

Priority Waters Update

Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited Annual Meeting - September 16th, 2023



Scott Koser

Program Manager, Pennsylvania Coldwater Habitat Program

2020 Results

485K

ACRES PROTECTED

605

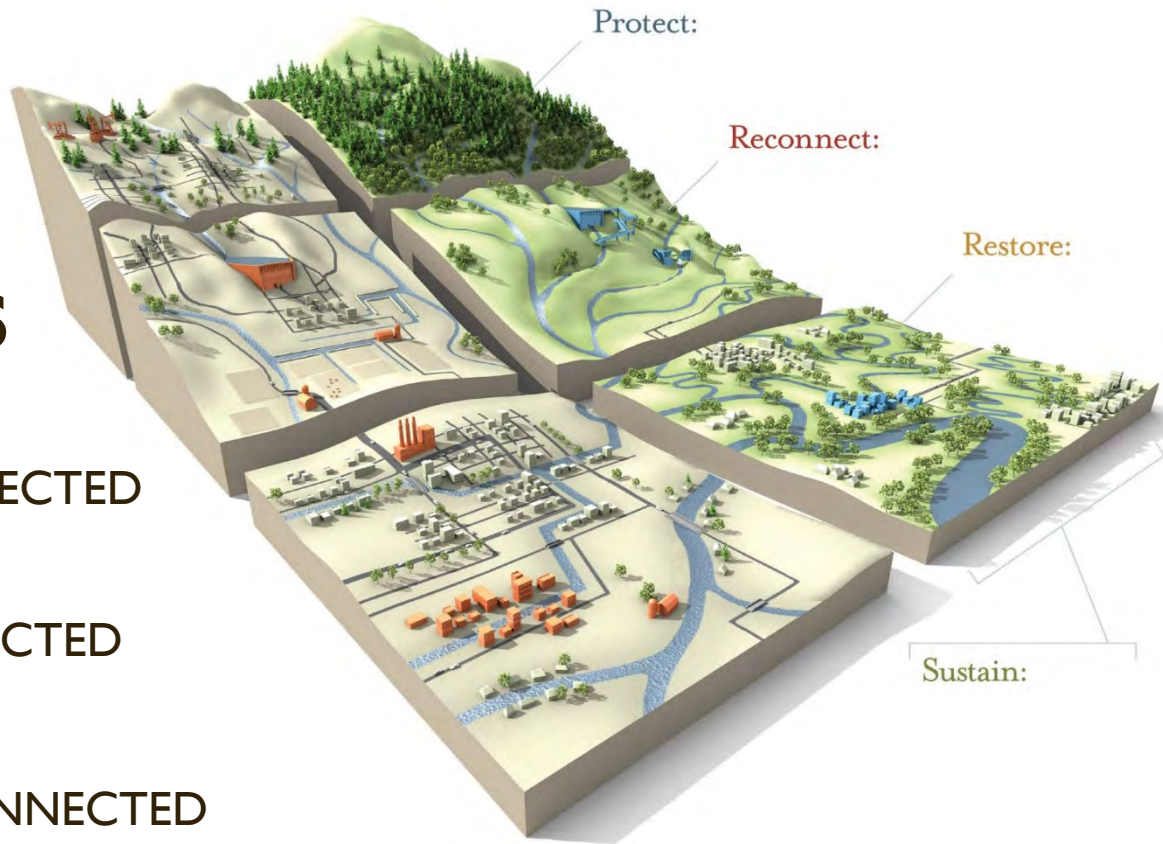
MILES PROTECTED

378

MILES RECONNECTED

387

MILES RESTORED



PA Coldwater Habitat Program 2022 Results



Traditional Projects (21) : ★

Large Wood Projects (9) : ▲

AOP Projects (6) : ●

36

Total Projects Completed (new record)

400,000

Estimated Pounds of Sediment Reduced

96,000

Feet of Coldwater Habitat Improved



Our Vision

Our vision is for communities across America to engage in the work of repairing and renewing our rivers, streams, and other water bodies on which we all depend.

