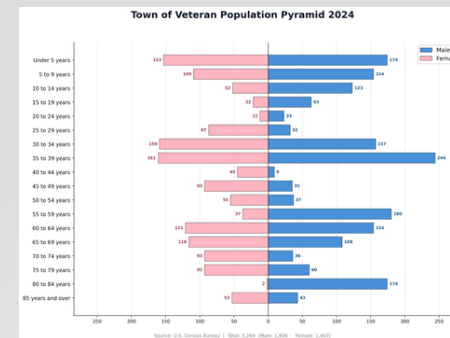


Comprehensive Plan

Town of Veteran

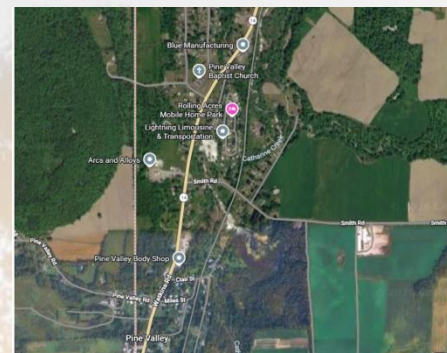
Group Members: Siyao Liu, Baichuan Wang, Sandy Zeyue Xie, Wanting Fu,
Xiaosi Lai, Qingbang Wen, Jinrong Yang, Daxton Alan Gautreaux

Category



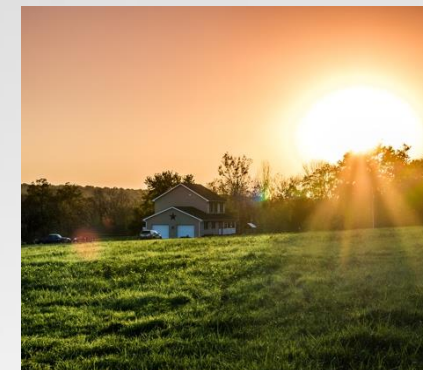
Demography

Sensors and drones monitor crop health, allowing farmers to detect issues early, apply precise treatments, and improve yields through informed and timely actions based on data-driven insights and targeted resource application effectively.



Landuse

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Agriculture

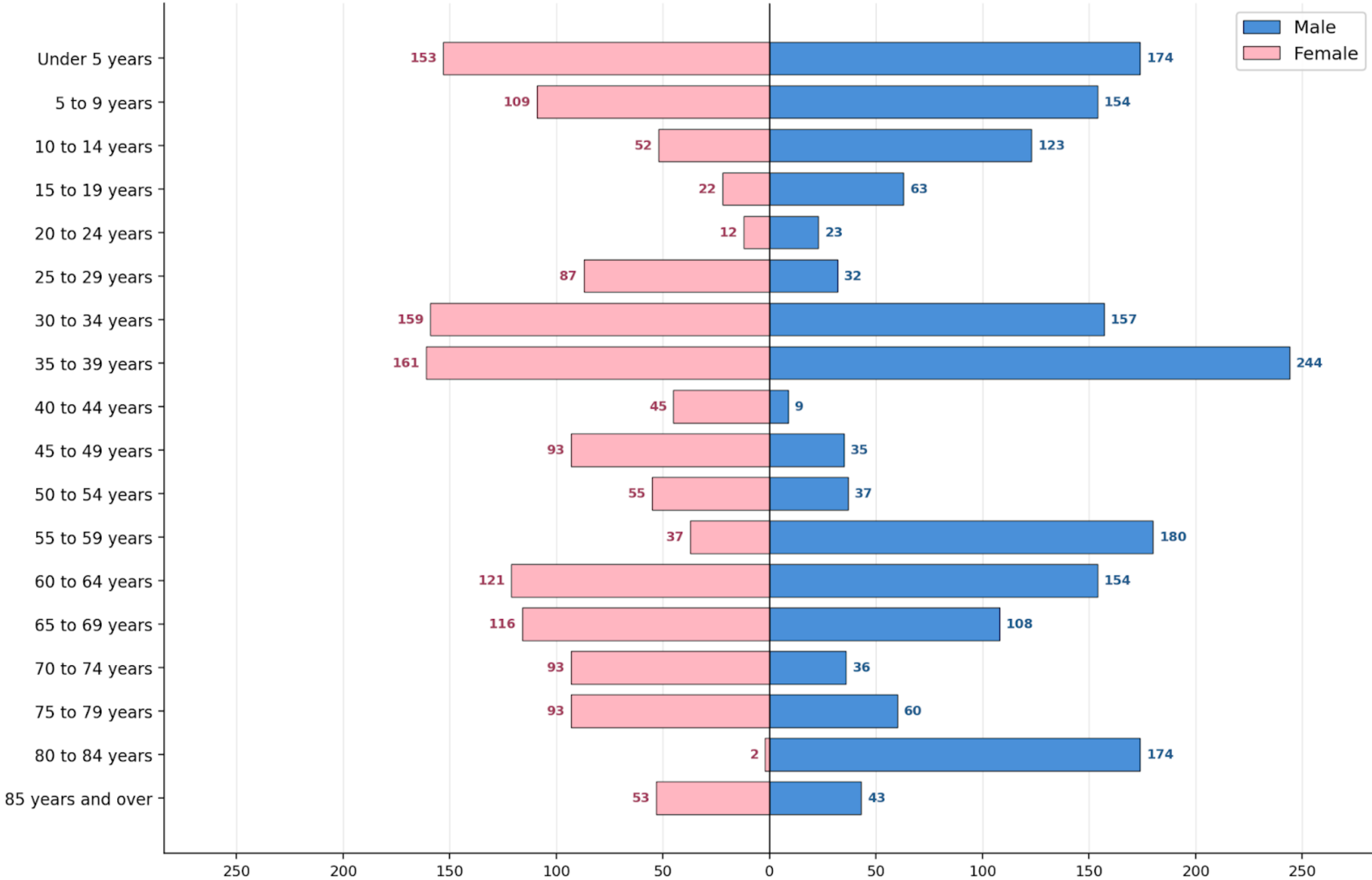
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Natural Resources

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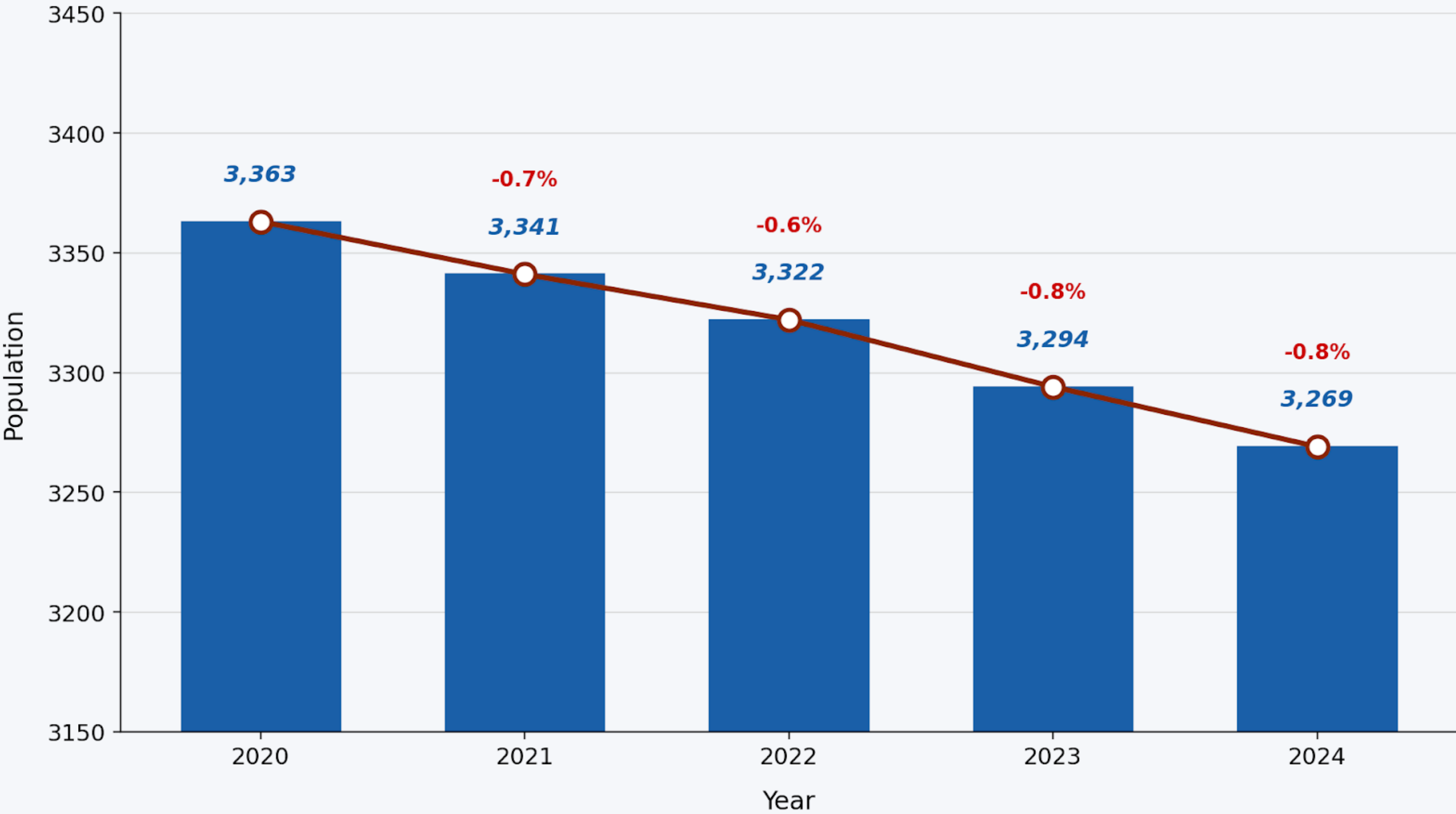
Town of Veteran Population Pyramid 2024



