

South Mountain Conservation Landscape State of the Region

SMP Winter Partnership Meeting

January 27, 2024



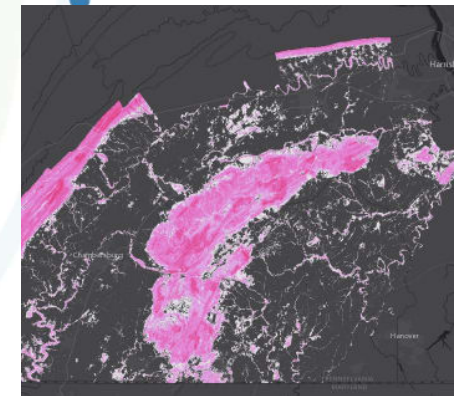
Agenda

- Celebrate!
- Review Products
- So What? Next steps

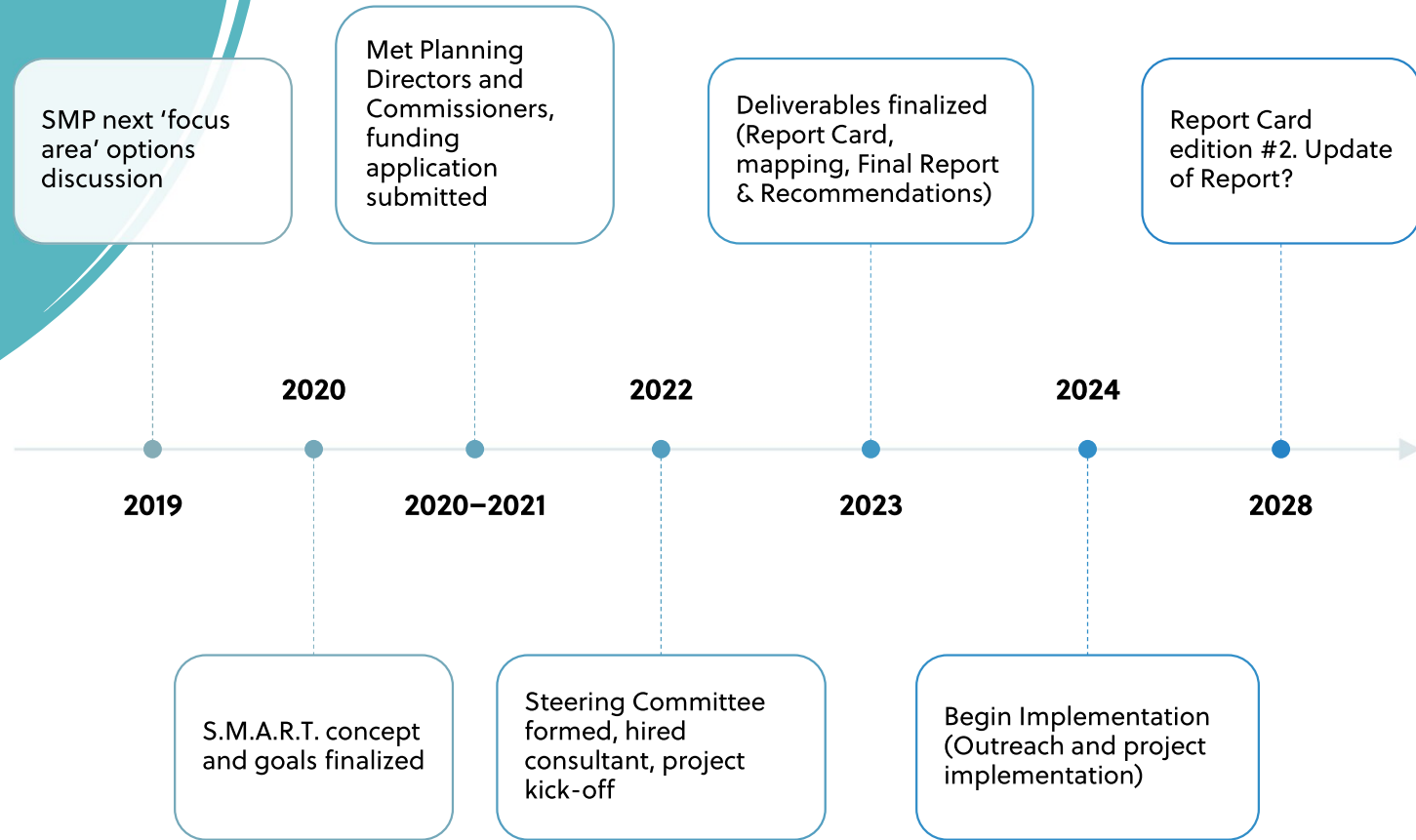


Products

- Report Card
- Mapping
- Final Report/Recommendations



How did we get here?



