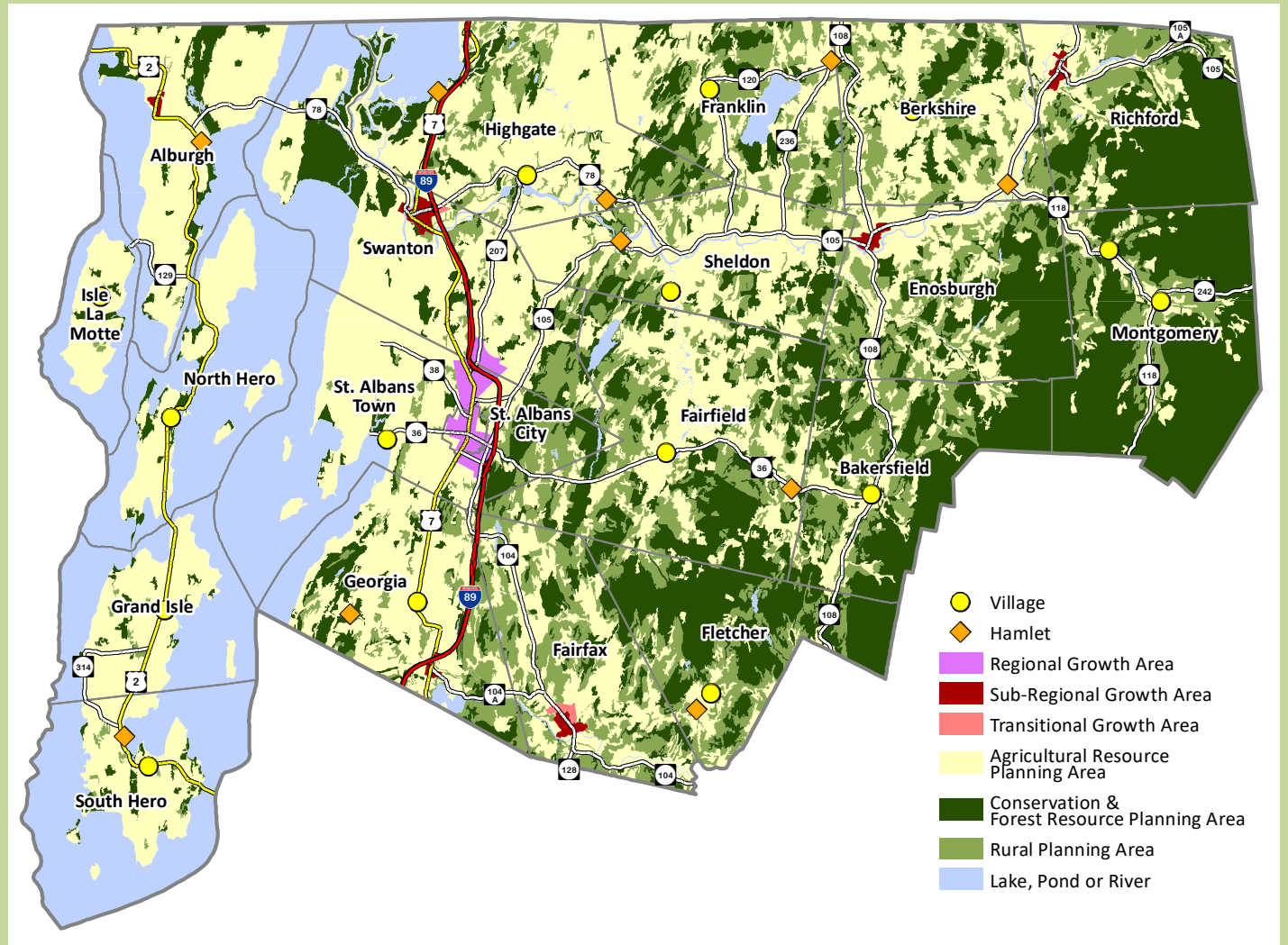


## MAP 14: Proposed Land Use



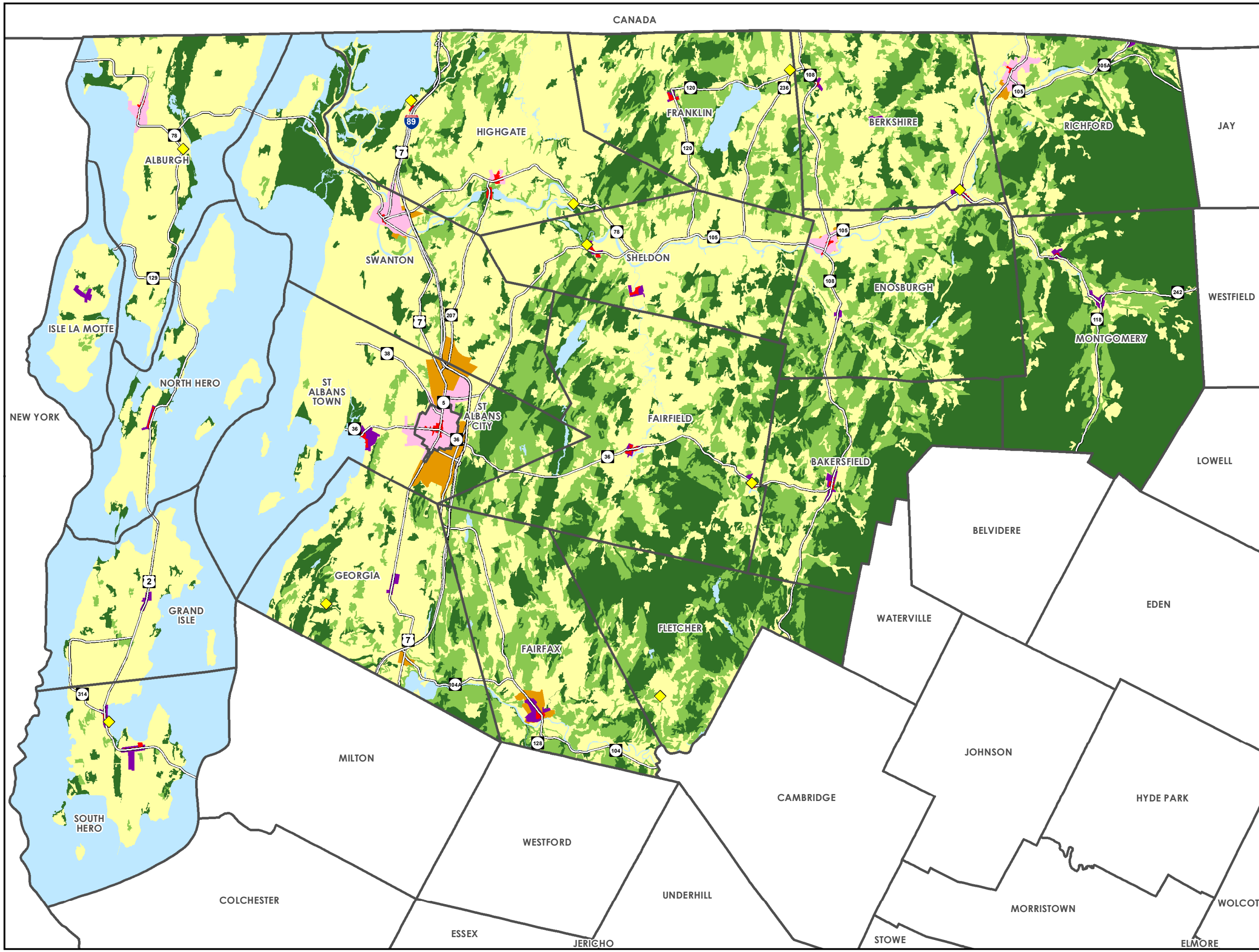
SOURCE: Vermont Agency of Natural Resources and NRPC Collected Data

### Land Use Planning Areas

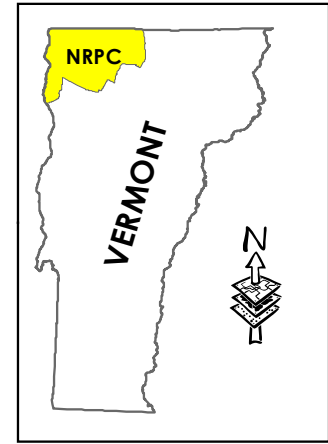
**Agricultural Resource Planning Areas:** Agricultural Resource Planning Areas represent the best farmland in the region and shall be given the highest level of support for their continued use as active agricultural lands. Nearly 39% of the region is included in this category, reflecting the significant acreage of prime agricultural soils, the large number of farms in the Northwest and the importance of agriculture in the region’s economy. Strategies that support the long-term protection of these lands from conversion to non- agricultural use are supported by NRPC. Where development does occur, it shall be located to minimize impact to primary agricultural soils. Recognizing the importance of farming to the region’s character and economy, and also recognizing that existing farms may occupy some good farming lands that would otherwise be categorized as Forest and Conservation Planning Area, Agricultural Resource Planning Areas were given precedence over the Forest and Conservation designation. For example, if a particular area has characteristics of both an Agricultural Resource Planning Area and a Forest and Conservation Planning Area, the area would be characterized as the former.

**Forest and Conservation Planning Areas:** Forest and Conservation Planning Areas, which constitute 25% of the region, include a variety of land types that are well suited for tree growth and habitat and generally not suitable for development. Land in this category usually should not be developed in order to protect the forest resource value of the lands. Development that does occur shall be limited due to natural resource constraints,

# NORTHWEST REGION DRAFT Future Land Use



- Legend**
- Hamlets
  - Downtown/Village Centers
  - Planned Growth Areas
  - Village Areas
  - Transitional
  - Rural - General
  - Rural - Agricultural and Forestry
  - Rural - Conservation
  - Surface Water



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