



www.glsweetnam.com



Agricultural Resources in Brooklyn

Holly Drinkuth – September 19, 2010

Agriculture in Brooklyn

- Long, diverse history from pre-settlement to present
- Windham County Seat
- Oldest Agricultural Fair
- Wool, timber, dairy, eggs, nurseries, Christmas trees, bison



Lithograph - U.S. National Archives, image 148-GW-441.

Agriculture in Brooklyn

- Challenges:
 - Transportation
 - Economics
 - Housing



Lithograph - U.S. National Archives, image 148-GW-441.

- However.....

Agriculture in Brooklyn

- Remains a priority of Brooklyn residents today.



Resource Inventory and Open Space Plan

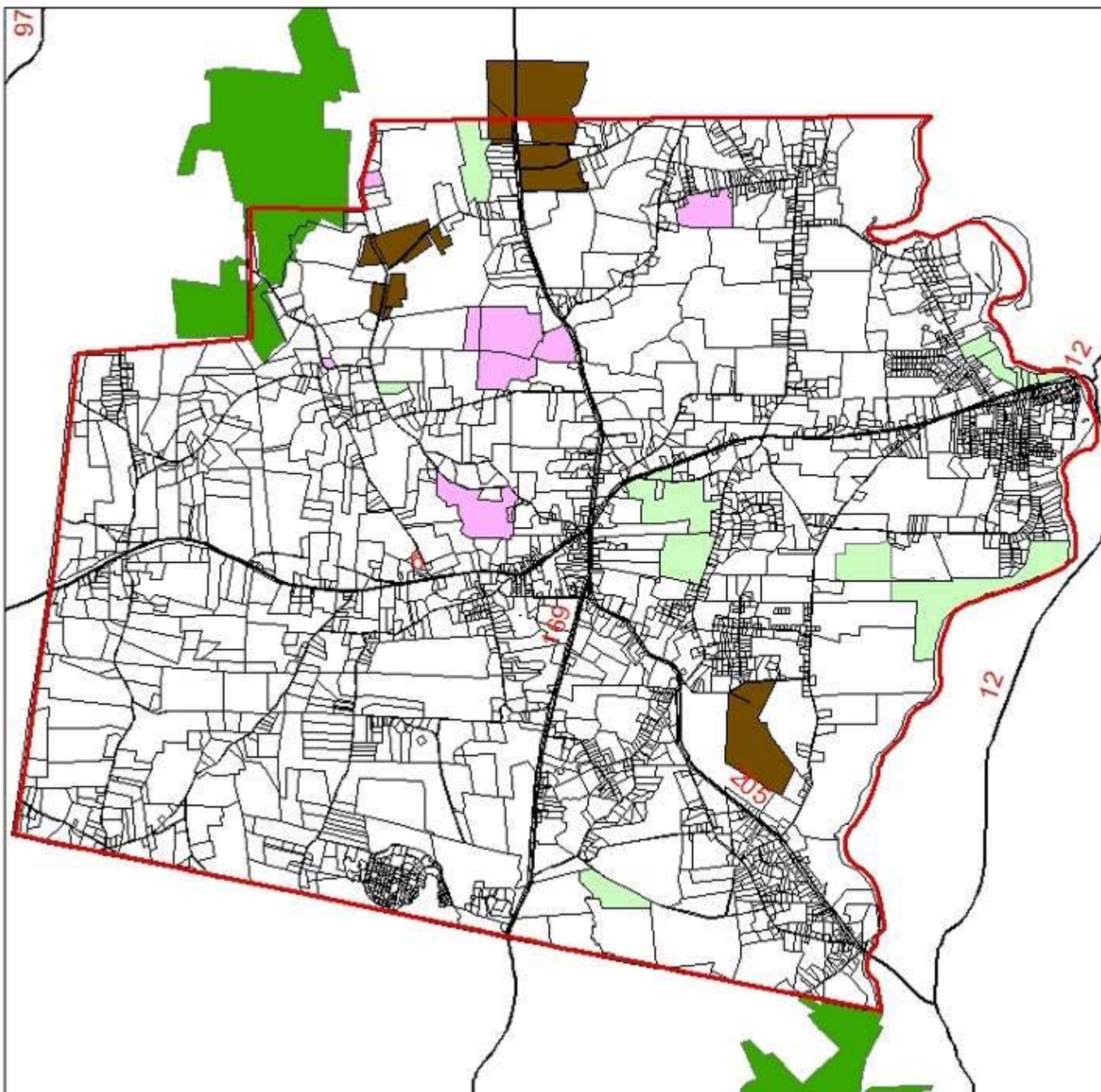
- Maintain an inventory of all public and private undeveloped lands for the purpose of identifying natural, historic and archeological resources
- Conduct research to determine the optimum uses or combination of uses of land within the municipality
- Advise the regulatory land-use commissions on the impact of development to natural, historic and archeological resources

Resource Inventory and Open Space Plan

- Guide growth away from sensitive resources
- Balance development and resource availability
- Maintain cultural values (rural character, agriculture, recreation)

*Town of Brooklyn
Community
Resource Inventory*

Open Space

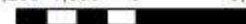


Ownership/Easement Holder

- Municipal
- Private
- Permanently Protected Farm (PDR Program)
- State Owned Open Space



