### Southern Medford/Evesham Sub-Regional Resource Protection Plan



NJCF Land Conservation Rally Habitat Conservation Plans

April 28, 2007

### Report Review (a presentation in 3 parts)

#### 1. Project Overview

- Project Area
- Project Objectives
- Project Partners
- Data Analysis

#### 2. Strategies

- Regulatory
- Non Regulatory

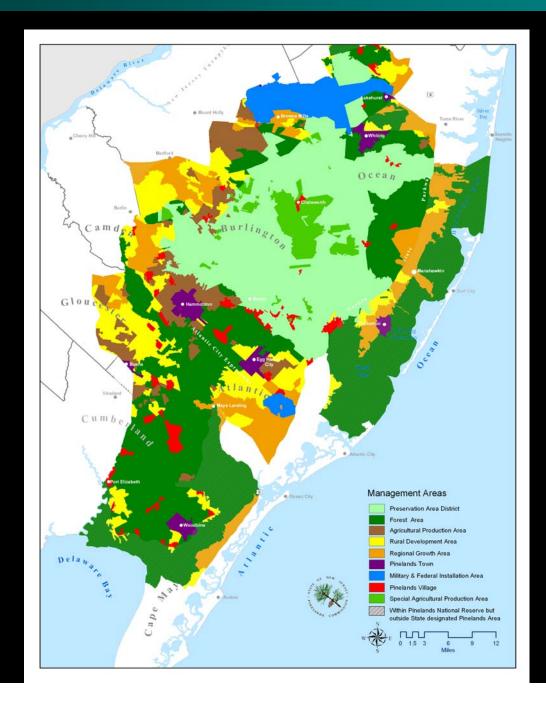
#### 3. Making the Plan Work

- Municipal Role
- Role of Partners
- Progress To Date

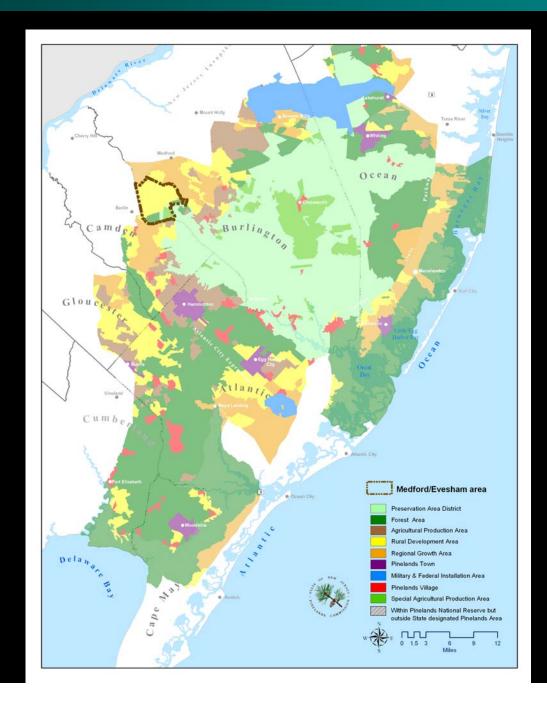
## Part 1 Plan Overview

### Project Area

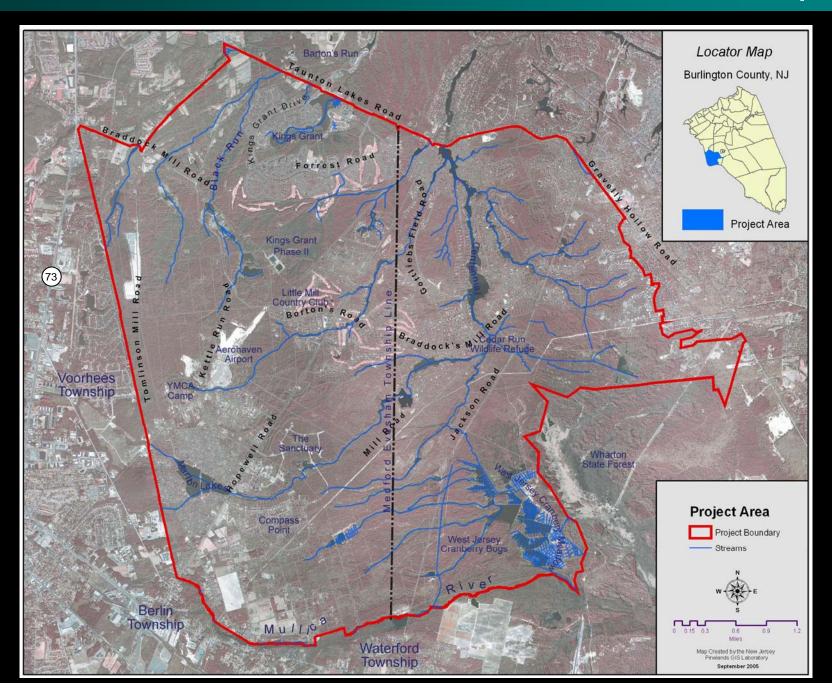
### **Regional Location**

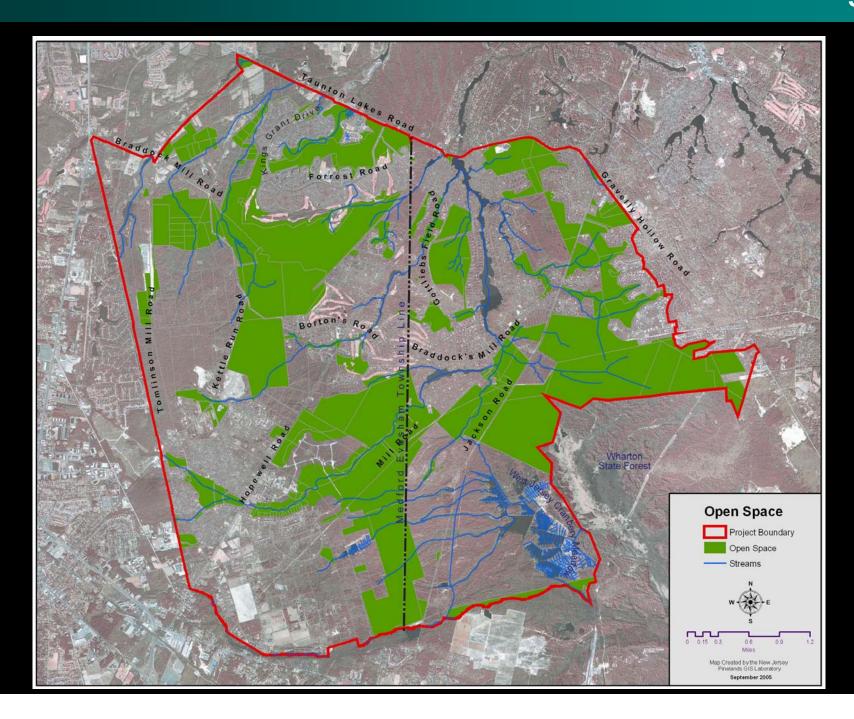


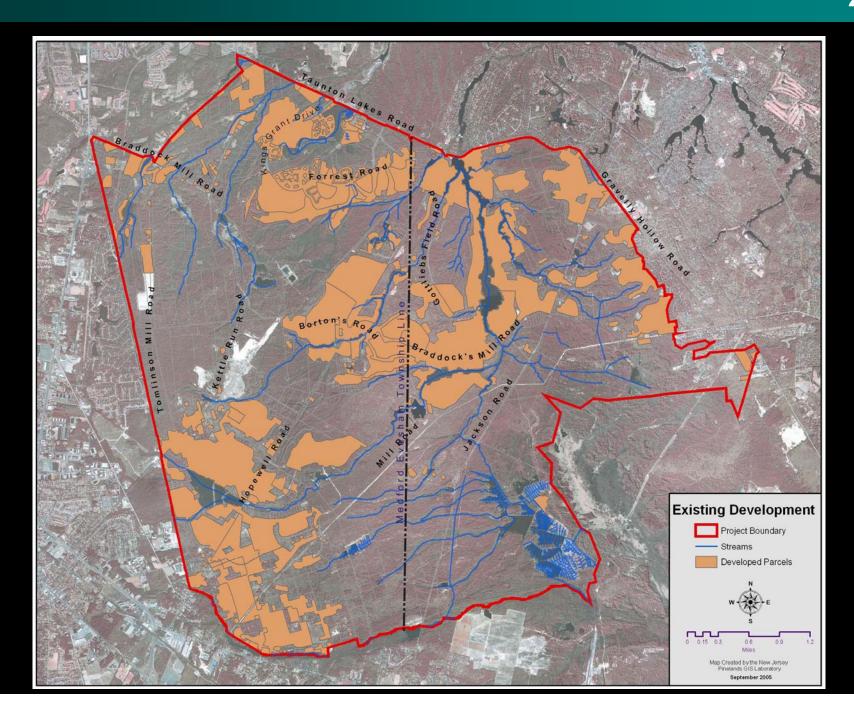
