



Data Informing Decisions and Actions

Fish Habitat Partnership Workshop

“To those devoid of imagination a blank place on the map is a useless waste; to others, the most valuable part.” -Aldo Leopold

Daniel Wieferich (USGS)

October 15, 2018



U.S. Geological Survey Mission Areas

- **Core Science Systems -> CSASL (Wieferich*)**
 - Characterizing and understanding complex Earth and biological systems through research, modeling, mapping, and the production of high-quality data
- **Ecosystems**
- **Energy and Minerals**
- **Environmental Health**
- **Land Resources (e.g. Doug Beard)**
- **Natural Hazards**
- **Water Resources (e.g. Peter Ruhl)**



CSASL Biogeographic Characterization

National Scale Products

- Protected Areas Database (PAD-US 2.0)
- GAP Analysis Range and Distributions
- National Vegetation Classification System (NVCS)
- Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS)
- Ocean Biogeographic Information System USA
- Biodiversity Information Serving Our Nation (BISON)
- Dam Removal Information Portal (DRIP)
- Species of Greatest Conservation Need (National List)
- National Fish Habitat Assessment (NFHP 2010, 2015)

The image shows a composite of two screenshots. On the left is the Protected Areas Database of the U.S. version 1.4 web interface, featuring a map of the United States with various colored overlays representing protected areas. A sidebar on the left lists 'PAD-US Map Layers' with options like 'GAP Status Code', 'Manager Name' (checked), 'Manager Type', 'Protected Areas by Manager', and 'Public Access'. On the right is the cover of the report 'THROUGH A FISH'S EYE: THE STATUS OF FISH HABITATS IN THE UNITED STATES 2015' from the National Fish Habitat Partnership. The cover text states: 'This report summarizes the results of an unprecedented nationwide assessment of human effects on fish habitat in the rivers and estuaries of the United States. The assessment assigns a risk of current habitat degradation scores for watersheds and estuaries across the nation and within 14 sub-regions. The results also identify some of the major sources of habitat degradation.' Below the text are two buttons: 'Explore the Assessment' and 'Explore Regions'. At the bottom of the slide, there is a USGS logo and a row of puzzle pieces, each containing a different image related to environmental science and conservation.

Protected Areas Database of the U.S. version 1.4

The Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) is the official inventory of protected open space in the United St...
more...

PAD-US Map Layers

- GAP Status Code
- Manager Name
- Manager Type
- Protected Areas by Manager
- Public Access

United States

THROUGH A FISH'S EYE:
THE STATUS OF FISH HABITATS
IN THE UNITED STATES
2015

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

This report summarizes the results of an unprecedented nationwide assessment of human effects on fish habitat in the rivers and estuaries of the United States. The assessment assigns a risk of current habitat degradation scores for watersheds and estuaries across the nation and within 14 sub-regions. The results also identify some of the major sources of habitat degradation.

Navigate this report by:

Explore the Assessment

Explore Regions

USGS

2015 Assessment Products

<http://assessment.fishhabitat.org/#578d5e34e4b0c1aacabb4ca4/578d5e34e4b0c1aacabb4ca4SingleItem>



Information Products From National Assessment

[Report Authors and](#)



HOME



DOWNLOAD



MENU

Data

Alaska Inland Assessment of Streams Habitat Condition and Disturbance Indices (HUC12s) - [click here to download](#)

Alaska Inland Assessment of Streams Disturbance Data (HUC12s) - [click here to download](#)

SE Alaska Inland Assessment of Streams Habitat Condition and Disturbance Indices (Catchments) - [click here to download](#)

SE Alaska Inland Assessment of Streams Disturbance Data (Catchments) - [click here to download](#)

Contiguous U.S. Inland Assessment of Streams Habitat Condition Index and Limiting Disturbances - [click here to download](#)

Contiguous U.S. Inland Assessment of Streams Disturbance Data - [click here to download](#)

Contiguous U.S. Inland Assessment of Streams Buffer Polygons - [click here to download](#)

Contiguous U.S. Stream Fragmentation and Flow Alteration Statistics - [click here to download](#)

Hawaii Inland Assessment of Streams Habitat Condition and Disturbance Indices - [click here to download](#)

Hawaii Inland Assessment of Streams Disturbance Data - [click here to download](#)

NFHP 2015 National Estuary Assessment Results - [click here to download](#)

Regional Estuary Assessment for the Northern Gulf of Mexico Results - [click here to download](#)

