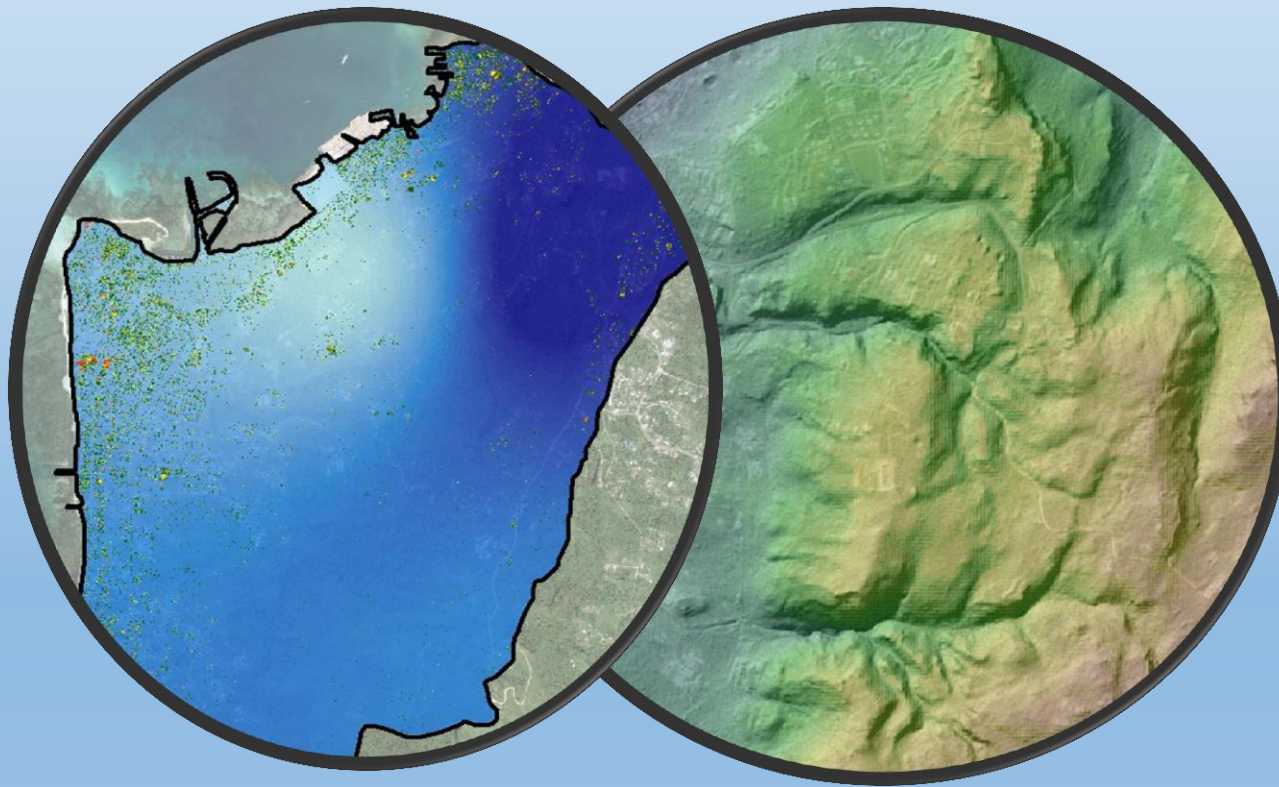


GIS Application of the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation

(Fun With Watershed Data!)



Robbie Greene – “GIS Guy”, CNMI Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality



CNMI Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality

www.becq.gov.mp

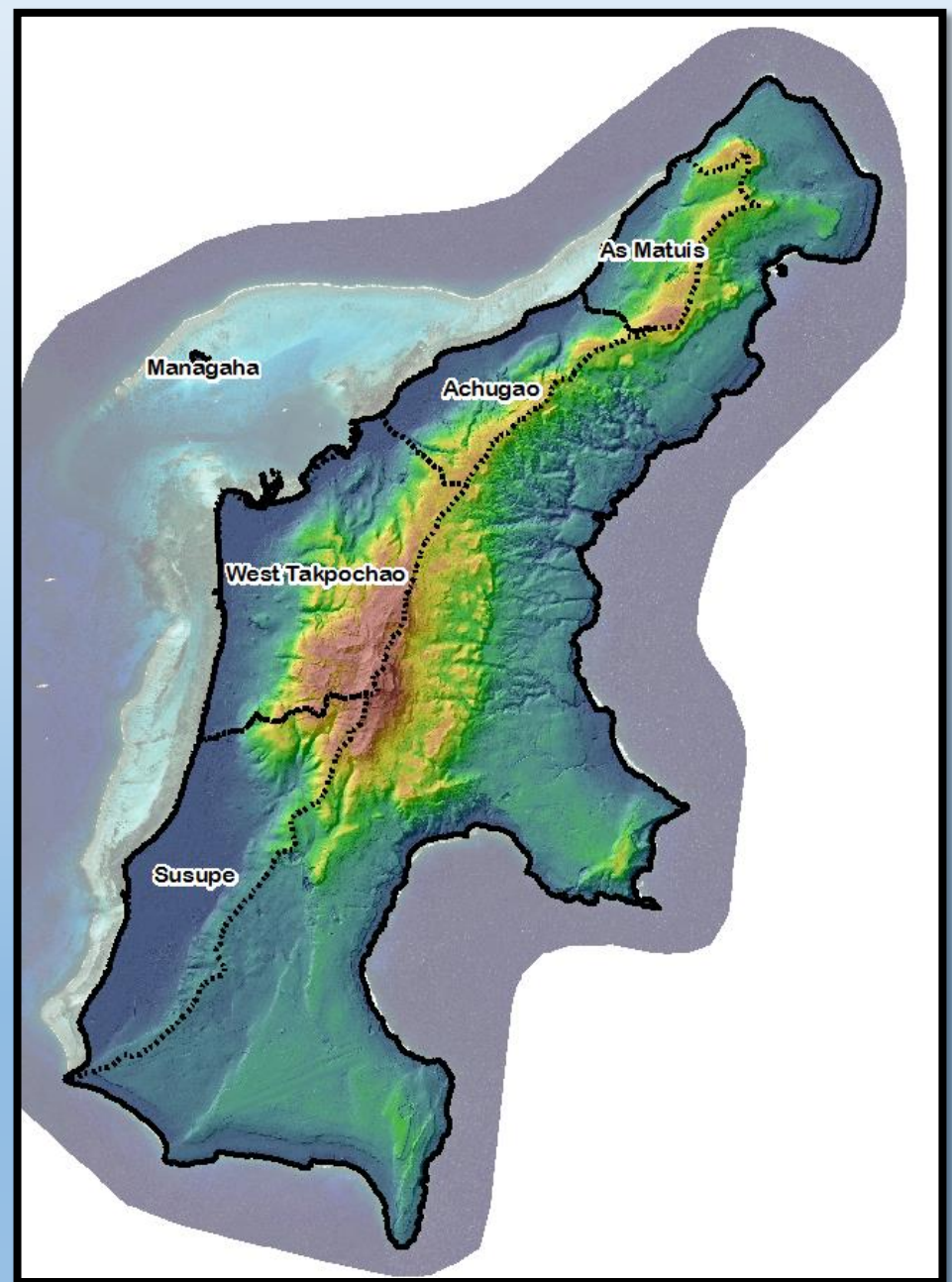
Pay Attention!

- A quick & dirty assessment of potential runoff
- How can we get a bit more sophisticated with our data?
- Why all the analysis?

