

Spatial Trends in New England Agriculture

Selected slides from a presentation :

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Scientist, American Farmland Trust

***Keep New England Farmland in Farming:
A Regional Convening***

May 8, 2013



Convening Objectives:

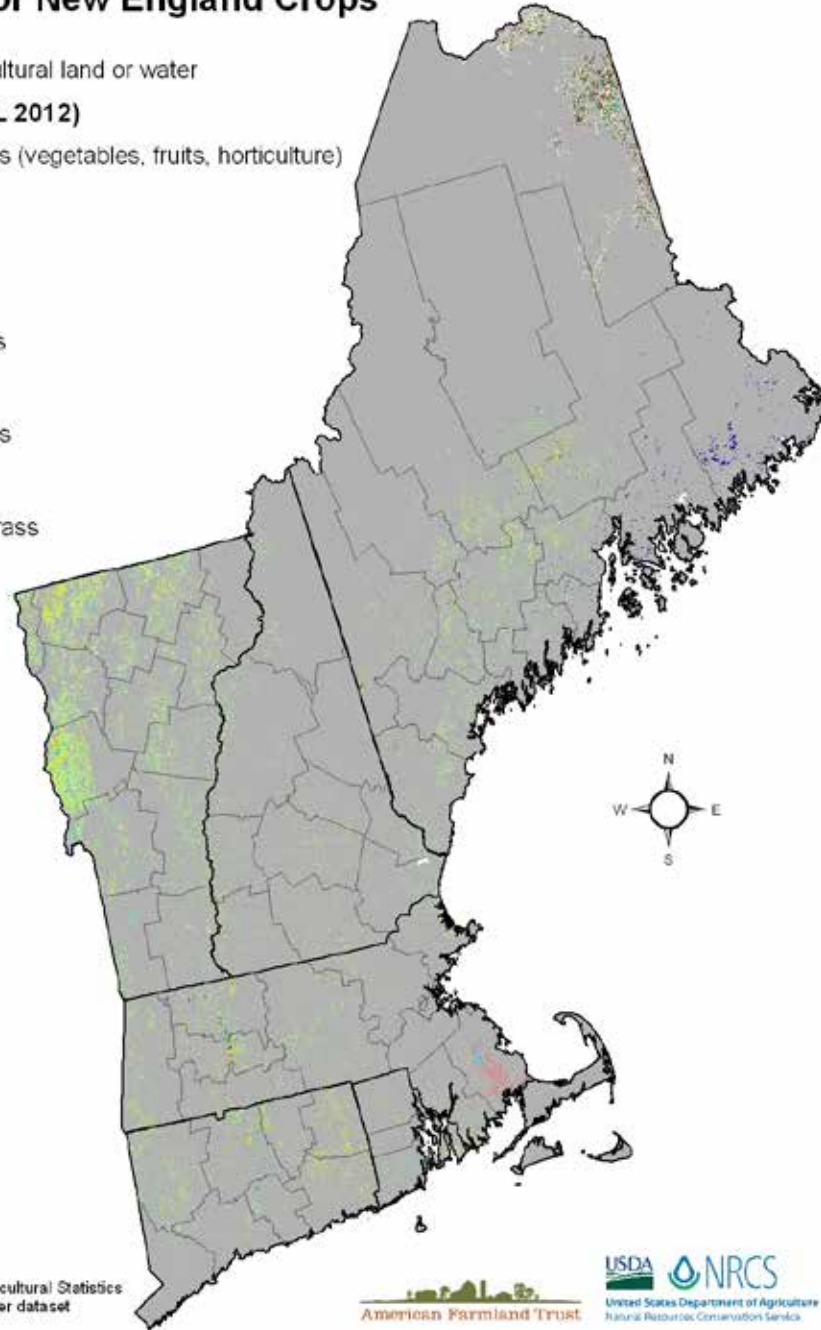
- § **Deepen understanding** about the region's farmland base and its capacity to meet food, agriculture and resource needs
- § **Share information** about public and private programs, projects and initiatives that are impacting the region's farmland base
- § **Explore opportunities** for further work and collaboration around farmland:
 - § Protection
 - § Access
 - § Restoration
 - § Resiliency
 - § Environmental markets

Major New England Crops

Non-agricultural land or water

Crop types (CDL 2012)

- Other crops (vegetables, fruits, horticulture)
- Hay
- Apples
- Barley
- Blueberries
- Corn
- Cranberries
- Oats
- Pasture/Grass
- Potatoes
- Rye