Source: U.S. Census Bureau | Total: 3,269 (Male: 1,806 · Female: 1,463)

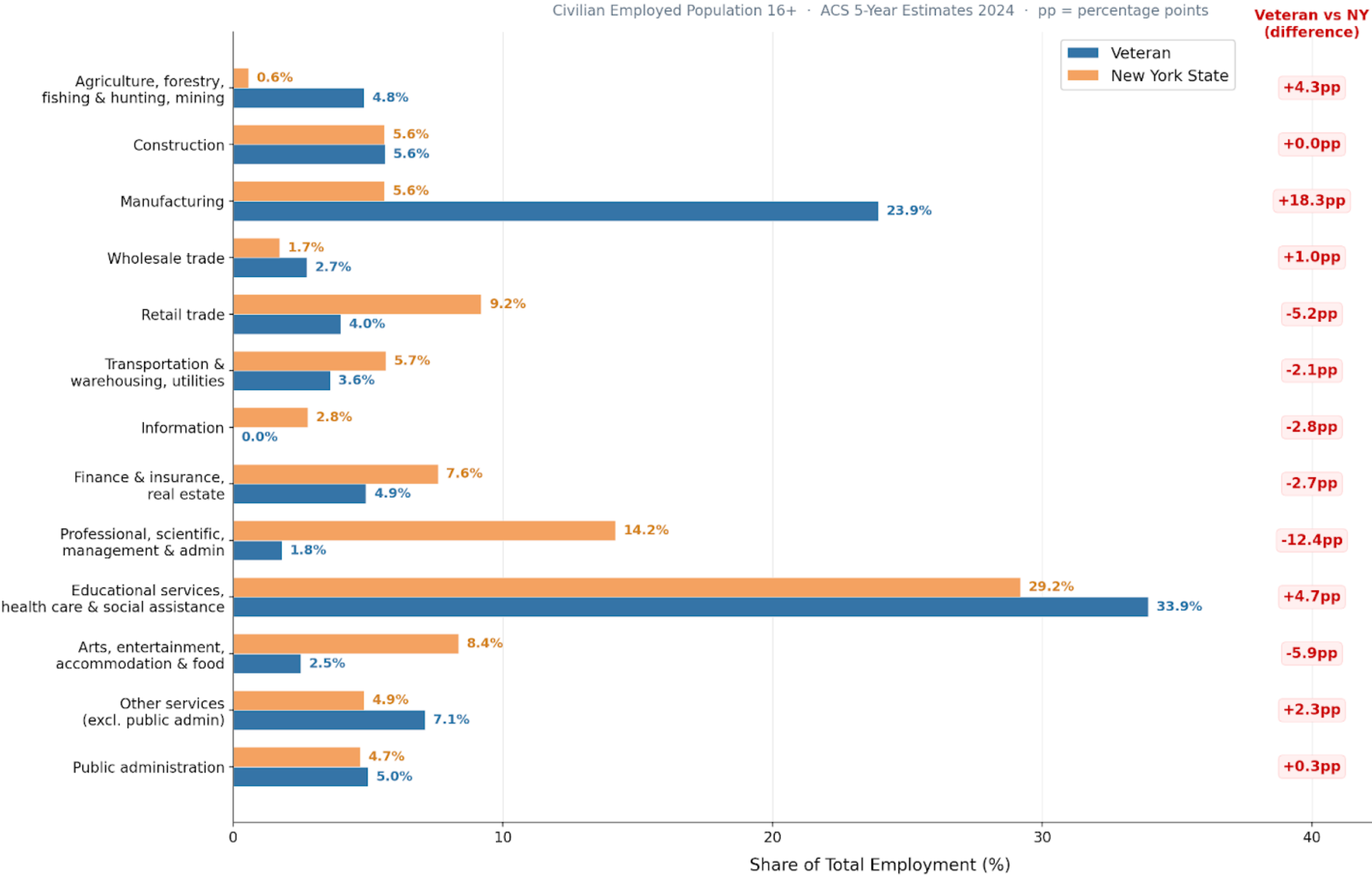
Population Trend (2020-2024)

Town of Veteran, Chemung County, NY · U.S. Census Bureau



Industry Employment Share — Veteran vs. New York State (2024)

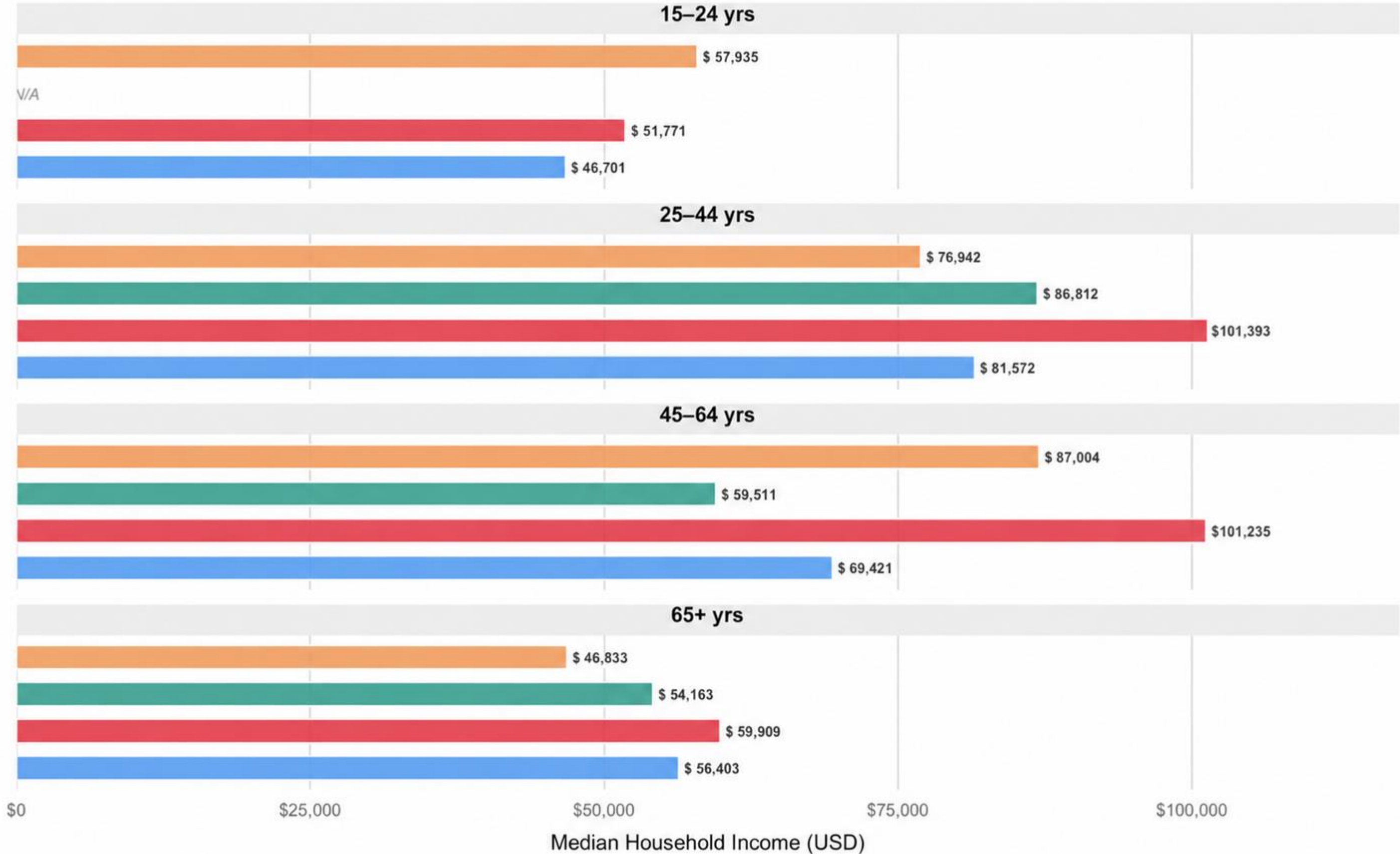
data based on residences' occupation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS S2403 | Veteran Total: 1,279 | NY State Total: 9,737,212