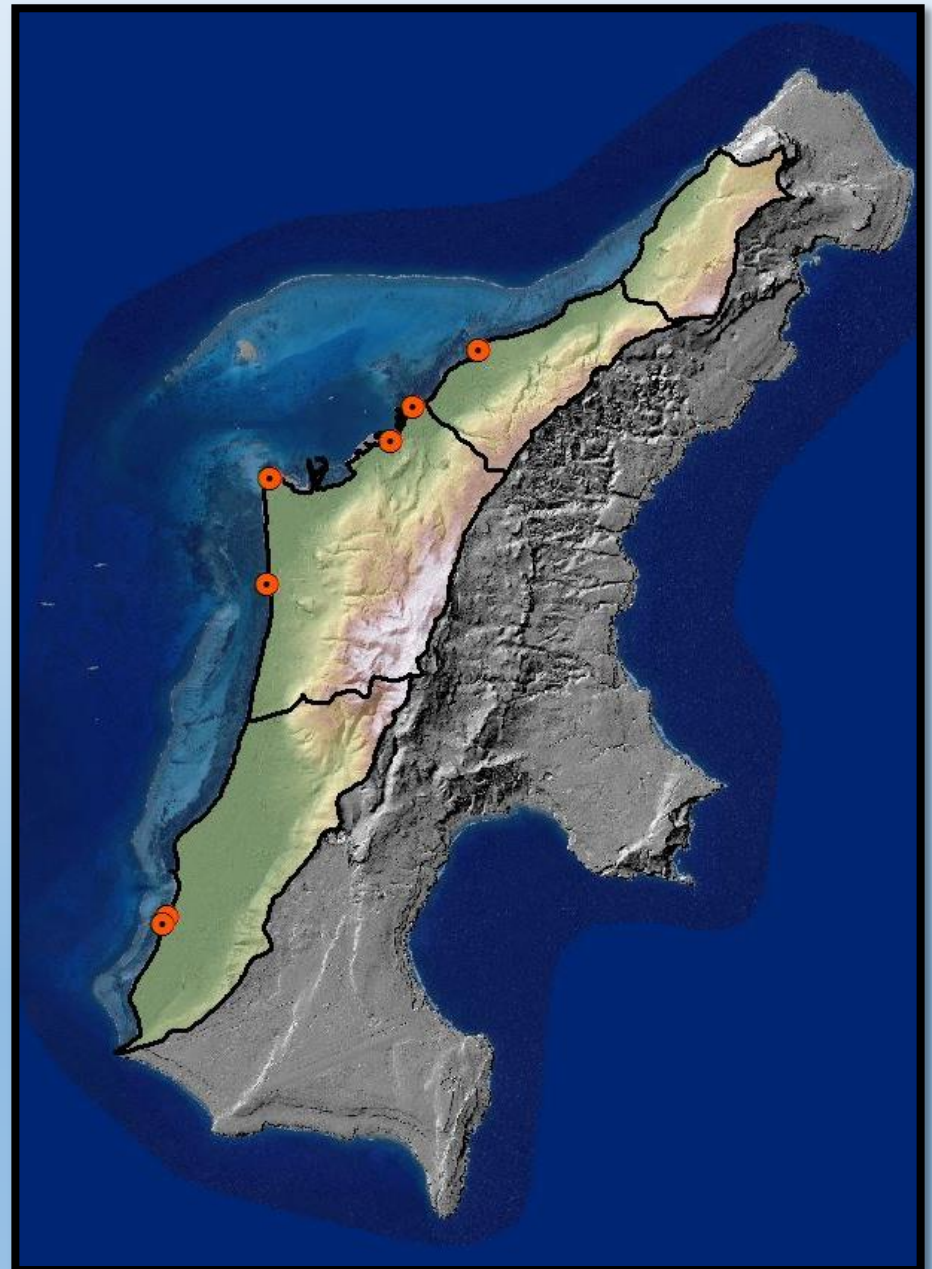
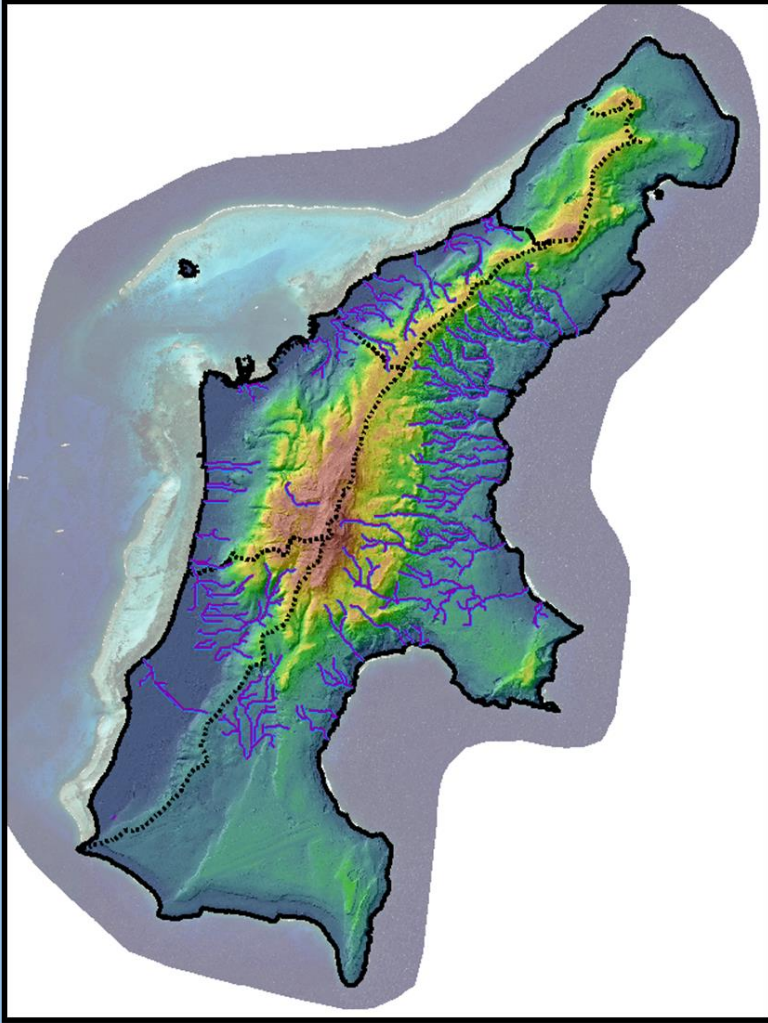


Priority Watersheds & Density of Development

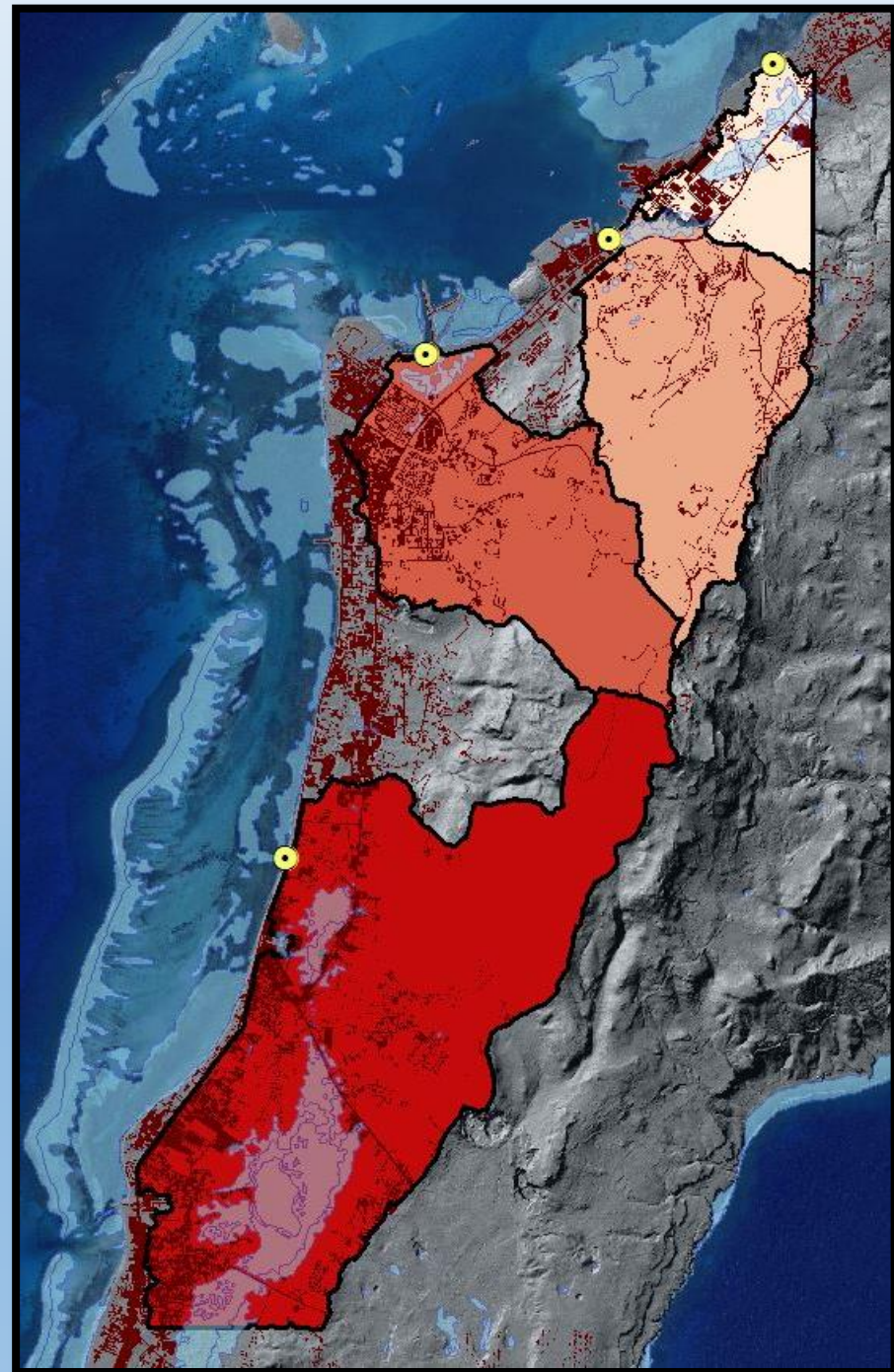
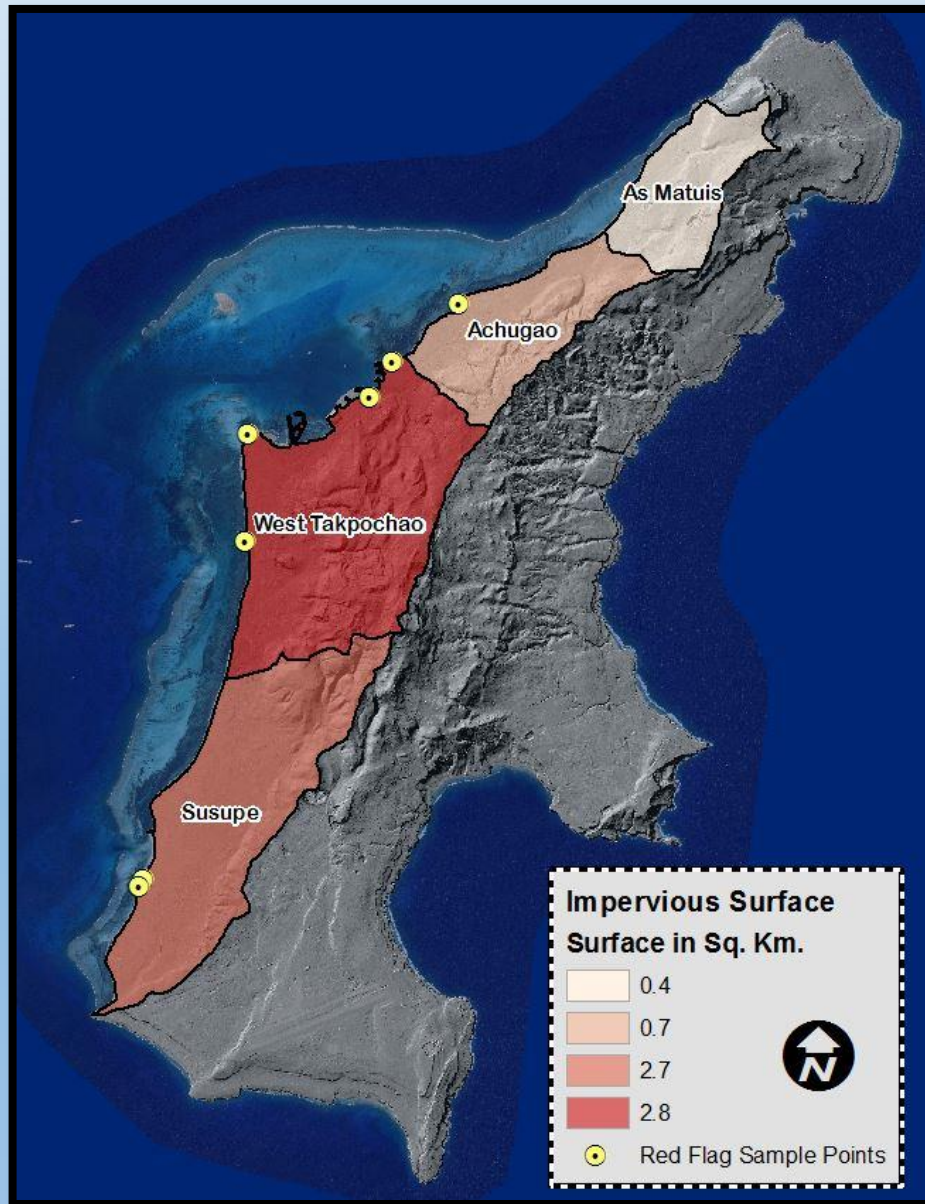
- We see nasty stuff headed into our waters, and we know it comes from a large area.
- Landcover data is our best proxy for large-scale pollutant loading
- 2007 U.S. Army Corps Elevation Data enables modelling!



