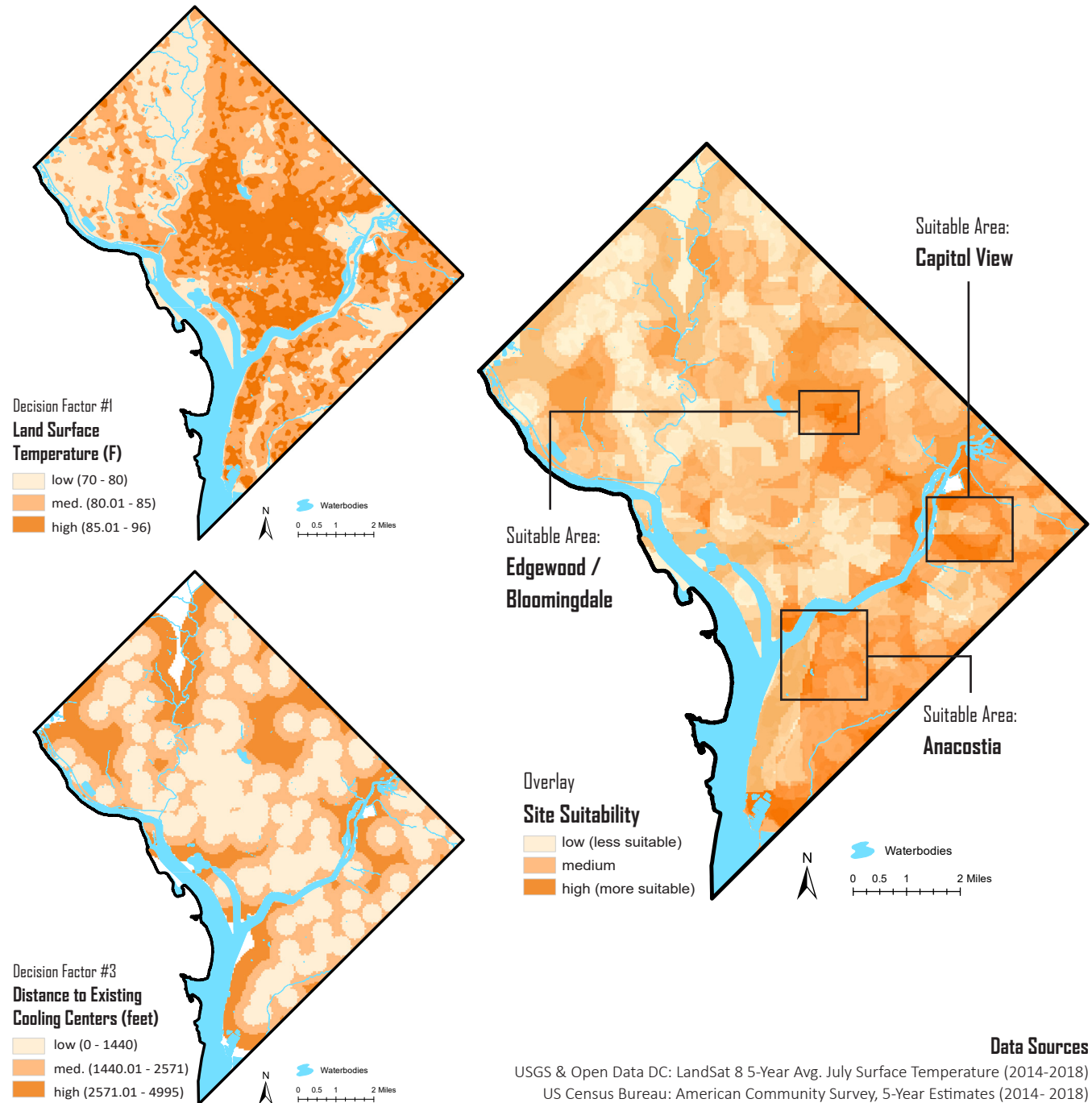


Site Suitability: Identifying Areas for Additional Cooling Centers in Washington, DC

Jenna Epstein

Temperatures in DC reach high levels in summer months, and residents in poverty are especially vulnerable to heat-related distress. While the government does activate cooling centers on hot days, not all areas of the city live within close proximity of an existing site.

The three smaller maps separately visualize decision factors: land surface temperature, percent of population in poverty, and distance to existing cooling centers. The overlay map layers all three factors; darker orange hues indicate areas that are more suitable for additional cooling centers. Three such areas and their neighborhoods are noted on the map.



Data Sources

USGS & Open Data DC: LandSat 8 5-Year Avg. July Surface Temperature (2014-2018)
US Census Bureau: American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates (2014-2018)
Open Data DC: District of Columbia Cooling Centers