3,200 1,600 0 3,200 Feet



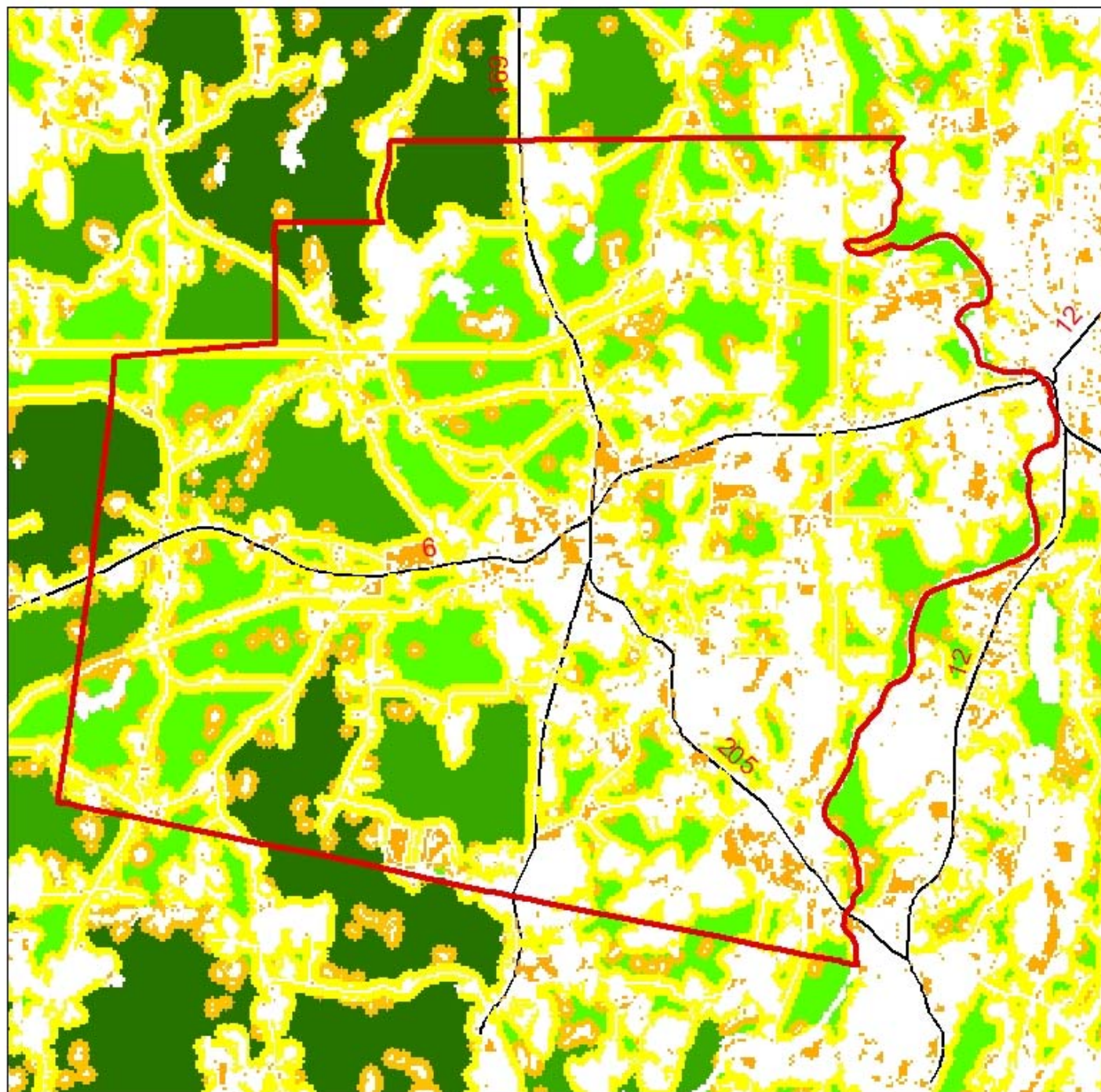
*Town of Brooklyn
Community
Resource Inventory*