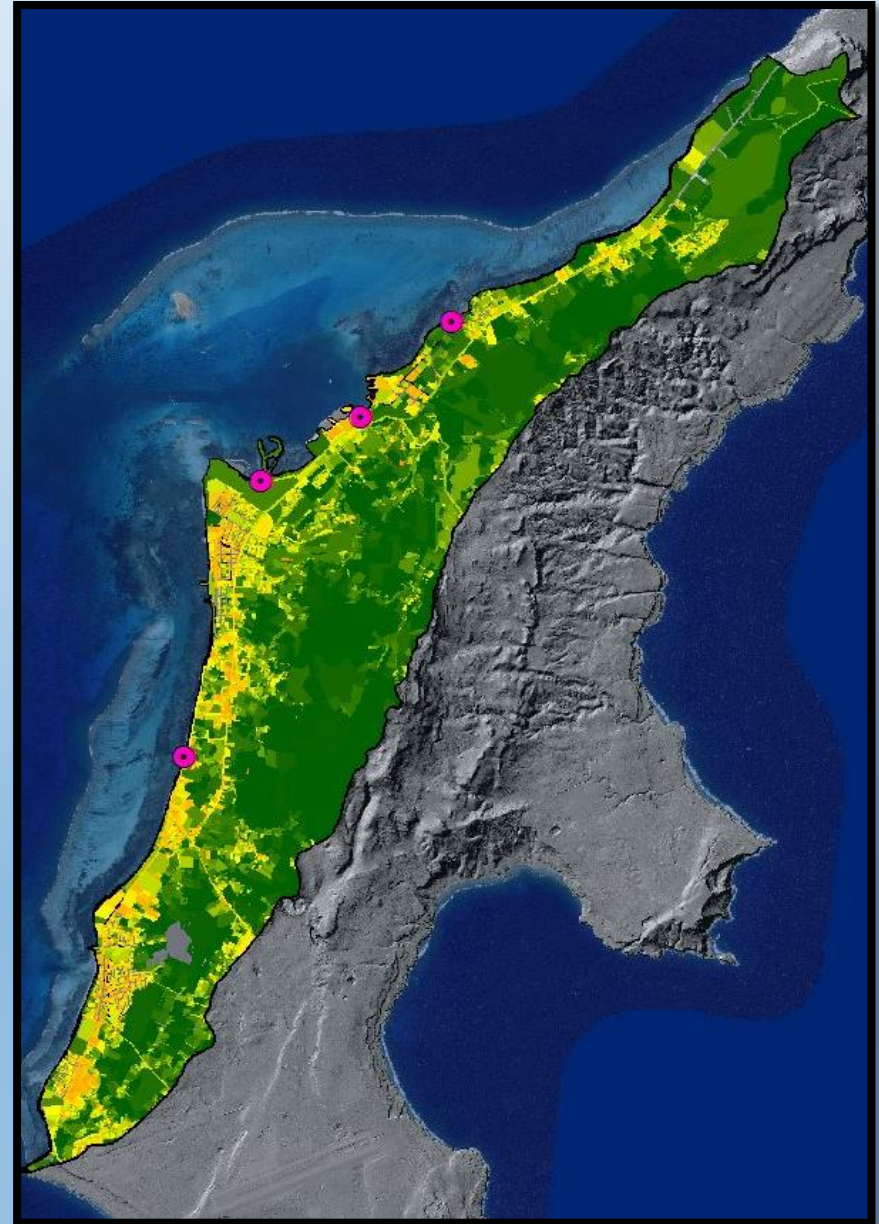
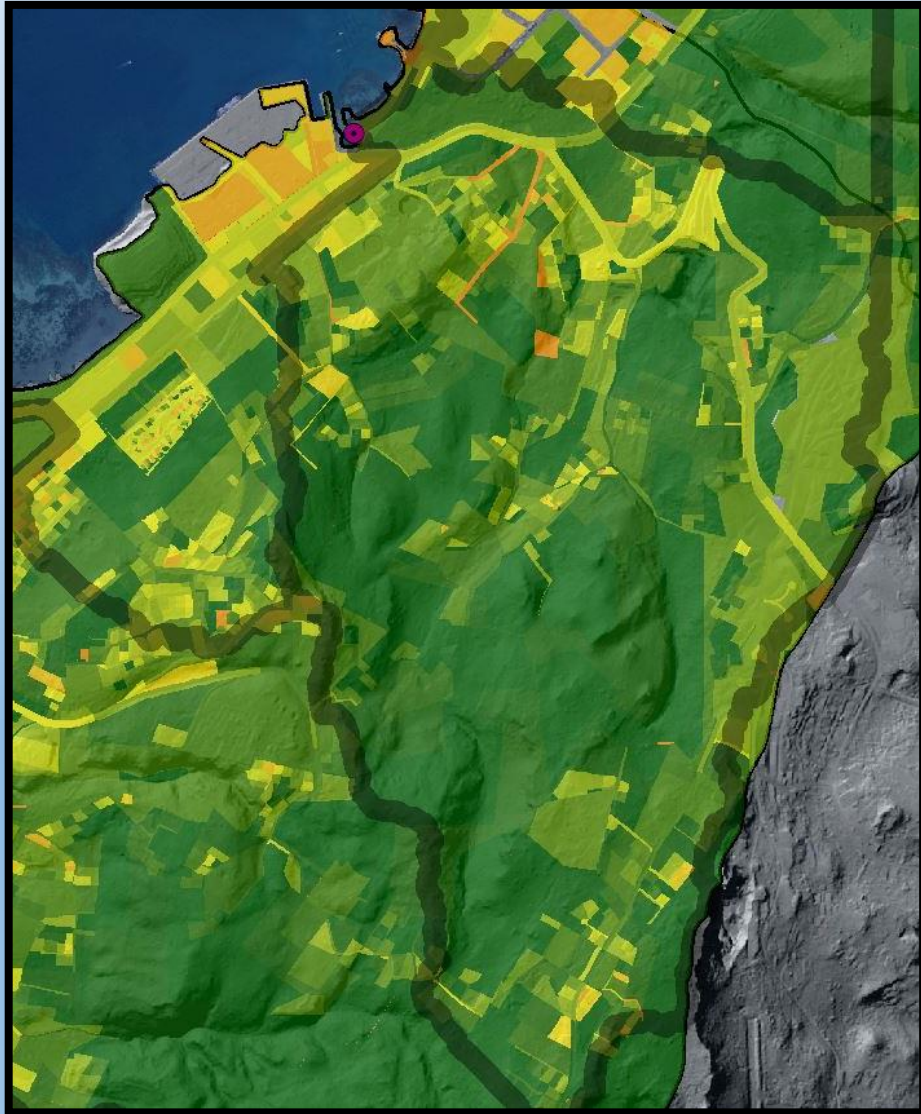
Surface Hydrology & Critical Outflow Points



Impervious Surface Within (sub)water sheds



Targeting Run-Off at The Parcel Scale



RUSLE:

Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation

$$A = R \cdot K \cdot L \cdot S \cdot C \cdot P$$

[1-2]

where

A = computed spatial average soil loss and temporal average soil loss per unit of area, expressed in the units selected for K and for the period selected for R. In practice, these are usually selected so that A is expressed in $\text{ton} \cdot \text{acre}^{-1} \cdot \text{yr}^{-1}$, but other units can be selected (that is, $\text{t} \cdot \text{ha}^{-1} \cdot \text{yr}^{-1}$).

R = rainfall-runoff erosivity factor—the rainfall erosion index plus a factor for any significant runoff from snowmelt.

K = soil erodibility factor—the soil-loss rate per erosion index unit for a specified soil as measured on a standard plot, which is defined as a 72.6-ft (22.1-m) length of uniform 9% slope in continuous clean-tilled fallow.

L = slope length factor—the ratio of soil loss from the field slope length to soil loss from a 72.6-ft length under identical conditions.

S = slope steepness factor—the ratio of soil loss from the field slope gradient to soil loss from a 9% slope under otherwise identical conditions.

C = cover-management factor—the ratio of soil loss from an area with specified cover and management to soil loss from an identical area in tilled continuous fallow.

