

Is there a viable carbon storage project in the peatlands of the Kenai Lowlands, AK?



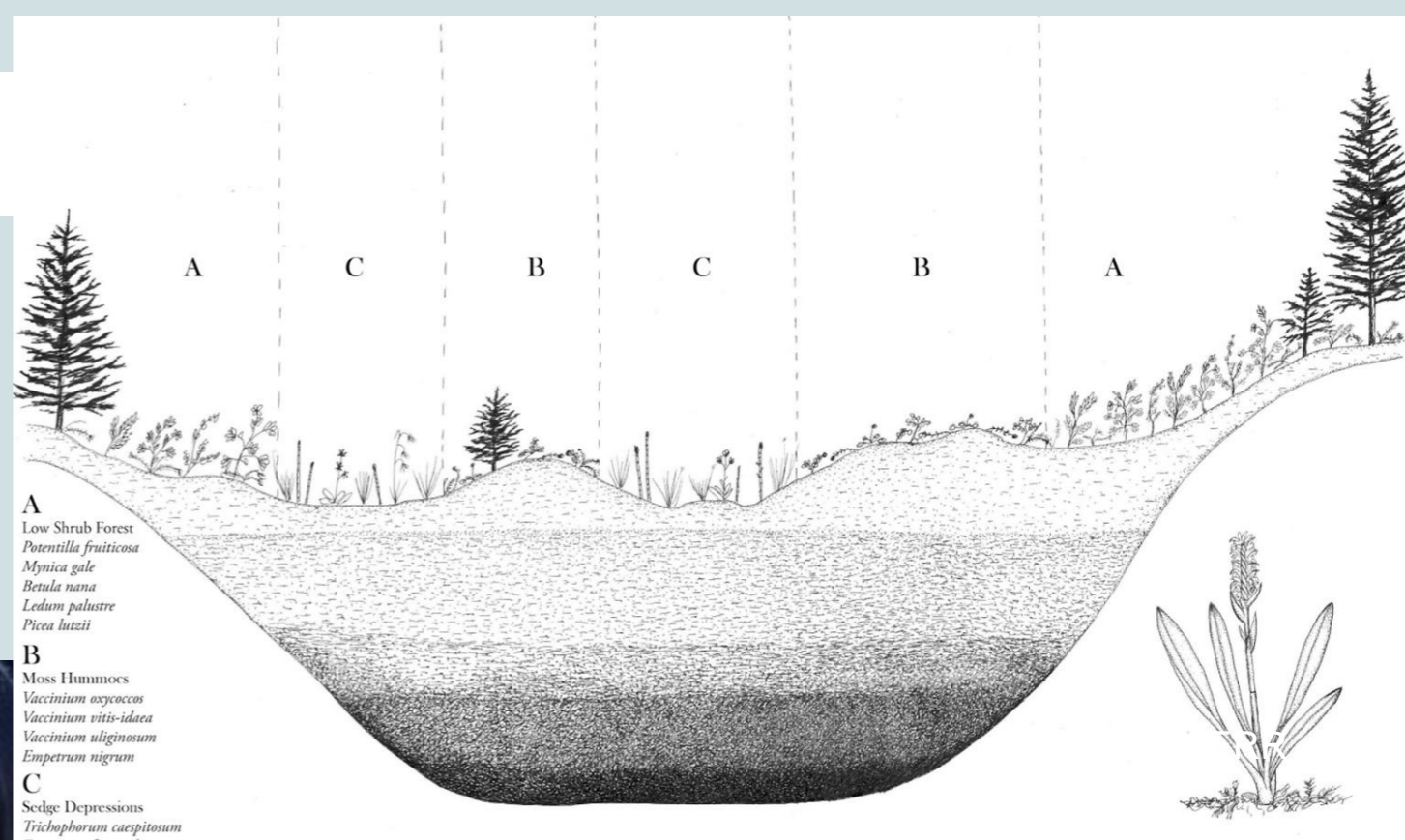