Median Household Income by Age Group — 4 Regions Compared (2024)

2024 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars



Region Chemung County (NY) New York State Veteran Town (Schuyler) Horseheads Town (Chemung)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, ACS 2024 · N/A = insufficient sample

Owner-Occupied Housing

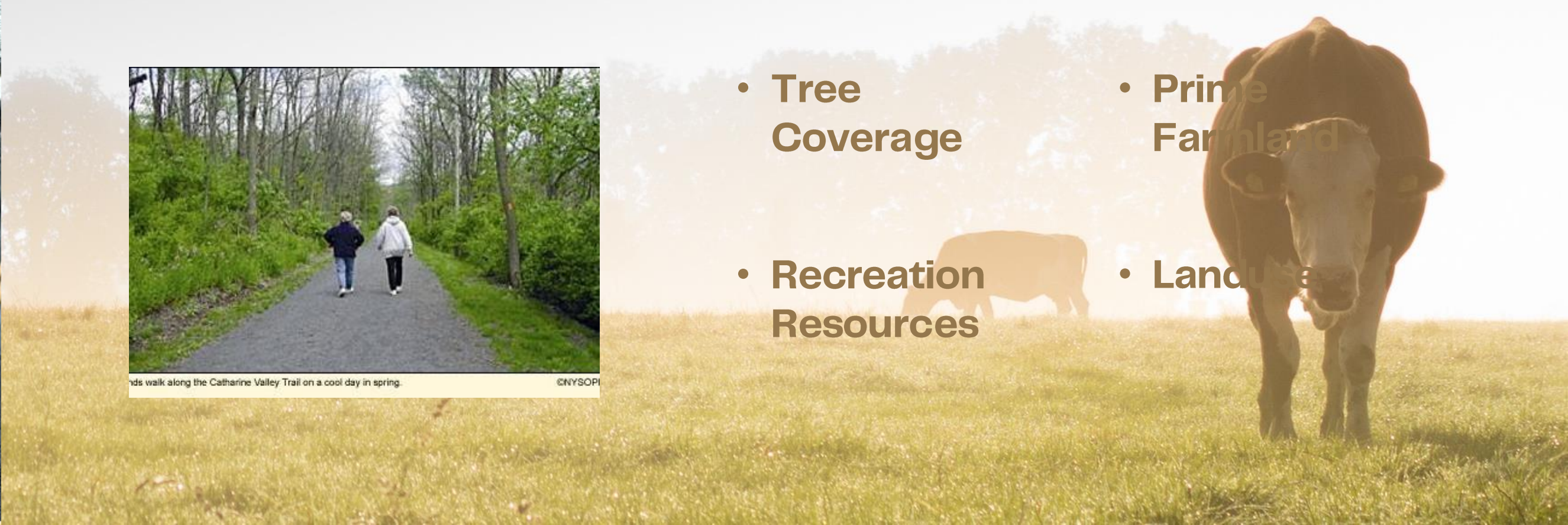
Housing Type	Veteran Town	Chemung County	New York State
1-unit, detached	92.5%	90.8%	69.4%
1-unit, attached	—	0.7%	7.6%
2 units	—	2.8%	7.0%
3–4 units	—	0.5%	2.2%
5–9 units	—	~0.0%	1.0%
10+ units	—	0.1%	10.0%
Manufactured / mobile homes	7.5%	5.1%	2.8%

Natural Resources



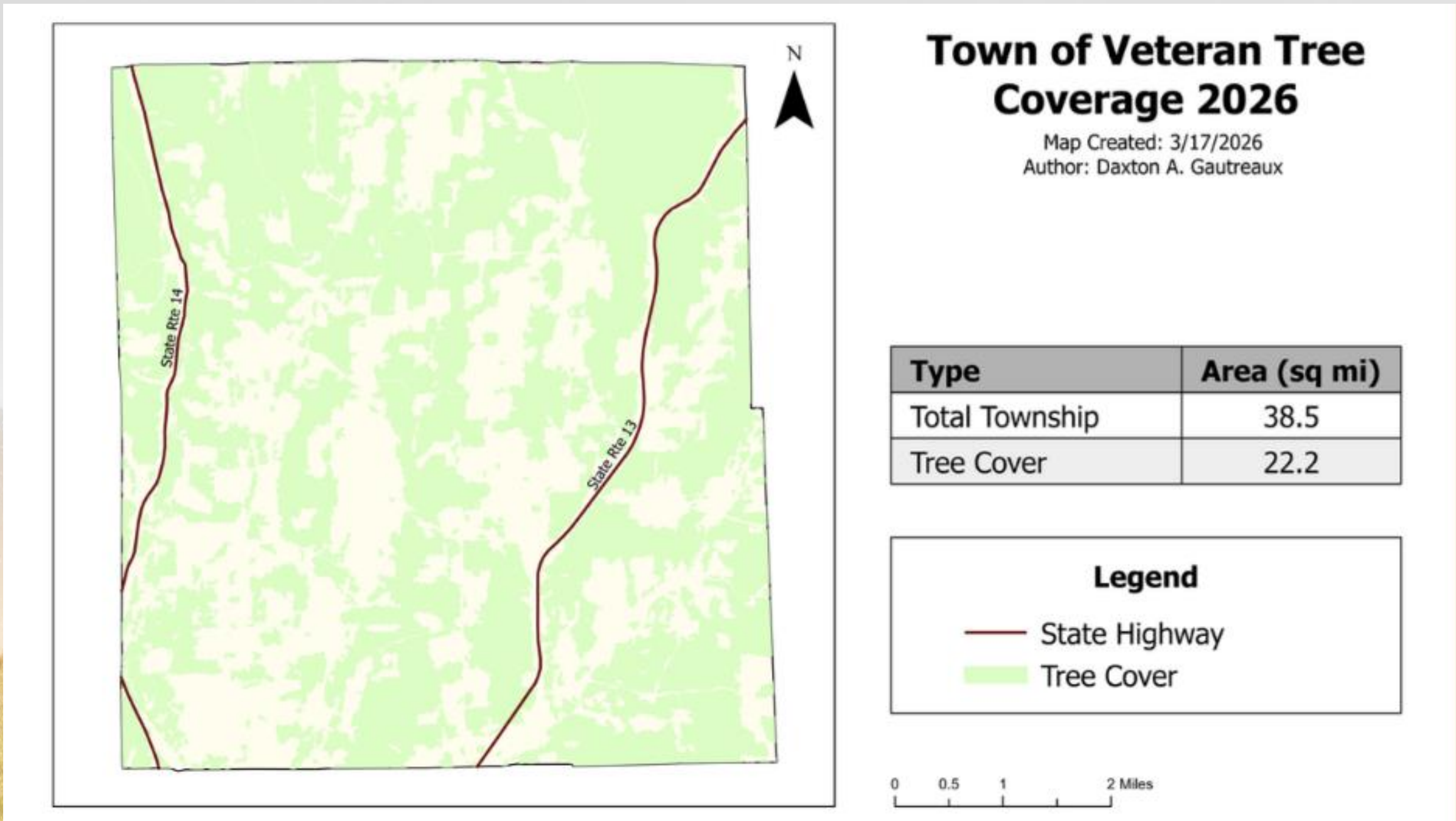
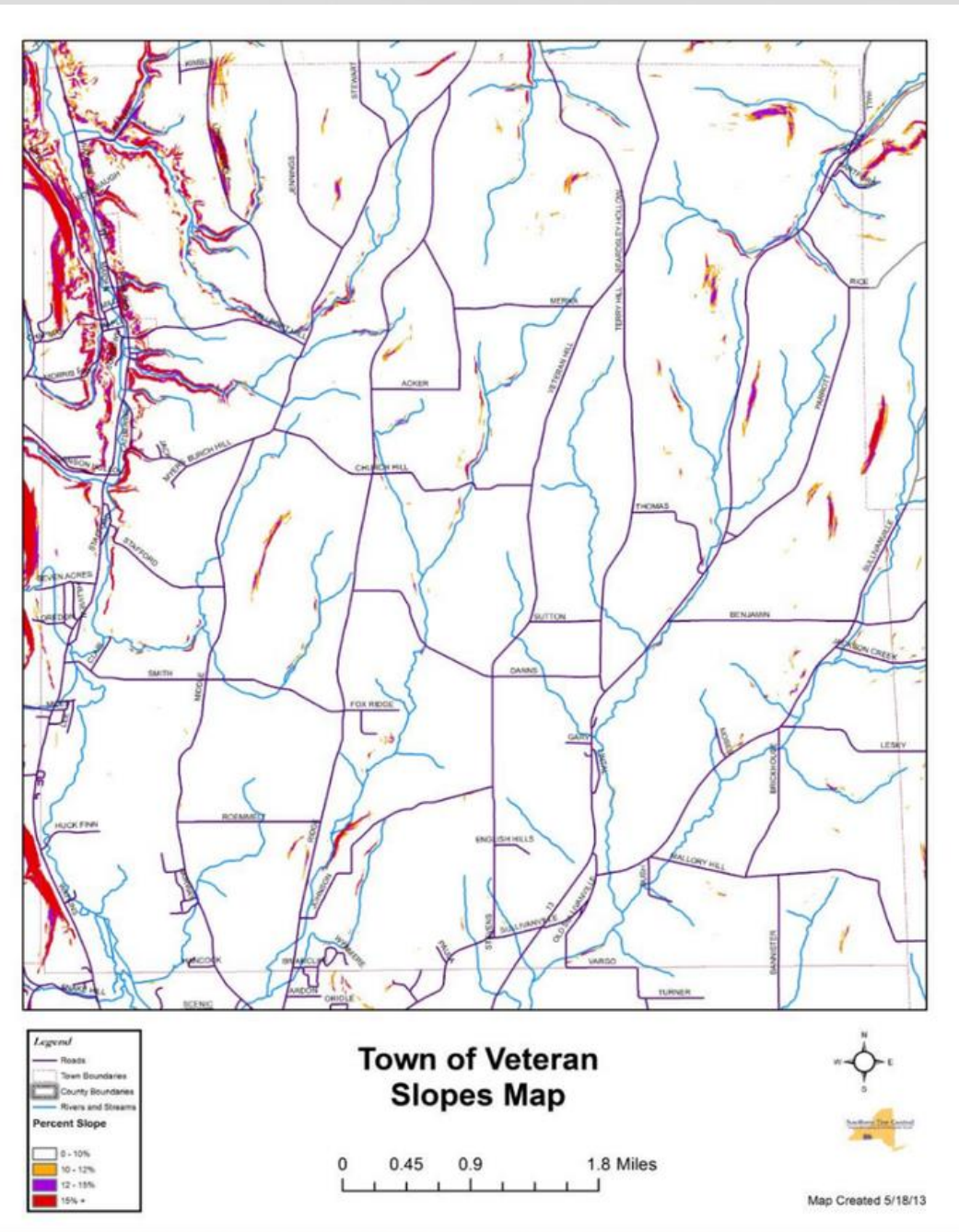
People walk along the Catharine Valley Trail on a cool day in spring. ©NYSOP