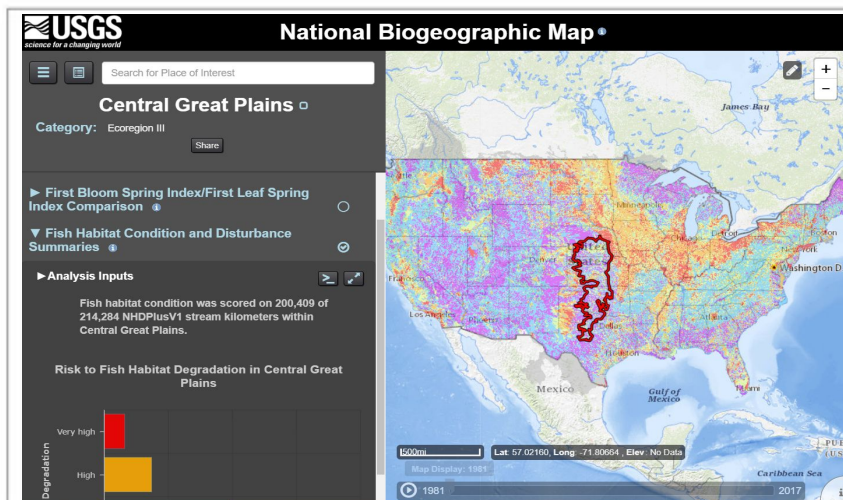


National Biogeographic Map

<https://maps.usgs.gov/biogeography>

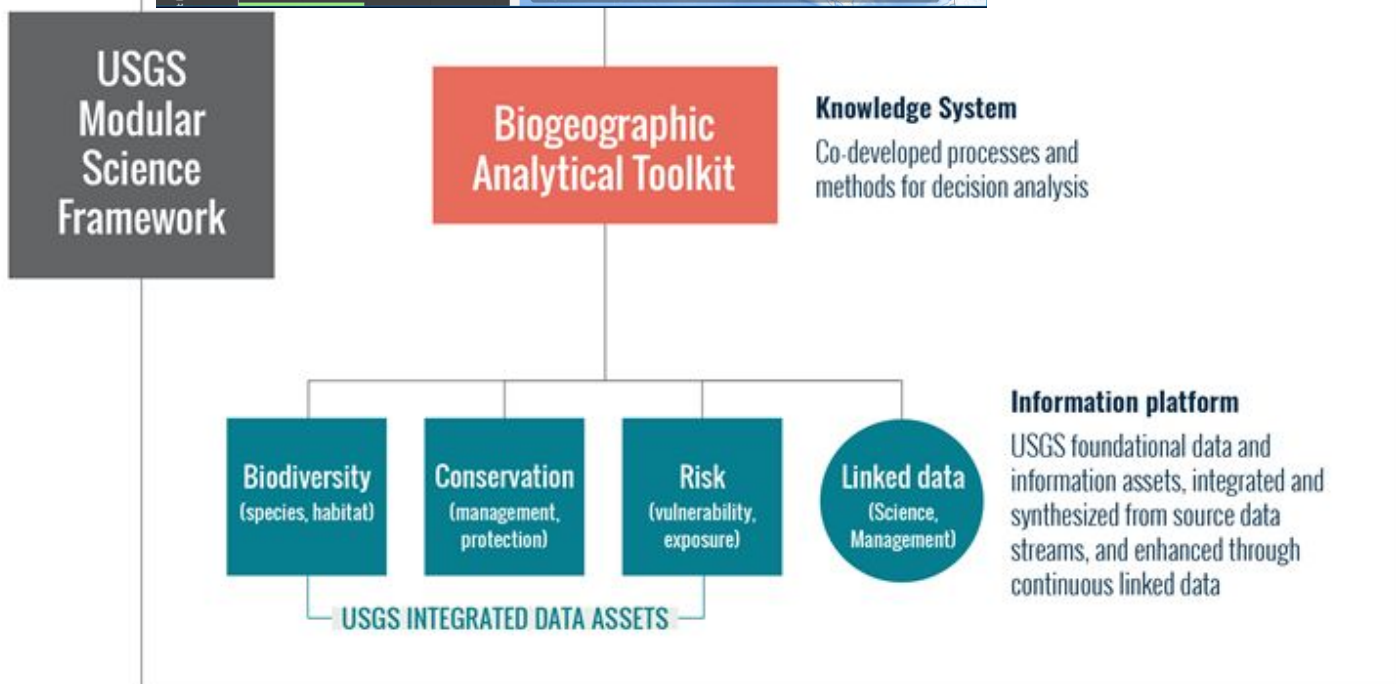
Species and Habitats

- LOCATION
- PROTECTION STATUS
- THREATS AND STRESSORS
- MANAGEMENT OPTIONS



Explore management questions

Rapid response to: what species where, how well protected, how vulnerable, what options?



