



Presentation from  
**2016 World Water  
Week in Stockholm**

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# Understanding Risks and Maximizing Natural Infrastructure Benefits for Water Security

World Water Week, Stockholm | August 30, 2016



THE  
SCHERMAN  
FOUNDATION



GLOBAL  
FOREST  
WATCH  
WATER

BETA

Todd Gartner | Senior Associate, WRI

World Water Week, Stockholm | August 30, 2016



KNOW YOUR WATERSHED (1)

- Wetlands and Waterbodies
- Tree cover  
(year 2000, 30m global, Hansen / UMD / Google / USGS / NASA)
- Land cover
- Major dams
- Urban water intakes
  - River
  - Lake
  - Reservoir
  - Groundwater

IDENTIFY WATERSHED RISKS (2)

- Tree cover loss  
(annual, 30m, global, Hansen / USGS / Google / USGS / NASA)  
20% to 20%  
Displaying 20% canopy density
- Tree cover gain  
(72 years, 30m, global, Hansen / UMD / Google / USGS / NASA)
- Potential forest coverage
- Active fires  
(daily, 1km, global, NASA)
- Erosion
- Arid
- Baseline water stress

PLAN FOR ACTION (0)

- Case Studies
- Beyond the Numbers

## Know Your Watershed

visualize critical watershed related information

## Identify Watershed Risks

understand type and severity of threats to watershed health

## Plan for Action

obtain recommendation on natural infrastructure solutions and applicable guidelines and decision-support tools

Search by river, watershed, or city

Analyze Watershed

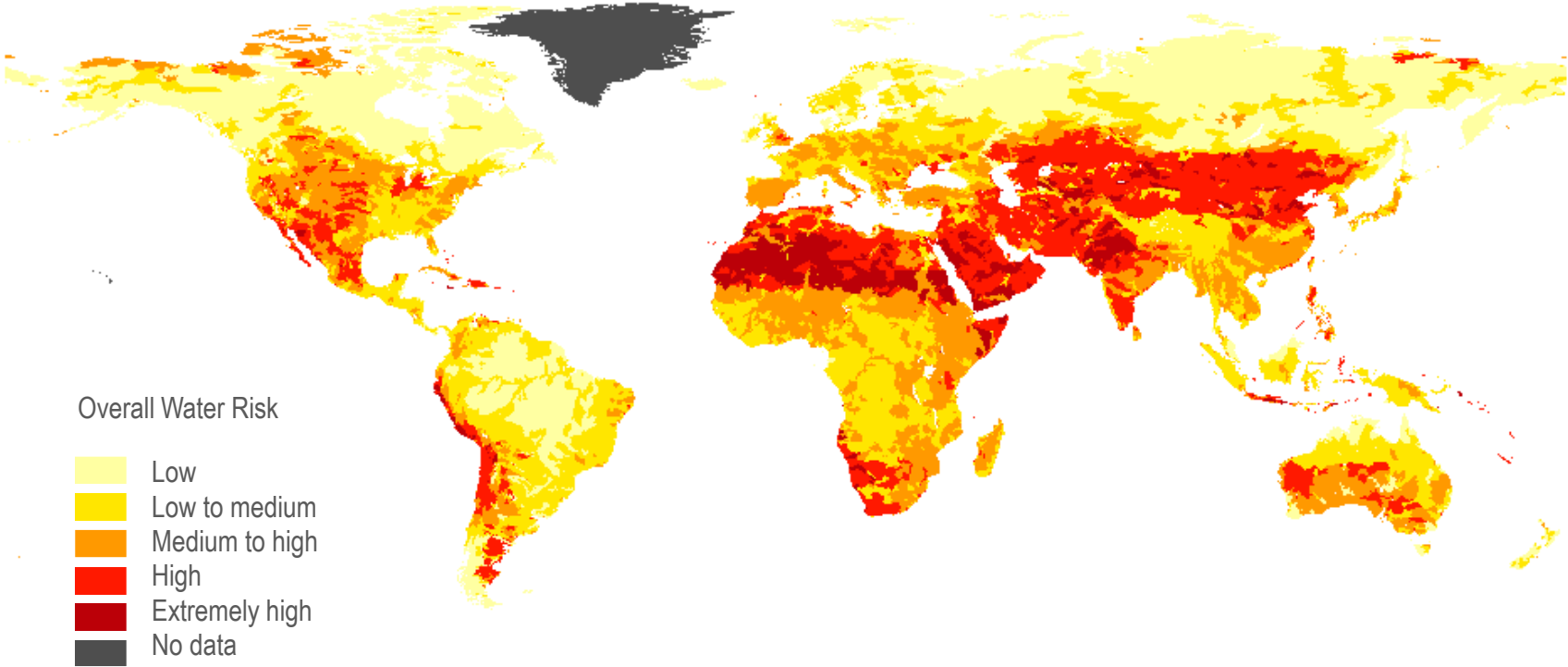
Current Watershed Custom Analysis

To analyze, use the search bar to find your watershed or click on your watershed via the map.

