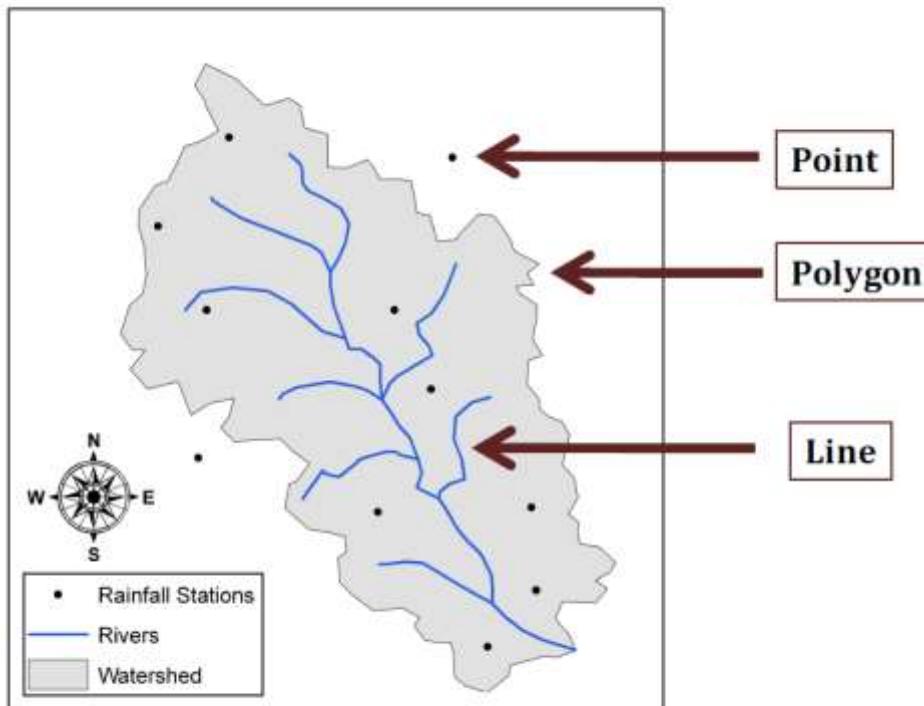


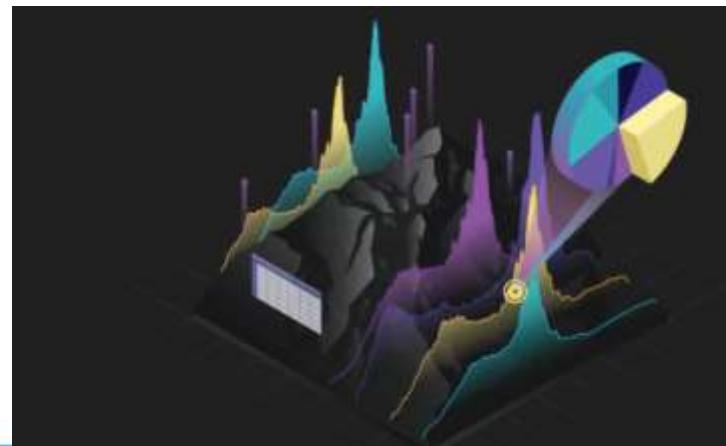
Introduction to GIS using QGIS



Iman Mallakpour (imallakp@uci.edu)

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of California, Irvine

What is GIS? Geographic Information System

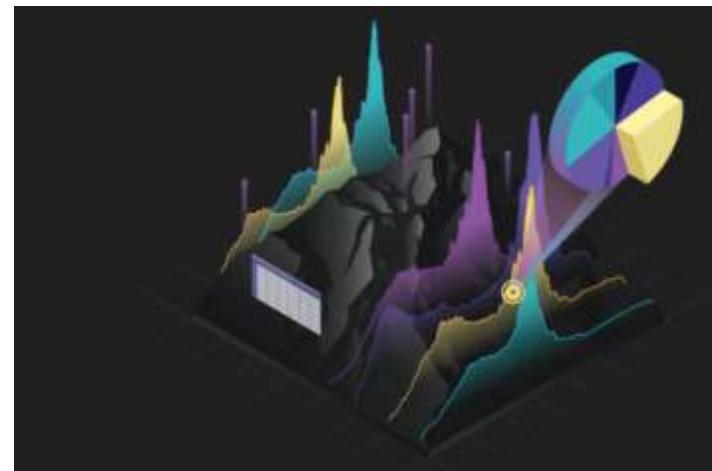


GIS is a technological field that incorporates geographical features with tabular data in order to map, analyze, and assess real-world problems.

OR

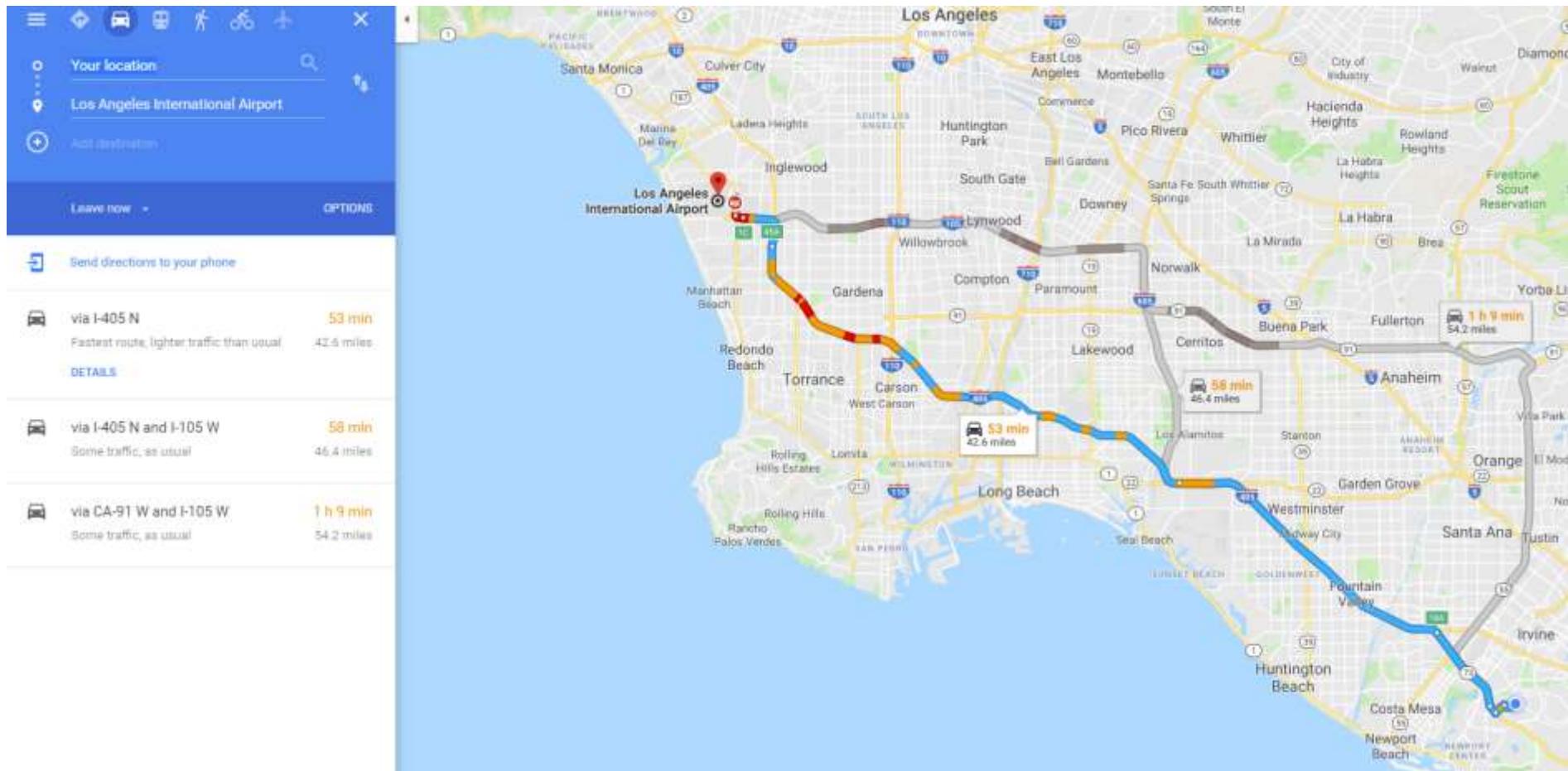
A computer-based information system that is used to:

- input
- store
- manipulate
- display
- Analyze



spatial data and to identify spatial patterns and support decision making processes.

GIS is Everywhere!



- **Many of the issues in our world have a critical spatial component!**

- Land management
- Property lines, easements, right of ways
- Data on land values, taxation, assessment
- Business site selection, advertising
- Proximity of ‘our’ land to other facilities (pollution, hunting, municipal, federal, state)
- Hydrology: Soil, Elevation, Structures , vegetation
- Crime analysis
- Emergency management and disaster preparation

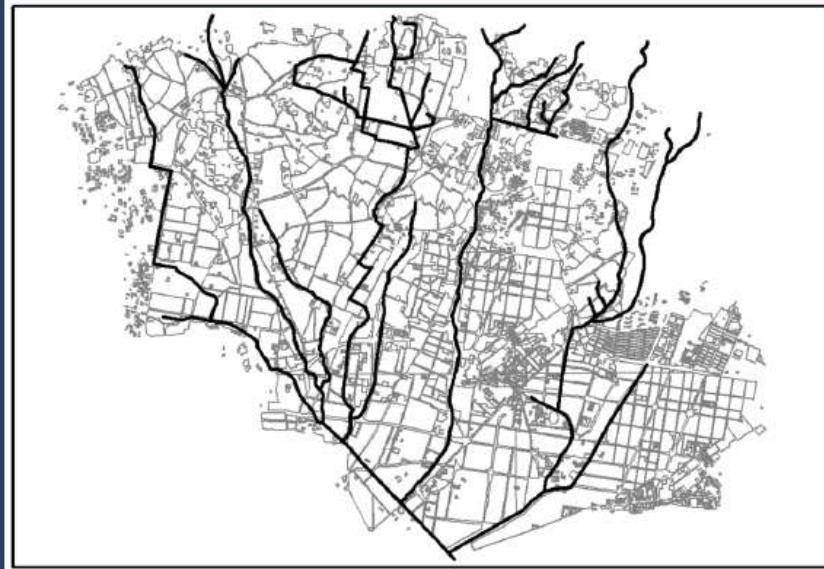


NASA / Reuters

The Earth is finite!

- If not now, within our lifetimes there may be no natural ecosystems.
- Land managers, natural resource workers, and politicians are and will continue to make decisions about biological systems.
- Good information and tools are needed to do this.

Before Building Reservoir



After Building Reservoir



Beyond creating and viewing maps, spatial data analysis is concerned with questions not directly answered by looking at the data themselves.

GIS answers the following

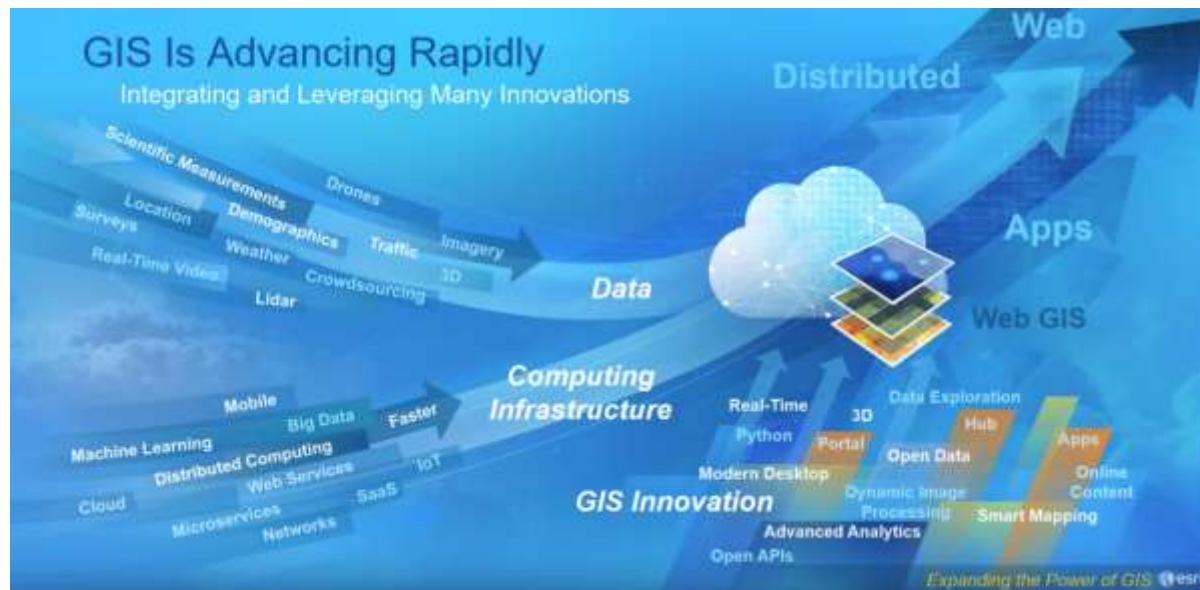
Location: What is at...? Where is it?

Condition: Status of features?

Trends: What has changed since...?

Patterns: What spatial patterns exist?

Modeling: What if...?



- **Federal and Local Government**
- “Human Services”
- Census data
- Disease control
- Infrastructure and utilities
- Land and resources management
- Military
- Natural hazard mapping (e.g., fires, flooding, earthquakes, tsunami, landslides)
- Evacuation plans
- **Industry**
- Engineering Consultants
- Technology (e.g., Google Maps)
- Insurance

Researchers in academia

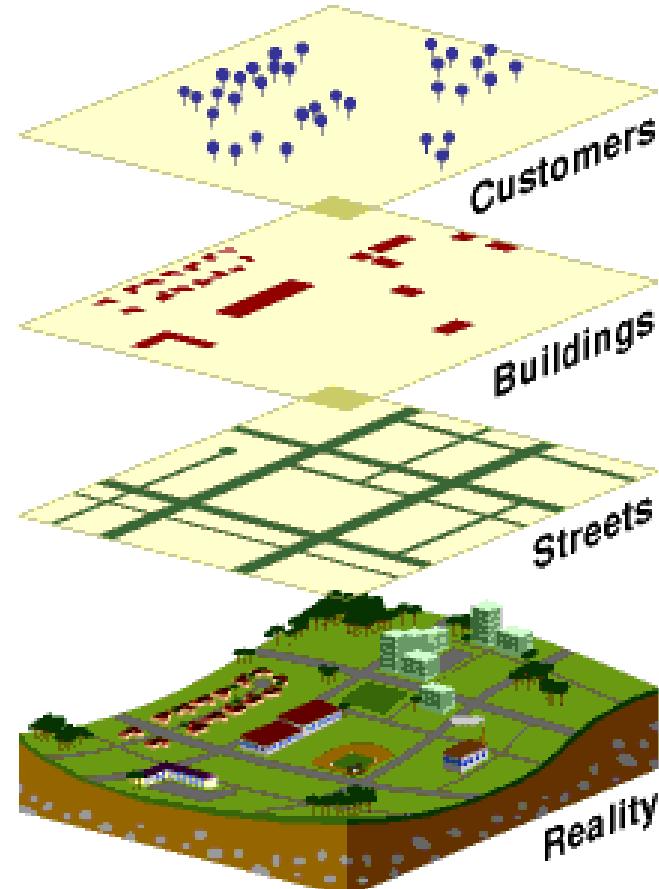
- Geography
- Biology
- Earth Sciences
- Atmospheric Science
- Geophysics
- Geochemistry
- Geology
- Hydrology
- Cryosphere
- Engineering
- ... **anyone working with spatial data**

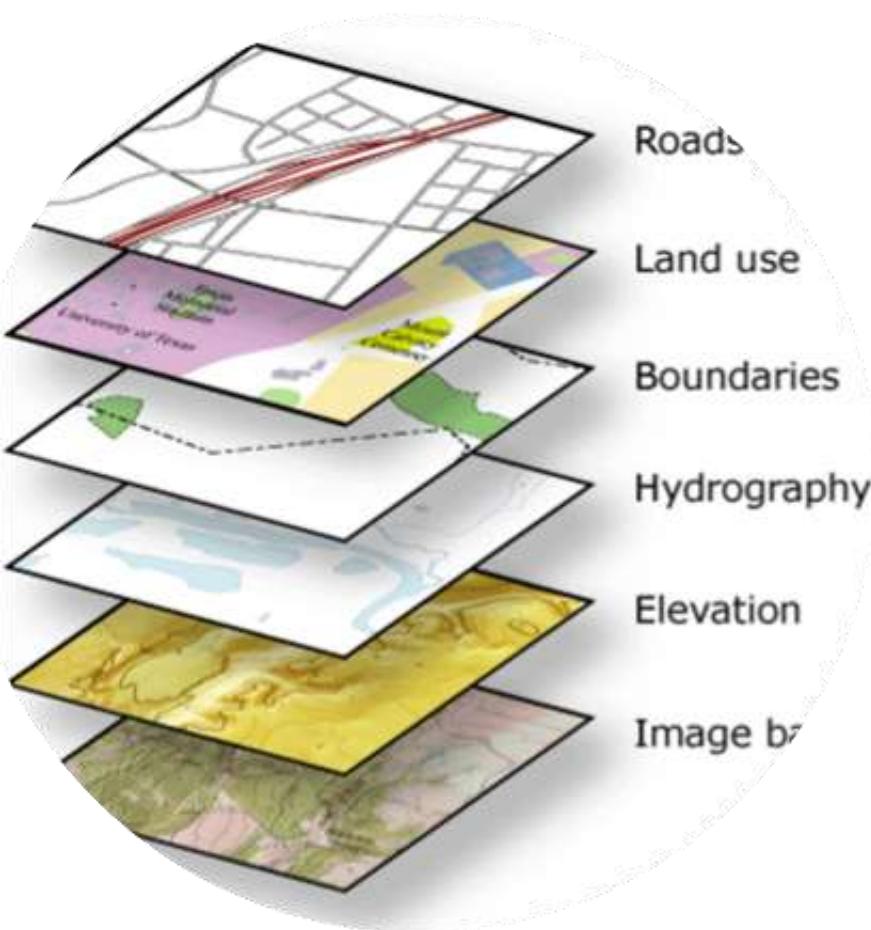
Long story short:

Geographic Information Systems is a computer-based tool for

- **holding**
- **displaying**
- **analyzing**
- **manipulating**

spatial data.





Geographic Information System (GIS)

- **GIS is used to store, analyze, and manipulate geospatial data**
 - We'll be learning to use **QGIS**
 - Other software
 - Python and R also have geospatial packages/libraries for working with geospatial data directly with code
- **ArcMap**
 - Computer-based tool with a full GUI used to:
 - Create, display, explore, and edit GIS datasets
 - Create map layouts for printing or publication
- **ArcCatalog**
 - Tool used to manage your files and databases



	QGIS	ESRI ArcGIS
Cost	Free open source	High-cost
Data format	Vector, raster, postGIS, WMS, SpatiaLite, Oracle raster and spatial, WFS, txt, cvs, MSSQL, WCS	Vector, raster, cvs, txt...
Data management	QGIS browser	ArcCatalog
Web GIS	Online open source plugin (less resource)	ArcGIS online (are more data available and super powerful)
Remote sensing	Semi-automatic classification plugin	Image analysis toolbar
Model builder	ArcGIS Model Builder/Arcpy	Graphical Modeler/ <u>PyQGIS</u>
Symbology	More cartographical option	Basic



Spatial and spatio-temporal data are everywhere.

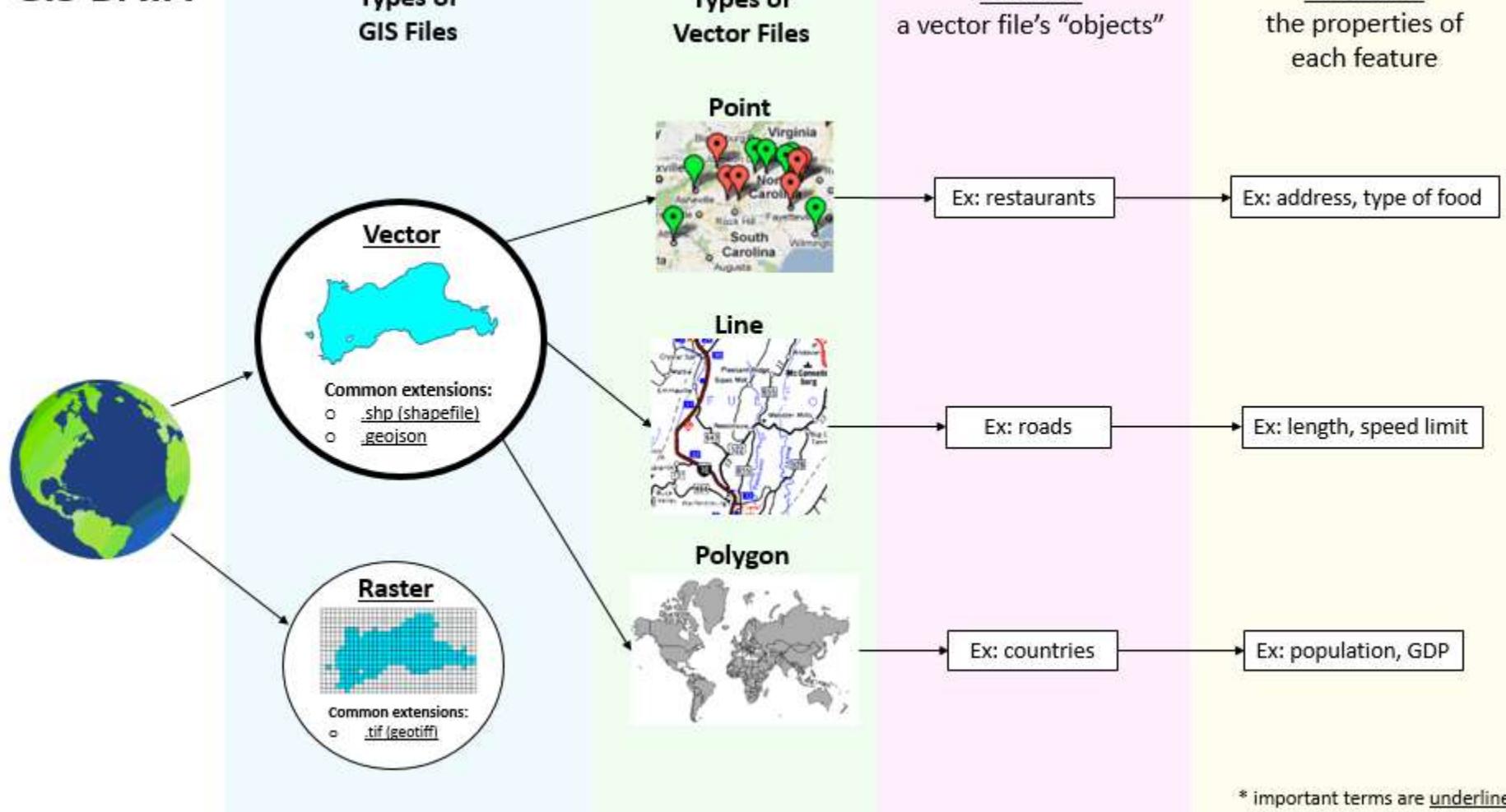


© NASA / Reuters

- **Data or observations with associated geographic information**
 - Meaning that it is multidimensional (2D), with an x, y location in space
 - Can also be 3D (not covered in this class)
- **Large data sets!**
 - Can easily reach a terabyte in size
 - Time consuming to analyze
 - To deal with this size issue, very large geospatial datasets will often be provided in a more compact file format (e.g. NetCDF, GRIB)
 - May require pre-processing of the data to input it into ArcGIS

In GIS, **vector** and **raster** are two different ways of representing spatial data.

GIS DATA

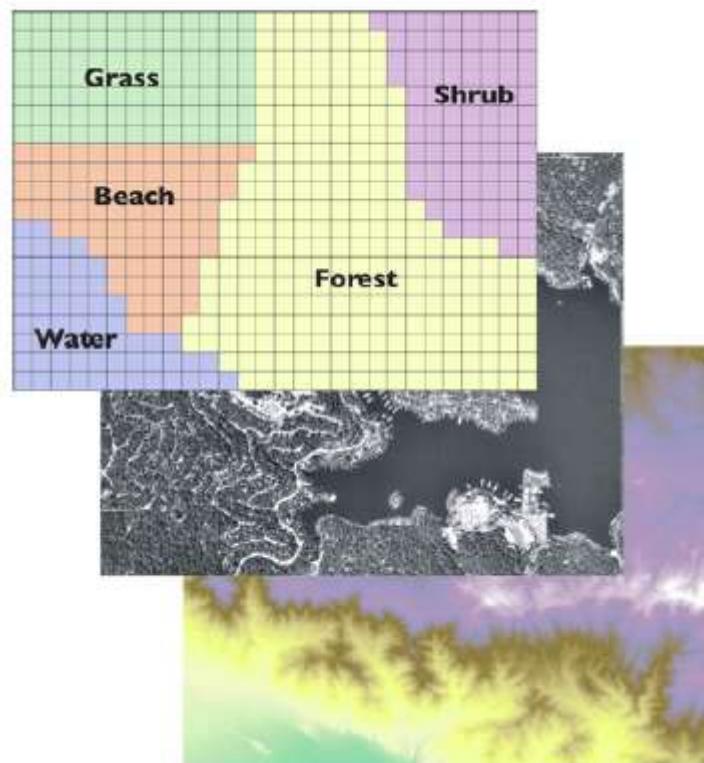


Raster Data

Raster are regularly spaced grids. Raster data stores information of features in cell-based manner. Satellite images, photogrammetry and scanned maps are all raster-based data. Images are types of (multi-band) raster. Rasters are generally identified by corner locations of the data set, size of grid, and units of the measure (elevation, reflectivity, etc....)

