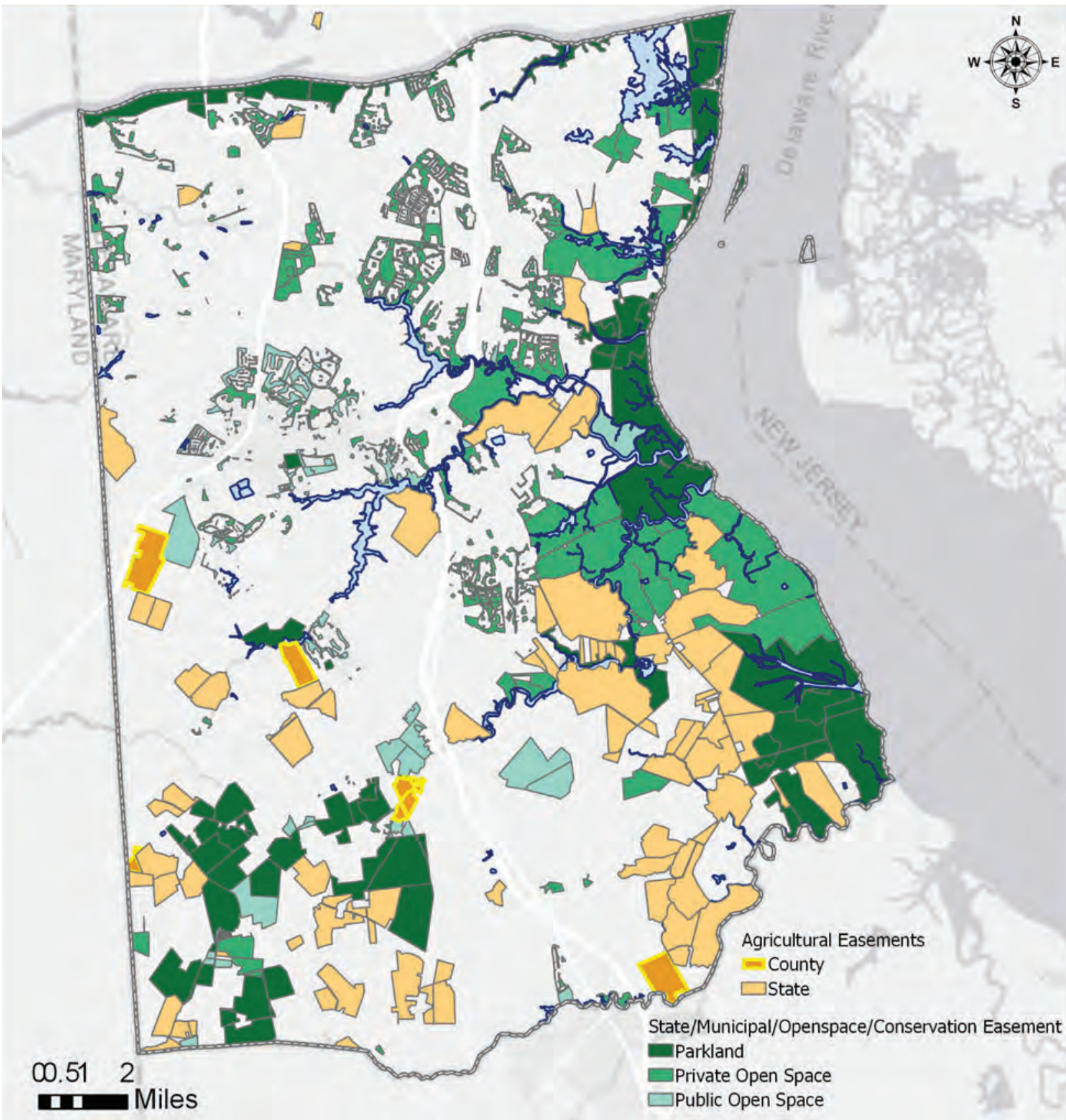


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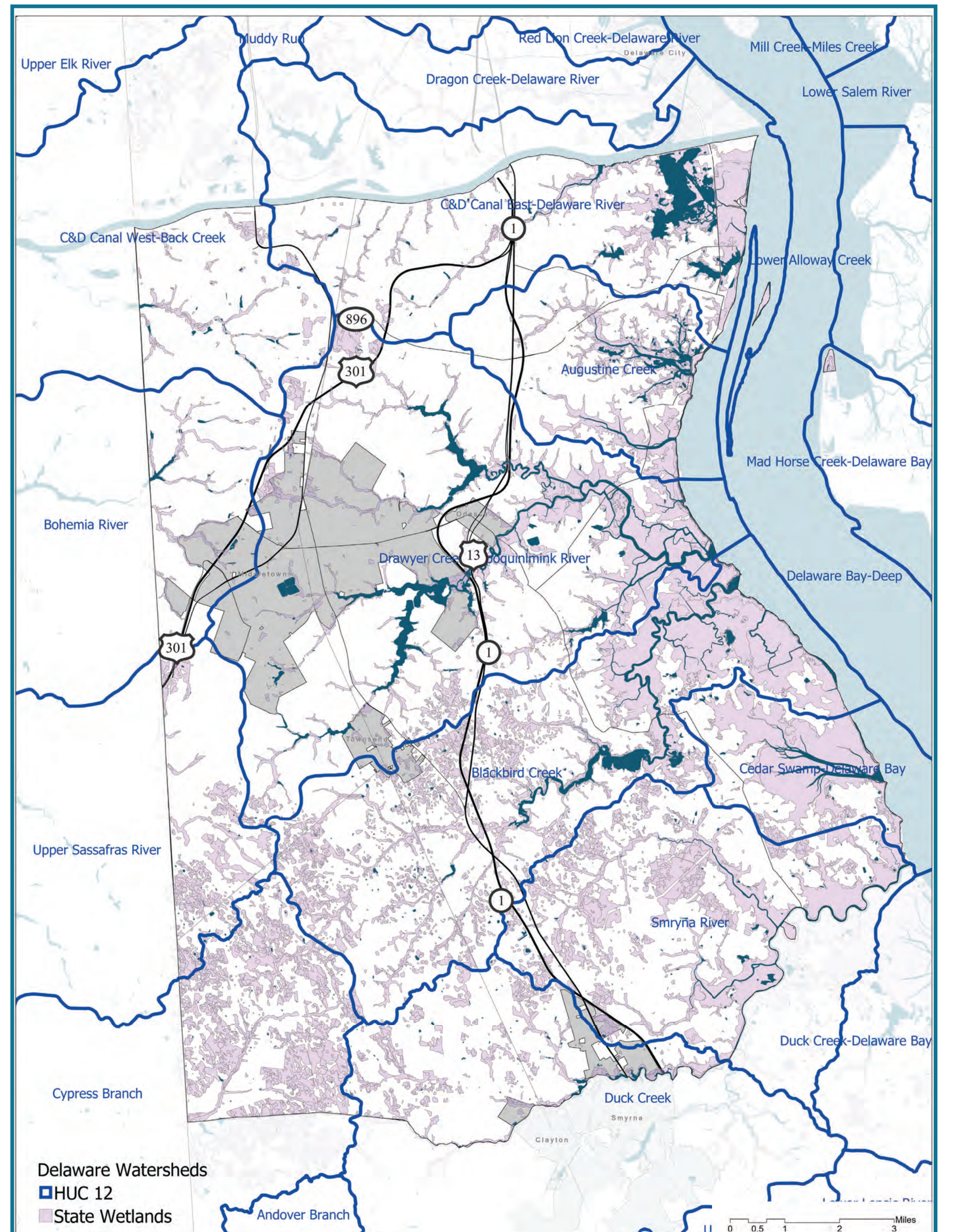
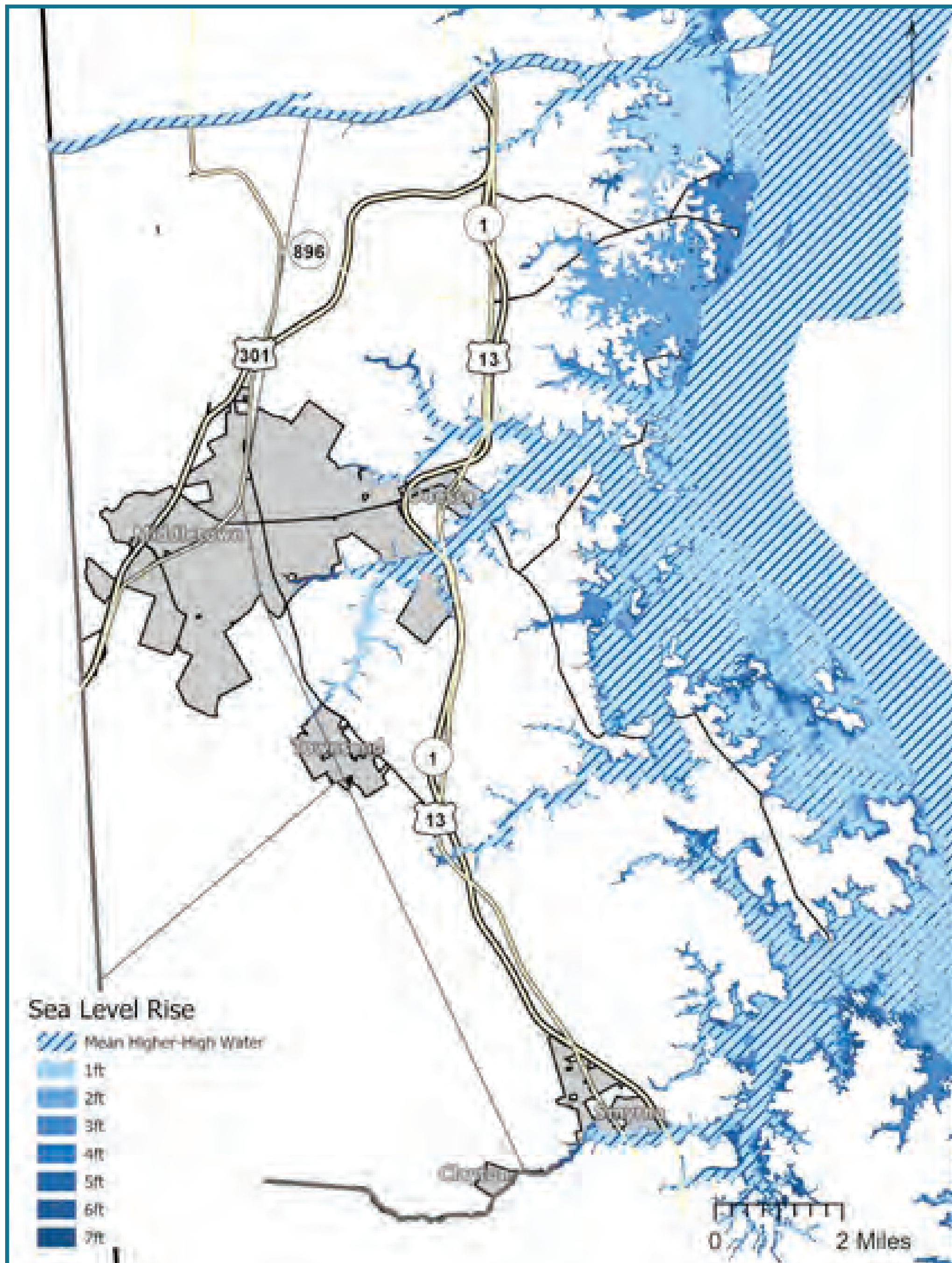
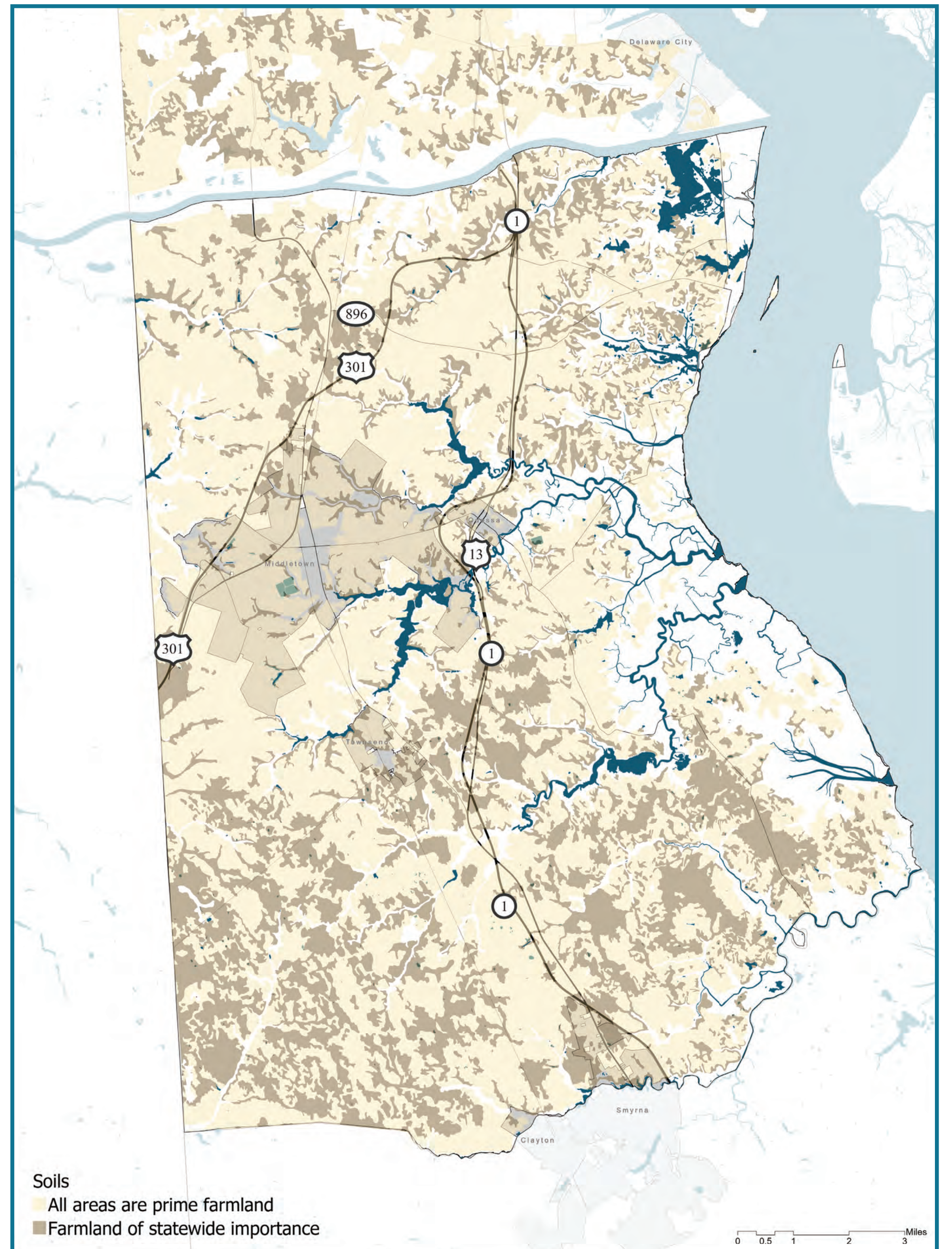
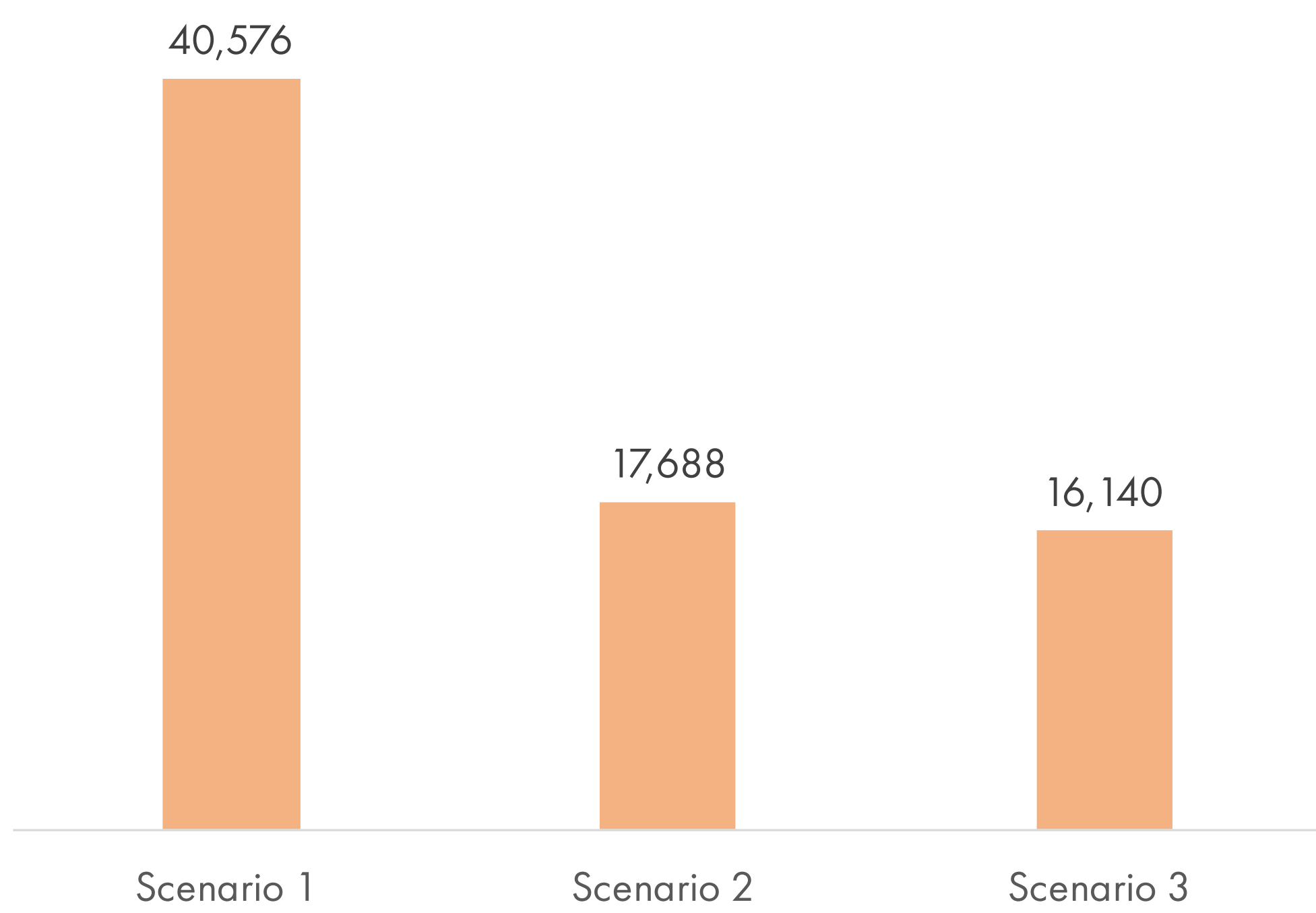
Goal: Environmental protection and farmland preservation are considered a priority in Southern New Castle County, and residents and visitors alike have access to trails, parks, and other natural spaces.

Where We Want To Be (Objectives)	Where We Are (Current Conditions)	How To Get To Where We Want To Be (Preliminary Recommendations)
Objective: Improve air quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NCC non-attainment for ozone; high toxic air releases (EPA data).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduce percentage of new development on septic systems.
Objective: Improve surface water and groundwater quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Peak water demands can be met in existing service areas.40% of units are on septic, which creates high nitrogen loading; nitrogen loading for Scenarios 2 and 3 would be less than half of that for Scenario 1 ("Business as Usual").Water Resource Protection Areas (WRPAs) are critical to protecting ground water, yet approximately 2,500 acres would be impacted under currently planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update natural areas inventory and conservation strategy (coordinate with Land Preservation Task Force).Consider additional safeguards for WRPAs.Establish inventory to track natural resources and progress (e.g. tree canopy, habitat, etc.)Partner with HOAs/maintenance corporations to enhance landscapes.
Objective: Protect important, quality natural resources (soils, floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, forests, and habitat) & high-quality open space	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approximately 6,000 acres of wetlands, 5,000 areas of natural areas, and 7,000 acres of floodplain would be impacted under current planning policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Coordinate with DelDOT to review and revise design guidance for stormwater infrastructure, street trees, etc.Collaborate with DNREC on ways to further protect critical natural areas and state resource areas.
