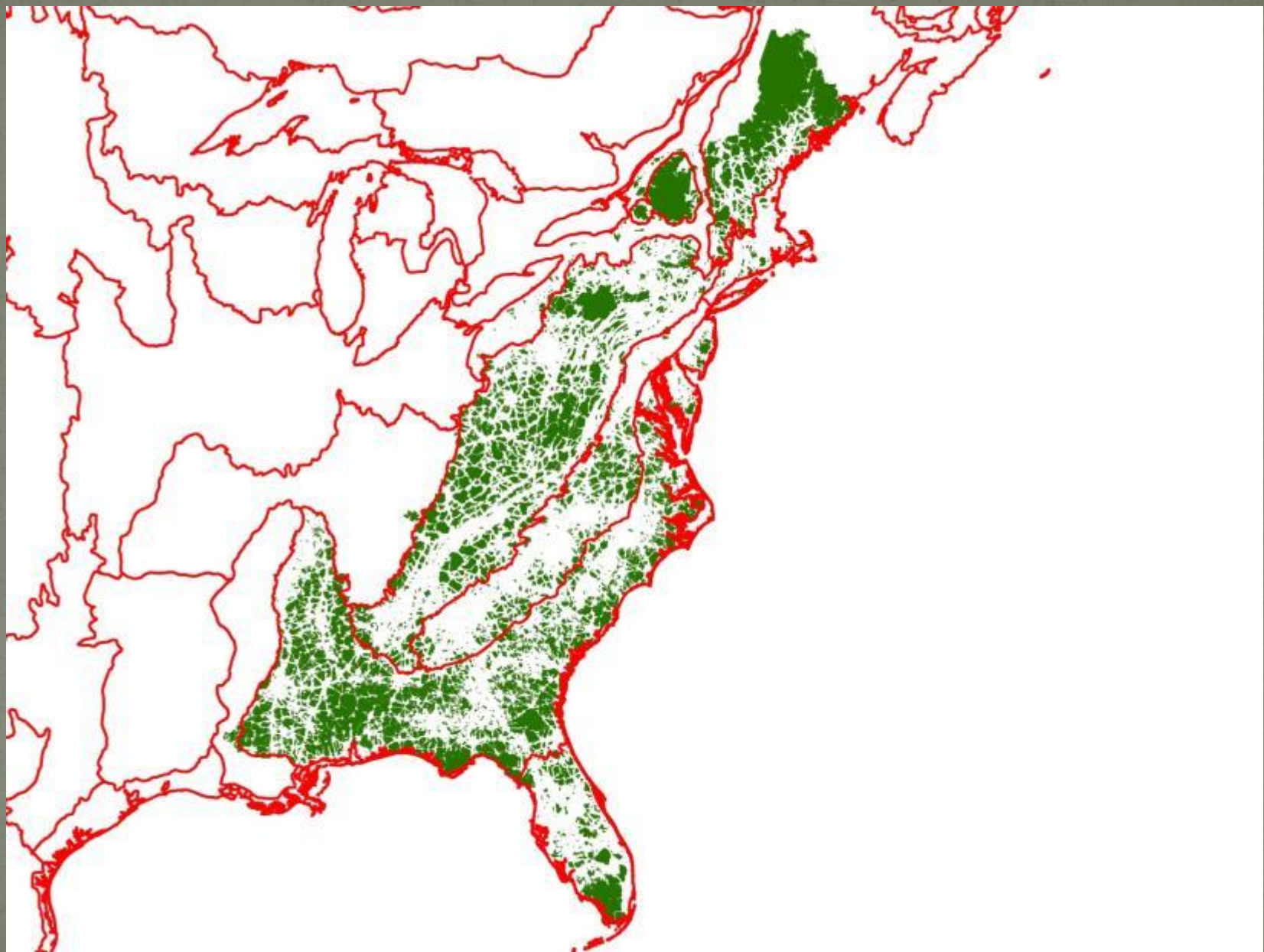


Measures a variety of factors including:

1. Population Density
2. Distance to Roads
3. Uncontrolled Process - (Fragmentation, Hydro function, Distance to Edge)
4. Natural Composition
5. Urbanization (Built Environment)
6. Pollution (EPA, NASA)

Evaluated on a scale score of 0-30

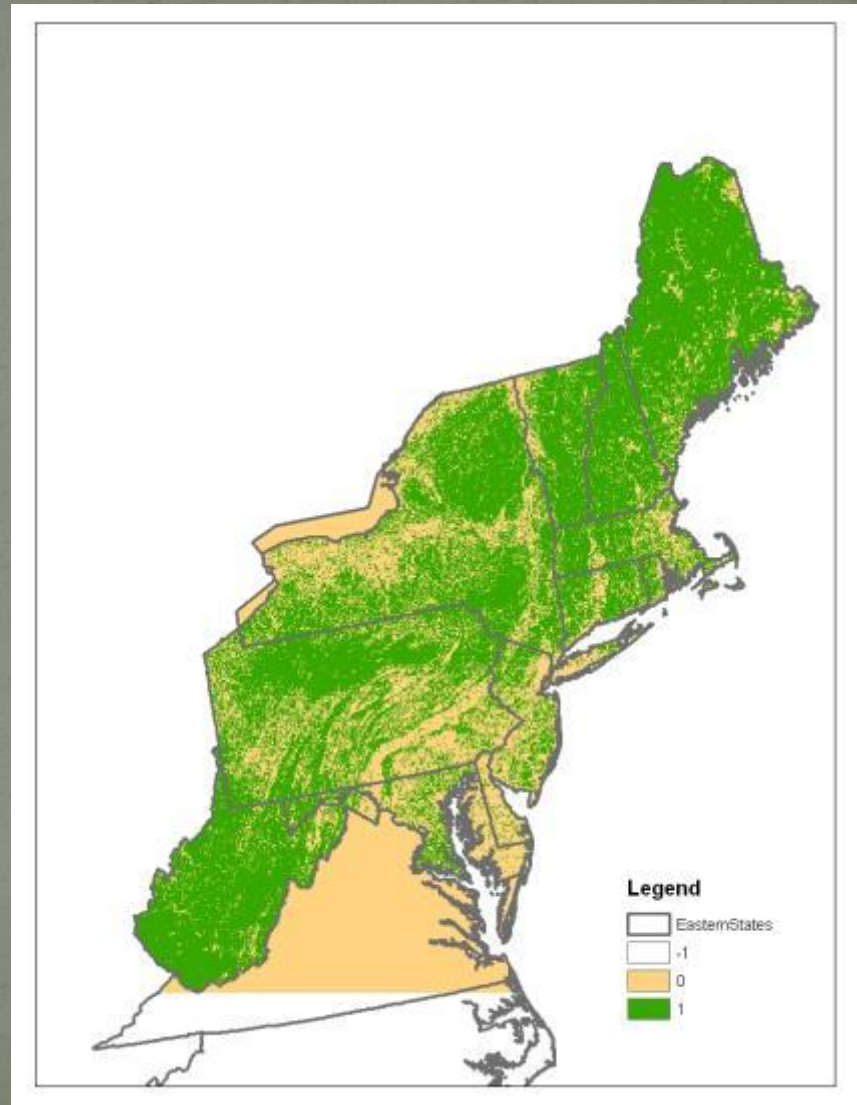




## Forest Cover from Northeast and Southeast GAP Projects

Used combination of regional GAP products for higher resolution and more recent coverage

All forest covered rolled together for forest metrics.





## Eastern Biome Priority Forest Bird

Acadian Flycatcher  
Blue-winged Warbler  
Carolina Chickadee  
Cerulean Warbler  
Eastern Towhee  
Hooded Warbler  
Kentucky Warbler  
Louisiana Waterthrush  
Wood Thrush  
Worm-eating Warbler  
Yellow-throated Warbler  
Bachman's Sparrow  
Brown-headed Nuthatch  
Carolina Wren  
Chuck-will's-widow  
Florida Scrub-Jay  
Pine Warbler  
Prothonotary Warbler  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Red-cockaded Woodpecker  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Swainson's Warbler  
Tufted Titmouse  
White-eyed Vireo