FHP - USGS Potential Collaborations

What Specific Information would help?

Support Funding Decisions:

- Prioritizing projects by watershed or other criteria
- Validate statements in proposals
- ???????

Support Science:

- Input datasets
- Data documentation and delivery
- ???????



National Biogeographic Map



National Biogeographic Map

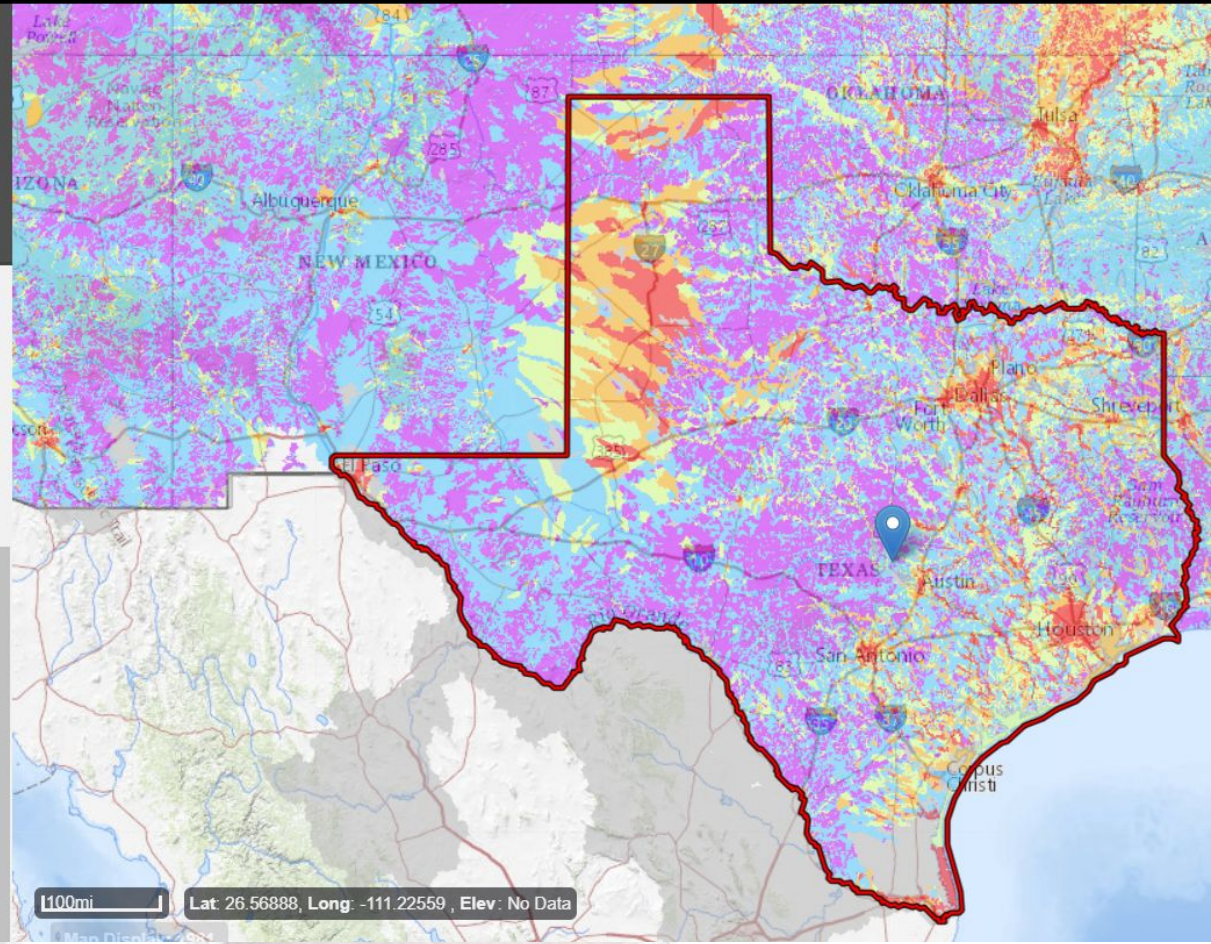
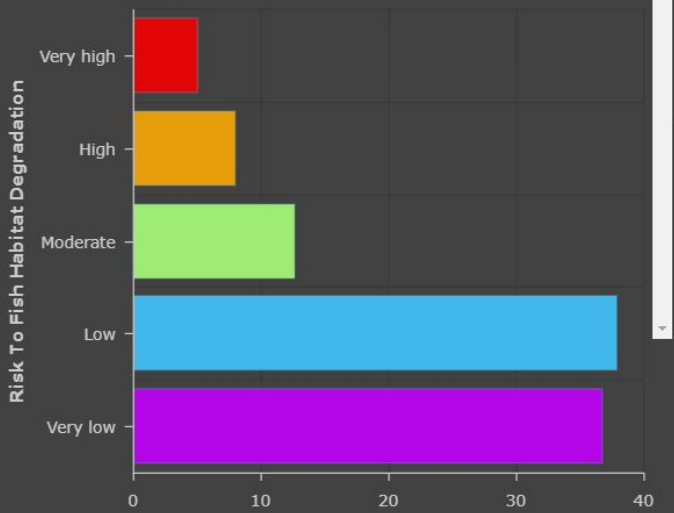
Search for Place of Interest