### **Regional Location**

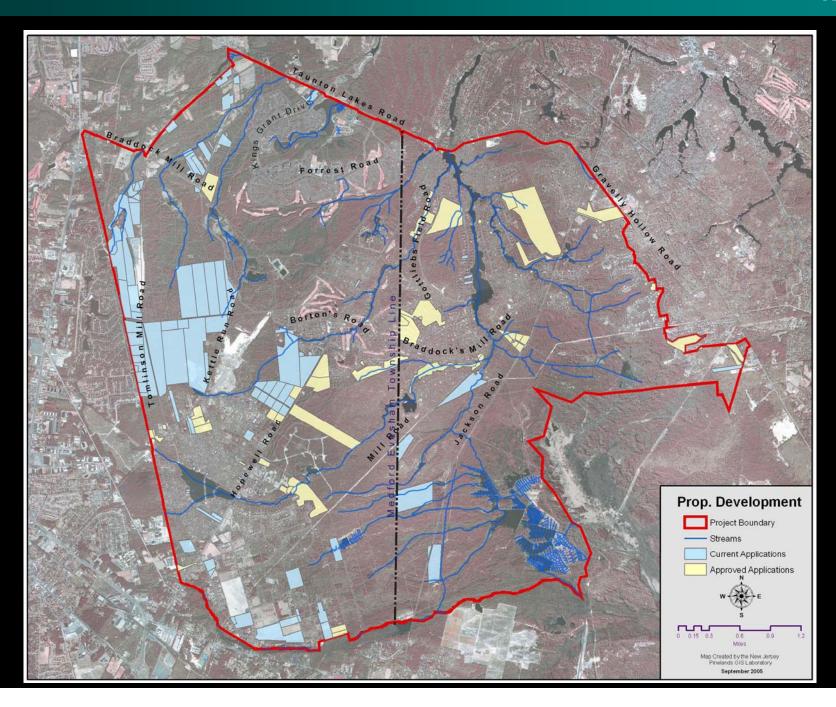


### **22.7 sq. miles**

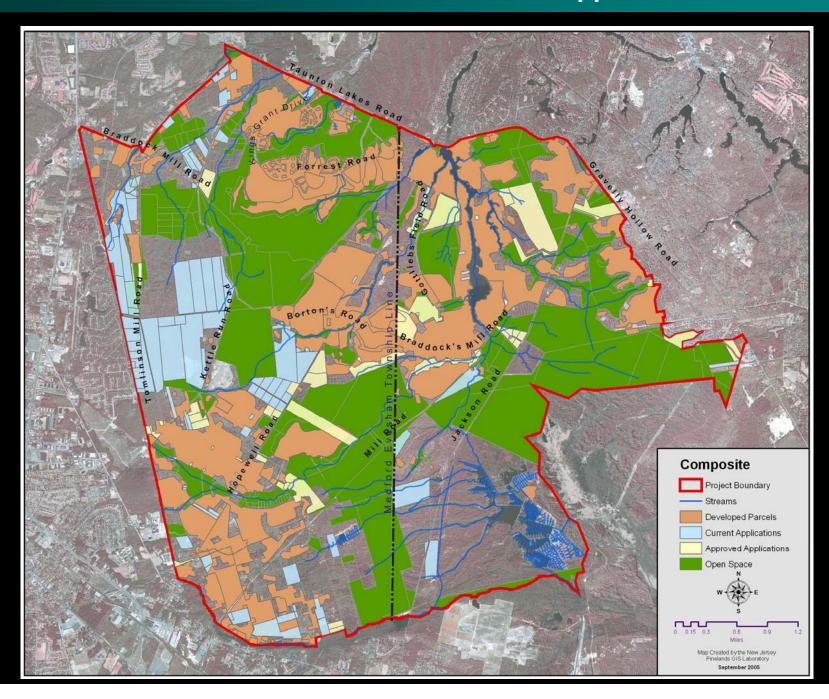








### **Opportunities and Threats**



# Project Objectives

- 1. Protect important natural resource values, including water quality, within the project area;
- 2. Promote less land-consumptive land use patterns to reduce fragmentation of important landscapes and lessen municipal service costs;
- 3. Encourage land stewardship practices that further conservation objectives;
- 4. Use a variety of regulatory and non-regulatory techniques to balance conservation and development objectives;
- 5. Accommodate future development within appropriate areas;
- 6. Reduce the extent of non-conformity between existing developed areas and municipal zoning policies;
- 7. Greater predictability in the development permitting process.

## Project Partners

#### 1. Project Steering Committee

- 4 members representing Evesham, Medford, NJDEP, Commission
- Chief decision making body

#### 2. Project Advisory Committee

- 18 members representing 16 local, regional and statewide organizations, including environmental and development interests
- Provided recommendations on preservation and land use policy

#### 3. Technical Support Group

- 17 natural resource experts, planning and design professionals representing 16 local, regional and statewide organizations
- Provided technical guidance on land use and environmental issues

