

A satellite view of the Earth, centered on North America. The image shows the continent of North America, including the United States, Canada, and Mexico, surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The Earth's atmosphere and clouds are visible around the edges of the continent.

# Climate Change Research and Trees

Louis Iverson

US Forest Service, Delaware, OH

Major contributions by Anantha Prasad, Stephen Matthews, Matthew Peters

# Forest Resources of Illinois

**Forest Resources of Illinois:**  
An Atlas and Analysis of Spatial and Temporal Trends



Louis R. Iverson

with

Richard L. Oliver

Dennis P. Tucker

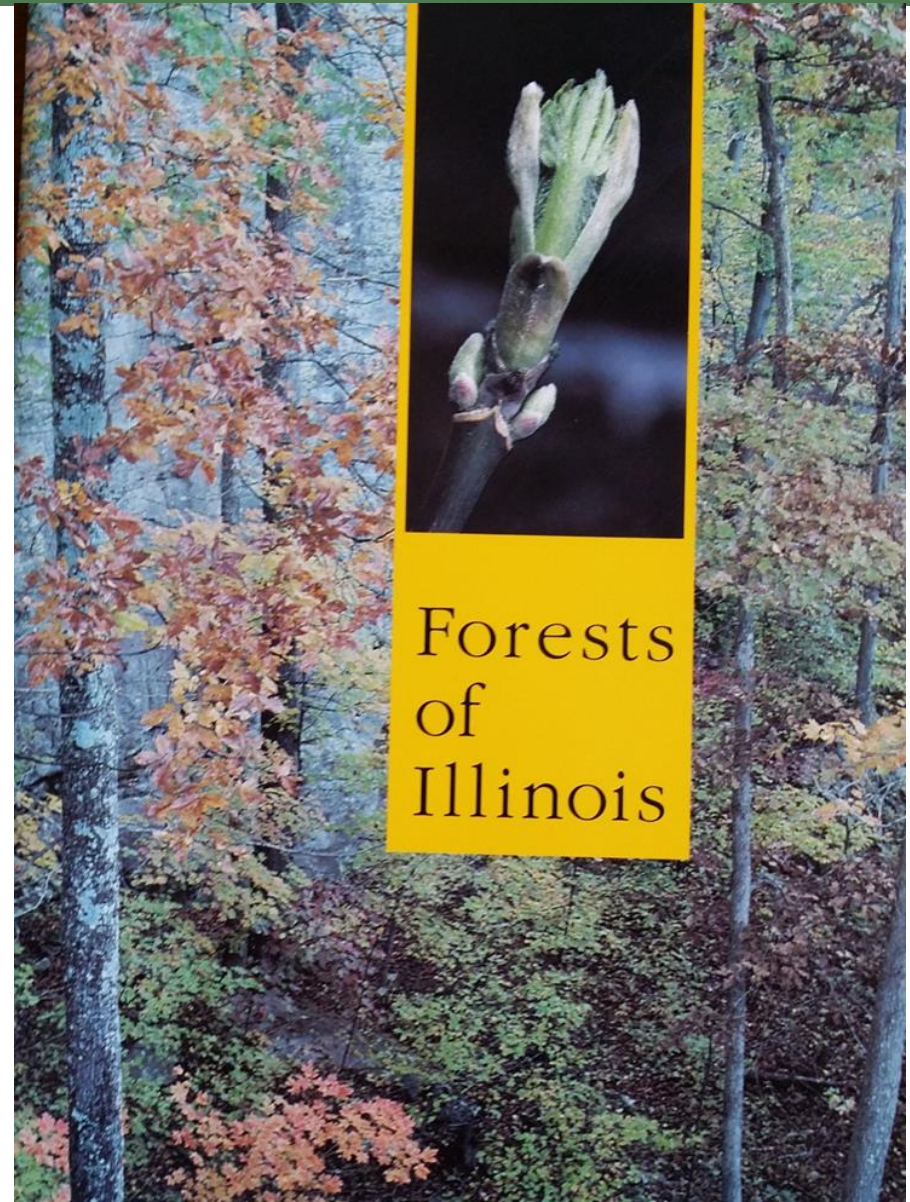
Paul G. Risser

Christopher D. Burnett

Ronald G. Rayburn

1989!

Illinois Natural History Survey Special Publication 11  
Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources with the  
Illinois Council on Forestry Development



Forests  
of  
Illinois

# Forest Resources of Illinois: What Do We Have and What Are They Doing for Us?

Louis R. Iverson, Illinois Natural History Survey

4

Erigenia 13 (June 1994)

## Forest Resource Trends in Illinois

Louis R. Iverson<sup>1</sup>

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Northeastern Forest Experiment Station  
359 Main Road  
Delaware, OH 43015

### INTRODUCTION

Even though forests occupy only 12% of the land area of Illinois, they play a valuable role in the health of the state's environment and that of its citizens. Many of these benefits have been reviewed in *Forest Resources of Illinois: An Atlas and Analysis of Spatial and Temporal Trends* (Iverson *et al.* 1989),

century, estimated at 1.13% per year (Iverson 1991), rivals and even surpasses that of any tropical deforestation occurring today.

However, forest area has recently been increasing in Illinois. The lowest estimate of forest area in the state was made by Telford (1926), who estimated forest area to be only 3.02 million acres (1.22 m ha)

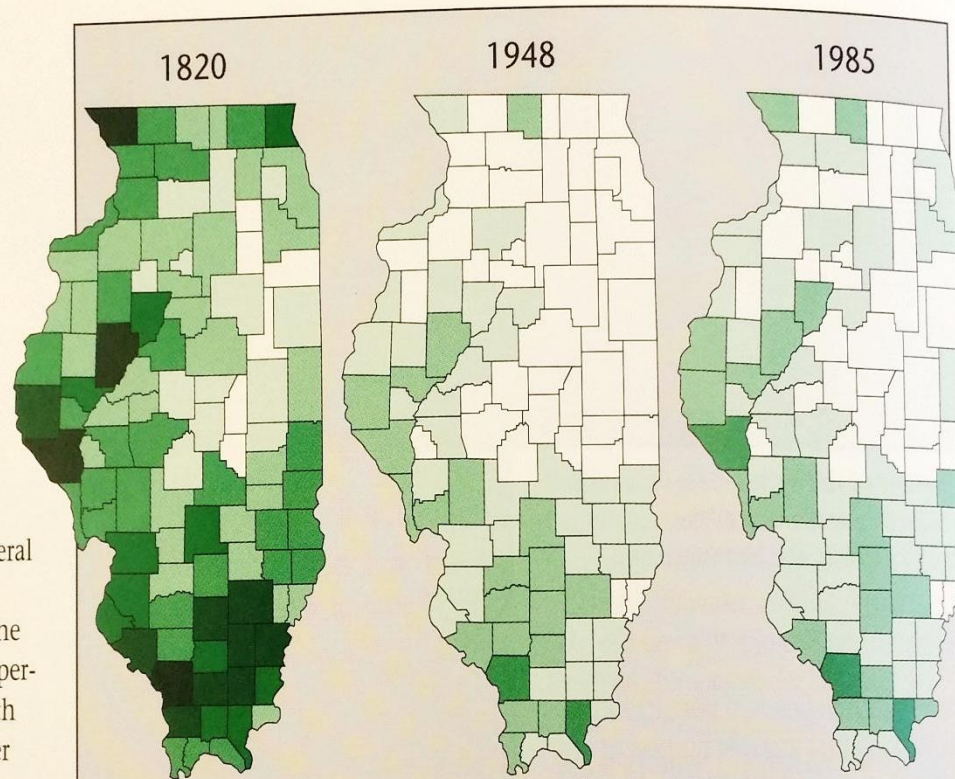
# Trends in Illinois Forests

## A History of Illinois Forests

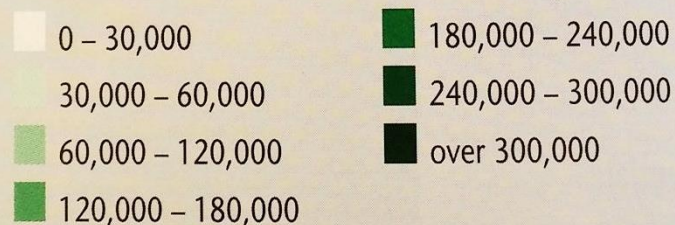
*Louis R. Iverson*

Illinois forests have undergone radical change since the first European settlers came in the early 1800s. According to records of the U.S. General Land Office, which began mapping Illinois' forest, prairie, and water in the early 1800s, Illinois was formerly 38 percent forested (13.8 million acres), with 61 percent prairie and 1 percent water (see maps).