FEEDBACK



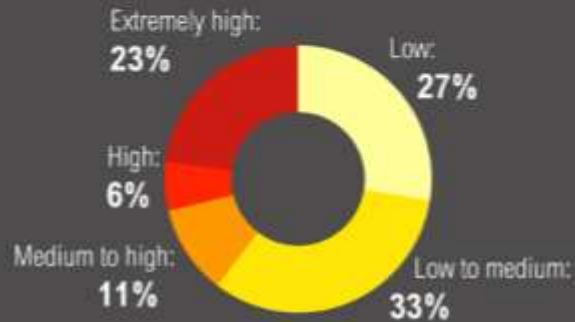
# CURRENT WATER STRESS



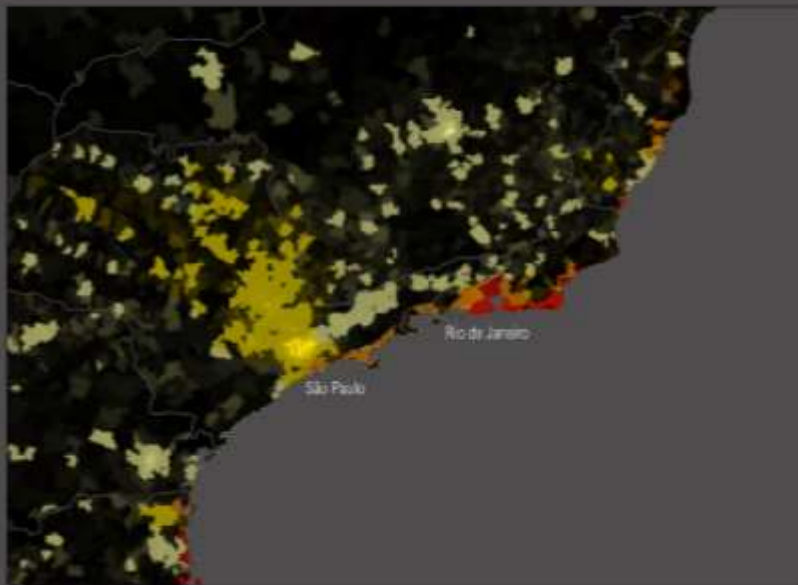
Sources: WRI Aqueduct 2014

# BRAZILIAN POPULATION DENSITY & BASELINE WATER STRESS

## DISTRIBUTION OF URBAN WATER STRESS

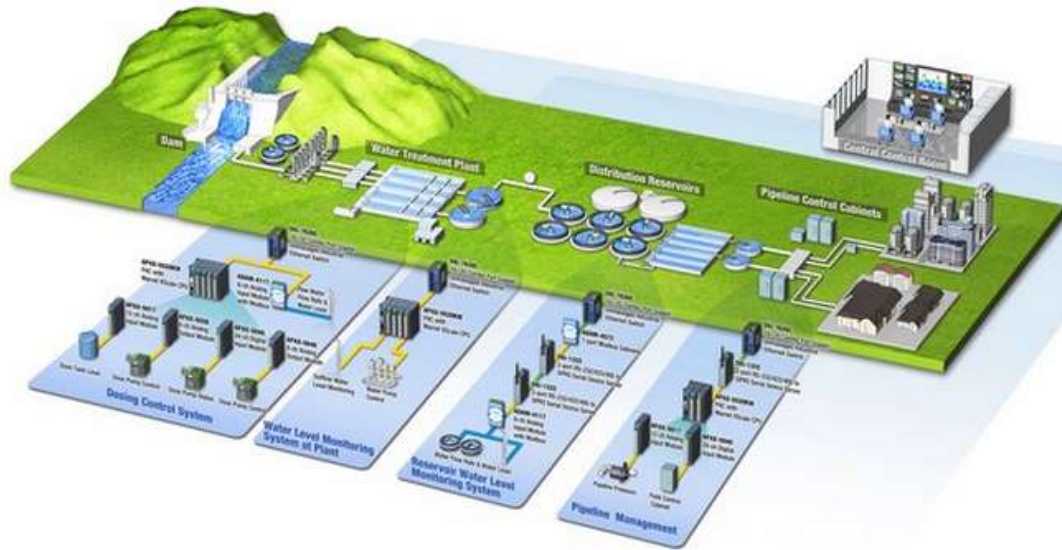


**40%** OF BRAZIL'S URBAN POPULATION  
FACES **MEDIUM TO EXTREMELY HIGH** WATER STRESS



For more: <http://bit.ly/1xTiS20>

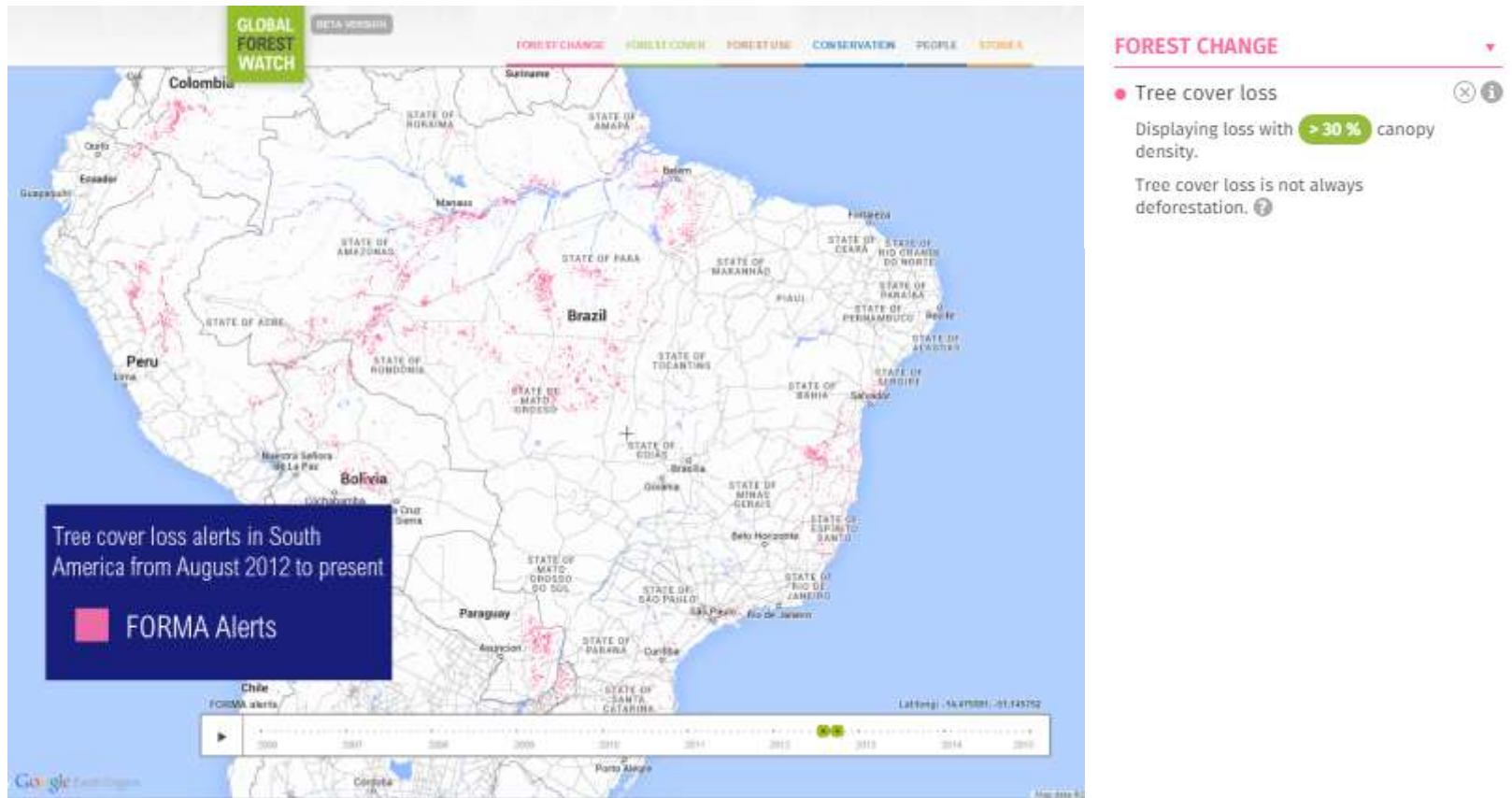
# BUSINESS AS USUAL



-  Non-revenue water
-  Energy efficiency
-  Waste management
-  Climate resilience
-  Water Reuse
-  System monitoring