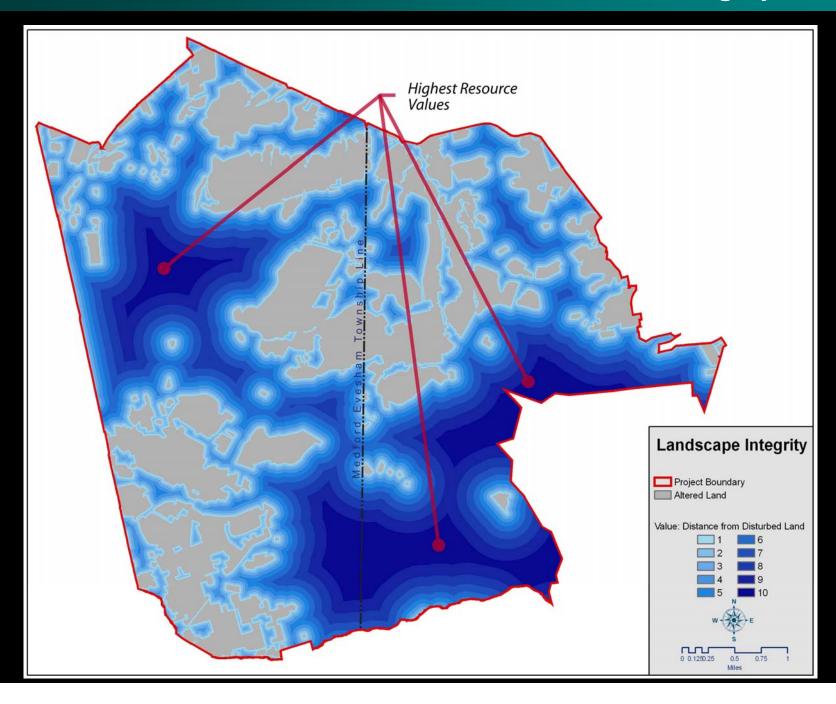
### Data Analysis

#### Statistical data, mapped data and reports including:

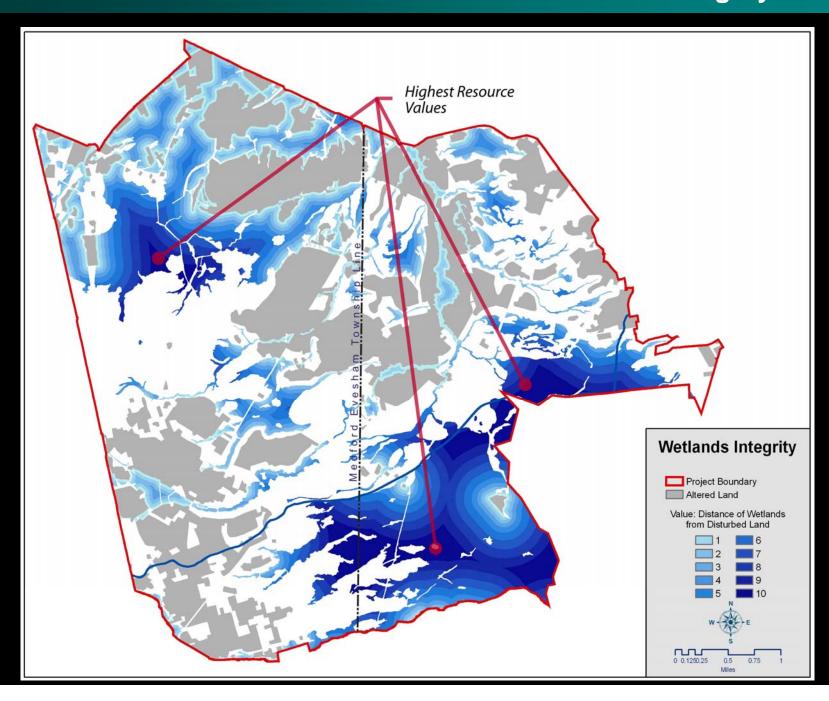
- Zoning and land-use
- Property ownership patterns
  - Private and Public open space maps
- Deed restrictions
- Existing and proposed development application status
- Surface and ground water quality data
- NJDEP Landscape Project data
- Historic and cultural resources
- NJDEP and DVRPC land use/land cover maps
- Municipal capital improvement programs

- County and municipal open space plans
- Burlington County's Rancocas Creek Management Plan
- DVRPC Greenway Plan
- Infrastructure/Circulation plans
- Threatened and Endangered plant and animal information
- Well monitoring, water supply data
- Soils characteristics
- Information on known contaminated sites
- Census data