Basic Elements:

- Extent # Rows # Columns
- Origin
- Orientation
- Resolution: pixel = grain = grid cell

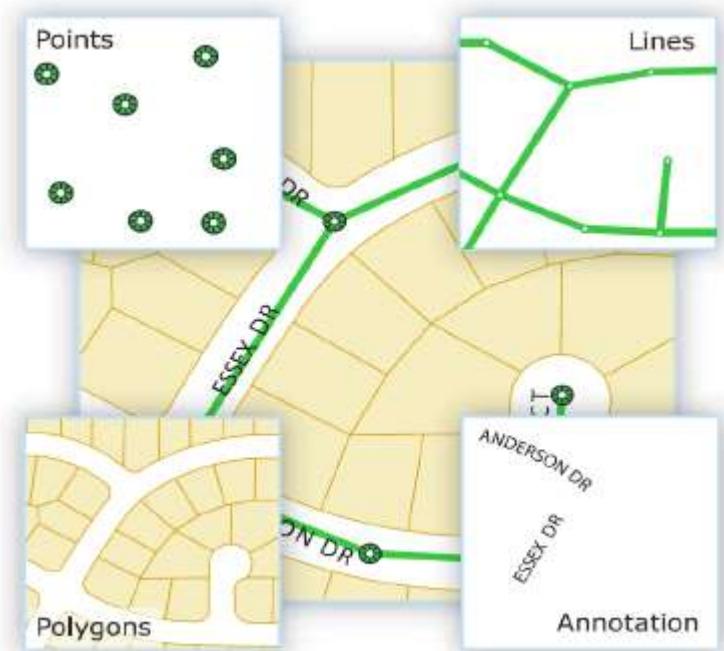


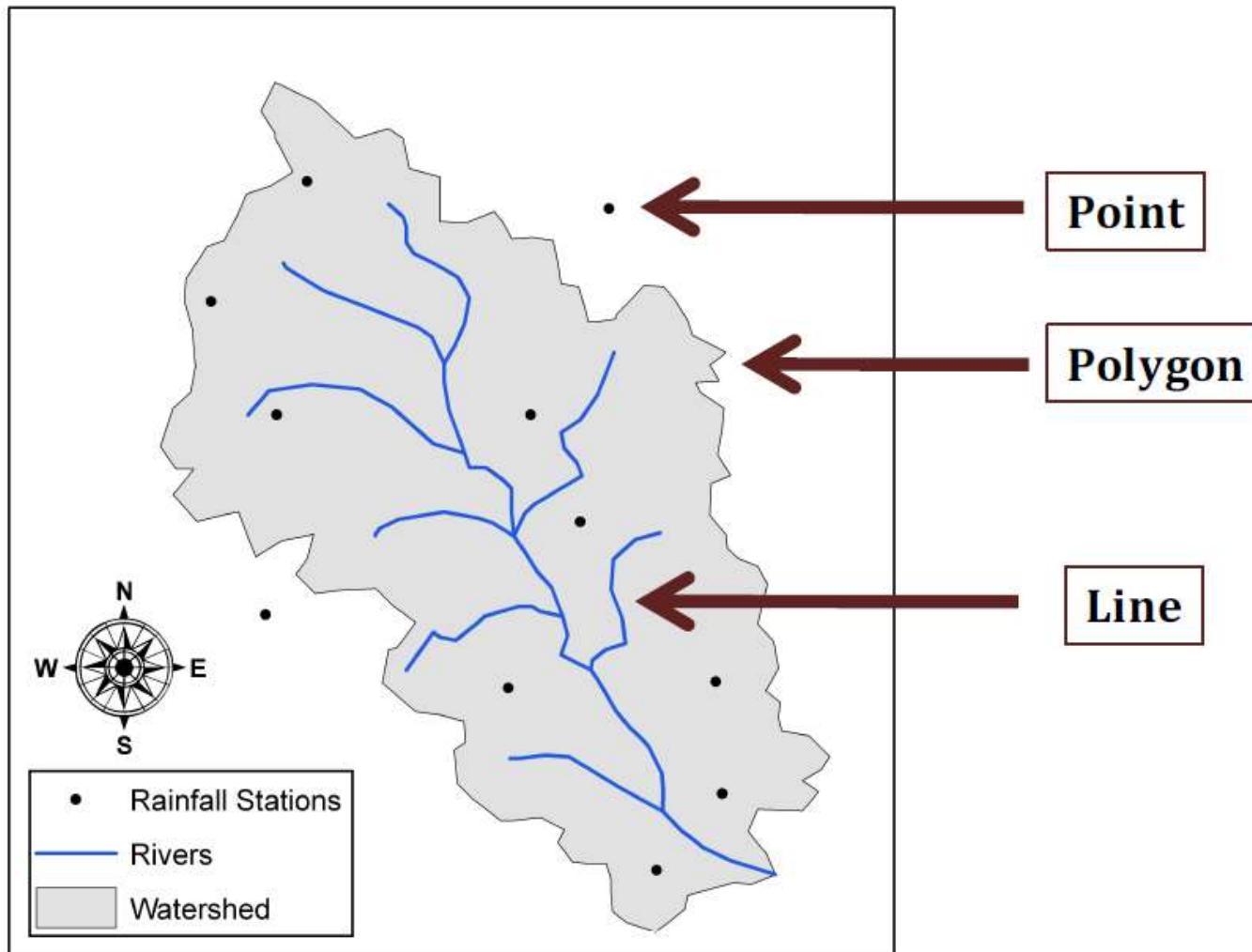
Vector data is **not** made up of a grid of pixels. Instead, vector graphics are comprised of **vertices and paths**. The three basic symbol types for vector data are points, lines and polygons (areas).

Points can have (x,y) coordinates, (x,y,z) coordinates, and (x,y,m) coordinates with m being the third dimension (can be time, distance, or any measure)

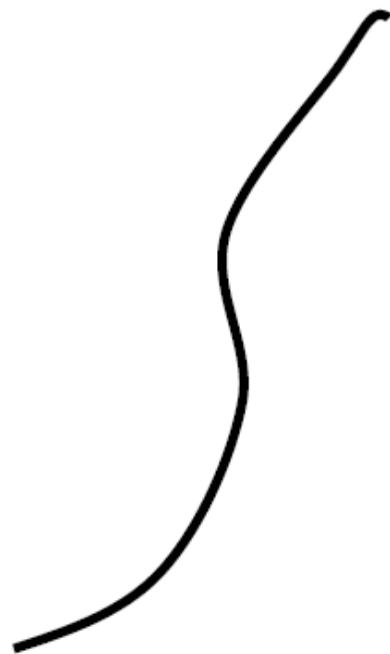
Basic Elements:

- Location (x,y) or (x,y,z)
- Explicit, i.e. pegged to a coordinate system
- Different coordinate system (and precision) require different values o e.g. UTM as integer (but large) o Lat, long as two floating point numbers +/-
- Points are used to build more complex features

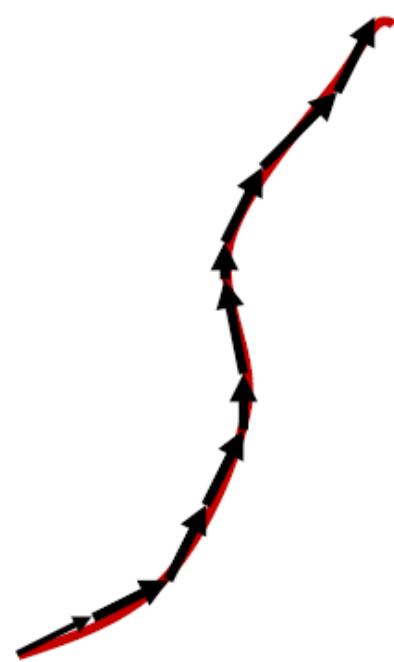




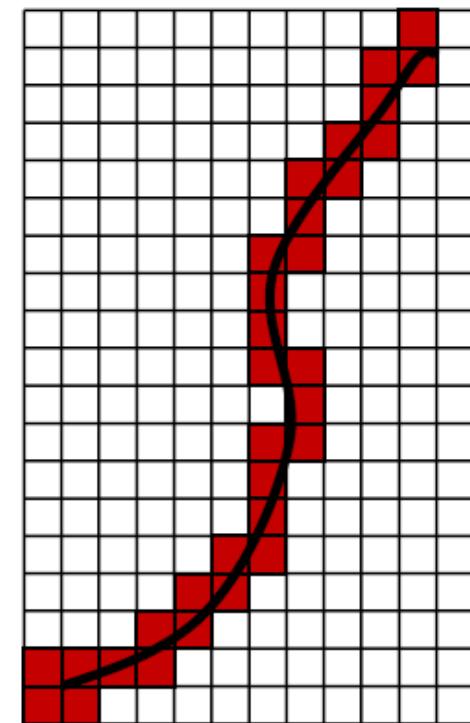
Map Feature



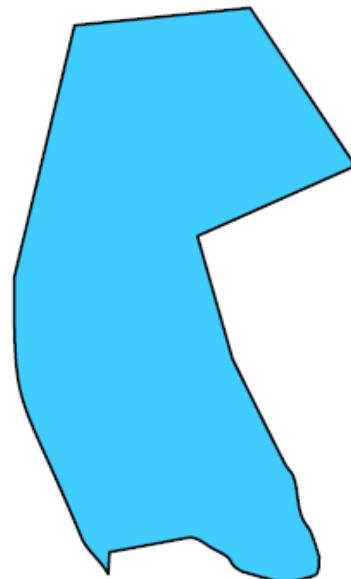
GIS Vector Format



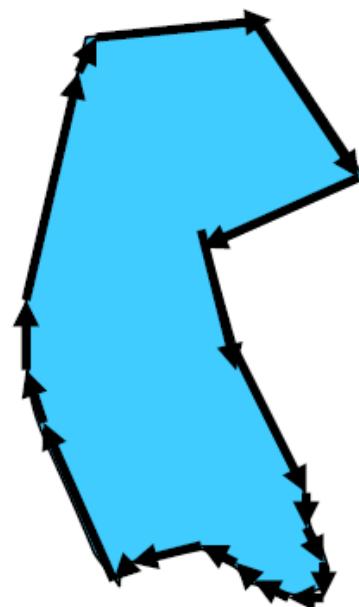
GIS Raster Format



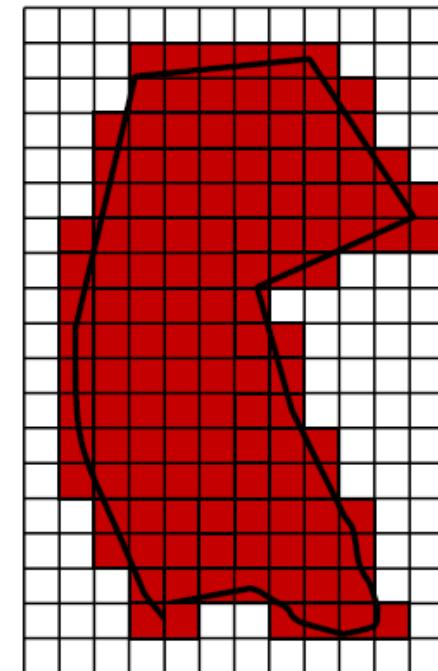
Map Feature



GIS Vector Format



GIS Raster Format



- **Advantage and disadvantage of using raster and vector data**
- Raster data model record value of all the points of the area covered which required more data storage than model represented by the vector model.
- Raster data is less expensive to create computationally compare to vector graphics.
- Raster data has issue while overlaying multiple images.
- Vector data are easily overlaid, for example overlaying roads, rivers, land use are easier than raster data.
- Vector data are easier to scale, re-project or register.
- Vector data are more compatible with the relational database management system.
- Vector file sizes are much smaller than raster image file.
- Vector data are easier to update like adding river stream but has to be recreated for the raster image.

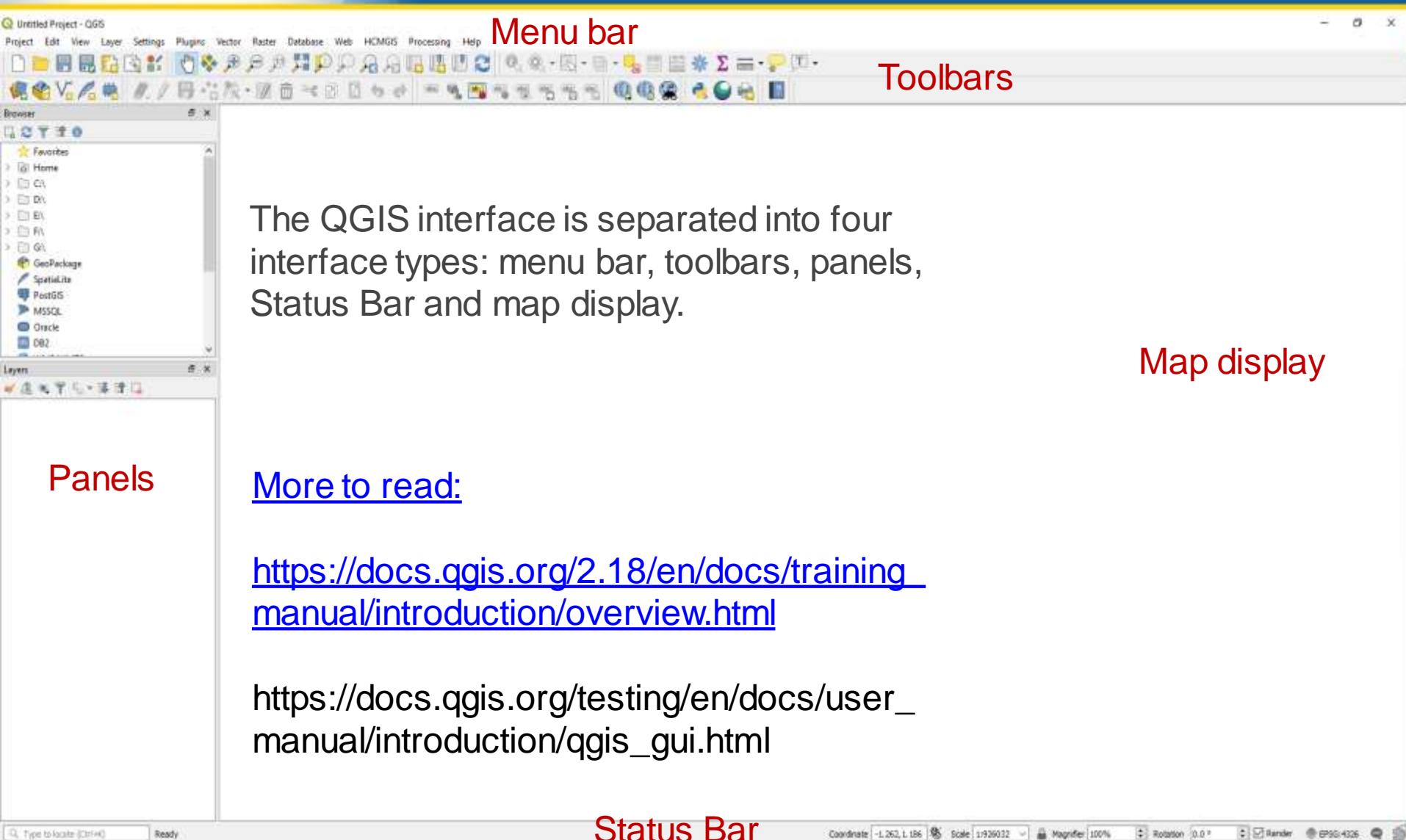
Source:

http://support.pitneybowes.com/SearchArticles/VFP05_KnowledgeWithSidebarHowTo?id=kA180000000Cu9DCAS&popup=false;&lang=en_US

Spatial data have spatial reference:

They have coordinate values and a system of reference for these coordinates. As a fairly simple example, consider the locations of points on the Earth.

This data set consists of points only. When we want to draw these points on a (flat) map, we are faced with the problem of projection: we have to translate from the spherical longitude/latitude system to a new, non-spherical coordinate system, which inevitably changes their relative positions.

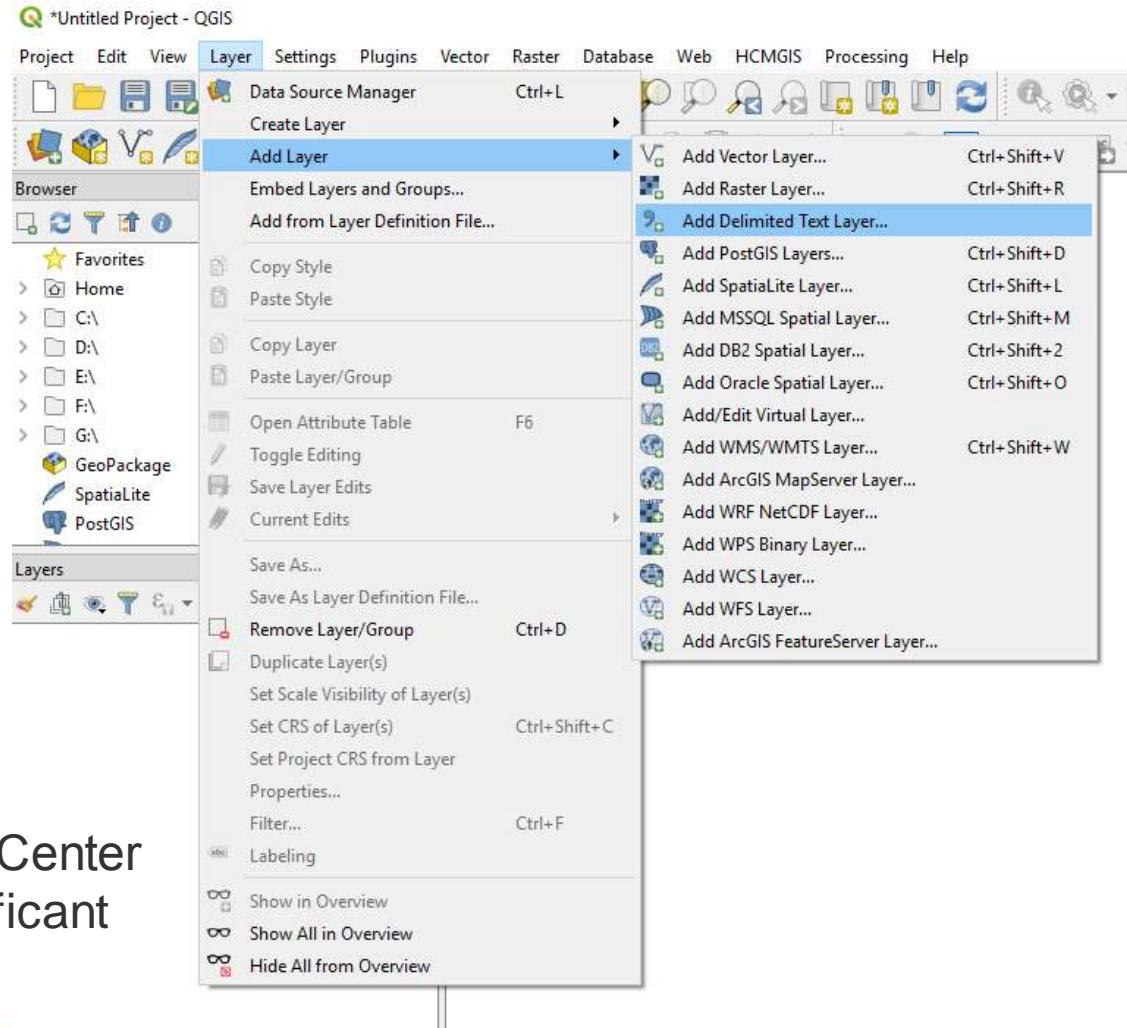


Form menu:

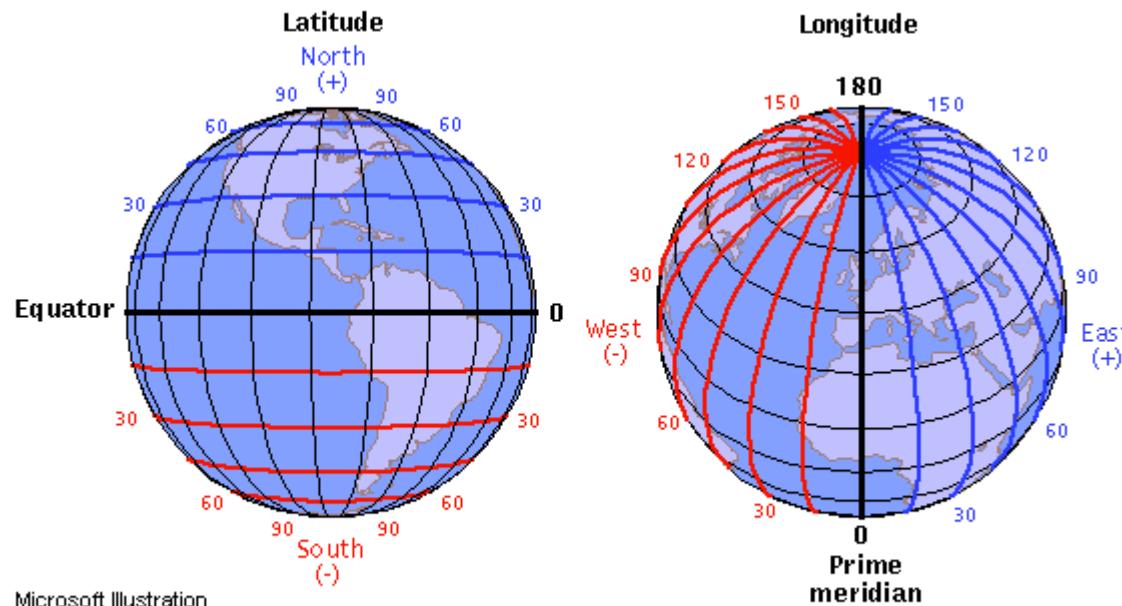
Layer>Add layer
>Add Delimited Text Layer

File that will be used
in the task 1:
signif.txt
(significant earthquakes)

NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center
produces a great dataset of all significant
earthquakes

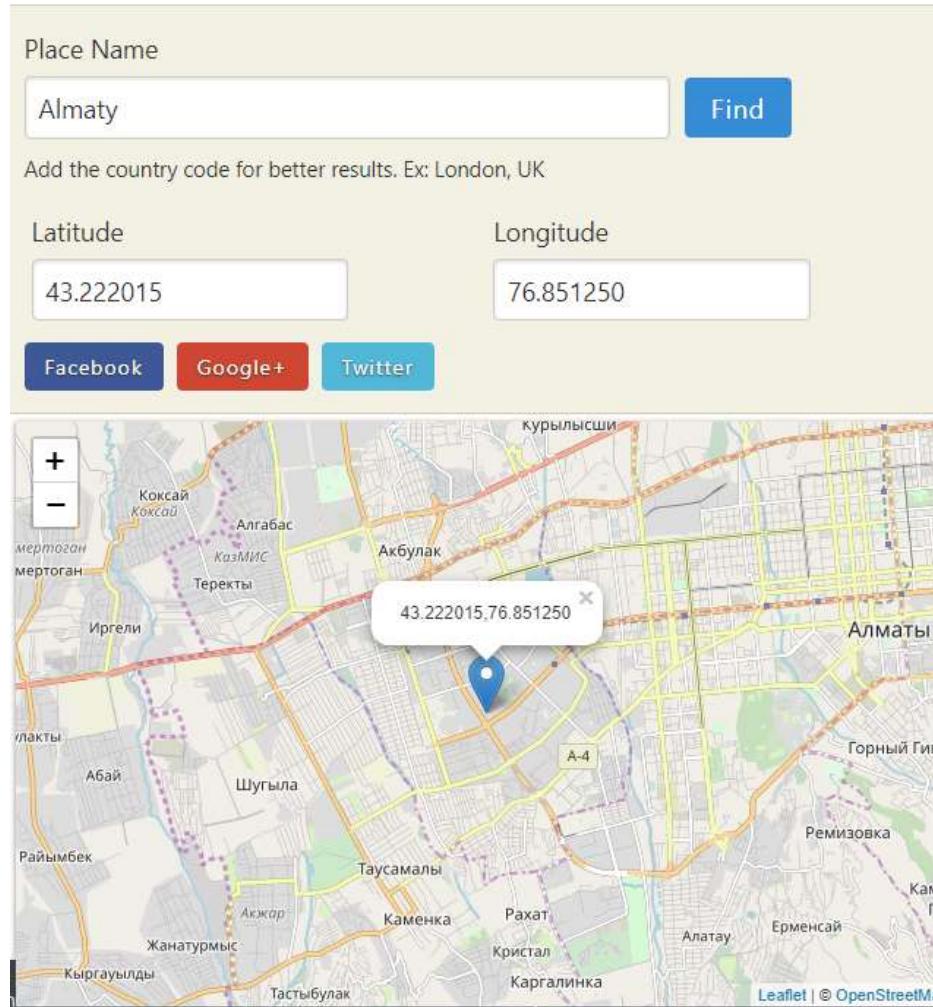


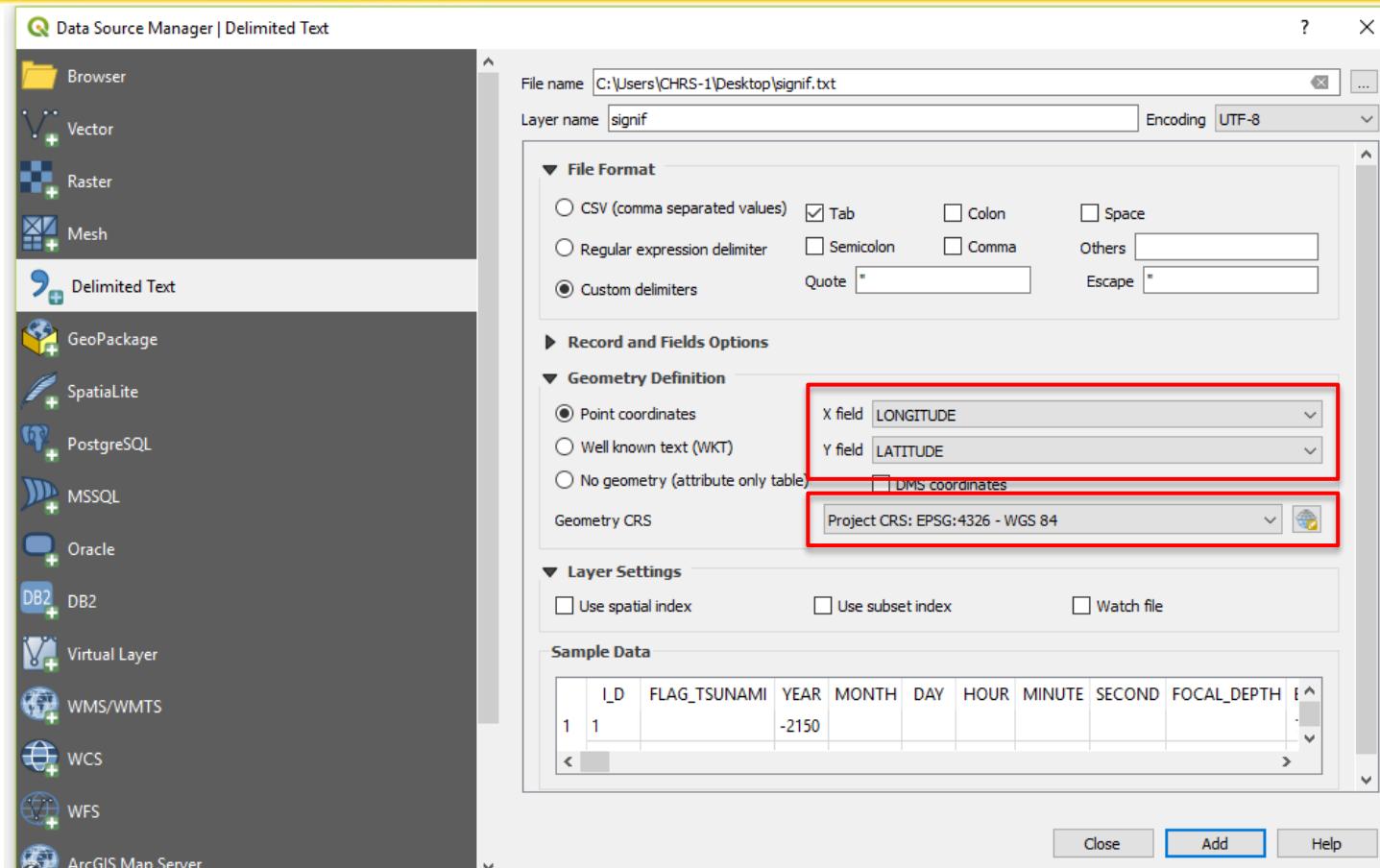
A geographic coordinate system is a method for describing the position of a geographic location on the earth's surface using spherical measures of latitude and longitude.



