



**InVEST:  
A New Tool for  
Mainstreaming  
Conservation**


# The Natural Capital Project is a new collaboration among 3 partners



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A scenic landscape of a hillside with green vegetation and trees under a cloudy sky. The sky is filled with large, white, billowing clouds, and the sun is visible through a break in the clouds, creating a bright, hazy atmosphere. The hillside is covered in lush green grass and several tall, dark green trees. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Working together to  
make conservation  
*mainstream...*

a part of everyday life  
and everyday decisions

Our first product  
is a new tool  
called ***InVEST***:

**I**ntegrated

**V**aluation of

**E**cosystem

**S**ervices and

**T**radeoffs

InVEST is a *free* software package  
that brings together

nature and economics





# InVEST puts together data on the *biophysical* landscape, such as....

Landuse



Soil type



Topography



With data on the *human* landscape,  
such as....

## Roads



## Cities



## Infrastructure





To predict *how much* ecosystem service will be

supplied and demanded





# InVEST 1.0 Beta can map

Biodiversity



Water pollution regulation



Carbon sequestration



Managed timber production



Crop pollination



Avoided reservoir sedimentation



# The next version of InVEST will add

Tourism and recreation



Agricultural production



Flood mitigation



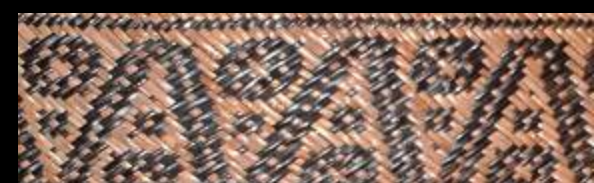
Hydropower production



Irrigation



Open access products





You can download  
InVEST 1.0 Beta today

at

<http://invest.ecoinformatics.org>

You will get a set of ArcGIS 9.2 toolboxes to install on your computer.

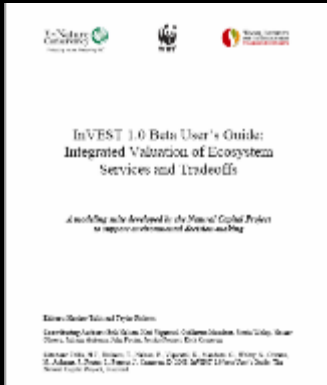
natural  
capital  
PROJECT

# InVEST Tier 1 Tools

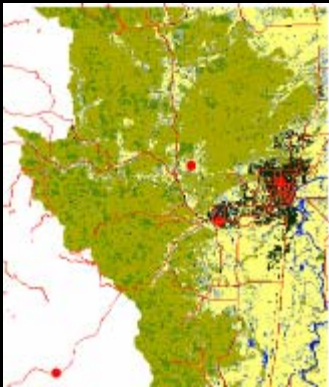
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# The program comes with...