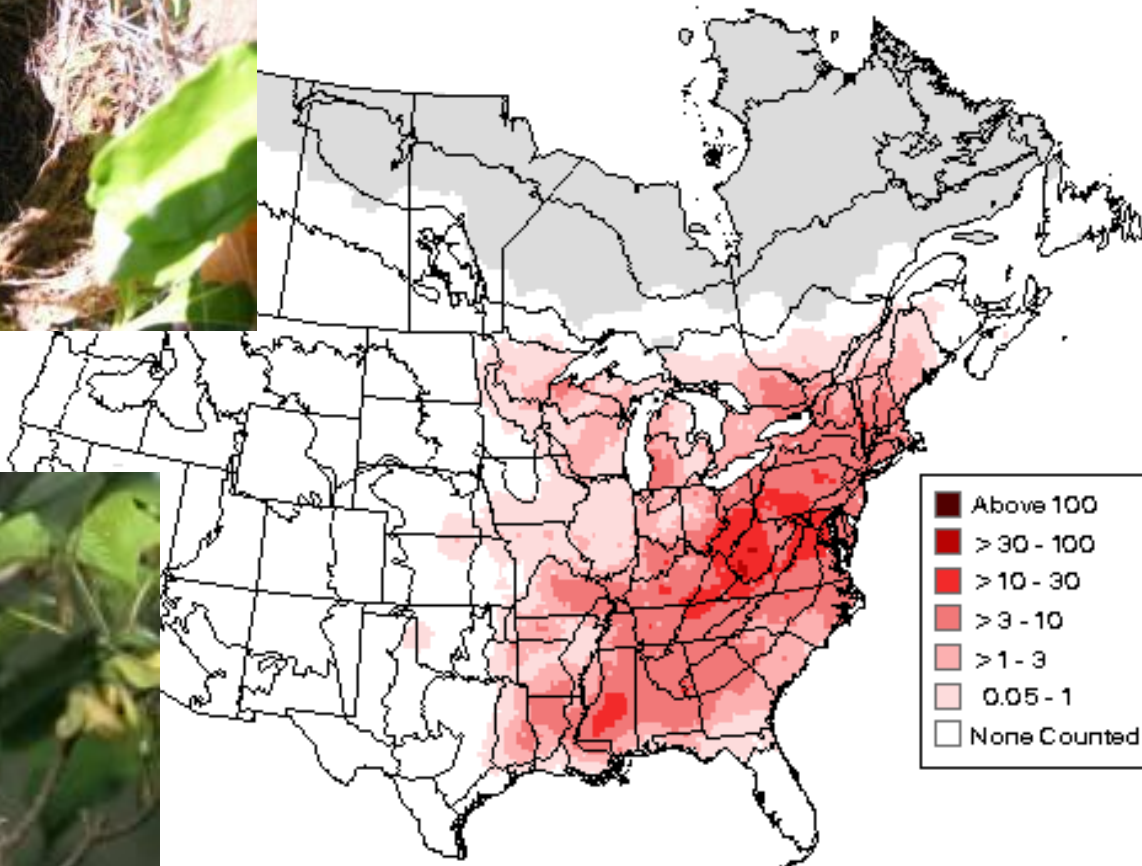


## **BCR28: Appalachian Mountains**

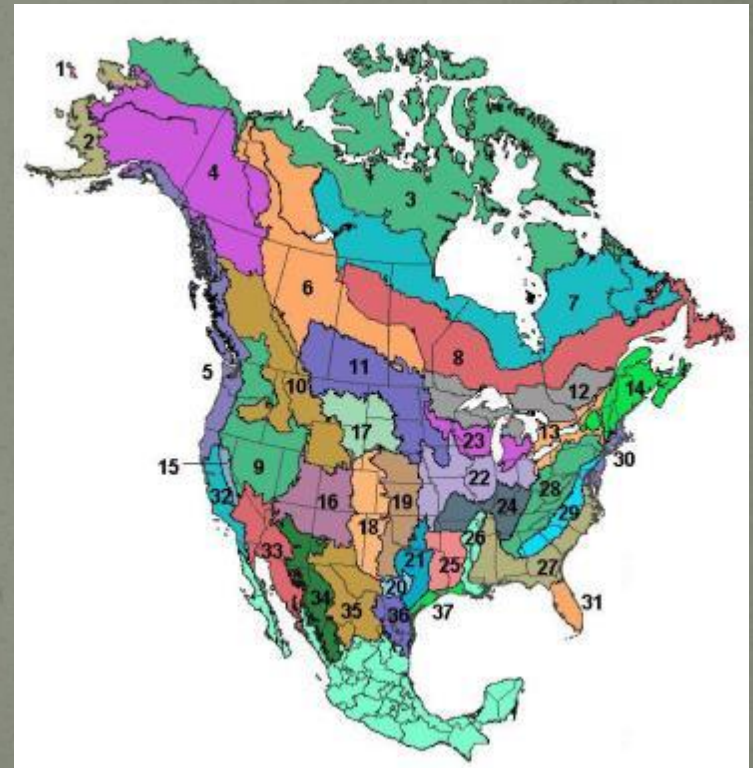
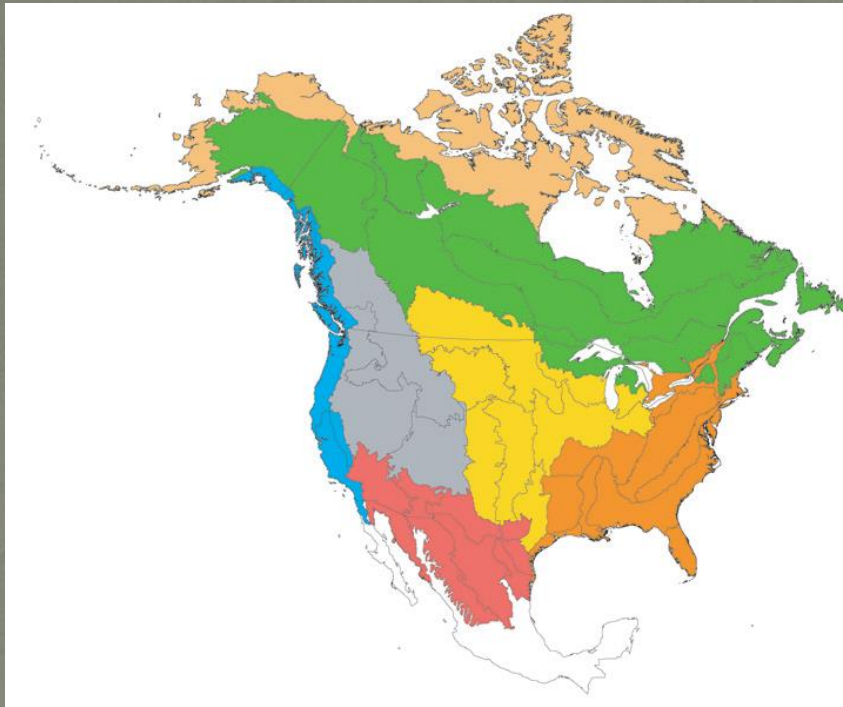
Acadian Flycatcher  
Blue-winged Warbler  
Broad-winged Hawk  
Carolina Chickadee  
Cerulean Warbler  
Chimney Swift  
Downy Woodpecker  
Eastern Towhee  
Hooded Warbler  
Indigo Bunting  
Kentucky Warbler  
Louisiana Waterthrush  
Scarlet Tanager  
Wood Thrush  
Worm-eating Warbler  
Yellow-throated Vireo  
Yellow-throated Warbler