Gulf Coast Prairie (Landscape Conservation Cooperatives)

Category:

- Texas (US States and Territories)
- Burnet County (US County)
- Edwards Plateau (Ecoregion III)
- Balcones Canyonlands (Ecoregion IV)

Risk to Fish Habitat Degradation in Texas



Taxa Information Registry

Public facing API actively being developed

ECOS

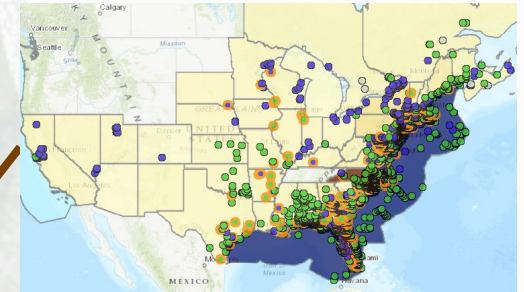


ITIS



Spatial:

Range, Distribution, Occurrence



Trait Databases



IUCN



SGCN



WoRMS



Nature Serve



Spatial (-Temporal) Feature Registry

Public facing API actively being developed

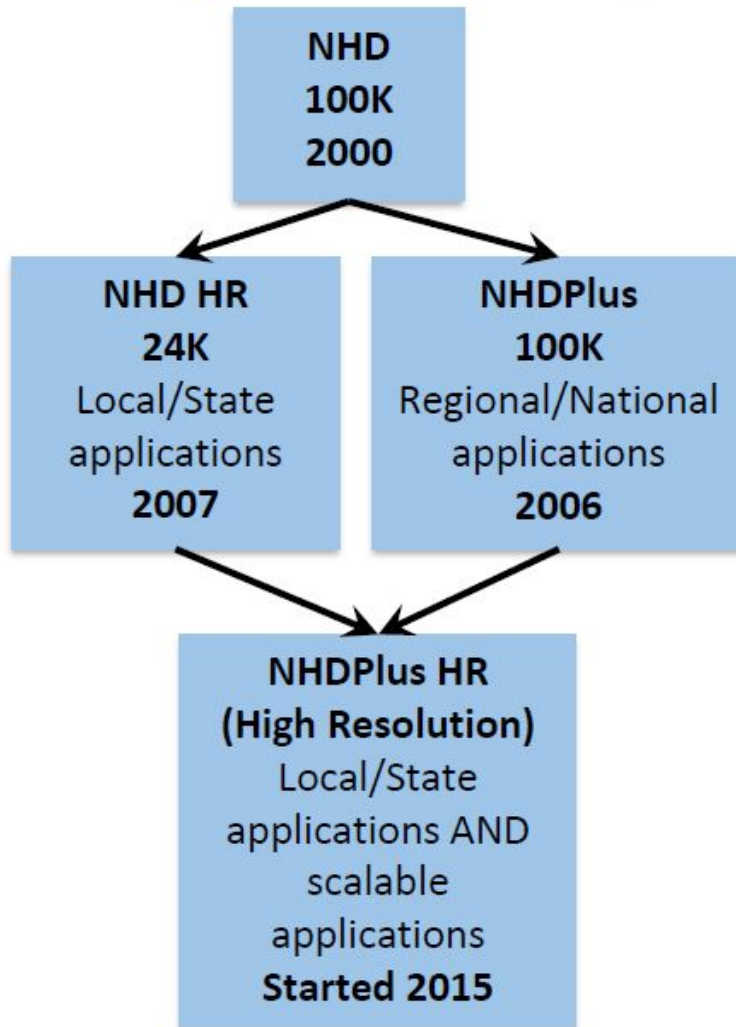
More detail: <https://my.usgs.gov/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=608440581>

