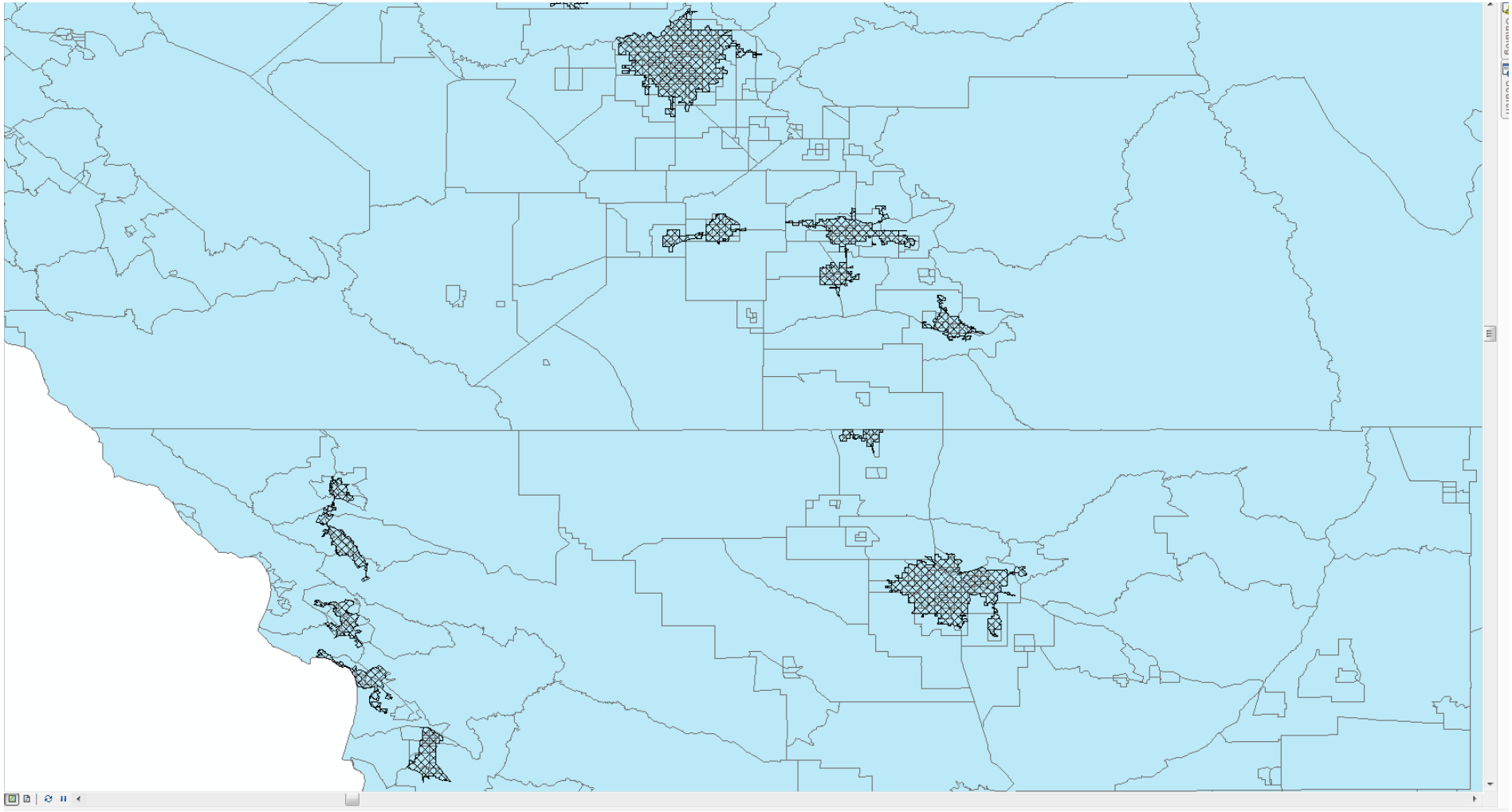
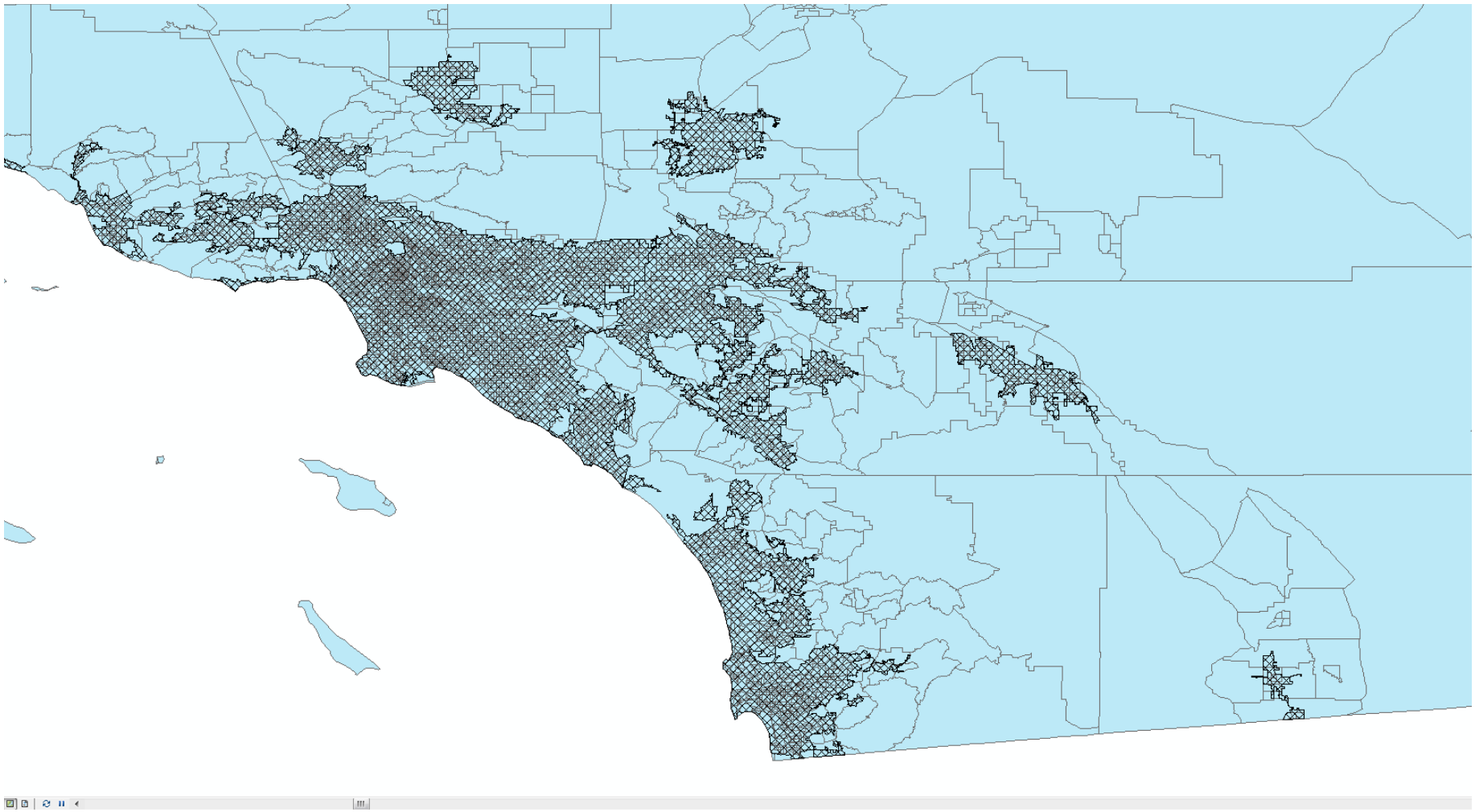
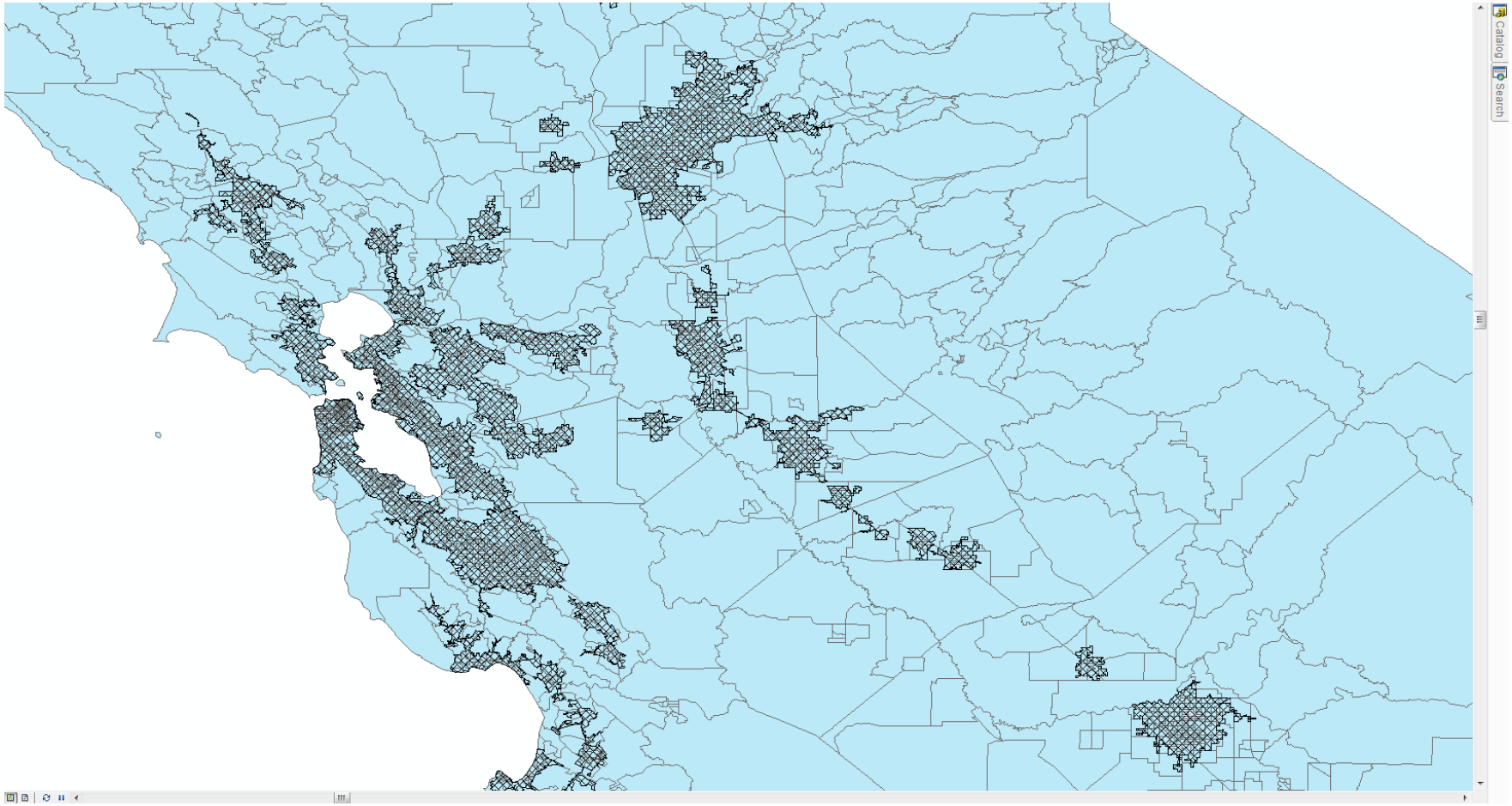
The following are screenshots of a “test-run” using shapefiles of Urbanized Areas and census tracts in California and Georgia. As seen below, this is what the UAs (cross-hached) overlayed on top of census tracts look like. As you can see, there are CTs that only have a portion of their area included as an UA.