# BBS data: Wood Thrush



# Biomes and BCRs



From Partners in Flight, Landbird Conservation Plan

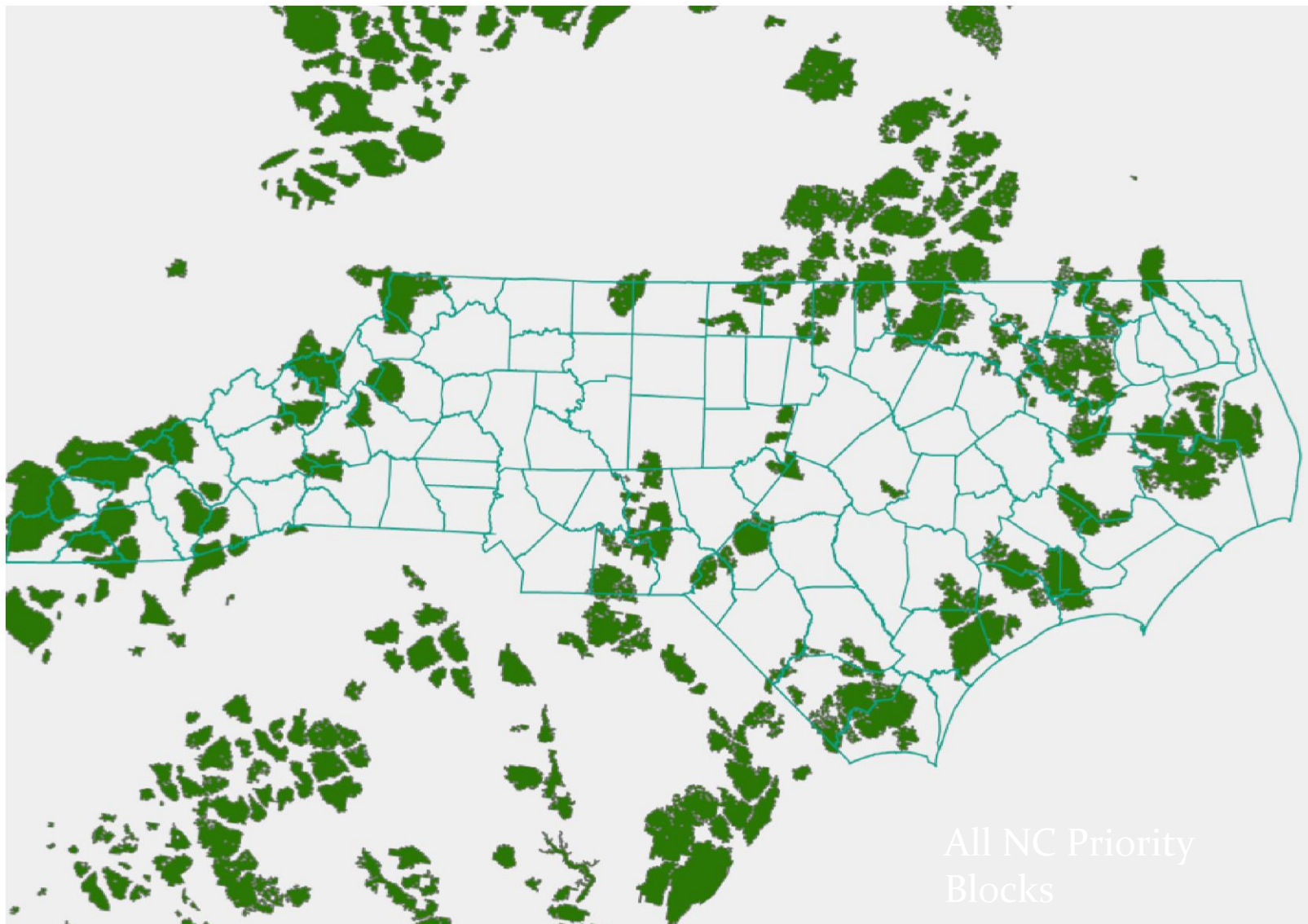


## Eastern Forest Project



Approximately 35 million acres of priority forest

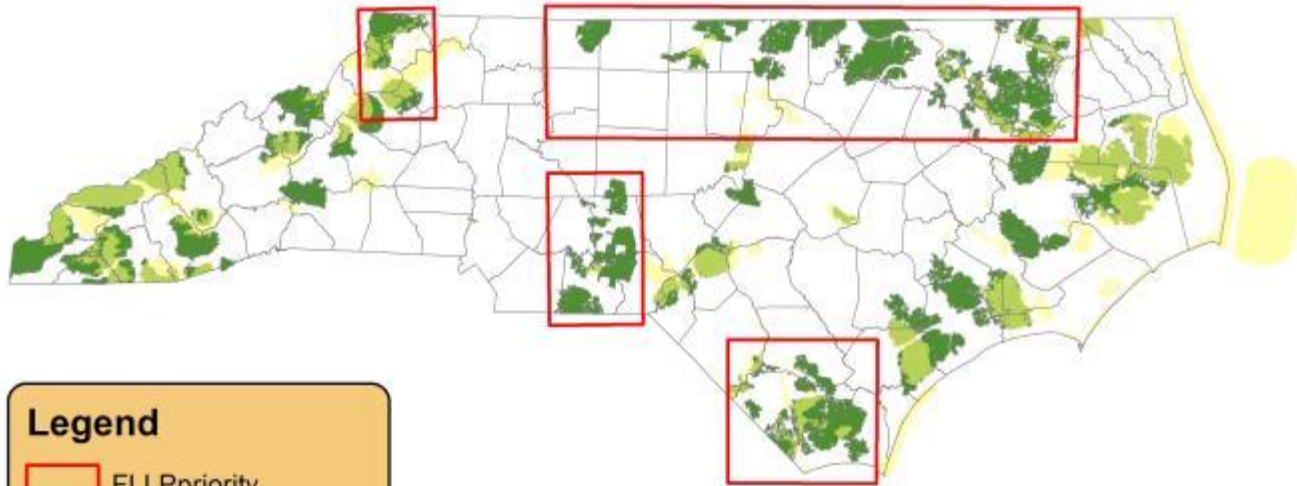
Audubon hopes to educate the managers of 5 million acres of forest within priority blocks by 2017 and have bird friendly management plans written and committed to on 500,000 acres of priority forest



All NC Priority  
Blocks



## Forest Land Bird Legacy Focal Areas



### Legend

-  FLLPriority
-  Important Bird Areas
-  Priority Forest Blocks





# Some Background...



- North Carolina 2015 SWAP
- Partners in Flight State of the Birds 2016 High Priority
- USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern
- Audubon and ABC Watchlist



Responsibility Species  
– Those with more than 5% of their estimated global population in NC .