Except for the seven most southerly counties, which were almost entirely forested, and the Grand Prairie region of east-central Illinois, which was only about 16 percent forested, prairie and forest were fairly equally divided across the state. Ecological factors such as moisture



Illinois forested acres by county, 1820 to 1985



Illinois Forest  
Cover  
1820 - 1980



- Forest 1820, Forest 1980
- Nonforest 1820, Forest 1980
- Forest 1820, Nonforest 1980
- Nonforest 1820, Nonforest 1980
- Water 1980

Illinois  
GIS&

Volume 10, No. 2, May 1991

Vapnotes

Forest Cover in Illinois 1820-1980



## **Land-use changes in Illinois, USA: The influence of landscape attributes on current and historic land use**

Louis R. Iverson

*Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, Illinois 61820 USA*

**Keywords:** Illinois, geographic information system, landscape ecology, soil, land use, presettlement vegetation, land-use change, fractal dimension

*Adv. Space Res.* Vol. 7, No. 11, pp. (11)183-(11)194, 1987  
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0273-1177/87 \$0.00+.50  
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## **ANALYZING LONG-TERM CHANGES IN VEGETATION WITH GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM AND REMOTELY SENSED DATA**

Louis R. Iverson\* and Paul G. Risser\*\*

\**Illinois Natural History Survey, 607 E. Peabody Drive, Champaign, IL 61820,  
U.S.A.*

\*\**University of New Mexico, Scholes Hall 108, Albuquerque, NM 87131, U.S.A.*

# Illinois Plant Information Network

- Data on 3209 vascular plants

Transactions of the Illinois State Academy of Science  
(1997), Volume 90, 1 and 2, pp. 41-64

received 2/23/96  
accepted 7/15/96

## **A Summary of the Illinois Flora Based on the Illinois Plant Information Network**

Louis R. Iverson and Anantha Prasad  
Northeastern Forest Experiment Station,  
USDA Forest Service, 359 Main Road,  
Delaware, OH 43015

David M. Ketzner  
Illinois Natural History Survey  
Center for Wildlife Ecology  
607 E. Peabody Drive  
Champaign, IL 61820

Keywords: vascular plants, distribution, taxonomy, Illinois, biodiversity

<http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/data/il/ilpin/>

# Urban Forest Relation to Household Density and Income



© 2001 Kluwer Academic Publishers. *Manufactured in The Netherlands.*

Urban Ecosystems, 4: 105–124, 2000

## Urban forest cover of the Chicago region and its relation to household density and income

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ELIZABETH A. COOK

*Center of Excellence for GIS and Wildlife Management, USDA-NRCS at Lincoln University, 306 Founders Hall Jefferson City, MO 65102*

**Abstract.** Urban forests and herbaceous open space play a vital role in the environmental and aesthetic “health” of cities, yet they are rarely identified in land-use inventories of urban areas. To provide information on urban forests and other vegetative land cover in Illinois cities, Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) data from June 27, 1988, were classified for the Chicago metropolitan region (9,717 km<sup>2</sup>). Ten land-cover classes were identified, including

# CLIMATE CHANGE AND CHICAGO

PROJECTIONS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 09-18-2008



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

Journal of Great Lakes Research

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jglr](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jglr)



## Climate change impacts on terrestrial ecosystems in metropolitan Chicago and its surrounding, multi-state region

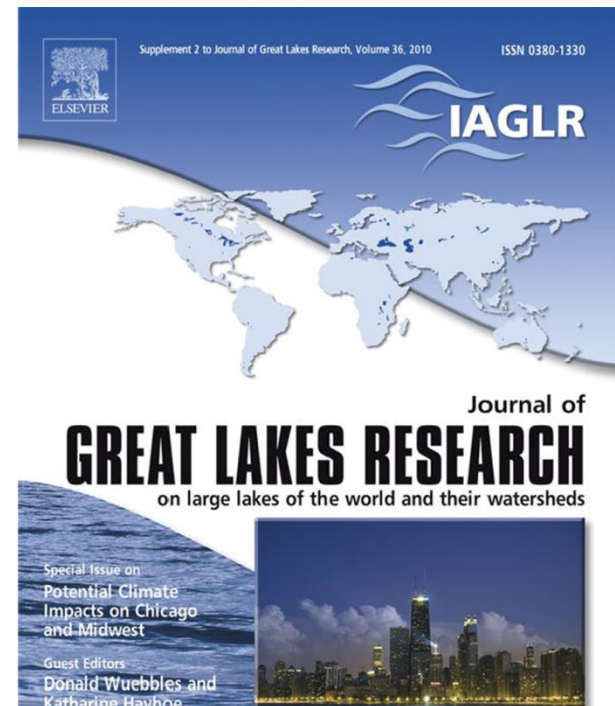
Jessica J. Hellmann <sup>a,\*</sup>, Knute J. Nadelhoffer <sup>b</sup>, Louis R. Iverson <sup>c</sup>, Lewis H. Ziska <sup>d</sup>, Stephen N. Matthews <sup>c</sup>, Philip Myers <sup>b</sup>, Anantha M. Prasad <sup>c</sup>, Matthew P. Peters <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Biological Sciences, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA

<sup>b</sup> Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

<sup>c</sup> Northern Research Station, USDA Forest Service, Delaware, OH 43015, USA

<sup>d</sup> US Department of Agriculture, Beltsville, MD 20705, USA



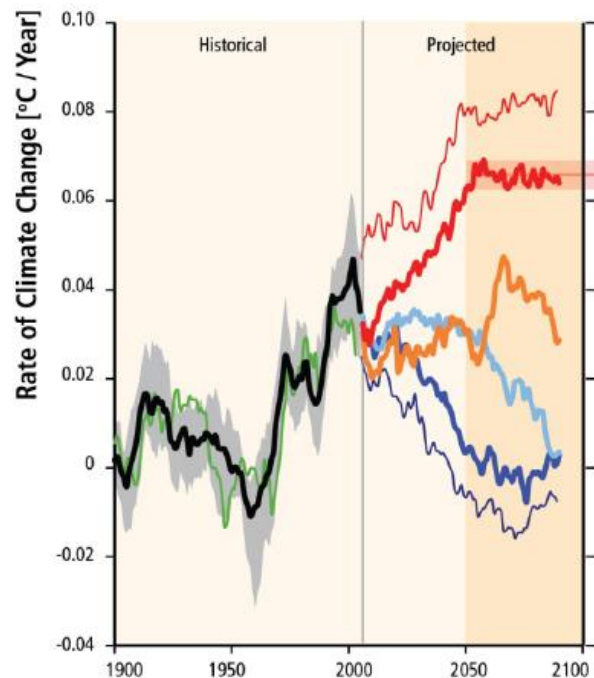
# Climate has always been changing



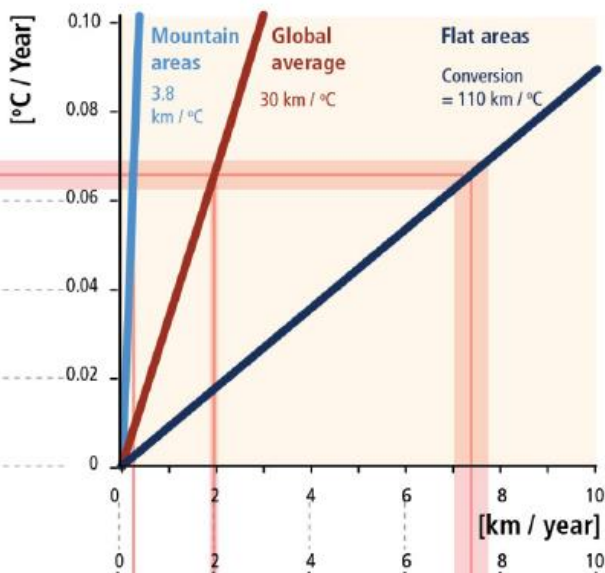
This map is the preliminary result of a collaboration between J. Adams, Beaudoin, O. Davis, P & H. Delcourt & P. Richard.



# A. Climate Change Scenarios



# B. Estimate of Climate Velocity to Determine Rate of Displacement



IPCC Impacts Report

March 31, 2014

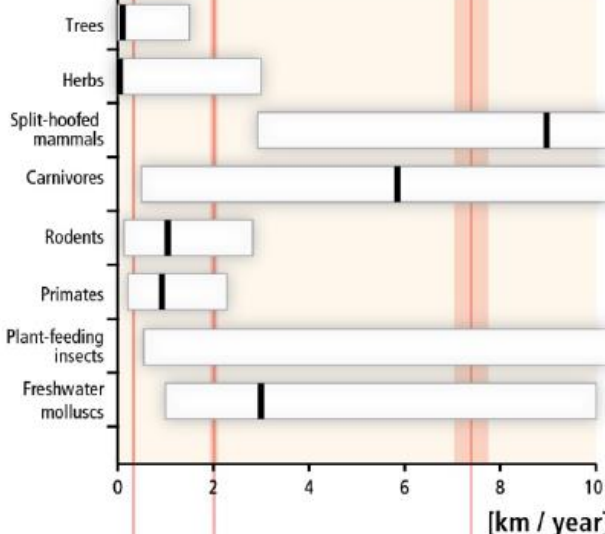
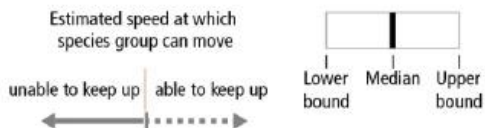
## A. Rate of Climate Change

- Observed
- Historical
- RCP 2.6-low
- RCP 8.5-high
- RCP 2.6 (+ 1.0 °C)
- RCP 4.5 (+ 1.8 °C)
- RCP 6.0 (+ 2.2 °C)
- RCP 8.5 (+ 3.7 °C)