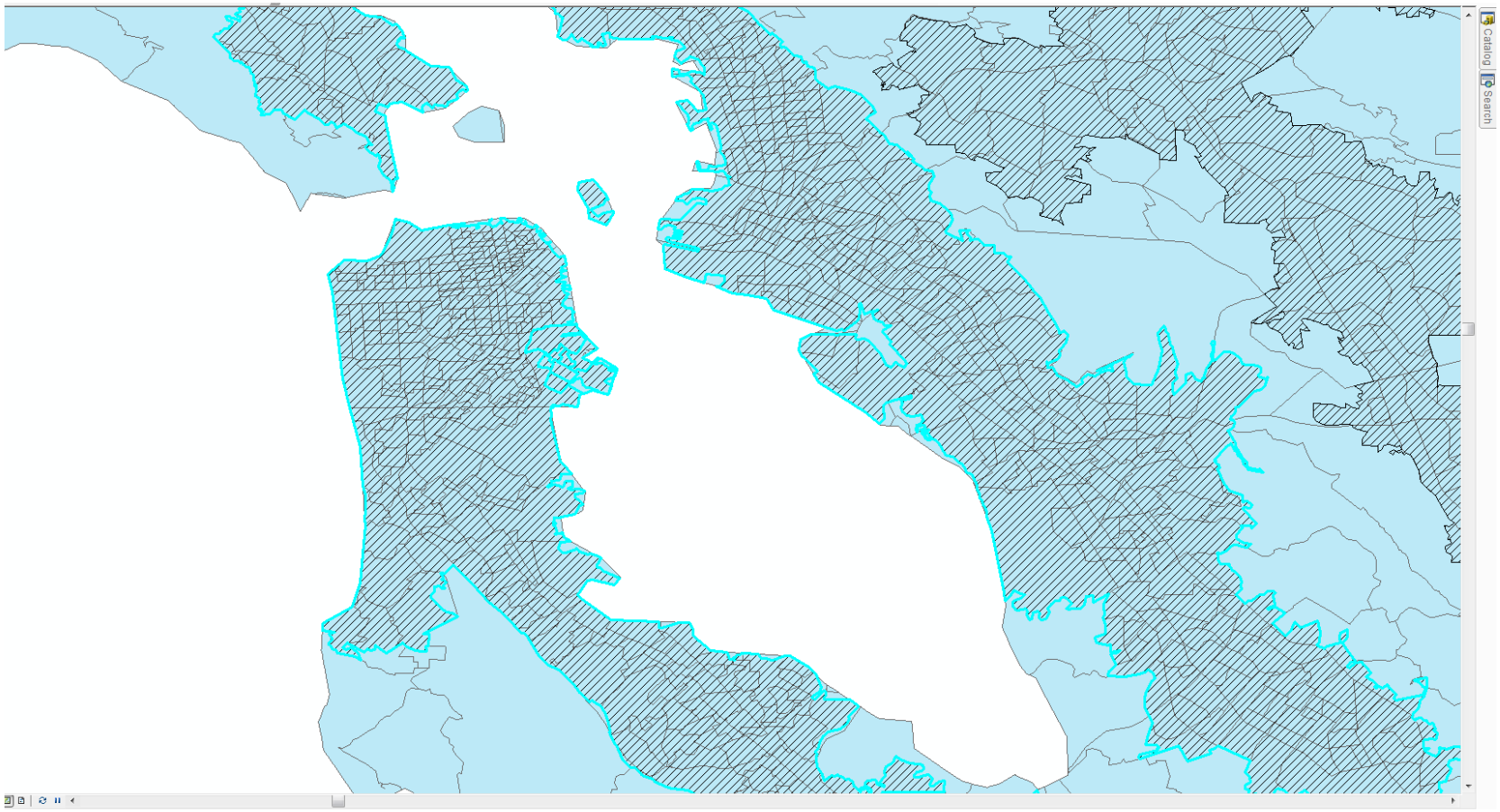




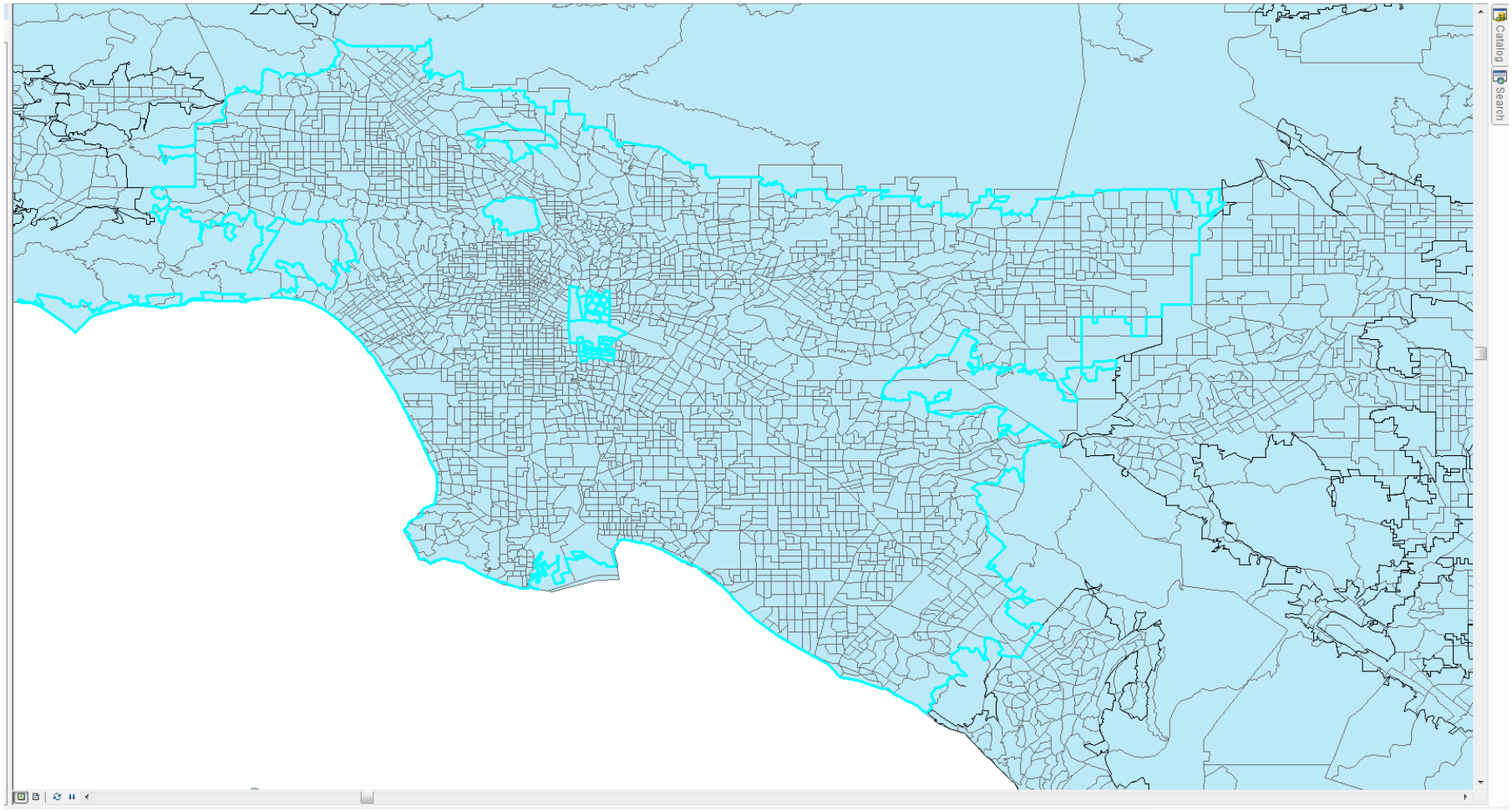


At first, I was concerned that there wouldn't be enough CTs completely contained by UAs, or that we'd be losing a lot of CTs. However, upon closer inspection I believe this methodology (only including CTs completely within UA) looks pretty good. Below are overlays of single UAs and the CTs contained within:

Highlighted= one UA (San Francisco) As you can see, there are many CTs that we would include.

