

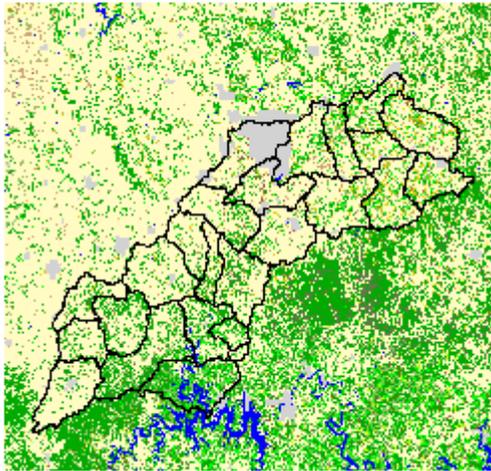
## James River Subbasin Resource Assessment Project--Fall, '99 Update--*Terry Barney, NRCS*

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The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has initiated an assessment of nonpoint phosphorus loading in the James River Sub-basin in support of a water quality initiative being guided by the James River Basin Partnership. The goal of the project is to improve the targeting of conservation funds to areas in the watershed where they will be most effective in reducing phosphorus loading.

Each acre in the watershed will be rated for its vulnerability to phosphorus loss. Rating maps will be developed at a scale of 1:24,000 for use in identifying and targeting the most vulnerable geographic locations. The rating system will be based on loading coefficients modeled using land cover, soil type, slope, geology, and proximity to streams.

The model will be developed in several phases. Phase I will use a modified land cover layer developed by MoRAP for the Missouri Land Cover Mapping Project and based on 1992 Landsat Thematic Mapper satellite data. Phase II will incorporate 1999 or 2000 Landsat satellite data, ancillary census data to improve the identification of impervious land surfaces, a grassland condition assessment, and hopefully, additional soils information on phosphorus movement.



James River Basin