- Tree Coverage
- Prime Farmland
- Recreation Resources
- Land Use



Tree Coverage

- **Tree Coverage Status:** 22.2 / 38.5 sq mi forested (~58%) — good baseline, but fragmented.
- **Sloping Status:** Steep slopes (15%+) are concentrated along the western edge of Veteran, with scattered pockets along stream corridors elsewhere.



Tree Coverage

- Tree Coverage Status: 22.2 / 38.5 sq. mi forested (~58%) — good baseline, but fragmented.
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Recommendations:

- **Connect fragmented forest patches via wildlife corridors & hedgerows**
- **Buffer State Rtes 13 & 14 with protected tree strips**
- **Reforest marginal farmland, steep slopes, and riparian zones (50–100 ft stream buffers)**

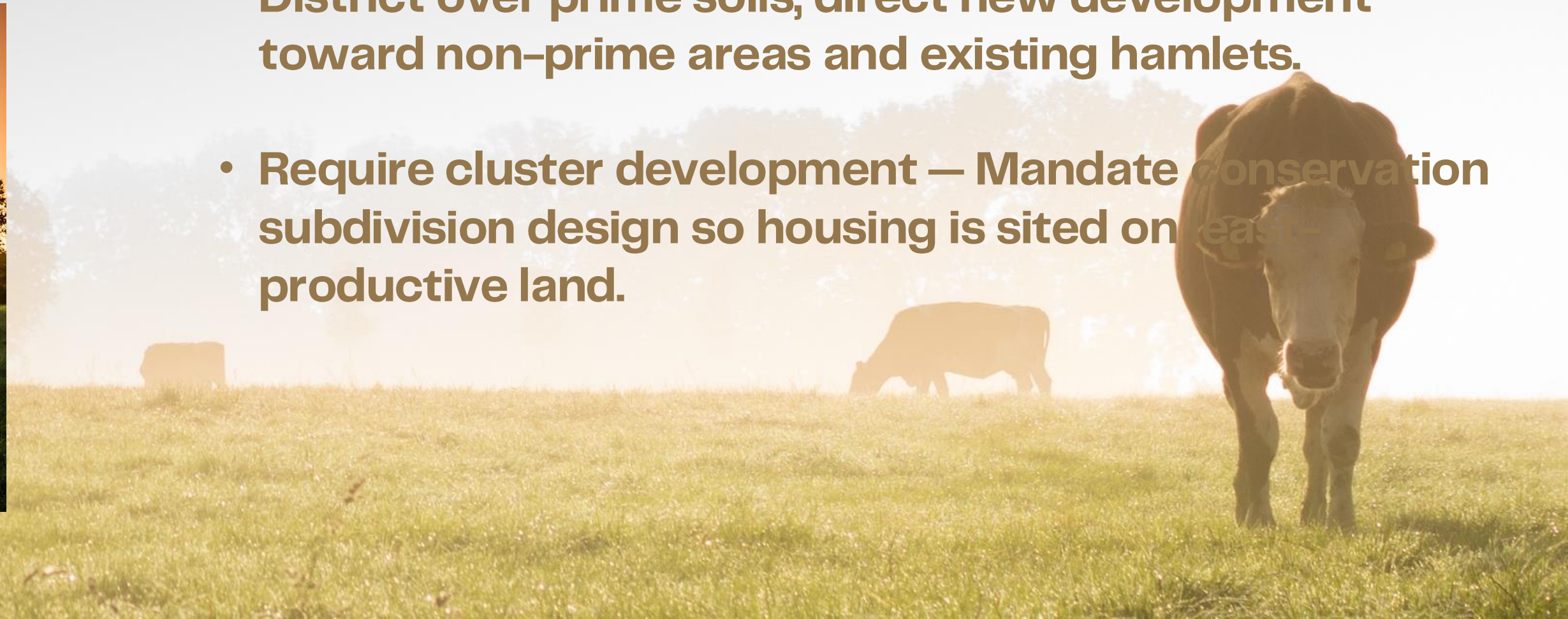
Prime Farmland

- Extensive prime farmland concentrated along central valley floors (dark green).
- Farmland of Statewide Importance covers most surrounding gentle slopes (light green).
- High development risk — prime soils overlap with valleys where roads and growth concentrate.