Goals & Objectives

- Understand and communicate regional observations, trends, challenges (quality of life, conservation, recreation, public health)
- Monitor status of conditions over time
- Engage variety of stakeholders and grow support for SMP partners
- Develop recommendations and tools
- Facilitate collective and collaborative actions to impact identified challenges



Public Input



- Steering Committee questionnaire
- Partners' Survey
- Fall, Winter, Spring Partnership meetings
- Tourism Forum
- Subject Matter Advisors
- SMP Leadership Committee
- Facebook postings & E-newsletters



Counties' Input

- Steering Committee
 - Role
 - Input
 - Monthly meetings
- Survey & Questionnaire
- Plan Review
- Planning Directors' meeting



Project Outcomes



Snapshot of current public health and environmental conditions



Key regional challenges identified

Grow using Smart Growth
Water quality and quantity
Loss of farmland, habitat, historic places, open space, forest
Recreation access
Public health



Replicable metrics



Report Card



Mapping



Recommendations and Action Plan



Engaging the public, officials and decision makers



Enhanced collaboration with county planning agencies, partners, and staff to identify and implement actions



Deliverables & Audiences

1. Report Card

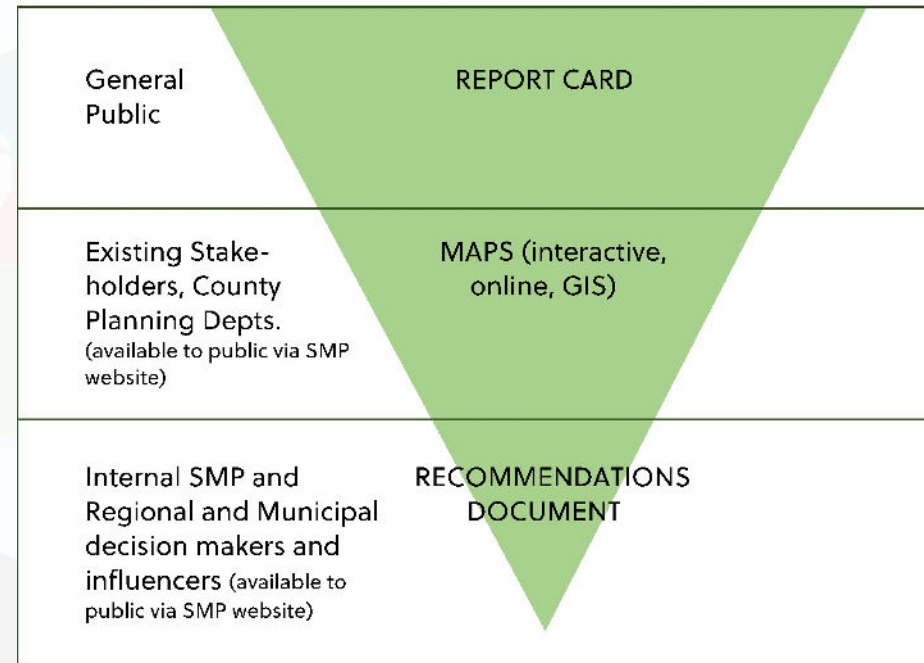
- General public
- Partners, other interest groups

2. Interactive Maps

- Planning agency staff, Partners
- Some general public

3. Final Report & Recommendations

- Key decision-makers & policy-makers
- Planning agency staff, Partners



Report Card – “How are we doing?”

**State
of the
Region**

South Mountain Landscape
Adams • Cumberland • Franklin • York Counties, PA

REPORT CARD
2023 Report

Name: Our Environment

Address: South Mountain Region, Pennsylvania

**Residents in Adams, Cumberland, Franklin,
and York Counties...**

South Mountain Partnership - the regional conservation leader in preserving and promoting a healthy future for nature, people, businesses, and communities - brings you this very first report card about nature, agriculture & food, history & culture, recreation, and everyone's health. The goal is to motivate all of us to make a positive impact and support the goal of protecting our environment and keeping our communities vibrant and healthy.

While there are plenty of things we have done well, we can improve our care of the things that make this region special. Please look this report card over and promise to help take care of our exceptional surroundings. The next generations are counting on us.