Source:
-2012 USDA National Agricultural Statistics
Service Cropland Data Layer dataset
(NASS-CDL)

American Farmland Trust

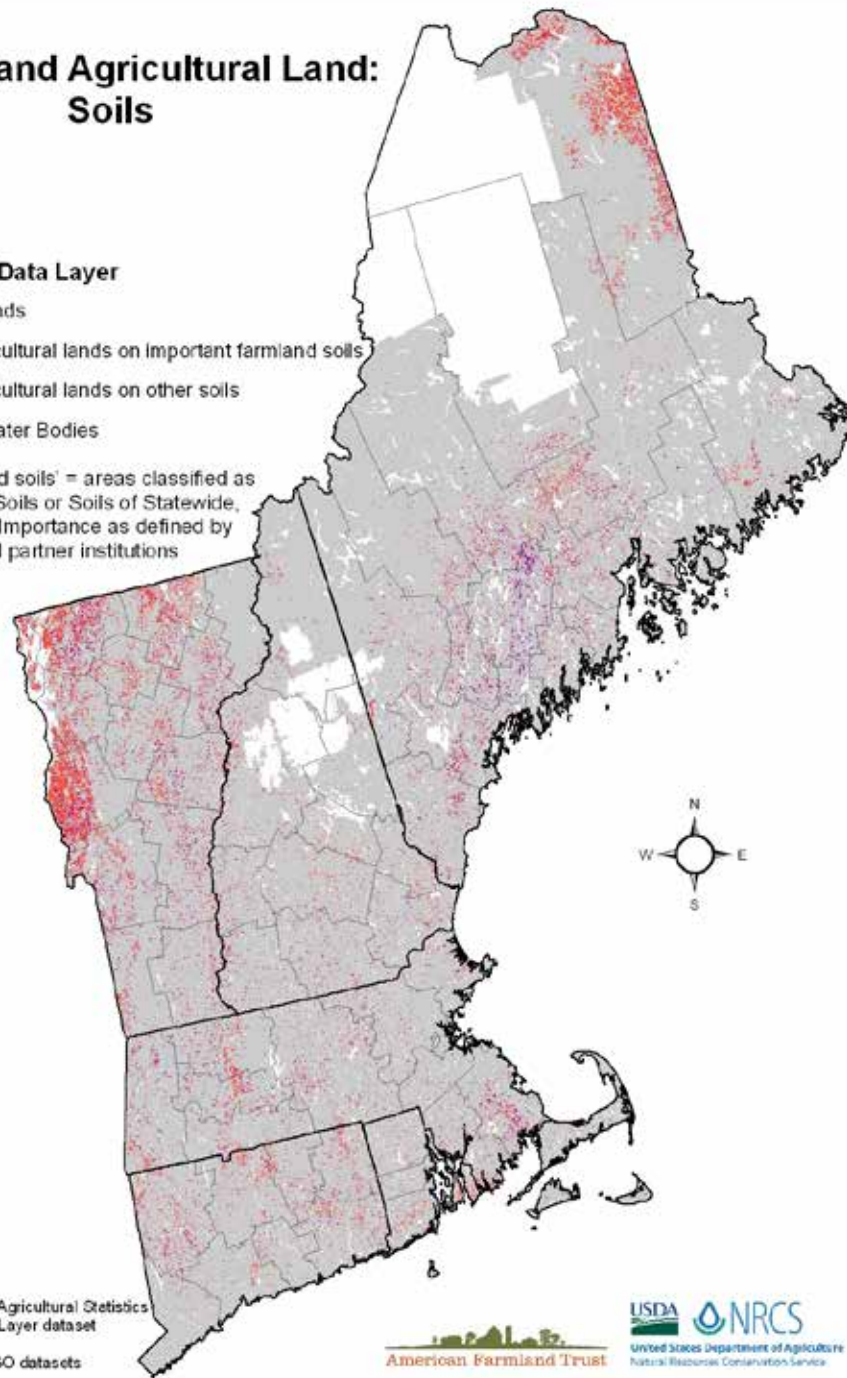
USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

New England Agricultural Land: Soils

2012 Cropland Data Layer

-  All other lands
-  Active agricultural lands on Important farmland soils
-  Active agricultural lands on other soils
-  No Data/Water Bodies





'Important farmland soils' = areas classified as Prime Farmland Soils or Soils of Statewide, Unique or Local Importance as defined by USDA and partner institutions



