

Ch. 13: The Regional Concept

Introduction to Geography

GEH 101/GEH 501

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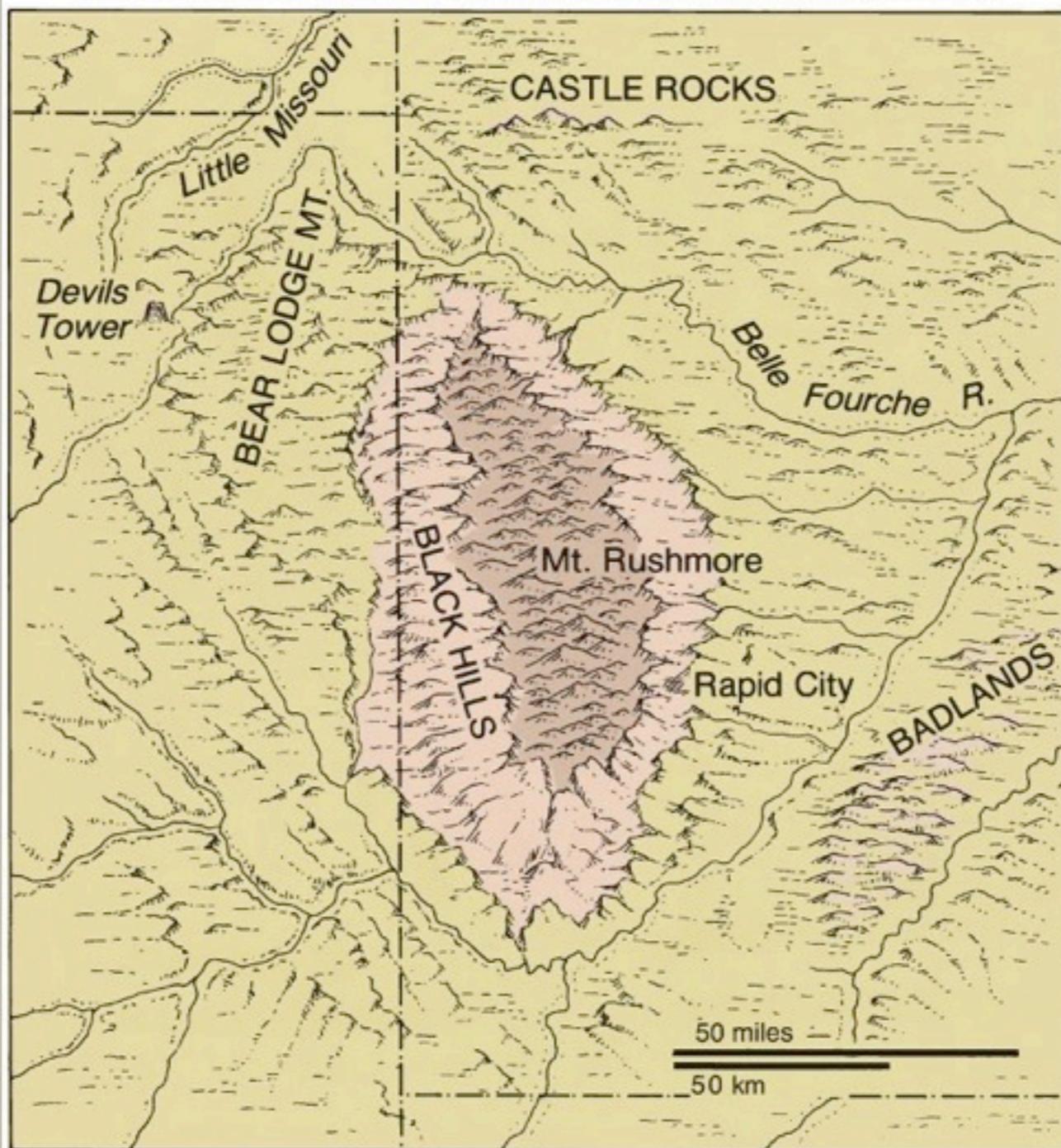
The Regional Concept