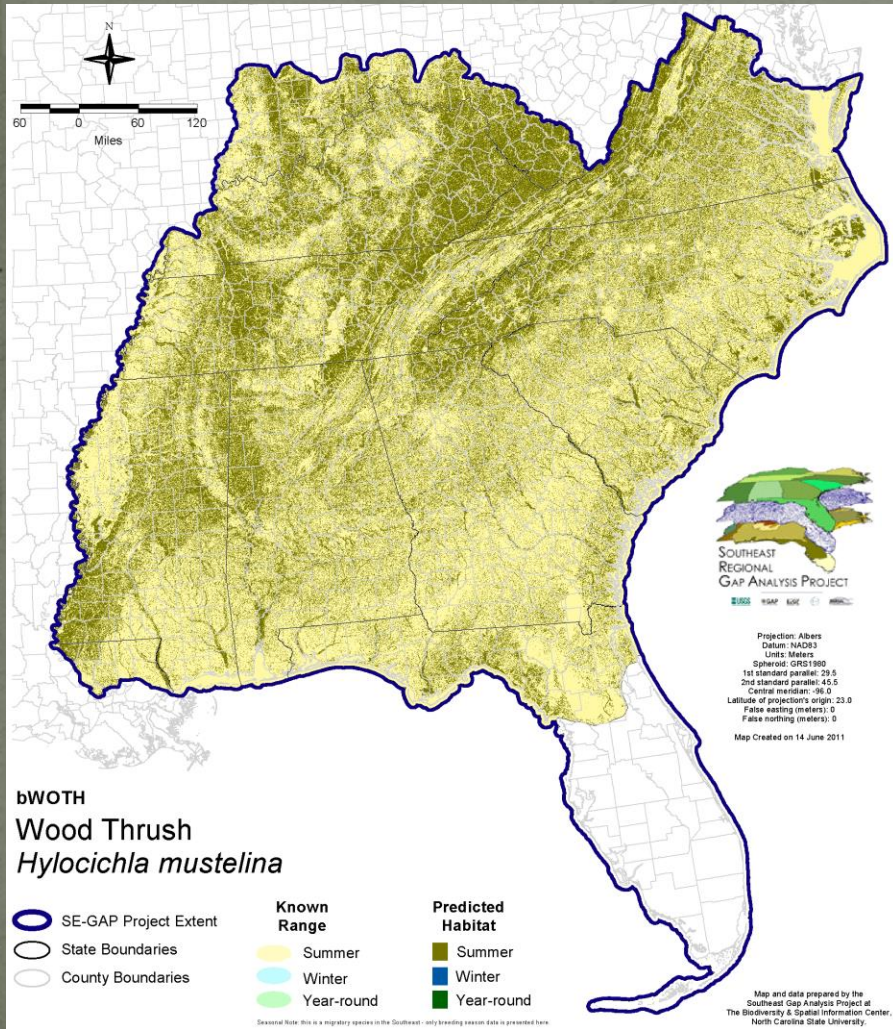
NC Population Estimate

# Wood Thrush





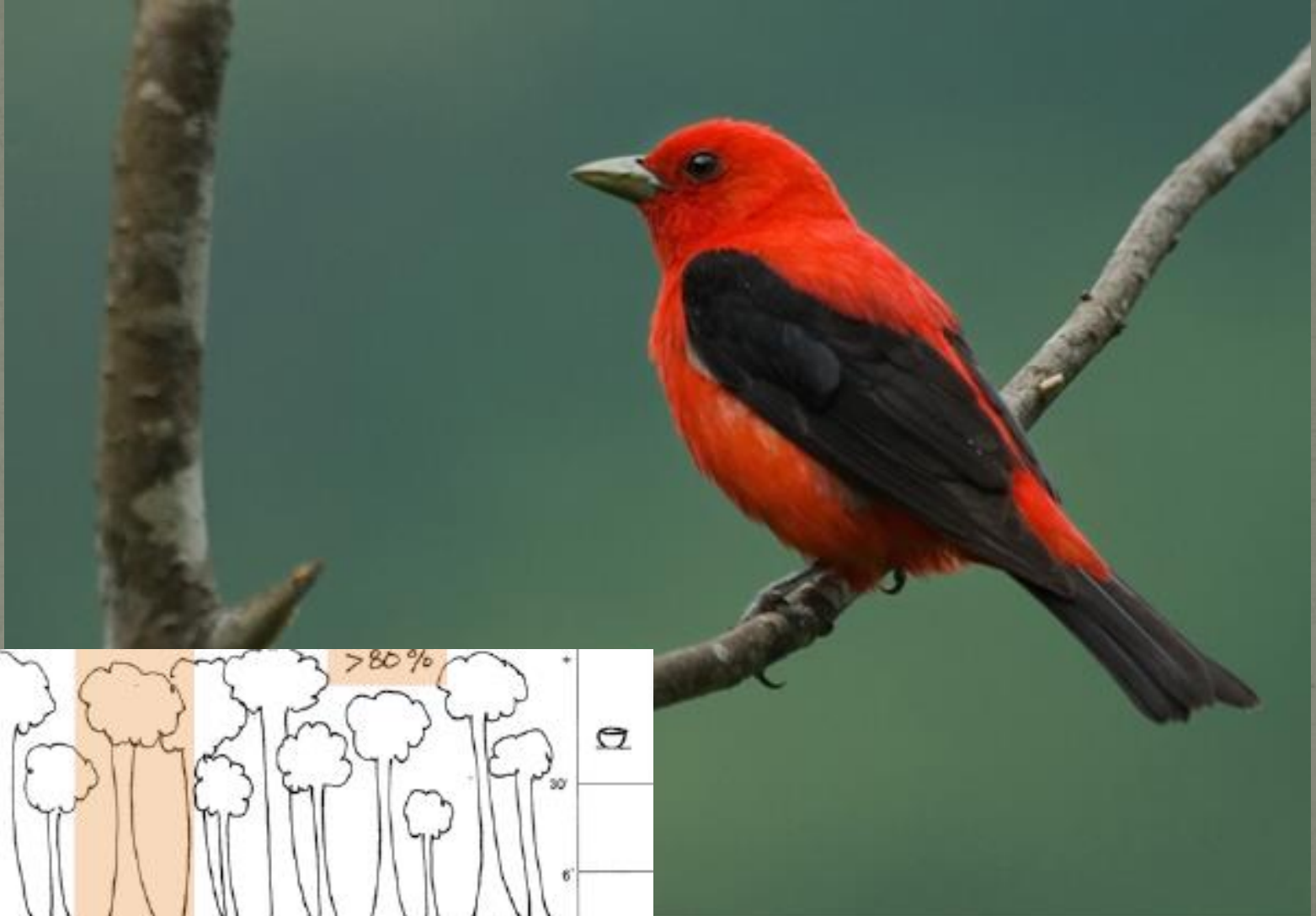
# Wood Thrush



6.7%

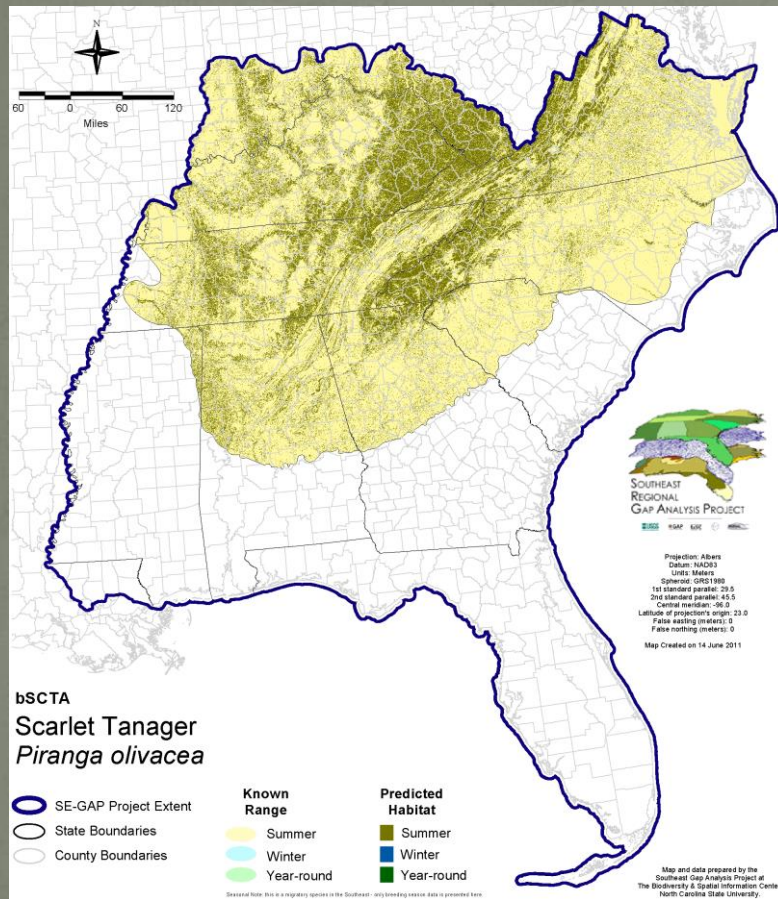
768,000

# Scarlet Tanager



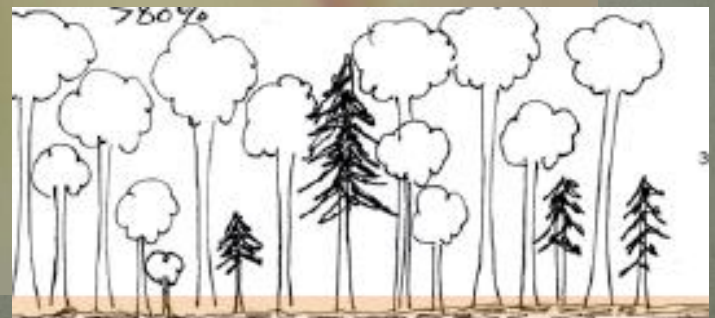


# Scarlet Tanager



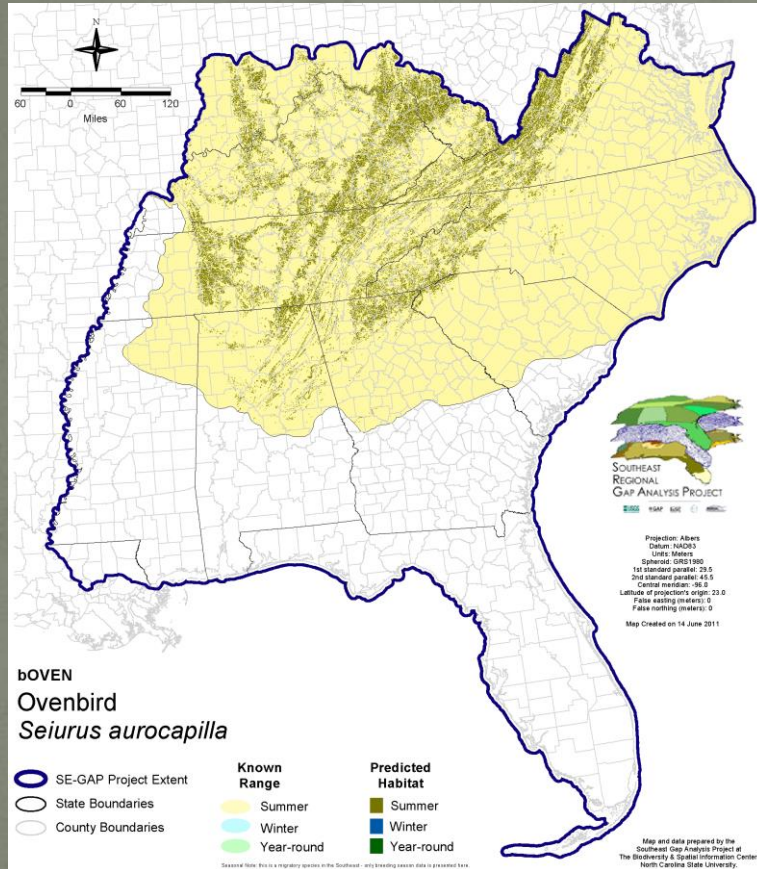
65,500

# Ovenbird





# Ovenbird



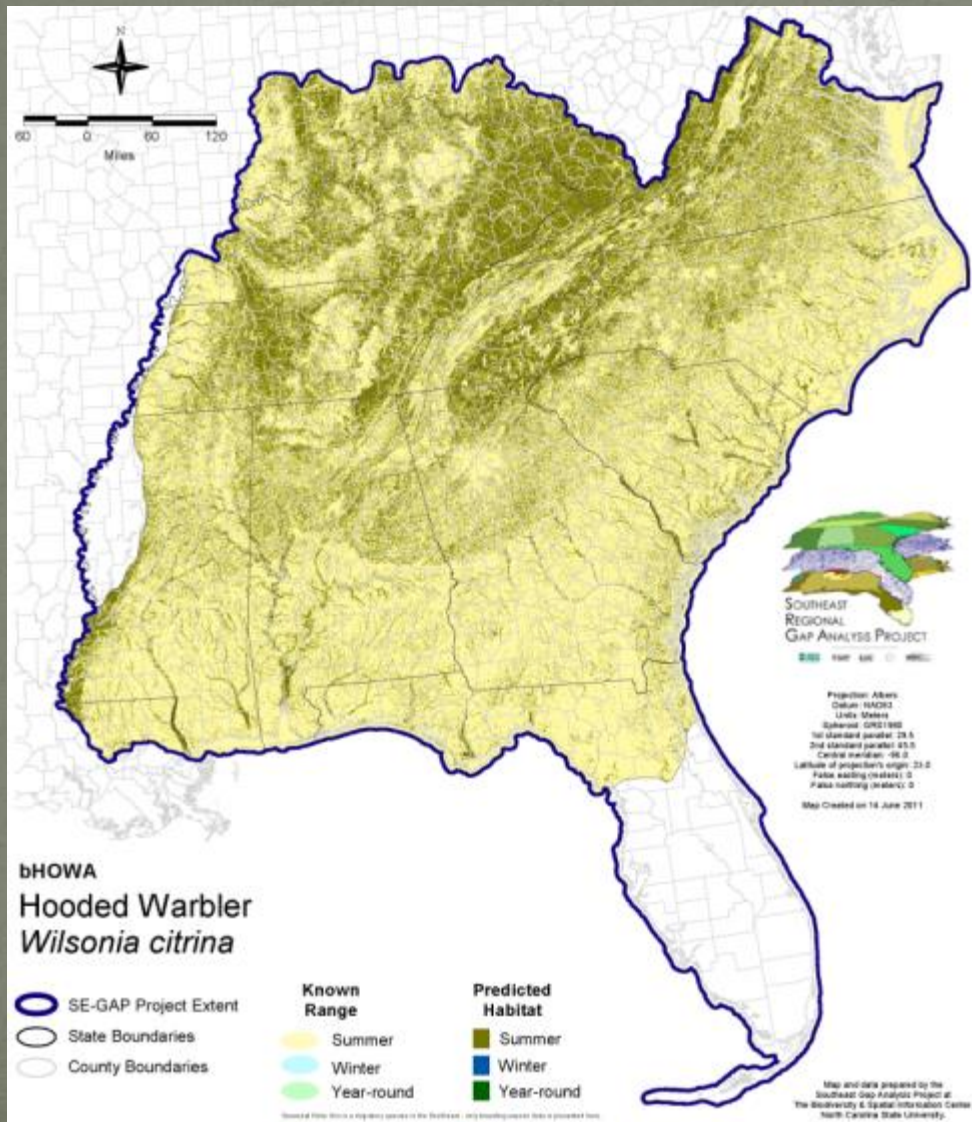