Latitude and Longitude are the two angles that define the precision location of a point on earth or the GPS coordinates.

Get Latitude and Longitude: <https://www.latlong.net/>



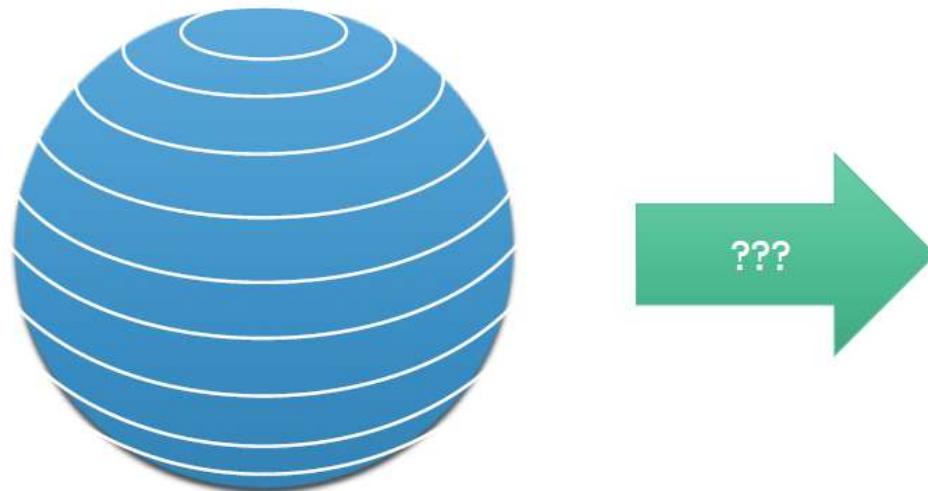


It is easy to confuse X and Y coordinates.

Latitude is a **Y** coordinate.
Longitude is a **X** coordinate.

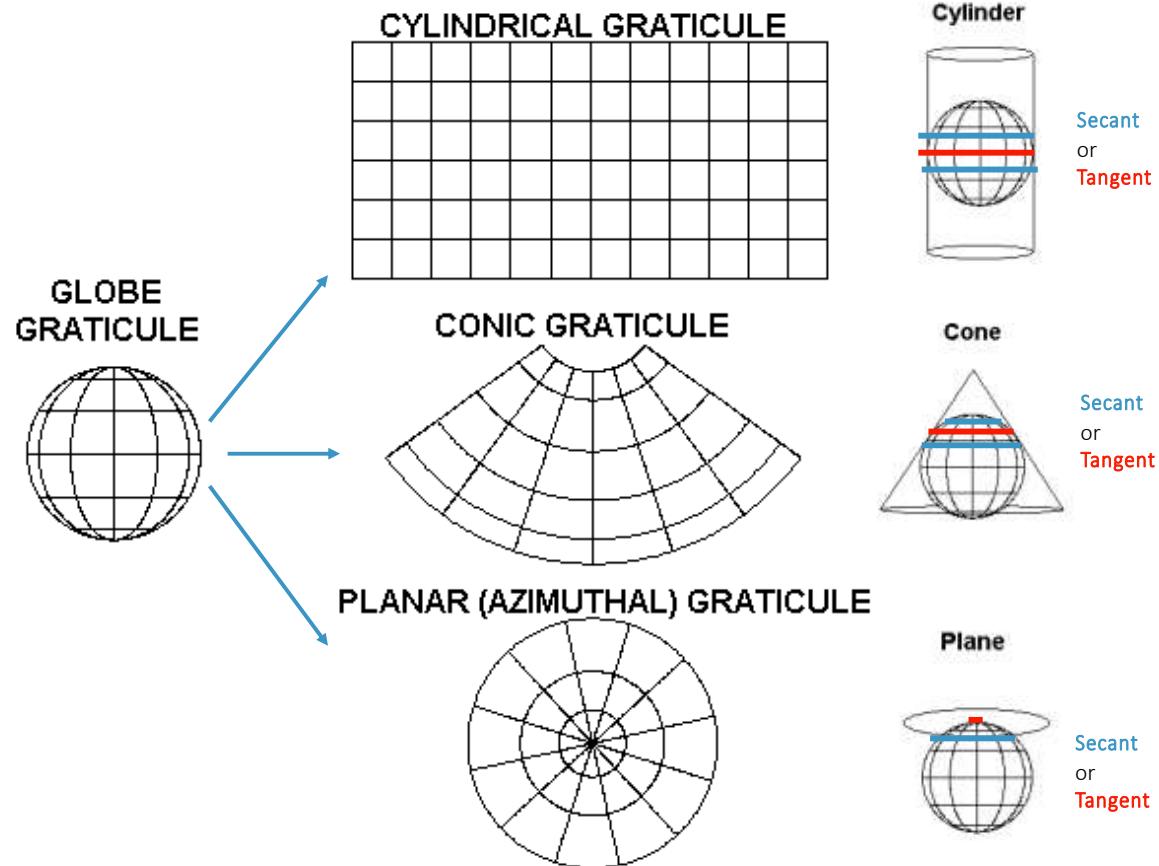
Geographic Coordinate Systems

The issue: projecting a sphere (3D) on a 2D plane with *minimal* distortion



Coordinate reference systems (CRS): how to represent a bumpy ellipsoid on the plane.

Map Projections (3 basic categories)

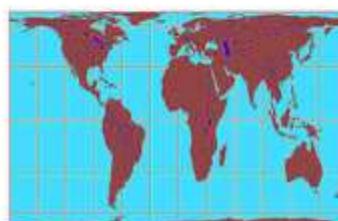


Map Projections

- Any one projection *cannot* simultaneously preserve all four of these qualities of the world:
 - Shape**
 - Area**
 - Direction**
 - Distance**



Mercator Projection



Gall-Peters Projection



Goode's Homolosine Equal-area Projection



Miller Cylindrical Projection



Mollweide Projection



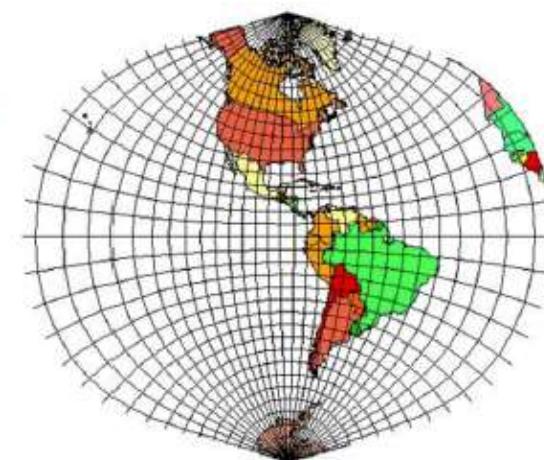
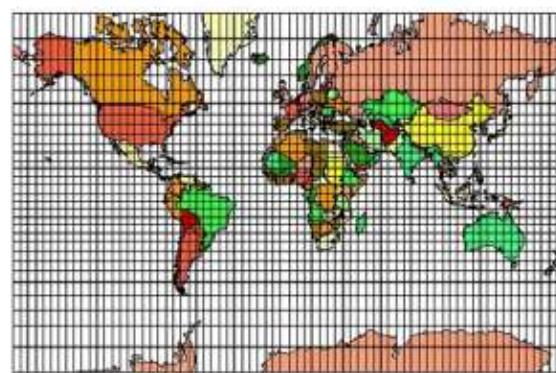
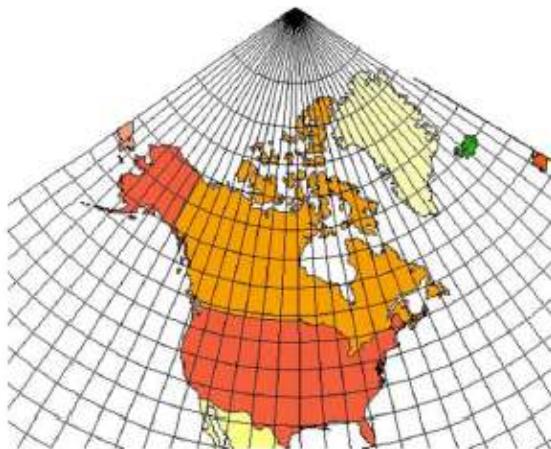
Sinusoidal Equal-Area Projection



Robinson Projection

GIS applications store data features using x, y, z coordinates that represent locations via a defined geographic coordinate system. A coordinate system is a reference that links the locations of geographic features using a *datum* and *map projection* system. A datum is a representation of the earth's surface from a mathematical viewpoint. The most frequently used datum is the world geodetic system of 1984 (WGS84) which is widely used for location measurement and referencing. Generally, there are two types of coordinate systems: (a) a global (spherical) coordinate system such as latitude-longitude alternatively referred to as geographic coordinate systems; (b) a projected coordinate system based on a map projection scheme that transforms the spherical surface of the earth into a two dimensional system (x,y coordinates).

The process of transforming a three dimensional curved system into a two dimensional Cartesian plane is known as projection. Both geographic and projected coordinate systems define a framework for locating geographic features. In ArcGIS application, both geographic and projected coordinate systems can be used to define locations. When you are working with multiple layers of data with different coordinate system, ArcGIS can integrate your layers as long as each layer has a defined spatial reference.



A spatial reference defines the coordinate system and spatial properties of datasets. In QGIS application, the spatial reference parameters include:

- The coordinate system (e.g., latitude-longitude)
- The precision of the coordinates or the coordinate resolution
- Processing tolerances
- The spatial domain or the map extent

Most commonly used for GIS

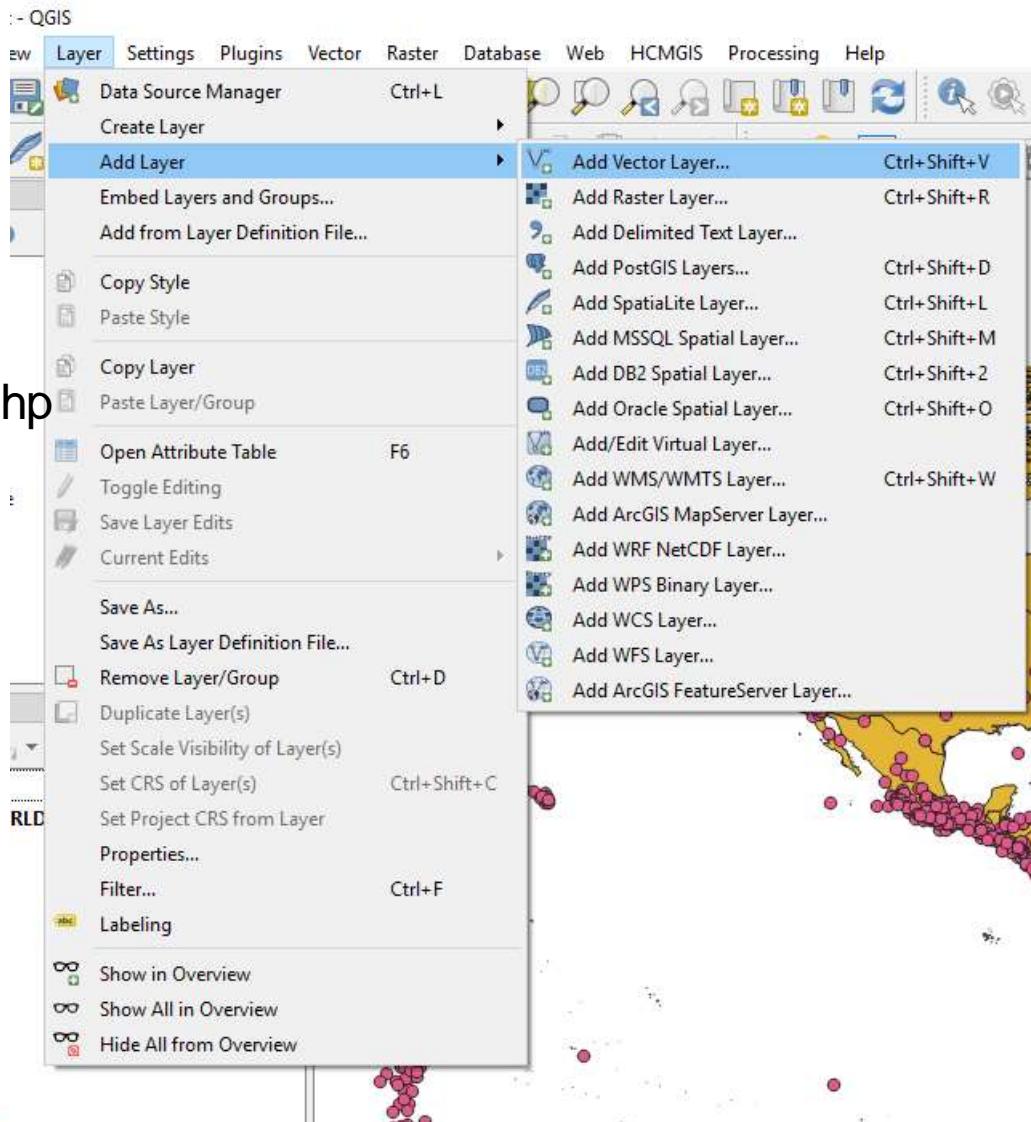
- WGS84
- NAD83

You'll want to make sure all your GIS layers are using the same Geographic Coordinate System!

- *If your data isn't displaying correctly, an mismatched coordinate system is the most common reason why*

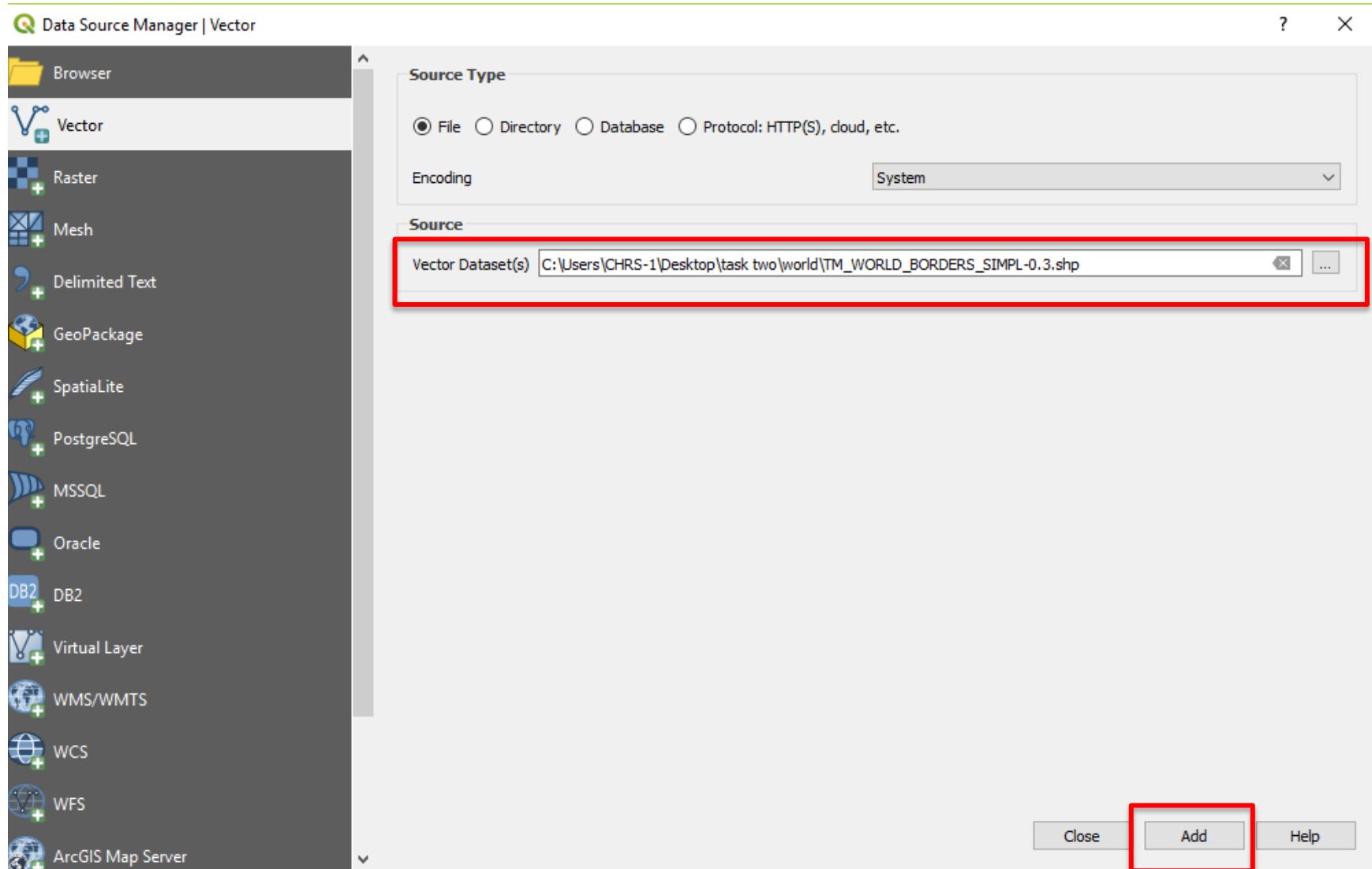
More to read about **Coordinate Reference Systems**:

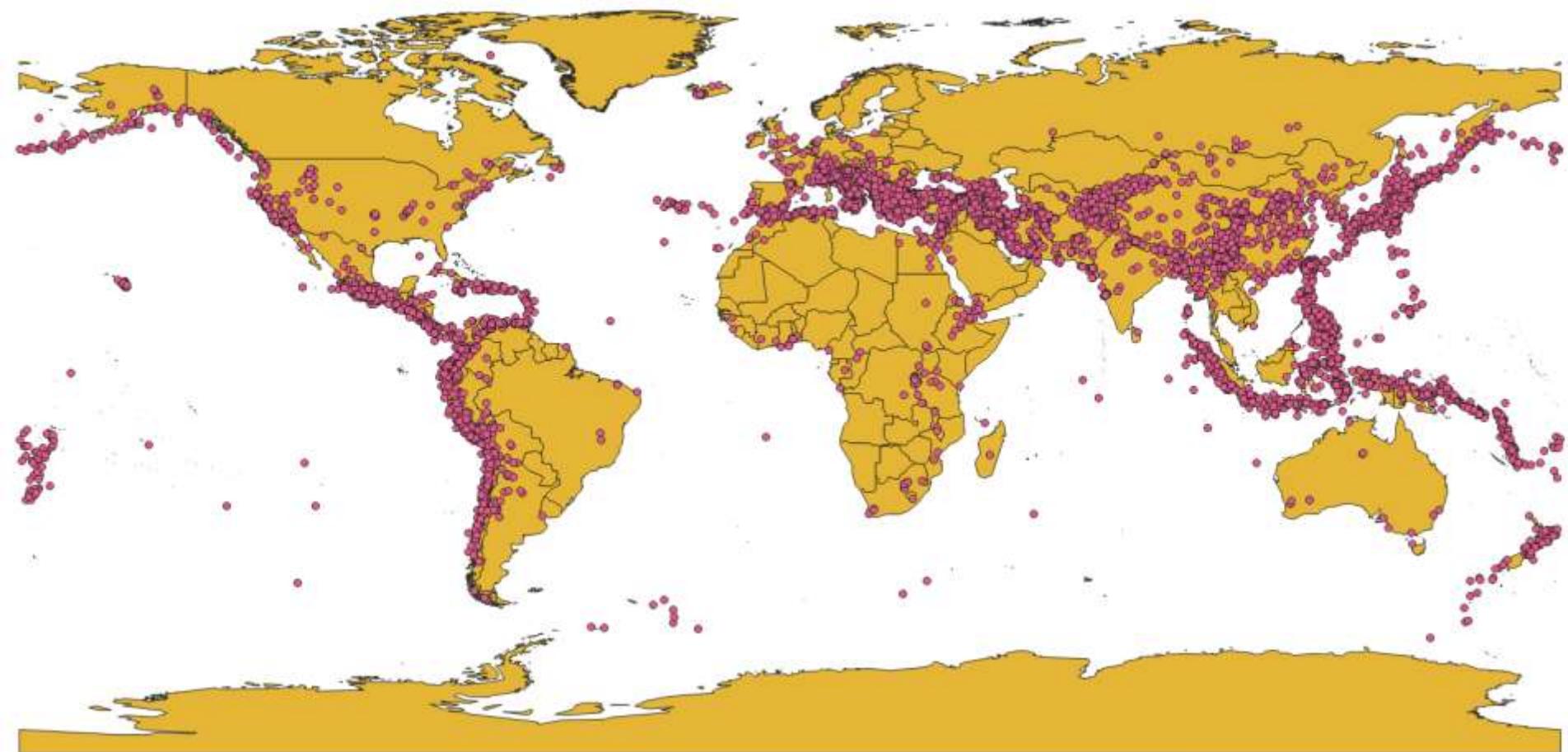
https://docs.qgis.org/testing/en/docs/gentle_gis_introduction/coordinate_reference_systems.html



File that will be used in the task 2:

TM_WORLD_BORDERS_SIMPL-0.3.shp

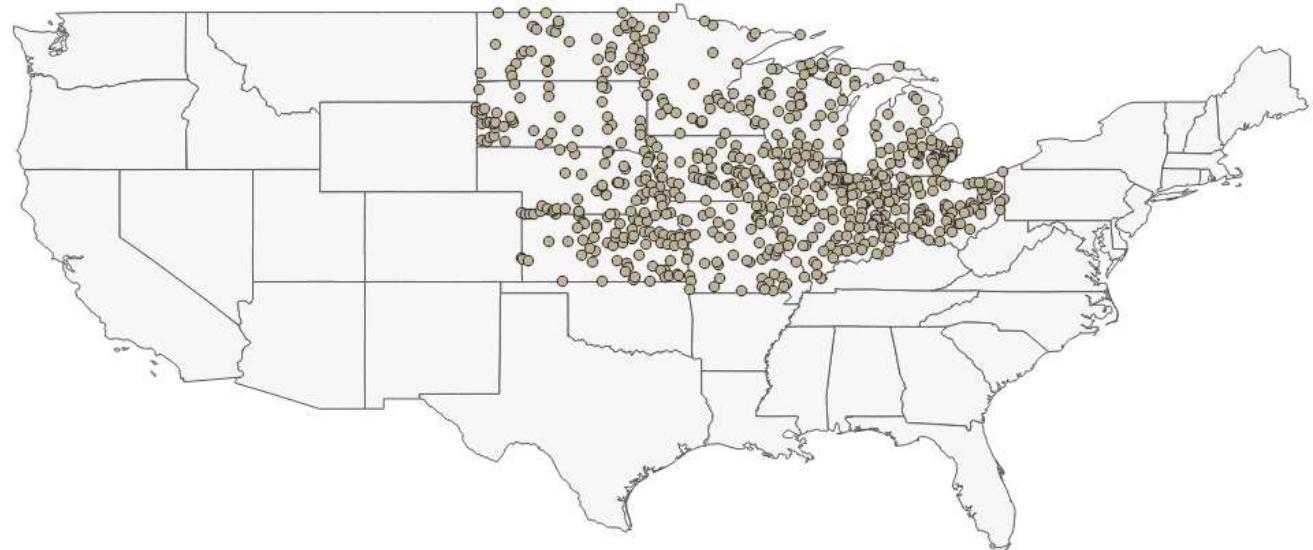




Task 3- Repeat task 1 and 2 with the below datasets:

1- us states

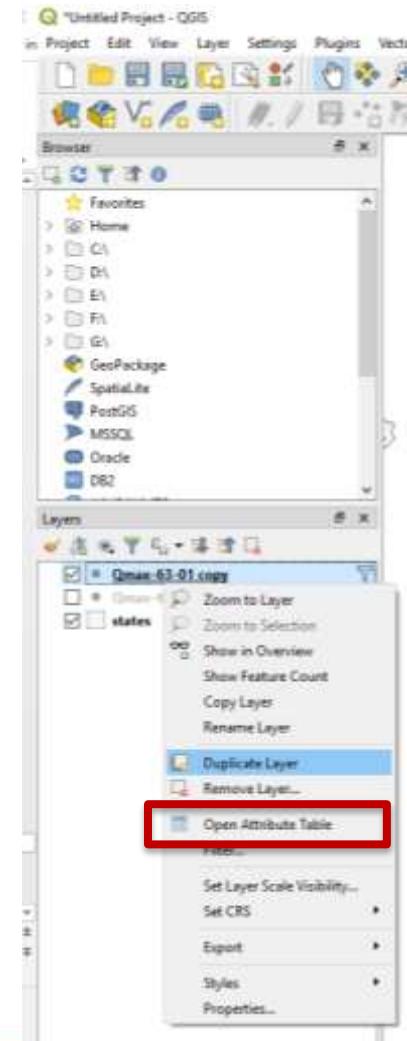
2- Qmax-63-01



Task 4- In this task we want to explore how to view attributes and do queries on them.