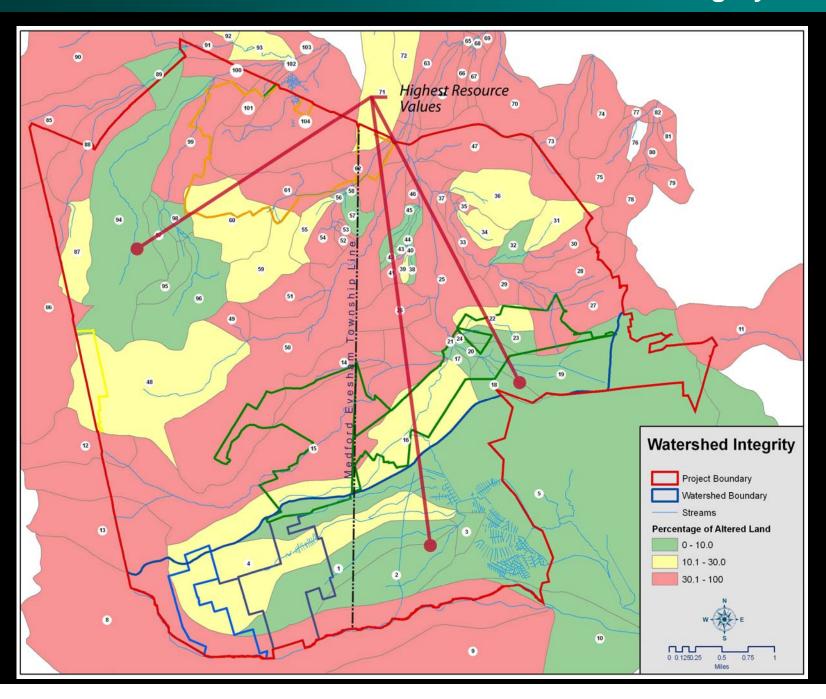
### **Resource Integrity Analysis**



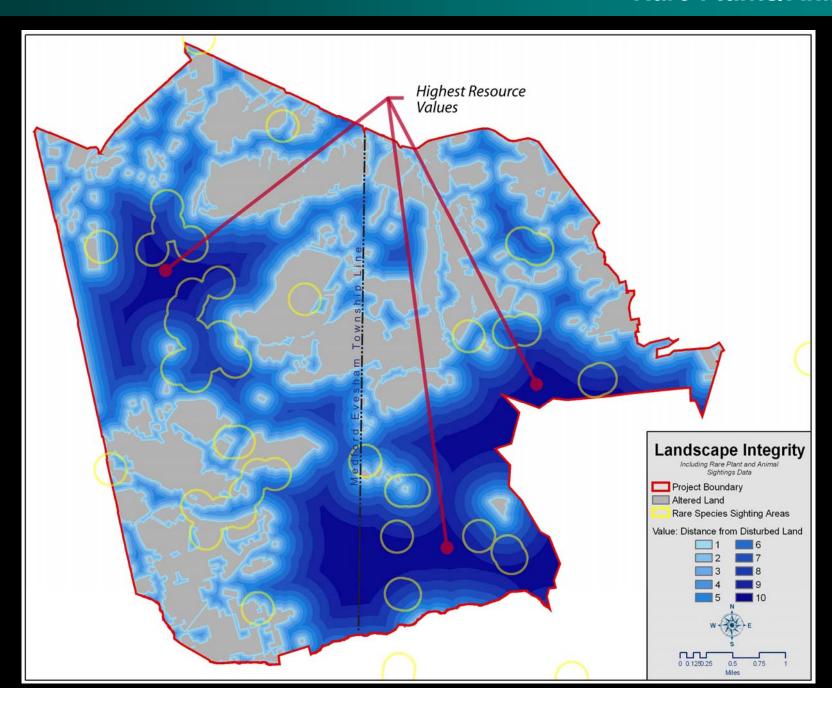
### **Resource Integrity Analysis**



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### **Rare Plants/Animals**

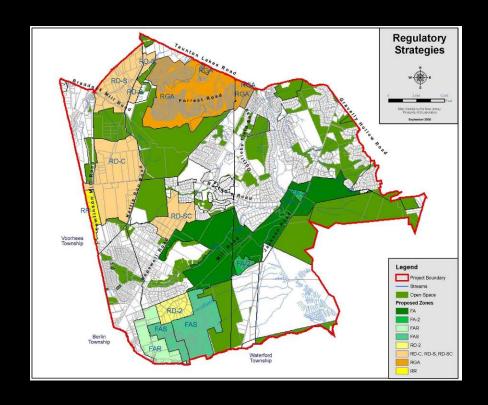


# Findings

- 1. Existing area infrastructure is limited and would not support extensive future development.
- 2. Existing zoning does permit additional development, though it is likely to be scattered, it will still impact natural resources.
- Remaining undeveloped parcels are under active consideration for development.
- 4. Several watersheds in area exhibit undisturbed water quality characteristics. Where water quality is declining it is due to development disturbance.

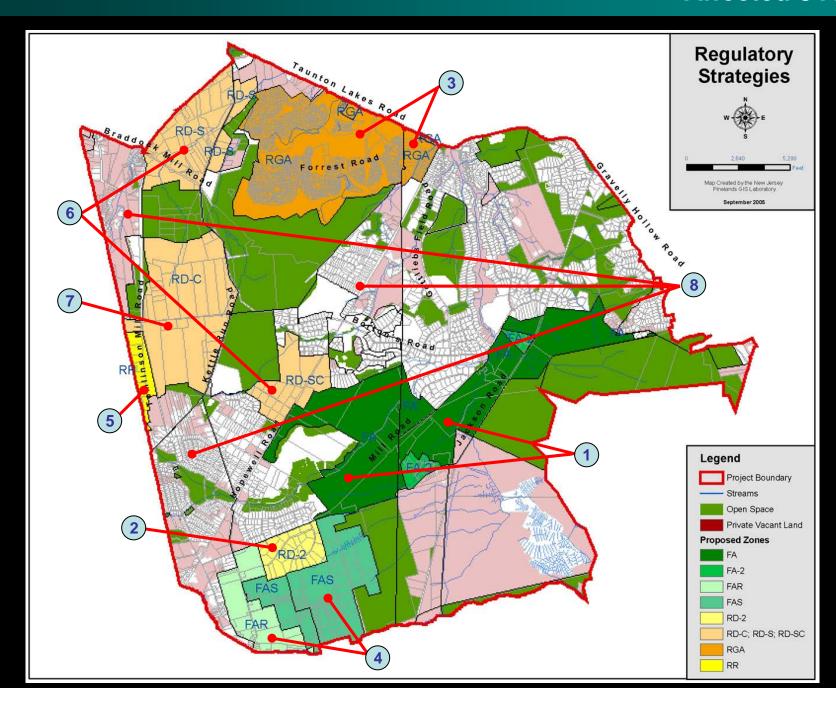
- 5. Limited surveys that have been undertaken in the area indicate suitable habitat for rare plants and animals.
- 6. Uninterrupted, undisturbed forests are necessary to support rare plant and animal populations. Connections help to maintain biodiversity.
- 7. Areas most distant from disturbed lands have highest water quality and greatest amounts of undisturbed forest cover. Conservation efforts should be targeted to these areas.
- 8. Existing zoning will fragment undisturbed forest communities and threaten Pinelands characteristic watersheds. Regulatory policies should significantly reduce these impacts.