Recommendations:

- **Zone for protection — Create an Agricultural Overlay District over prime soils; direct new development toward non-prime areas and existing hamlets.**
- **Require cluster development — Mandate conservation subdivision design so housing is sited on least-productive land.**

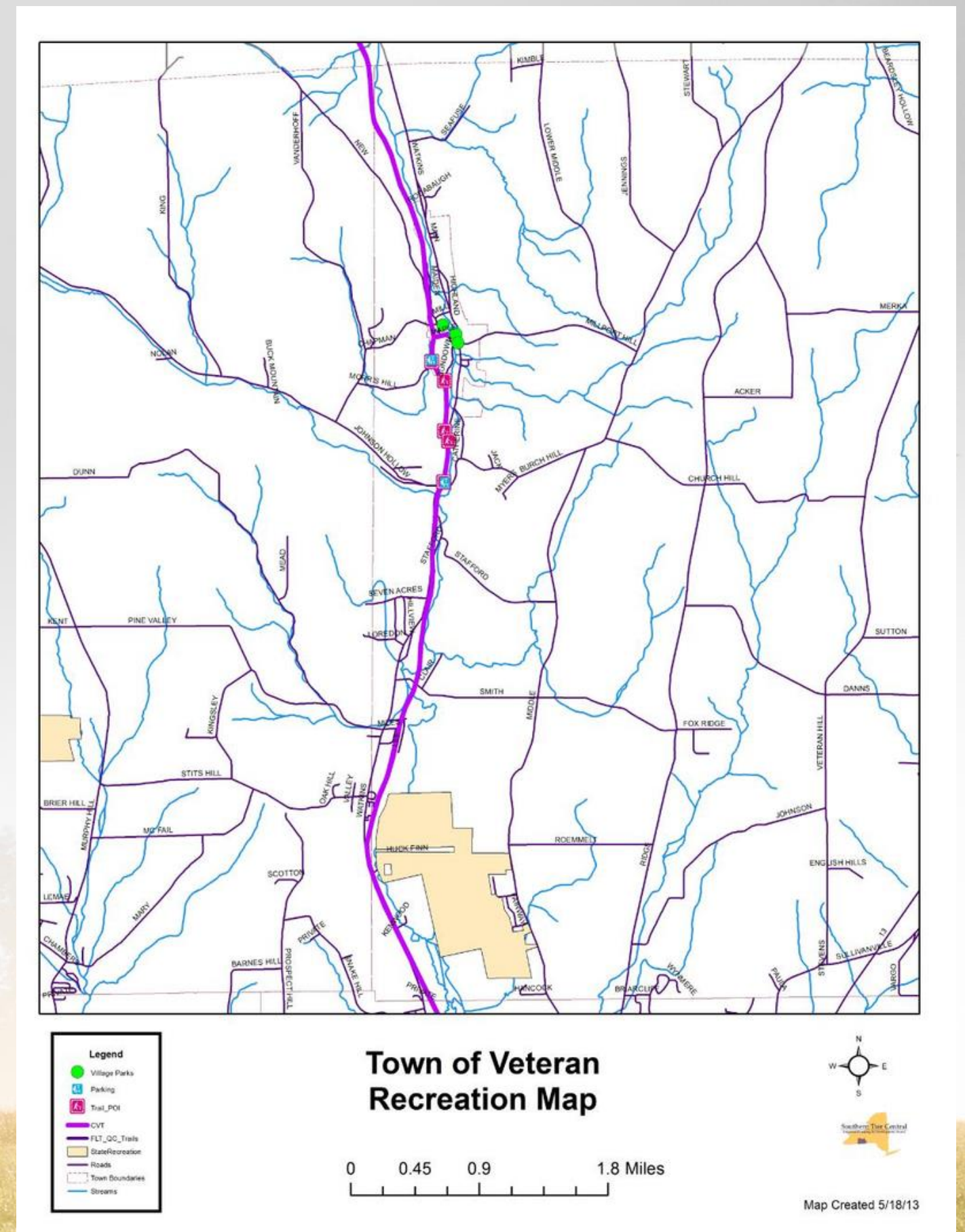


Recreation Resources

- Catherine Trail
- Mark Twain State Park

Recommendations:

- a. Map the regional recreation network in GIS — trails, state parks, and parks in Horseheads & Chemung County.
- b. Pursue grants for Catharine Valley Trail amenities (signage, parking, restrooms) through Friends of the CVT.
- c. Update zoning so trail-side retail, food, and lodging can locate without variances.
- d. Partner with Horseheads and Chemung County on shared facilities before funding a new town park.