A detailed user's guide

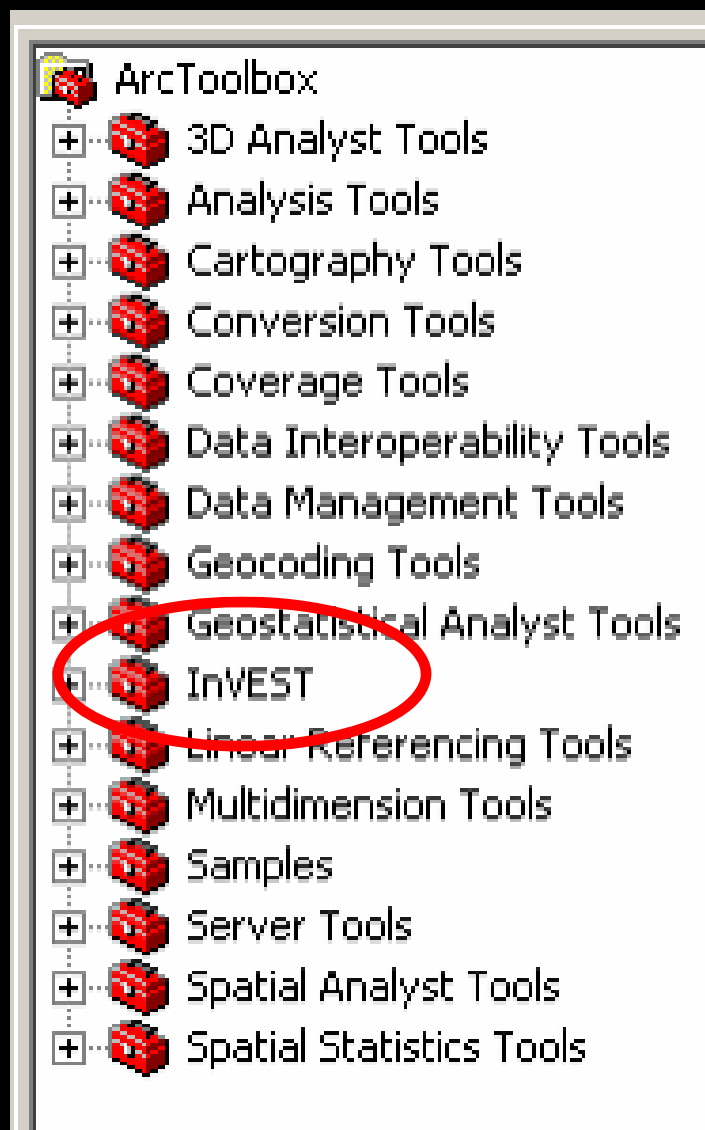


A sample data set and



Online technical support

# Once installed, InVEST will appear as an ArcToolbox

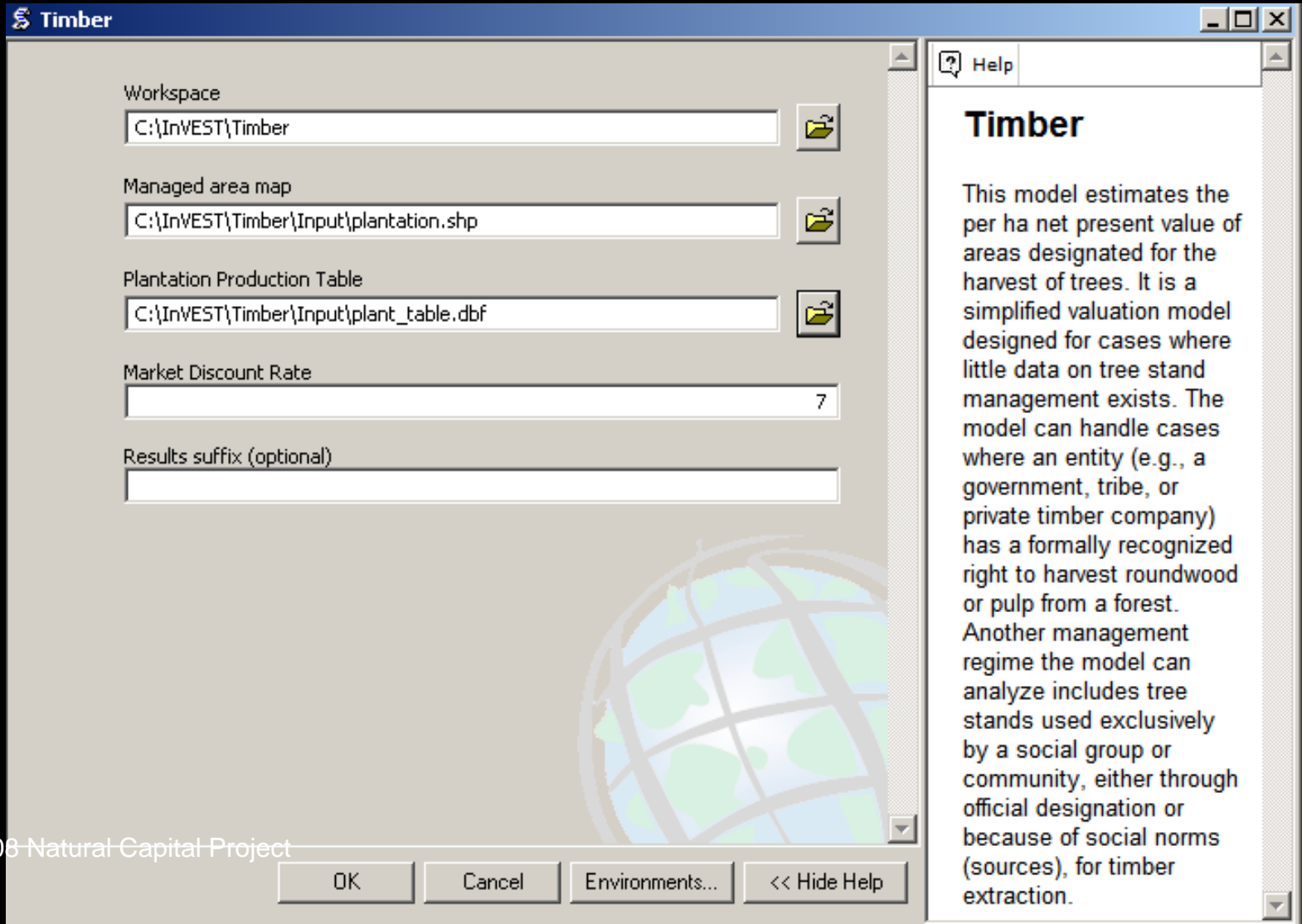




# Each ecosystem service has its own script



# Each script opens an interface where you can easily enter your data



The screenshot displays the Timber software interface. The main window has a title bar with the Timber logo and the text "Timber". Below the title bar, there are several input fields:

- Workspace:** A text box containing "C:\InVEST\Timber" with a folder icon to its right.
- Managed area map:** A text box containing "C:\InVEST\Timber\Input\plantation.shp" with a folder icon to its right.
- Plantation Production Table:** A text box containing "C:\InVEST\Timber\Input\plant\_table.dbf" with a folder icon to its right.
- Market Discount Rate:** A text box containing the number "7".
- Results suffix (optional):** An empty text box.

At the bottom of the main window, there are four buttons: "OK", "Cancel", "Environments...", and "<< Hide Help".

On the right side of the interface, there is a help window titled "Timber". The help text reads:

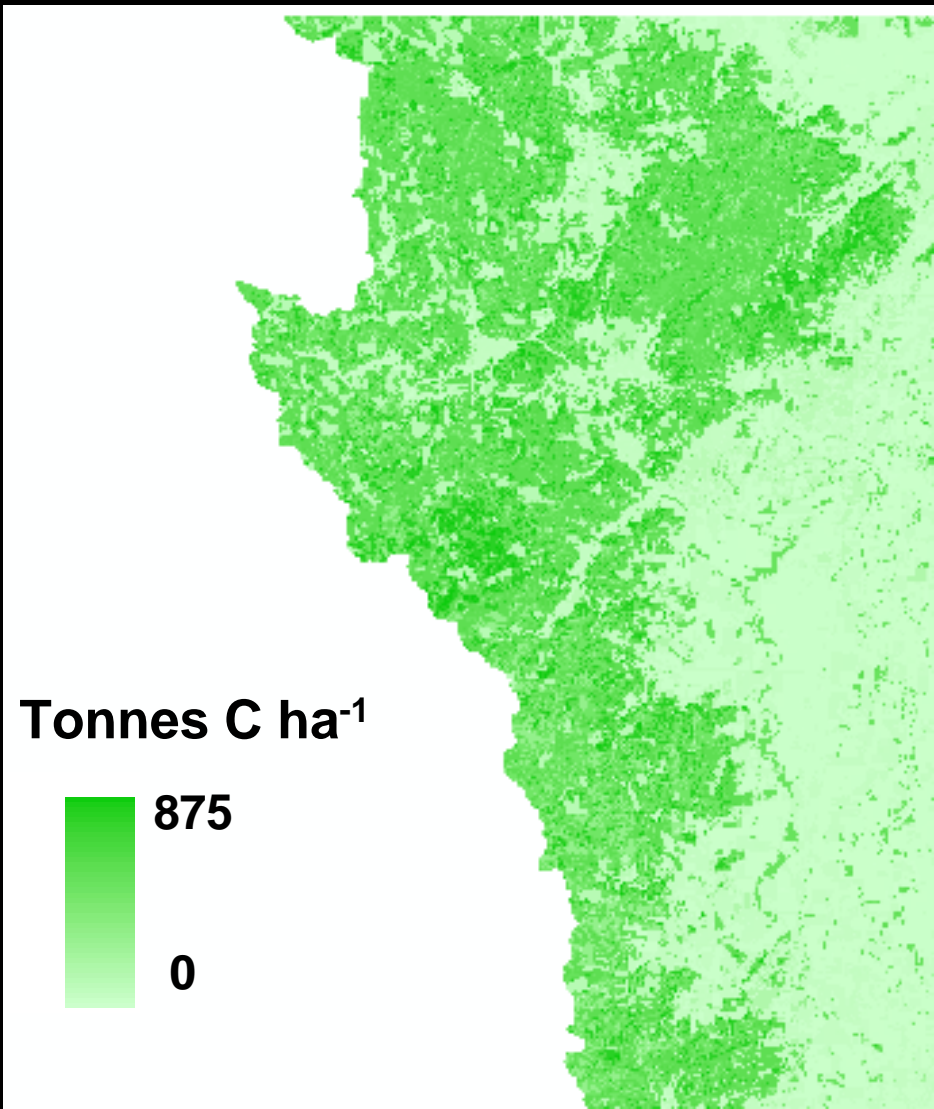
**Timber**

This model estimates the per ha net present value of areas designated for the harvest of trees. It is a simplified valuation model designed for cases where little data on tree stand management exists. The model can handle cases where an entity (e.g., a government, tribe, or private timber company) has a formally recognized right to harvest roundwood or pulp from a forest. Another management regime the model can analyze includes tree stands used exclusively by a social group or community, either through official designation or because of social norms (sources), for timber extraction.