(Mean projected increase in global temperature for the period 2081-2100 (WGI, Chapter 12))

rate of temperature change under RCP 8.5 scenario between 2050 and 2100

## C. Species Displacement Rates



## C. Species Displacement Rates (required to track climate velocity)



# Preparing the Nation for Change

## Introduction to the National Climate Assessment



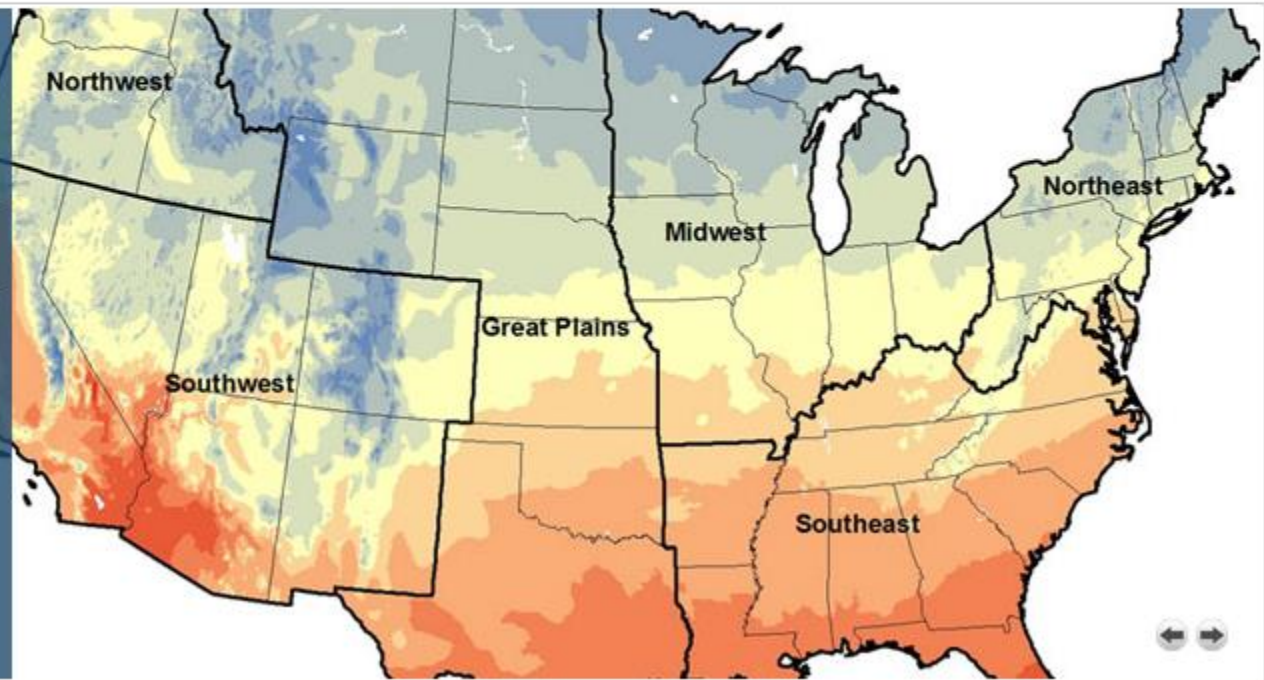
Thirteen Agencies, One Vision: Empower the Nation with Global Change Science

### How Will Climate Change Impact Your Region?

Scenarios for Climate Assessment & Adaptation

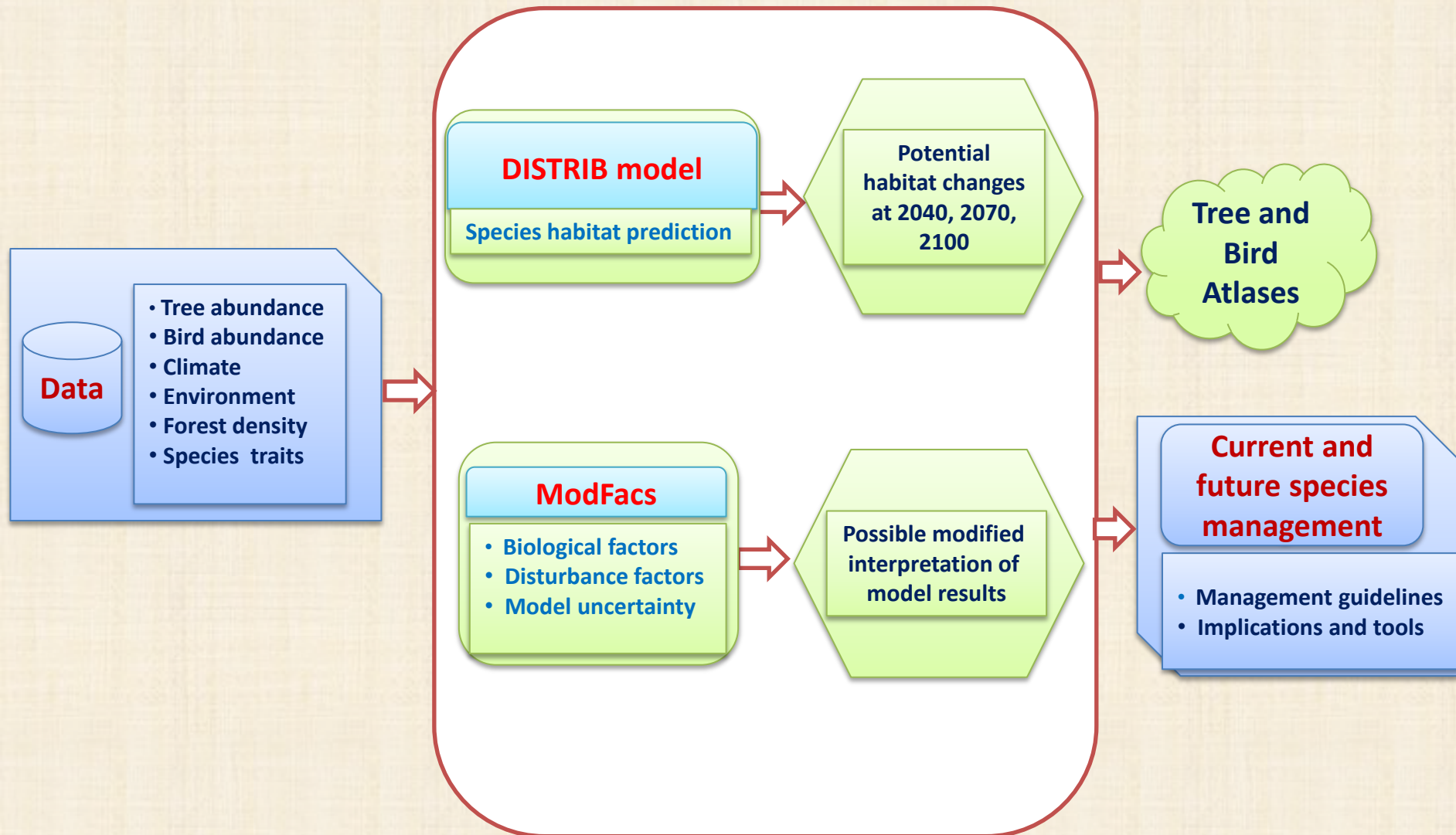
New reports explore how a shifting climate may impact eight U.S. regions.

[More...](#)



Mandated by Congress every four years -  
to include methods to document climate-related risks and opportunities

# Our Modeling Scheme



New, improved Atlas  
[www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas](http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas)

[Forest Service Home](#) | [About the Agency](#) | [Contact the National Office](#)

You are here: [Northern Research Station Home](#) / [Tools & Applications](#) / [Climate Change Atlas](#) / [Tree Atlas](#) / red maple (*Acer rubrum*)

## red maple (*Acer rubrum*)

Model Reliability: High ●

Current Distribution

Climate Scenarios

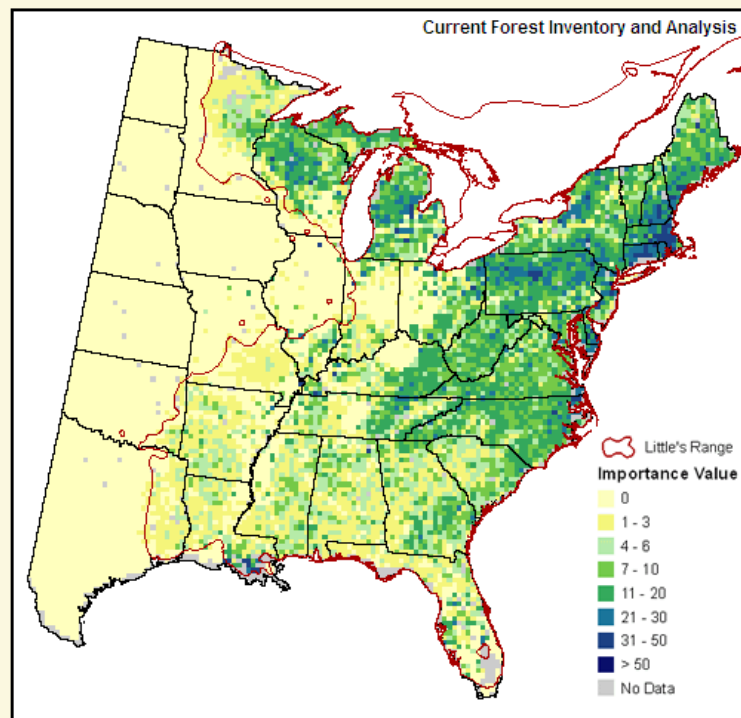
Predictor Maps

### Current Distribution Maps for red maple

Help »

Current Forest Inventory and Anal ▾

Compare Two Species



[View All Climate Scenarios in Google Earth \(259 KB\)](#)

▶ About red maple

▼ Climate Change Adaptability

What traits will impact red maple's ability to adapt to climate change, and in what way?:

⊕ Positive Traits

Seedling establishment  
Environment habitat specificity  
Edaphic specificity Shade tolerance  
Dispersal

⊖ Negative Traits

None

[More on these traits and MODFACT](#)