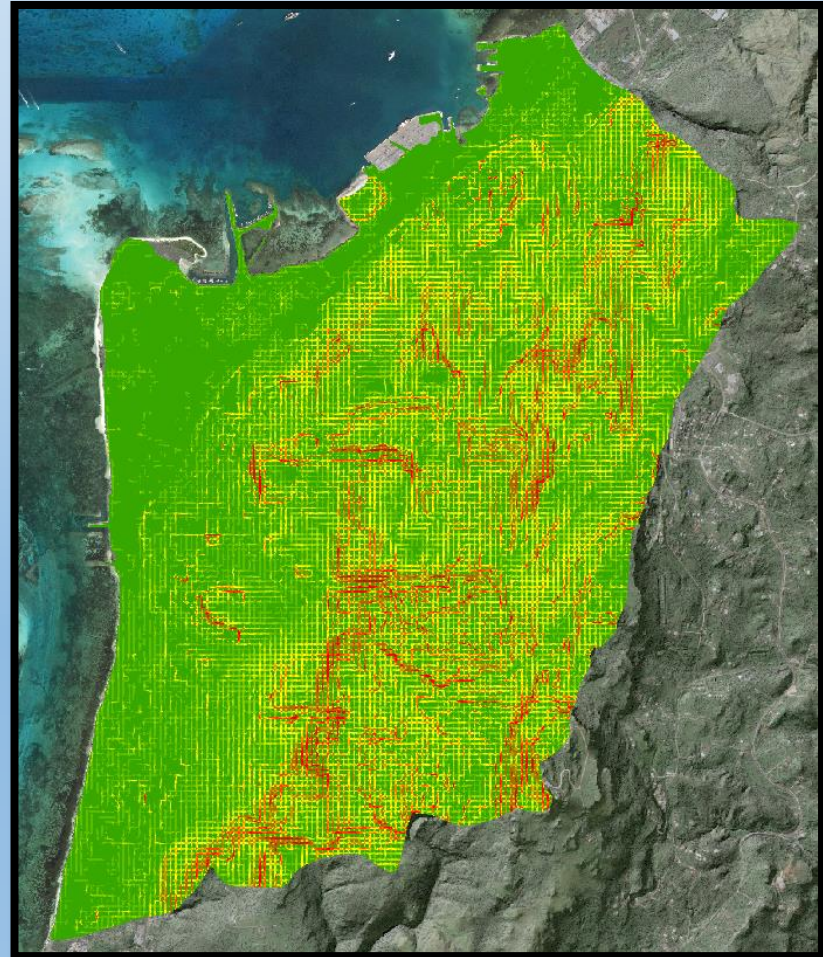
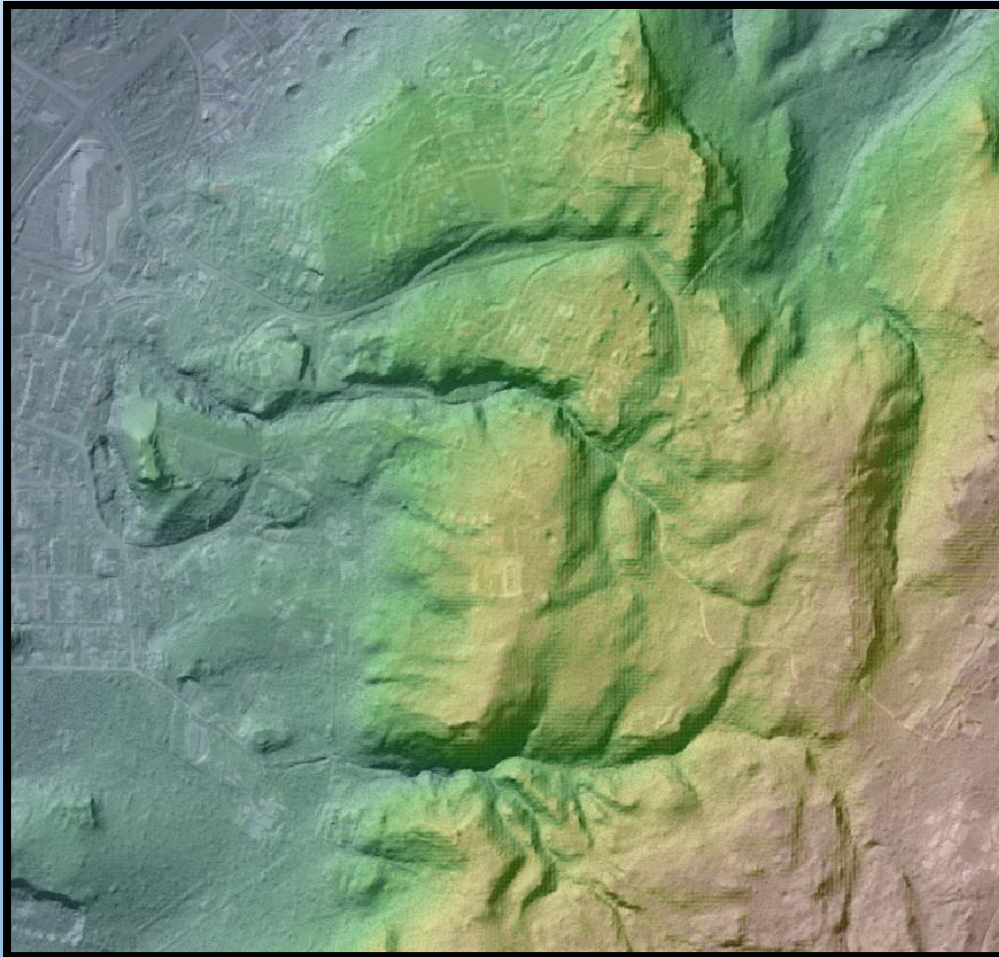
P = support practice factor—the ratio of soil loss with a support practice like contouring, stripcropping, or terracing to soil loss with straight-row farming up and down the slope.

RUSLE is an erosion model designed to predict the longtime average annual soil loss (A) carried by runoff from specific field slopes in specified cropping

USDA-NRCS, 2004.

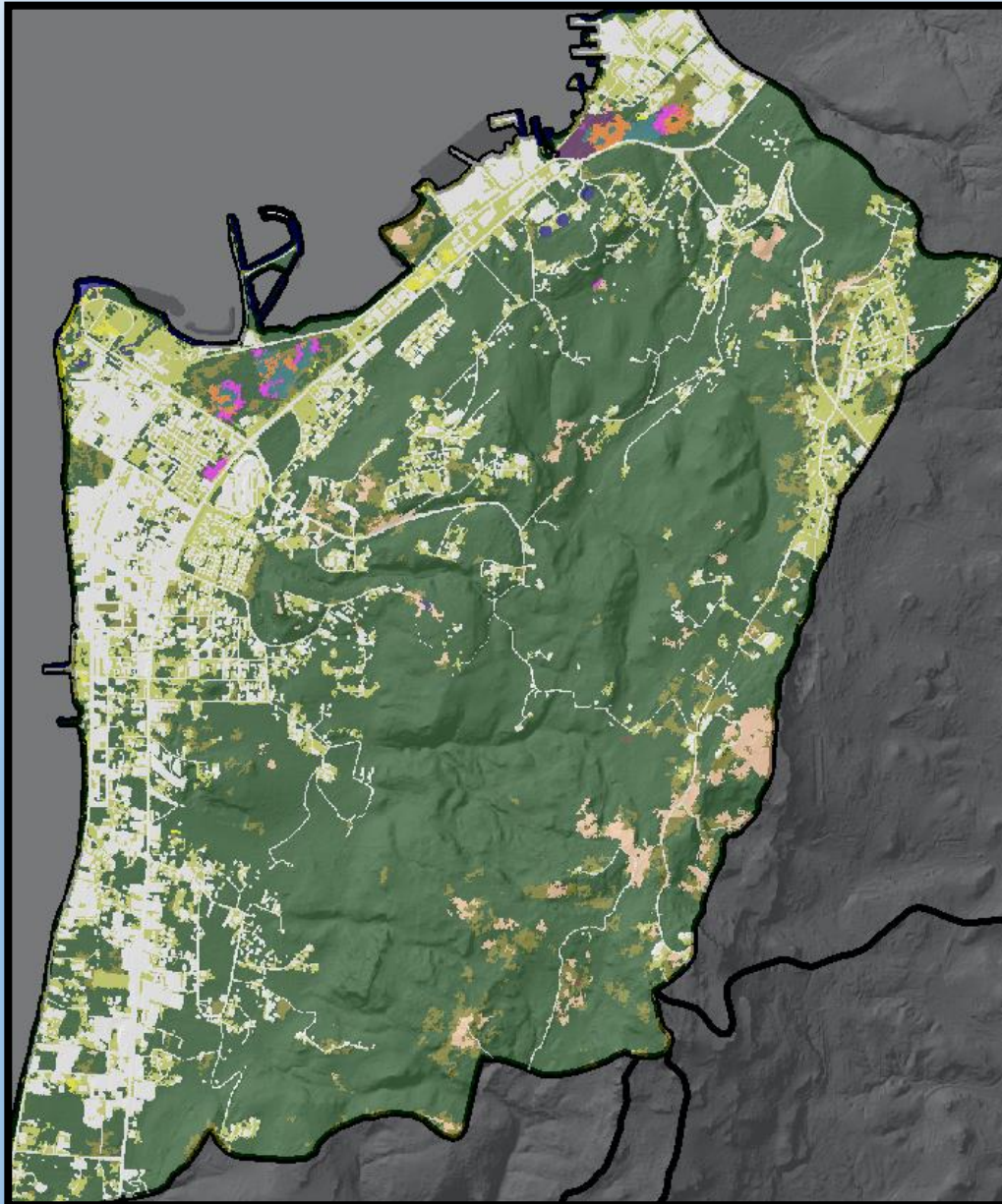
L = slope length factor—the ratio of soil loss from the field slope length to soil loss from a 72.6-ft length under identical conditions.