Forest Resources

Legend

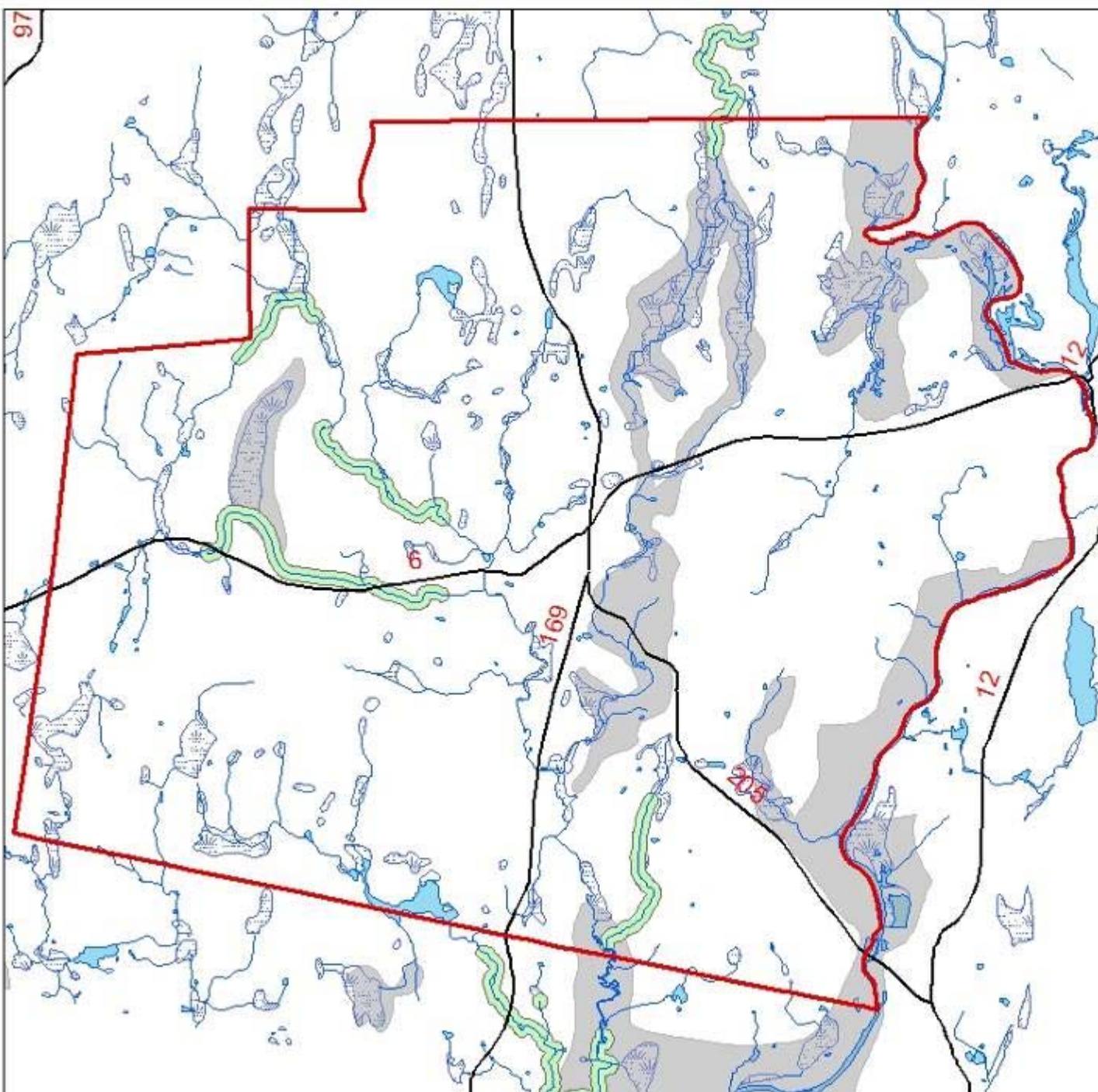
Forest Classification

-  Core Forest (<250 ac)
-  Core Forest (250-500 ac)
-  Core Forest (>500 ac)
-  Edge Forest
-  Patch Forest
-  Perforated Forest



3,000 1,500 0 3,000 Feet





*Town of Brooklyn
Community
Resource Inventory*

*Water and Wetland
Resources*

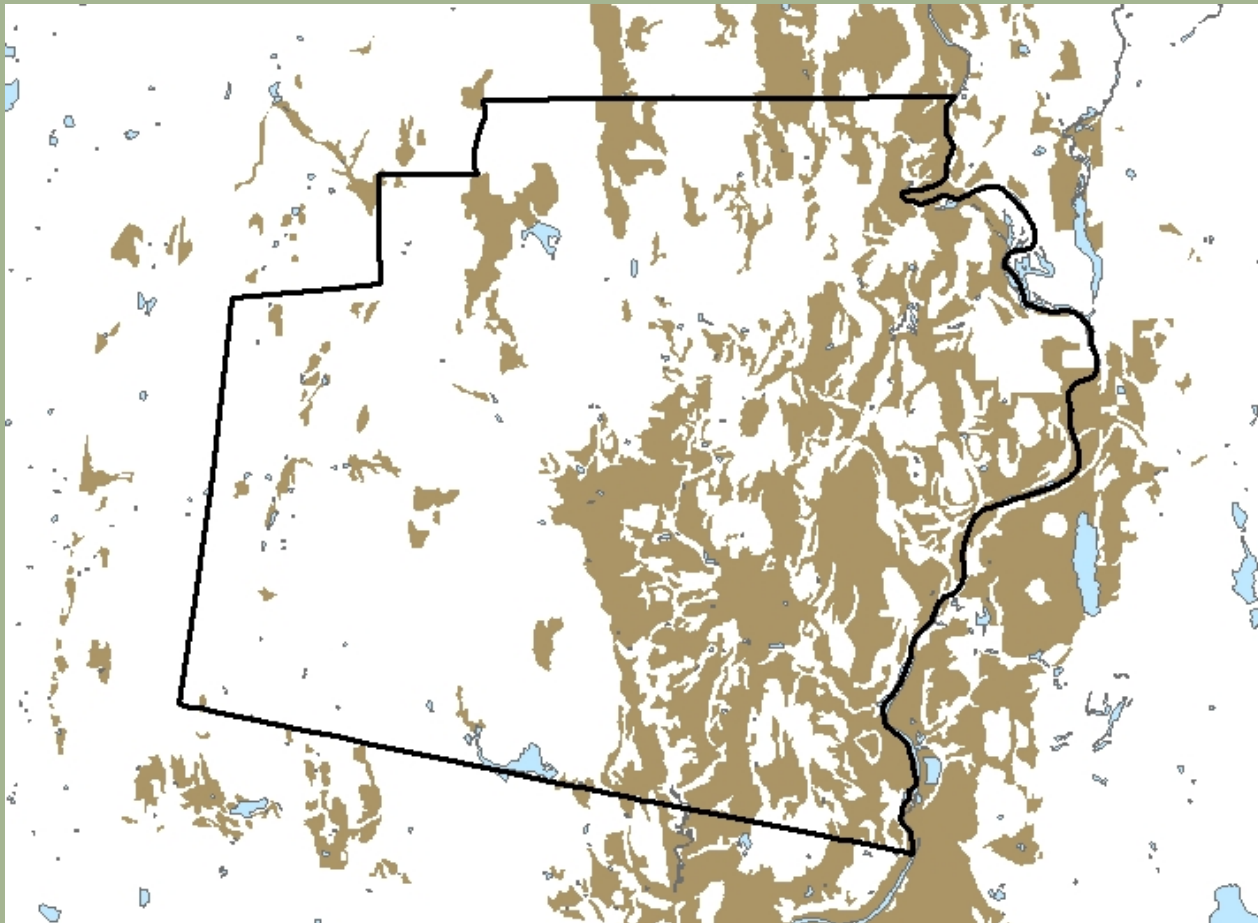
Legend

- Streams
- River
- Wild Trout Streams
- Lake or Pond
- Marsh or Swamp
- Significant Wetland Complexes