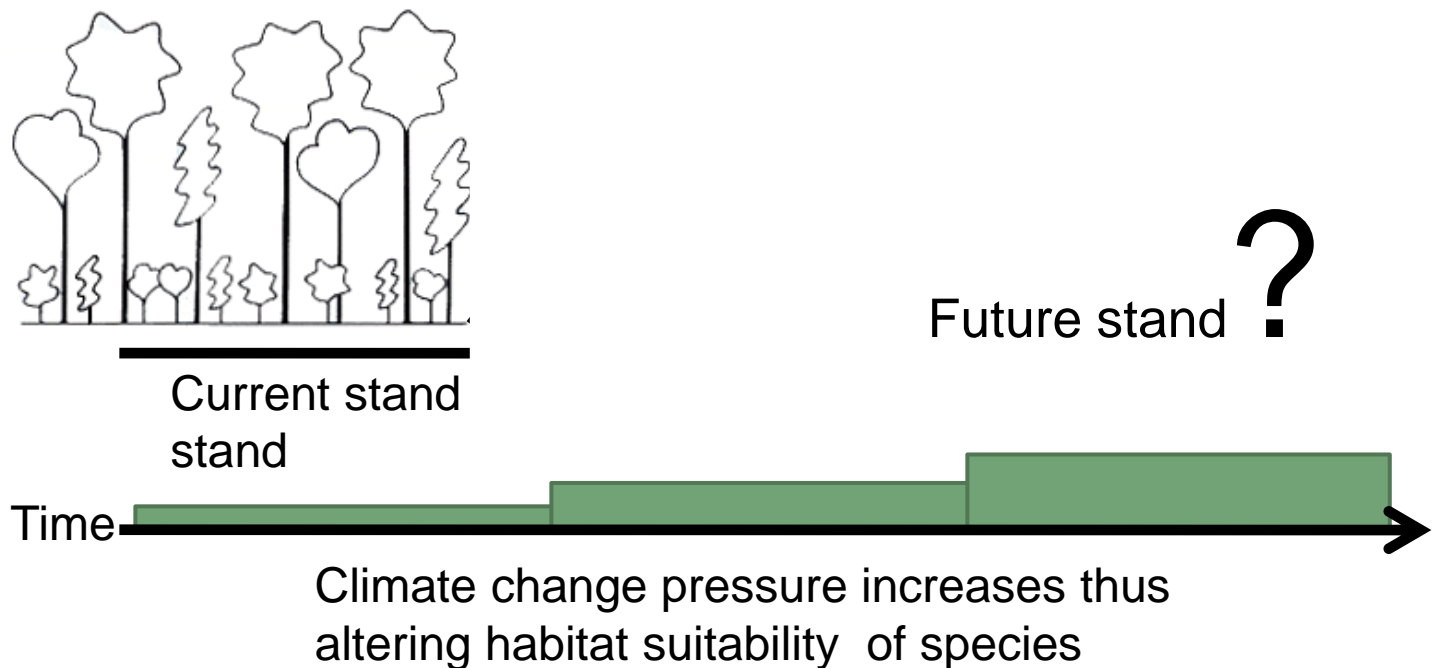
▶ Range and Niche Maps

Search for Trees & Birds:

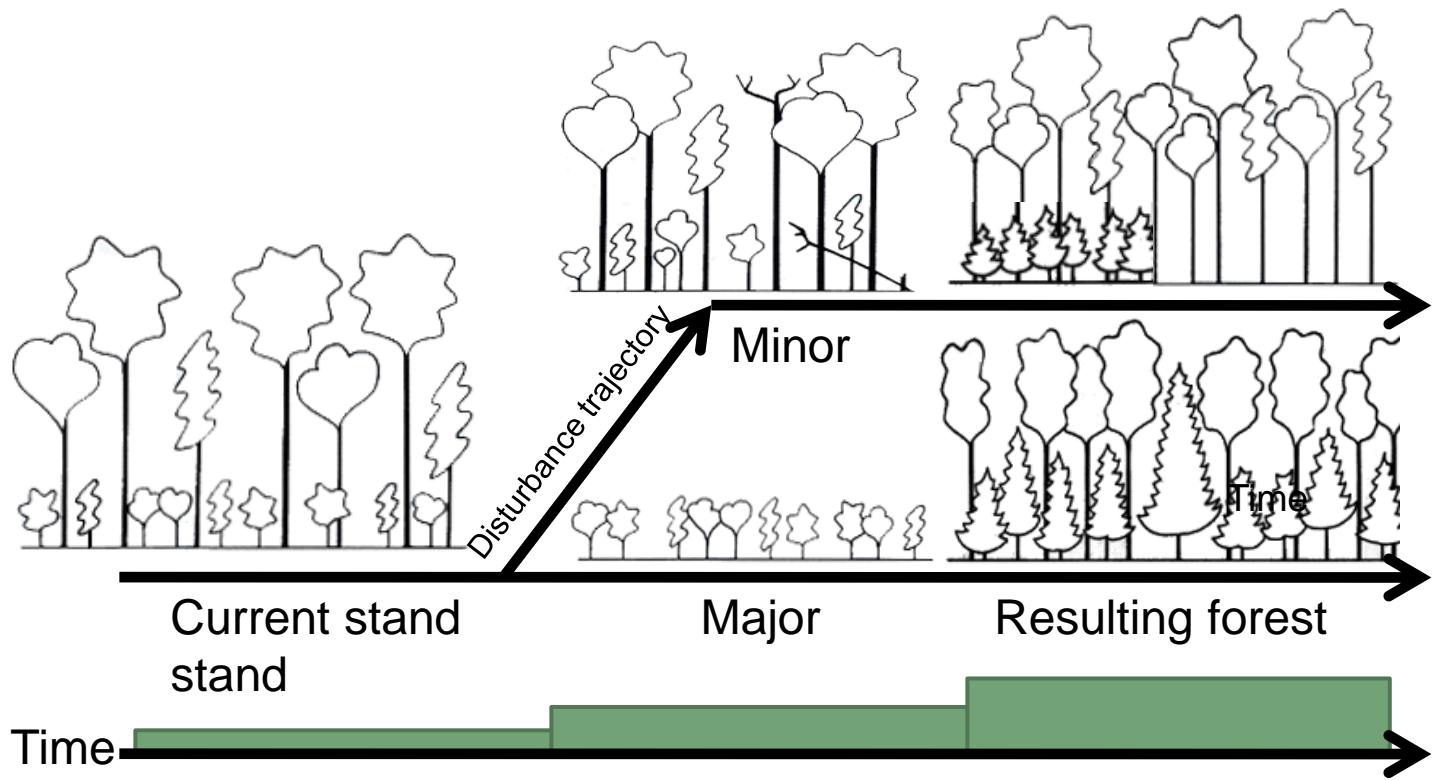
Enter a common or scientific name

[List of Trees](#) | [List of Birds](#)

But many other factors (biological and disturbance) come in to play to determine more likely outcomes



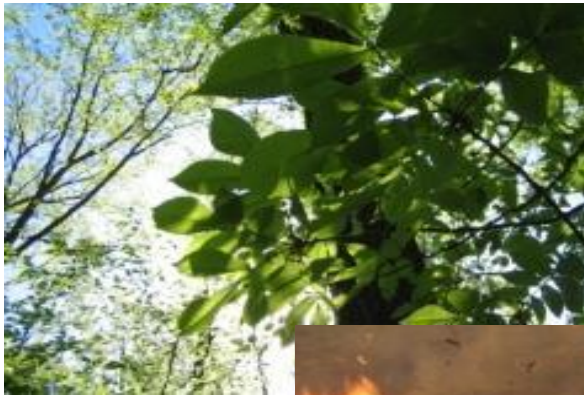
But many other factors (biological and disturbance) come in to play to determine more likely outcomes

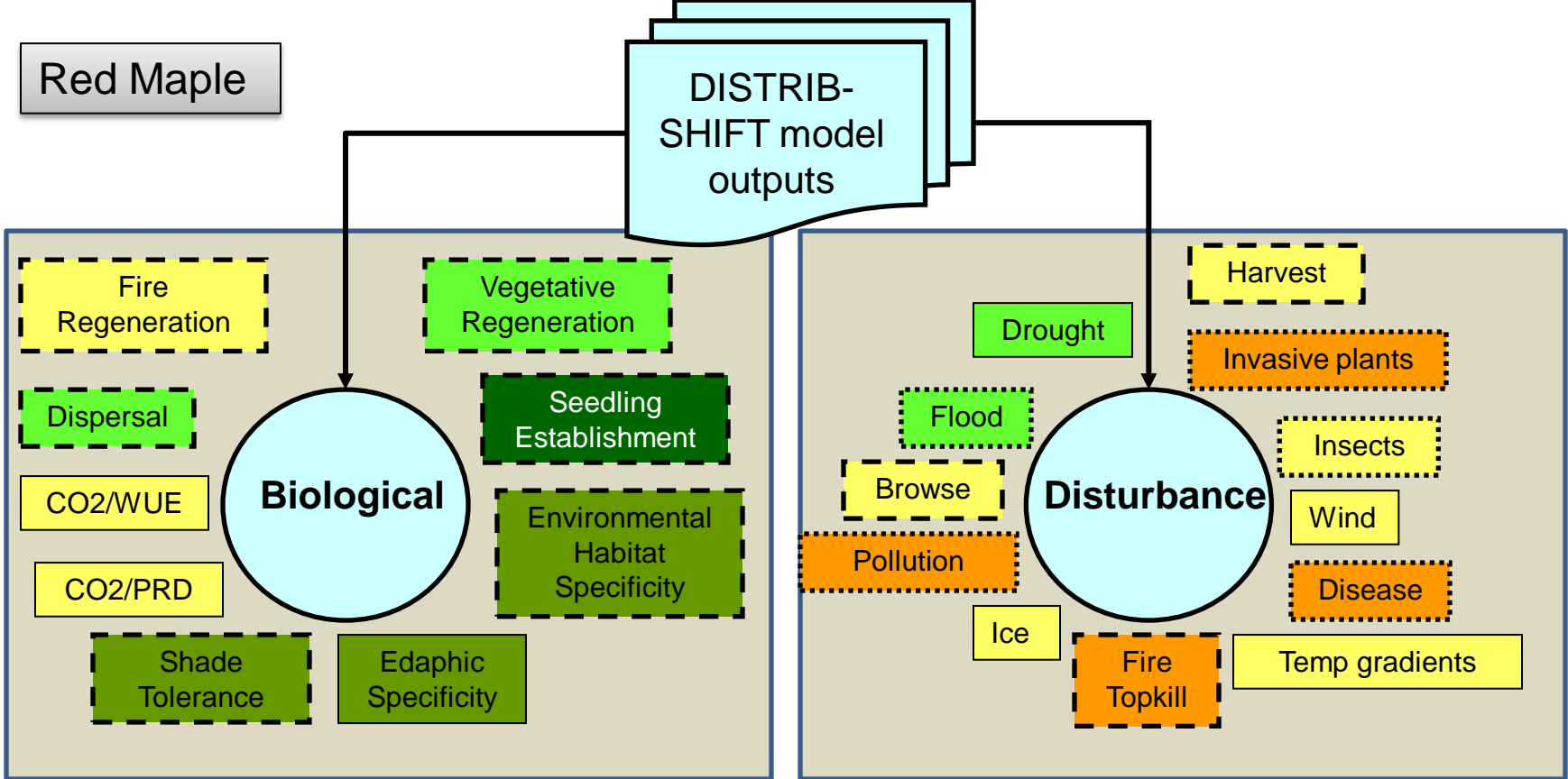


Climate change pressure increases thus altering habitat suitability of species

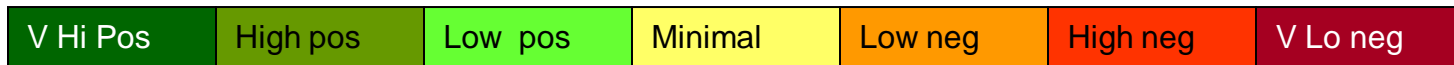
# Modifying factors

- We rate biological (n=9) and disturbance (n=12) characteristics for positive or negative impacts
- Goal was to evaluate more realistic outcomes at regional and local levels