Our Mission

To bring together diverse interests to care for and recover rivers and streams so that our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon.



GOAL: Identify a national network of shared priority waters for native and wild trout and salmon and take strategic actions to fix them.



Shared Priority Waters – Process, Step 1



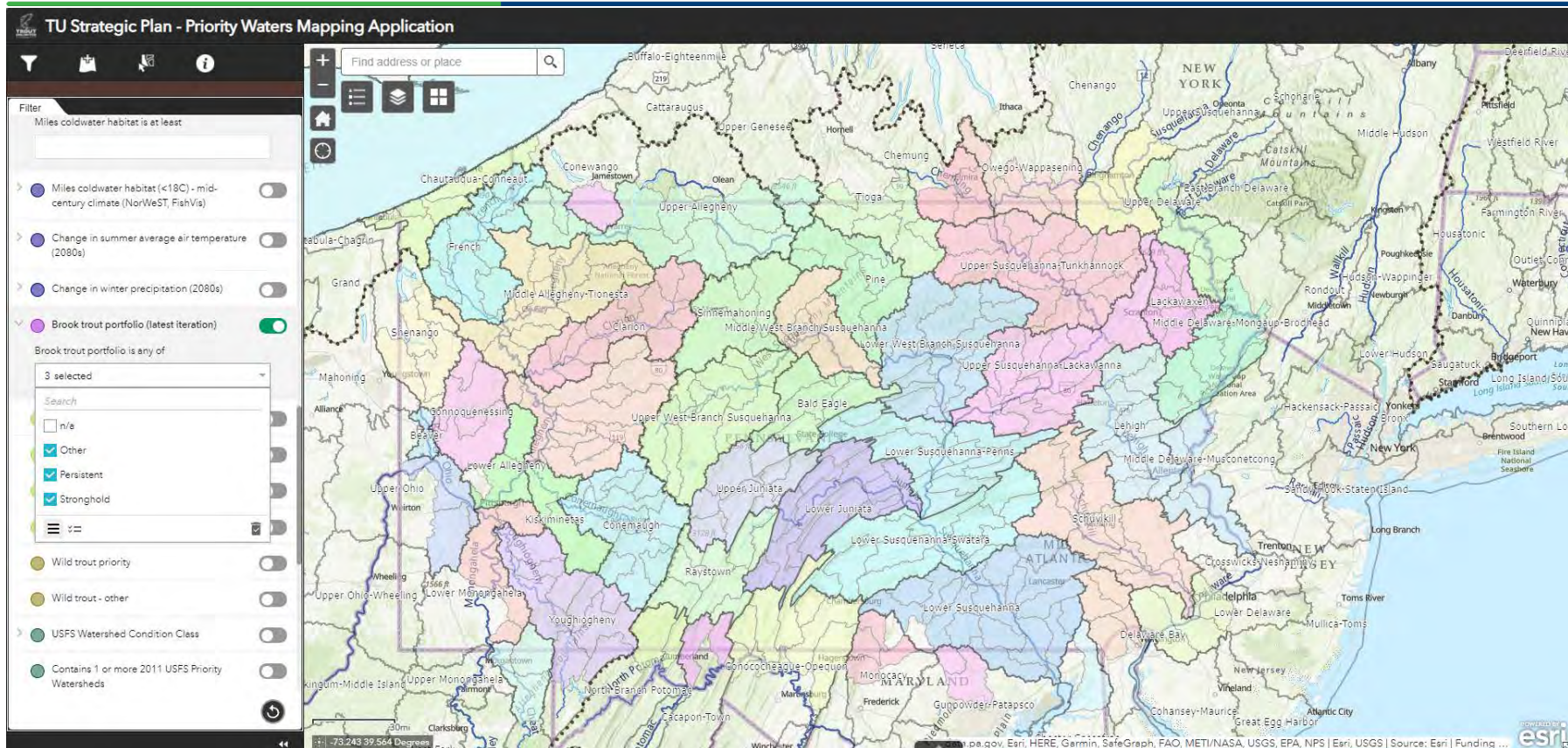
Resource Analysis:

Brook trout portfolio

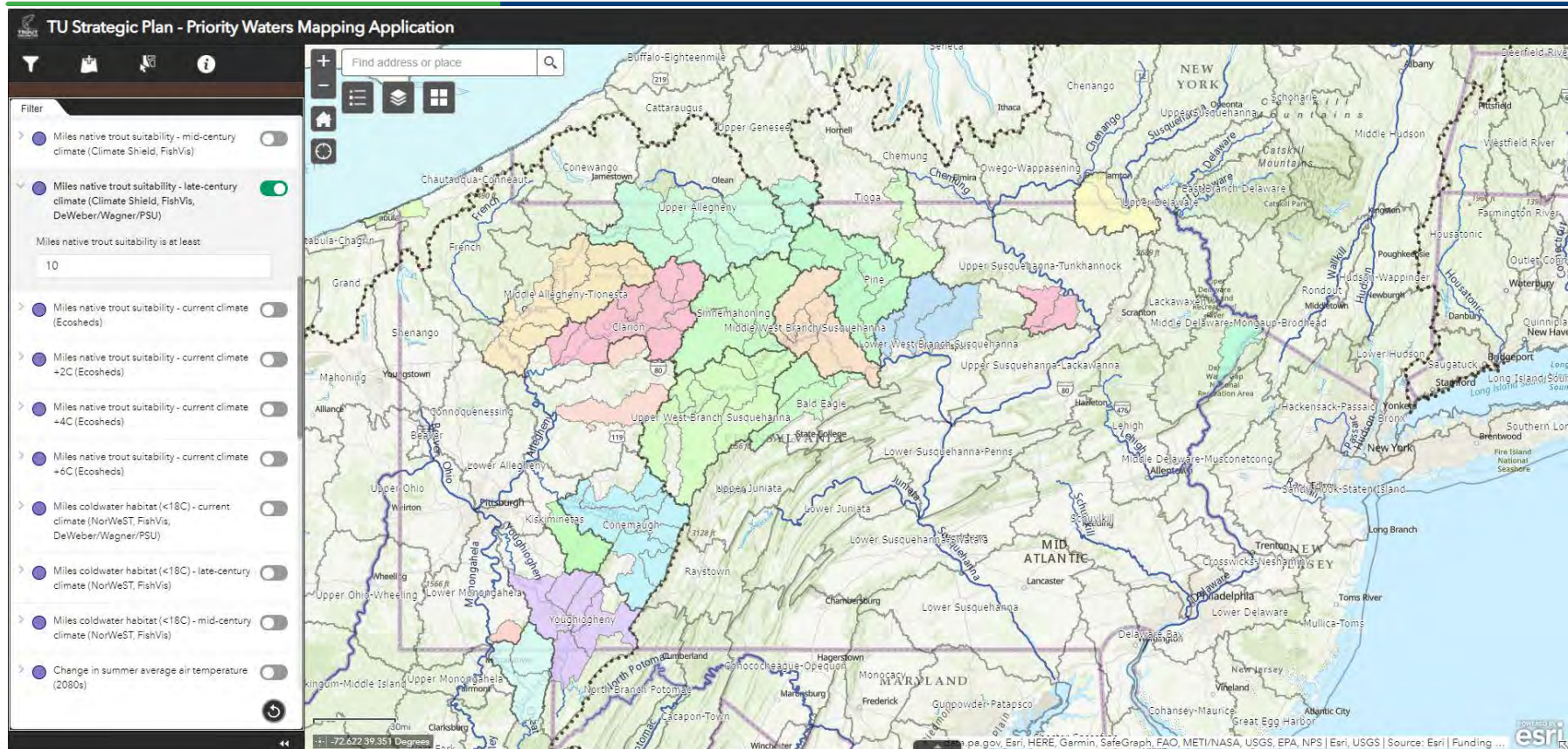
Wild trout populations

Climate resiliency and other factors

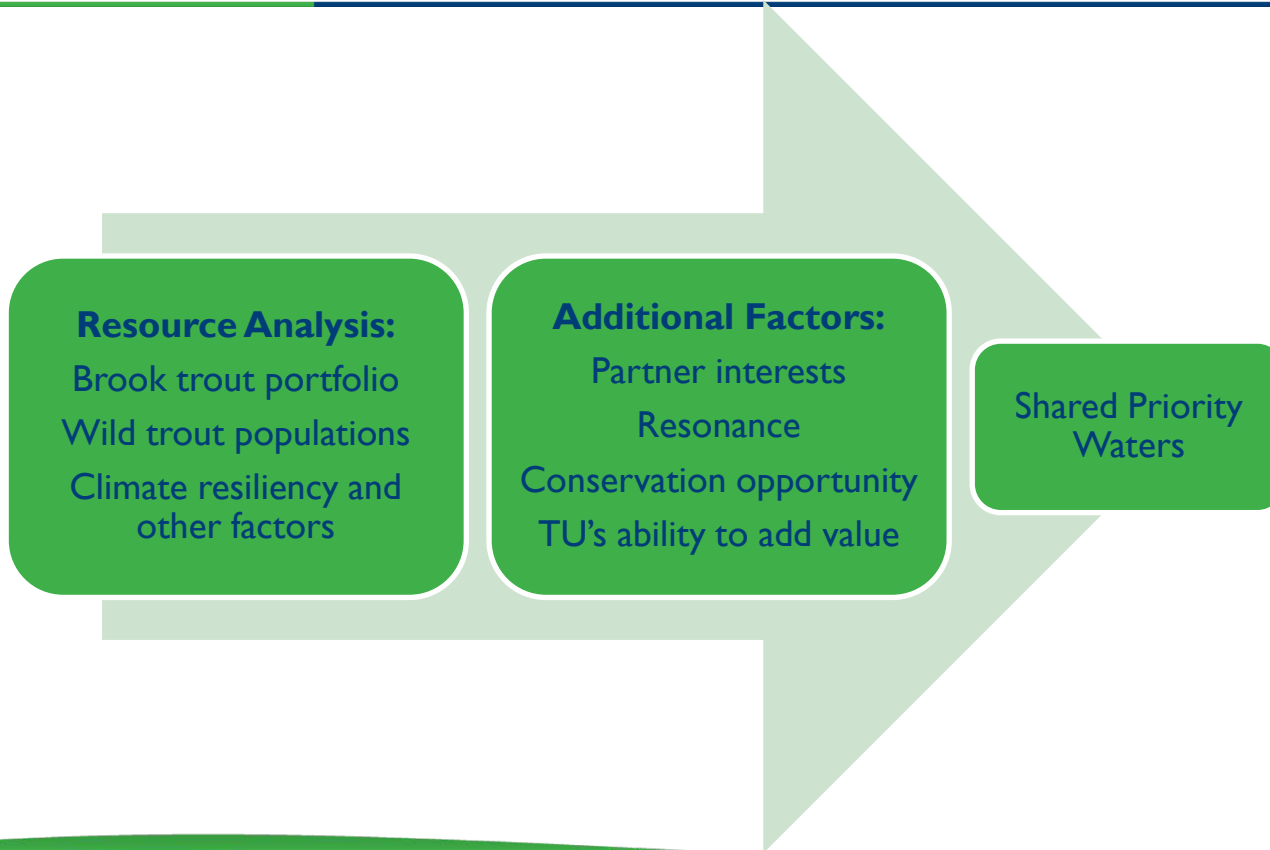
Shared Priority Waters Process in PA



Climate Resilience – at least 10mi predicted trout suitability



Shared Priority Waters Process, Step 2





GOAL: Create and expand a diverse corps of staff, volunteers, and communities to advocate for and participate in the care and recovery of our lands and waters.