# SOUTH AMERICA TREE COVER LOSS

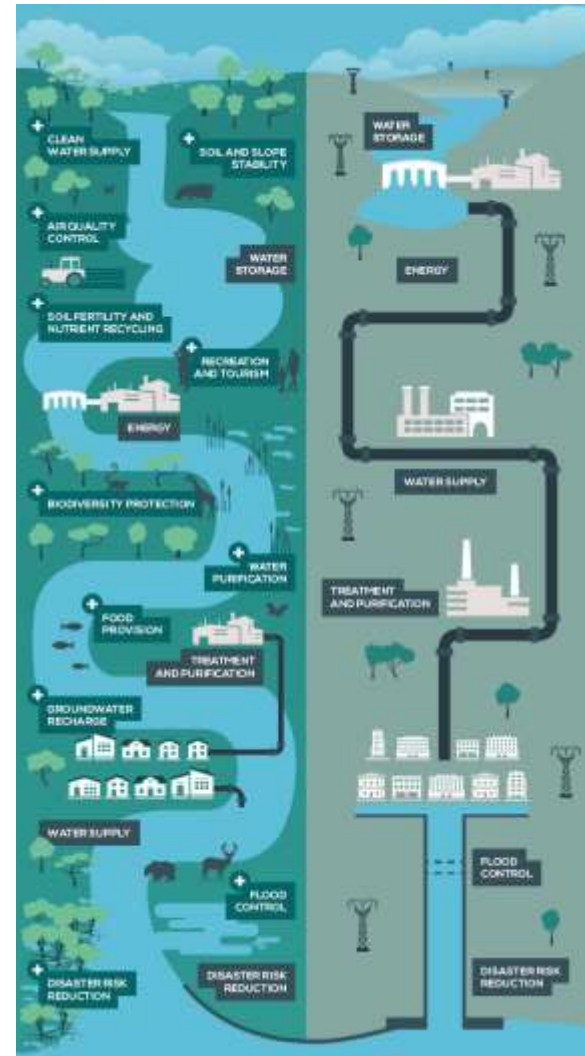
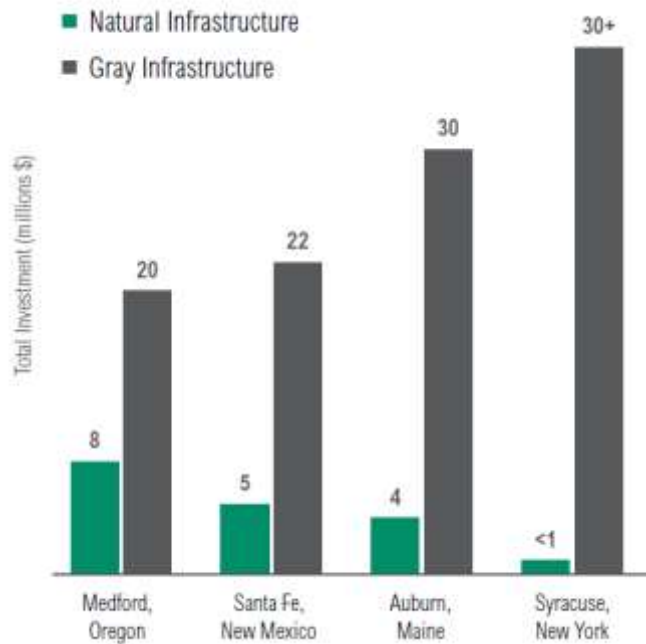
Tree cover loss in Brazil 2012 - present: 7M+ ha or the size of Ireland





# WHY GREEN + GRAY?

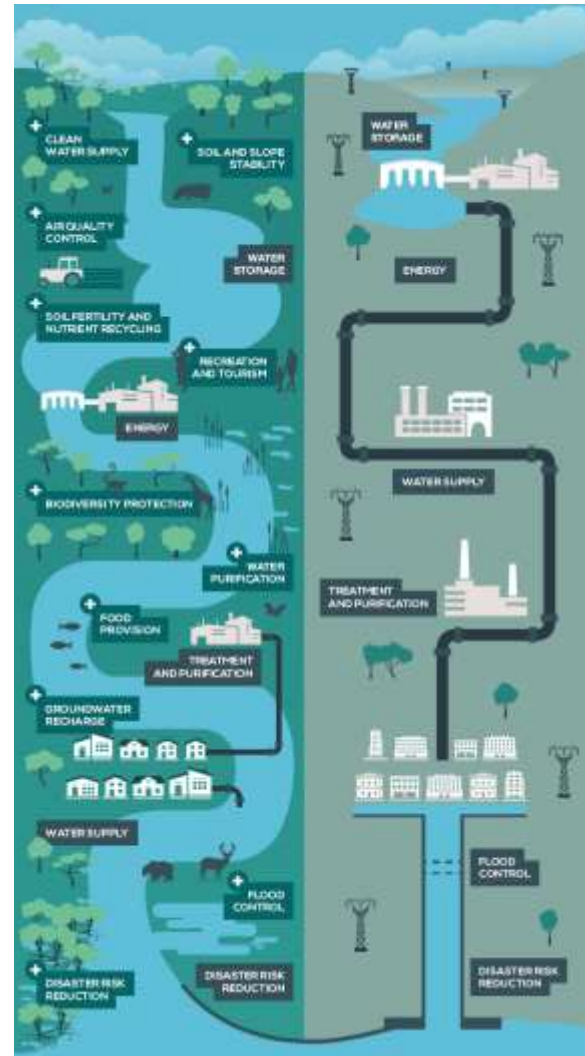
Reduce treatment costs and capital expenses



Source: IUCN 2015

# WHY GREEN + GRAY?

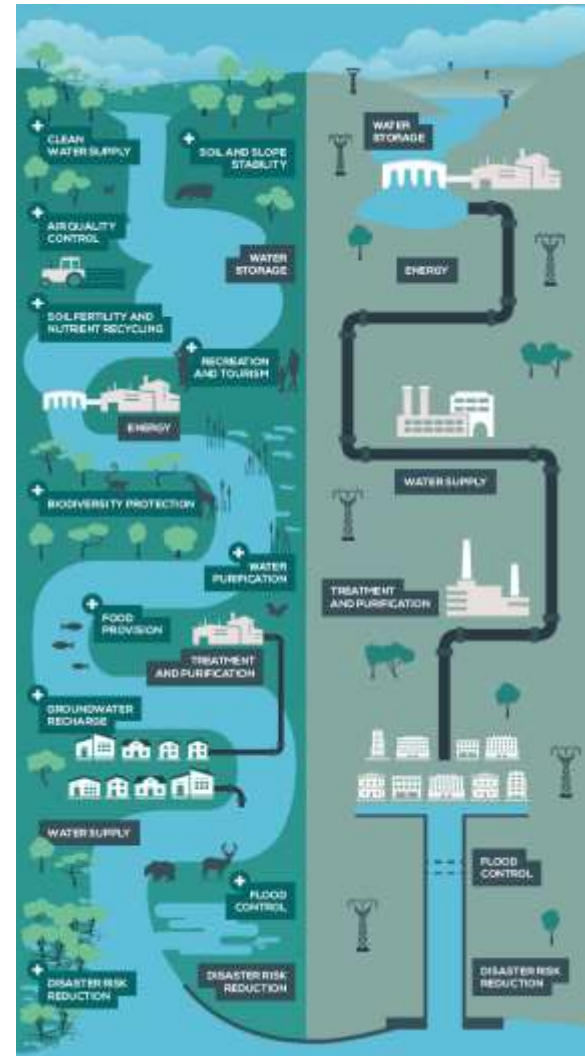
Improve climate resilience



Source: IUCN 2015, App Developer

# WHY GREEN + GRAY?

Meet Sustainable Development Goals



Source: IUCN 2015

THE  
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BETA



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Current Watershed Custom Analysis