Current Landuse

Municipal Boundaries

Municipal Boundaries

Land Use

ClassName

Water

Trees

Flooded Vegetation

Crops

Built Area

Bare Ground

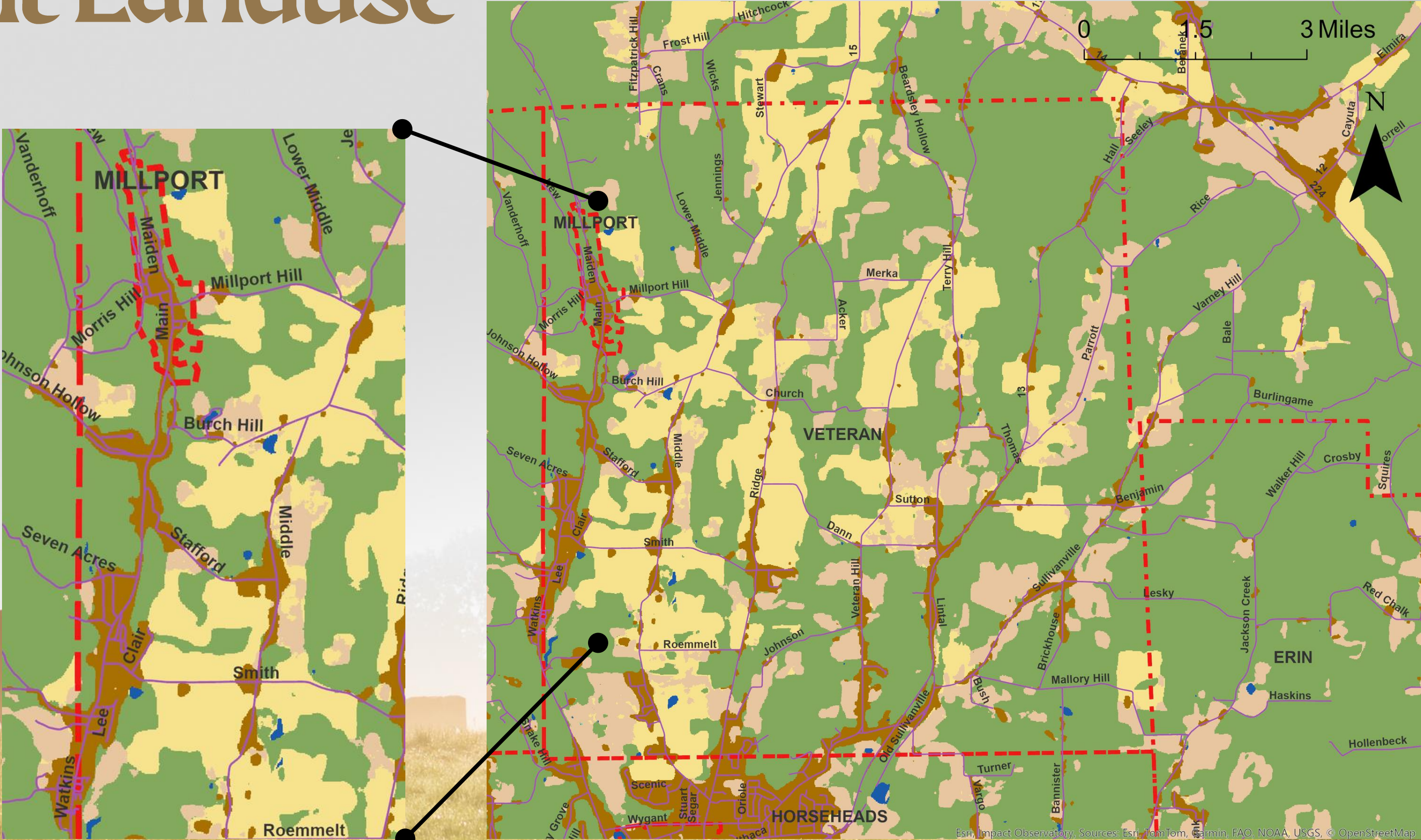
Snow/Ice

Clouds

Inactivate Agriculture

No Data

Chemung_County_Roads

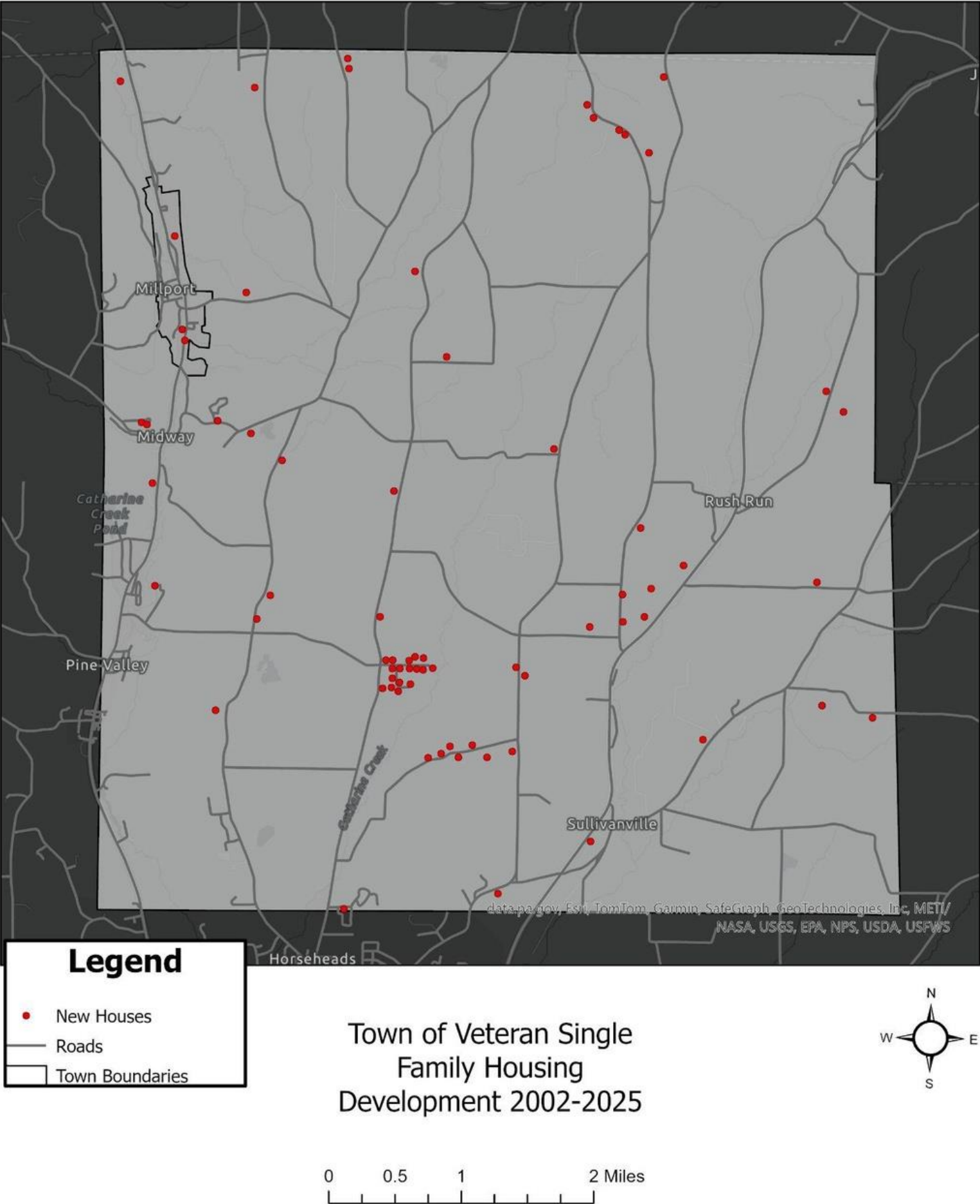


LAND USE

New home development from 2002 to 2025 :
There were a total of 72 new units built during this period, which can be seen throughout the Town of Veteran.

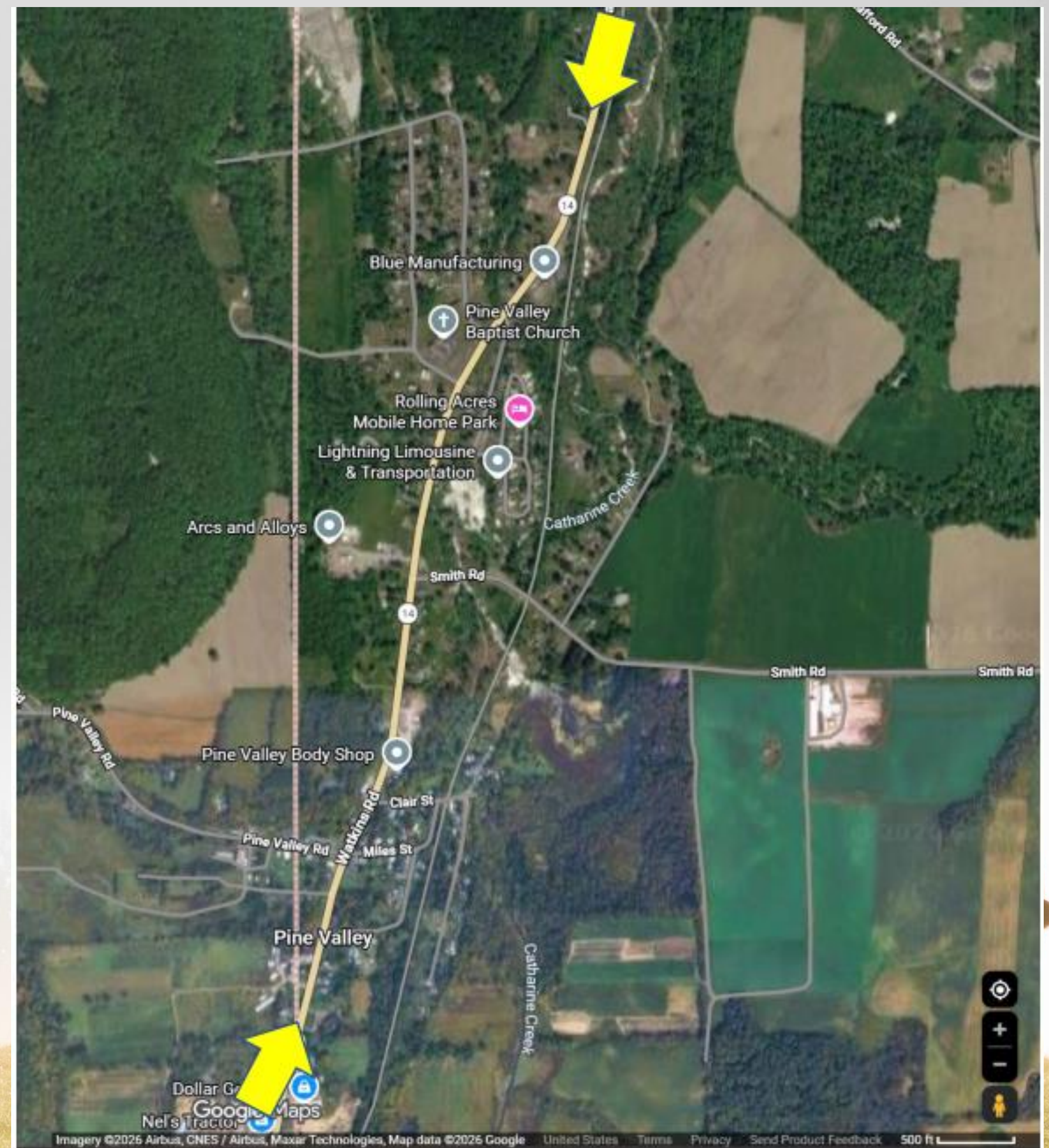


Single Family Housing Development 2002-2025



Recommended Land Use: Pine Valley

- Consider transforming this area into a mixed-use commercial center for Veteran;
- Consider a program to rehabilitate/upgrade manufactured housing communities to support low-cost, long-term, stable, and age-friendly housing in Veteran.