Outline

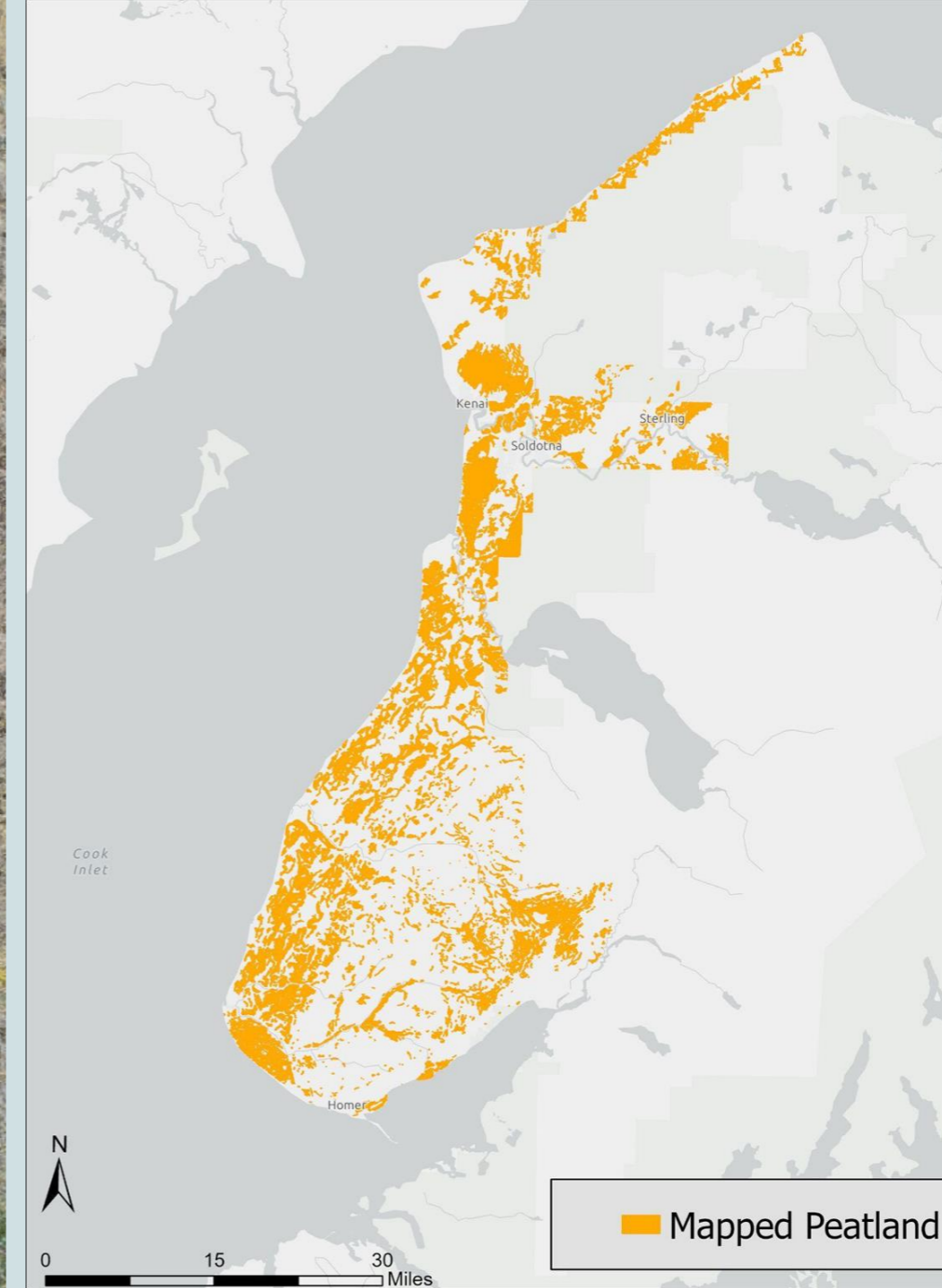
1. Peatland carbon storage complements baby salmon habitat