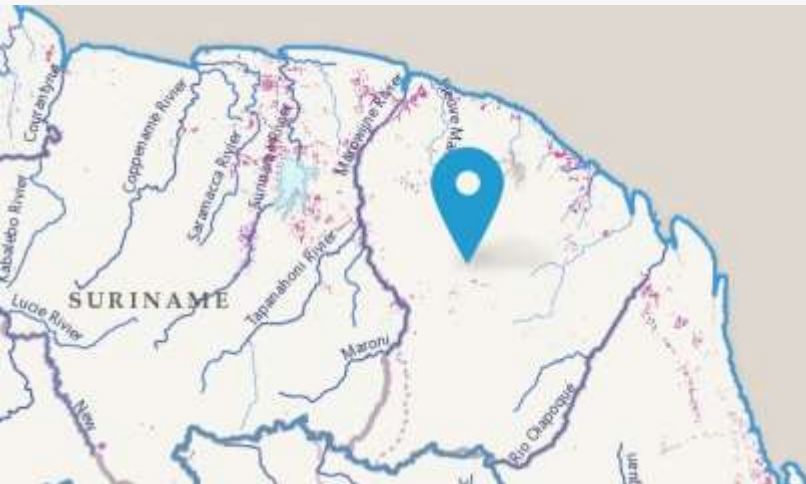
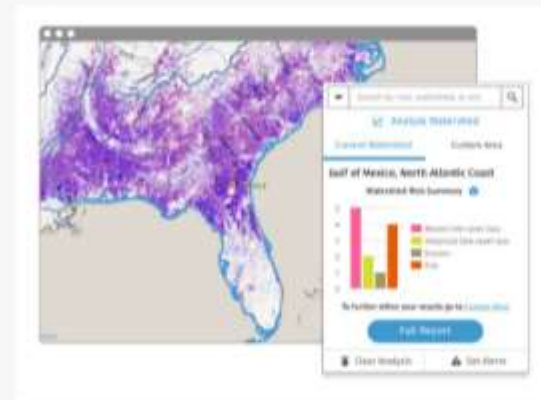
To analyze, use the search bar to find your watershed or click on your watershed via the map.

FEEDBACK



## Powerful Information

GFW Water enables anyone with internet access to visualize critical watershed information, identify threats to watershed health, and screen for sustainable natural infrastructure solutions.

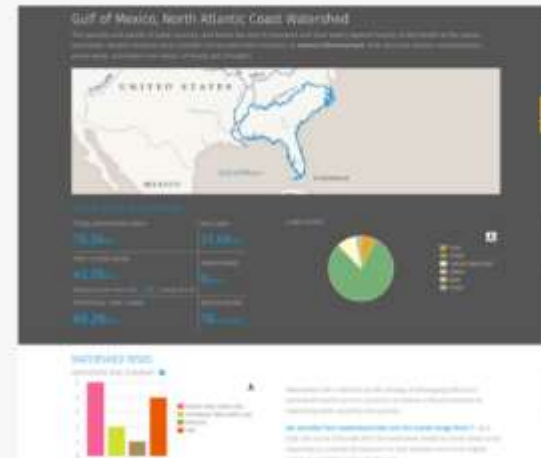


## Custom Insights

Select point on the map and obtain results for your watershed of interest.

## Report and Share

Go behind the numbers and learn about the importance of healthy watersheds. Save, print, or share your report with the world.



# USERS PROFILES

## Downstream beneficiaries:

Make smart water infrastructure investments. Explore watershed risks and find information to improve operations and protect water at lower cost.



## Financing & Development:

Enhance water security and bolster economic development. Maximize effectiveness of investment portfolio. ID a project pipeline.



## Research & Civil Society:

Use data to support efforts. Explore new project ideas and find the information to advance your research and campaigns to protect watersheds.





**KNOW YOUR WATERSHED (0)**

- Wetlands and Waterbodies
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(year 2010, 30m global, Hansen / UMD / Google / USGS / NASA)
- Land cover
- Major dams
- Urban water intakes

**IDENTIFY WATERSHED RISKS (2)**

- Tree cover loss  
(annual, 30m, global, Hansen / UMD / Google / USGS / NASA)  
2001 to 2016  
Displaying canopy density
- Tree cover gain  
(12 years, 30m, global, Hansen / UMD / Google / USGS / NASA)
- Potential forest coverage
- Active fires  
(daily, 1km, global, NASA)
- Erosion
- Arid
- Baseline water stress