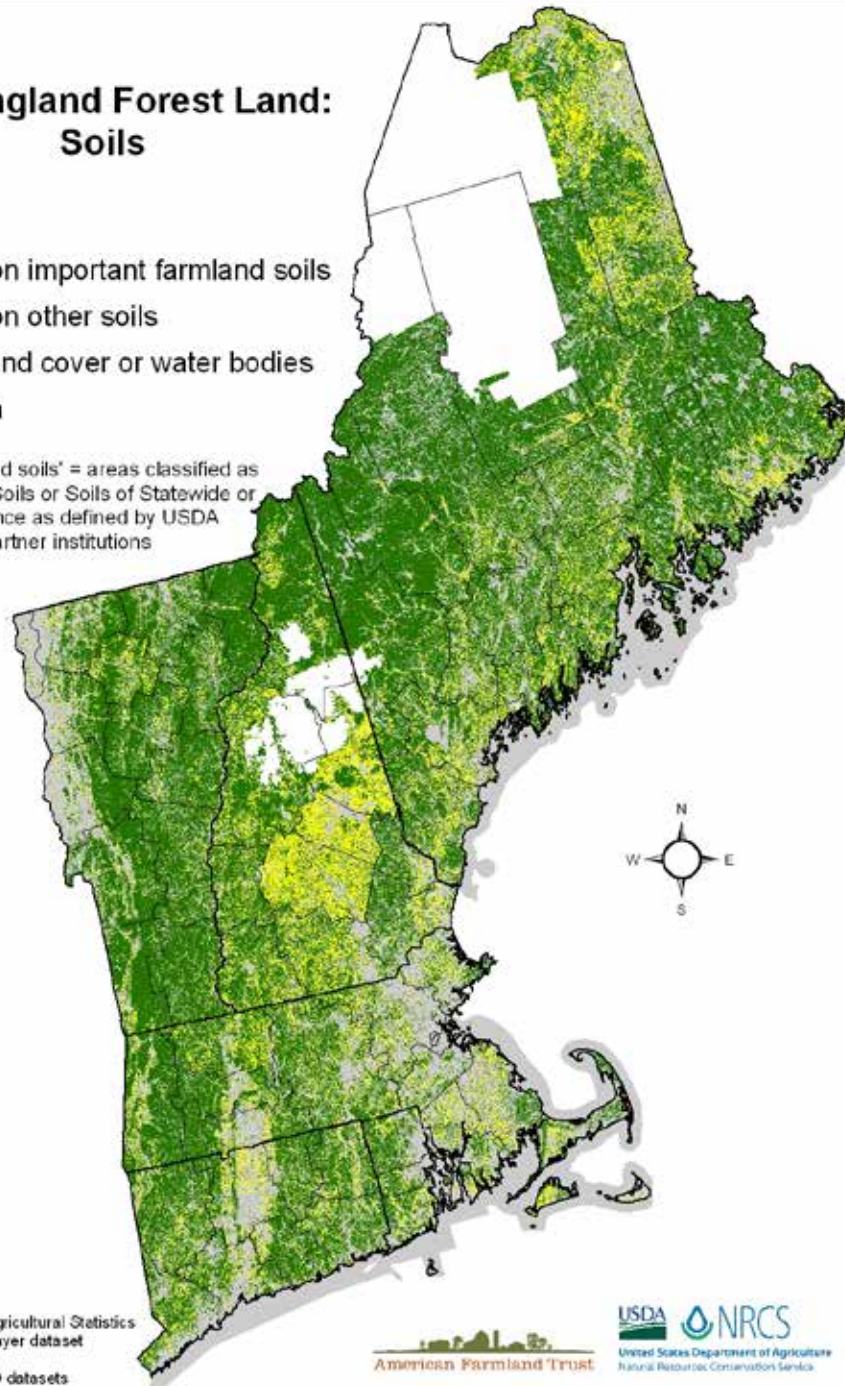
Sources:

-2012 USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Cropland Data Layer dataset (NASS-CDL)
-USDA-NRCS SSURGO datasets