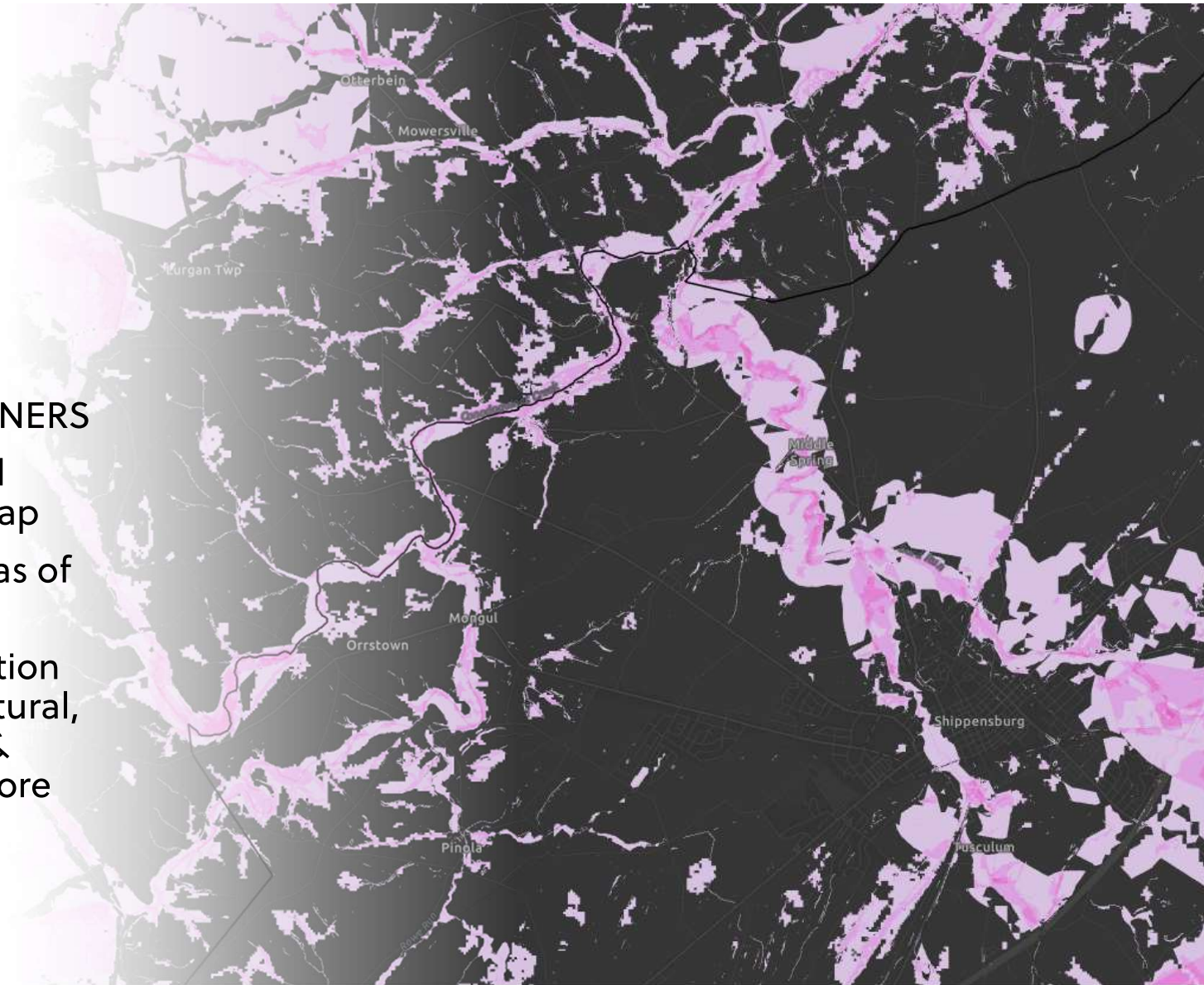
**SOUTH MOUNTAIN PARTNERSHIP
CONSERVATION NETWORK**

- FOR: PUBLIC
- Confirms what is going well and what we should continue!
- Identifies lots to understand better
- Understand where we need course corrections



Interactive Maps

- FOR: PLANNERS, CONSERVATION PARTNERS
- Shows the Report Card measurements on a map
- Identifies "Nexus" areas of importance
- High Priority Conservation Areas, Agricultural, Natural, Recreational, Historic & Cultural resources + more



Final Report & Recommendations

- FOR: DECISION MAKERS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, INFLUENCERS
- Summary of entire process
- Details about measurements, analysis, mapping
- Identifies regional challenges
- Proposes 70 recommendations for addressing challenges



So what? What's next?

ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNICATIONS

Reaching target audiences with what was learned and inviting them to table.



PUBLIC – engage using Report Card

Secure high reach and high value TV, radio, text opportunities

Enroll healthcare providers to share

Table at events with diverse audiences

Develop community ambassadors

Engage in project planning, implementation



PLANNERS & CONSERVATION PARTNERS – engage using mapping

Hold tours/trainings and make recording available on demand

Engage in project planning, implementation



DECISION MAKERS & INFLUENCERS – engage using Final Report

Present to County Commissioners, planning commissions, municipalities

Direct contact with organizational leaders of Partner organizations

Engage in project planning, implementation



So what? What's next?

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

SMP adopted 5 recommended actions that fit our unique role in the region.



Update Natural Heritage Inventories (*launching now*)



Convene a Regional Trail Coalition

- Expand regional trails
- Connect trails to parks and communities



Establish wildlife corridors



Inventory the region's historic resources



Track land conversion



Breakout Groups with Questionnaire

Goals: #1 - Understand and assess the recommended actions that SMP is taking on.

#2 – Assess the action plan, record observations, consider how to be involved.

Use provided questionnaire and Action Plan print out (11x17)

Steps:

- Quick introductions around the table (name, affiliation, location) – 2 minutes
- Question 1 – answer individually (5 minutes), then share what you identified (5 minutes)
- Question 2 – answer individually (2 minutes), then share what you noticed (3 minutes)
- Question 3 – answer individual (2 minutes), then share what you noticed (3 minutes)
- Question 4 – answer individually (5 minutes), then share what you considered (5 minutes)
- Debrief with larger group (as time allows)



Comments/Q&A