Objective: Prepare for impact of sea level rise	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Delaware is especially vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise due to its flat topography, low mean elevation, and significant community development and infrastructure investments along the coast.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Encourage new development in sewer service areas and regulate septic use for low density development consistent with county septic policy.Establish Priority Protection Areas Strategy, including incentives, financing and regulations.
Objective: Preserve farmland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Approximately 7,000 more acres of prime soils would be impacted in unincorporated areas under a "Business As Usual" future than compared to scenarios 2 and 3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reduce amount of development in areas at risk for sea level rise impacts through 2100 (the year for which the DNREC model applies) through downzoning, transfer of development rights or purchase of development rights.
Objective: Enhance landscape - greening and reforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Forest loss is a major concern; approximately 2,500 more acres of forest land would be impacted in unincorporated areas under a "Business As Usual" future than compared to scenarios 2 and 3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Update land development requirements for street trees and reforestation.Support farmers by improving existing programs (e.g. Purchase of Development Rights, Transfer of Development Rights, young farmers, etc.); add new incentives and remove barriers to supplemental income (e.g. agritourism).



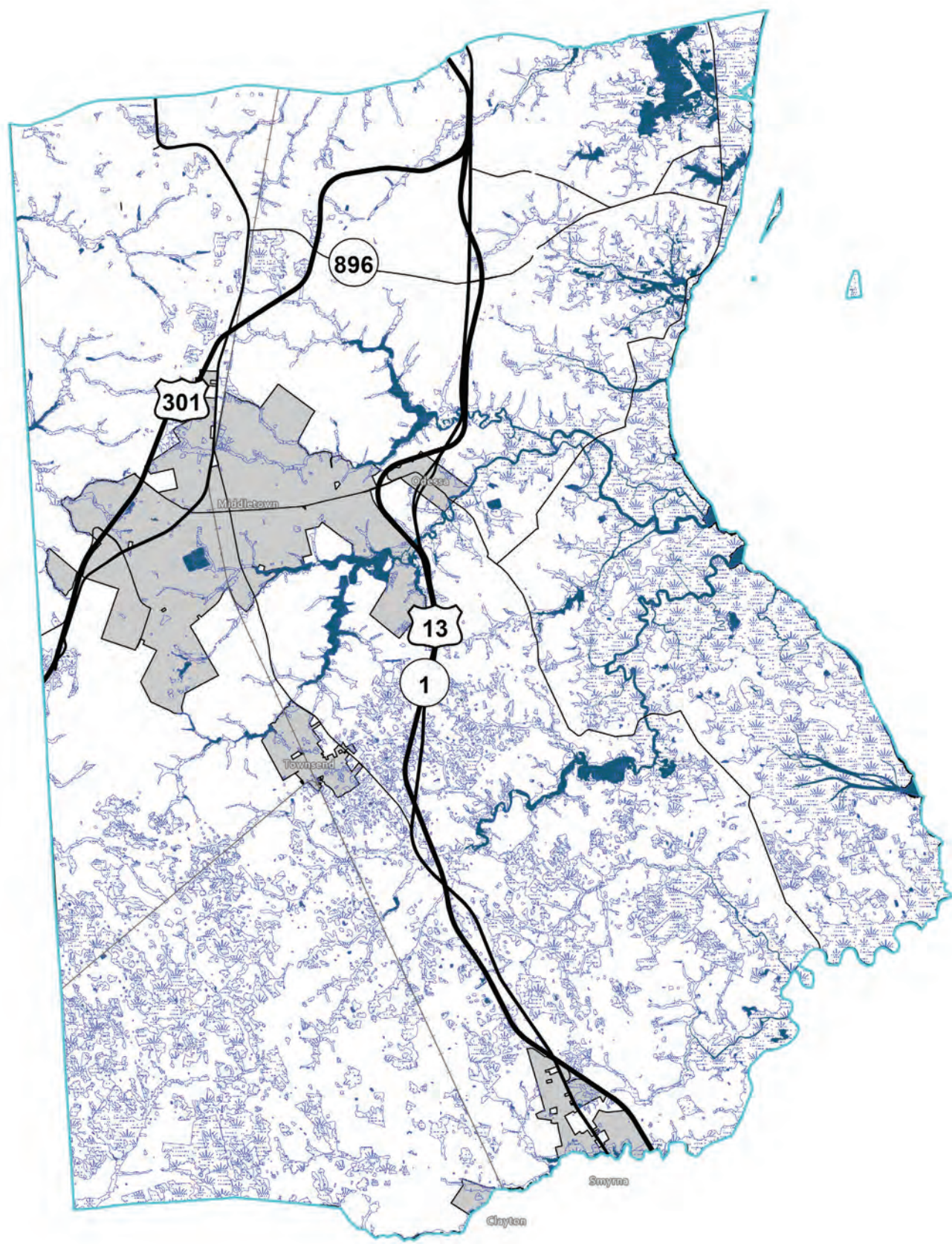
Environment

Total Wastewater Nitrogen Loading Per Year
(lbs of Total Nitrogen)

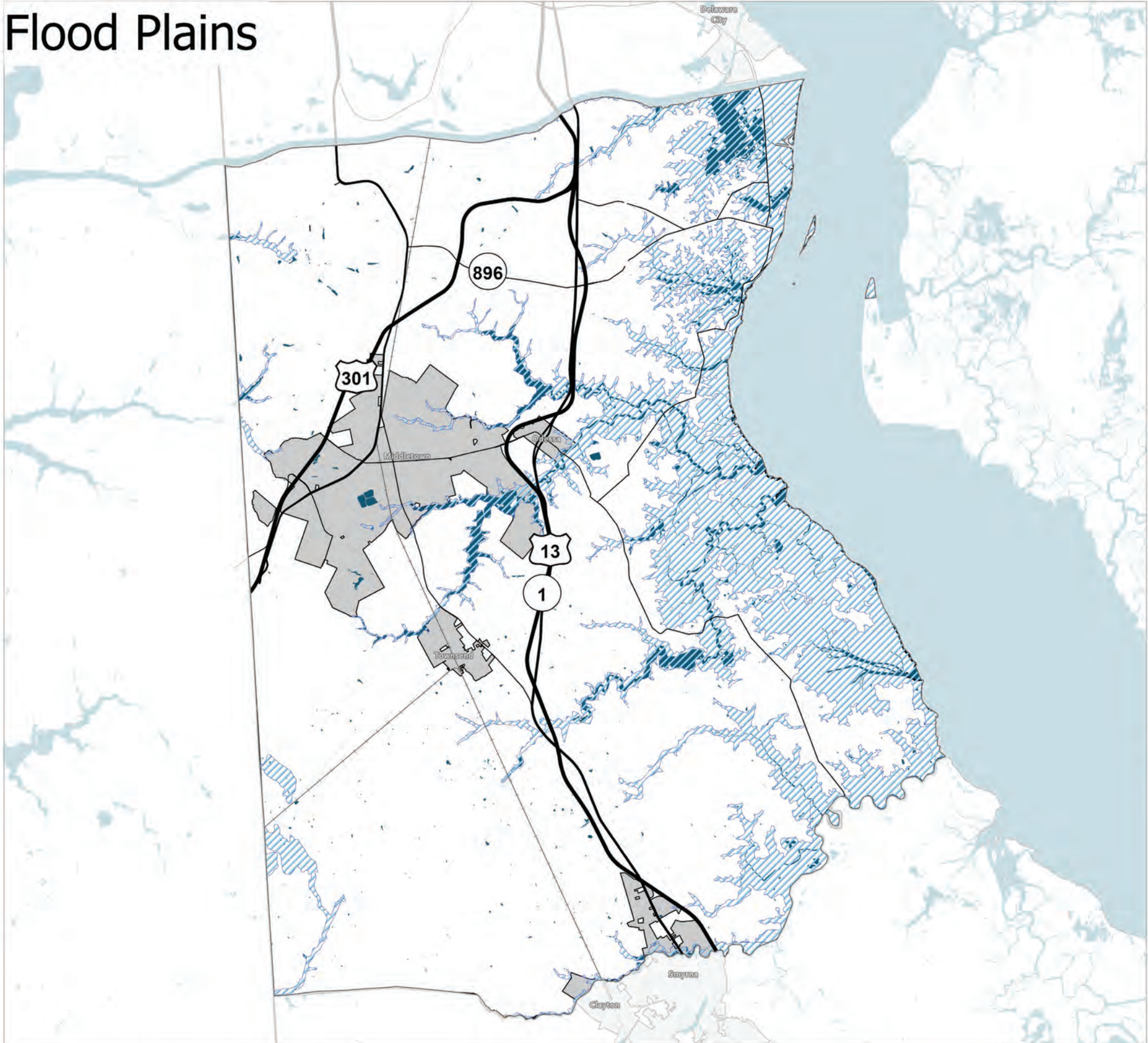


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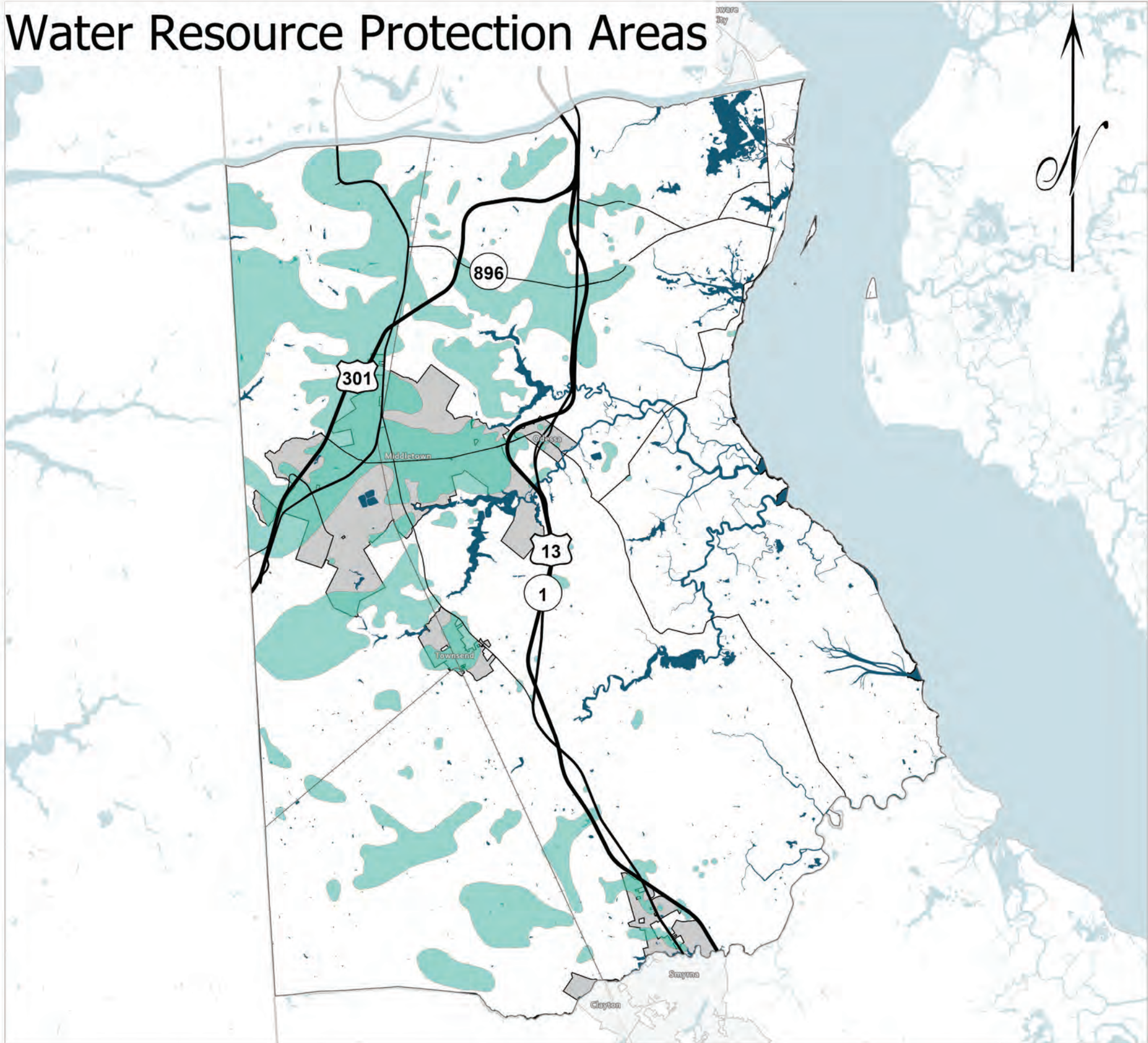
Wetlands



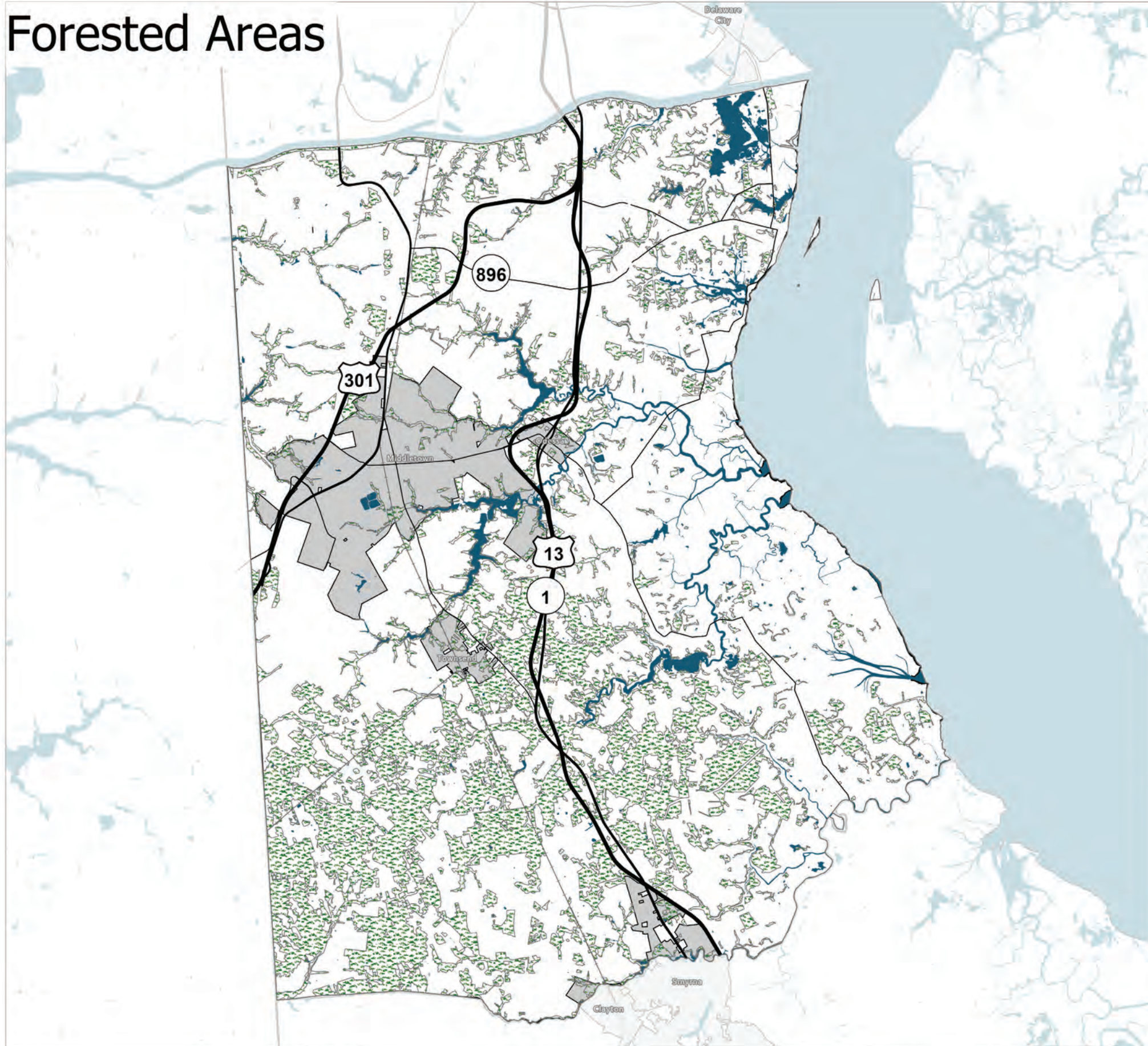
Flood Plains



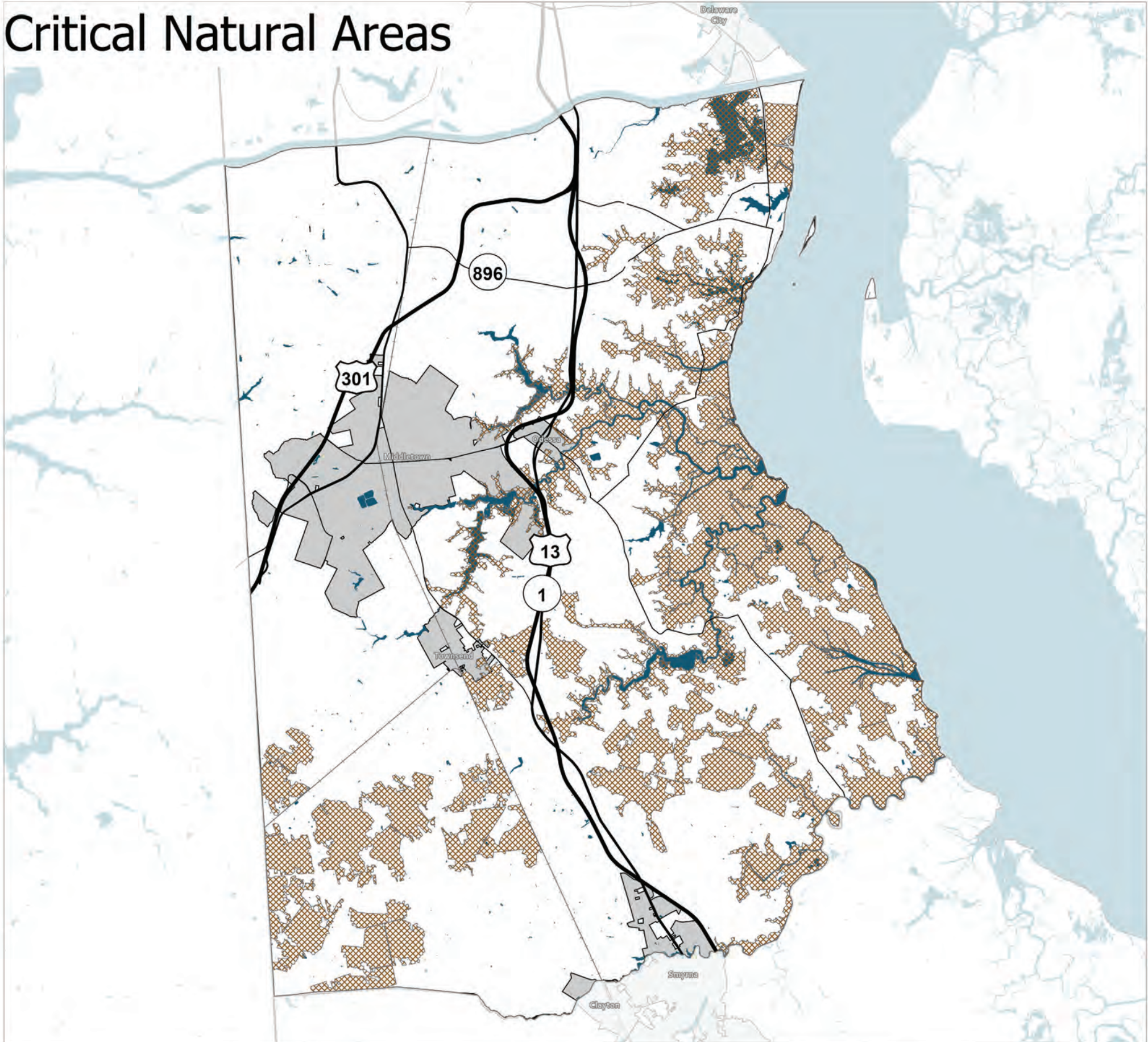
Water Resource Protection Areas



Forested Areas



Critical Natural Areas



Consolidated Natural Resource Areas