Partner interests

Resonance

Conservation opportunity

TU's ability to add value



Shared Priority Waters Process, Step 3

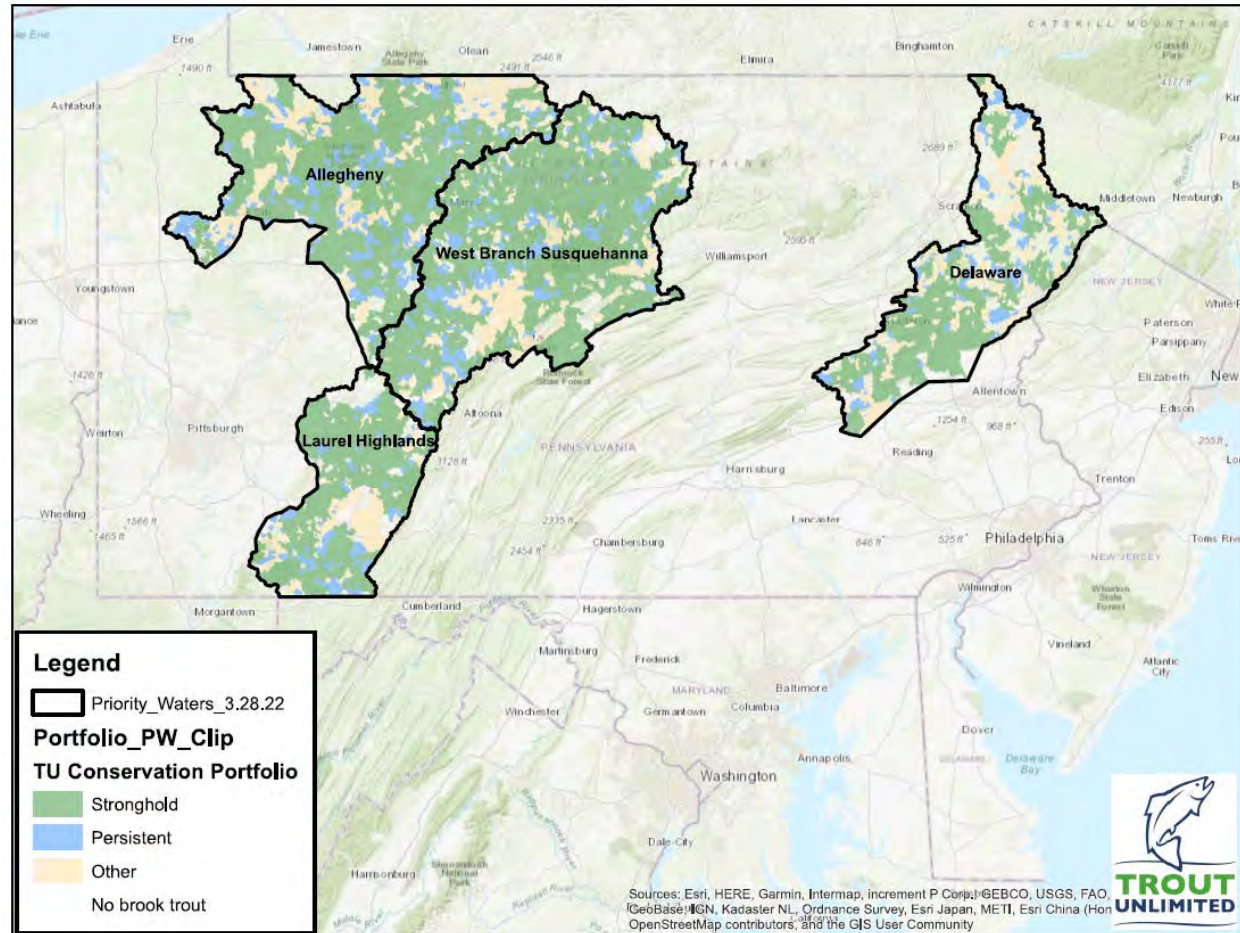


Priority Waters – Current Status



Currently at Step 3

- Map has been created and priority waters selected:
 - Allegheny
 - Laurel Highlands
 - West Branch Susquehanna
 - Delaware