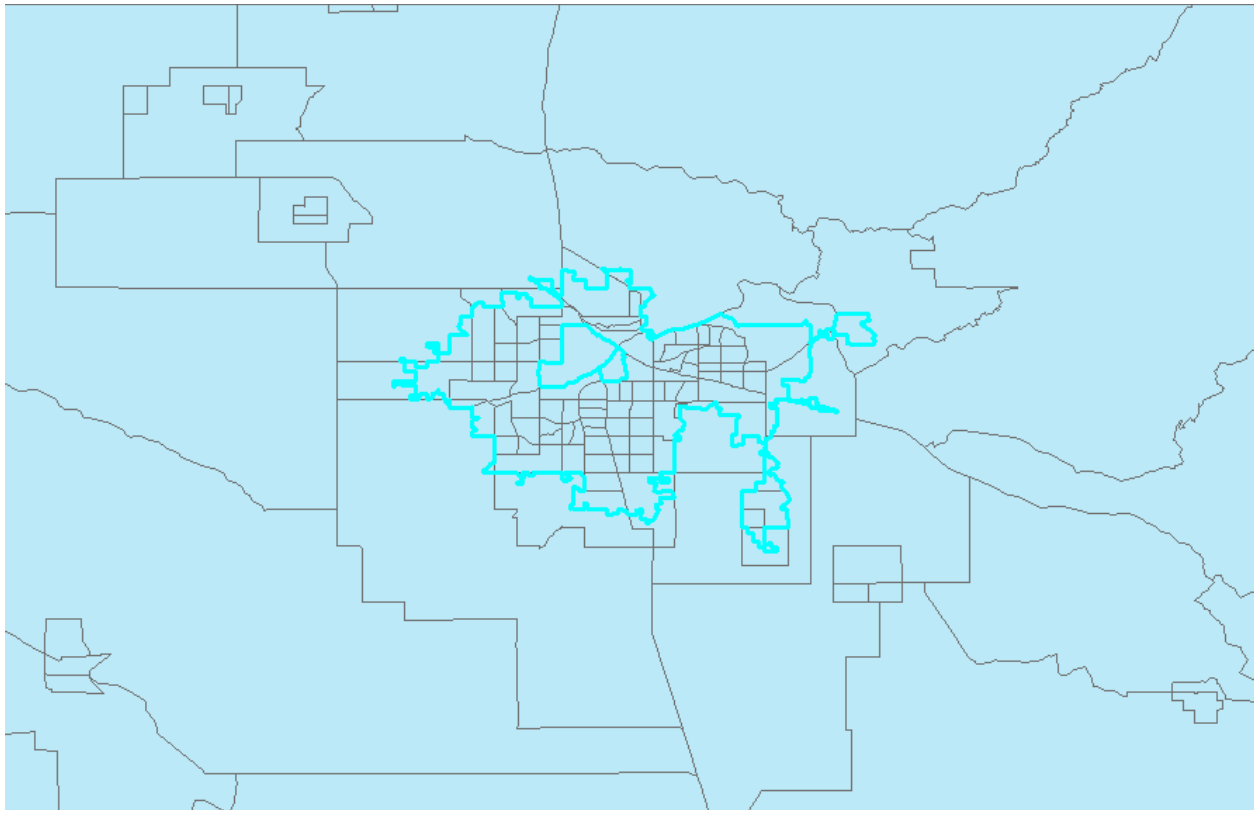


Highlighted= one UA in LA Again, as you can see, there are many CTs that we would include.