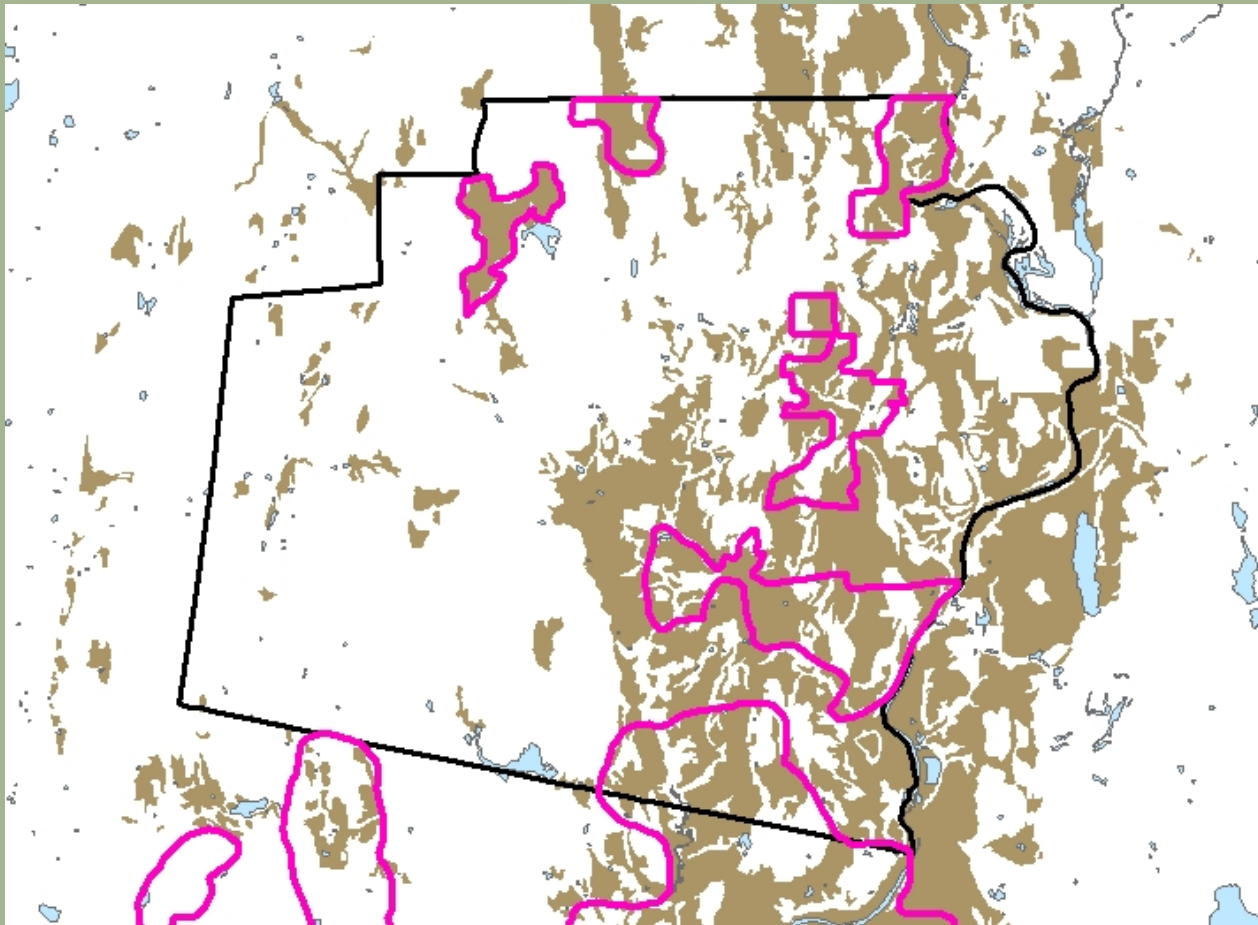


3,200 1,600 0 3,200 Feet

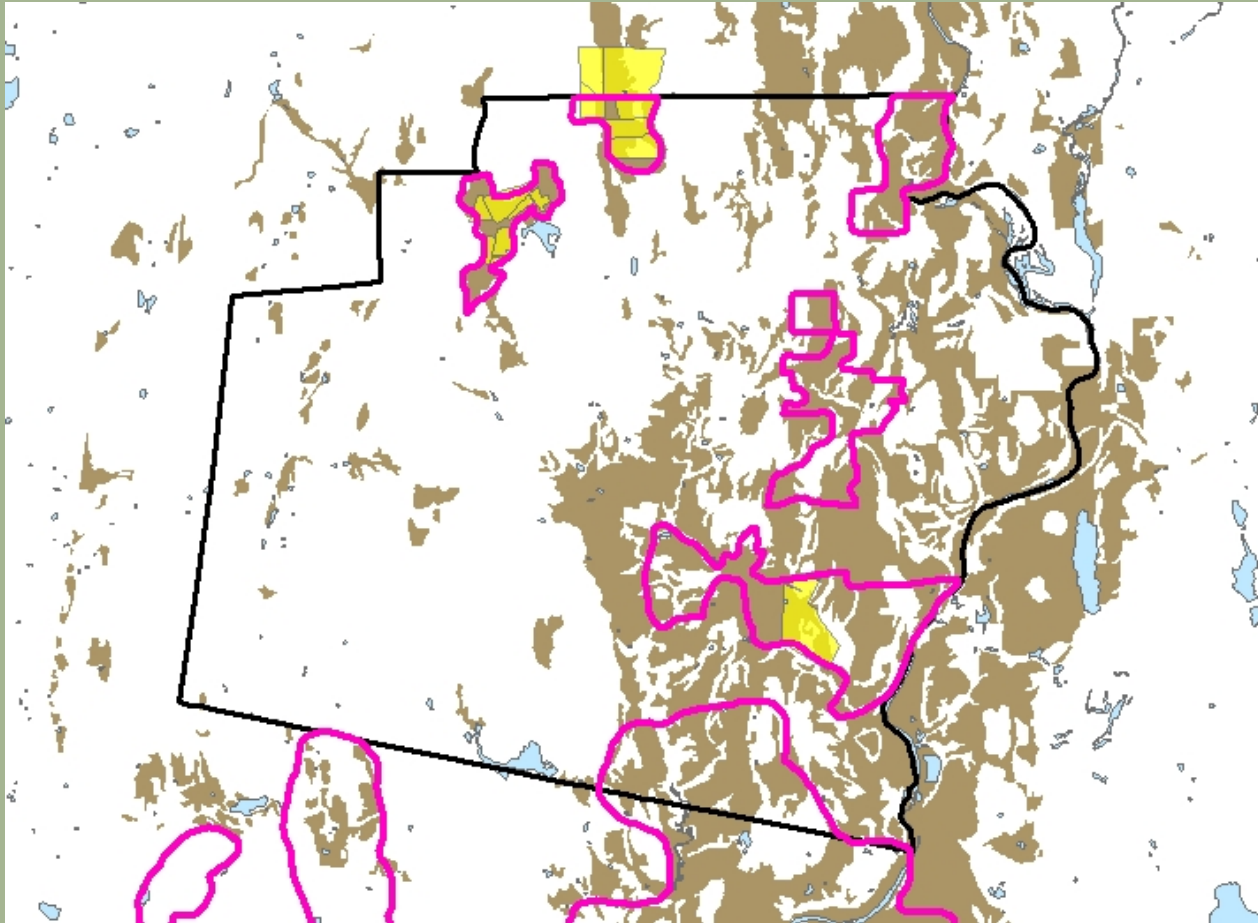
Farmland Soils

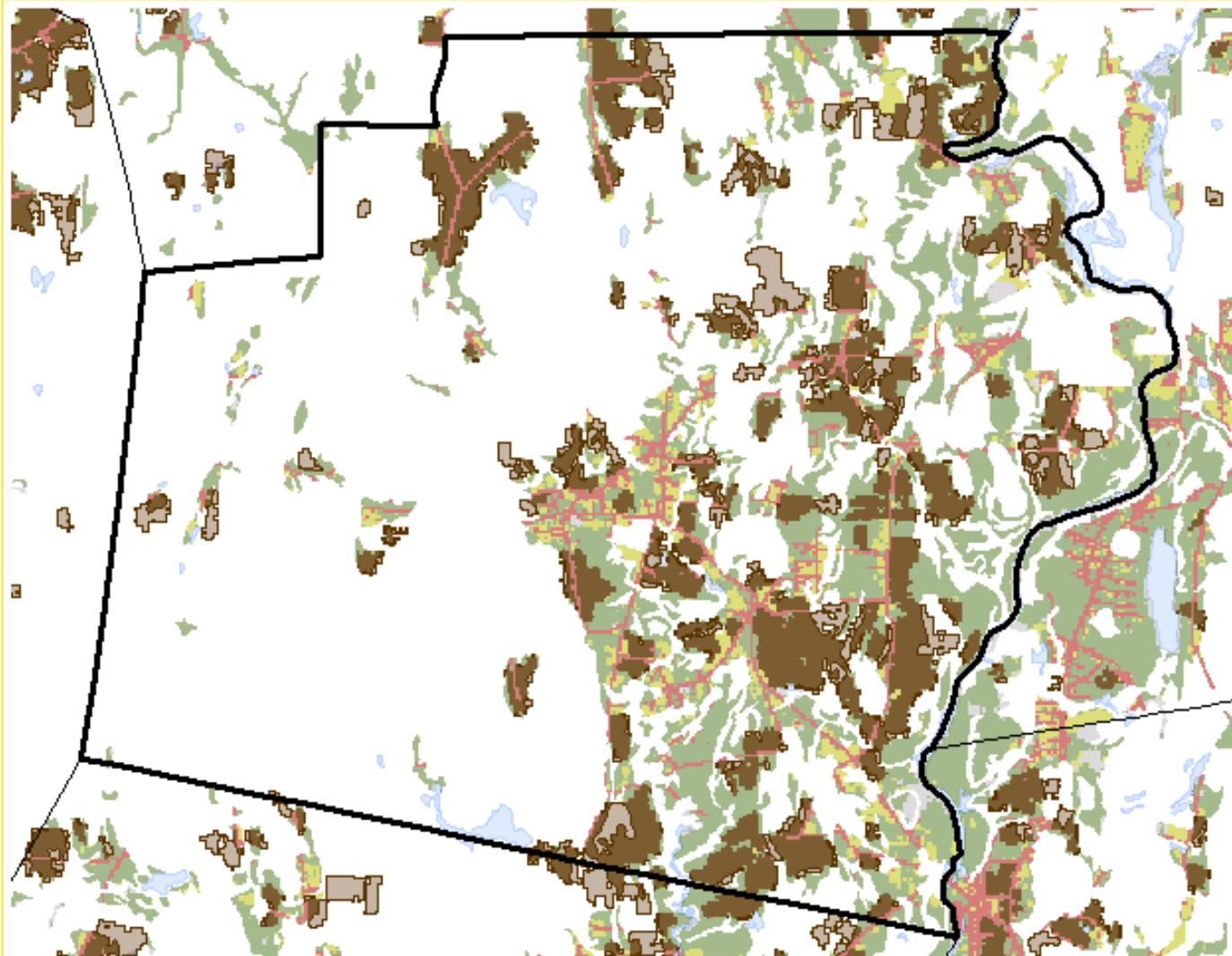


Farmland Soils and Active Ag Clusters



Farmland Soils, Active Ag Clusters and Permanently Protected Farms





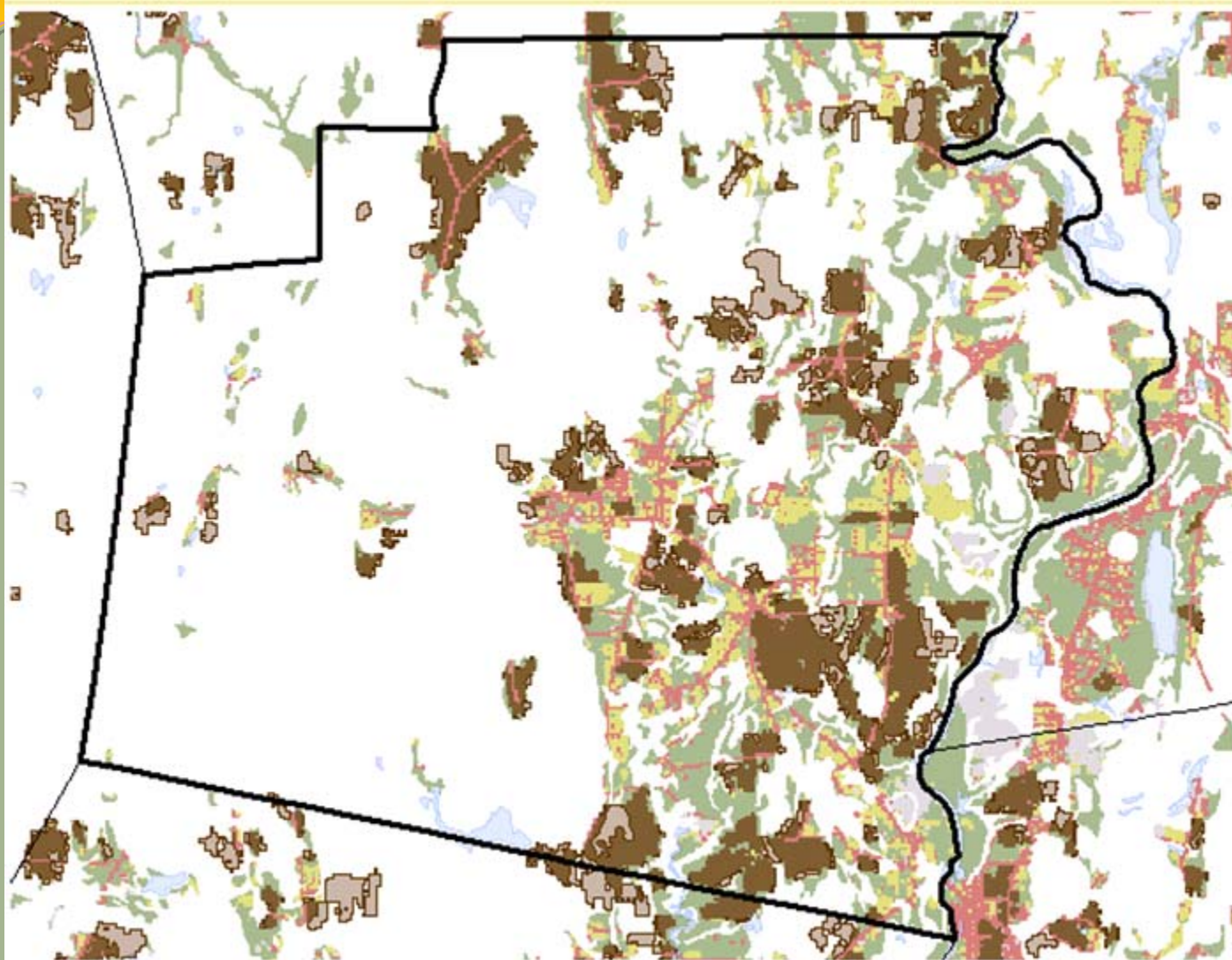
Ag Soils with 1985 Land Cover

[Printable PDF](#)

- Developed over Ag Soils
- Turf & Grass over Ag Soils
- Forest* over Ag Soils
- Ag Field over Ag Soils
- Other Land Cover** over Ag Soils
- Ag Field ONLY (not Ag Soils)
- Water (from soils data)

Agricultural Soils (shown here) are mapped and defined by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey. The land cover (interpreted from satellite imagery) that occurs over these soils is displayed.

The shapes with an outline (Ag Field Only) were identified as Ag Field on the land cover but are not on top of NRCS agricultural soils.