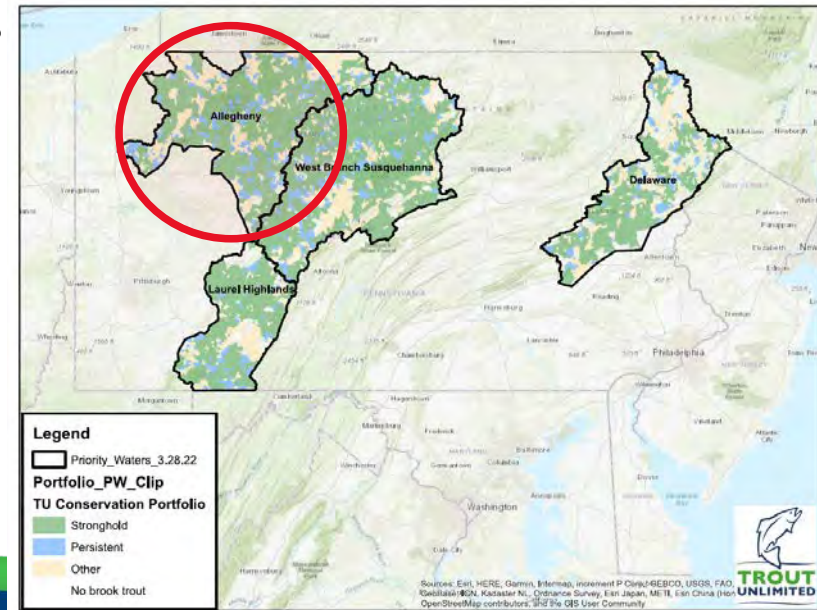


Priority Waters – Current Status



Allegheny:

- Funding support from the USFS with TU is being used to support staff to plan and conduct road-stream crossing surveys
- Recently awarded NFWF grant to develop a 10-yr Conservation Plan focused on the Clarion and Tionesta Watersheds
- Recent projects in Irwin Run

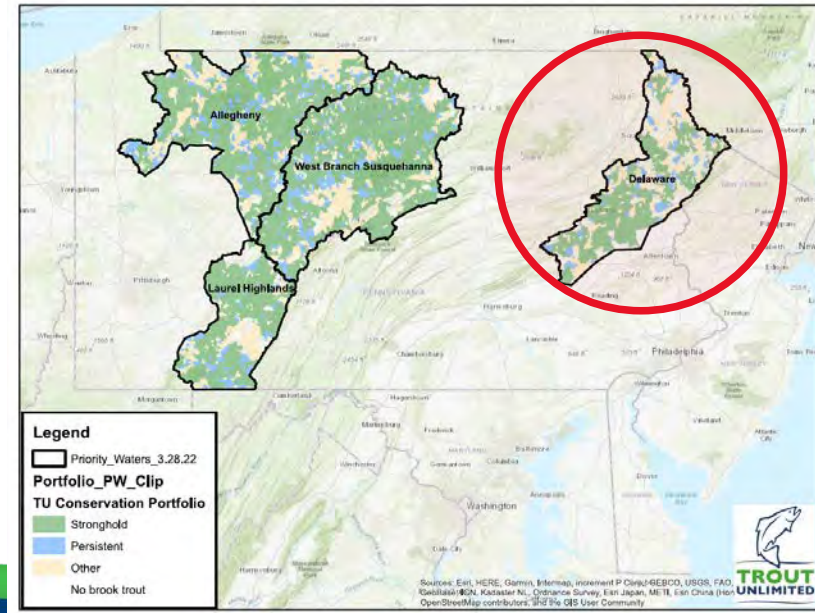


Priority Waters – Current Status



Delaware:

- With funding support from the PA Fish and Boat Commission we are planning to continue conducting Unassessed Stream Initiative surveys and road-stream crossing surveys.



Next Steps:



- Development of Strategic Action Plans for each Priority Watershed
 - What is the goal and vision to where we want to be five years from now?
 - What are the steps to needed to accomplish those goals?
 - Who are the partners?
- Communicating Priority Waters – after Action Plans are complete

We will be reaching out soon!

Questions/Discussion