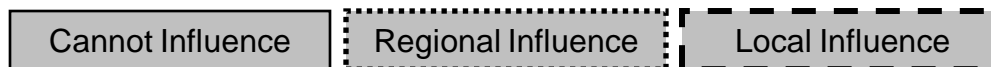


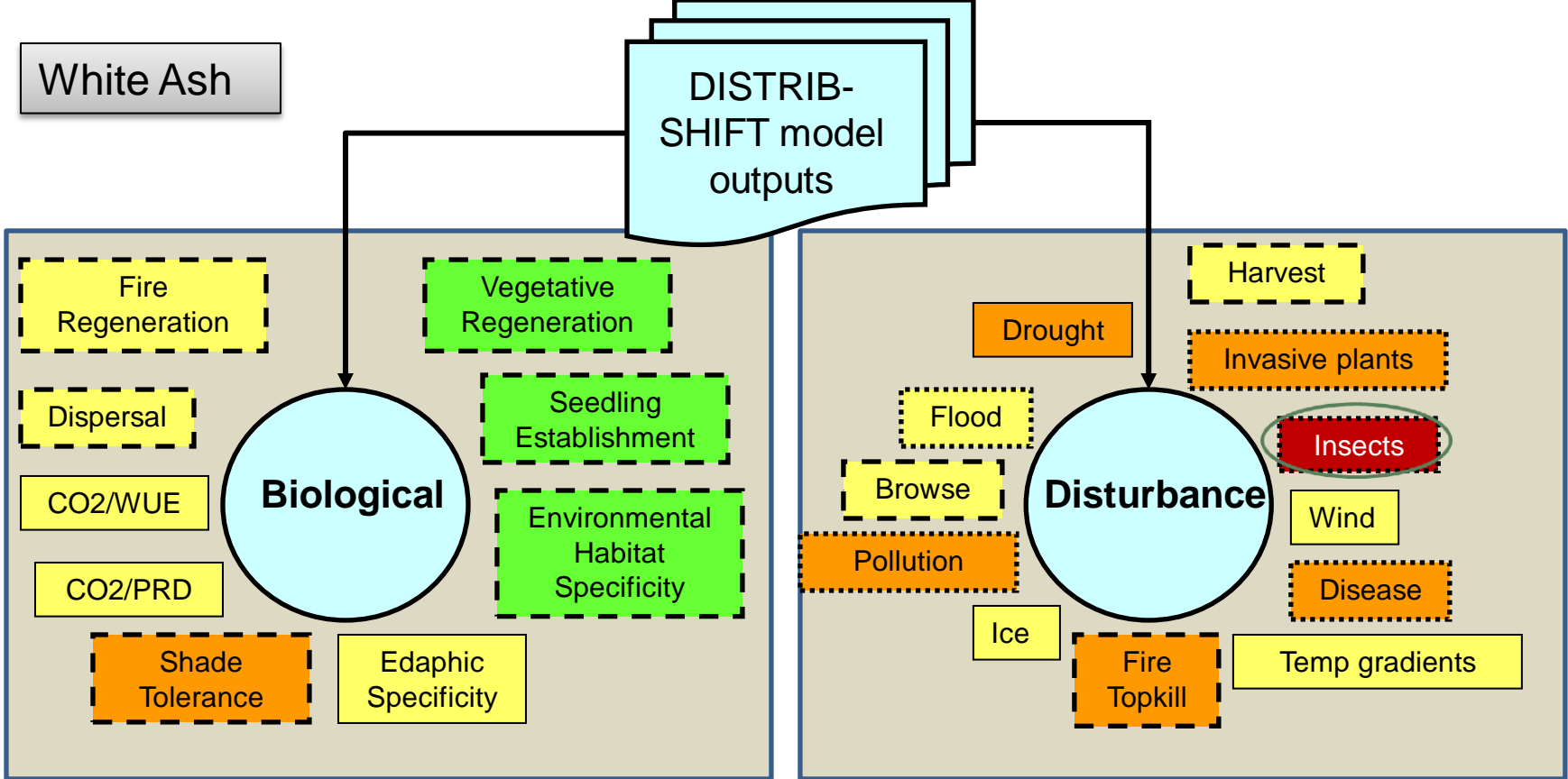


Characteristic Score =  
Literature score X Uncertainty X Future relevance

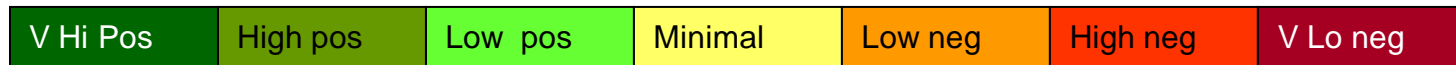


Manager influence

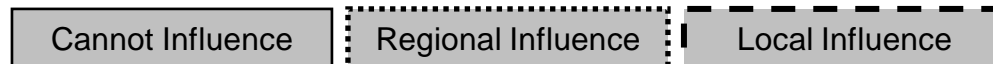




Characteristic Score =  
Literature score X Uncertainty X Future relevance

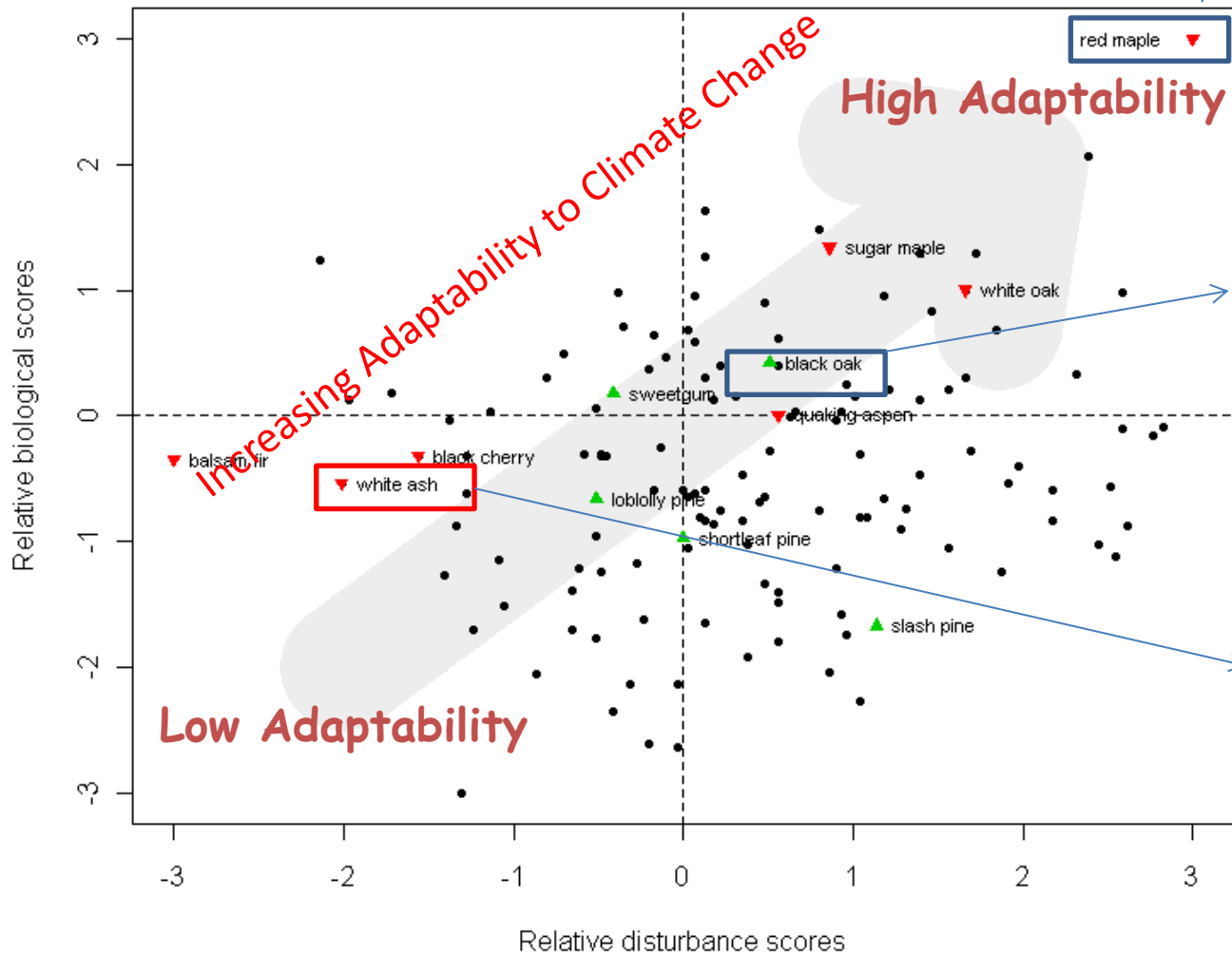


Manager influence



# Modification Factors

12 Disturbance Factors and 9 Biological Factors considered



## Red Maple:

- Projected habitat declines across East US
- Characteristics suggest high adaptability