271,000

# Hooded Warbler





# Hooded Warbler



7.3%

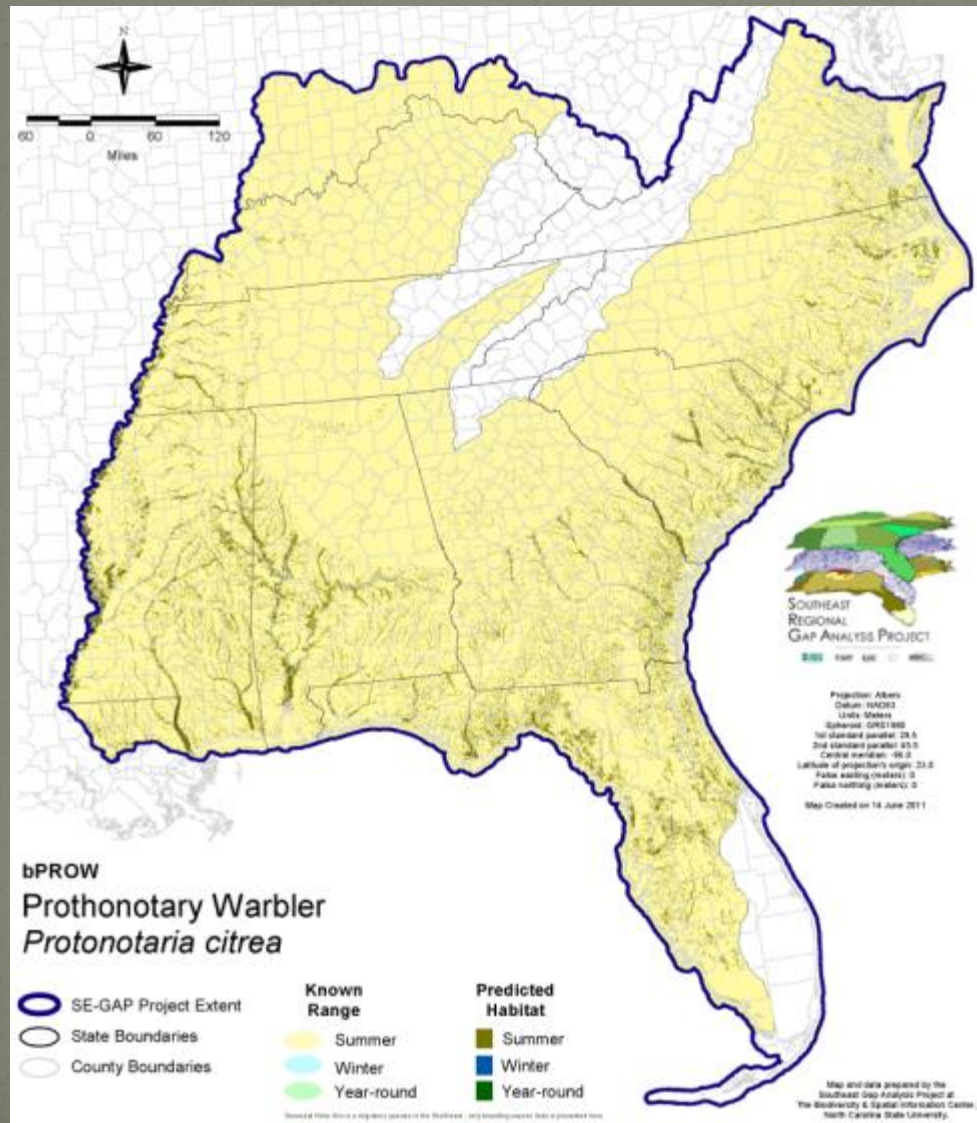
333,000

# Prothonotary Warbler





# Prothonotary Warbler



17.1%

265,000

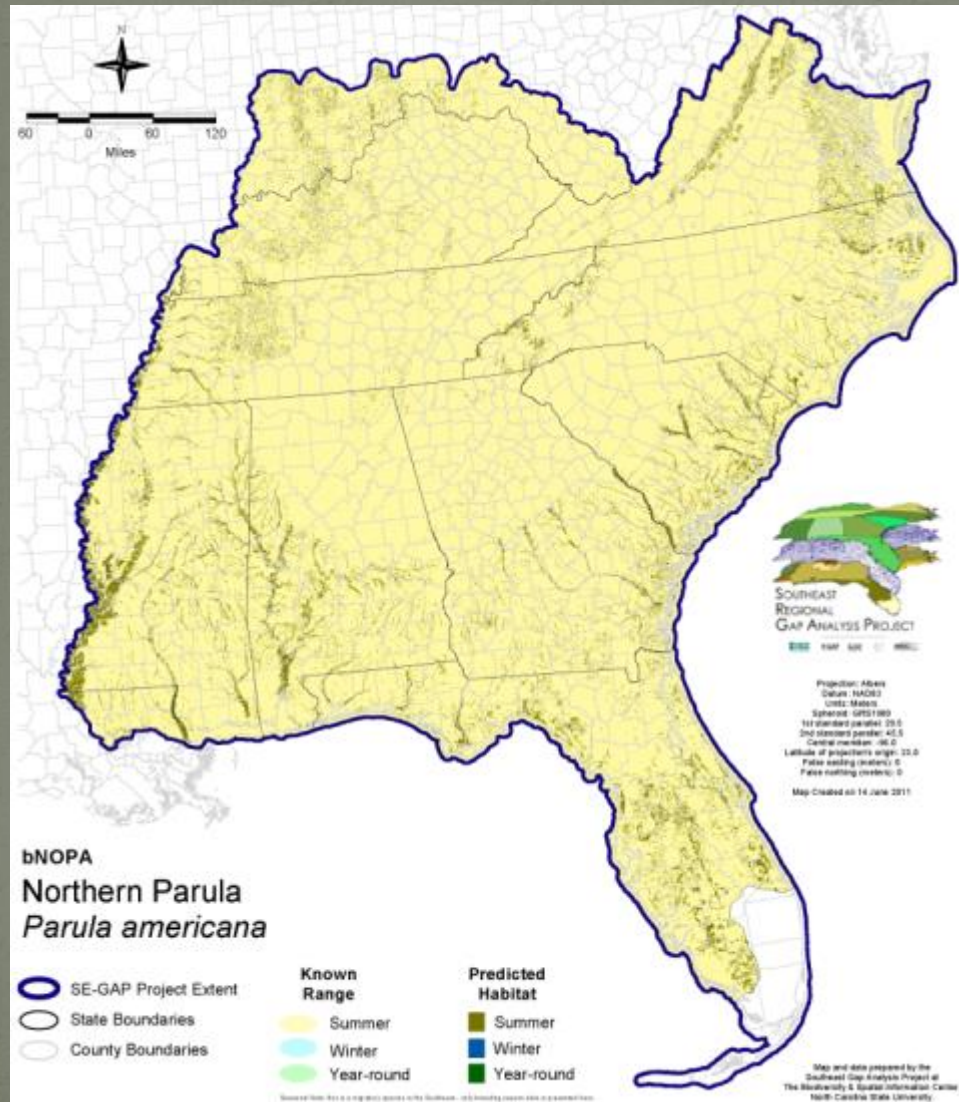
# Northern Parula



© Todd G. Aron 2012



# Northern Parula



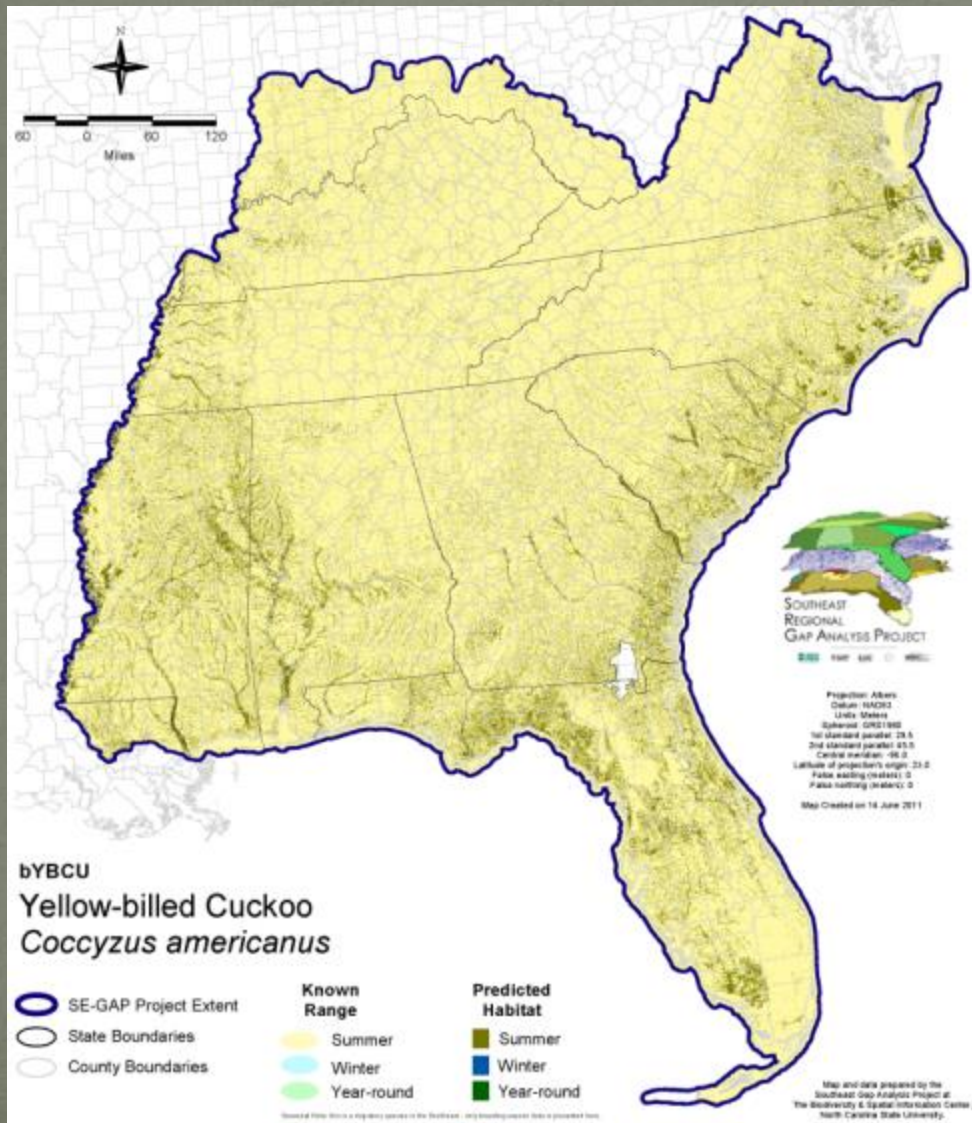
532,000