- Areal Generalization: Attempt to separate into recognizable component parts the diversity and complexity of the earth's surface
- Physical and cultural phenomena on the surface of the earth are rationally arranged by spatial processes
 - Location
 - Spatial extent
 - Boundaries

The Regional Concept

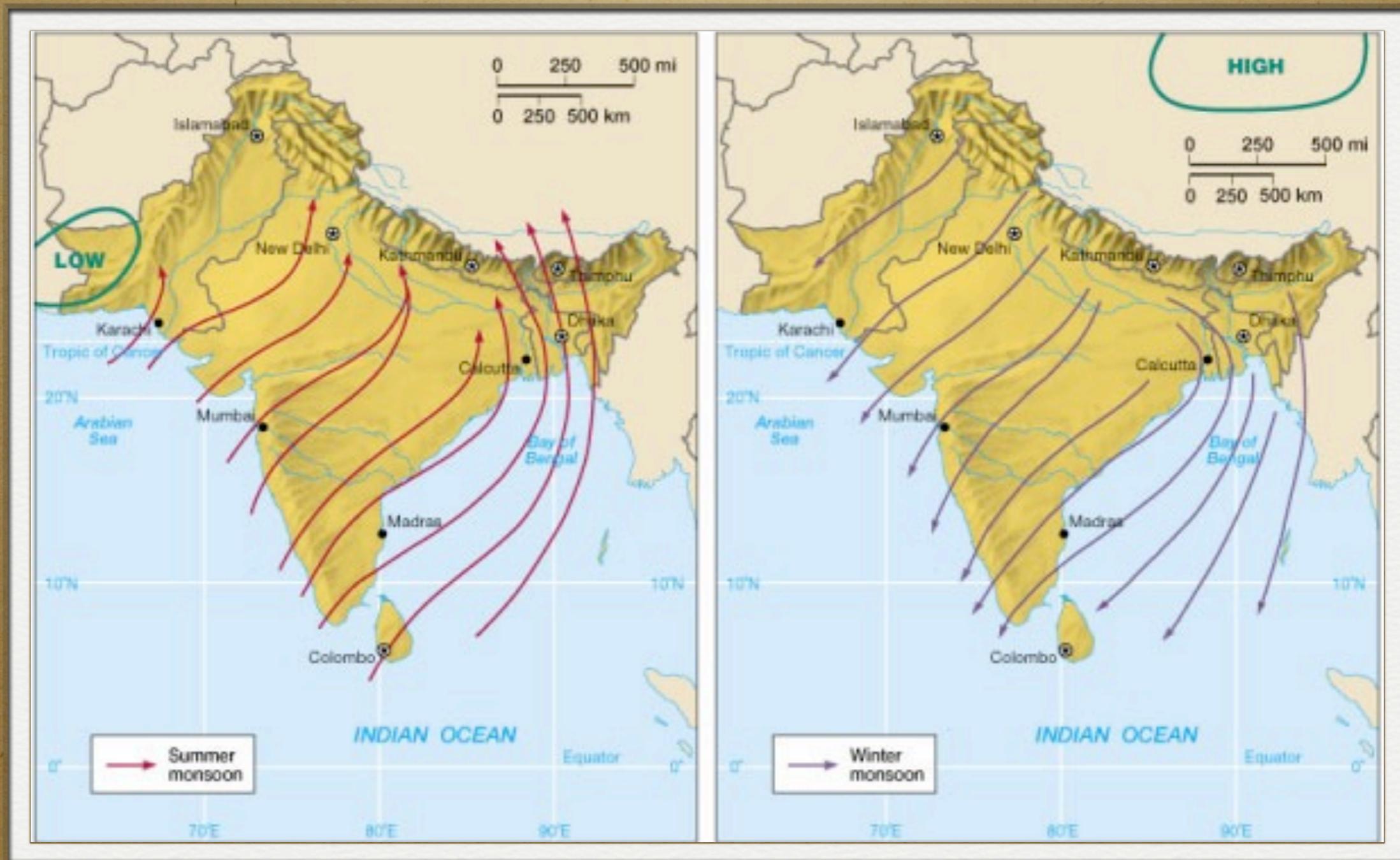
- Regions may be either formal or functional
- Regions are hierarchically arranged
- All regions socially constructed based on criteria relevant to those studying the region
- Exist in the perceptions of their inhabitants or the general populace
- Reflect the areal identifications of individuals and groups