New England Forest Land: Soils

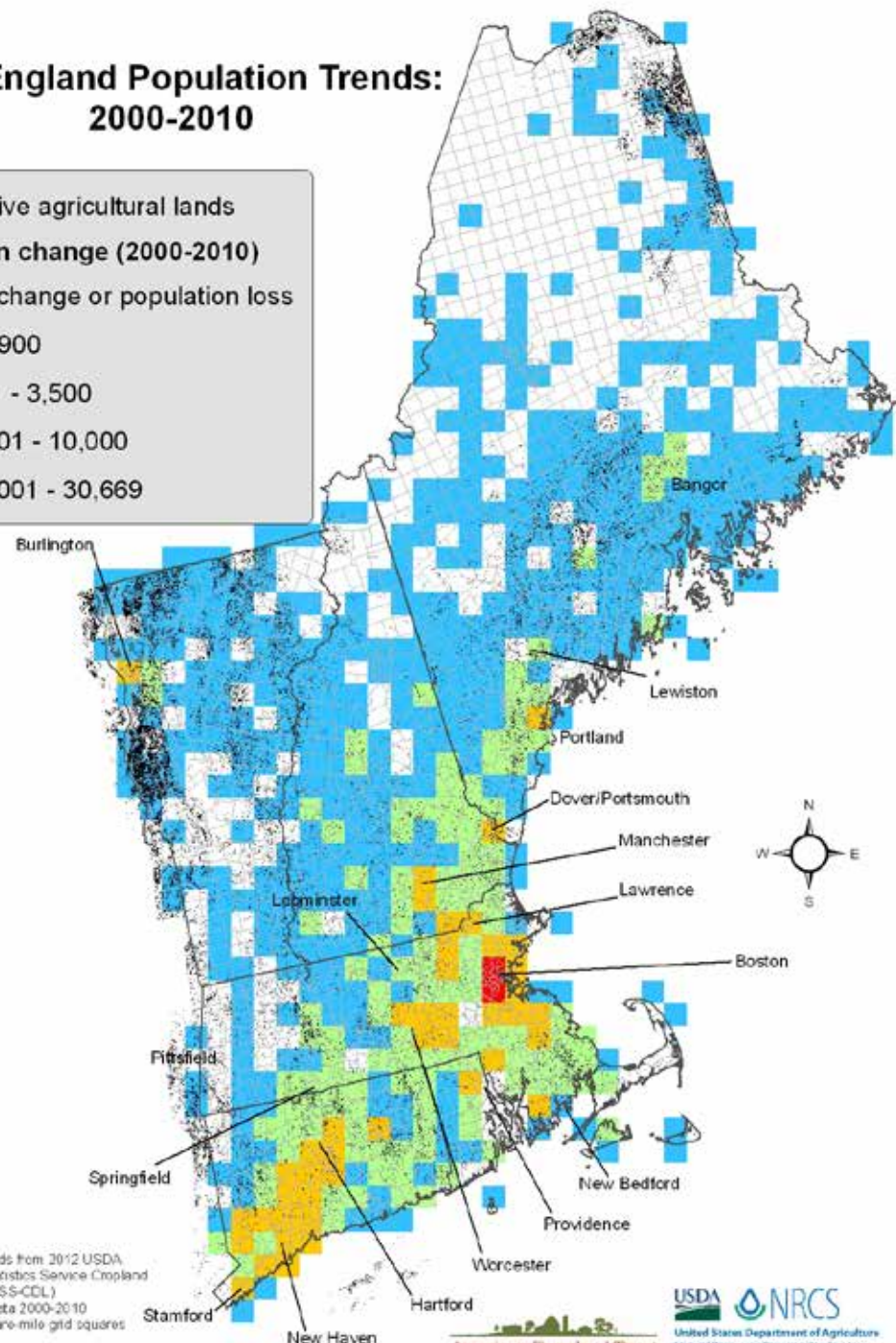
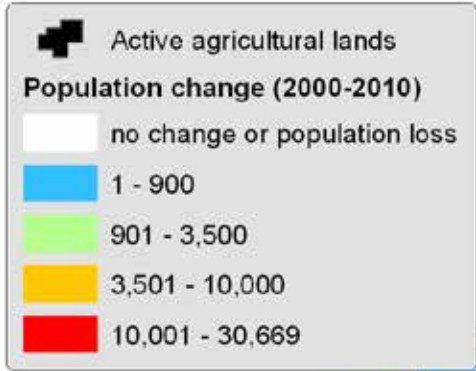
-  Forest on important farmland soils
-  Forest on other soils
-  Other land cover or water bodies
-  No Data

'Important farmland soils' = areas classified as Prime Farmland Soils or Soils of Statewide or Local Importance as defined by USDA and partner institutions







Sources:
-2012 USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service Cropland Data Layer dataset (NASS-CDL)
-USDA-NRCS SSURGO datasets