1. Developing a peatland carbon project

3. Public awareness including students and fishermen

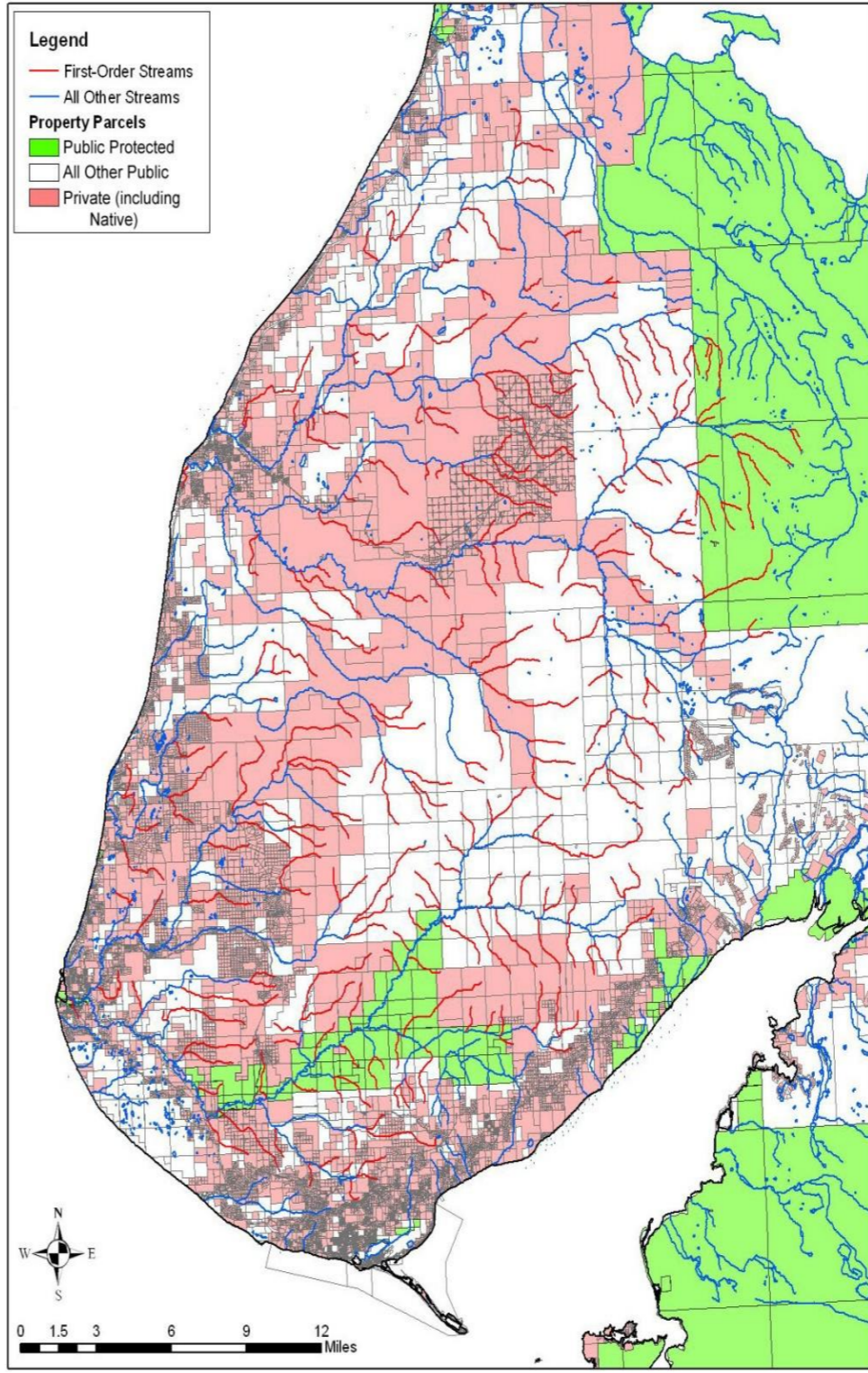
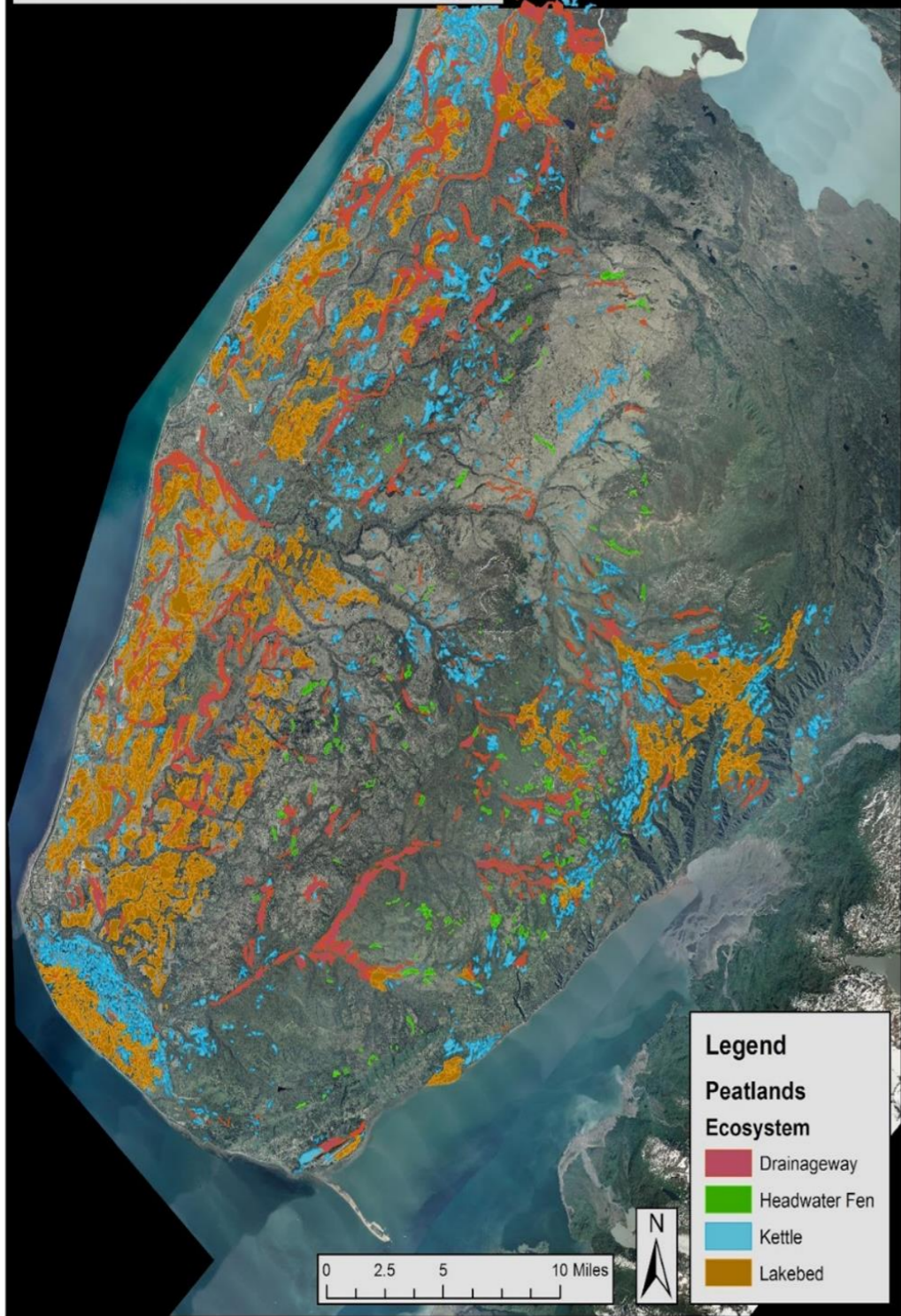
Peatlands have deep layers of undecomposed organic material= carbon