- **Feature of interest playing a role in analyses (e.g. jurisdictional boundaries, ecological boundaries, anthropogenic features, natural features, sample locations)**
- **Tracks relationships between features**
- **Accounts for temporal aspect (e.g. dam was built in 1920 and removed in 1999, or wetland delineation in 1999 vs. 2010)**



+ Evolution of NHDPlus HR

Taking NHDPlus v2 (Med Res) to a new level



- The best of NHDPlus and NHD HR (24K or better) data
- Addresses the need for a single hydrographic frame of reference
- Link data to one network and generalize to many different scales

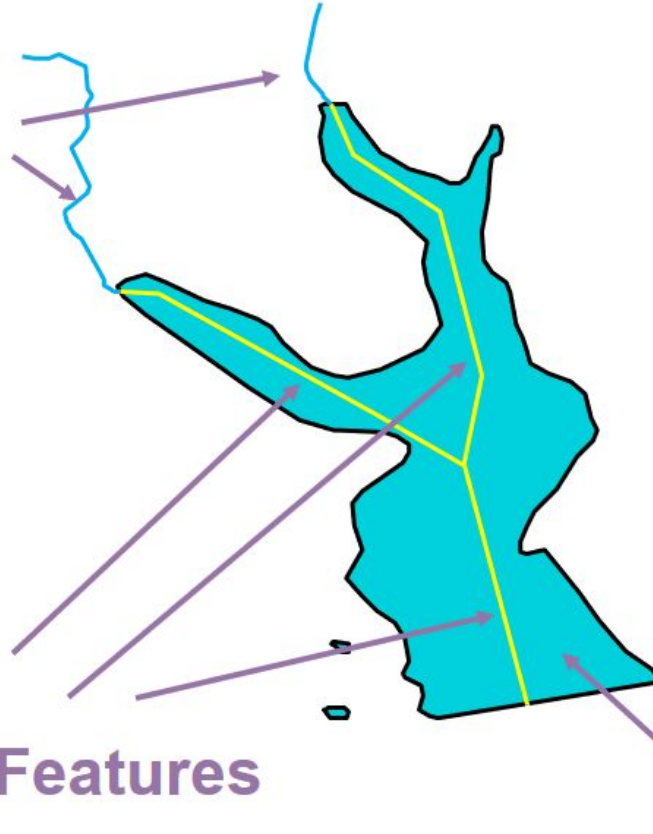
HydroLinking Data (Definition)

- **Assigning a spatial relationship between information and the hydrographic network**
- **Examples of information that can be linked**
 - field observations (e.g. electro-fishing site)
 - features (location of a dam or road crossing)
 - landscape characteristics (% catchment ag)



+ Linking Data to the NHD: Reaches & Reachcodes

On Linear Features



On Artificial Paths
through Waterbody Features

On Waterbody Features

HydroLinking

Currently Many Efforts Many Techniques

- Hydrography: NHDPlusV1 vs. NHDPlusV2 vs. NHD HighResPlus vs. Local versions
- Aggregation: NFHP, StreamStats, NAQWA, StreamCat
- Point Referencing: HEM Desktop Tool, ArcGIS workflows, HEM services.....

Working Towards Many Efforts Similar Techniques



HydroLinking: Tools

<https://maps.usgs.gov/hydrolink/>

HydroLink Tool

Generate a hydrologic linear reference for point data representing locations of geographic features or field samples using the HydroLink Tool. This web-based GIS application allows for upload of a shapefile for easy linkage of spatial data records to the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) Plus Medium Resolution and NHD High Resolution hydrology layers. The outputted value-added dataset can be associated with NHD parameters and other data linked to the NHD.

The application accesses, and modifies feature services stored in your USGS ArcGIS Online account. Use the "Login" button below to sign into the HydroLink Tool using your ArcGIS Online credentials or "Request ArcGIS Online Account (USGS only)" if one is needed.

Login

Request ArcGIS Online Account (USGS only)

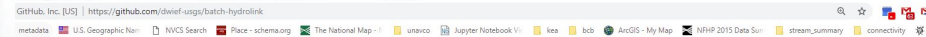
Report Issues or Provide Feedback



HydroLink eDNA Sample Locations



<https://github.com/dwief-usgs/batch-hydrolink>



Batch HydroLink

Contact:

Daniel Wiefersch (dwiefersch@usgs.gov)

Purpose:

Linking observation and spatial feature data to the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) provides context to the hydrographic network and provides access to additional hydrography information within the NHD for research and analytical purposes. This repository contains Python code that explores methods that link sampling and feature information to the NHDPlusV2 and NHDHR datasets using a batch approach and providing a level of certainty.