S = slope steepness factor—the ratio of soil loss from the field slope gradient to soil loss from a 9% slope under otherwise identical



conditions

C = cover-management factor—the ratio of soil loss from an area with specified cover and management to soil loss from an identical area



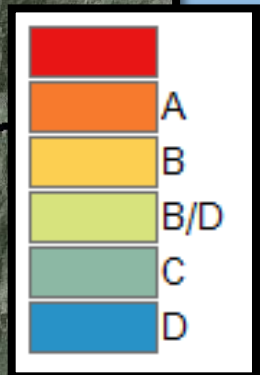
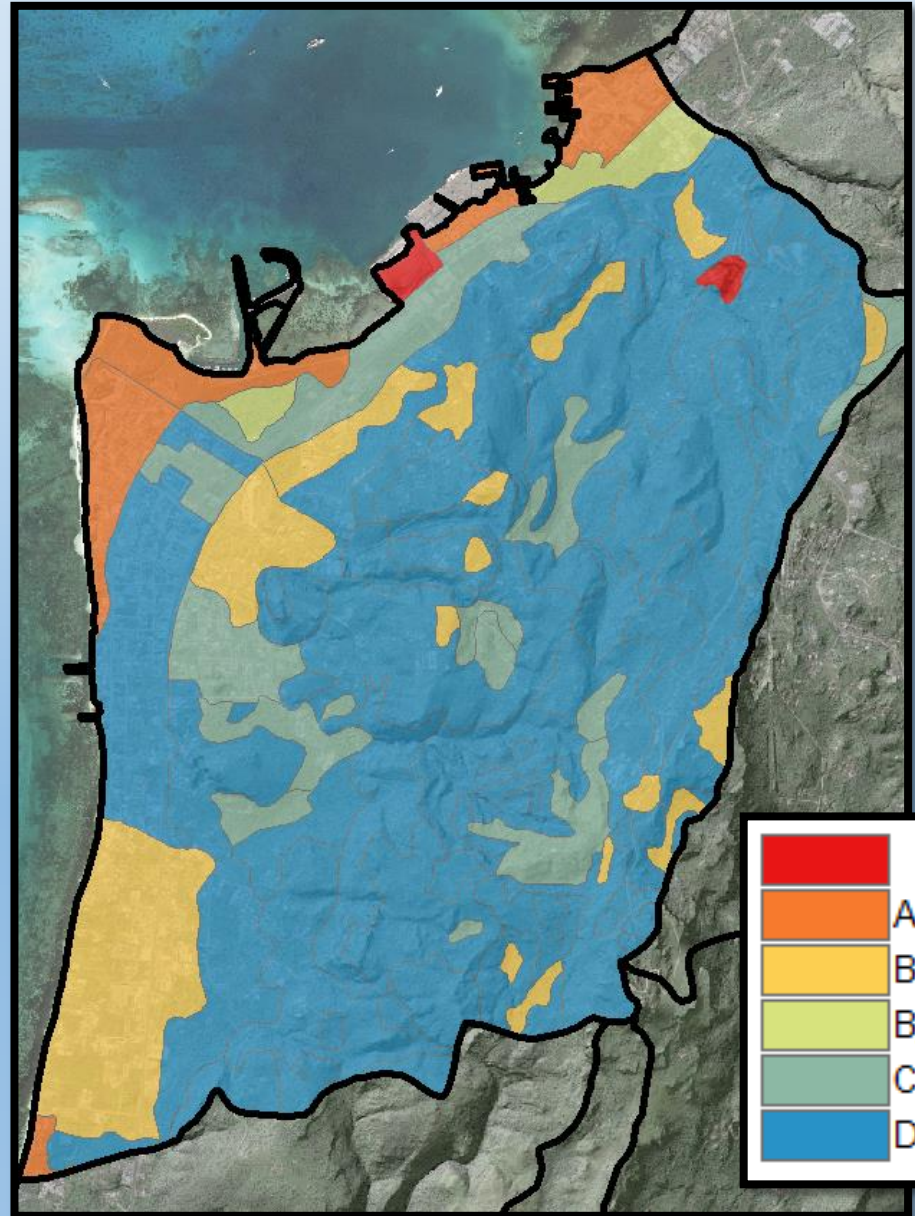
Name	Cover-Factor
Background	0.000
No Data	0.000
High Intensity Developed	0.000
Medium Intensity Developed	0.010
Low Intensity Developed	0.030
Developed Open Space	0.005
Cultivated Land	0.240
Pasture/Hay	0.050
Grassland	0.120
Deciduous Forest	0.009
Evergreen Forest	0.004
Mixed Forest	0.007
Scrub/Shrub	0.014
Palustrine Forested Wetland	0.003
Palustrine Scrub/Shrub W...	0.003
Palustrine Emergent Wetland	0.003
Estuarine Forested Wetland	0.003
Estuarine Scrub/Shrub We...	0.003

NSPECT Coefficients by C-CAP Class

factor for any significant runoff from snowmelt.

K = soil erodibility factor—the soil-loss rate per erosion index unit

specified soil as measured on a standard plot which is defined



R = rainfall-runoff erosivity factor—the rainfall erosion index

Adapted R-Factor Revision based on Reinard & Friemund (1994) Correlation:

(This is basically doing what WERI did to adapt Cooley's study to FSM, but Adapting WERI/Dumaliang's revised values to Saipan)

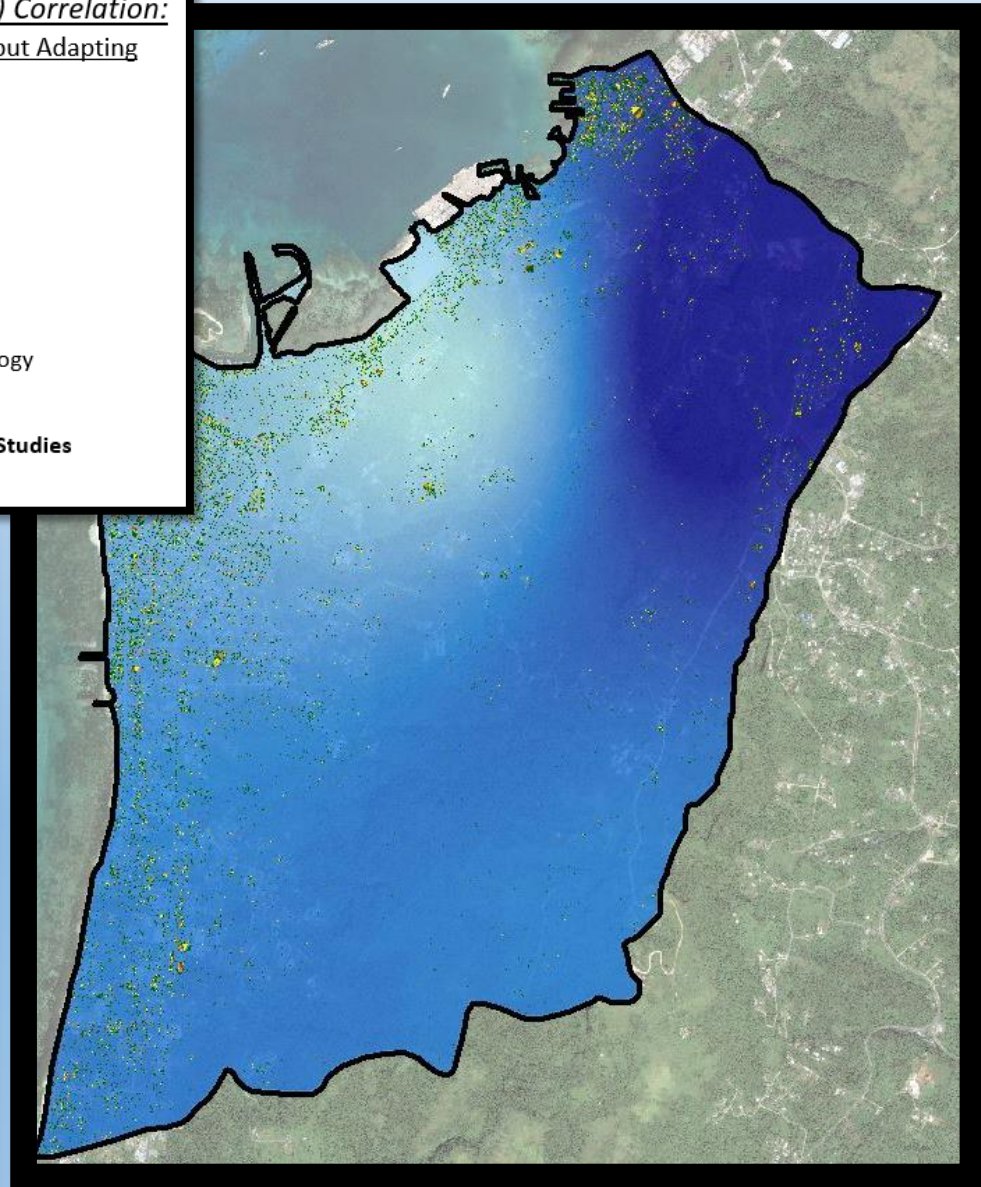
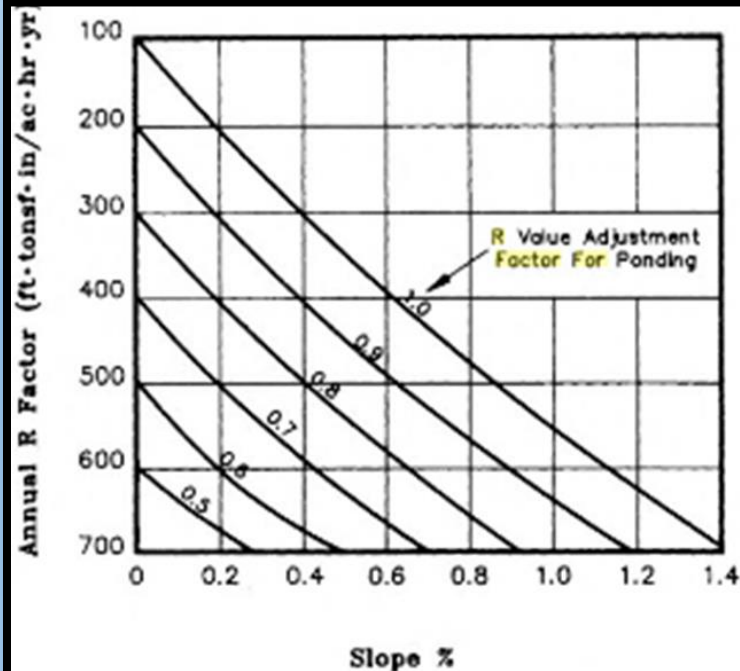
$$R_n = R_{known} \times (P_n / P_{known})$$