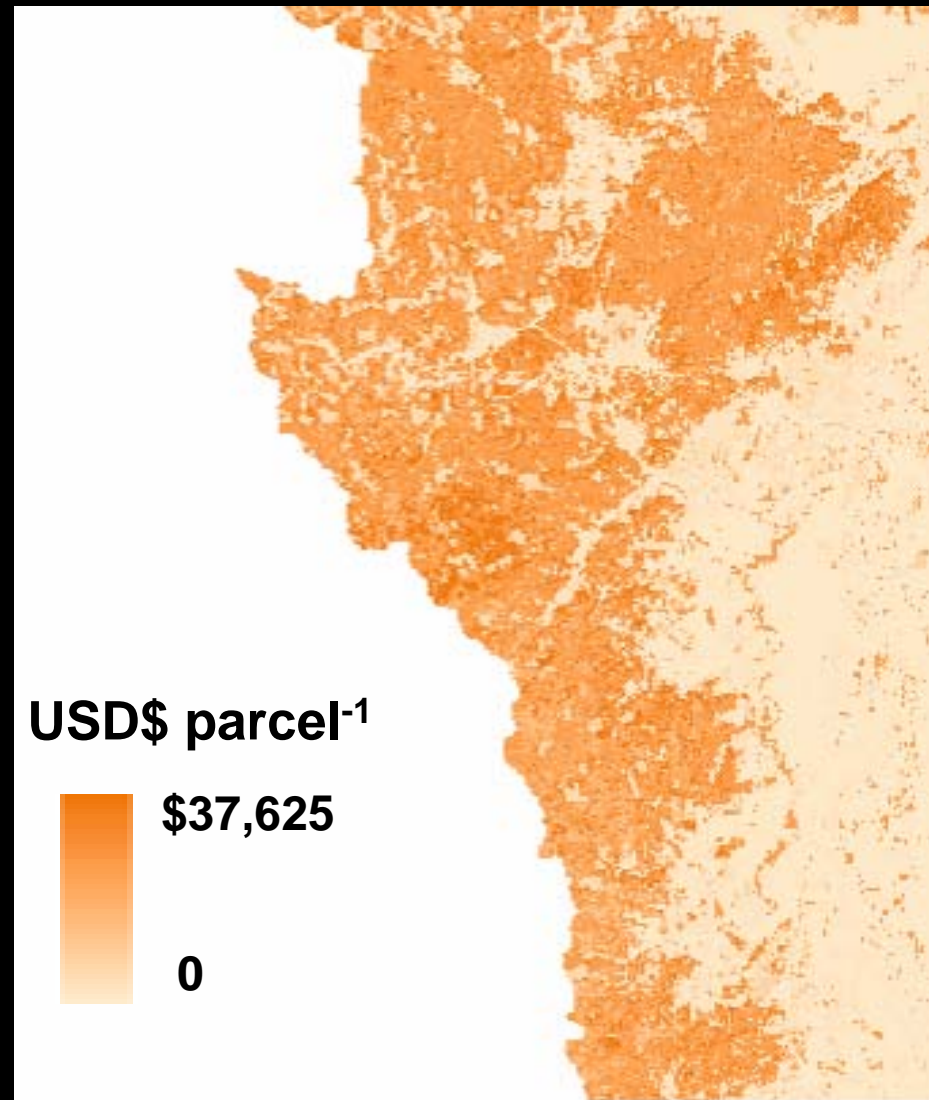
Run a script and you will get a map of your ecosystem service of interest

In *biophysical* terms, such as this map of carbon storage in tonnes per hectare



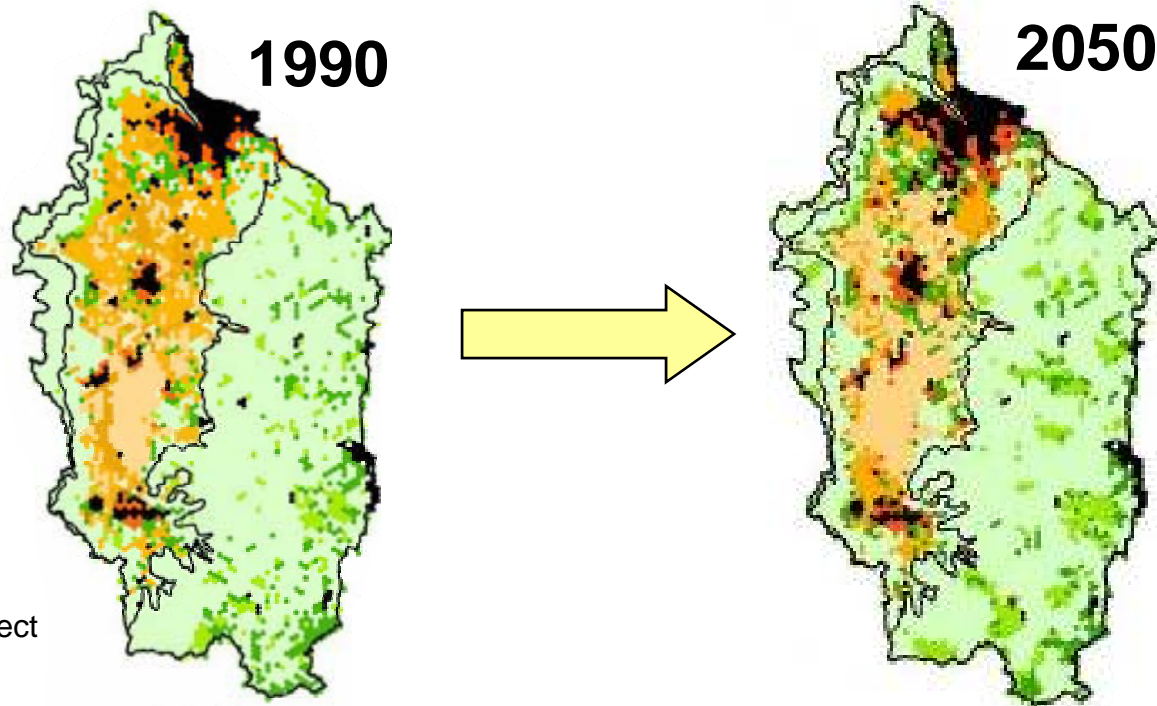
Run a script and you will get a map of your ecosystem service of interest