New England Population Trends: 2000-2010

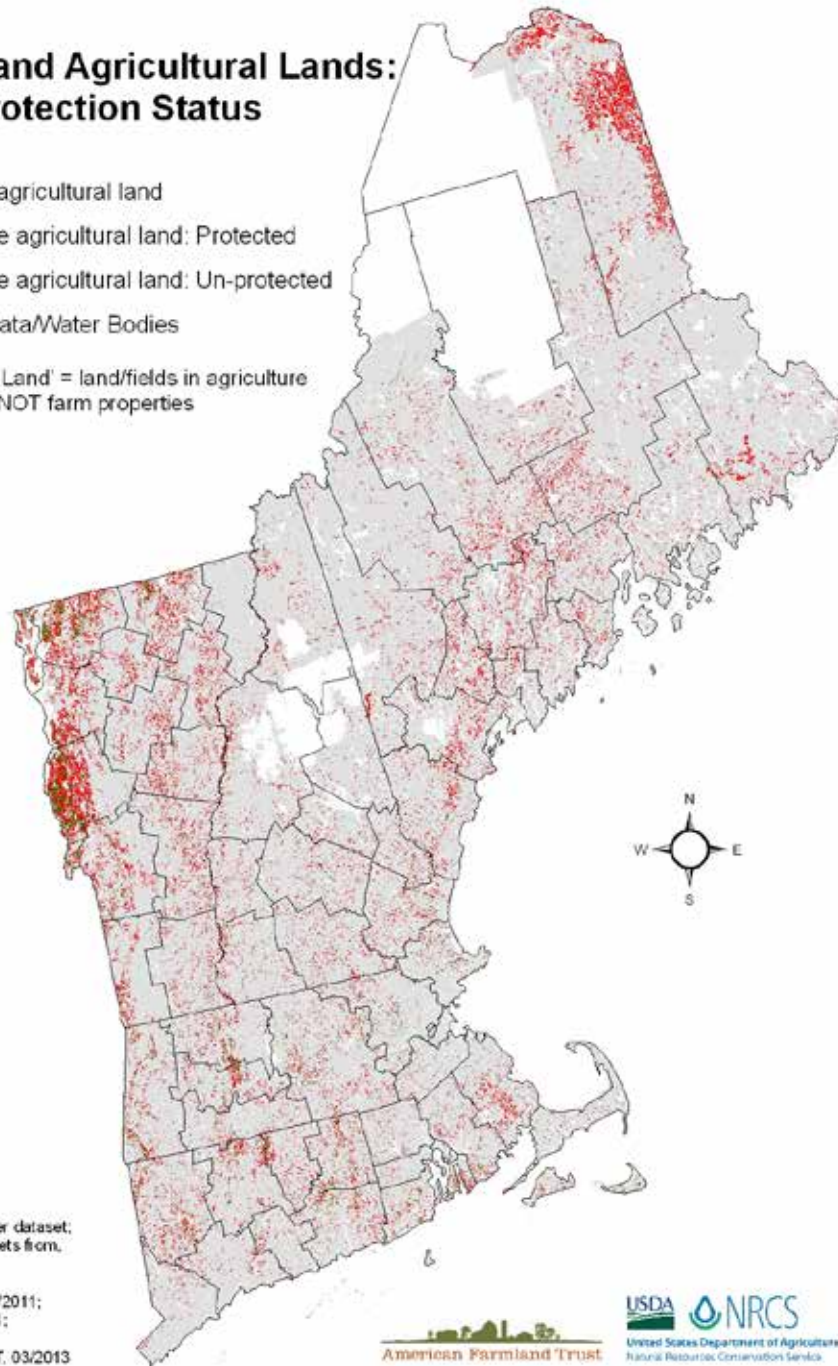


Sources:
 - Active agricultural lands from 2012 USDA
 National Agricultural Statistics Service Cropland
 Data Layer dataset (NASS-CDL)
 - US Census Bureau data 2000-2010
 (summarized to 75 square-mile grid squares
 for this analysis)

New England Agricultural Lands: Protection Status

-  Non-agricultural land
-  Active agricultural land: Protected
-  Active agricultural land: Un-protected
-  No Data/Water Bodies

'Agricultural Land' = land/fields in agriculture
NOT farm properties



Sources:
-2006 NLCD landcover dataset;
-Protected land datasets from:
CT DEP, 08/2011;
MassGIS, 06/2012;
ME Office of GIS, 03/2011;
NH-GRANIT, 05/2011;
RIDEM, 06/2011;
VCGI, 08/2009 & VLT, 03/2013