Peatlands throughout the Peninsula are associated with salmon streams

Lower Kenai Peninsula Peatlands



Most peatlands on the Peninsula are in unprotected status



Kenai Lowland salmon depend on peatlands!



Peatlands carbon projects could offer a way to balance conservation & development and protect salmon stream productivity




At this point in time, there is statewide interest in carbon project development.

It's good timing to be looking into the viability of peatlands as a carbon storage project on the Peninsula.

Creating a Carbon Project

Process

- Determine peat amount, carbon content, sequestration rates, monitoring protocols
- Develop Pilot Projects
- Work with willing landowners such as KPB and gravel mining companies
- Register on the world carbon market

An aerial photograph showing a road crossing a peatland area. To the left of the road, there is a large, irregularly shaped area of brown, excavated earth, likely a gravel extraction site. Below the road, a winding stream flows through the peatland. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green peatland vegetation and dense evergreen forests. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a cloudy sky.

***Pilot project idea 1: considering a project to avoid gravel extraction in sensitive peatlands
-pay not to dig-***

Pilot project idea 2: beavers as agents to keep peatlands wet





Public awareness Citizen Science opportunities





Peatland-salmon connection education programs



***Fish Need Land (peatlands) Too field trips
KBNERR and KHLT***



Planning for the future of people and salmon through peatland conservation