# Yellow-billed Cuckoo





# Yellow-billed Cuckoo



236,000

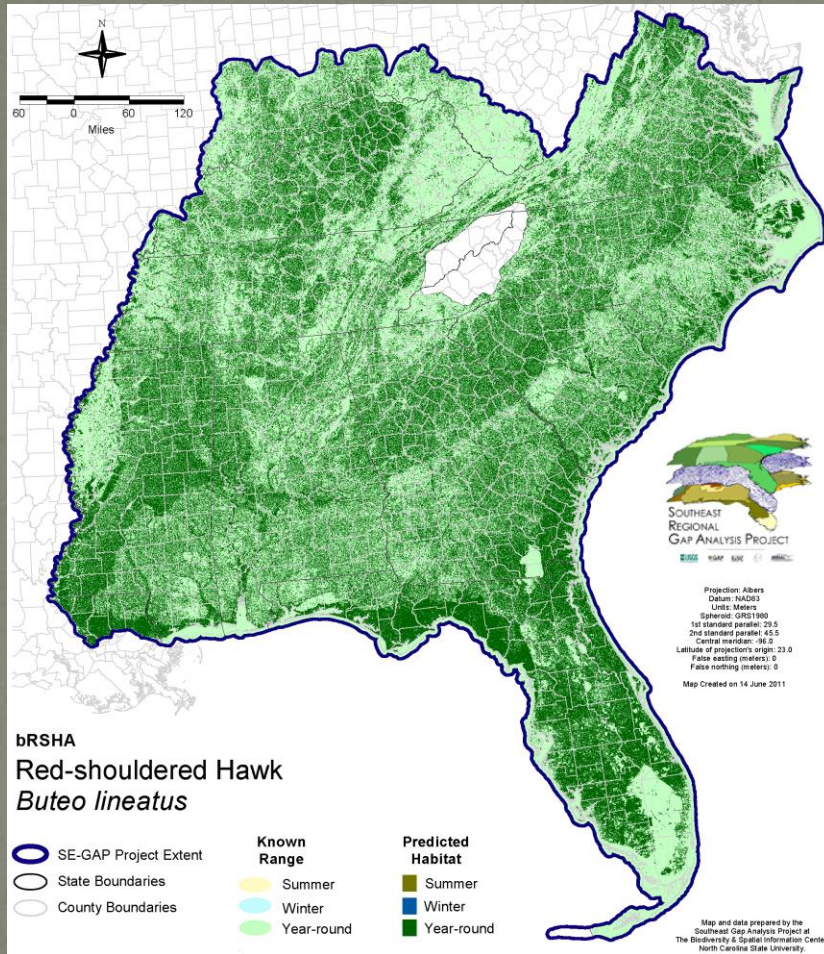
# Red-shouldered Hawk



*Don Mullaney*



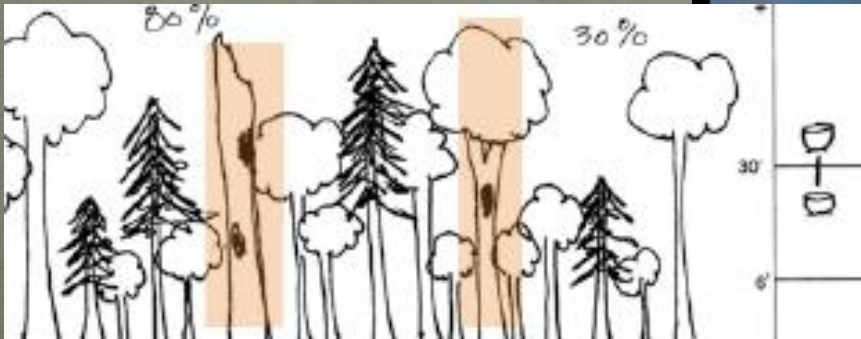
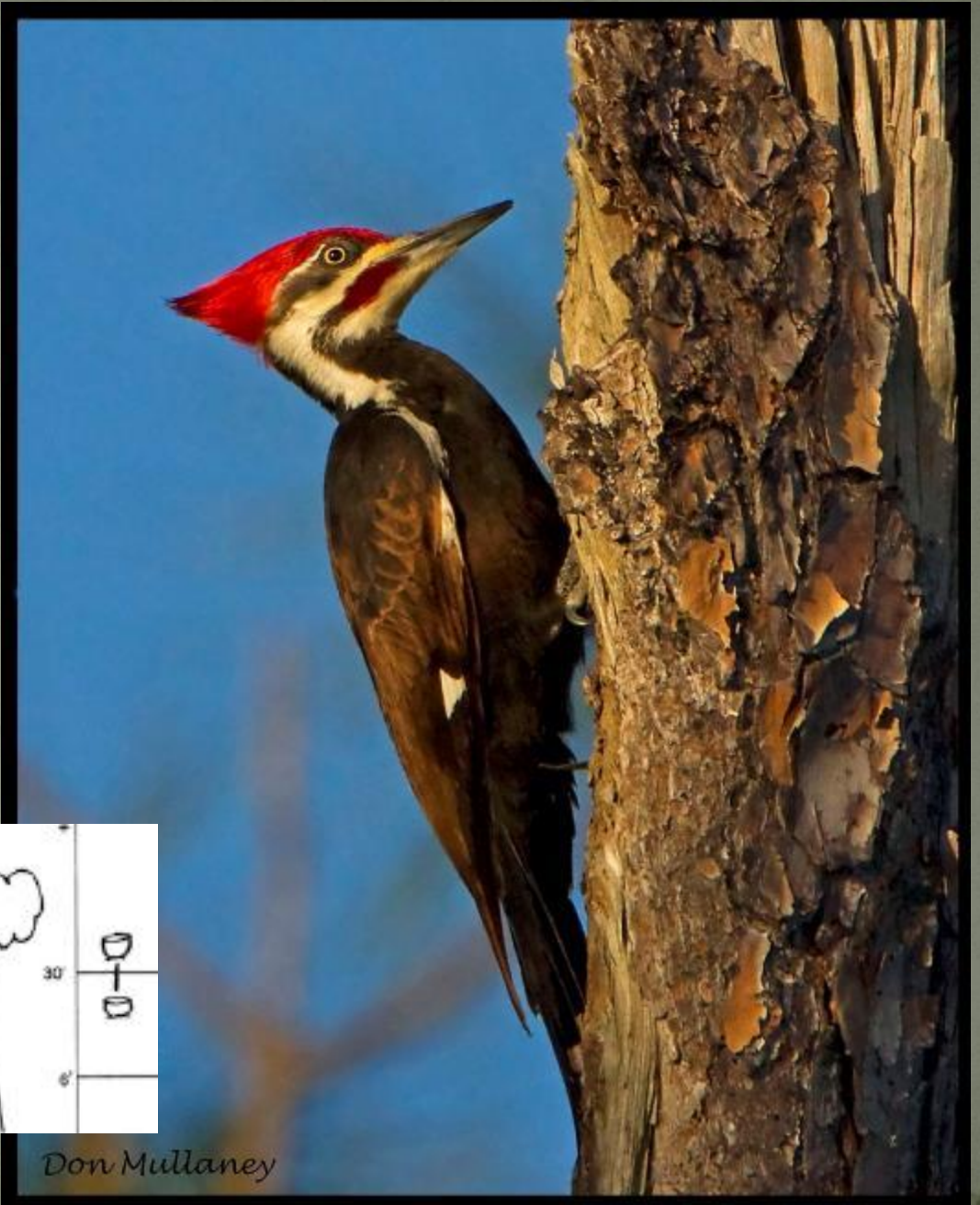
# Red-shouldered Hawk



52,000



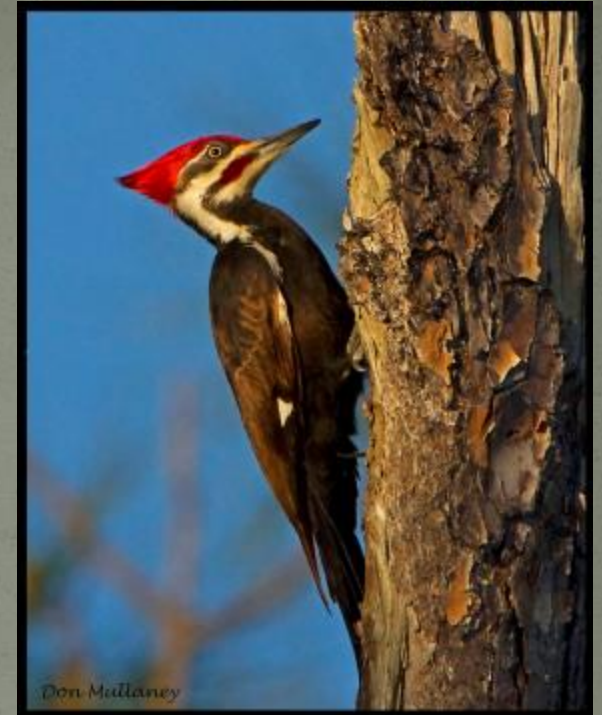
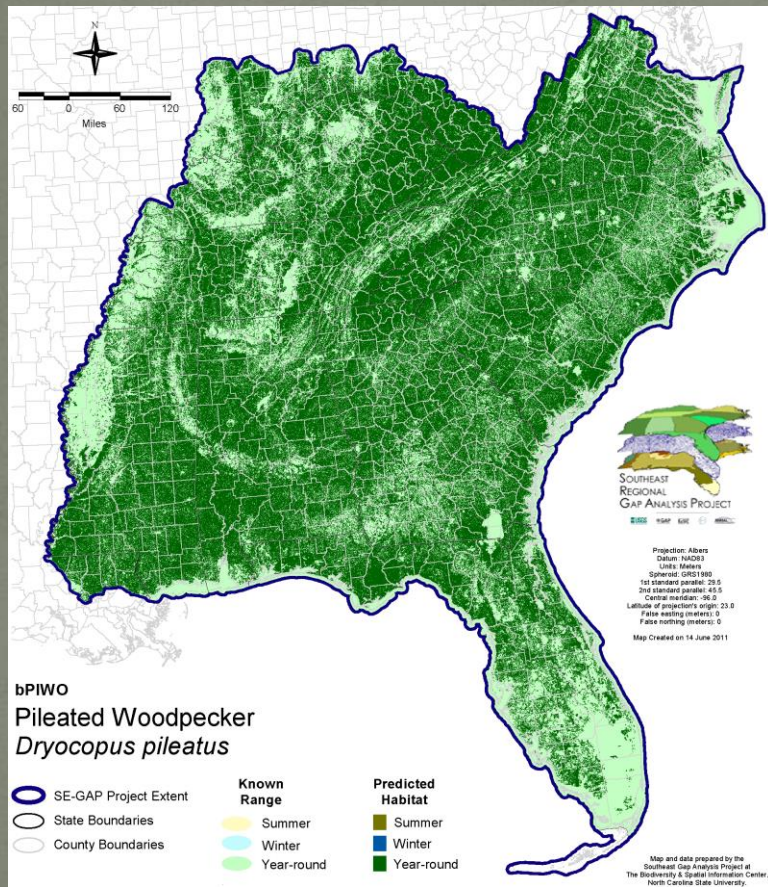
# Pileated Woodpecker