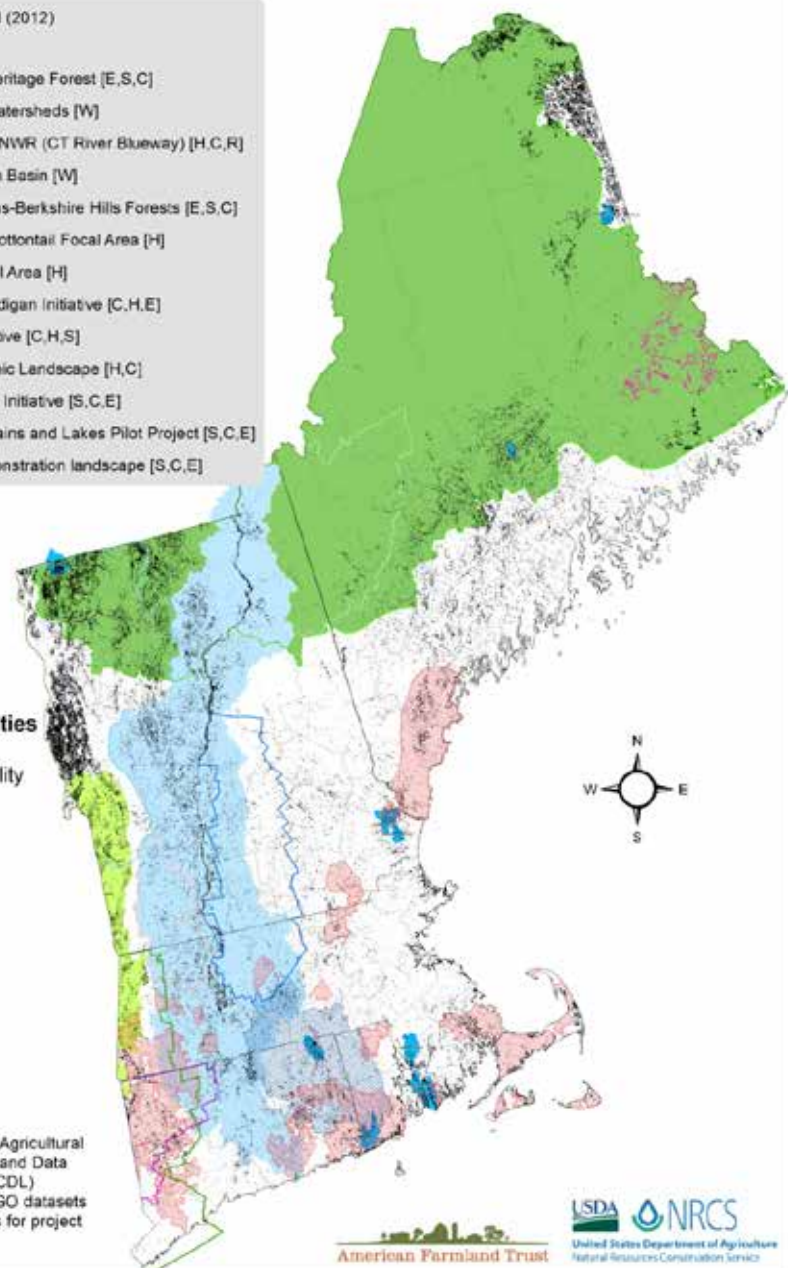
New England Conservation Focus Areas

-  Agricultural land (2012)
- Priority Areas**
-  Southern NE Heritage Forest [E,S,C]
-  NRCS-NWQI watersheds [W]
-  Silvio O. Conte NWR (CT River Blueway) [H,C,R]
-  Lake Champlain Basin [W]
-  Green Mountains-Berkshire Hills Forests [E,S,C]
-  New England Cottontail Focal Area [H]
-  Bog Turtle Focal Area [H]
-  Quabbin-to-Cardigan Initiative [C,H,E]
-  Highlands Initiative [C,H,S]
-  Berkshire-Taconic Landscape [H,C]
-  Northern Forest Initiative [S,C,E]
-  Western Mountains and Lakes Pilot Project [S,C,E]
-  Downeast demonstration landscape [S,C,E]

Focus Area Priorities

- C - Conversion
- E - Economic Viability
- H - Habitat
- R - Recreation
- S - Stewardship
- W - Water Quality

Sources:
 -2012 USDA National Agricultural
 Statistics Service Cropland Data
 Layer dataset (NASS-CDL)
 -USDA-NRCS SSURGO datasets
 -various other sources for project
 boundaries



Maps and Presentations from the
Convening soon to be available at:
American Farmland Trust
www.farmland.org/newengland

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