Additional Details:

This code performs a hydrolink batch process on a text file (.csv) or shapefile (.shp) using user defined latitude and longitude fields. The code returns the reachcode and measure of the closest position on the High Resolution National Hydrography Dataset. `#Set variable list to store output data as it is processed`

```
out_data = []
are a '#
df = import_file(input_file, latitude_field, longitude_field, stream_name_field, identifier_field)

if run_on.lower() == 'nhdhr':
    for row in df.itertuples():

        #Define variables based on row,field values
        lat = row.lat
        lon = row.lon
        input_id = row.id
        stream = str(row.stream)

        print ('working on : ' + str(input_id))

        reachcode_hr,meas_hr,smdate_hr,perm_id_hr,xy_hr,gnis_name_hr = hydrolink_hr(lat,lon,input_id)
        stream_clean = clean_stream_name(stream)
        gnis_cert_hr = hr_certainty(stream_clean, gnis_name_hr)

        #record data in outData, this will be used to create dataframe
        out_data.append({'id':input_id,"reach_hr":reachcode_hr,"meas_hr":meas_hr,"smdate_hr":smdate_hr,"perm_id_hr": perm_id_hr, "xy_hr":xy_hr, "gnis_name_hr":gnis_name_hr, "gnis_cert_hr":gnis_cert_hr })
```



HydroLinking... So What!

**Improves capability and
efficiencies for data
integration!!!**



FHP - USGS Potential Collaborations

What Specific Information would help?

Support Funding Decisions:

- Prioritizing projects by watershed or other criteria
- Validate statements in proposals
- ???????

Support Science:

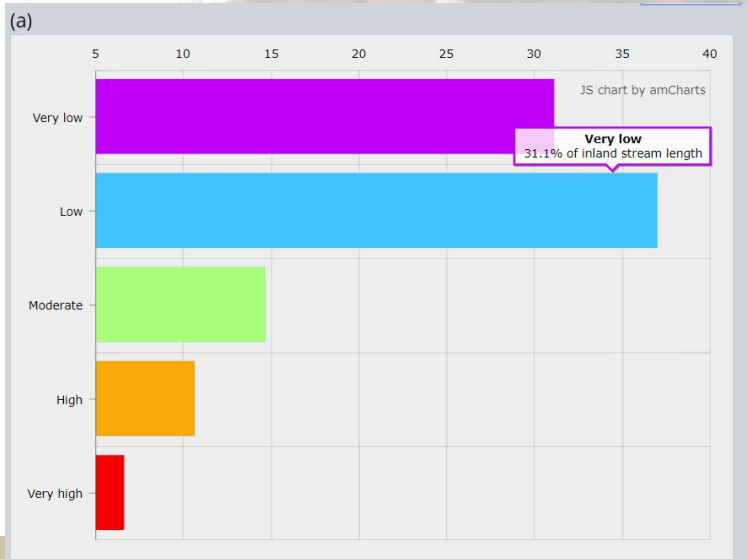
- Input datasets
- Data documentation and delivery
- ???????



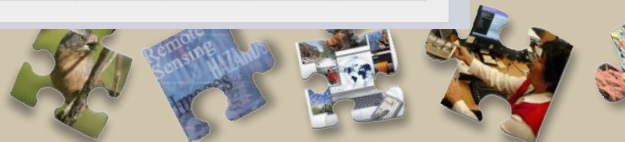
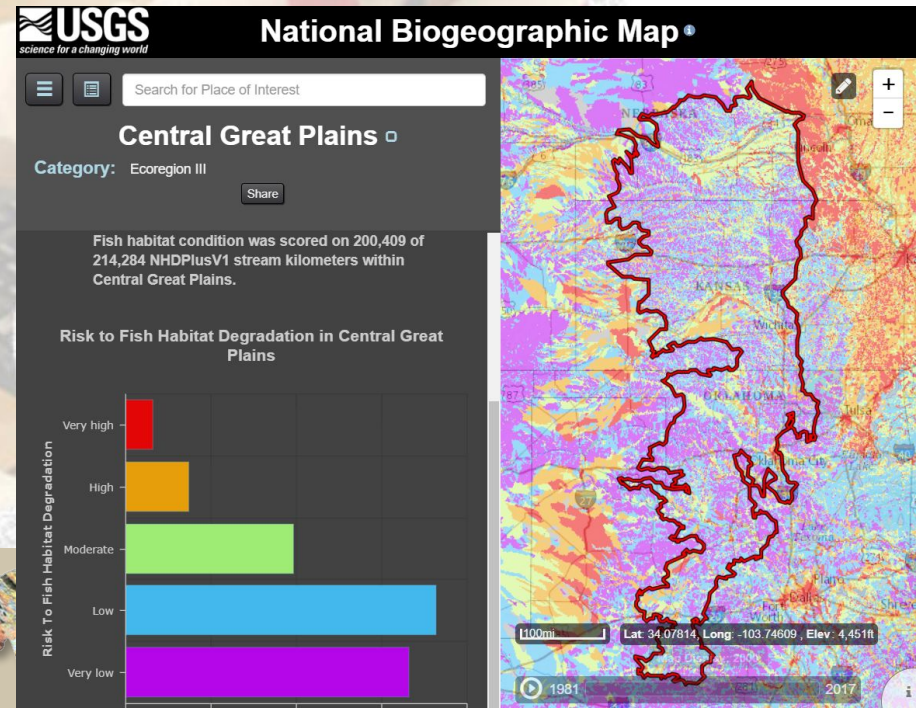
NFHP 2015 Fish Habitat Condition Summaries Use Case