Resource: Google Map

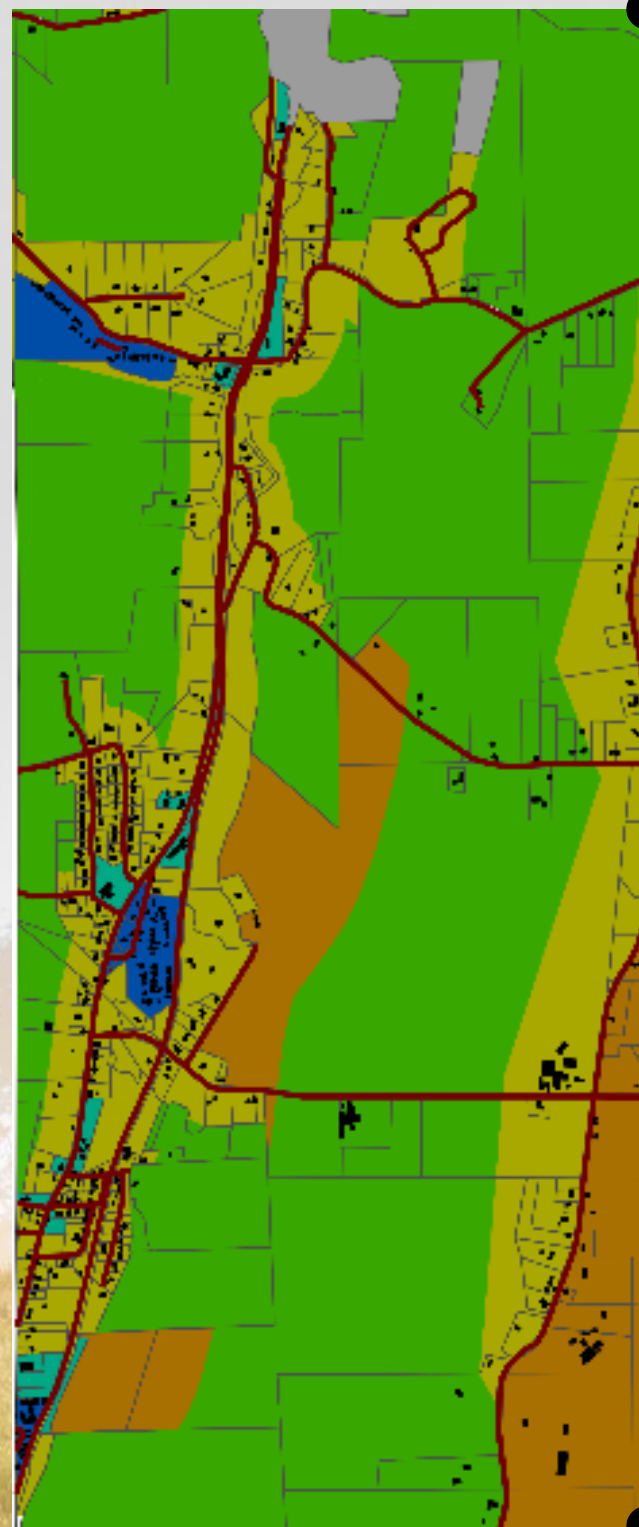
Suggested Land Use

Map Legend

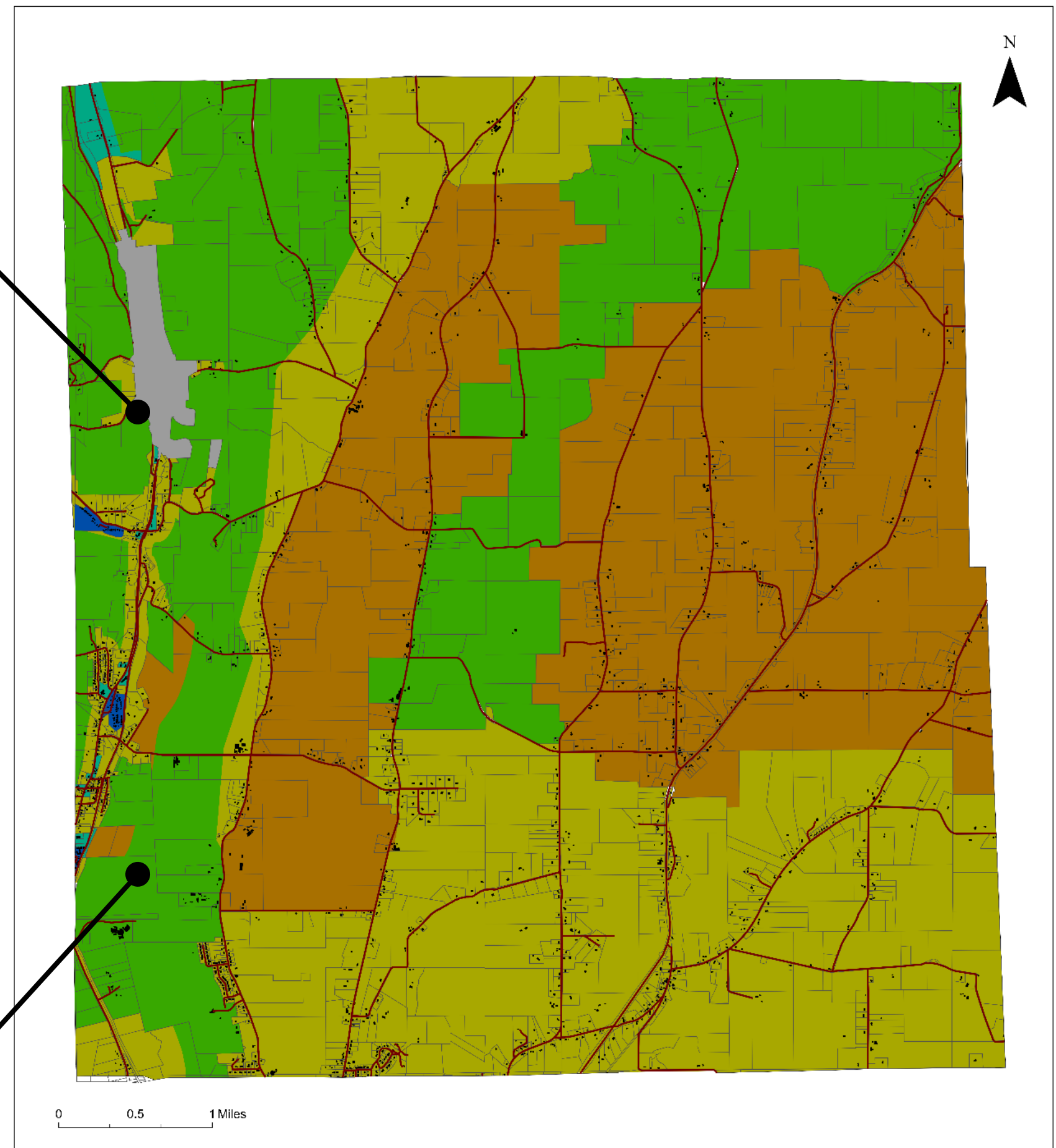
-  Village of Millport
-  Roadways
-  Structures
-  Tax Parcels

Land Use Legend

-  Agriculture Area
-  Conservation Area
-  Manufactured Home Area
-  Mixed Use Area
-  Residential Area