Continue with task 3.

- Make 2 copies of point dataset.
- Right-click the layer and select Open Attribute Table
- Explore it! What do you see?



Perform query on attributes

Qmax-63-01 copy :: Features Total: 48, Filtered: 48, Selected: 0

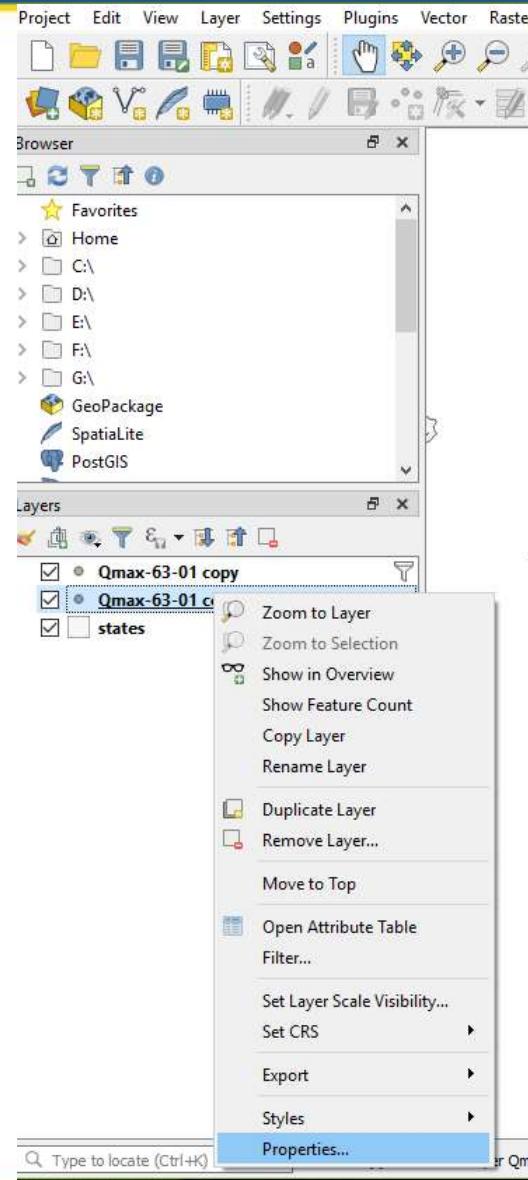
	ID	lat	lon	area	pval	est
1	5446500	41.5561111	-90.1852778	9549	0.034237572	0.236486702
2	5518000	41.1828134	-87.3403096	1779	0.026825223	0.247297523
3	5536190	41.5611467	-87.4805959	70.7	0.000245964	0.410015033
4	5597500	37.73116079	-88.8892345	31.7	0.009955006	0.28822839
5	4185000	41.50449567	-84.4296719	410	0.027657241	0.246112744
6	7166500	37.5297764	-95.674703	1094	0.043262808	0.226289133
7	4166100	42.4475356	-83.29743079	87.9	0.032236974	0.239189408
8	4166000	42.5458678	-83.2235418	33.3	0.025183473	0.250339212
9	6909000	38.980306	-92.7454638	500700	0.020822961	0.258458321
10	4166300	42.46447955	-83.369655	17.5	0.018927033	0.261985205
11	6919500	37.83420277	-93.8754918	420	0.043334307	0.225675882
12	3346000	39.01004218	-87.9455882	318	0.009682795	0.287449393
13	4099510	41.6344947	-85.109691	106	0.001149306	0.357624831
14	3379500	38.63477048	-88.2972663	1131	0.02017327	0.259635423
15	3378000	38.3864372	-87.9755884	228	0.028534798	0.244594818
16	6917000	38.00892428	-94.7041264	314	0.020824951	0.257759784
17	6790500	41.26334596	-98.449236	4302	0.040857811	0.228688253

Show All Features

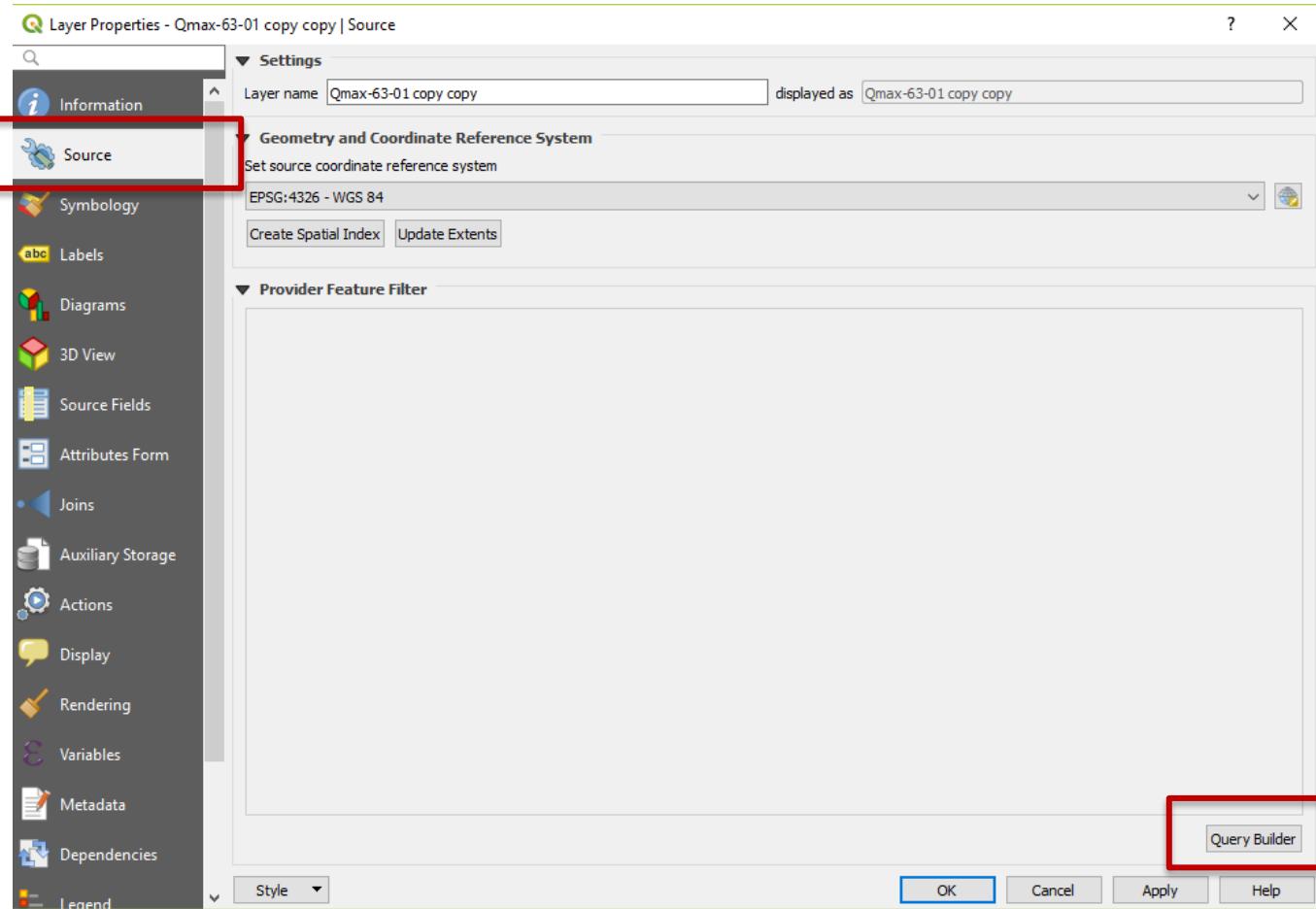
-Take a look at Pval and est.

-Close Attribute table.

- Right click on the point layer and select Properties.



- In the source tab, find Query Builder.

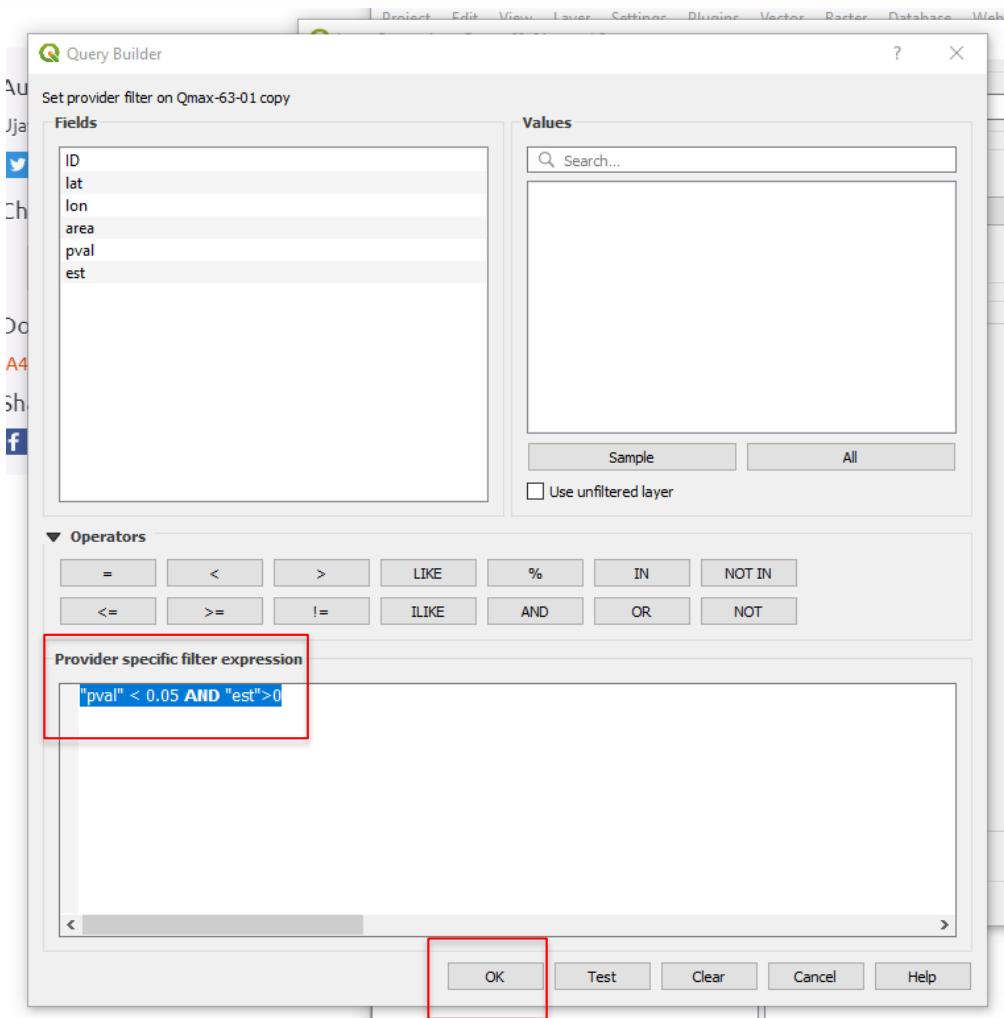


1- Enter the below expression:
"pval" < 0.05 AND "est">>0

Click ok.

Take a look at what happens.

2- Redo (1) with using the below expression:
"pval" < 0.05 AND "est"<0

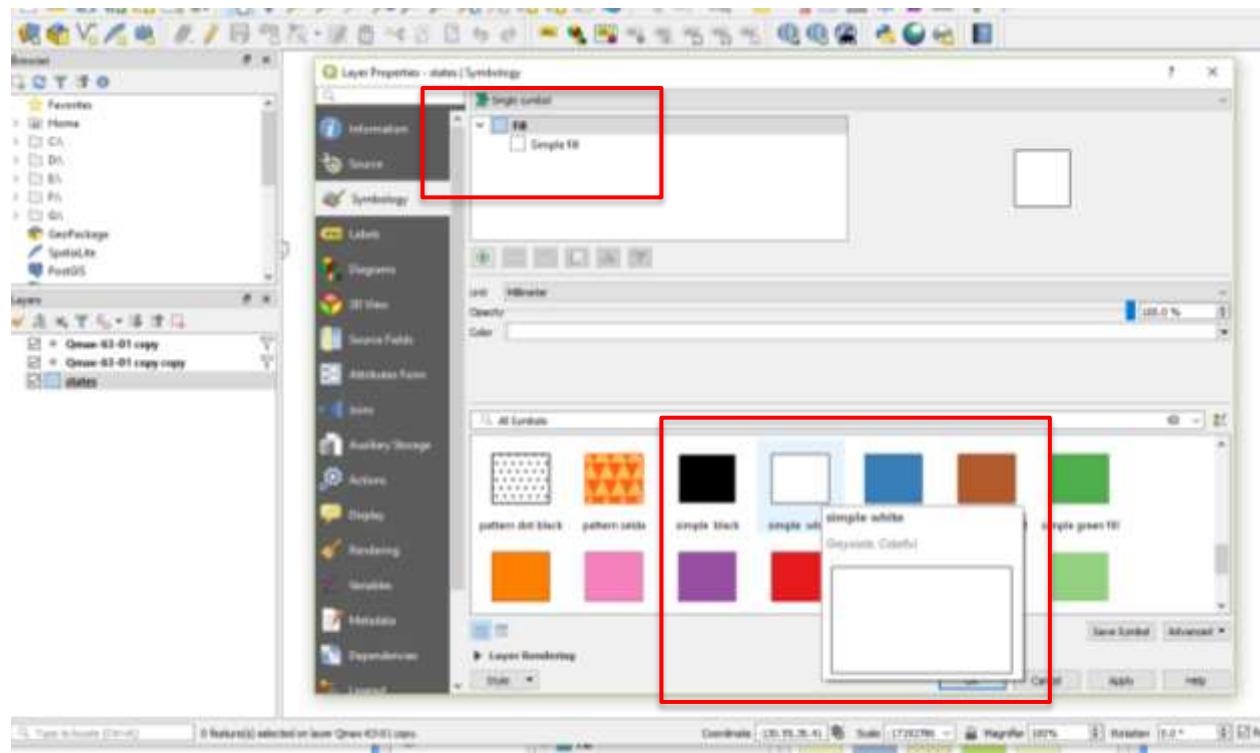


Task 5- Map time!

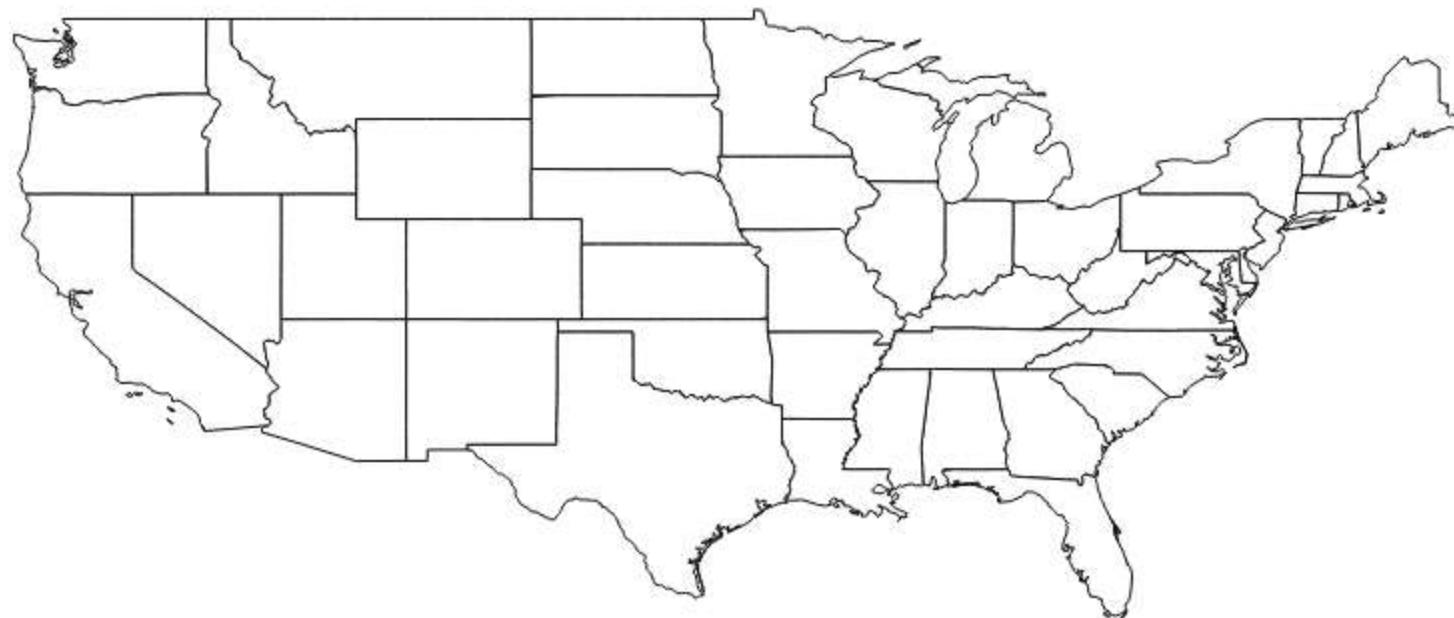
In this task we will learn how to make our first print-ready map. First change the color of USA map.

Right click on the state layer and select Properties.

In Symbology tab, find single symbol. And then find simple white.



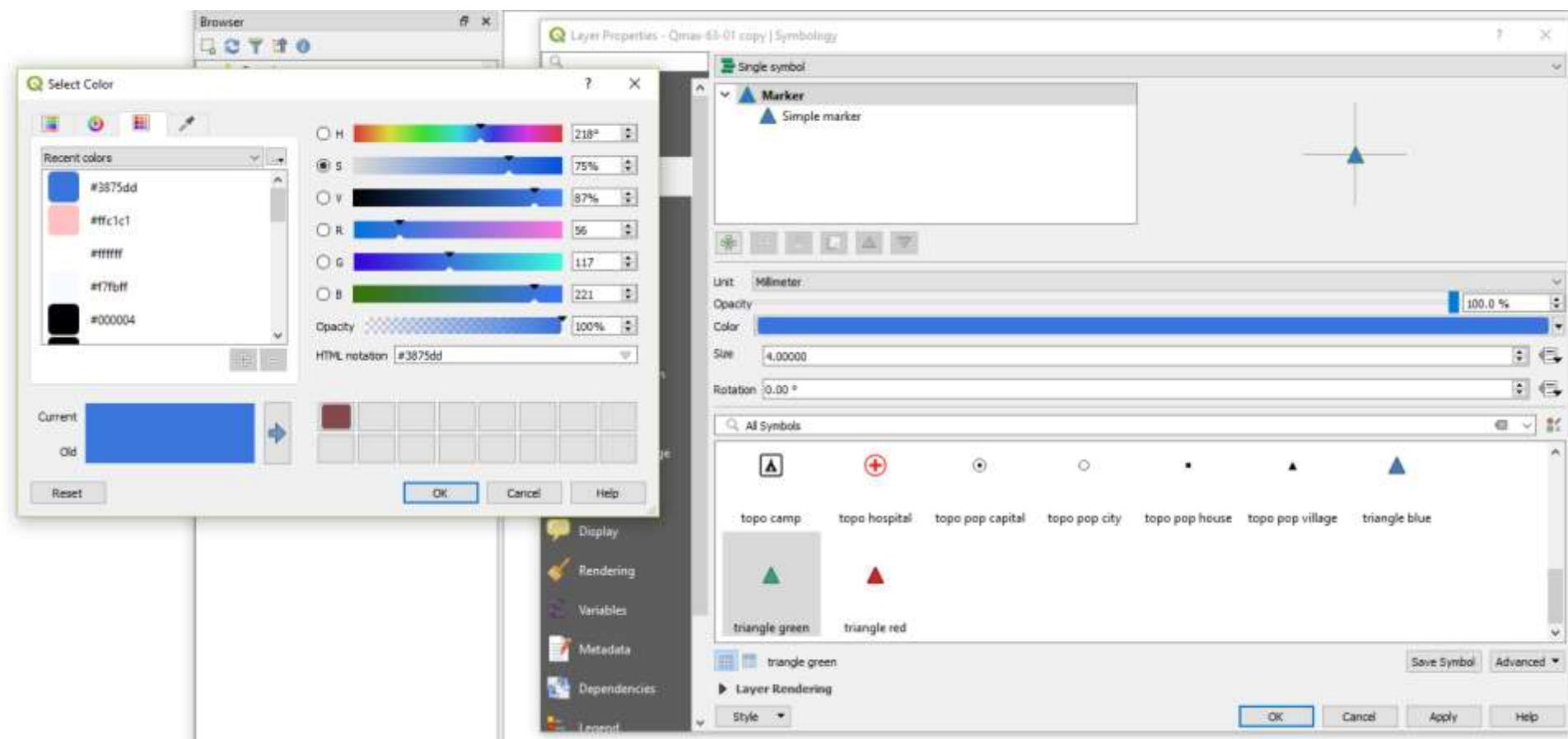
You will see a new color!



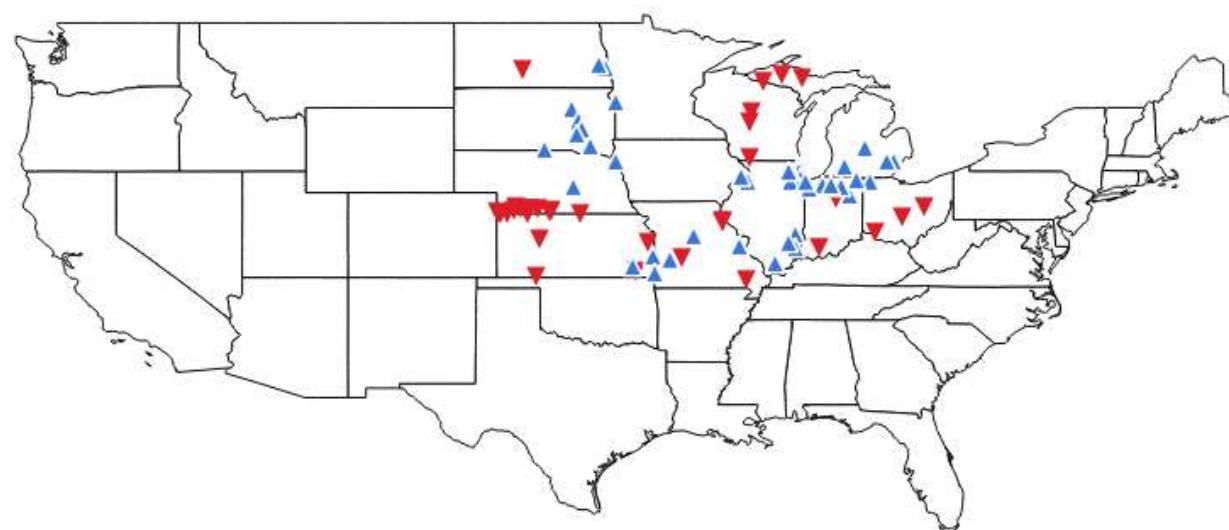
Now change the style and color of points.

Right click on the point layers you selected by "pval" < 0.05 AND "est">>0 and select Properties.

In Symbology tab, find single symbol and maker and find a triangle symbol, then make it blue.

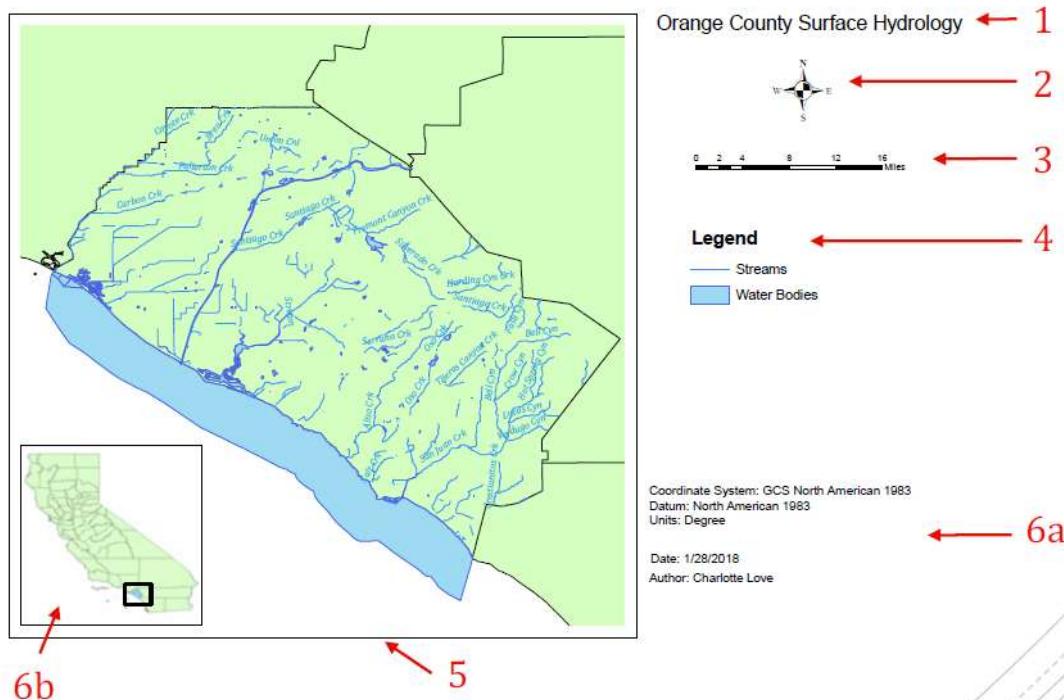


Redo it for the point layers you selected by "pval" < 0.05 AND "est" < 0 by making a red downward triangle symbol. You have to get something similar to the below map.