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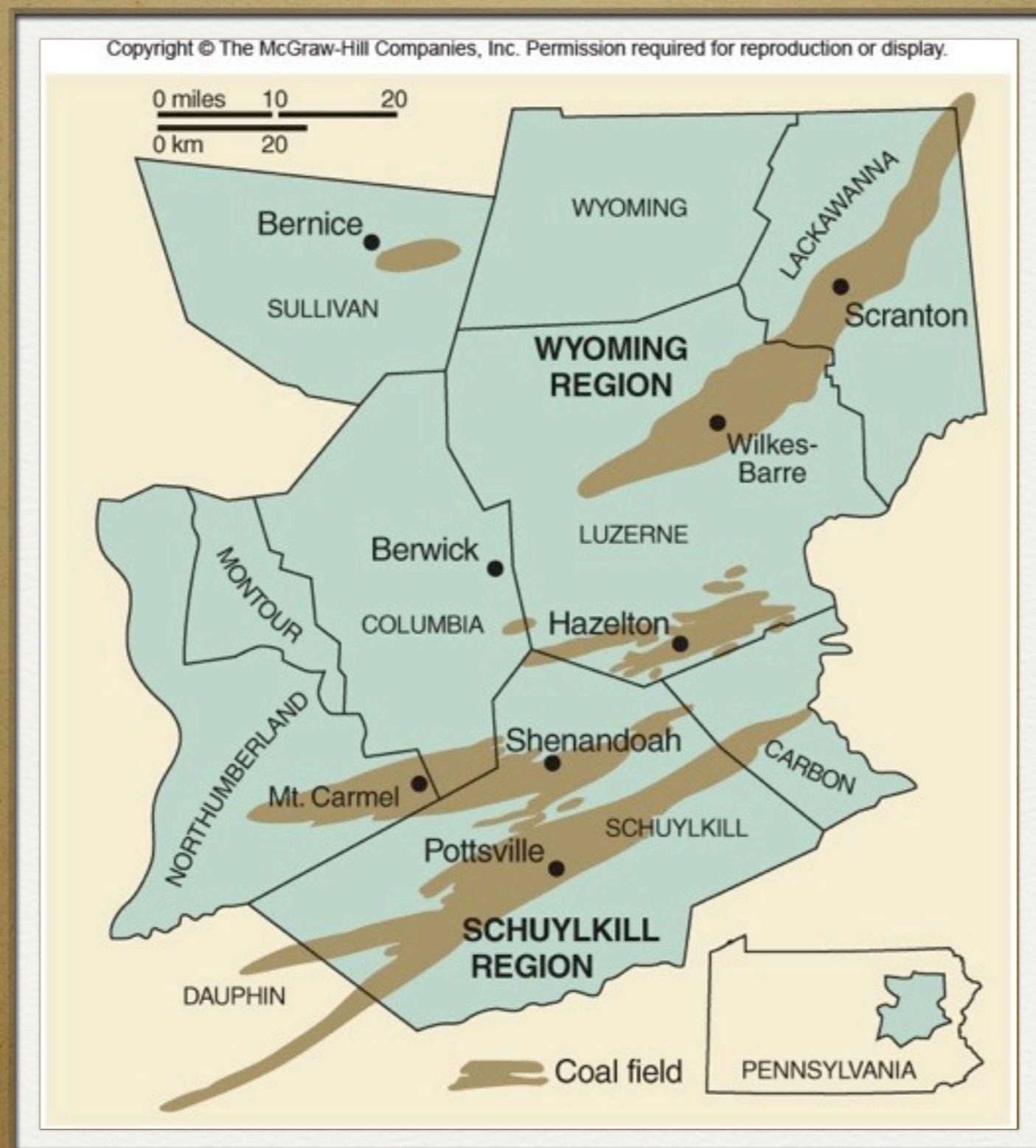