Town of Veteran Land Use Map



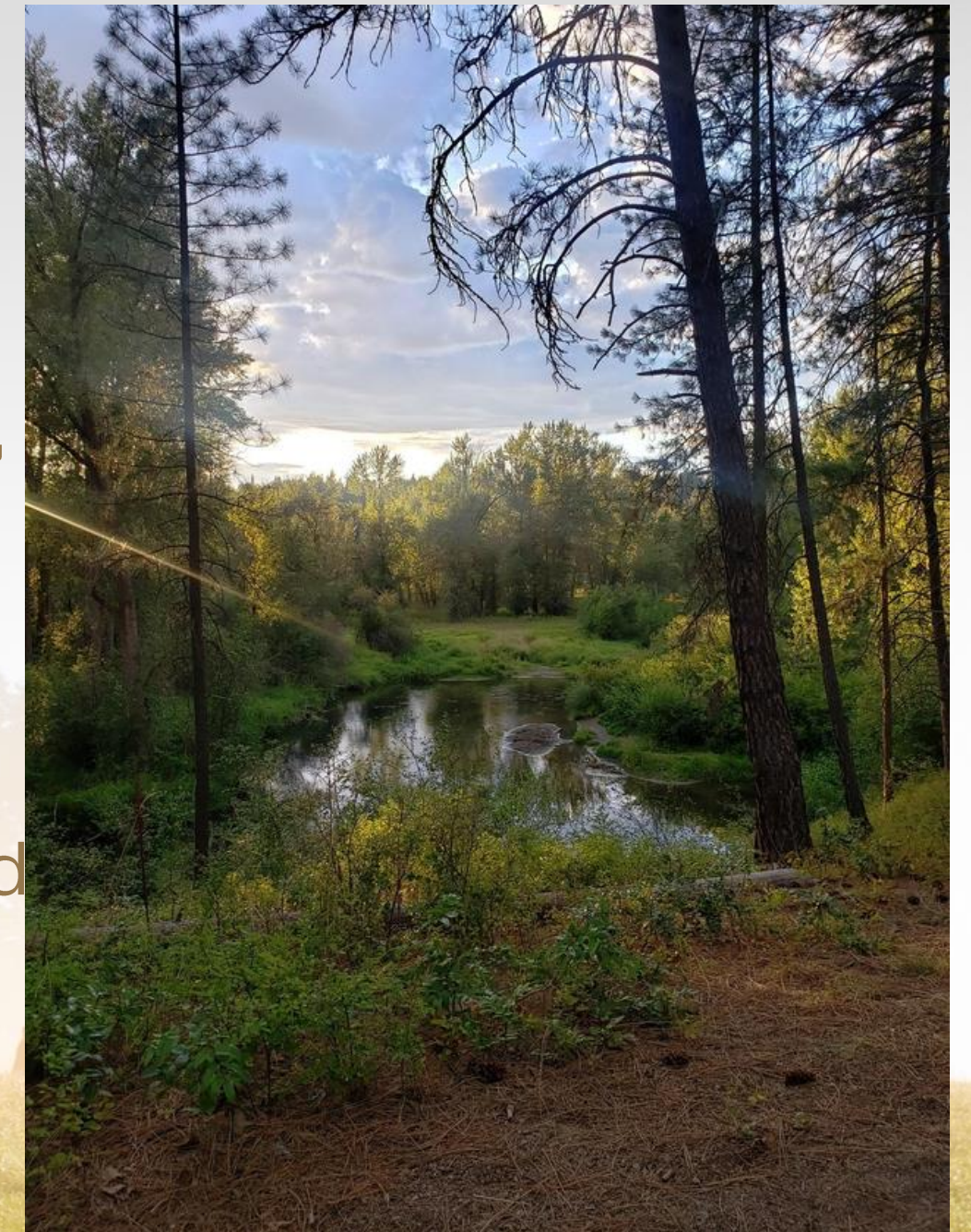
Agriculture Areas

- **Purpose:** Preserve long-term farmland for agriculture
- **Goal:** Support and strengthen the farming economy
- **Recommended Primary Uses:** Farming and agriculture, single detached dwelling units for farmsteads, and employee-provided farmworker housing.
- **Development:** Keep mostly undeveloped, only farm-related structures allowed
- **Protection:** Strict limits on conversion to non-farm uses



Conservation Area

- **Purpose:** Protect natural features like forests, farmland, habitats, and streams
- **Recommended Primary Uses:** small-scale agriculture, natural areas, and single-family homes.
- **Development:** Strictly limited and carefully reviewed to avoid environmental harm
- **Risks to Avoid:** Erosion, unstable slopes, and water quality decline
- **Protection Tools:** Stream buffers, conservation easements, and deed restrictions



Manufactured Home Areas

- **Purpose:** Provide affordable, flexible housing compatible with the community and the environment
- **Recommended Primary Uses:** manufactured homes, single-family residences, neighborhood open spaces, and small community-serving amenities.
- **Design:** Safe, attractive neighborhoods with proper installation and planning
- **Infrastructure:** Requires stormwater control, road access, utilities, and buffers
- **Quality:** Encourages trees, open space, and consistent design standards



Mobile Home Park

Mixed-Use Areas

- **Purpose:** Support higher-density neighborhoods with housing and supporting commercial uses
- **Recommended Primary Uses:** A range of multi-unit dwelling units and non-residential uses like retail and food establishments, but not of a heavy industrial or heavy manufacturing nature.
- **Design:** Mixed-use areas may include housing and public/community spaces, especially near transit
- **Infrastructure:** Requires strong utilities, transit access,
 - and pedestrian/bike connectivity
- **Location:** Typically near neighborhood centers or along
 - major roads/arterials



Residential Areas

- **Purpose:** Create safe, stable, and high-quality residential neighborhoods
- **Recommended Primary Uses:** single-family homes, duplexes, townhomes, neighborhood parks, schools, and community facilities.
- **Design:** Compatible with neighborhood character; supports walkability and connectivity
- **Infrastructure:** Requires adequate utilities, drainage, and transportation systems
- **Quality:** Encourages open space, trees, setbacks, and buffers for livability and protection



Engagement Goals for Agricultural Planning

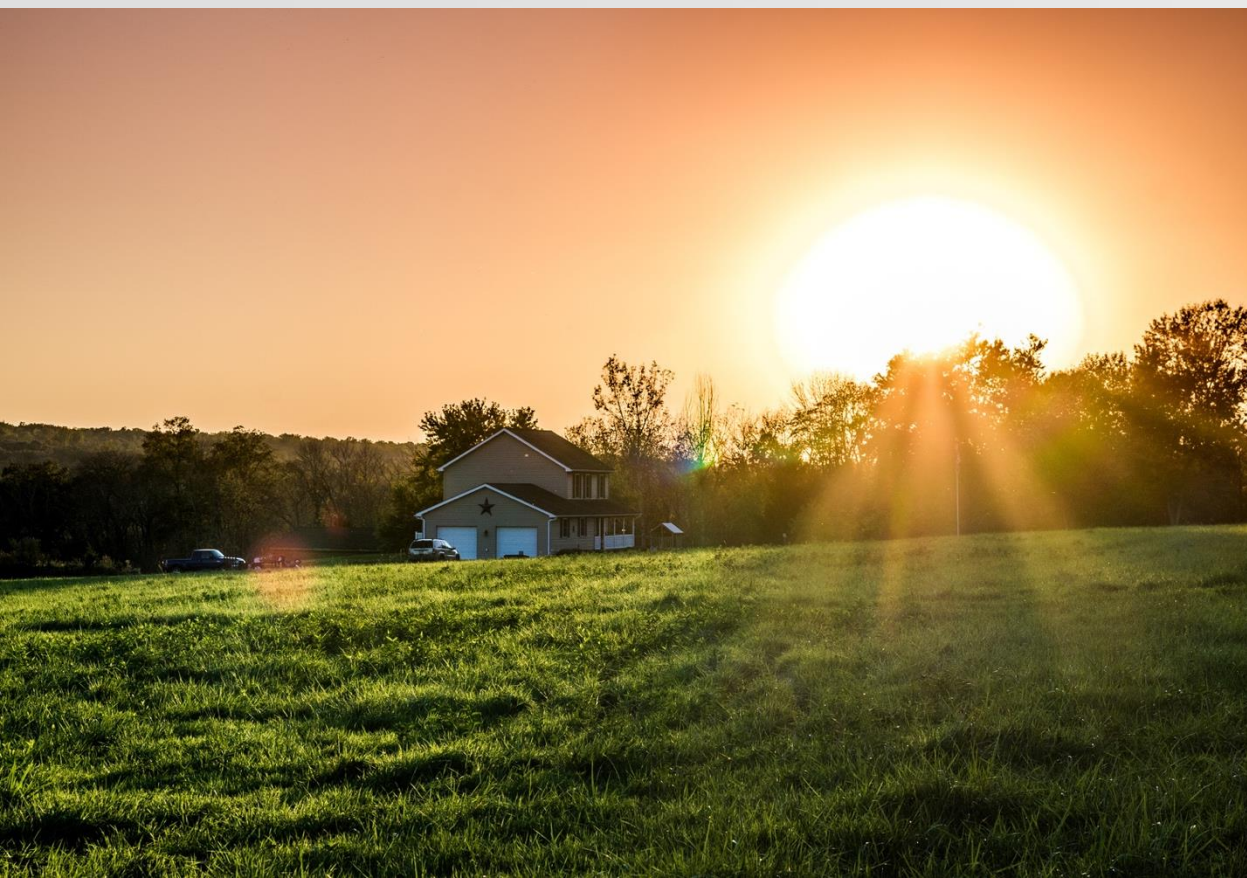
Our Goals

- Ensure agricultural voices shape farmland protection decisions
- Make participation accessible for farmers and residents
- Improve communication about agricultural and land-use issues
- Build long-term trust around farmland protection

Key Recommendations

- Use multiple formats: in-person + digital tools
- Offer flexible meeting times to fit farm schedules
- Target outreach to farmers through trusted networks
- Provide clear, concise updates on farmland topics
- Integrate local knowledge into mapping and analysis
- Maintain ongoing communication beyond this plan

Argriculture & Farmland Protection



Example: Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)

Why CCE Matters

- Trusted source for agricultural knowledge
- Direct connection to local farmers
- Provides technical support on soils, crops, and land management

How CCE Supports the Town

- Helps reach farmers who may not attend public meetings
- Offers site-specific insights that strengthen farmland analysis
- Bridges academic research and local agricultural practice
- Supports long-term engagement through existing networks

Recommendation

- Partner with CCE to lead targeted outreach and gather agricultural input for future planning efforts

Agriculture & Farmland Protection



Many Thanks!



Moving Forward Together

We hope our plan is helpful for the future development of the community, and we look forward to more collaboration opportunities!