Basic Map Components

1. Title
2. North Arrow
3. Scale (bar or ratio)
4. Legend
5. Neatline
6. Depending on your map type and audience:
 - a. Map Inset
 - b. Additional text (e.g., metadata, credits, date)



Map Aesthetics

- **North is always up**
- **Water** is blue
- **Land** is green or brown
- **Red** can indicate "danger"
 - Try to avoid it unless you are purposefully drawing attention to a specific area
- When talking about **map scale**:
 - Large scale = zoomed in, high resolution (Scale ratio = 1:small number)
 - Small scale = zoomed out, low resolution (Scale ratio = 1:big number)

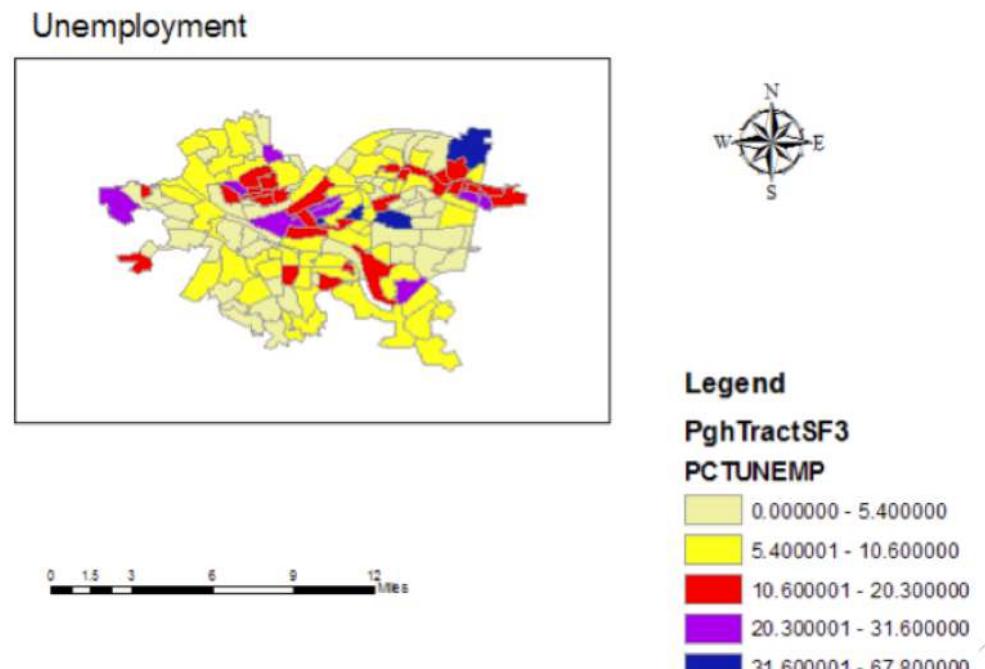
Map Aesthetics – Does it really matter?

YES!

- The way you present your data can skew perception
 - Color ramp choice
 - Number of categories or breaks in the Legend
 - How the data was processed (mean, median, interpolation of point data, etc.)

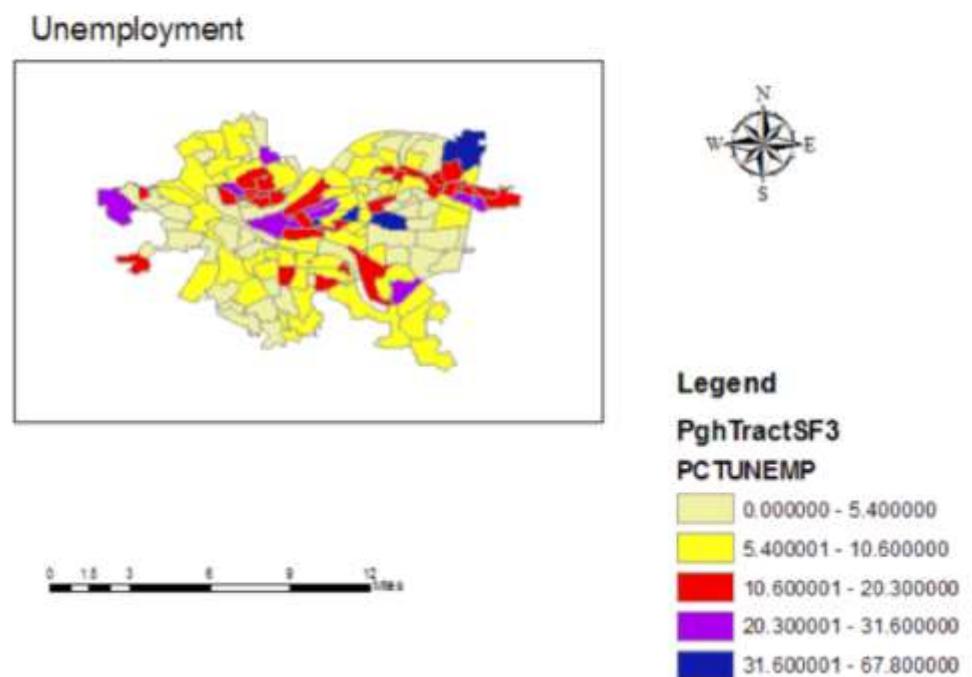
Map Aesthetics – The Bad

- **Bad:** Categorical look to the colors when representing *single continuous value*
- **Bad:** Didn't *rename their data layer* to something descriptive (the weird text that shows under "Legend")
- **Bad:** Too many (meaningless) *decimal places* in the legend!
- **Bad:** *Arbitrary use of red* in mid-values makes them stand out over the rest
- **Bad:** The two lightest colors are *hard to tell apart*

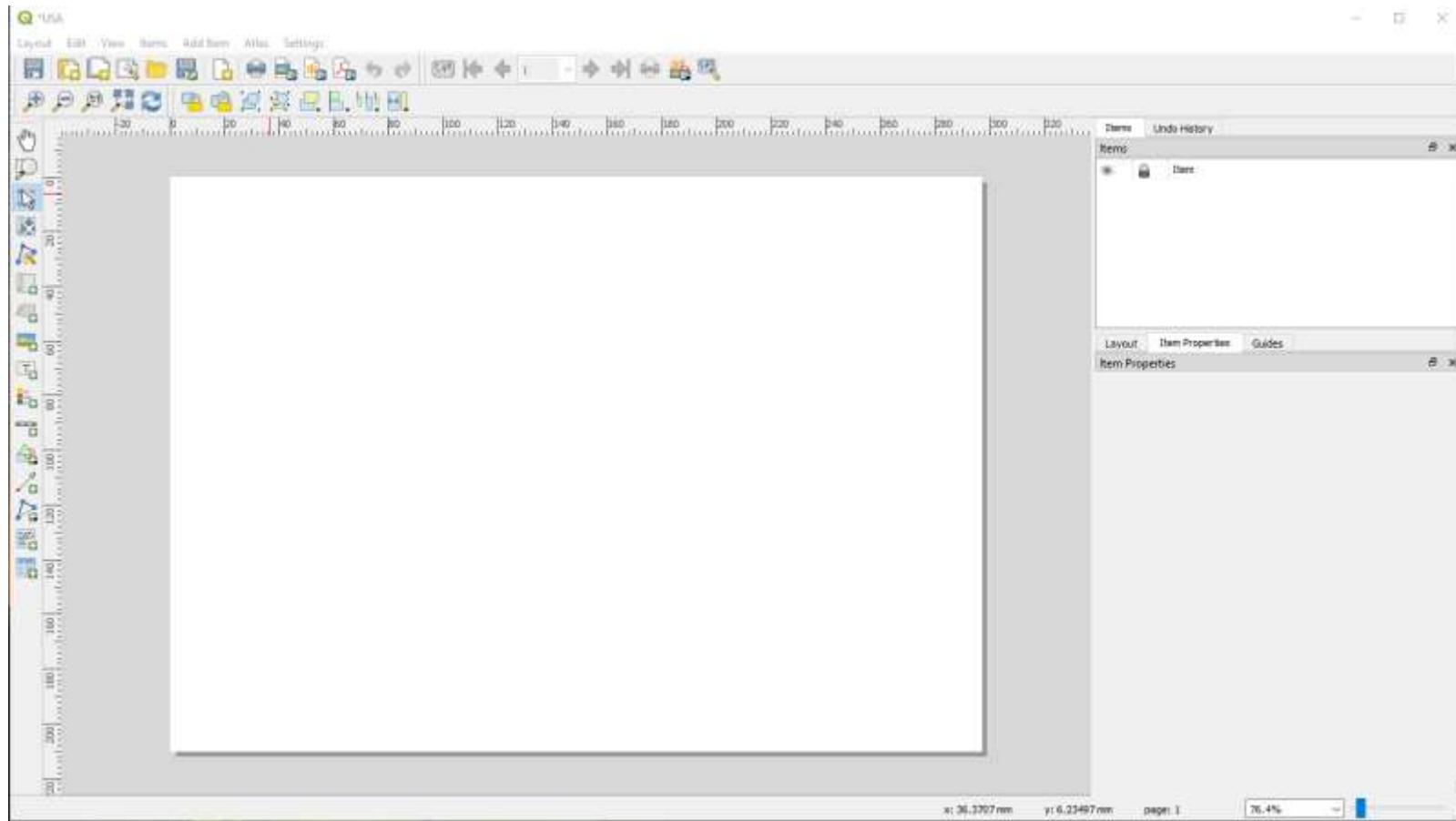


Map Aesthetics – The Bad (how to fix it)

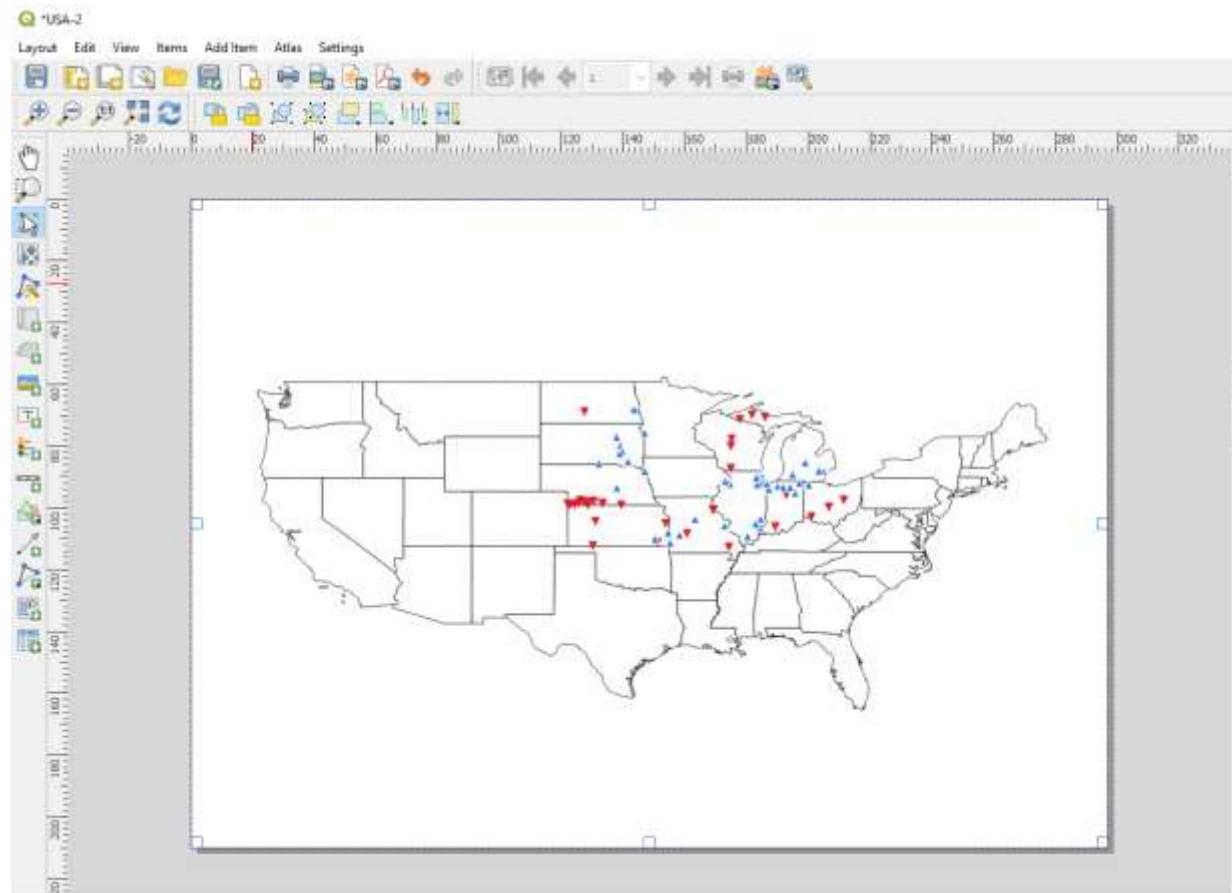
- Could be improved by simply choosing a better **Color Ramp**
 - For a single continuous value, using a *monochromatic* (one color) *gradient* would be best
- Rename their data layer for the legend
- Change the Symbology settings for their value breaks (you'll learn this later)



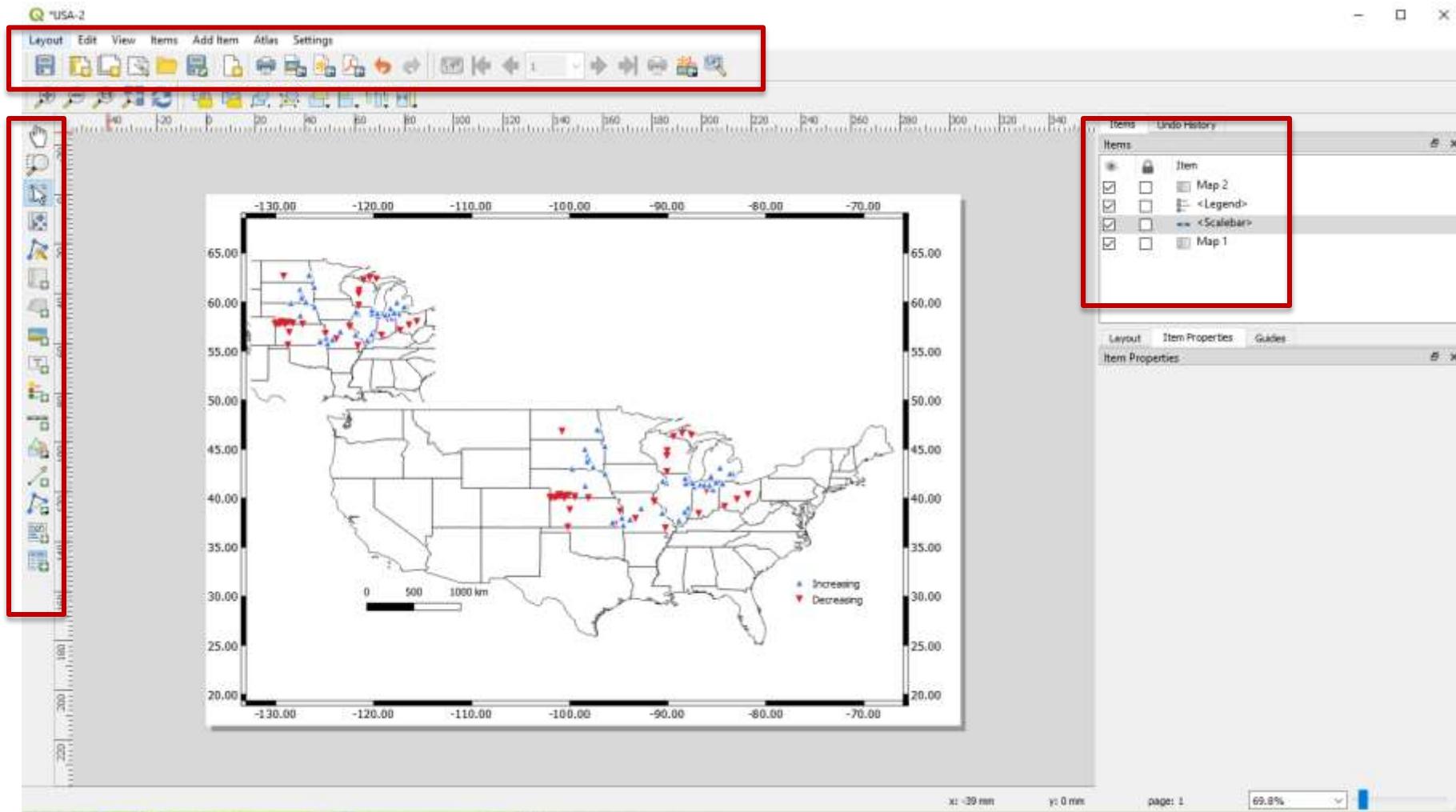
Go to Project > New Print Layout

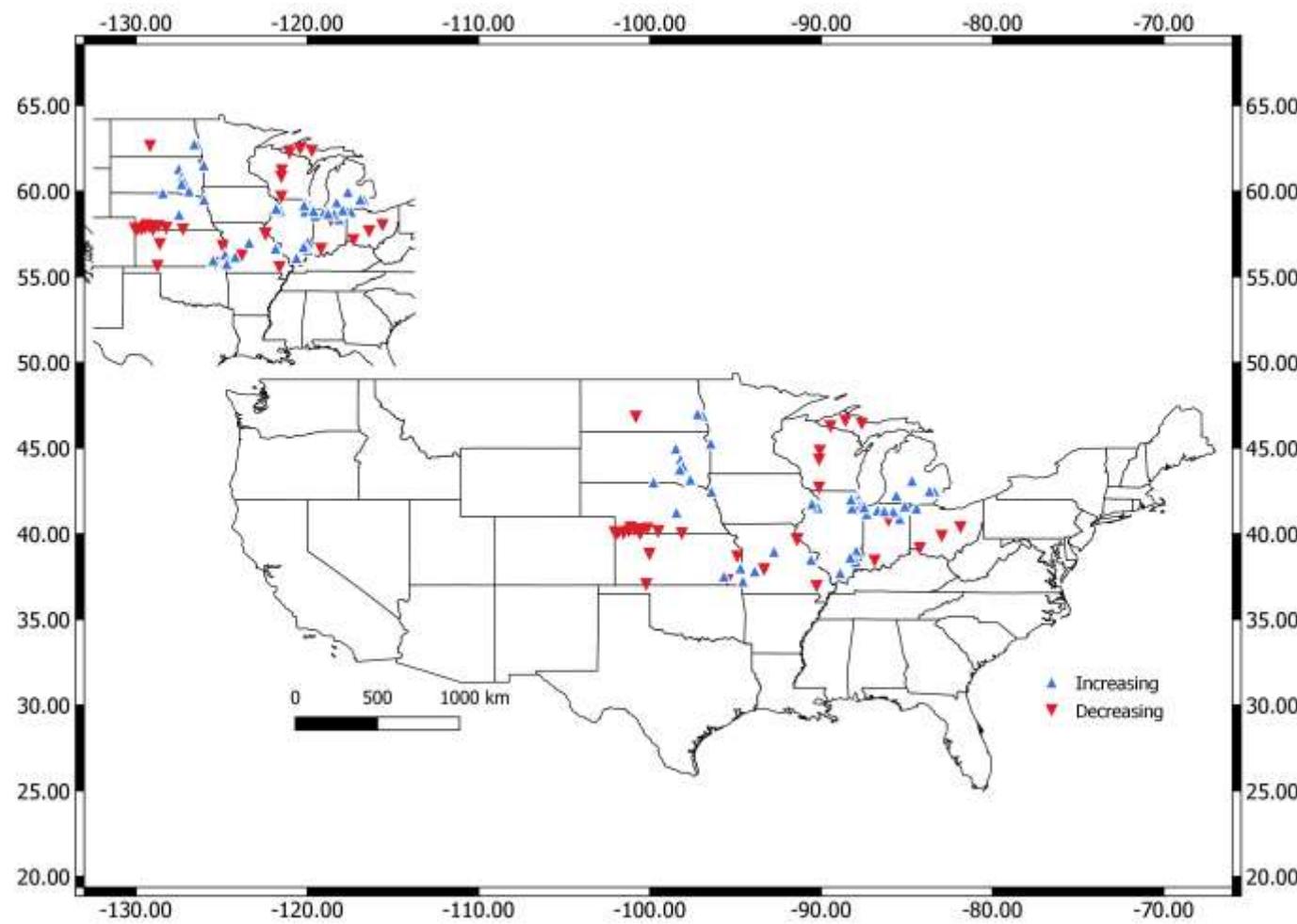


Go to Add Item > Add Map



Now we will follow a step by step procedure to make the below map.



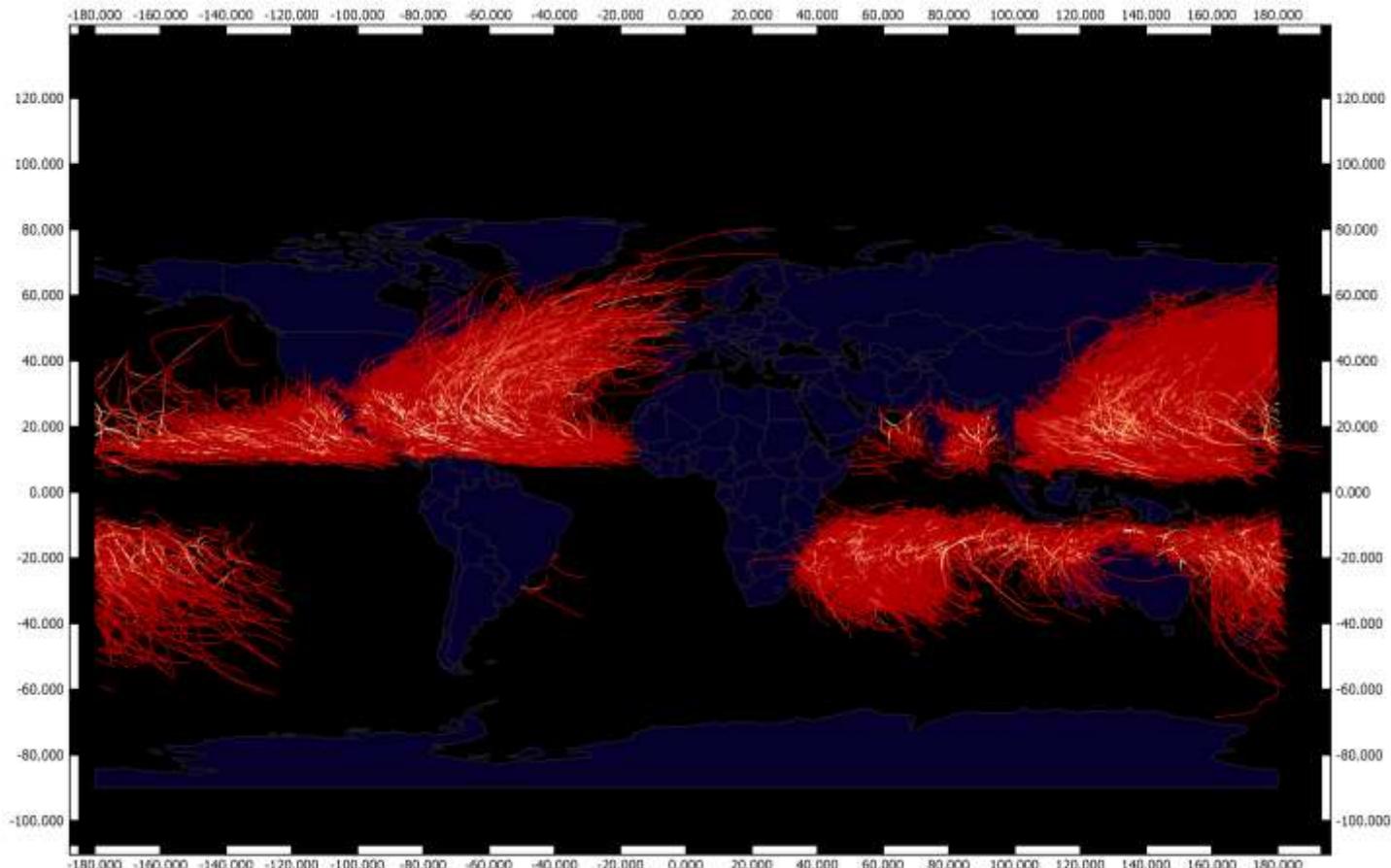


Task 6- Make a hurricane map

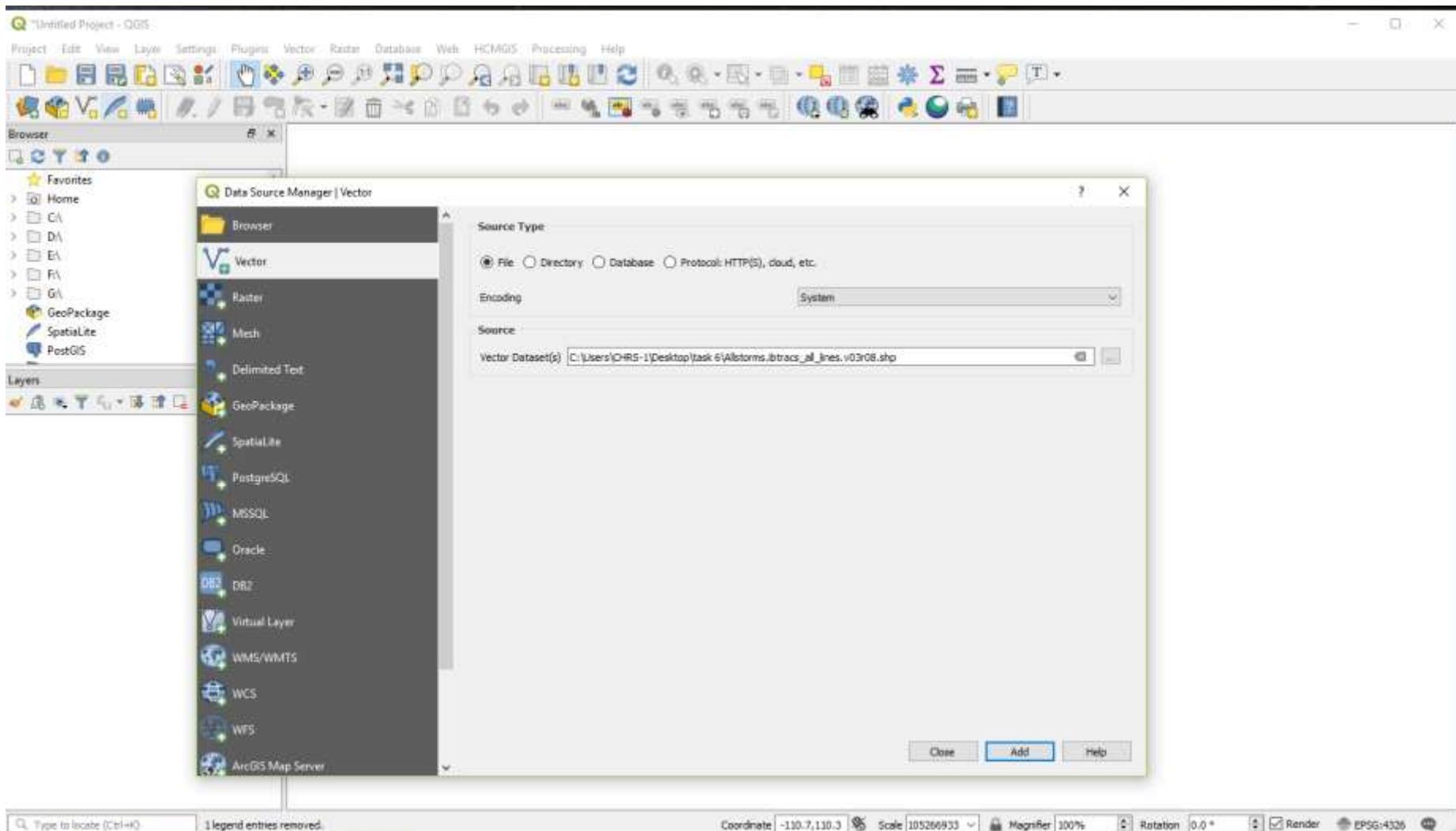
We are going to make the below map that is showing every recorded hurricane, cyclone, and typhoon going back about 150 years.