**PLAN FOR ACTION (0)**

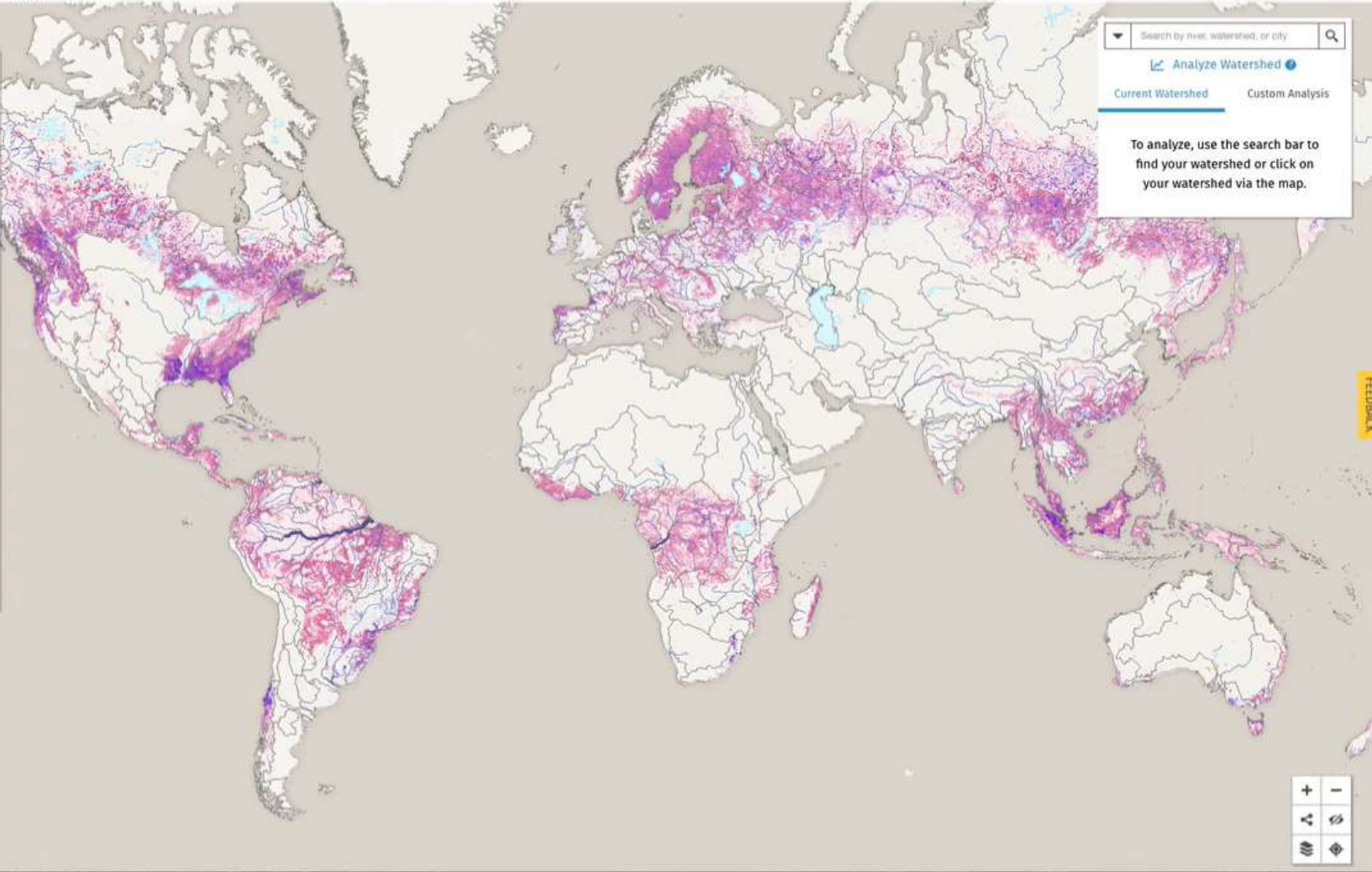
- Case Studies  
Beyond the Numbers

Search by river, watershed, or city

Analyze Watershed

Current Watershed Custom Analysis

To analyze, use the search bar to find your watershed or click on your watershed via the map.



Map navigation controls: zoom in (+), zoom out (-), home, and full screen icons.

FEEDBACK










▼ Search by river, watershed, or city 🔍

 [Analyze Watershed](#) ?

Current Watershed [Custom Analysis](#)

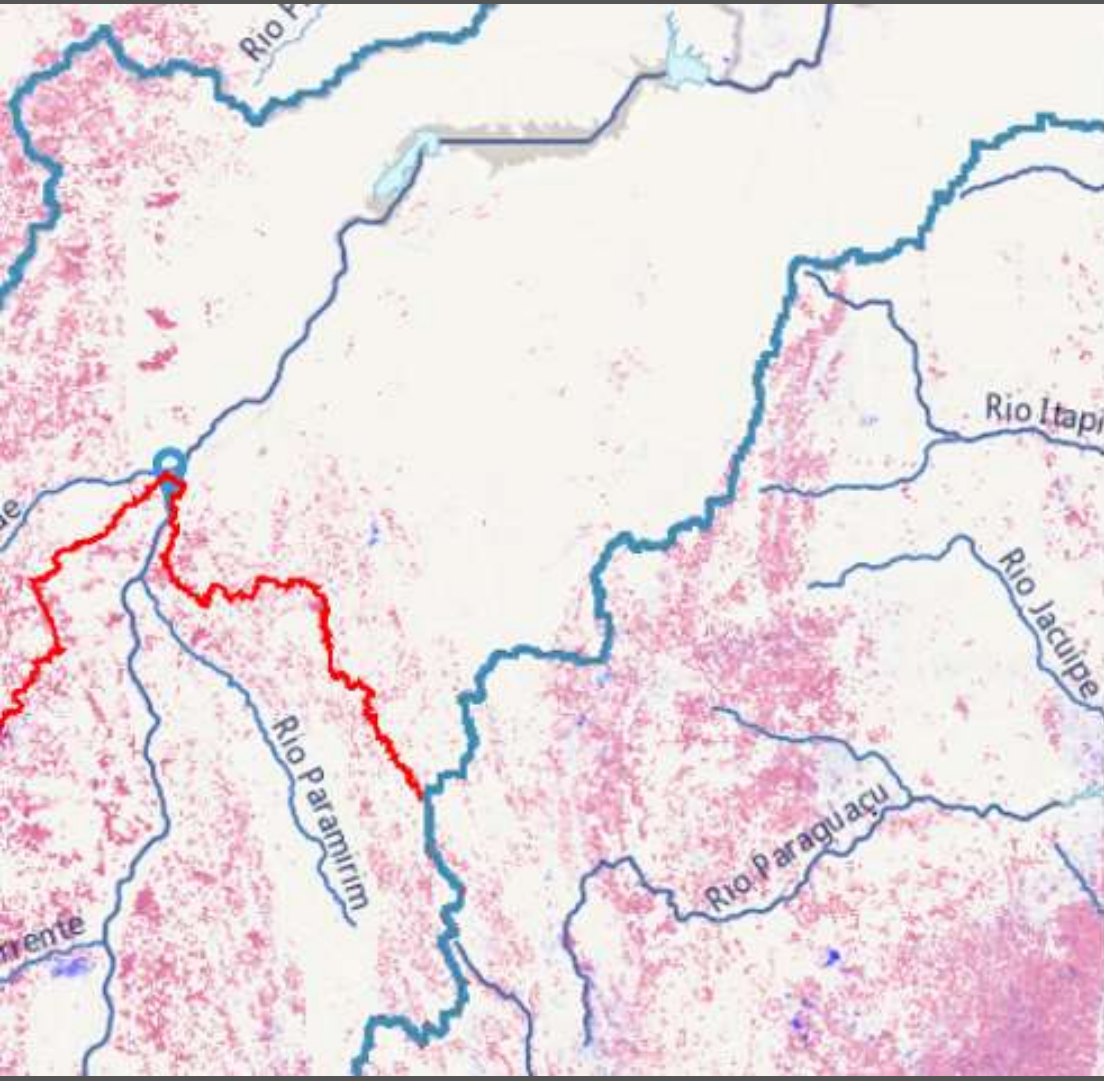
Create subwatershed from a point 

**Add point**

or  
Enter latitude & longitude

**Go**





▼ Search by river, watershed, or city 🔍

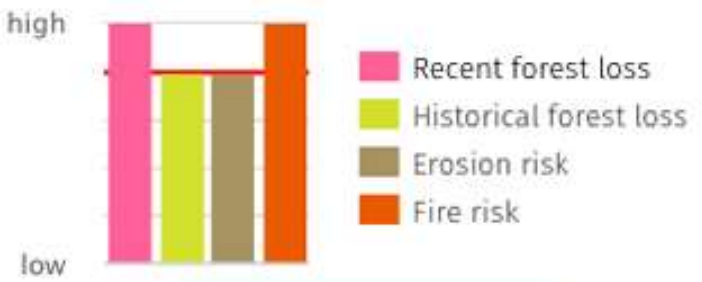
[Analyze Watershed ?](#)

Current Watershed

[Custom Analysis](#)

Custom Area

Watershed Risk Summary ⓘ



[Full Report](#)

Clear Analysis

Get Alerts

# Upper Sao Francisco Watershed

A watershed's health directly affects the quantity and quality of water sources as well as water transport and treatment costs. Healthy forested lands provide critical watershed functions as natural infrastructure by minimizing erosion and pollutants, purifying water, and reducing the impact of floods and droughts.