Or in *economic* terms, such as this map of the Net Present Value of carbon in US Dollars

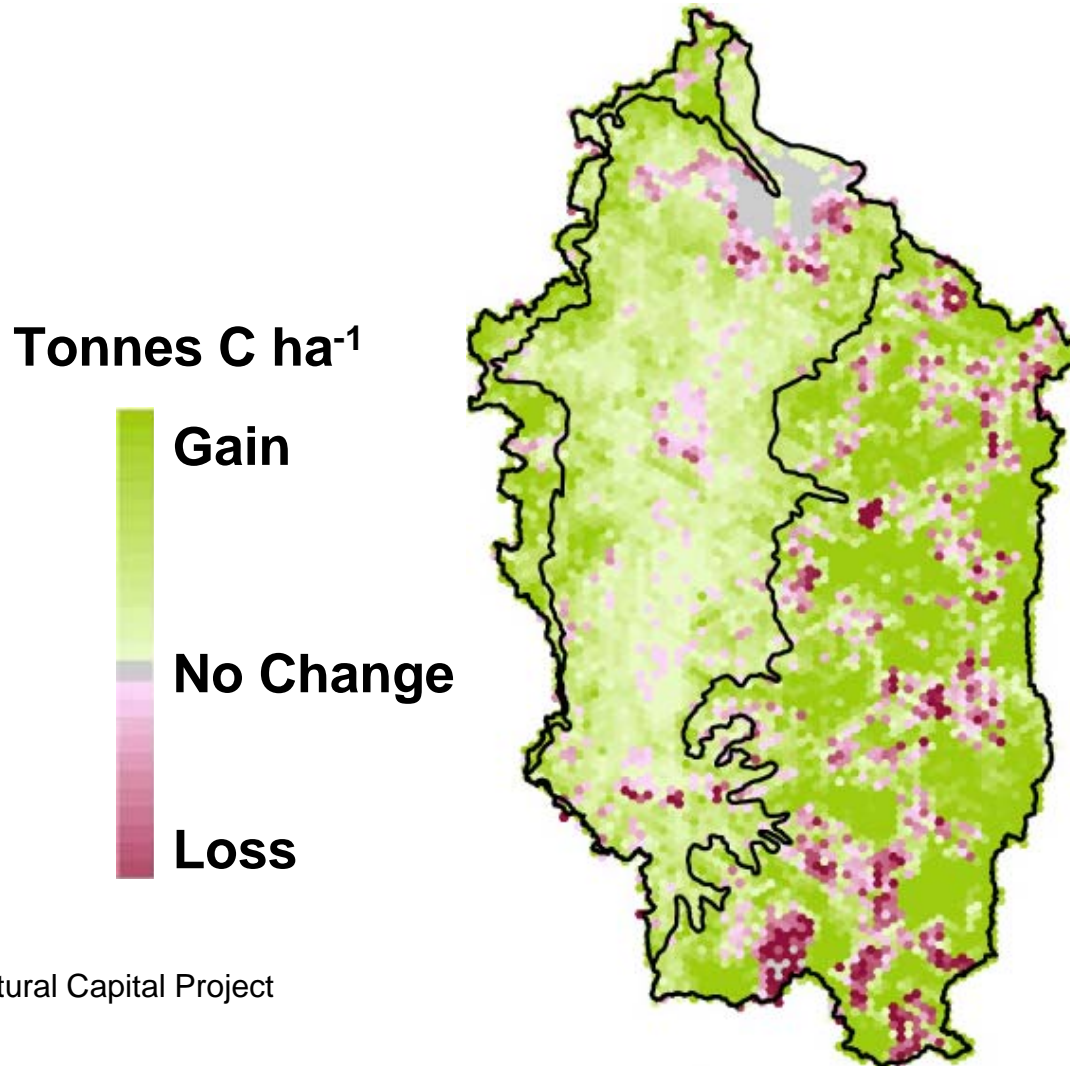


You can run the models again with a possible future landscape to see how services will change

Here's an example from Oregon  
Showing development over the next  
50 years.