Developing code to allow summaries (based of Through A Fish's Eye) to be ran against any jurisdictional or ecological boundary of interest

Through A Fish's Eye State Groupings

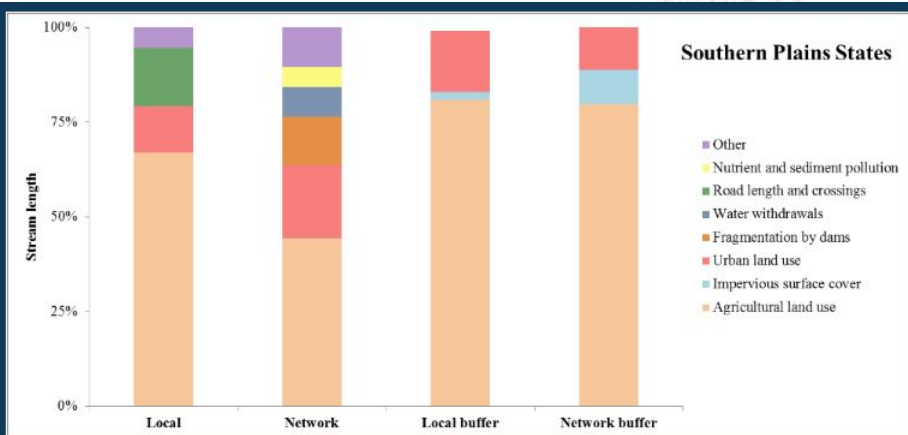


National Biogeographic Map -> same analysis, multiple spatial unit summaries to choose from



NFHP 2015 Fish Habitat Condition Summaries Use Case

<http://assessment.fishhabitat.org/#578a9994e4b0c1aacab895b1/578a9a20e4b0c1aacab896df>



Most severe disturbances in the Southern Plains States associated with stream reaches being scored as having high or very high risk of habitat degradation. Disturbances are grouped into large groups (fragmentation by dams; nutrient and sediment pollution; human population; road length and crossings; water withdrawals; urban land use; agricultural land use; mines and impervious surface cover) within the four spatial scales (local catchment, network catchment, local buffer, and network buffer). Only disturbance groups that have greater than 5% of stream length in a given category are represented in this figure. Note that not all disturbance categories are available for each spatial scale; buffers have only urban land use, agricultural land use, and impervious surface cover. See [Detailed Inland Stream Methodology](#) for more details.

A. Pervasive disturbances: The most common disturbances based on total stream length in a given region.

Top five overall most pervasive disturbances to all stream reaches, regardless of stream size and across all spatial scales (ranked highest first):

- Low intensity urban land use
- Impervious surface
- Pasture and hay land use
- Population density
- Crop land use

Top five most pervasive disturbances, specific to spatial scales :

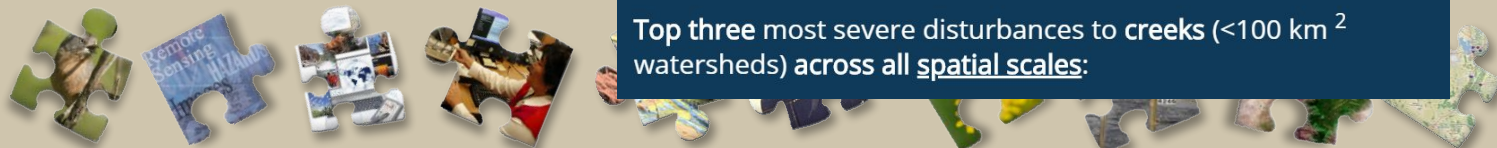
B. Most severe disturbances (a subset of pervasive disturbances):

Disturbances associated with stream reaches in a given region that were scored as having high or very high risk of habitat degradation (red and orange color groups).