## KNOW YOUR WATERSHED

TOTAL WATERSHED AREA

**34**MHa

TREE COVER (2000)

**9**MHa

Displaying tree cover with  canopy density

POTENTIAL TREE COVER

**34**MHa

WETLAND

**3**MHa

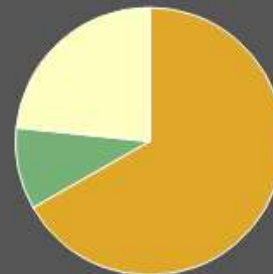
MAJOR DAMS ⓘ

**164**Dams

WATER INTAKE ⓘ

**11**Locations

LAND COVER



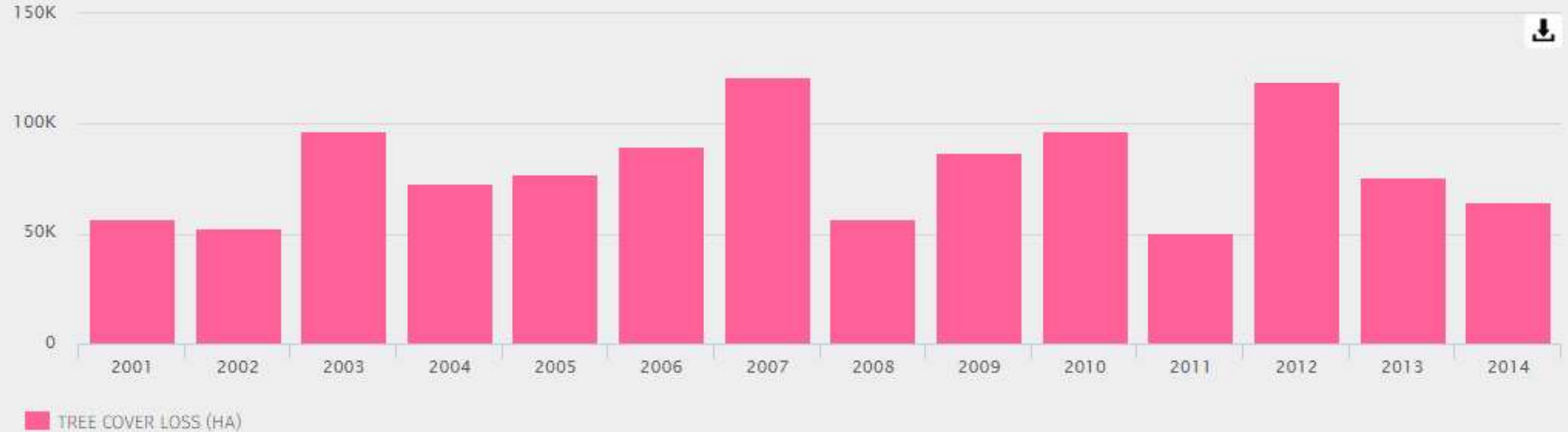
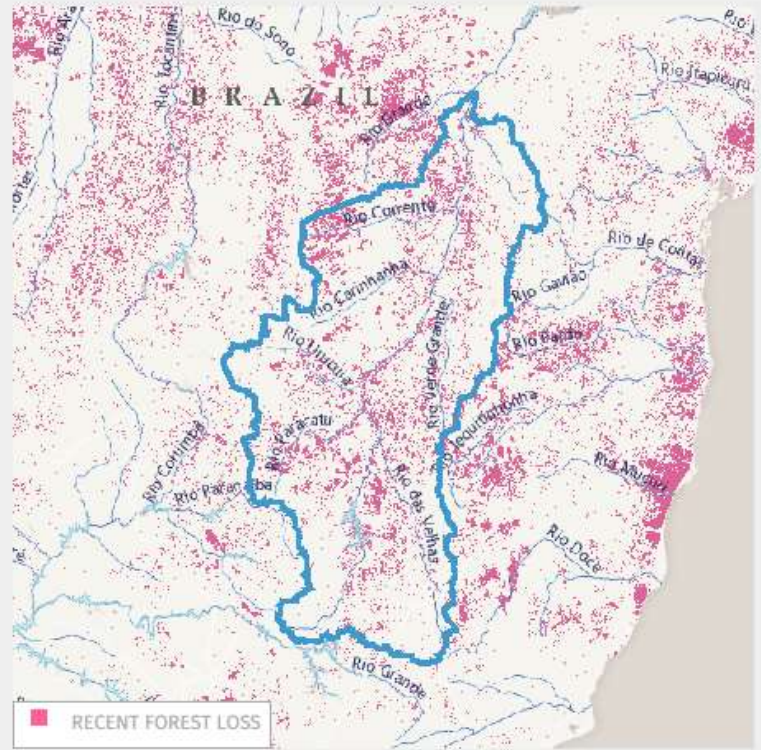


RECENT FOREST LOSS  
RISK SCORE: 5/5

This watershed experienced 1 MHa of tree cover loss from 2001 to 2014, accounting for 11.39% of total tree cover (2000), presenting a positive trend.

**Recent forest loss risk** was measured by the area of total forest loss from 2001 to 2014 as a share of total forest extent (year 2000). The threshold of canopy density for identifying forest and forest loss is set to  $> 30$  across the globe, which may include natural forest, plantations and other forms of vegetation depending on the region. This risk score is not applicable to arid areas and areas where total forest extent (year 2000) is less than 10% of watershed.

Recent forest loss estimates the potential of damaging impact from recent changes (2001 – 2014) in the extent of forest cover in a watershed. As forests are converted to other land uses or are unnaturally disturbed, their ability to regulate flow and purify water diminishes, putting communities at risk of flood, drought, higher cost of treatment, and greater incidence of drinking water contamination. In addition to the area of forest removed, the duration and magnitude of a watershed's response depends on various factors, including age and type of forest removed, climate, topography, and size of the watershed.



## HISTORICAL FOREST LOSS RISK SCORE: 4/5

This watershed was covered by 34 MHa of forest, accounting for 99.95% of watershed area. The total tree cover (2000) accounts for 28.30% of potential forest.

**Historical forest loss risk** is approximated by comparing total forest extent (year 2000) to potential forest coverage. The threshold of canopy density for identifying forest and forest loss is set to  $> 30\%$  across the globe. This risk score is not applicable to arid areas and areas where potential forest coverage is less than 10% of the watershed.

*Historical forest loss measures the potential threat on a watershed's capacity to deliver ecosystem services as a result of forest cover change in the past (prior to 2000). Compared to recent forest loss, forest loss that took place decades ago may lead to different hydrological responses with greater uncertainty in a watershed. In addition to the extent of forest removed, other factors that contribute to a watershed's capacity to regulate flow and control water quality include age and type of forest removed, climate, and land management since forest removal.*