Don Mullaney

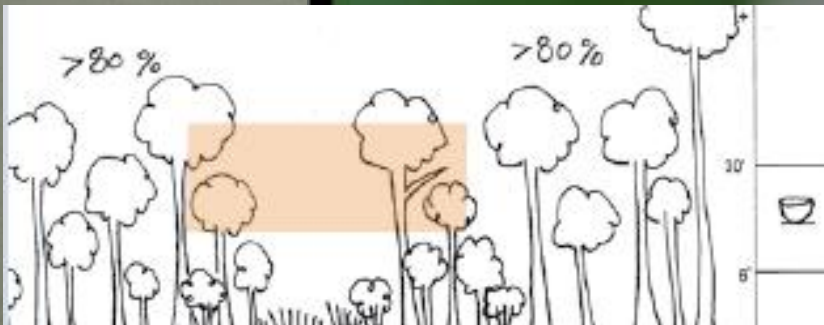
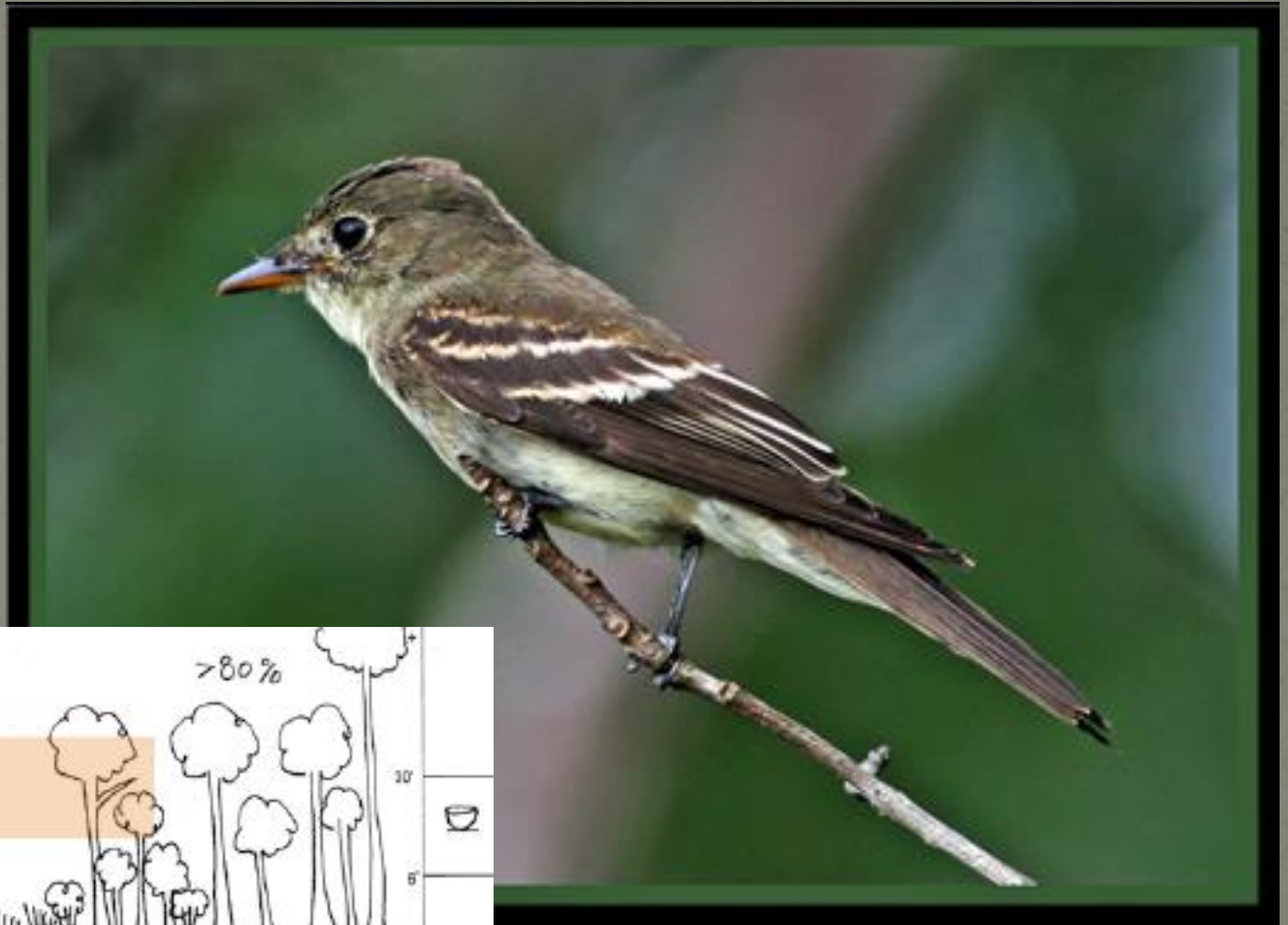