# Part 2 Strategies

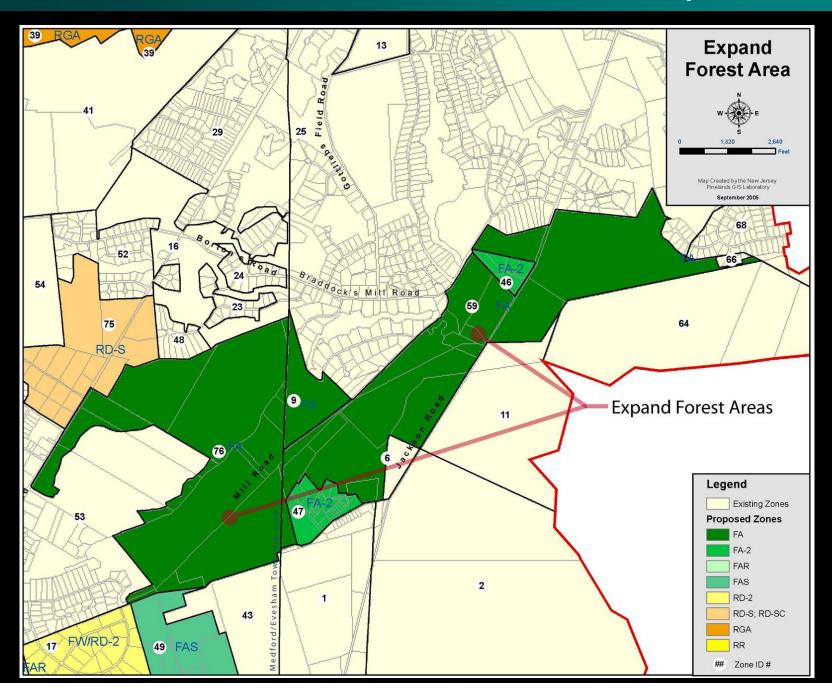


### Regulatory Strategies

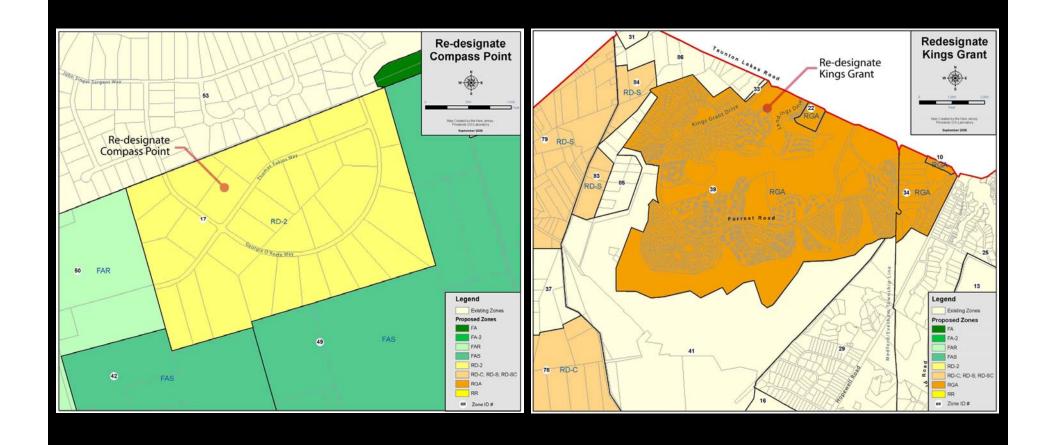
#### **Affected 8 Areas**



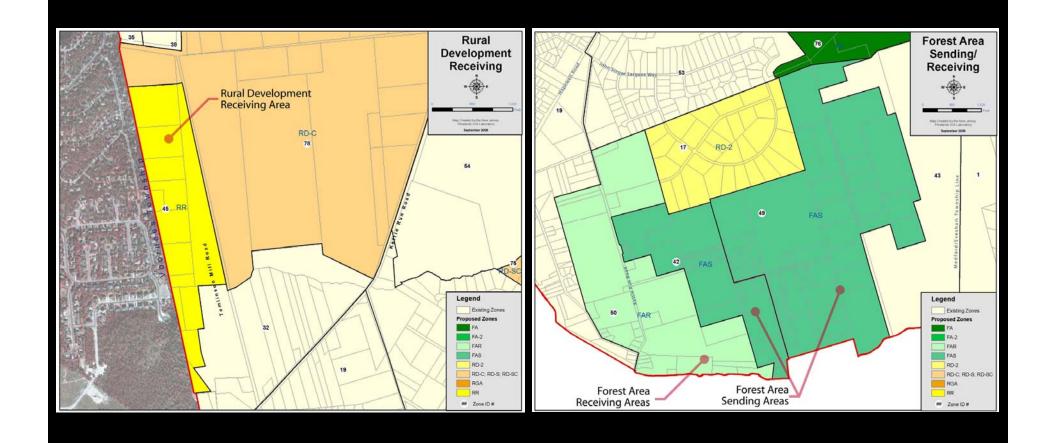
### **Expand Protection**



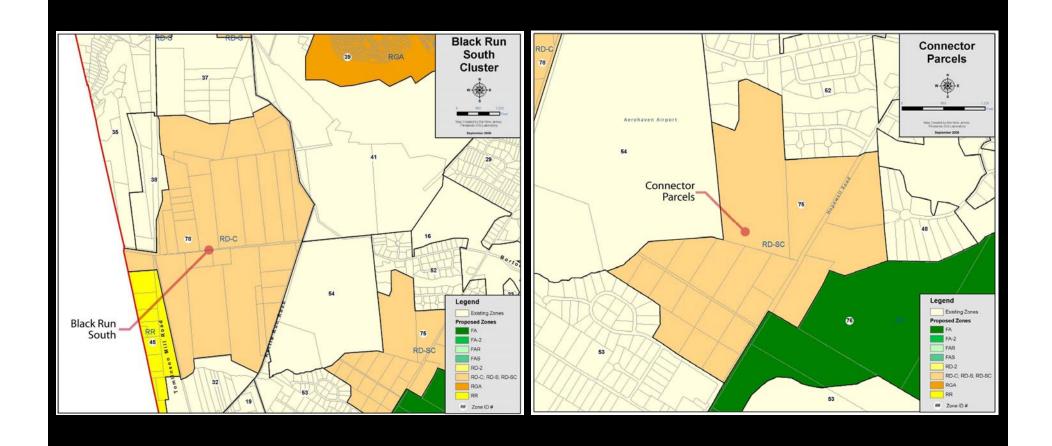
### **Adjust Zoning**



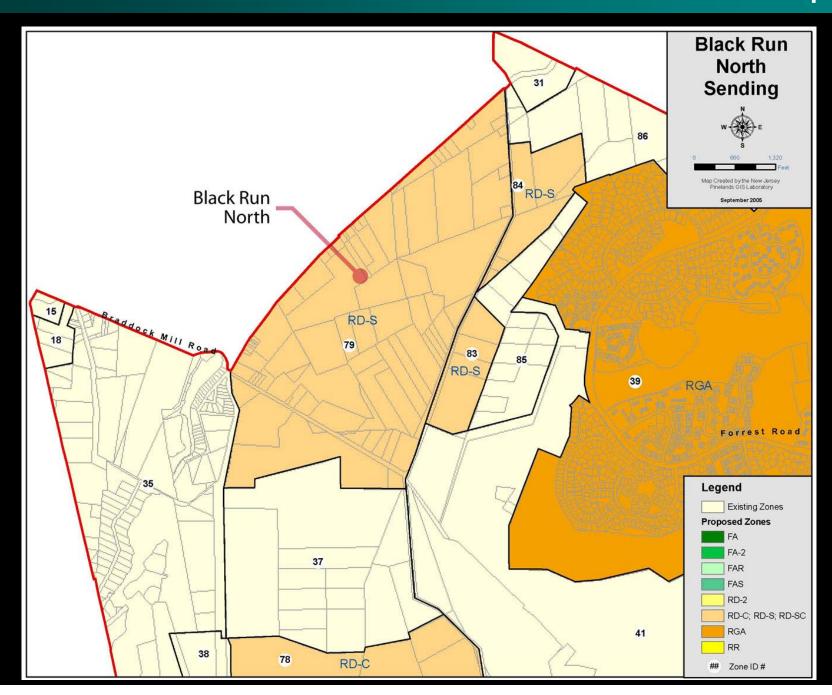
### Redistribute Development



### **Cluster Development**

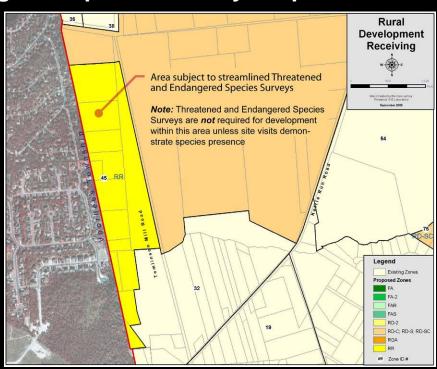


### **Reduce Development**



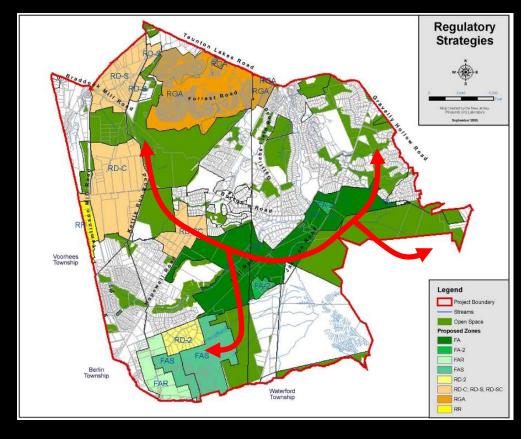