For Saipan Rn (or Revised R factor)

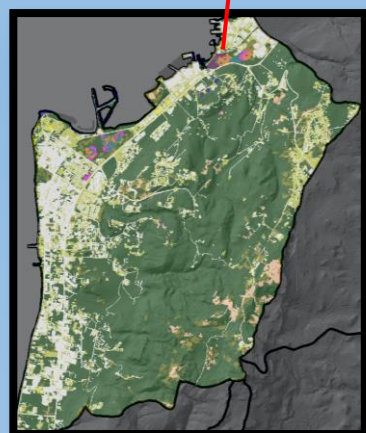
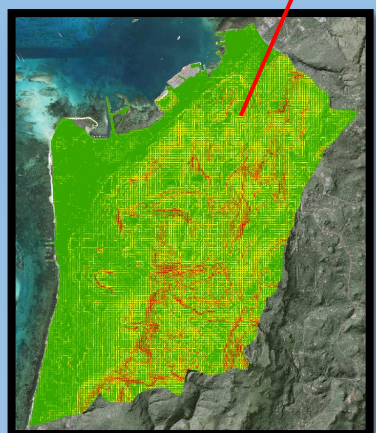
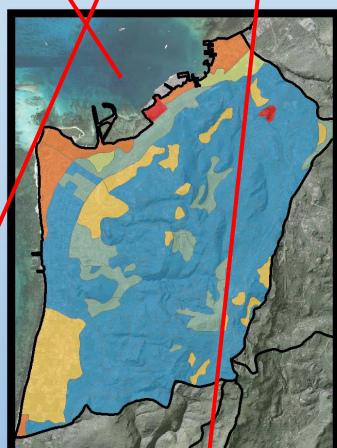
Where **Rknown** = is the Rn for Guam based on Dumaliang (1998) and Khosrowpanah & Heitz (2001)

Pn = new precipitation values based on Lander's Saipan Rainfall Climatology Maps

Pknown = old precipitation values used in Khosrowpanah & Dumaliang Studies (as opposed to the Cooley study, which used Hawaii's)