# Pileated Woodpecker



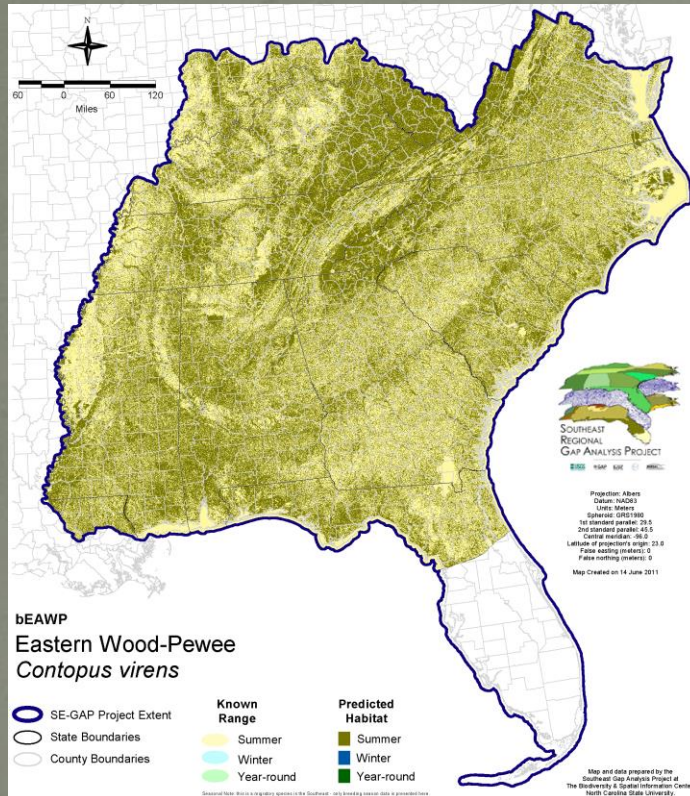
65,000

# Eastern Wood-pewee





# Eastern Wood-pewee



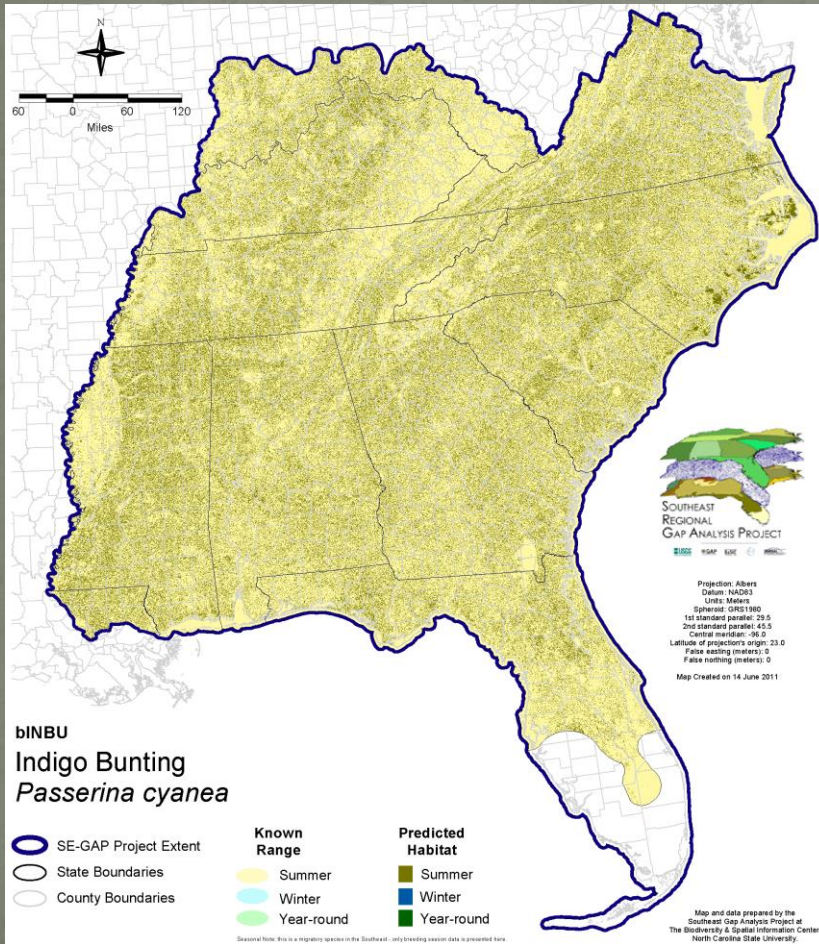
265,000

# Indigo Bunting





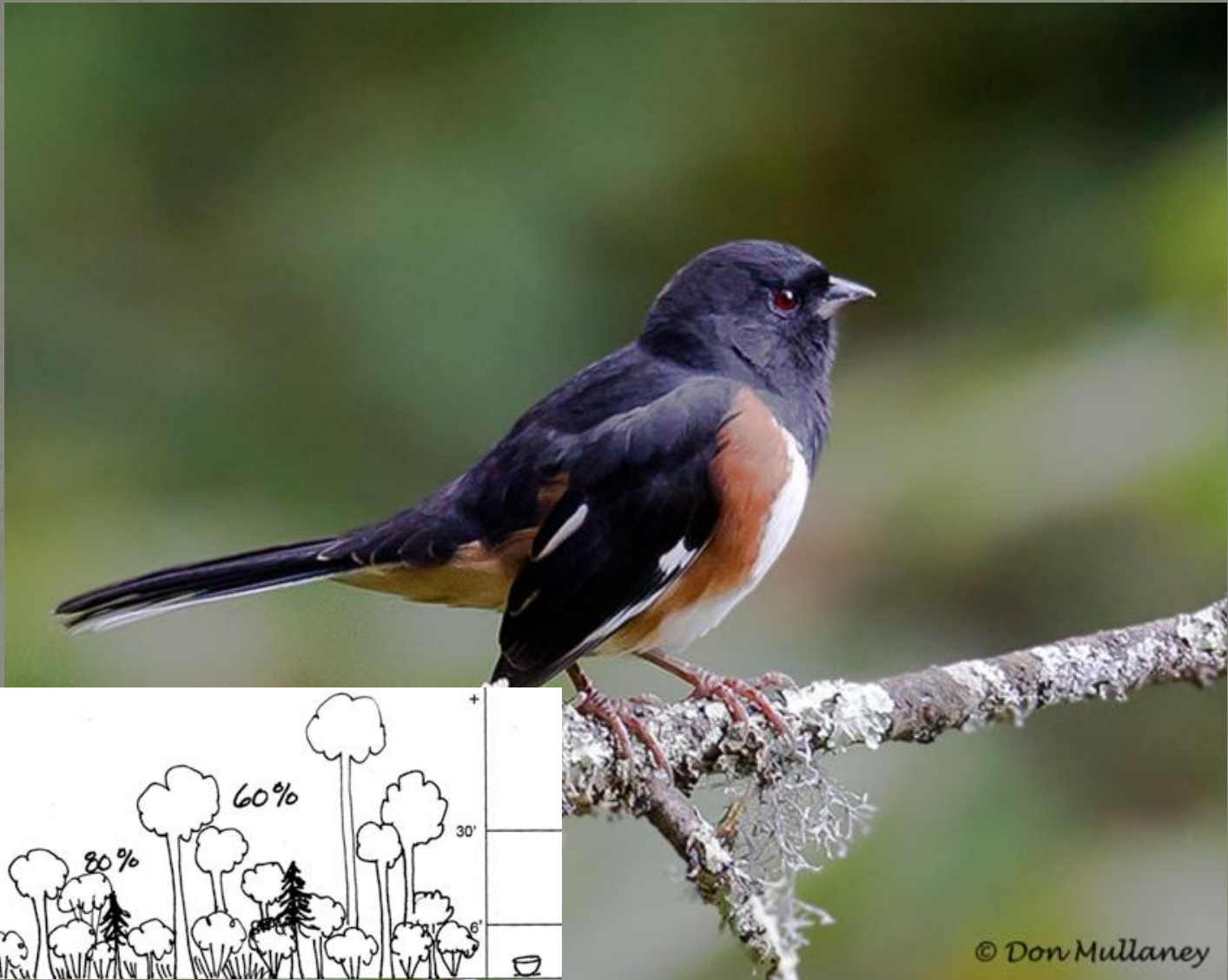
# Indigo Bunting



5.8%

4,511,000

# Eastern Towhee



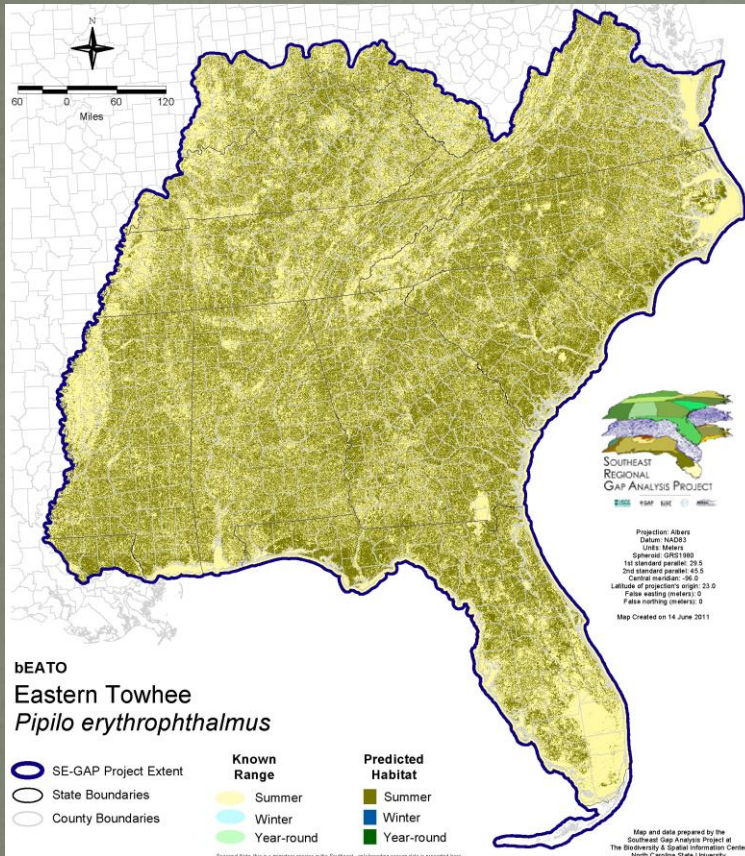
© Don Mullaney



# Eastern Towhee



© Don Mullaney



7.6%

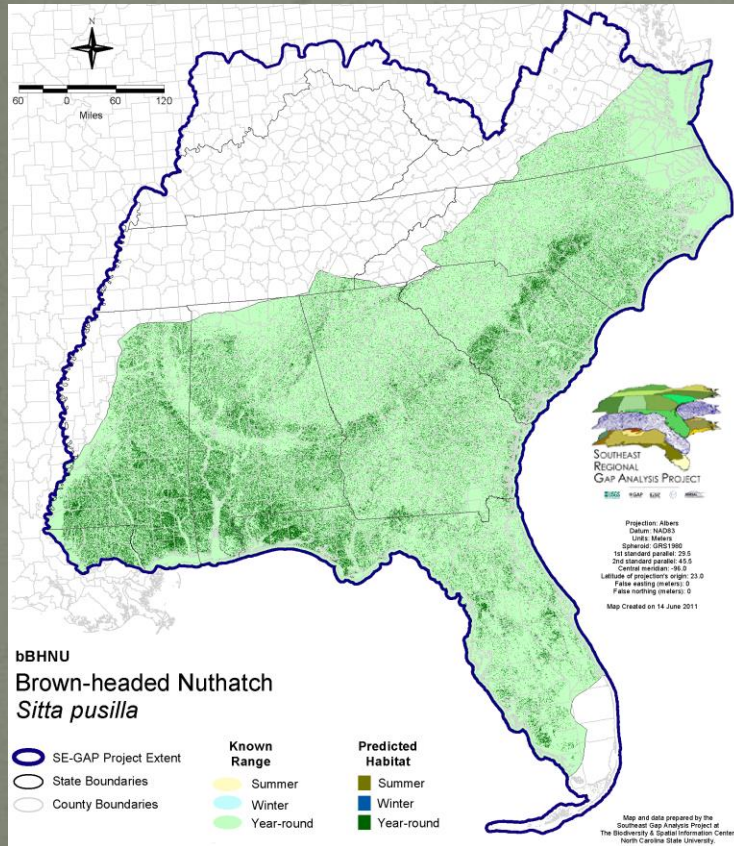
2,139,000

# Brown-headed Nuthatch





# Brown-headed Nuthatch



156,000

Priority Species  
Management Can  
Help Dozens of  
Other Species!



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*Steve Bullock*

*John Ellis*

*Jeff Lewis*

*Curtis Smalling*