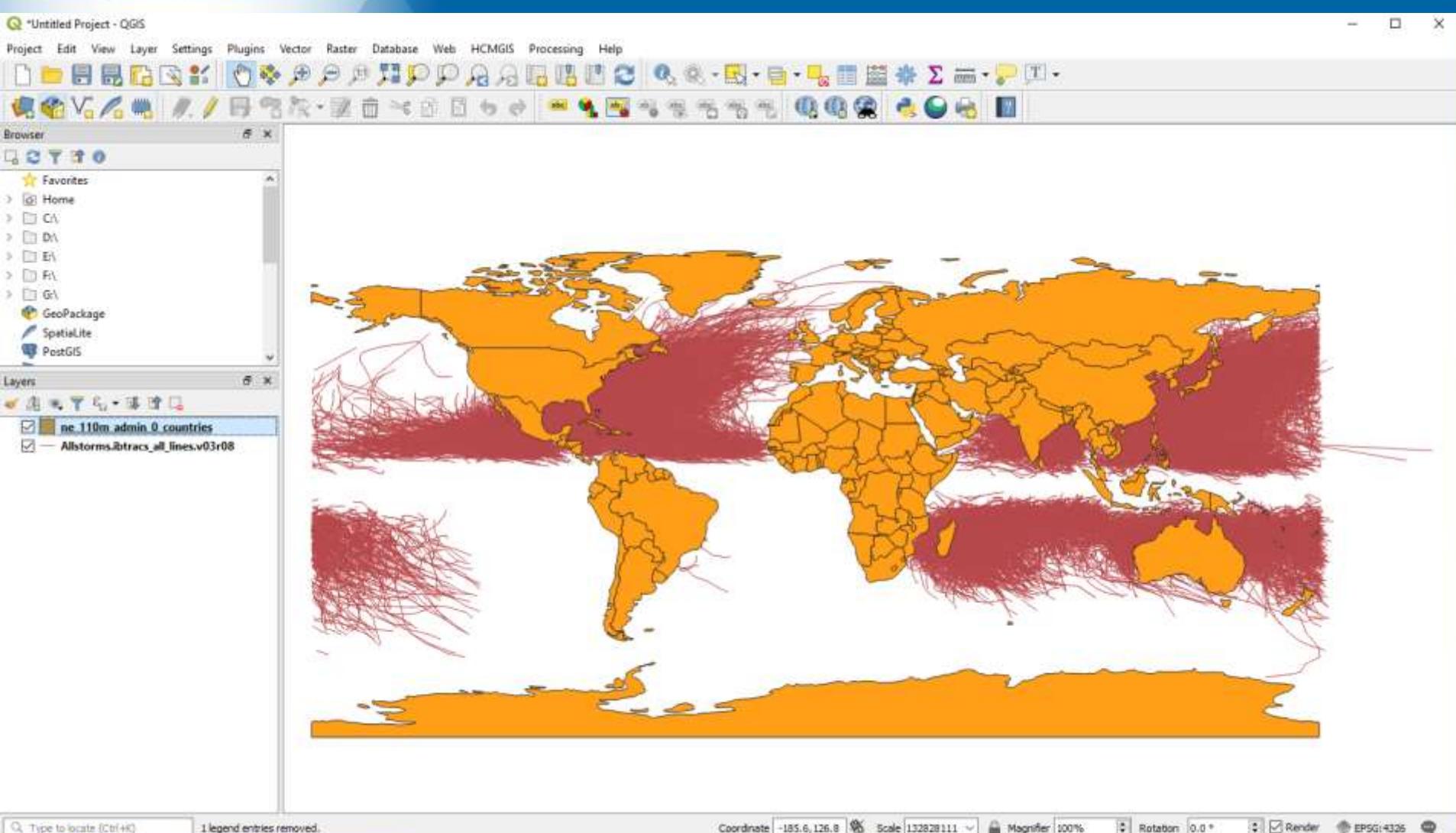
Files you will need to use for this task:

- 1-
Allstorms.ibtracs_all_lines.v03r08.shp
- 2-
ne_110m_admin_0_countries.shp

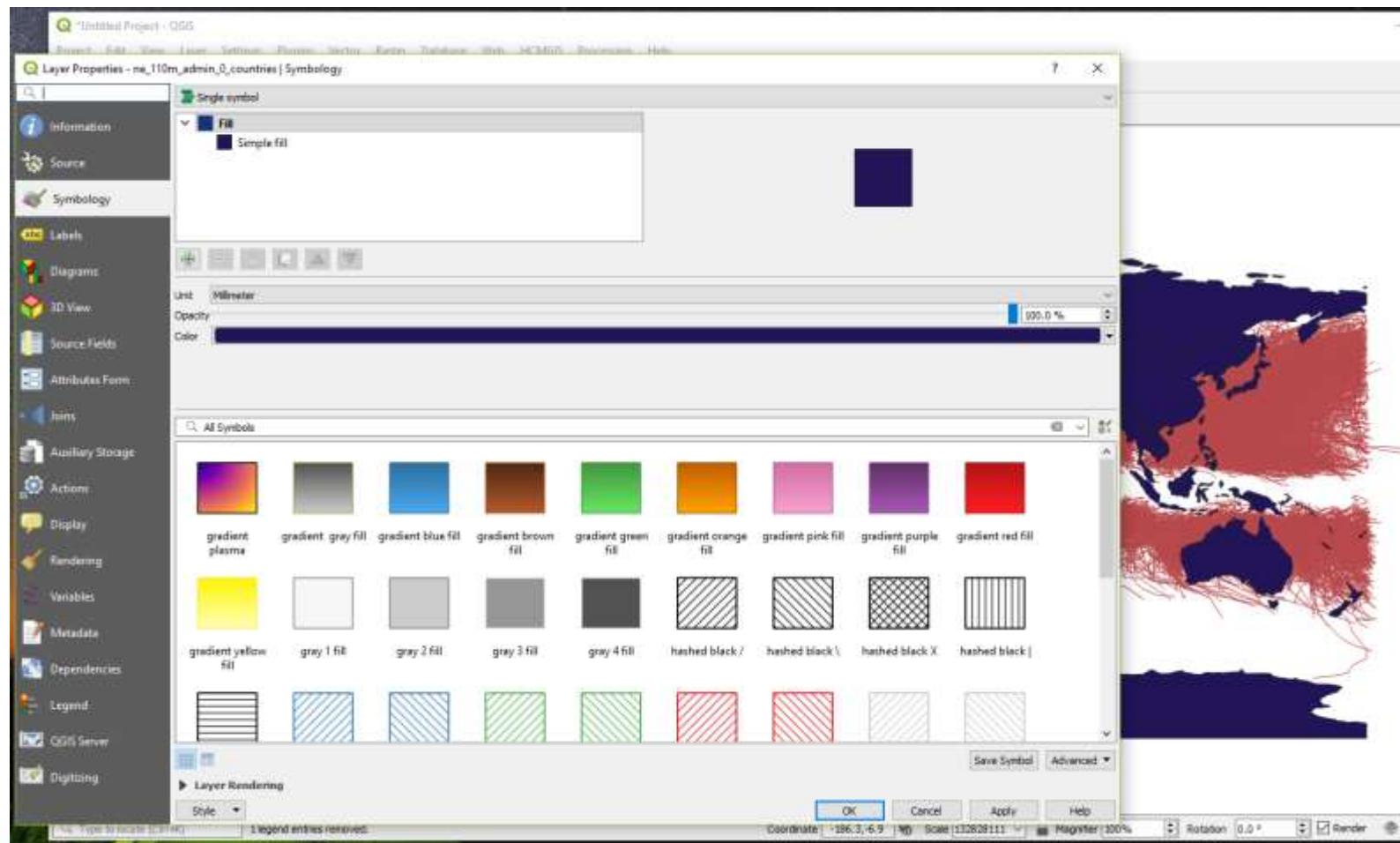


Source: <http://metrocasm.com/qgis/>

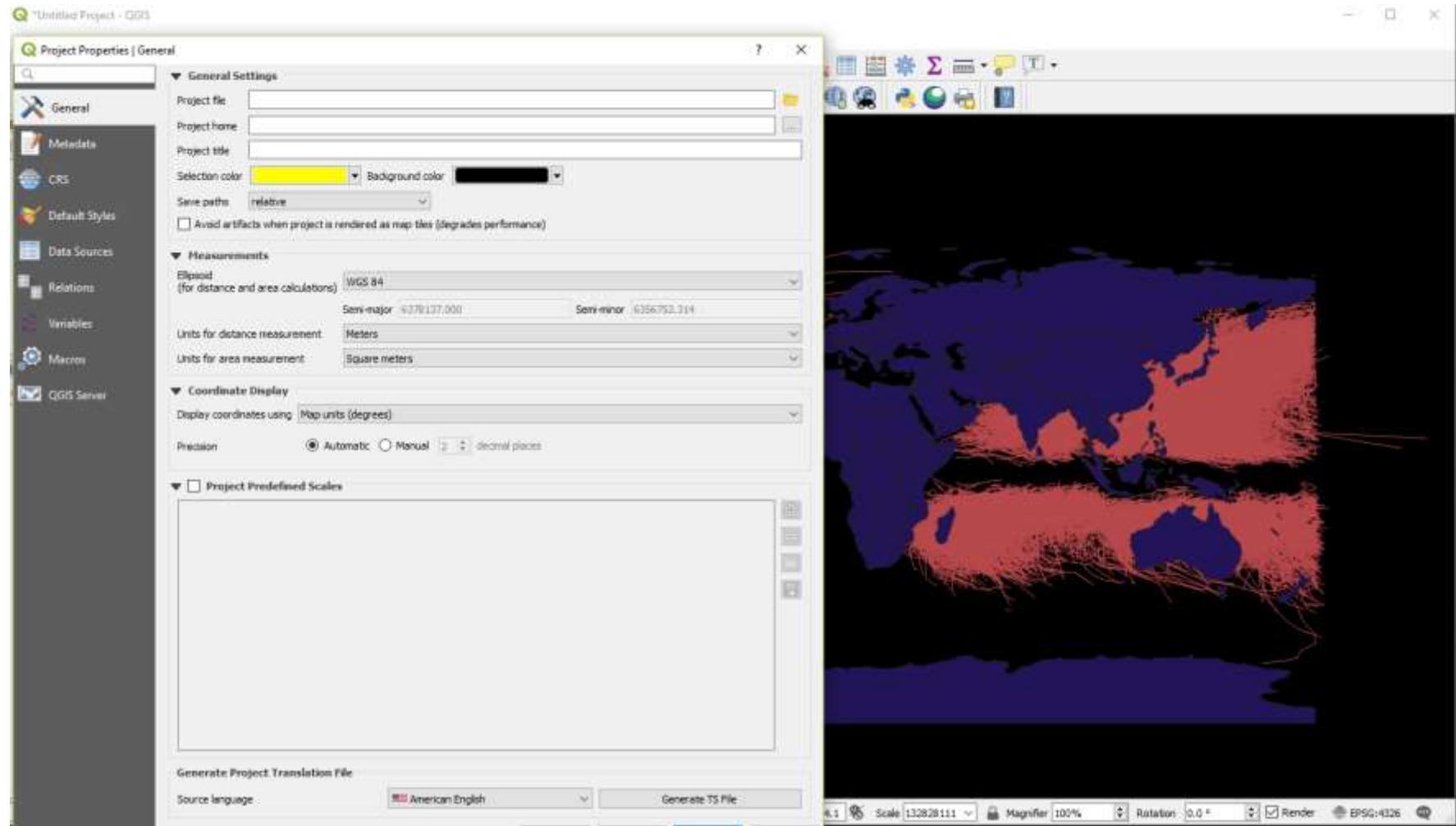




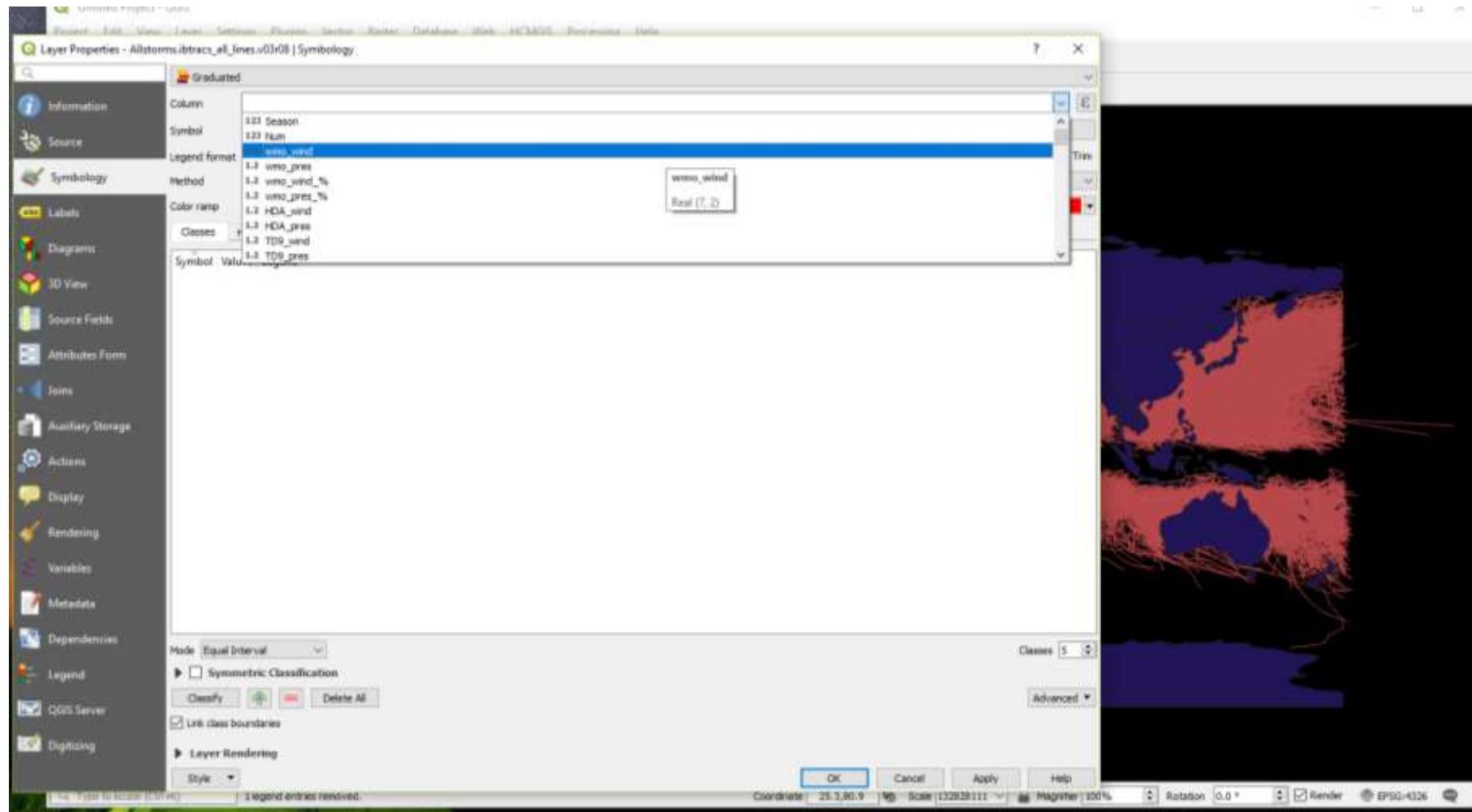
The various styling options are located in the Style tab of the Properties dialog. Change the color of the world map.



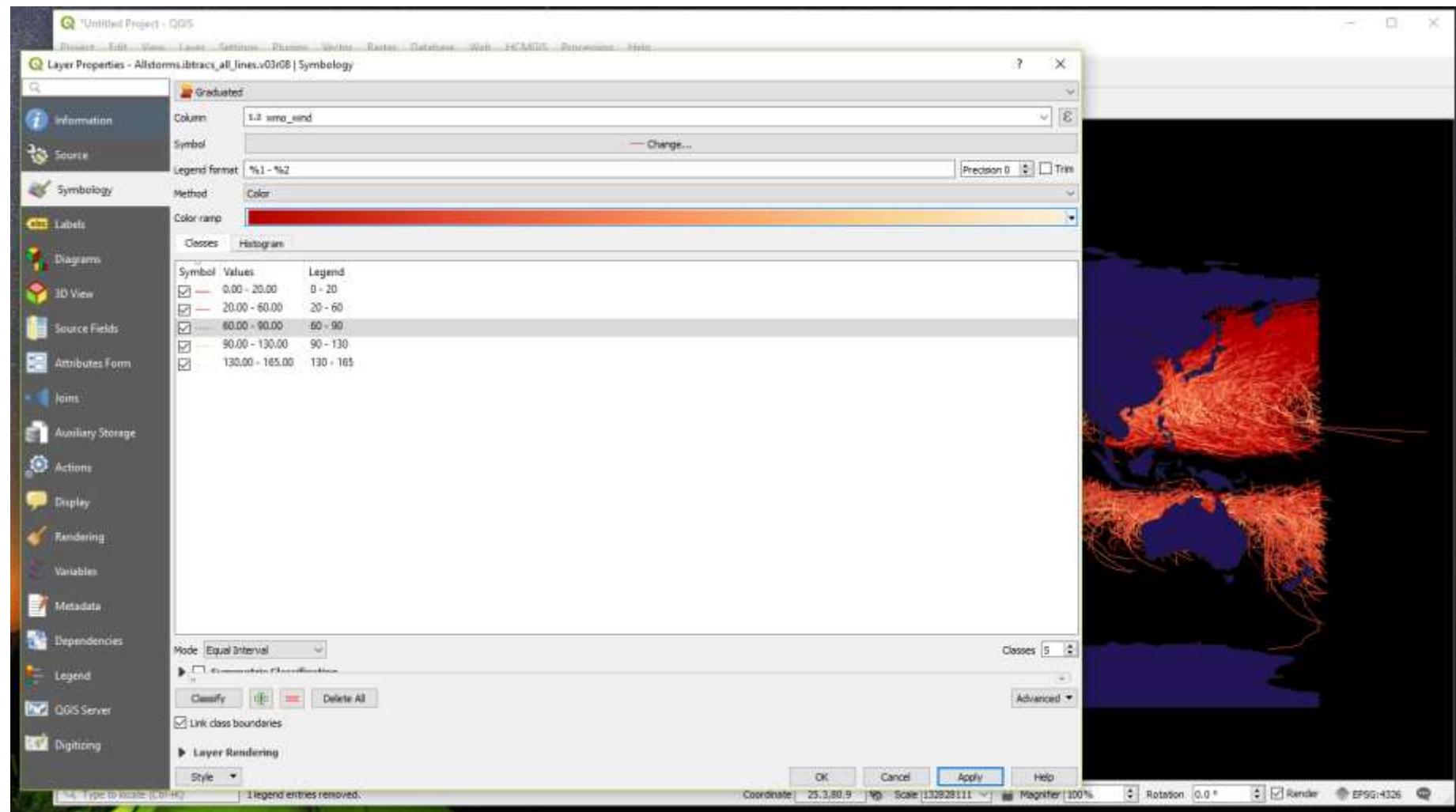
Change the background color of the main map area.

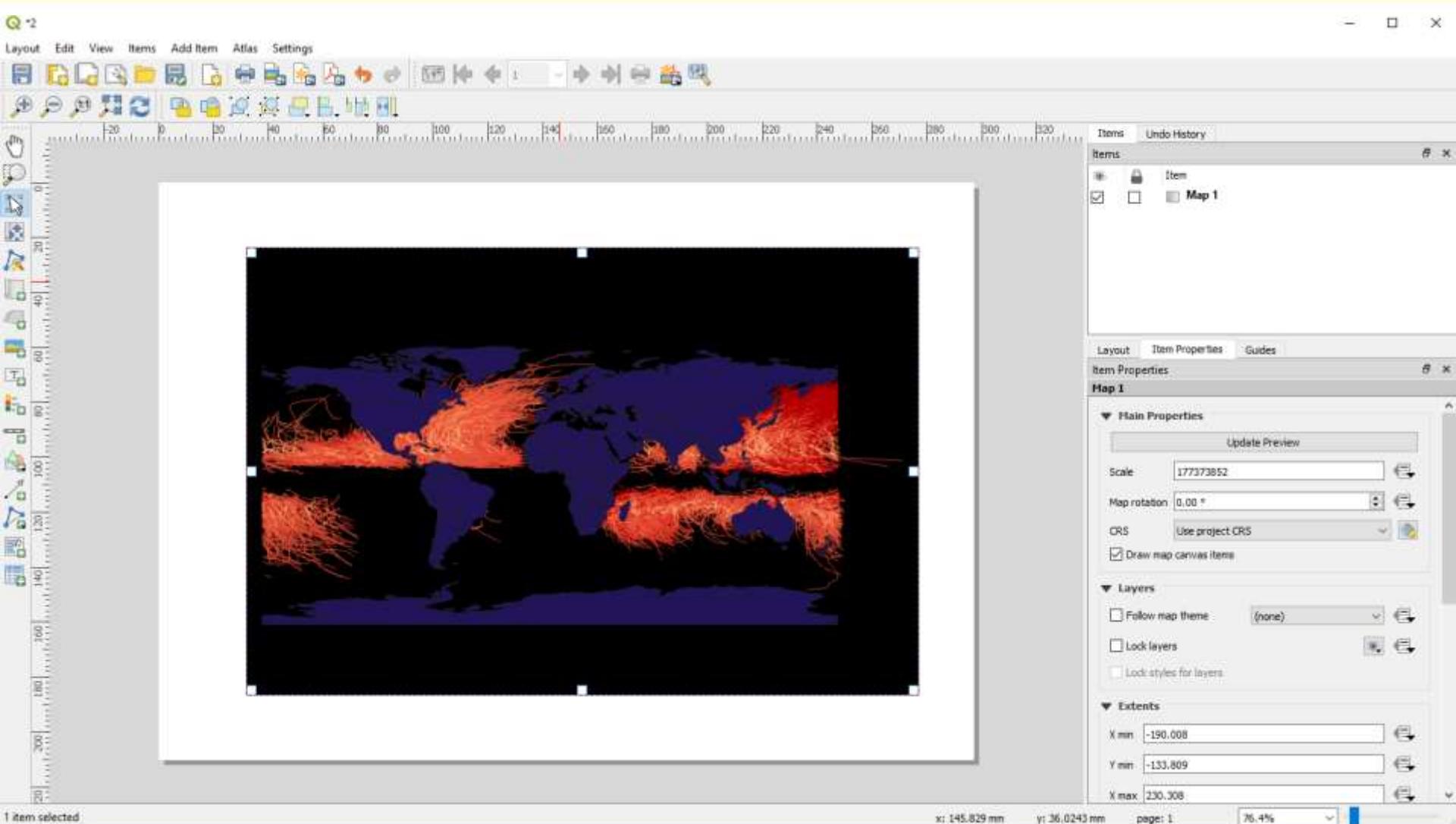


Let us explore another styling option. Select the wind value and draw hurricane lines . This time choose Categorized from the Style tab.