Ag Soils with 2006 Land Cover

Printable PDF

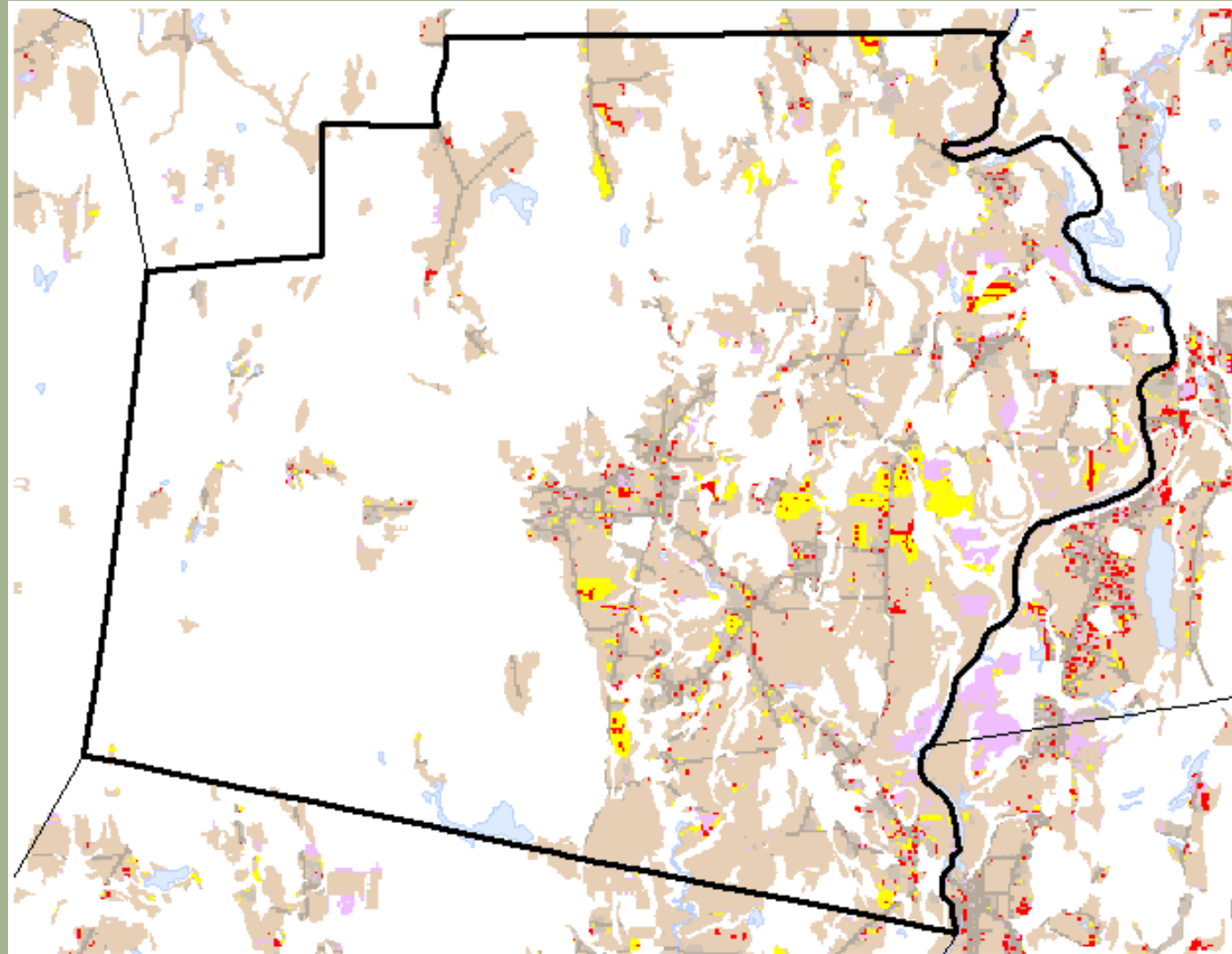
- Developed over Ag Soils
- Turf & Grass over Ag Soils
- Forest* over Ag Soils
- Ag Field over Ag Soils
- Other Land Cover** over Ag Soils
- Ag Field ONLY (not Ag Soils)
- Water (from soils data)

Agricultural Soils (shown here) are mapped and defined by the [Natural Resource Conservation Service \(NRCS\) Soil Survey](#). The [land cover](#) (interpreted from satellite imagery) that occurs over these soils is displayed. The shapes with an outline (Ag Field Only) were identified as Ag Field on the land cover but are not on top of NRCS agricultural soils.

Land Cover Change

Brooklyn Land Cover Over Agricultural Soils

| | 1985 | | 2006 | | Change | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------|--------|-------------------|
| | acres | % of town | acres | % of town | acres | relative % change |
| Developed over Ag. Soils | 596 | 3.2% | 767 | 4.1% | 170 | 28.6% |
| Turf & Grass over Ag Soils | 517 | 2.8% | 849 | 4.6% | 332 | 64.3% |
| Forest* over Ag Soils | 2,517 | 13.5% | 2,152 | 11.5% | -366 | -14.5% |
| Agricultural Field over Ag Soils | 1,939 | 10.4% | 1,719 | 9.2% | -220 | -11.4% |
| Other Land Cover** over Ag. Soils | 120 | 0.6% | 203 | 1.1% | 83 | 69.4% |
| TOTAL Ag Soils | 5,689 | 30.5% | 5,689 | 30.5% | | |
| Agricultural Field NOT over Ag Soils | 631 | 3.4% | 603 | 3.2% | -28 | -4.5% |
| TOTAL Ag Field | 2,570 | 13.8% | 2,322 | 12.4% | | |



Ag Soils with 1985-2006 Land Cover Change

[Printable PDF](#)

Change Classes

- to Developed over Ag Soils
- to Turf & Grass over Ag Soils
- Other Land Cover** over Ag Soils

No Change Classes

- Developed over Ag Soils
- Turf & Grass over Ag Soils
- Ag Soils
- Water (from soils data)

This map shows land cover change from 1985-2006 over High Quality Agricultural Soils (as mapped and defined by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Survey). Muted colors show areas of no change. Bright colors show 1985 to 2006 land cover change..