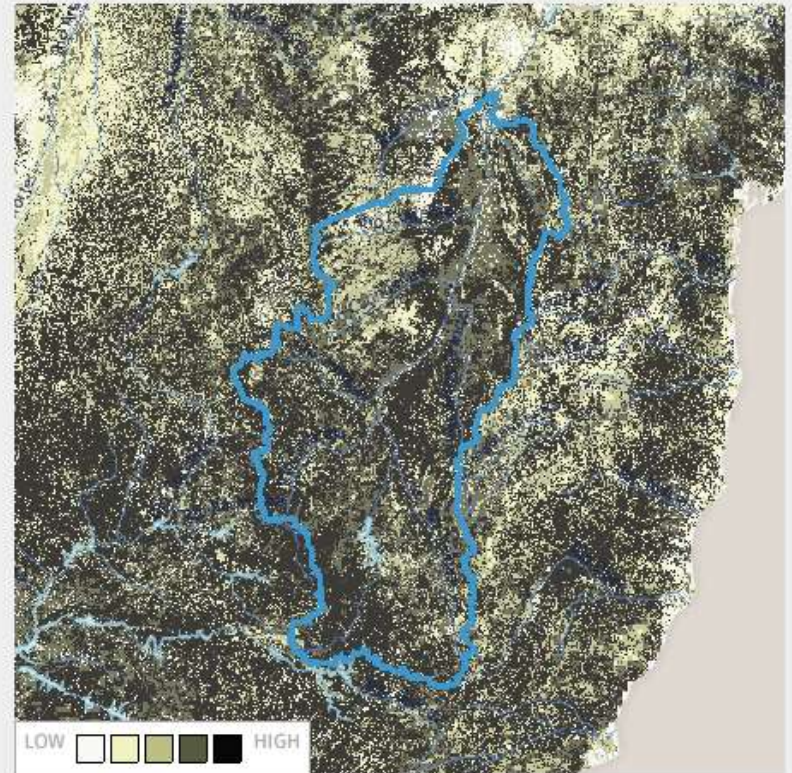
## EROSION

RISK SCORE: 4/5

The overall erosion risk of this watershed is **medium to high**.

**Erosion risk** is derived from the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation, adjusted to extend its applicability to a global scale. Factors include rainfall erosivity, slope steepness, soil erodibility, and land cover.

*Erosion is a significant problem that affects both water quality and quantity. High erosion deteriorates water quality and reduces reservoir capacity, increasing cost of water treatment and capital expenses, and damaging safety of water supplies. High erosion risk is usually linked to erodible soil, intense rainfall, steep topography, and conversion of forest and other natural lands to pasture, cropland, and other human developments.*



## FIRE

### RISK SCORE: 5/5

There were 39 fire alerts over the past 24 hours. An average of 17,501 fires occurred annually for the past ten years.

Learn more about [Global Forest Watch Fires](#)

**Fire risk** is measured by average annual fire occurrence per unit area in a watershed in the most recent past ten years (January 1st, 2006 to December 31st, 2015).

*Fires are a common form of disturbance in some forested watersheds. High intensity or large fires can result in significant increases in runoff, erosion, and tree mortality, all of which can negatively impact water quality. Although the effects are usually short-lived, long-term effects, magnitude, and persistence of downstream effects are uncertain.*



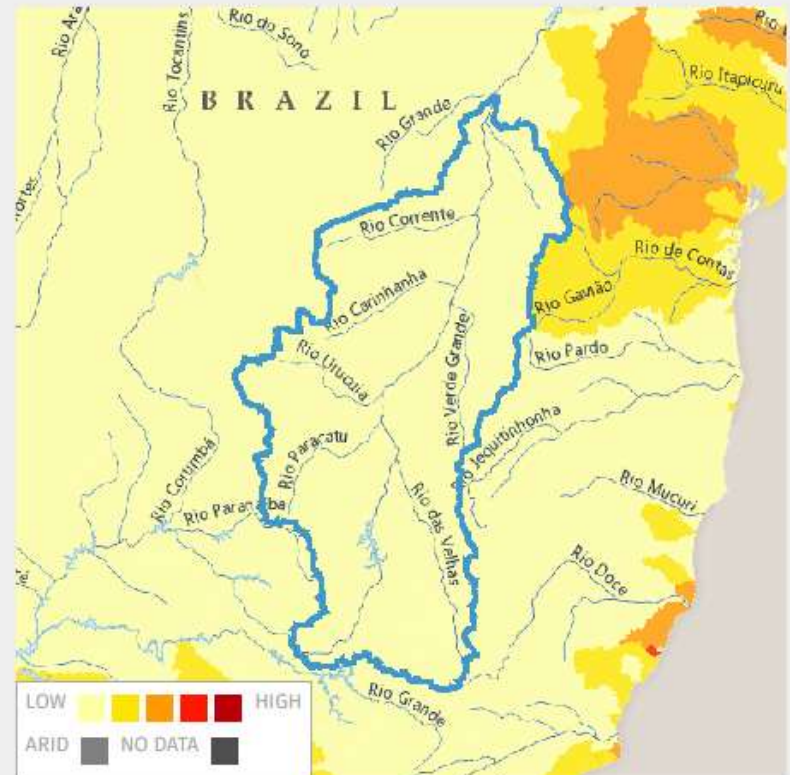


## BASELINE WATER STRESS

**Baseline water stress (BWS)** measures the ratio of total water withdrawals to annual available renewable surface water supplies.

*We use this data to set the context for landscape water-related risk for a given watershed. BWS serves as a good proxy for water-related challenges more broadly, given that areas of higher water stress will likely be subject to higher depletion of surface and groundwater resources and more competition amongst users, as well as the associated impacts on water quality and other ecosystem services. Watersheds with high baseline water stress may warrant urgent, appropriate action to respond to the watershed risks listed above.*





Learn more about the [Global Forest Watch Aqueduct Project](#)



## PLAN FOR ACTION

### RECOMMENDED NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGIES

Risks scores of 4 or higher should be addressed by specific actions. Highlighted is the list of recommendations and case studies to mitigate high risks to this watershed.

RISK	STRATEGY	DESCRIPTION	CASE STUDIES
 <b>Recent Tree Cover Loss</b>	Ecosystem Protection	<p><b>Conservation zones:</b> Setting aside natural areas with high conservation value to preserve biodiversity and maintain forests, wetlands, and other open lands as natural infrastructure to regulate water flow and improve quality.</p> <p><b>Sustainable forestry:</b> Engaging in best forestry practices to minimize negative environmental impacts and disturbance to forests to deliver critical watershed services such as water purification and flood mitigation.</p> <p><b>Road network regulation:</b> Limiting road creation near vulnerable forests, which has been heavily linked to deforestation that diminishes forests' ability to regulate flow and purify water.</p>	<p><a href="#">New York, NY, United States</a></p> <p><a href="#">Portland, ME, United States</a></p> <p><a href="#">Quito, Ecuador</a></p>
 <b>Historical Tree Cover Loss</b>	Landscape Restoration	<p><b>Reforestation:</b> Planting seedlings in burnt or deforested areas to stem the rate of erosion and restore the land.</p> <p><b>Assisted natural regeneration:</b> Enhancing the establishment of secondary forest from degraded grassland and shrub vegetation by protecting and nurturing the mother trees and their wildlings inherently present in the area which may enhance aquifer recharge.</p> <p><b>Agroforestry:</b> Managing forests together with crops and/or animal production systems in agricultural settings.</p>	<p><a href="#">Beijing, China</a></p> <p><a href="#">Multiple locations, India</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</a></p> <p><a href="#">Multiple locations, Costa Rica</a></p> <p><a href="#">Humbo, Ethiopia</a></p>
 <b>Erosion</b>	Erosion Control	<p><b>Vegetation buffering:</b> Planting or maintaining trees/ shrubs along the sides of roads and waterways to capture runoff and pollutants.</p> <p><b>Slope erosion reduction:</b> Slowing the rate of erosion on steep sloped lands by creating various barriers to sediment movement. Examples include contour felling of trees, silt fences, and terracing.</p> <p><b>Agricultural best management practices:</b> Reducing the amount of pesticides, fertilizers, animal waste, and other pollutants entering water resources, and conserving water supply. Examples include contour farming, cover crops, and terrace construction.</p>	<p><a href="#">Eugene, OR, United States</a></p> <p><a href="#">Lima, Peru</a></p> <p><a href="#">Paris, France</a></p>
 <b>Fire</b>	Fire Management	<p><b>Forest fuel reduction:</b> Reducing wildfire severity and related sediment and ash pollution through controlled burns and mechanical treatment.</p>	<p><a href="#">Denver, CO, United States</a></p> <p><a href="#">Rio Grande, NM, United States</a></p> <p><a href="#">Riau, Indonesia</a></p>