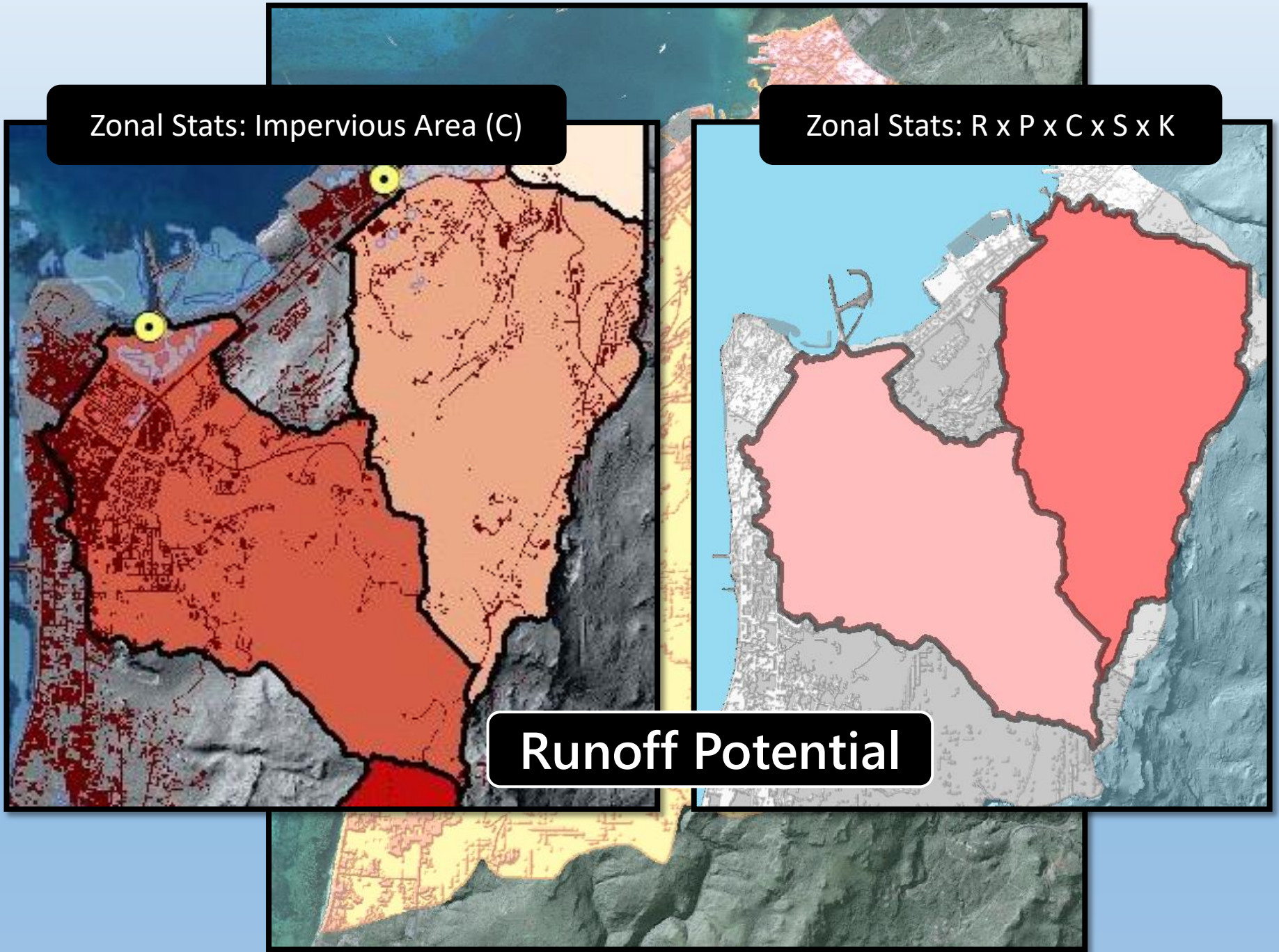
A = R · K · L · S · C · P

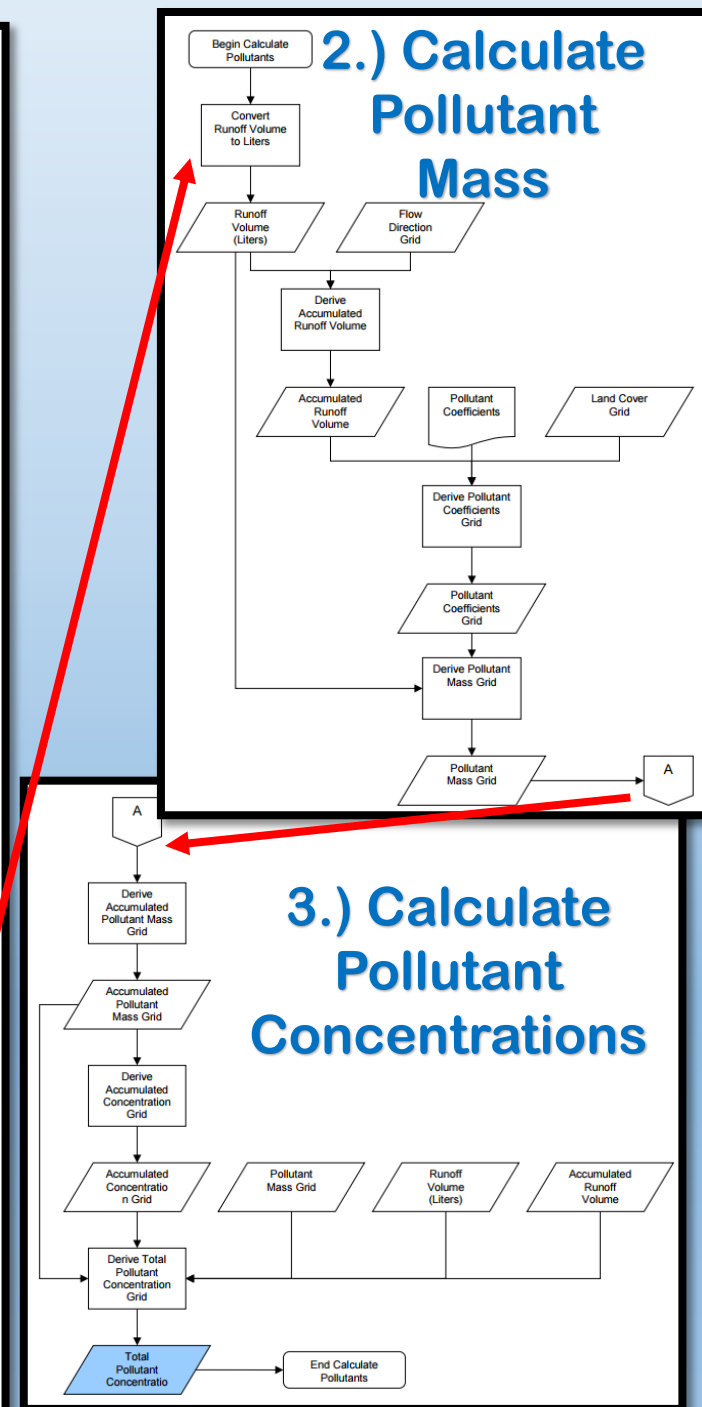
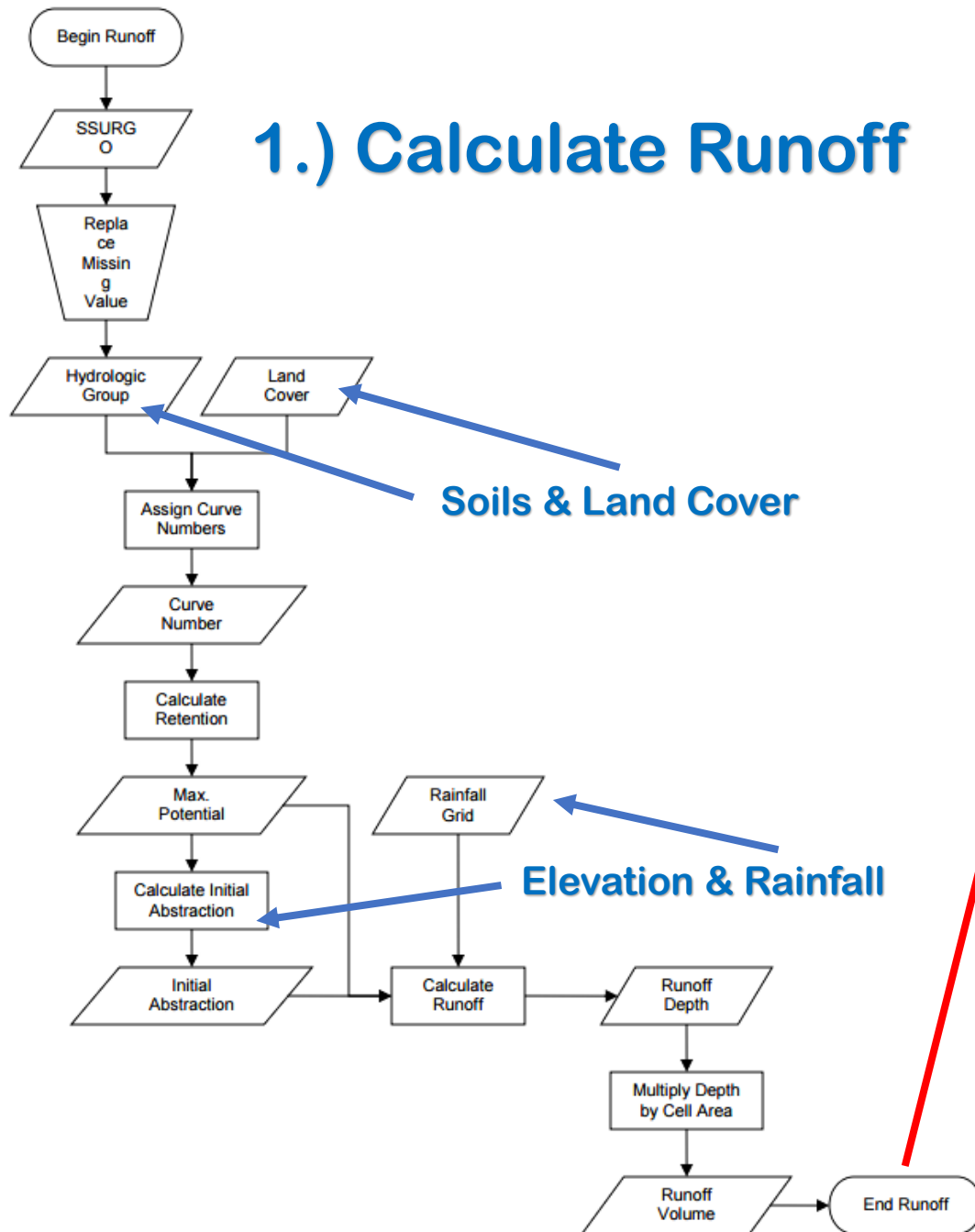


Zonal Stats: Impervious Area (C)

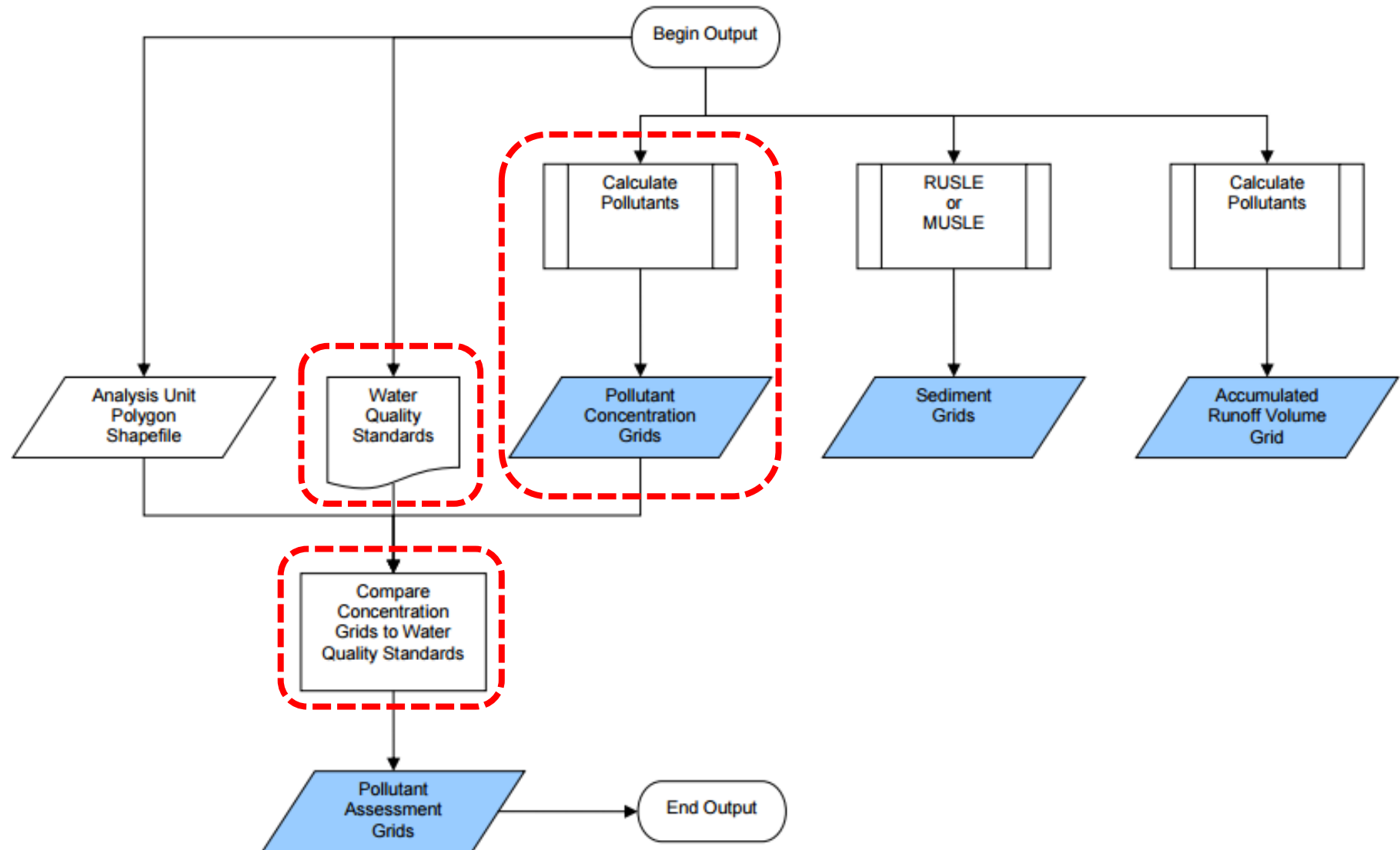
Zonal Stats: $R \times P \times C \times S \times K$