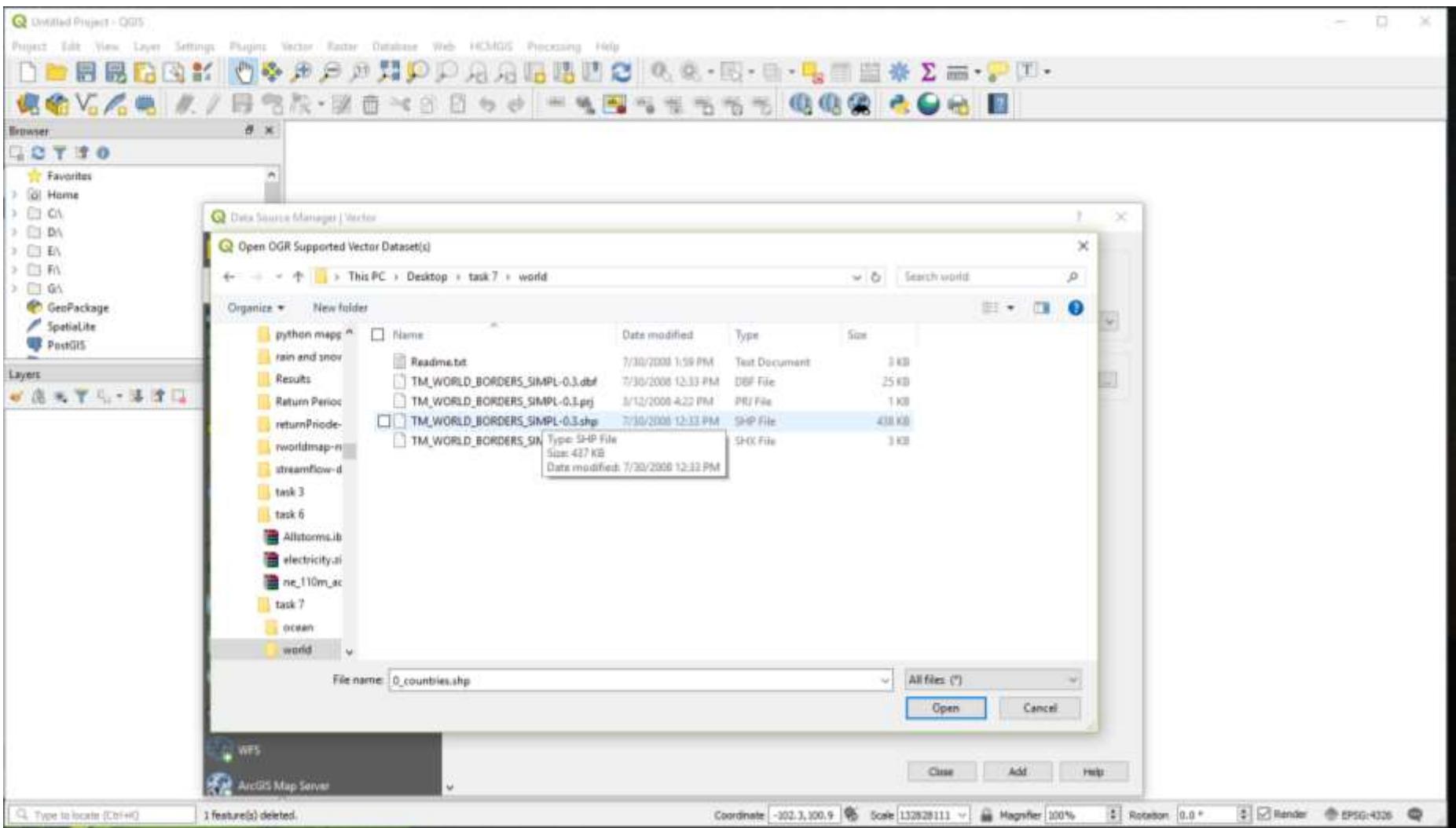


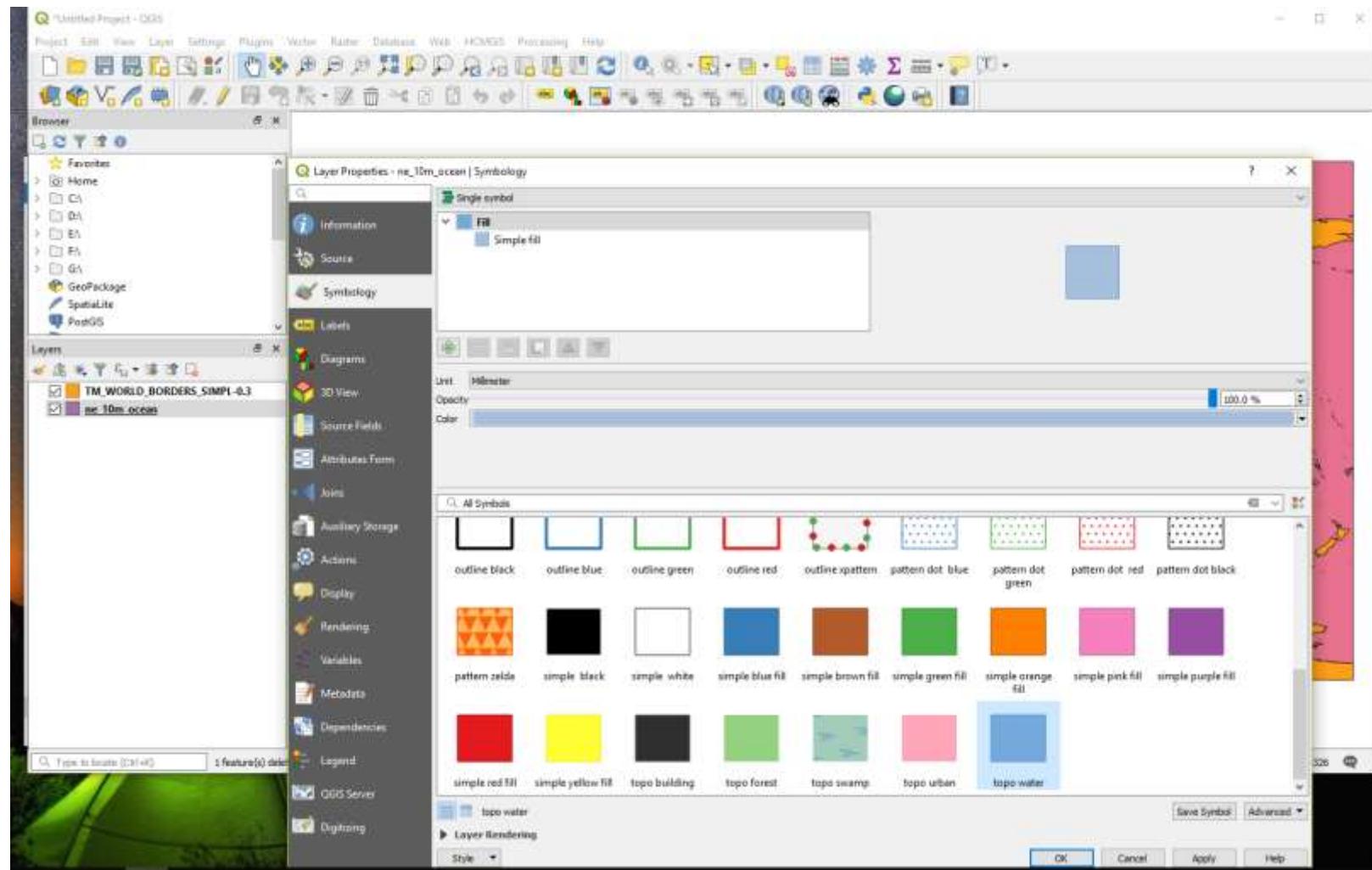
Choose a color map and Click OK.



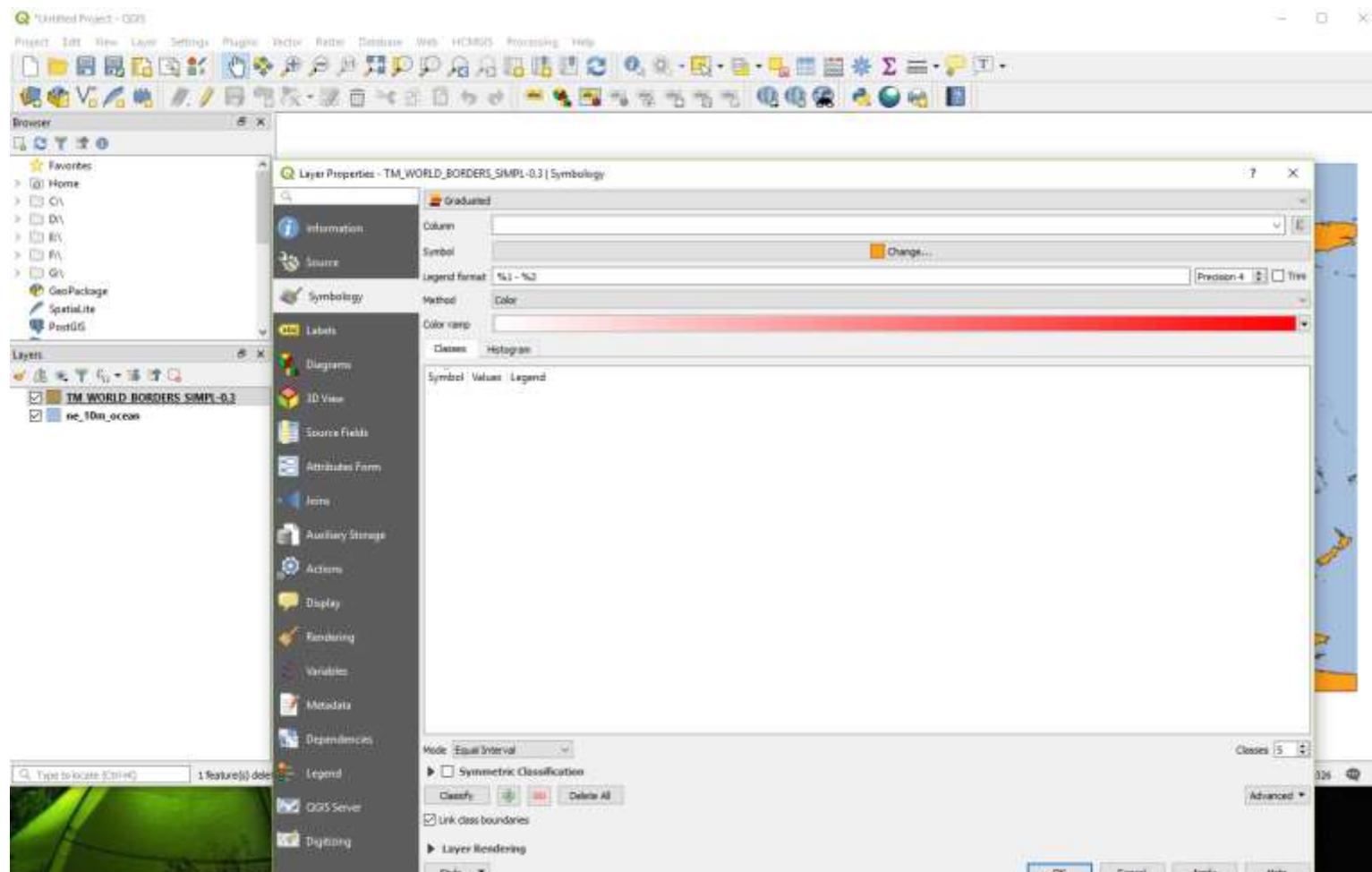


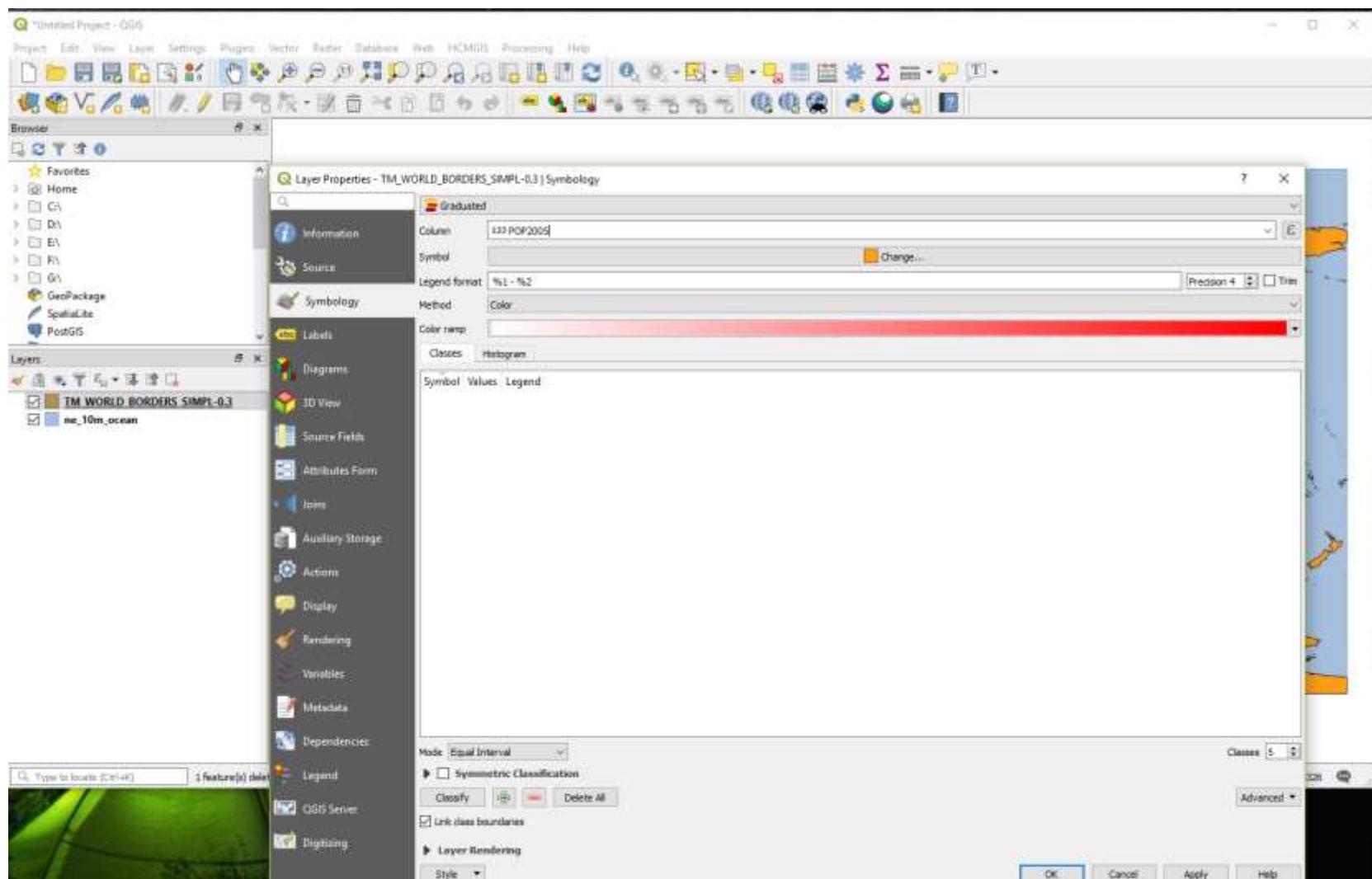
Load the data.

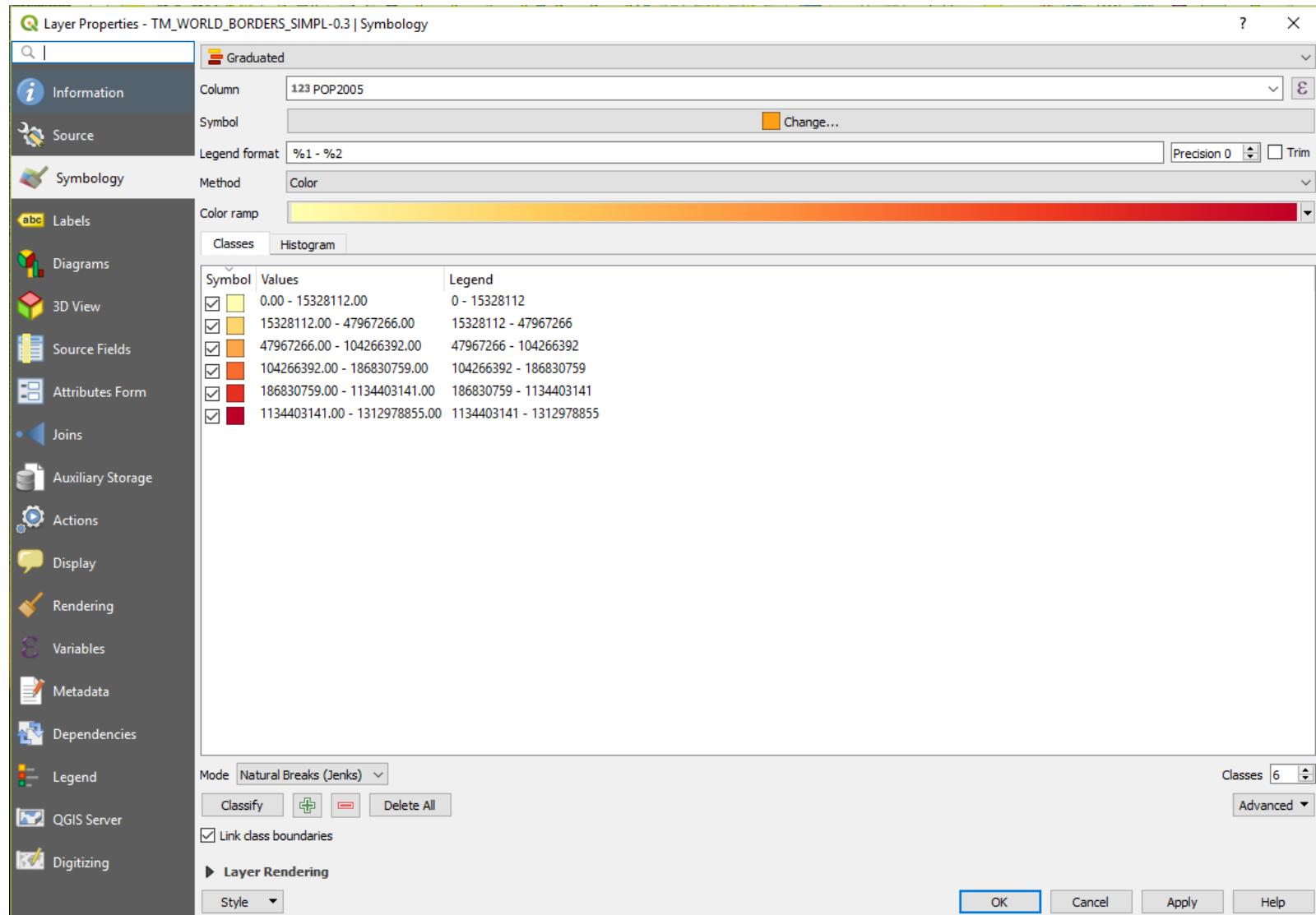




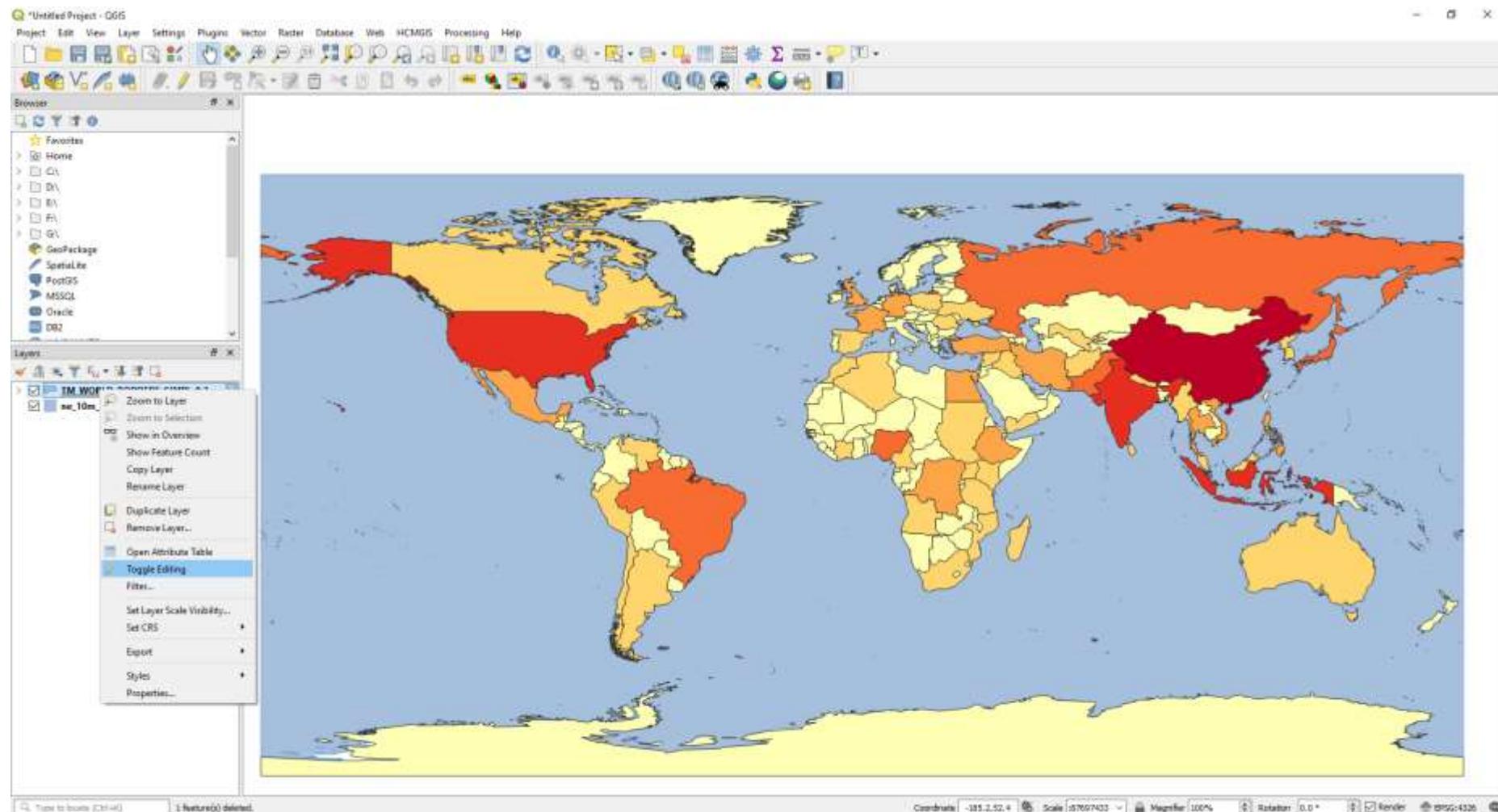
Choose a color ramp of your choice and click







Remove Antarctica



Untitled Project - QGIS

Project Edit New Layer Settings Plugins Vector Raster Database Web HGMIS Processing Help

File EPSG Delete selected features

TM_WORLD_BORDERS_SIMPL-0.3 - Features Total: 246, Filtered: 246, Selected: 1

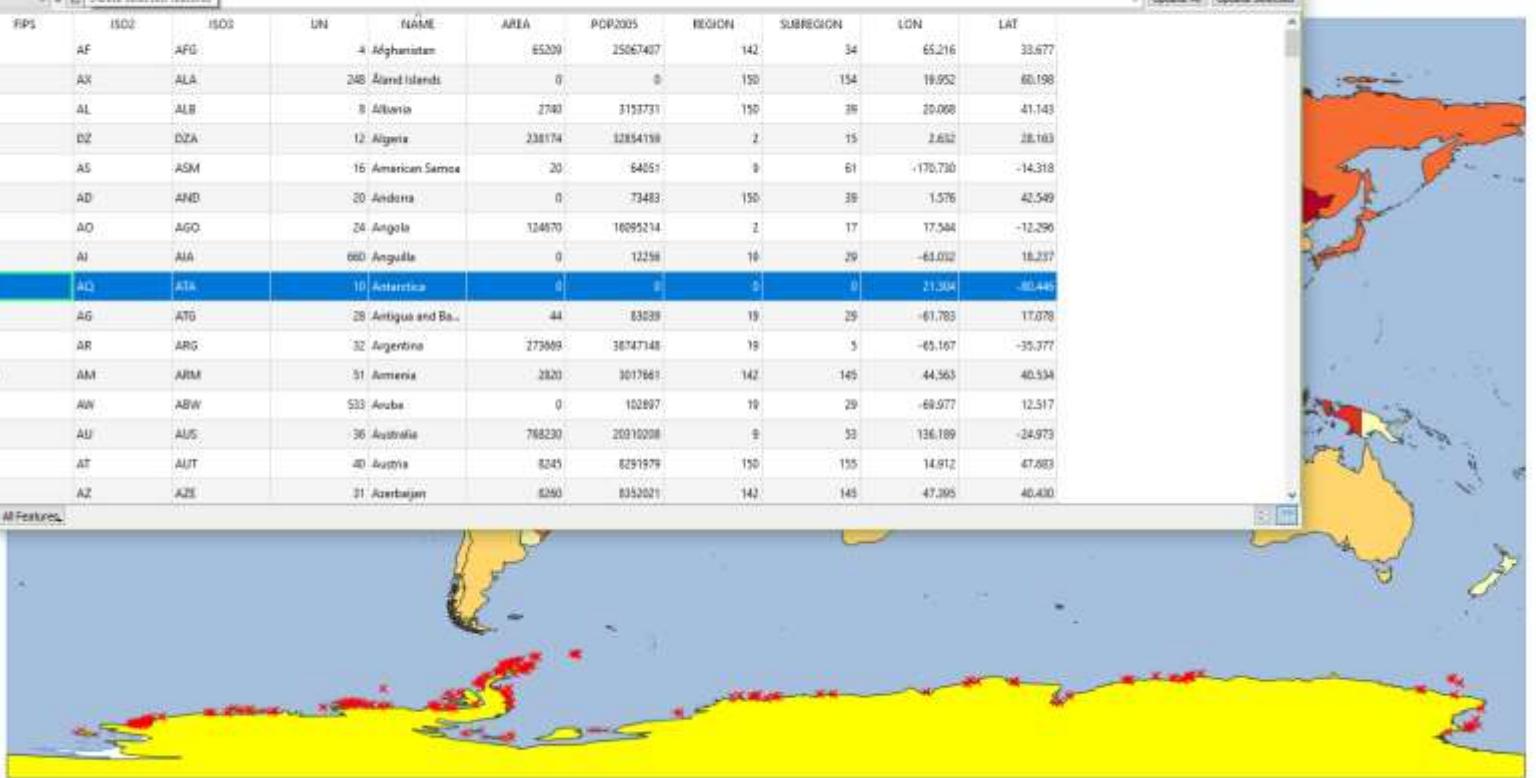
EPS	ISO2	ISO3	UN	NAME	AREA	POP2005	REGION	SUBREGION	LONG	LAT
1	AF	AFG	4	Afghanistan	65209	25867497	142	34	65.216	33.677
2	AX	ALA	248	Aland Islands	0	0	158	154	19.952	60.198
3	AL	ALB	8	Albania	2740	3153731	158	38	20.008	41.143
4	DZ	DZA	12	Algeria	238174	32854198	2	15	2.632	38.183
5	AS	ASM	16	American Samoa	20	64051	9	61	-170.730	-14.318
6	AD	AND	20	Andorra	0	73483	150	39	1.376	42.549
7	AO	AGO	24	Angola	124870	16095214	2	17	17.544	-12.296
8	AI	AIA	660	Anguilla	0	12258	19	29	-61.032	18.237
9	AQ	ATA	10	Antarctica	0	0	0	0	21.304	-80.446
10	AG	ATG	28	Antigua and Bar.	44	83039	19	29	-61.783	17.078
11	AR	ARG	32	Argentina	273669	38747148	158	5	-61.167	-35.377
12	AM	ARM	51	Armenia	2820	3017661	142	145	44.563	40.534
13	AW	ABW	533	Aruba	0	102897	19	29	-69.977	12.517
14	AU	AUS	36	Australia	768230	20310988	9	53	136.189	-24.973
15	AT	AUT	40	Austria	8245	8291979	150	155	14.912	47.683
16	AZ	AZE	31	Azerbaijan	8260	8352021	142	145	47.395	40.430