# BEYOND THE NUMBERS



Spatial Mapping Tools & Platforms



Economics & Finance

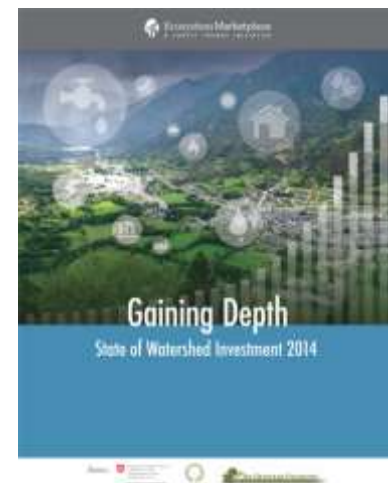
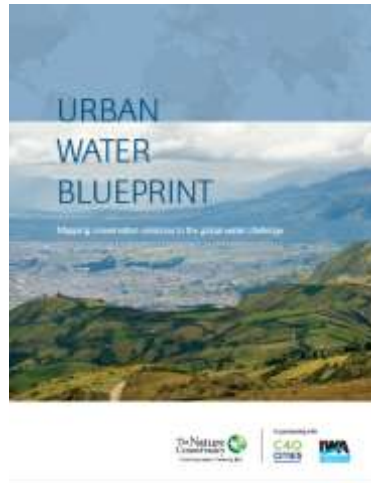


Guidance & Roadmaps



Other WRI Projects

# ROADMAPS & GUIDANCE – SHARING SUCCESS STORIES

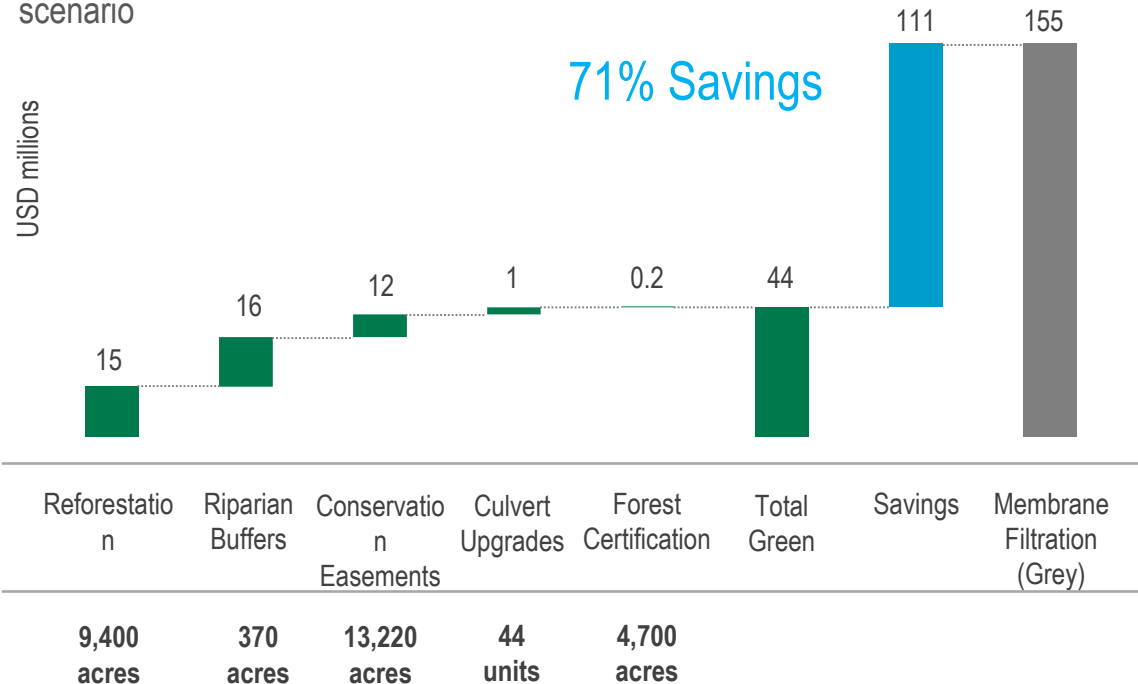




# ROI CASE STUDY: PORTLAND, ME

Detailed financials of **green gray** infrastructure approaches for securing clean drinking water in Portland, ME

Present value of investments over 20 years, most optimistic scenario



Source: Talberth, J. et al. 2012. Insights from the Field: forest for Water. Washington, DC: Wild Resources Institute

# FINANCE MECHANISMS

Table 7 | Summary of Natural Infrastructure Finance Mechanisms

FINANCE MECHANISM	TYPICAL REVENUE ALLOCATION			TYPICAL USER OF FINANCE MECHANISM	POTENTIAL SCALE OF INVESTMENT
	LAND ACQUISITION	EASEMENTS	LAND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES		
<b>Direct Investment by Governments and Utilities</b>					
Rates	X	X	X	Utility	Med
Municipal bonds (revenue-backed)	X	X		Utility	High
Municipal bonds (general obligation)	X	X	X	Government	High
Rates surcharges	X	X	X	Utility	Med
<b>Market-based Mechanisms</b>					
Nutrient trading		No additional revenue		Government, NGO	Med
Mitigation banking		No additional revenue		Government	Low-Med
Tradable development rights		No additional revenue		Government	Med
Forest banking		No additional revenue		Private sector	Low



# POLICY IMPLICATIONS



## Viewpoints

A FOREST TRENDS BLOG



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### About the Author



**Michael Jenkins**

Michael Jenkins is the founding President and CEO

of Forest Trends which works for conserve forests and other ecosystems through the creation and wide adoption of a broad range of environmental finance, markets, and other payment and incentive mechanisms.

## Peru Approves New Innovative Environmental Policies

*Michael Jenkins, Gena Gammie and Jan Cassin | July 27, 2016*

In the last week we have seen the announcement of several important steps forward for the people of Peru and the critical ecosystems that sustain their livelihoods and cultures. The Peruvian government has formally released: 1) the regulation of its groundbreaking national payments for ecosystem services law; 2) a separate regulation of the Sanitation Sector Reform Law that creates a process for water utilities to utilize payments for ecosystem services to secure their water supply through watershed conservation; 3) a national strategy for forest conservation in the context of climate change; and 4) guidance for biodiversity offsets under Peru's innovative no-net-loss rules. These important steps forward were complemented by [Peru's formal ratification of the Paris Agreement this week](#).

Each of these achievements reflect years of hard work by our partners in the Peruvian government, civil society, and indigenous peoples, and major efforts from our different programs to tackle the day-to-day challenge of turning a vision into a reality.



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BETA

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