[More about change maps](#)

[Category Descriptions](#)

Town of Brooklyn Community Resource Inventory

Co-occurring Resource Inventory

Legend

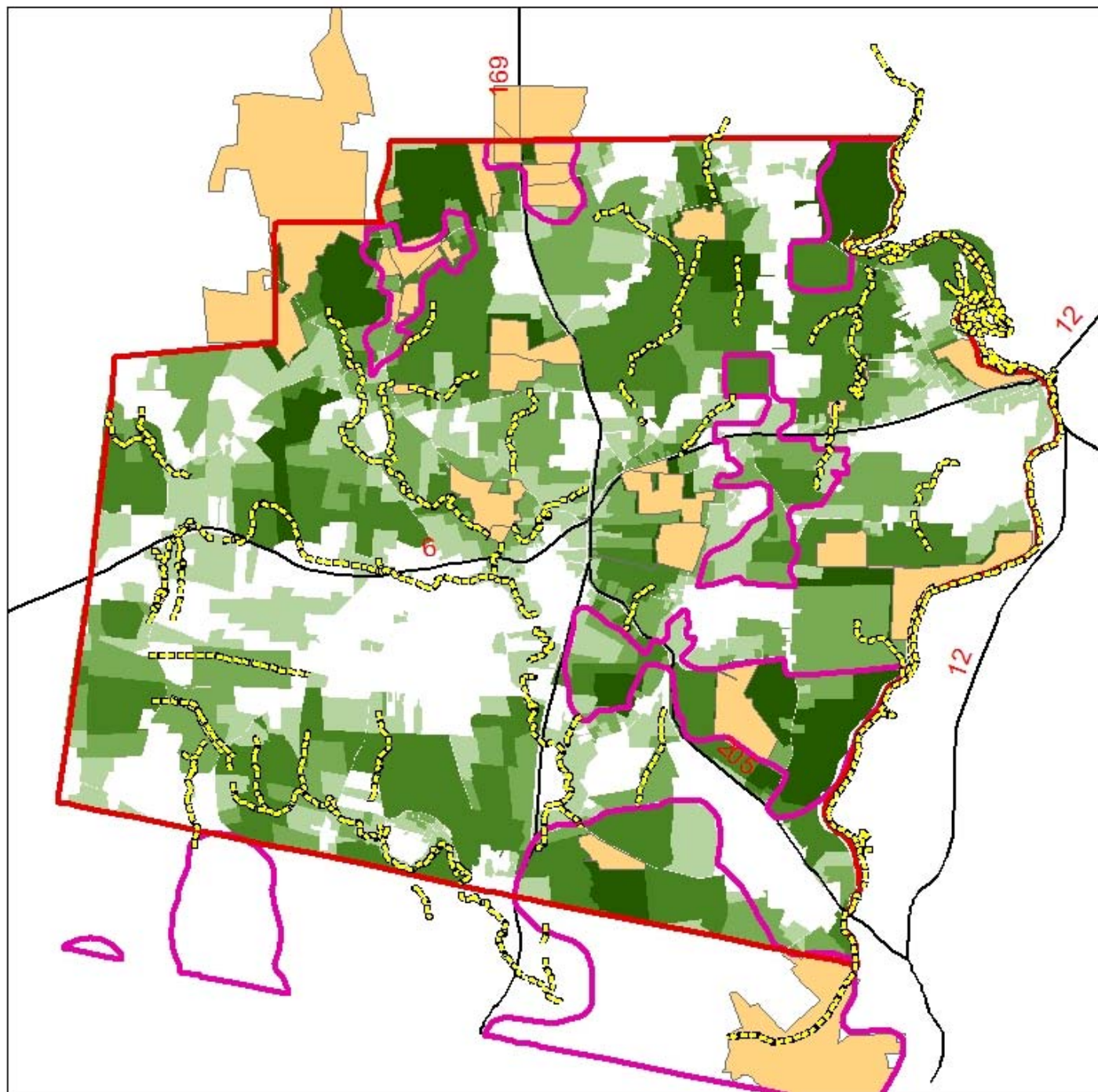
-  Potential Wildlife Corridor Linkages
-  Active Agricultural Clusters
-  Permanently Protected and Municipal Open Space

Co-occurring Resources

| Proximity to: | Distance (ft) | Percent (acre) |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Proximity to: | | |
| Proximity to Wetlands within 100 ft | 100 | 12% |
| Proximity to Open Space Parks | 500 | 20% |
| Direct Value to: | | |
| Local Farm Clusters | | 10% |
| Highly Sensitive | | 20% |
| Designated Forest (50 ac) | | 20% |
| Forest (50 ac) | 20 | 15% |
| | | 100% |

-  Highest Resource Value
- 
- 
-  Lowest Resource Value

3,100 1,550 0 3,100 Feet



Agriculture in Brooklyn – Recommendations in the Plan of Conservation and Development

- Conserve key farmland areas and farmland soils
- Promote viable agricultural clusters
- Promote economic and environmental sustainability of agriculture
- Resolve conflicts between agricultural and non-agricultural land uses