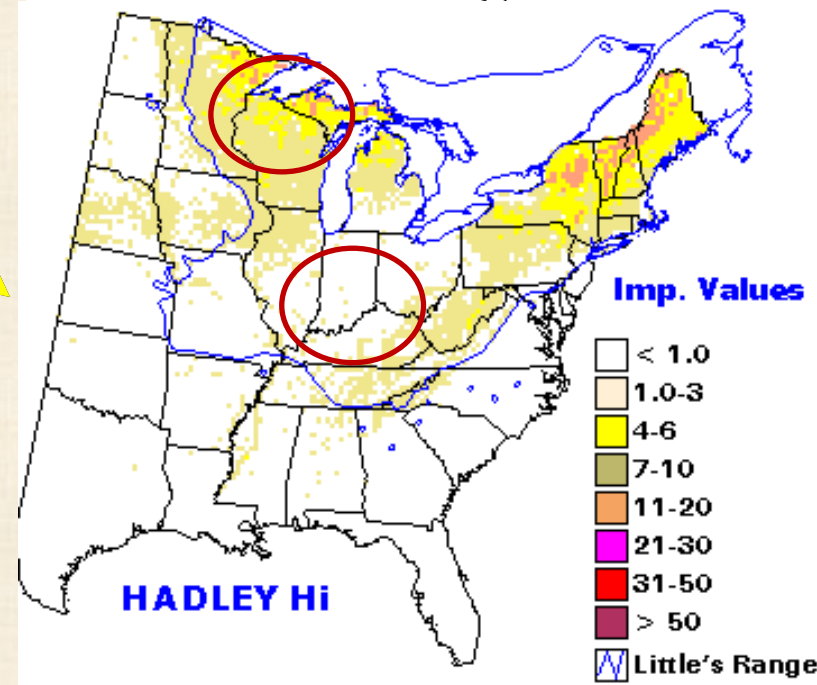
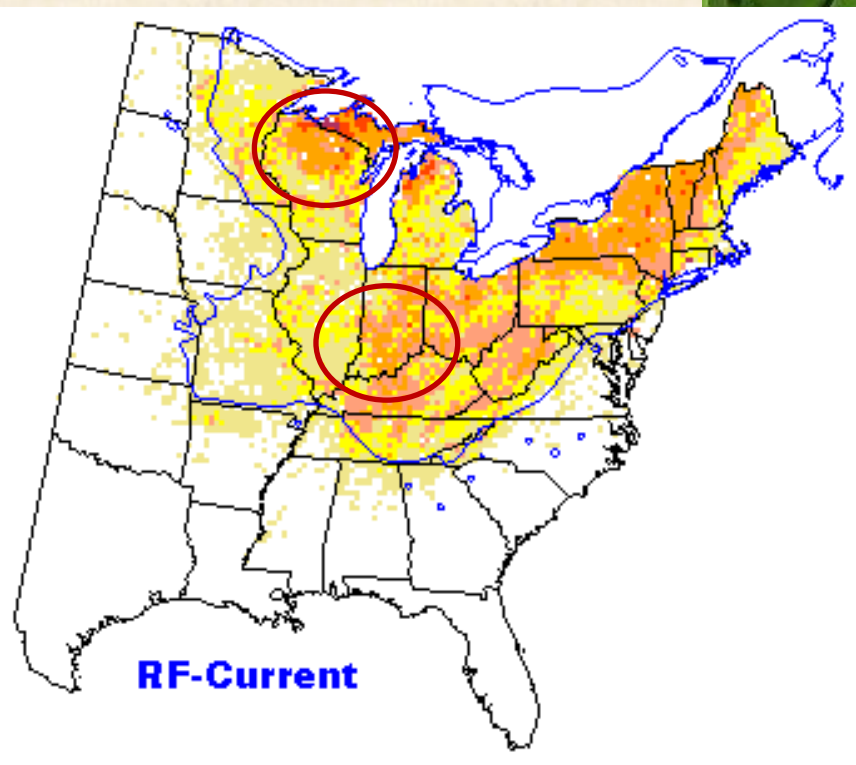
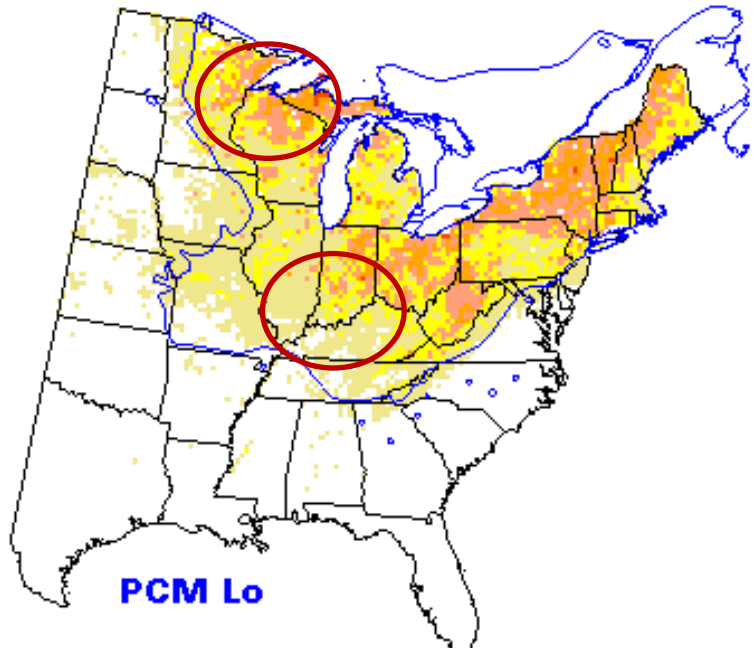
## Black Oak:

- Projected habitat increases
- Positive ModFac profile suggests it may be able to persist in harsh areas

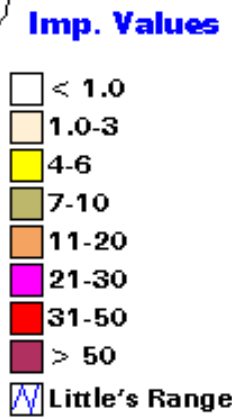
## White Ash:

- Projected habitat declines
- Negative ModFac
- Metrics suggest it will likely face severe limits in eastern US