Top five overall most severe disturbances to all stream reaches, regardless of stream size and across all spatial scales (ranked highest first):

- Pasture and hay land use
- Crop land use
- Low intensity urban land use
- Road length density
- Upstream dam density

Top three most severe disturbances to creeks (<100 km² watersheds) across all spatial scales:



Connectivity As (An Example) Use Case

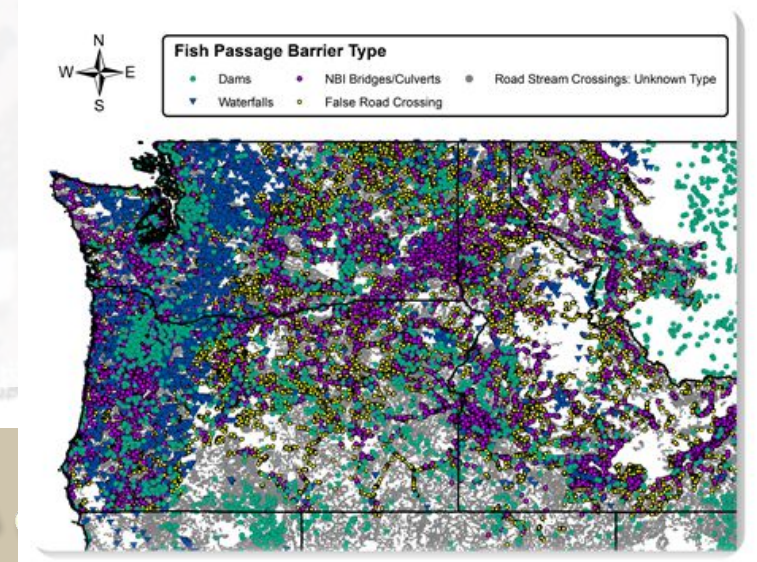
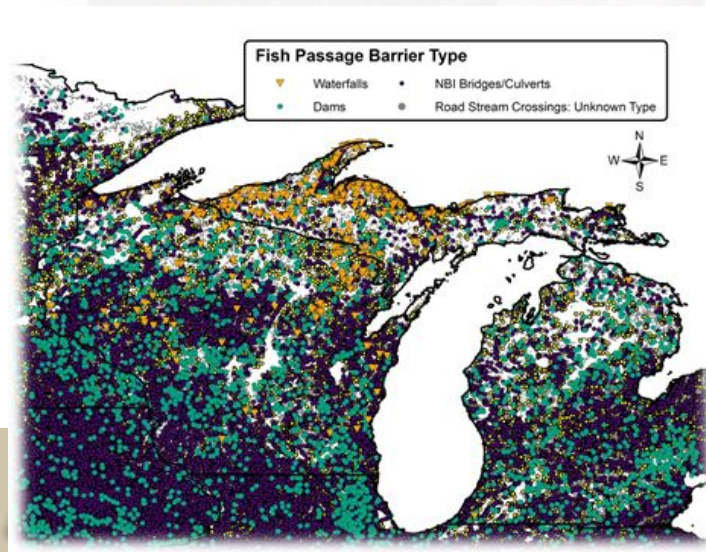
- **Road Stream Crossings**
- **Bridges**
- **Large Dams**
- **Dam Removals**
- **Some Regions Small Dams**
- **Waterfalls**
- **NFHP 2015 Assessment Stream Fragmentation Statistics**



Connectivity As (An Example) Use Case

Work together with FHPs to:

- **Understand how national data can be used in a regional setting... specific use cases**
- **Improve upon and/or build national data from regional efforts**



Connectivity: Example Analyses

- **fragmentation from anthropogenic vs. natural features in different watersheds**
- **upstream habitat availability of a barrier**
- **relationships between traits and connected habitats**



USGS Resource: Community of Data Integration



CLIMATE AND LAND USE CHANGE • WATER
CORE SCIENCE SYSTEMS • ECOSYSTEMS
ENERGY AND MINERALS • NATURAL HAZARDS
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Community For Data Integration:

Open Community

Monthly Meetings

Solving USGS Data Integration Issues

Technical Working Groups

Seed Funding



Thank you!!!

- **Questions**
- **Uses Cases**
- **Discussion**

**End of Presentation, but hopefully the
START of conversation**

Daniel Wieferich - dwieferich@usgs.gov