### **Other Regulatory Tools**

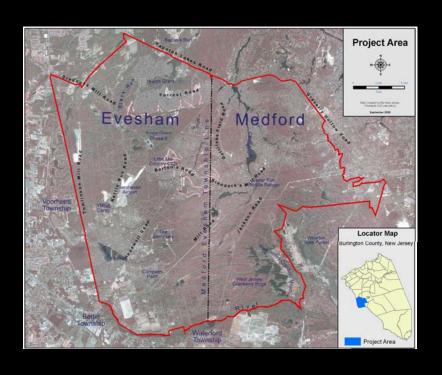
- 1. Modified Threatened and Endangered Species Survey Requirements
- 2. Official Map
- 3. On-site Clustering



#### **Expected Results**

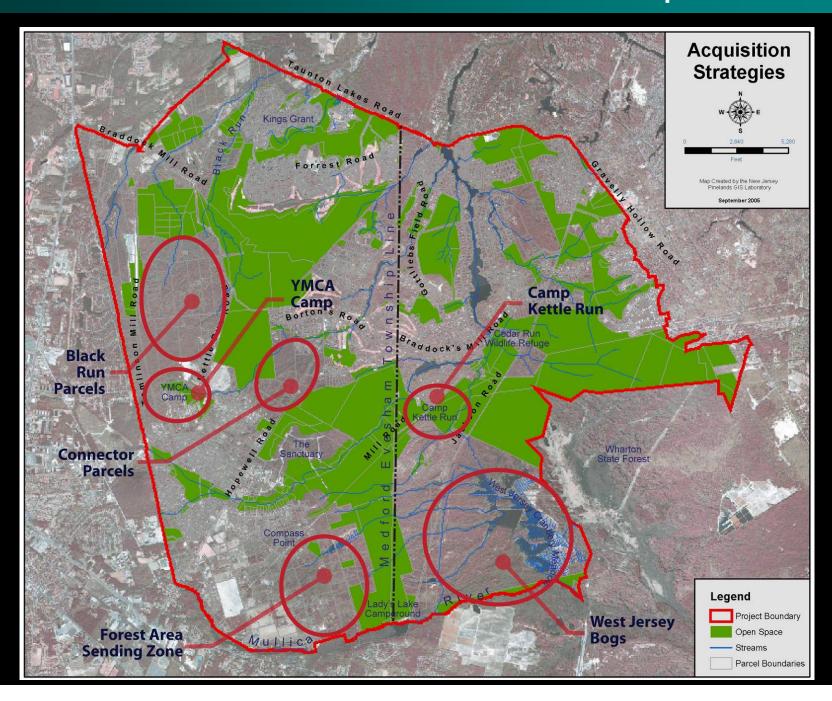
- 2. Create incentives to transfer all development to more suitable areas
- 3. Cluster development that does occur to increase open space
- 4. Adjust current zoning to match existing development patterns
- 5. Create an uninterrupted greenbelt through project area