Landform Regions: Black Hills

Dynamic Weather/ Climate Regions: Monsoon Region of India



Natural Resource Regions: Schuylkill Anthracite Region



Population Regions: South America



Linguistic Regions: Gullah Country



Political Regions: European Union



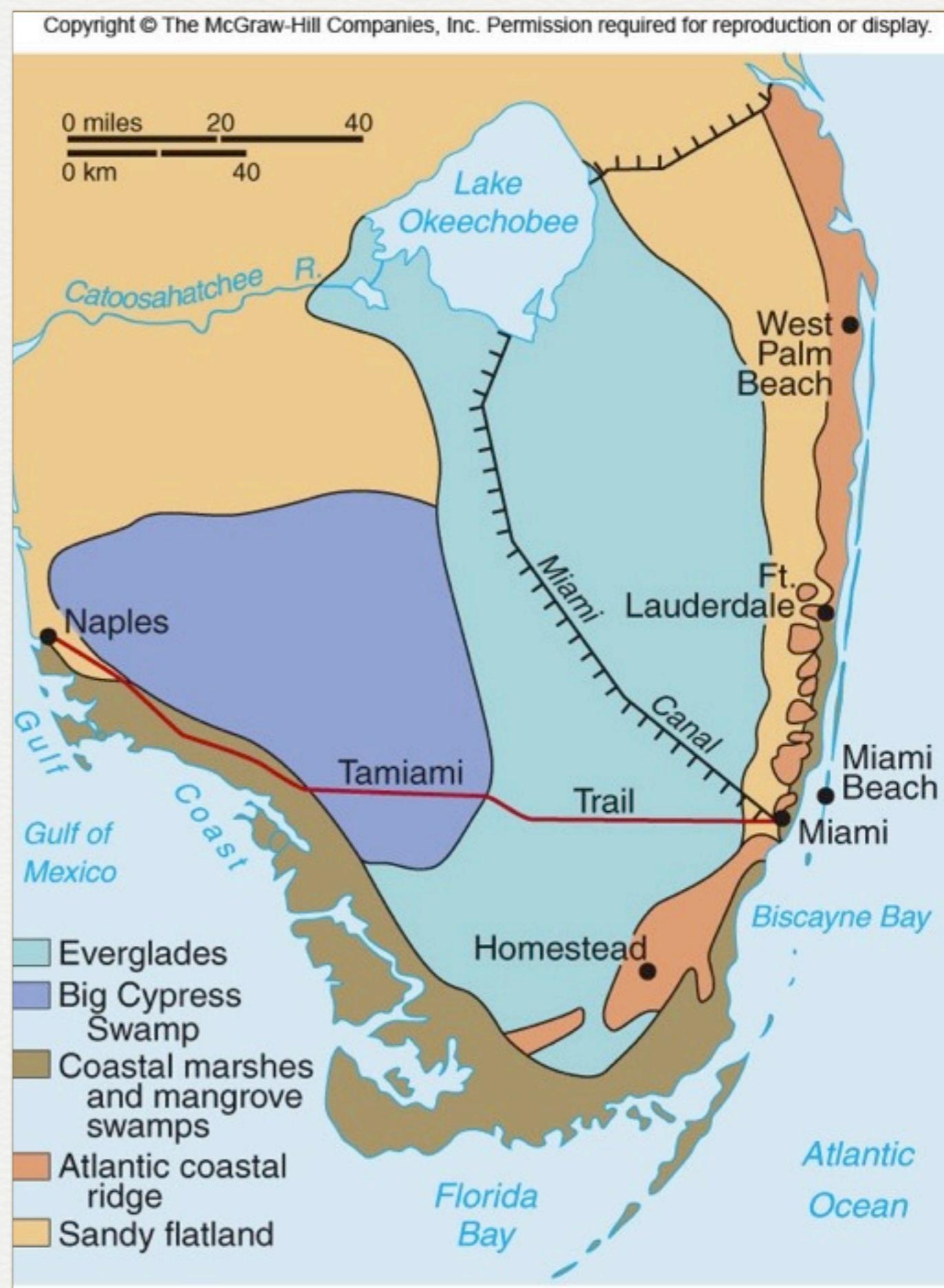
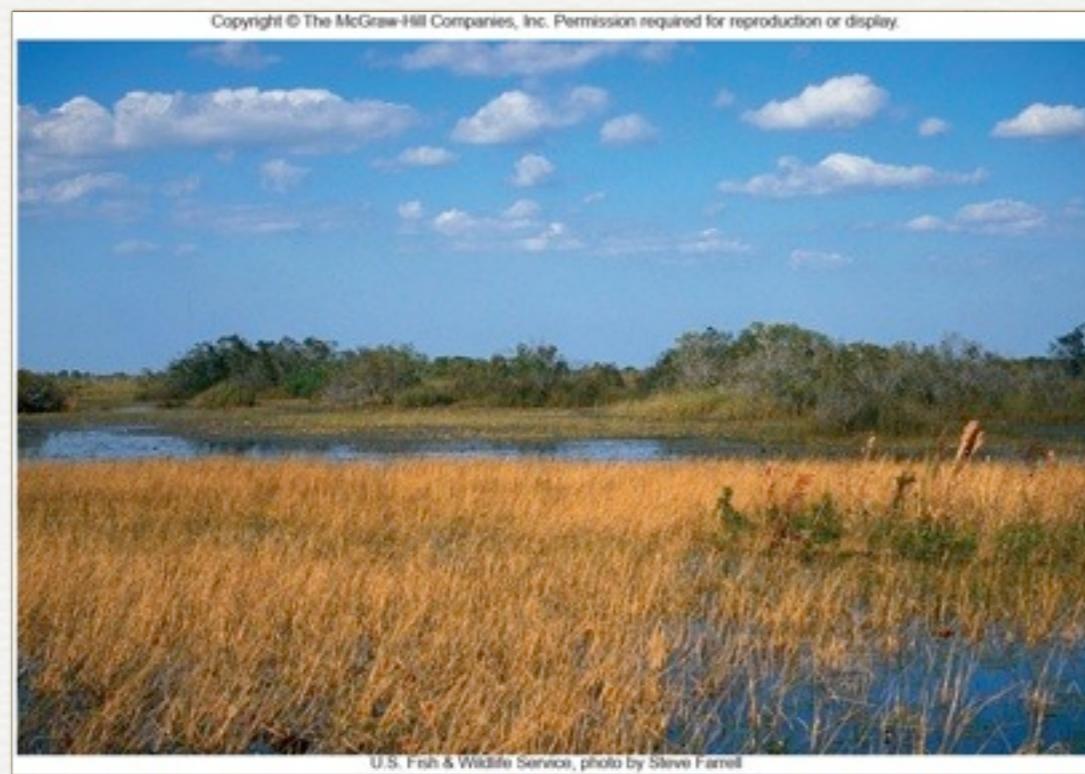
Economic Regions: Special Economic Zones





Urban Regions: Metropolitan Tokyo

Ecosystems: Florida Everglades



Functions of Regions

- How are regional divisions useful for geographical analysis of everyday life? Think about police precincts, voting districts, sales / marketing territories, census tracts, etc.
- Why do geographers establish regions to help them understand the spatial patterns within a particular spatial area?