Highlighted= One UA= Bakersfield

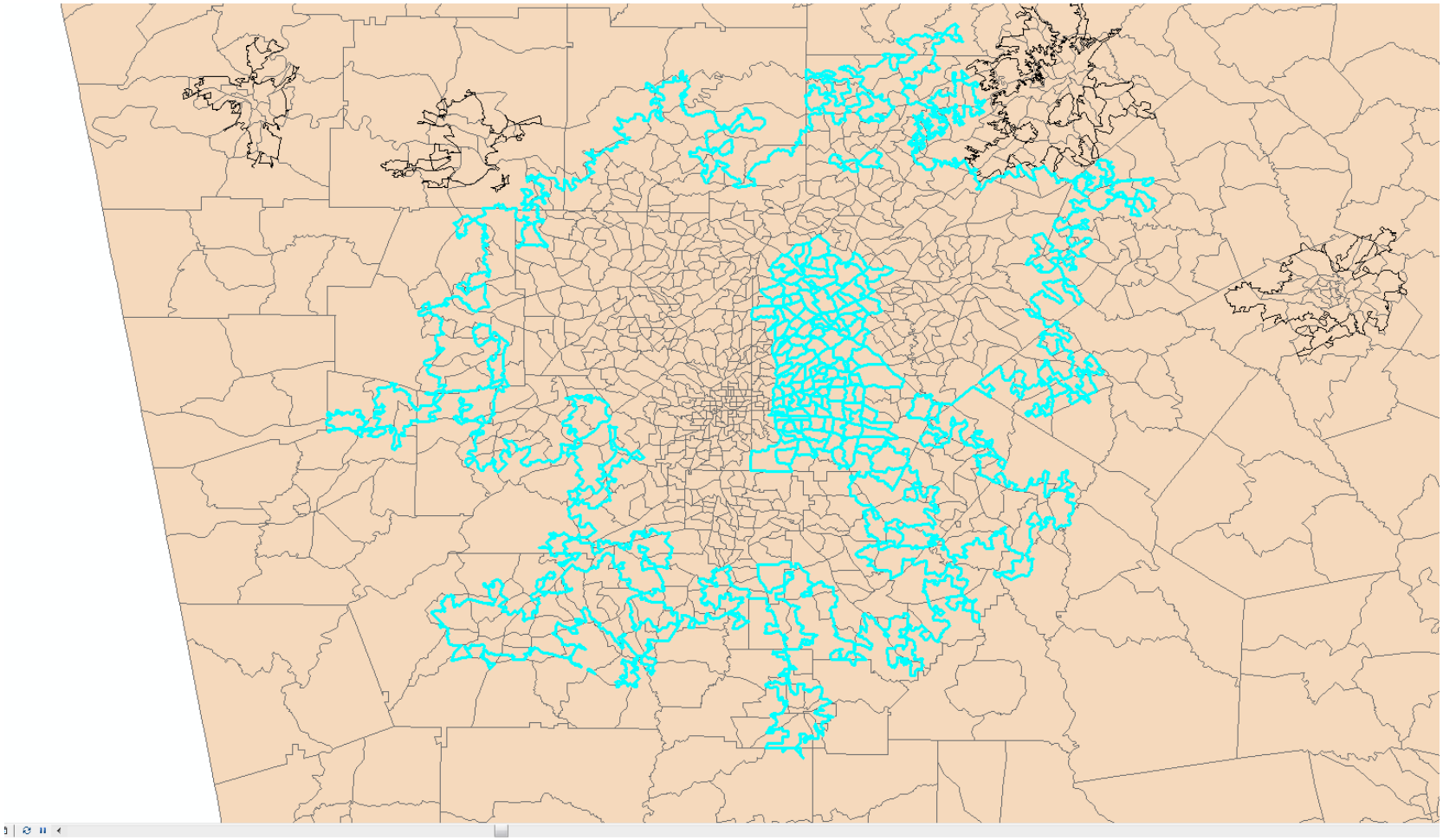
Example of a smaller, lesser known UA still looks good