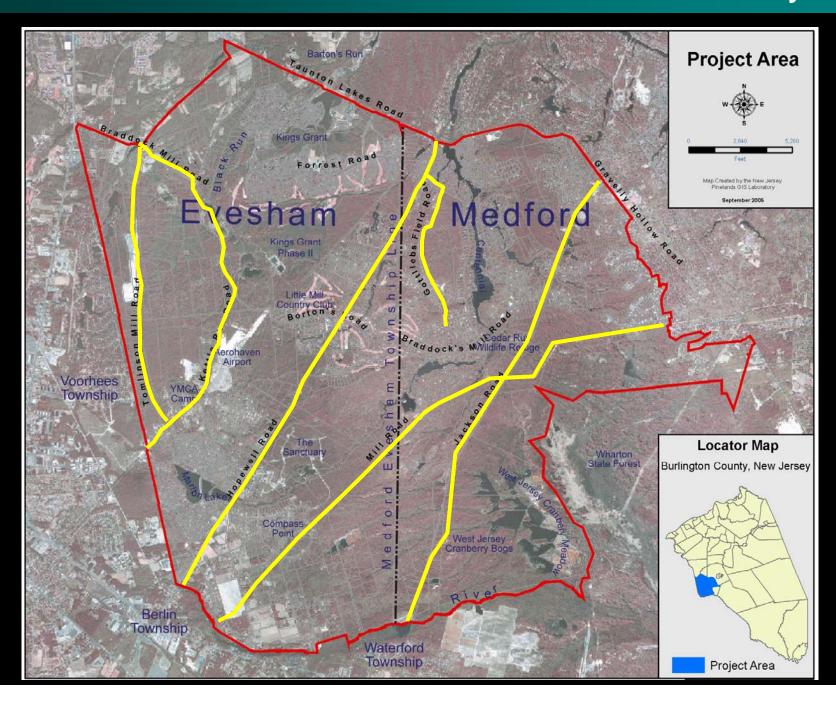


### Non-Regulatory Strategies

### **Acquisition Priorities**



### **Inventory Needs**



- 1. Backyard habitat protection
- Integration of natural resource data in Township/County Master Plans
- 3. Golf Course management
  - Beneficial reuse of waste water
  - Best Management Practices
    - Reduce consumptive use of water;
    - Reduce application of fertilizers;
    - Reduce stormwater runoff
    - Create plant and animal habitat
- 4. Other Considerations
  - Education and enforcement programs to reduce illegal ATV use and dumping

# Part 3 Making the Plan Work



### Role of the Municipalities

- 1. Adopt Final Plan, add to Township Master Plan
- 2. Enact zoning district re-designations; adjust existing zoning standards for clustering, density transfer, mandatory wetlands buffer in Black Run; write new Regional Growth Area regulations (Kings Grant)
- 3. Prepare/adopt Official Map
- 4. Develop partnerships for property acquisition with Green Acres, Burlington County, Pinelands Commission, Rancocas Conservancy, NJ Conservation Foundation
- 5. Authorize Environmental Commission to participate in development of backyard habitat education materials, golf course best management practices
- **6.** Administer density transfer program

### Role of Other Partners

Partners: Pinelands Commission, NJDEP, Burlington County, Non-Profit Organizations

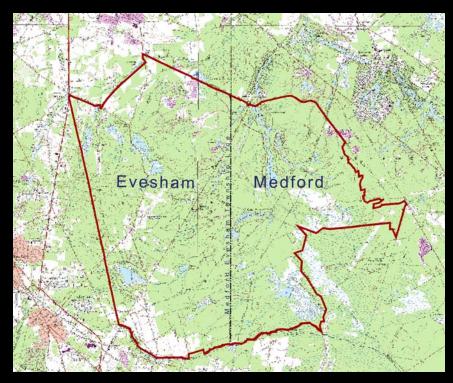
- 1. Contribute toward acquisition through State Open Space Acquisition Fund, Pinelands Conservation Fund, County Open Space and/or Farmland Preservation Fund
- 2. Conduct rare plant surveys and develop stewardship recommendations
- 3. Assist in developing beneficial wastewater reuse program for golf course irrigation
- 4. Develop and present backyard habitat protection education for developers, homeowners and public officials

### Progress To Date

- 1. Commission unanimously endorsed Plan 7/06
- William Penn Foundation approved second round funding 1/07 to assist Municipalities to implement strategies
- 2. Earmarked \$2,000,000 form Pinelands Conservation Fund for area acquisitions
- 3. Contracted with program manager to assist in property acquisition efforts, acquisition negotiations underway
- 4. Initiated efforts with NJDEP to develop beneficial water reuse program for golf course turf irrigation program
- 5. Earmarked up to \$75,000 to work with NJDEP ONLM to conduct rare plant surveys along project area rights-of-way
- 6. Green Acres acquired Camp Kettle Run

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**NJCF Land Conservation Rally** 

**April 28, 2007**