# Sugar Maple Habitat Changes by 2100

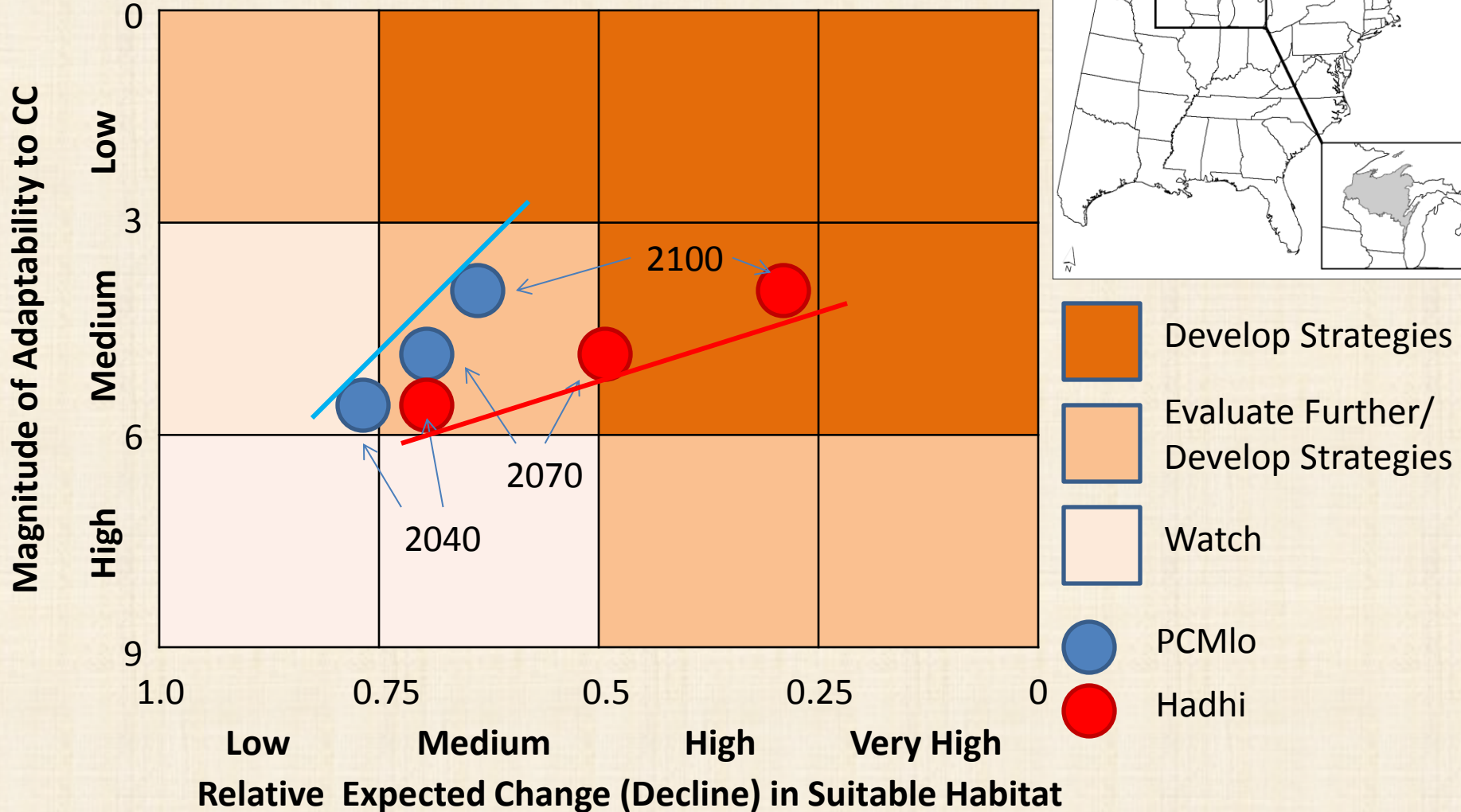


Low  
?  
High



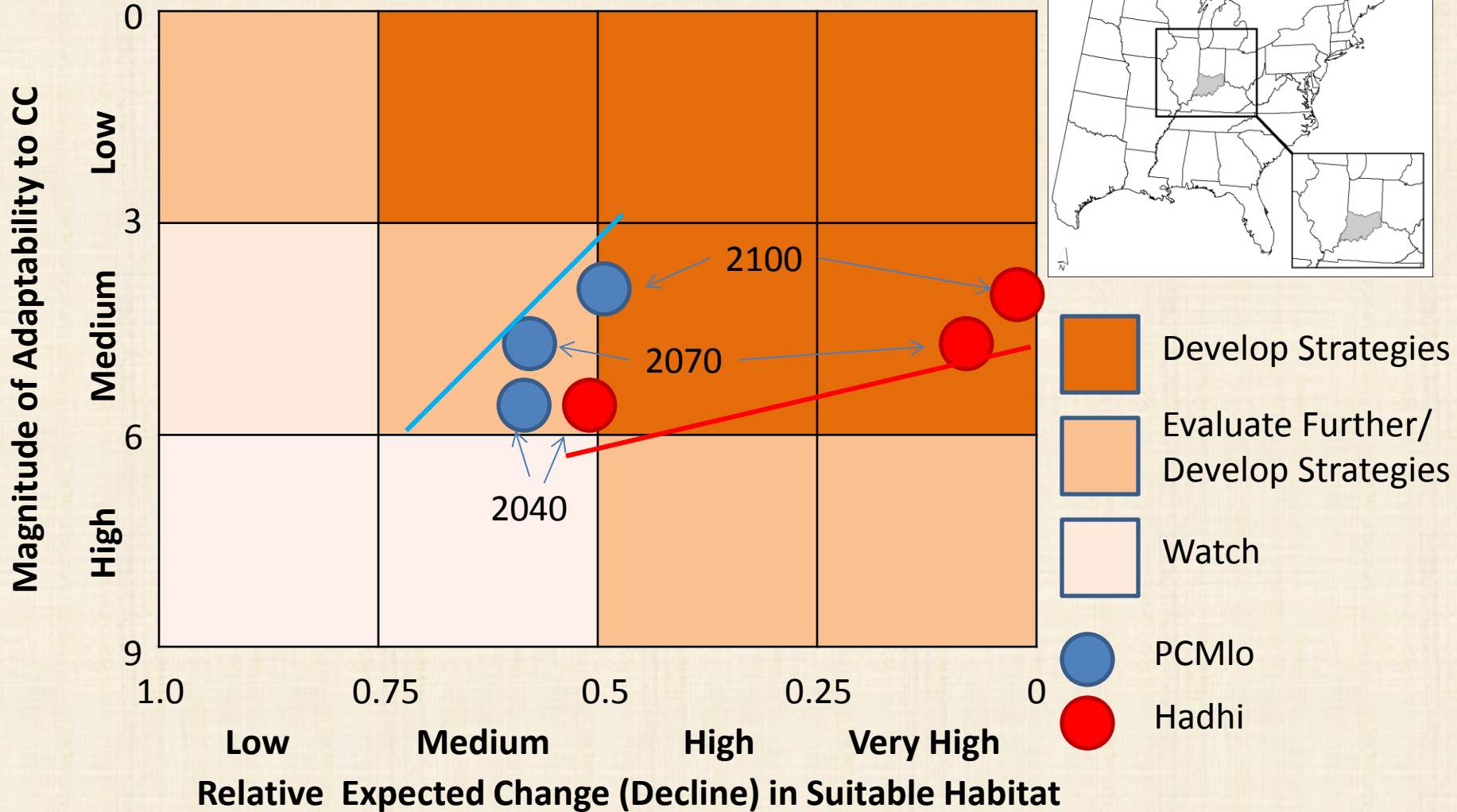
# Risk of Habitat Decline in Sugar Maple

## Northern Wisconsin



# Risk of Habitat Decline in Sugar Maple

## Southern Indiana



# Conclusions

- We have a problem, and an opportunity.
- We use a combination of habitat modeling and species traits analysis to assess species success into the future.
- The risk matrix approach allows for prioritization of strategies on species management, e.g.
  - Can we build resistance for at-risk ‘loser’ species
    - encouraging refugia
    - silvicultural manipulations
  - Can we assist migration of ‘gainer’ species
    - corridors .
    - managed relocation?
- The time to act, each in our own ways, is now.
- Urban settings are the best places to act for many reasons.

# Thank you!

- USFS Northern Research Station
  - A. Prasad, M. Peters, S. Matthews
  - FIA folks: R. McCullough, all the field crews
  - Web folks: J. Lootens-White, D. Deitzman
- Northern Global Change Research
  - R. Birdsey, J. Hom, David Hollinger
- National Climate Assessment
  - G. Yohe, T. Patel-Weynand, J. Vose, D. Peterson, S. Pryor, D. Scavia
- Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science
  - C. Swanston, M. Janowiak, S. Handler, L. Brandt, P. Butler, K. Schmitt

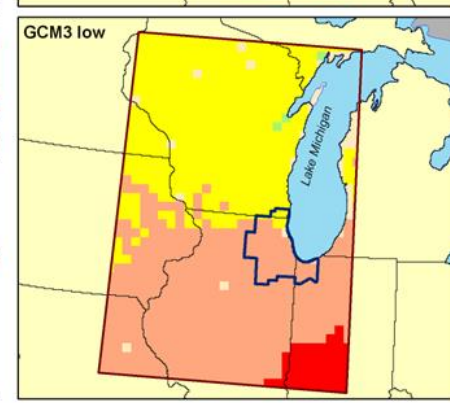
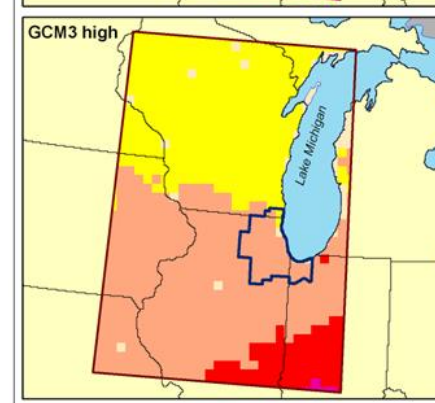
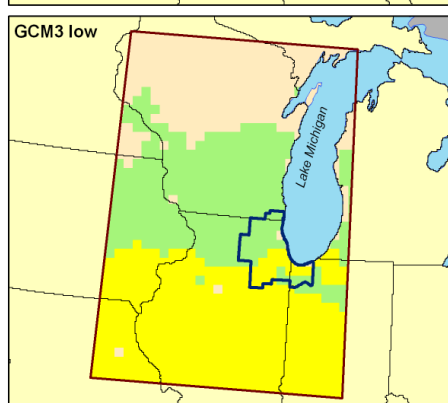
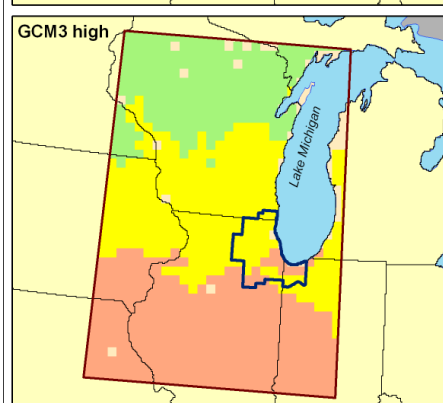
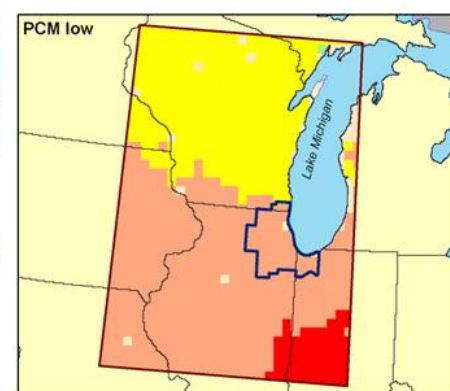
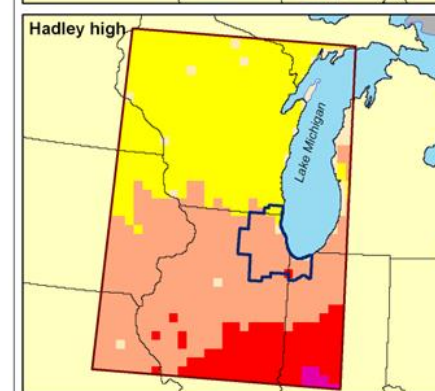
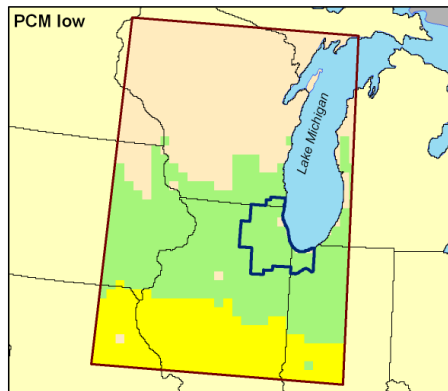
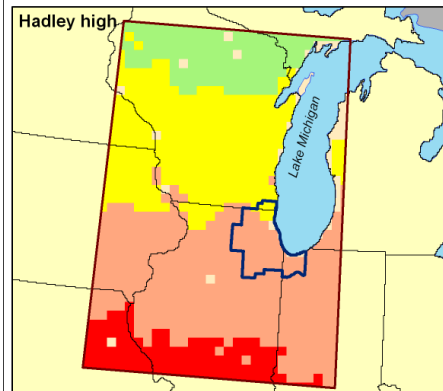
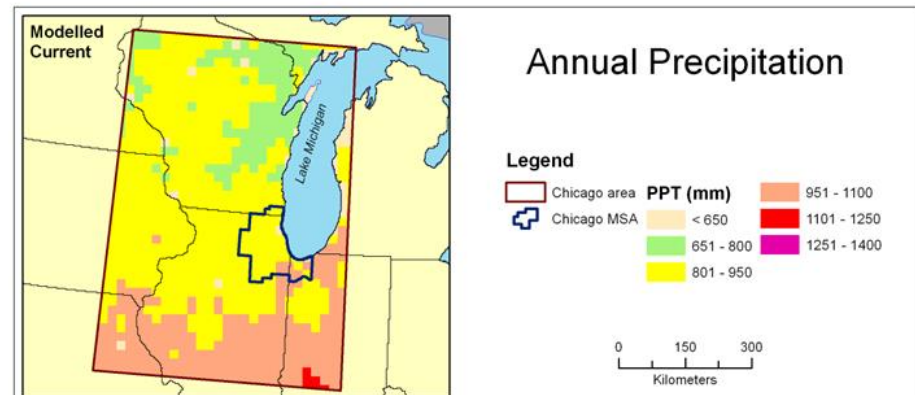
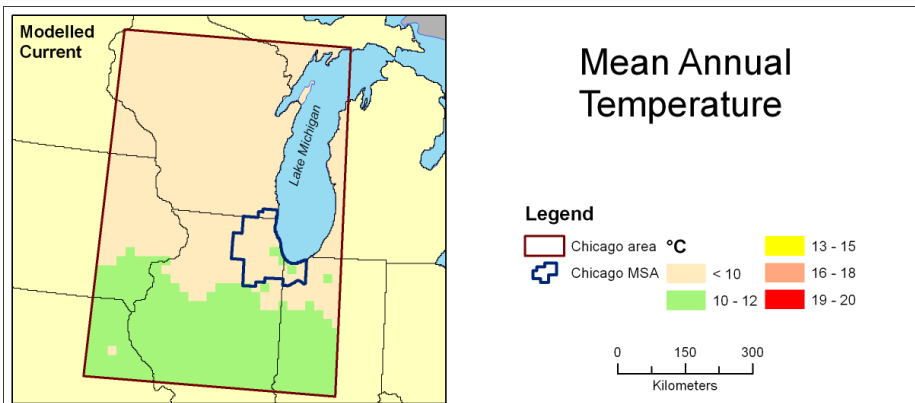