I think the results are similar in areas of South like Georgia:

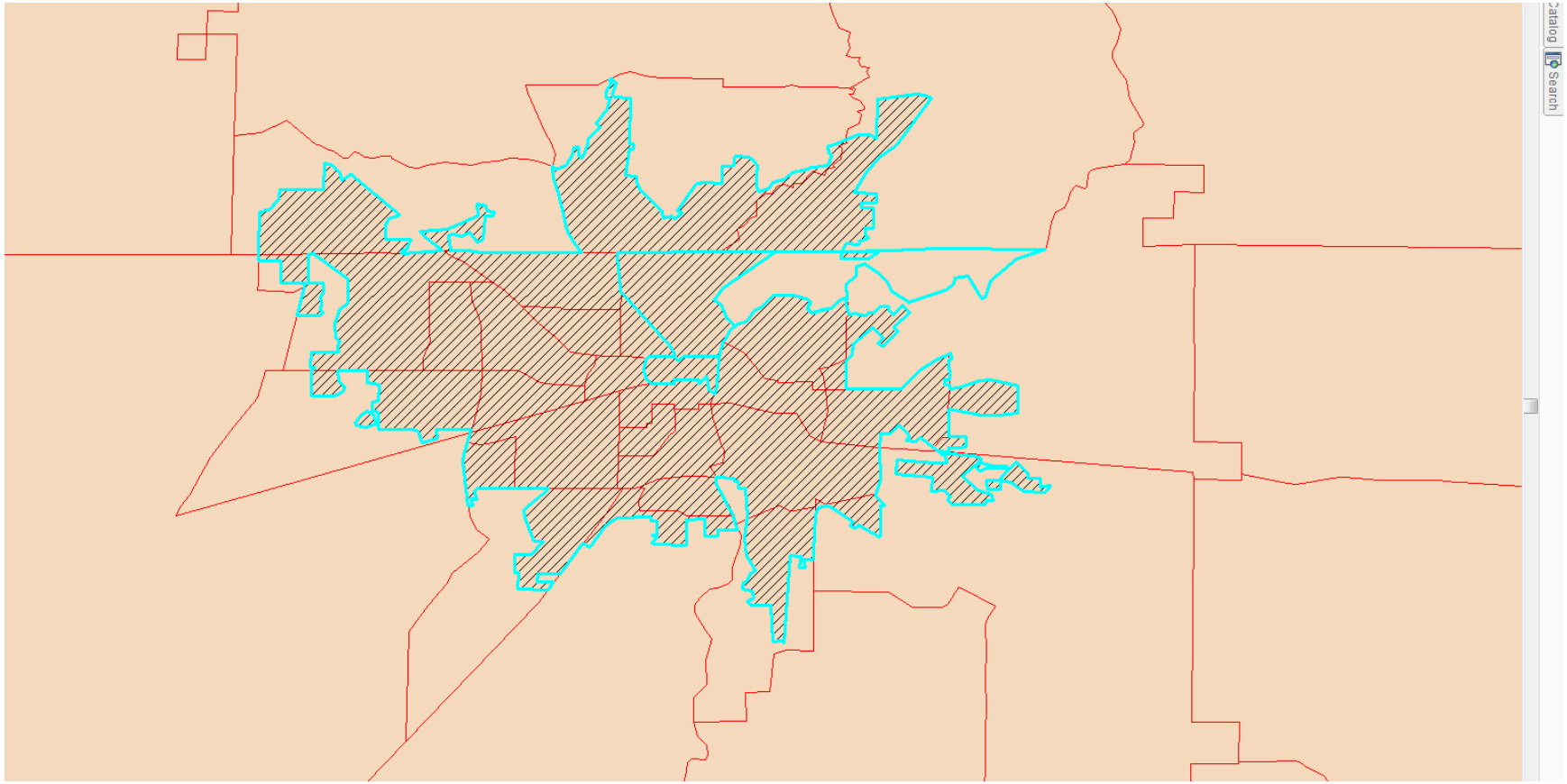
Highlight= UA Atlanta

Again, lots of CTs to be included, and there doesn't seem too many that we'd exclude because they are only partially covered