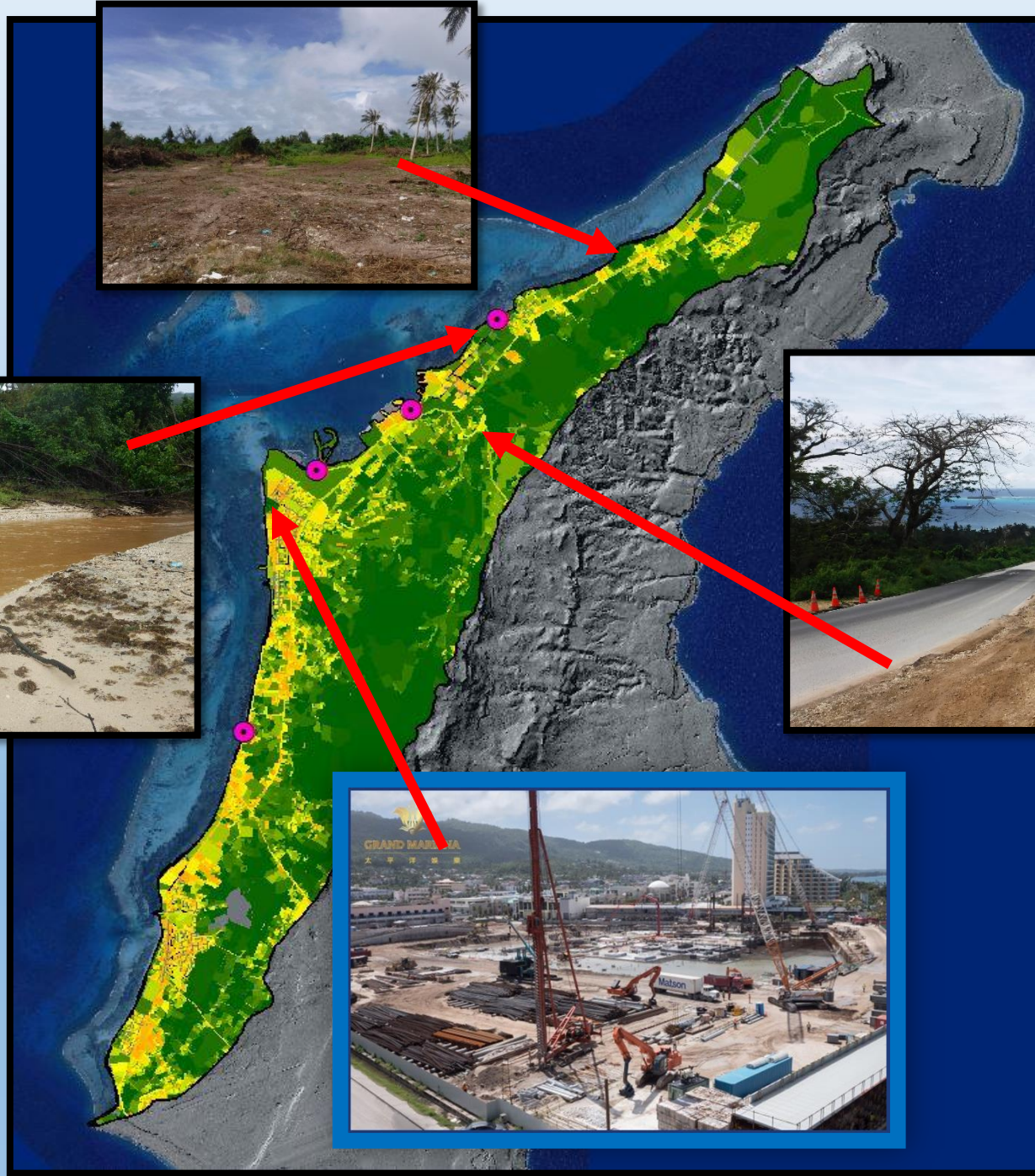
Runoff Potential

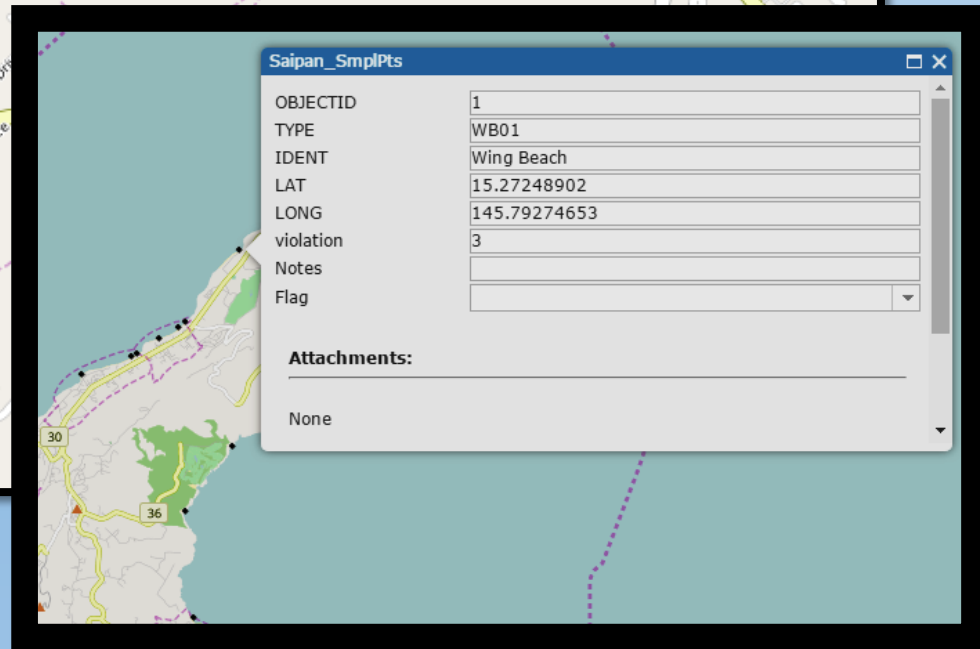
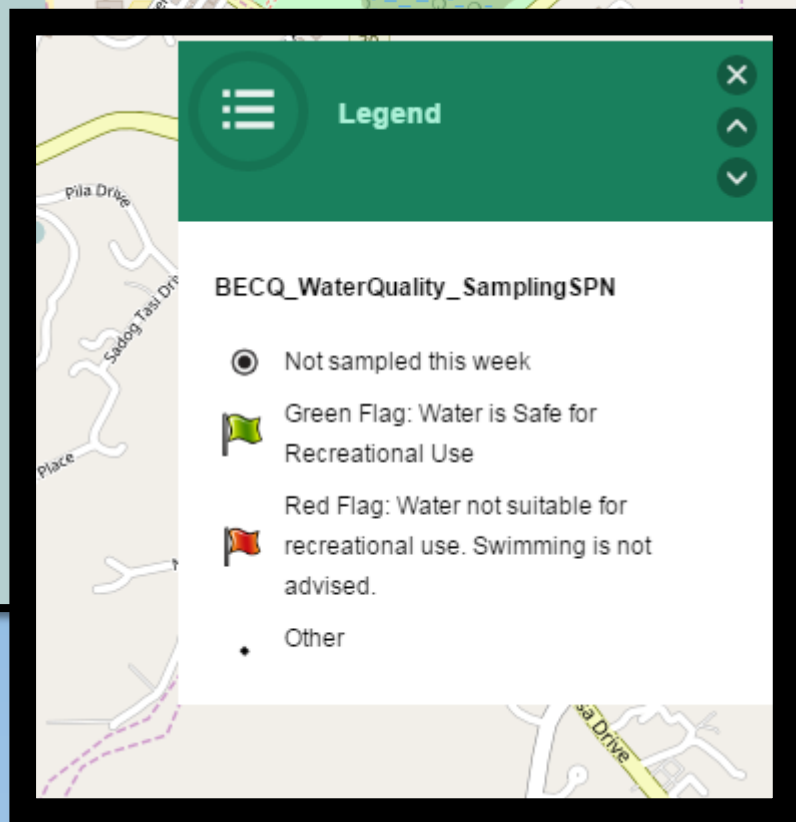
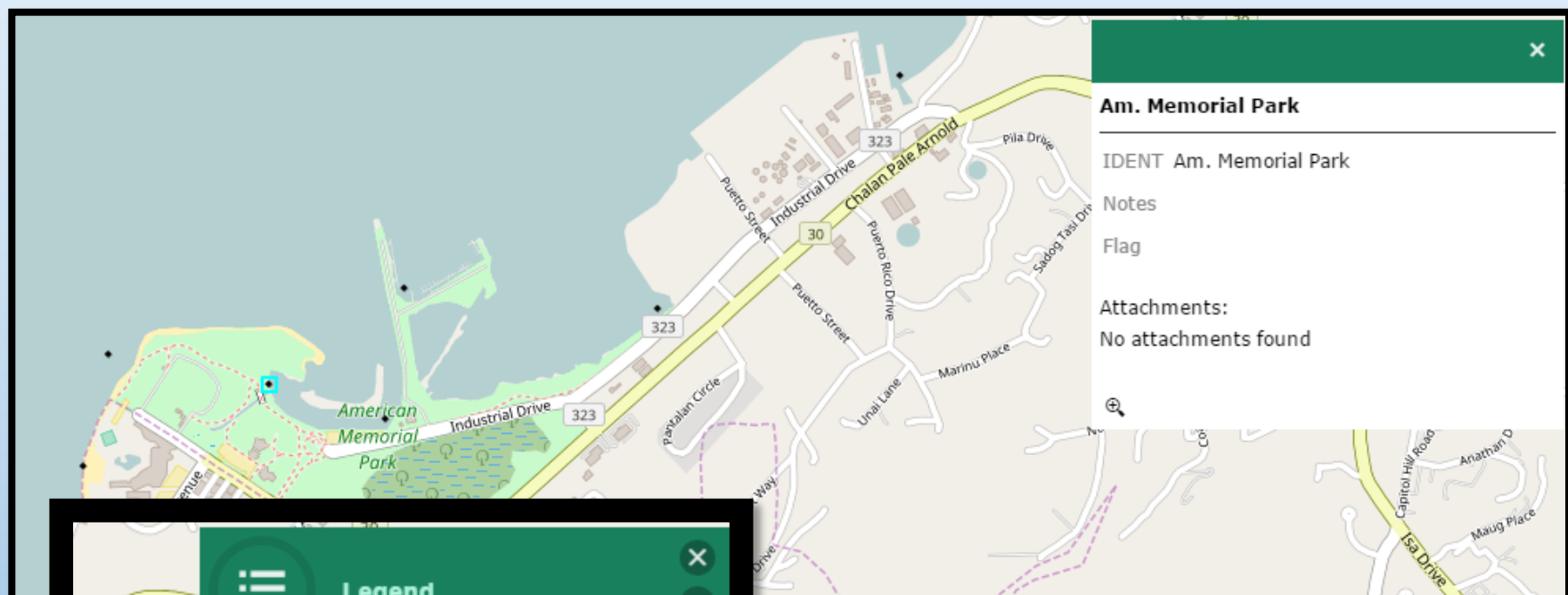




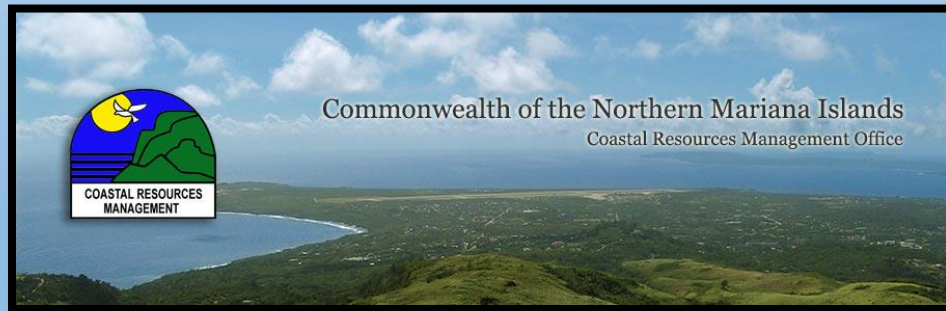
Analysis: Where can *YOU* help?







Questions? Comments? Deep Thoughts?



Robbie Greene – RobbieGreene@becq.gov.mp