Louis Iverson, Anantha Prasad, Stephen Matthews, Matthew Peters  
[liverson@fs.fed.us](mailto:liverson@fs.fed.us) 740-368-0097

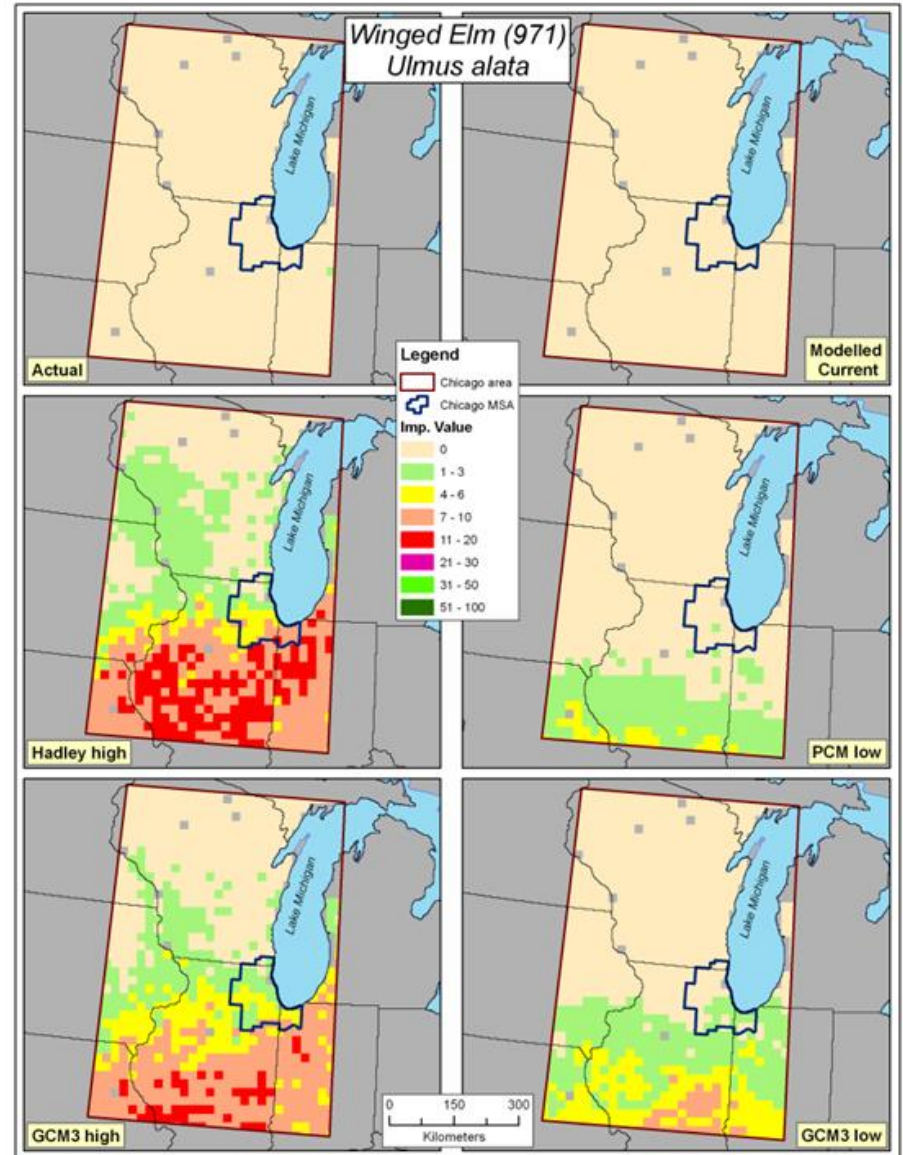
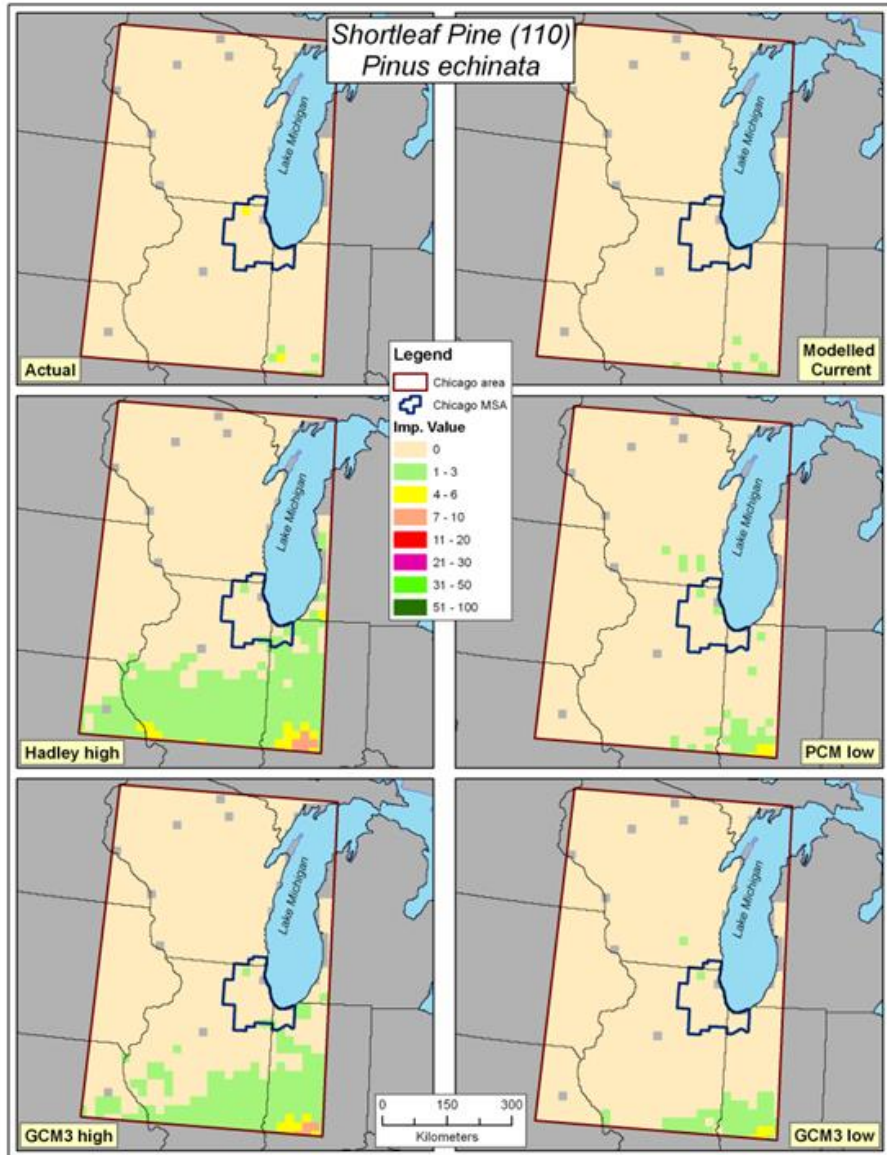
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Google Scholar or Web of Science or ResearchGate: 'louis iverson'  
Atlas web site <http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas>



# Annual Temperature and Precipitation



# Shortleaf Pine and Winged Elm Gain



# Sugar Maple and Balsam Fir Lose