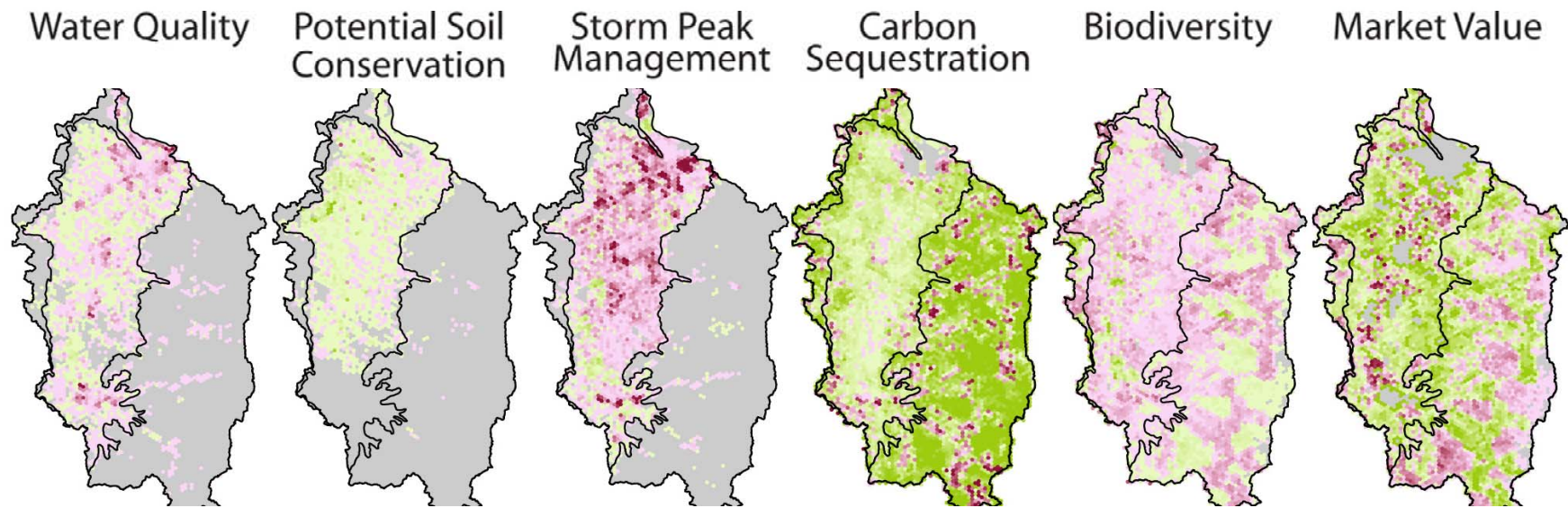


# This map shows how carbon storage will change across the landscape

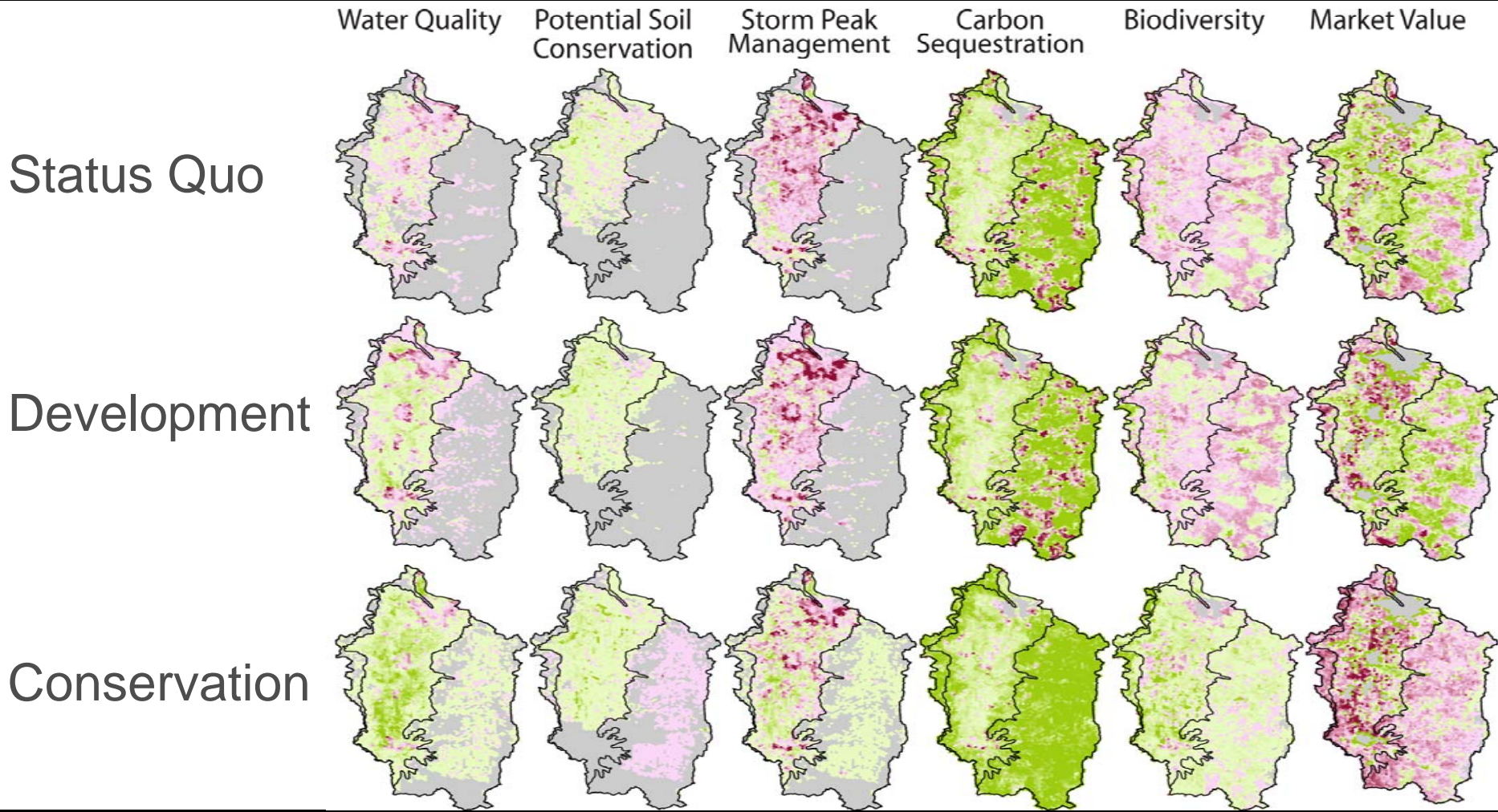




# Maps of changes in multiple services can be viewed to reveal tradeoffs



# And multiple scenarios can be lined up to find the best options for the future



# InVEST is being applied around the globe to answer diverse questions



US  
West  
Coast



Hawai'i



Amazon  
& Andes



Eastern  
Arc Mtns



Upper  
Yangtze



See our other demo for one example of how InVEST is helping mainstream conservation



**InVESTing**  
in Hawai`i's  
Natural  
Capital