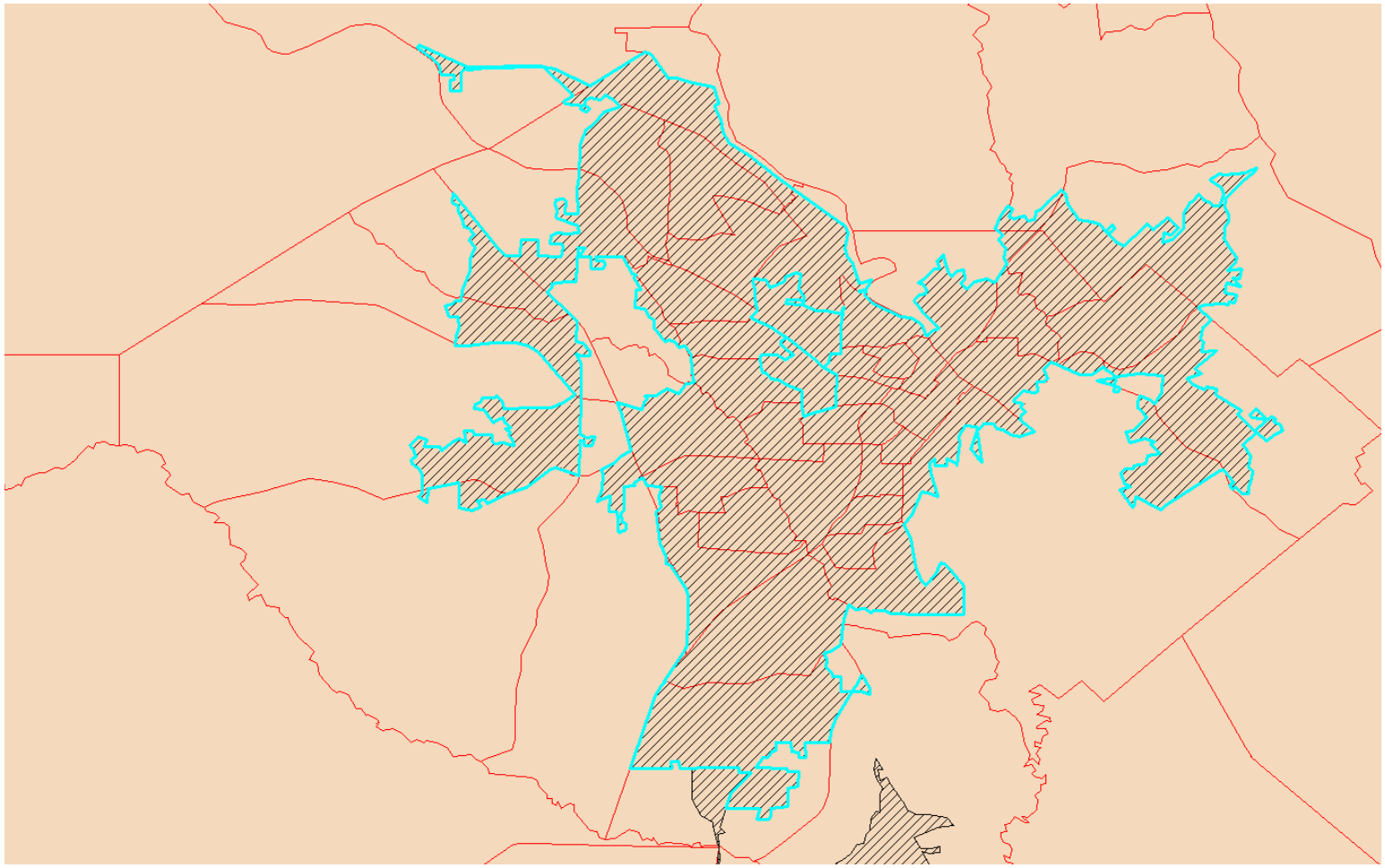


Here are much smaller UAs in Georgia. There appears to be more of a potential issue here, as there appear to be more partially covered CTs relative to the number of completely covered CTs.

Highlight= UA Albany in Georgia



Highlight= UA Macon in Georgia



Here is another look at comparing included and excluded CTs, with better coloring. The tan represents the CTs that would be included using this methodology (red outlines them). The blue represents CTs that are not included at all (i.e. not overlapping at all) with UAs. The green represents census tracts that we end up excluding because they are only partially overlapped with UAs.

Sample selection of CA tracts completely within UAs