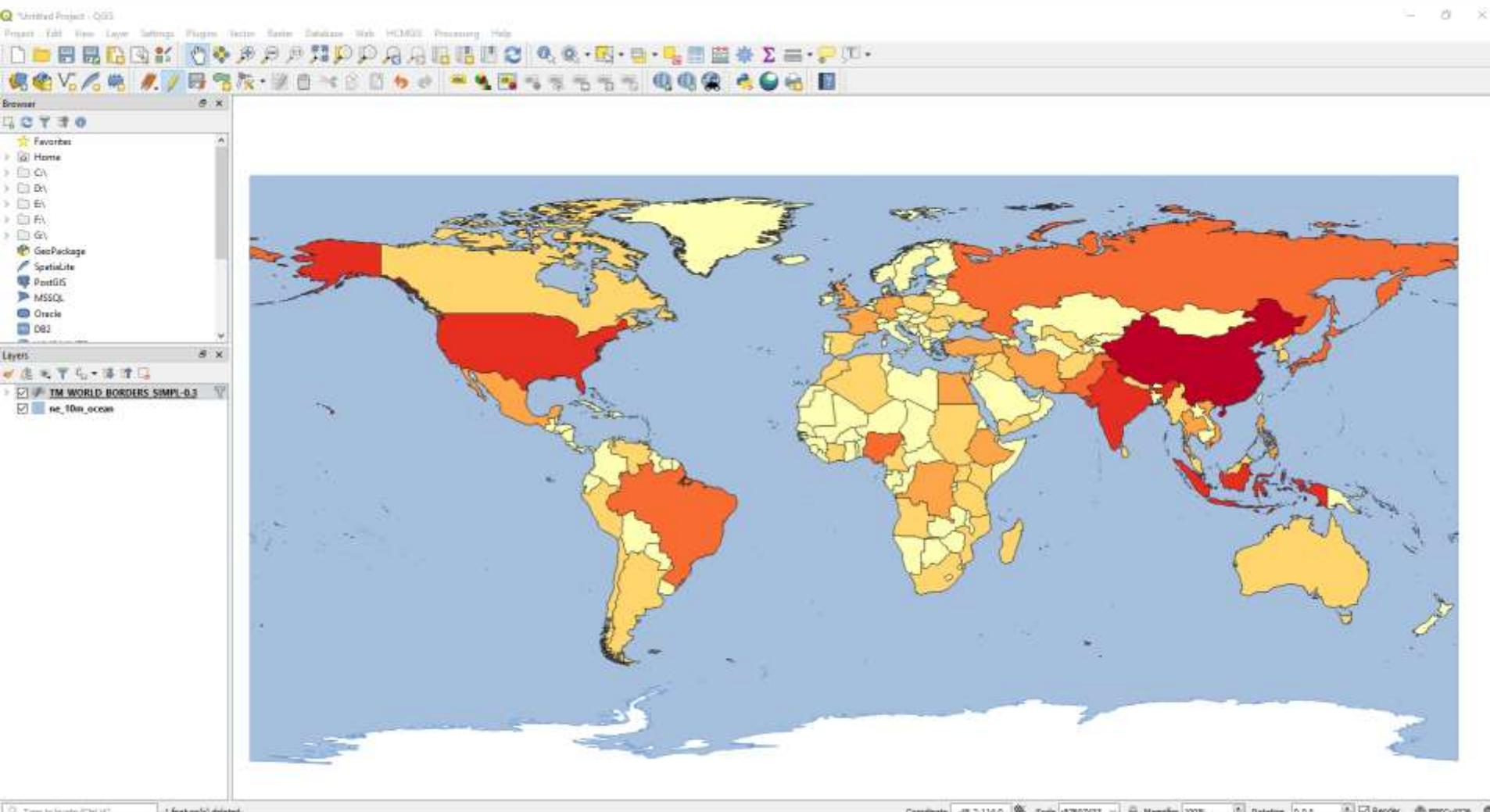
Show All Features

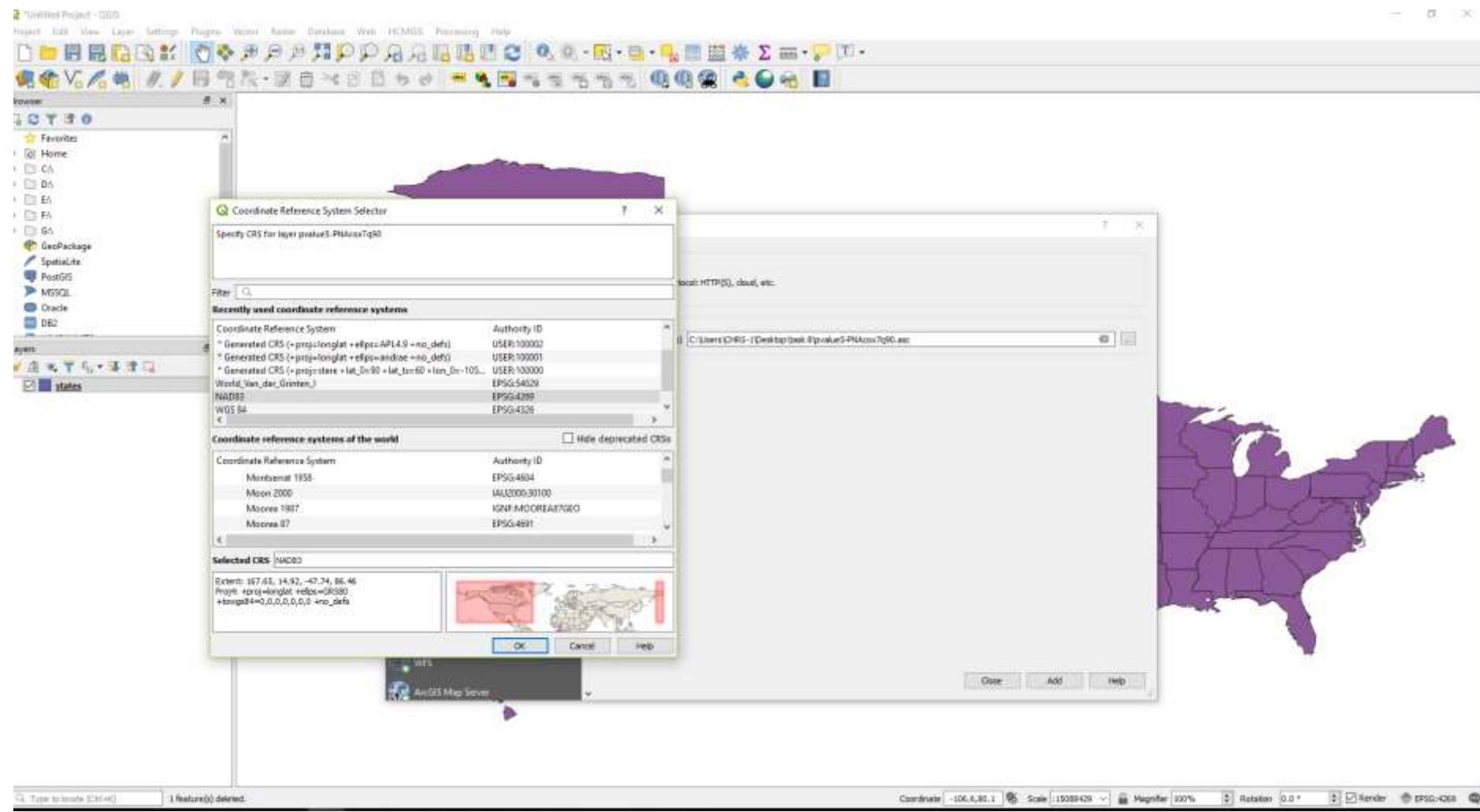
Coordinate: 21.1,-33.0 Scale: 87697403 Magnify: 100% Rotate: 0.0° Render: EPSG:4326

Type to search (Ctrl+F)

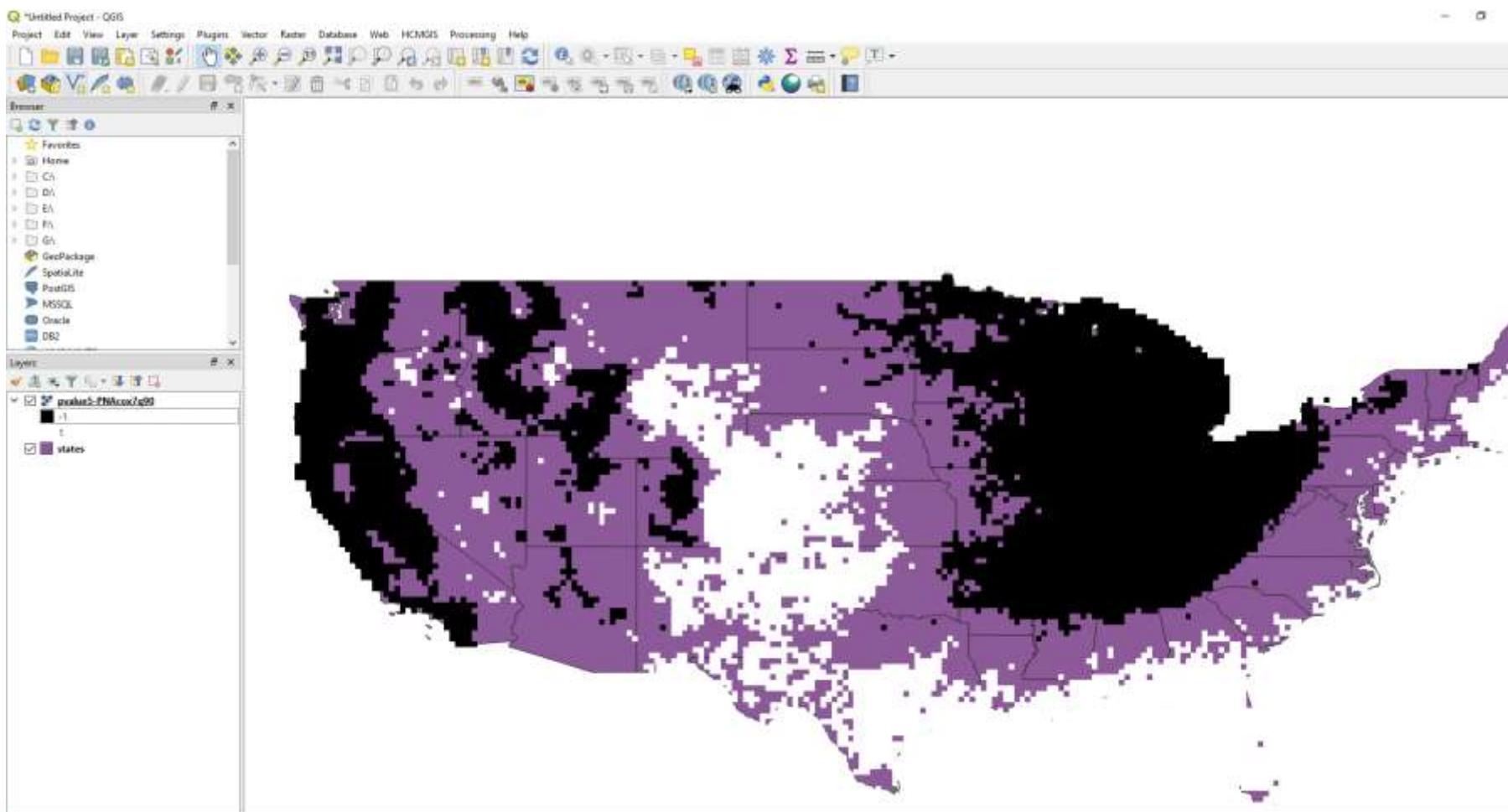
1 Feature(s) selected on layer TM_WORLD_BORDERS_SIMPL-0.3.



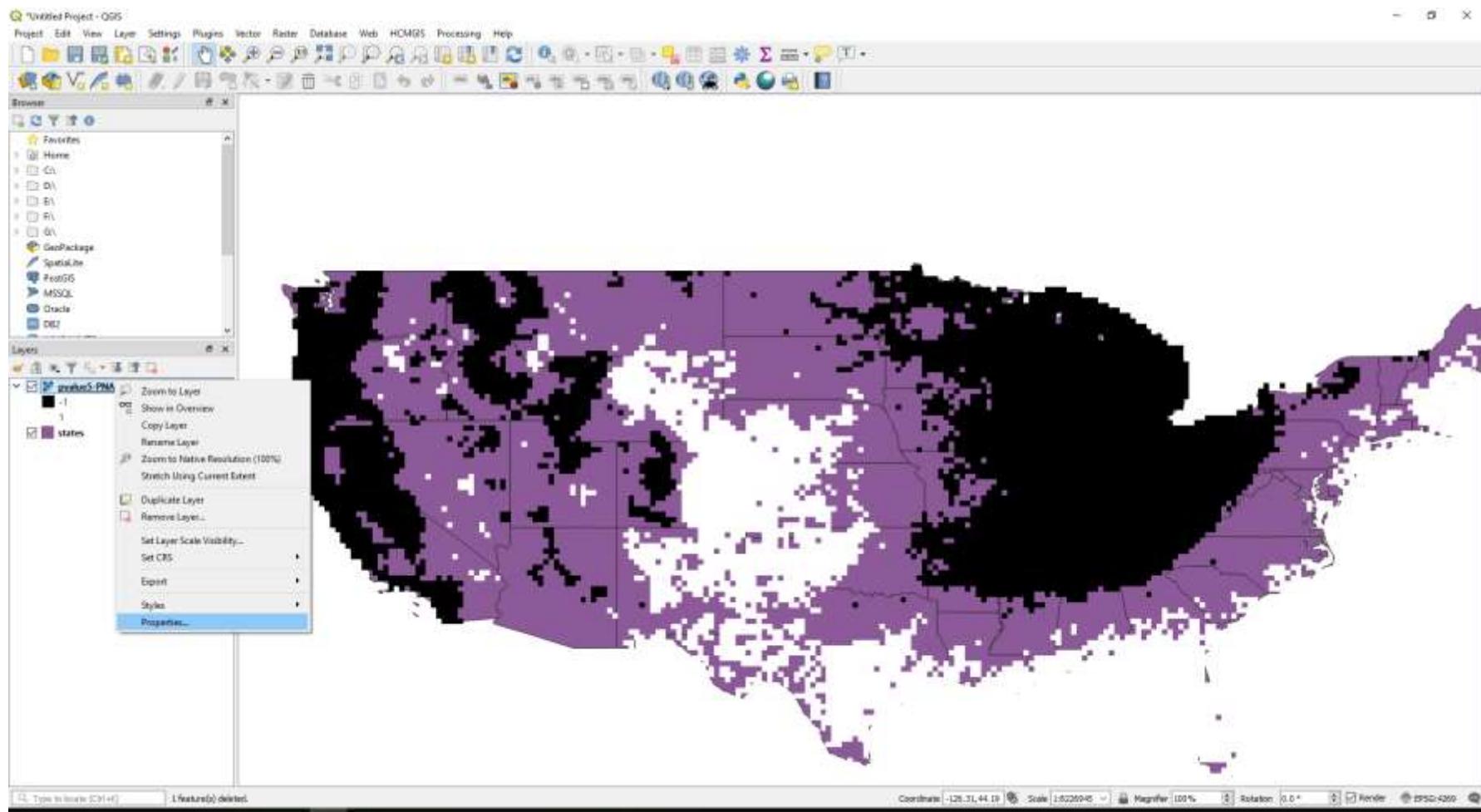




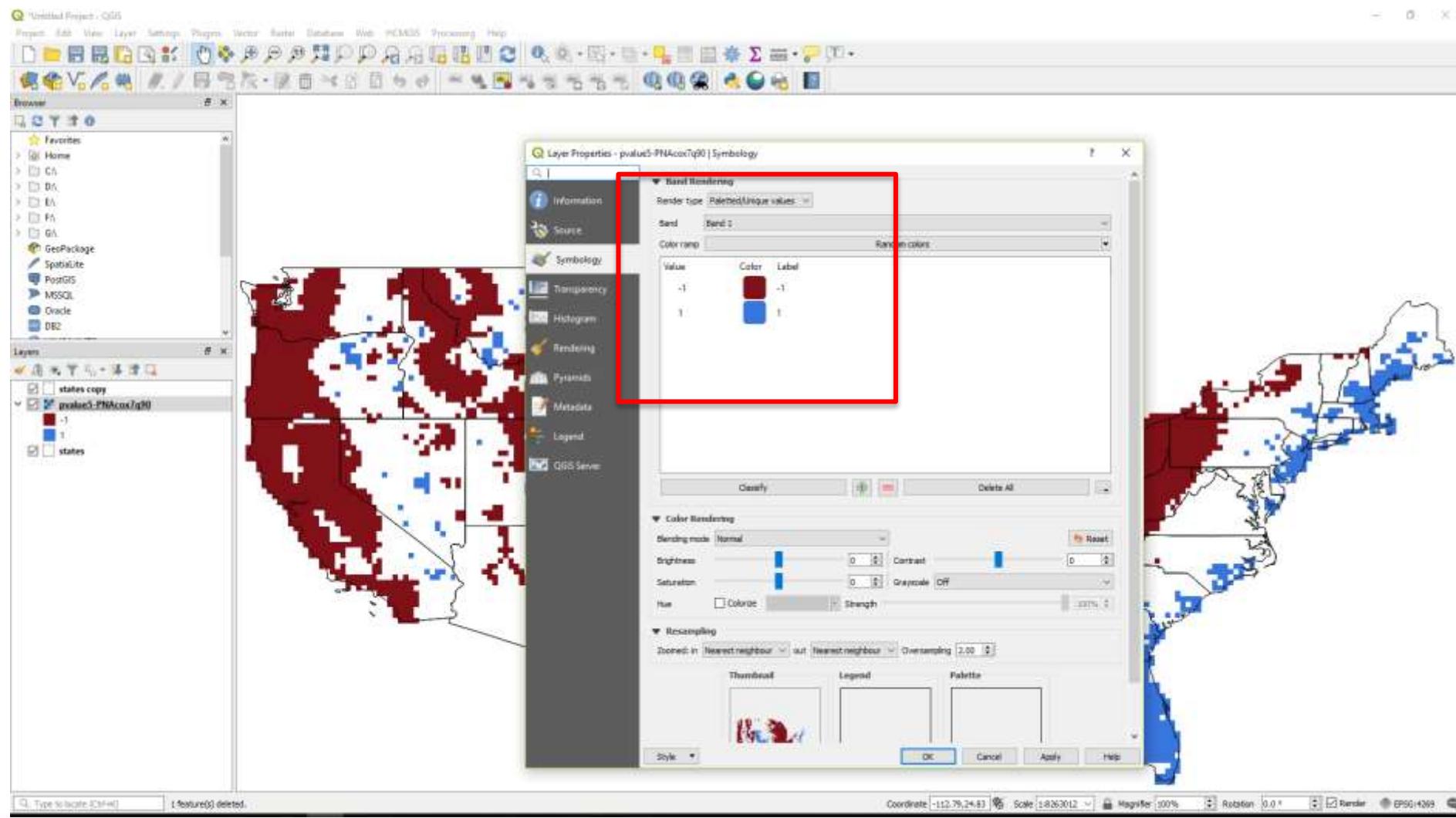
Each pixel in this raster file has a value of either -1 or 1.
A raster layer consists of one or more raster bands. It is referred to as either single band or multi band raster. A band represents a matrix of values.

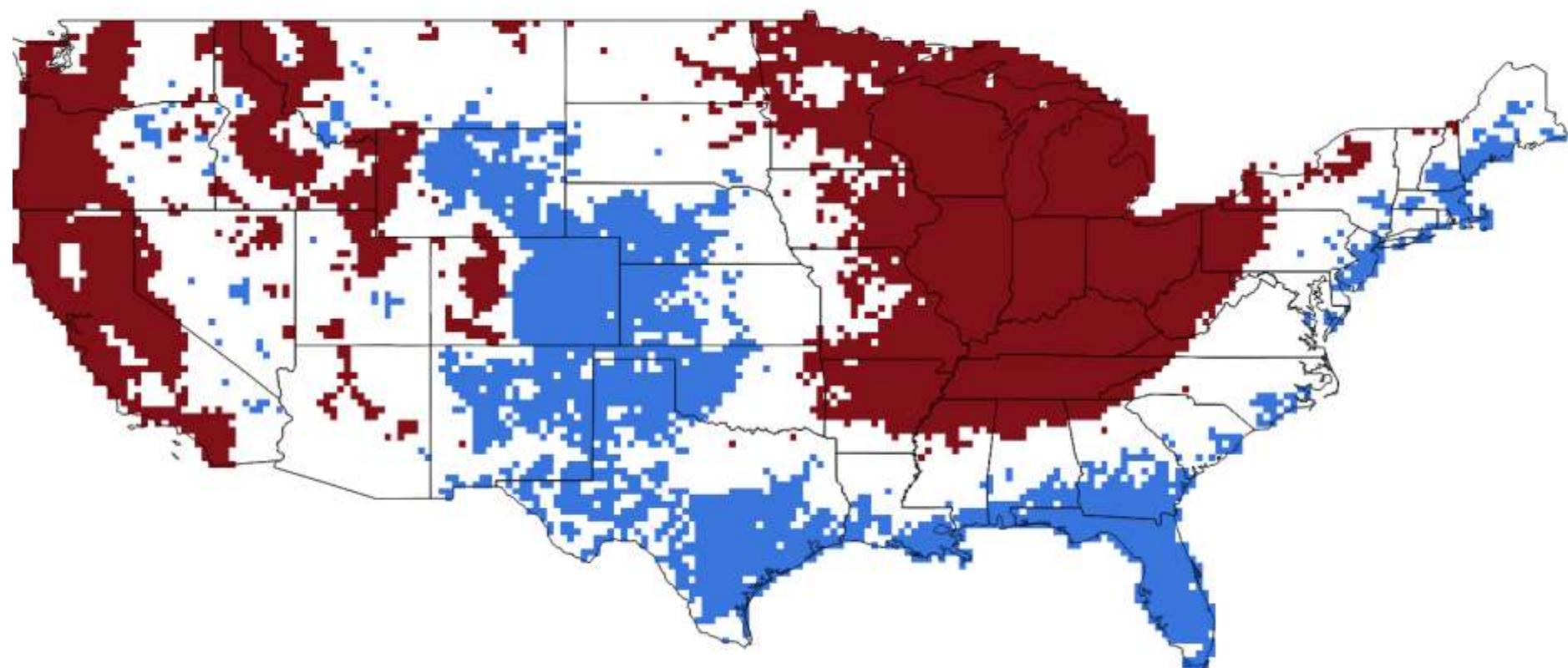


To better visualize these pixels open Properties> Symbology

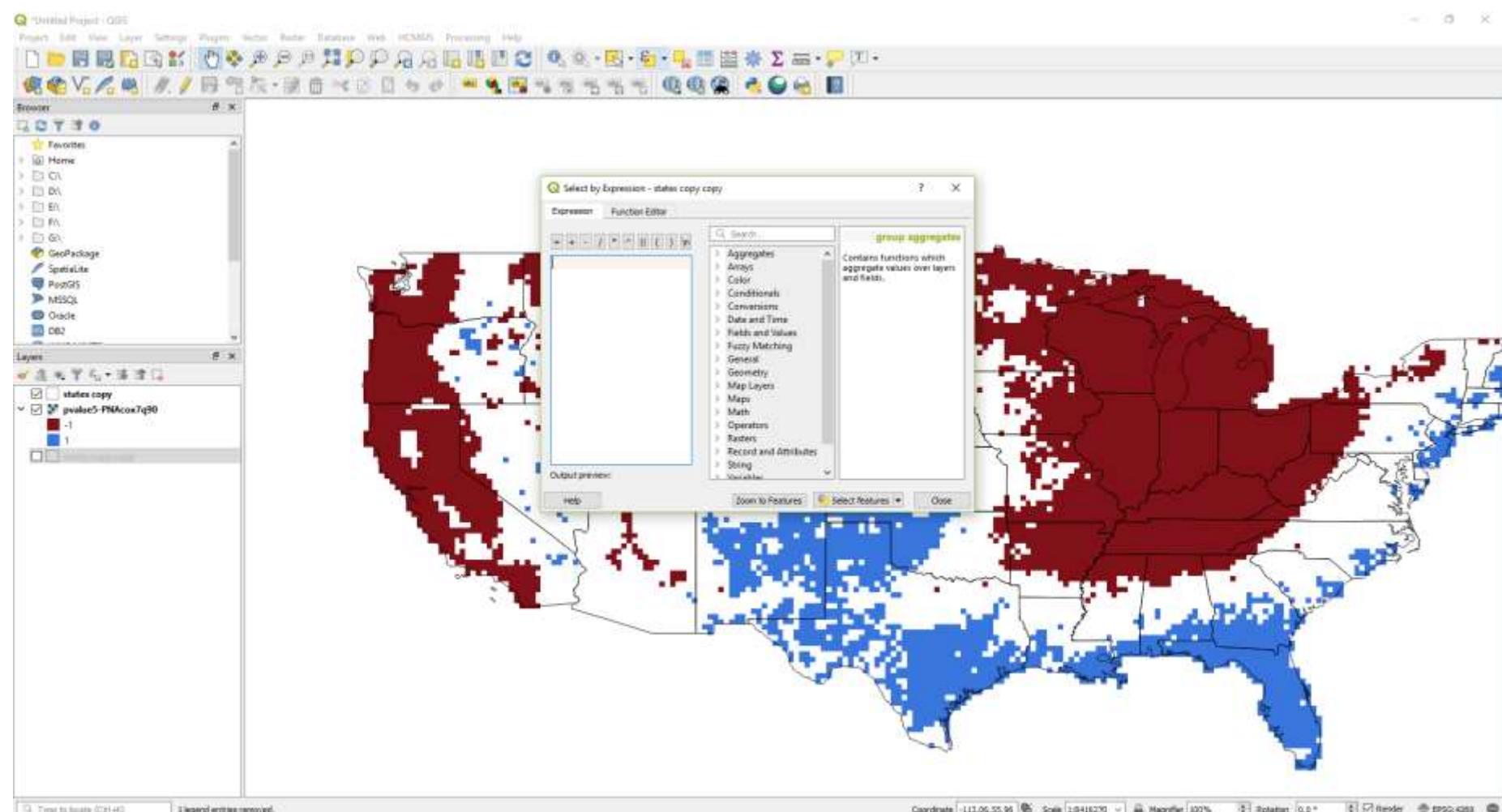


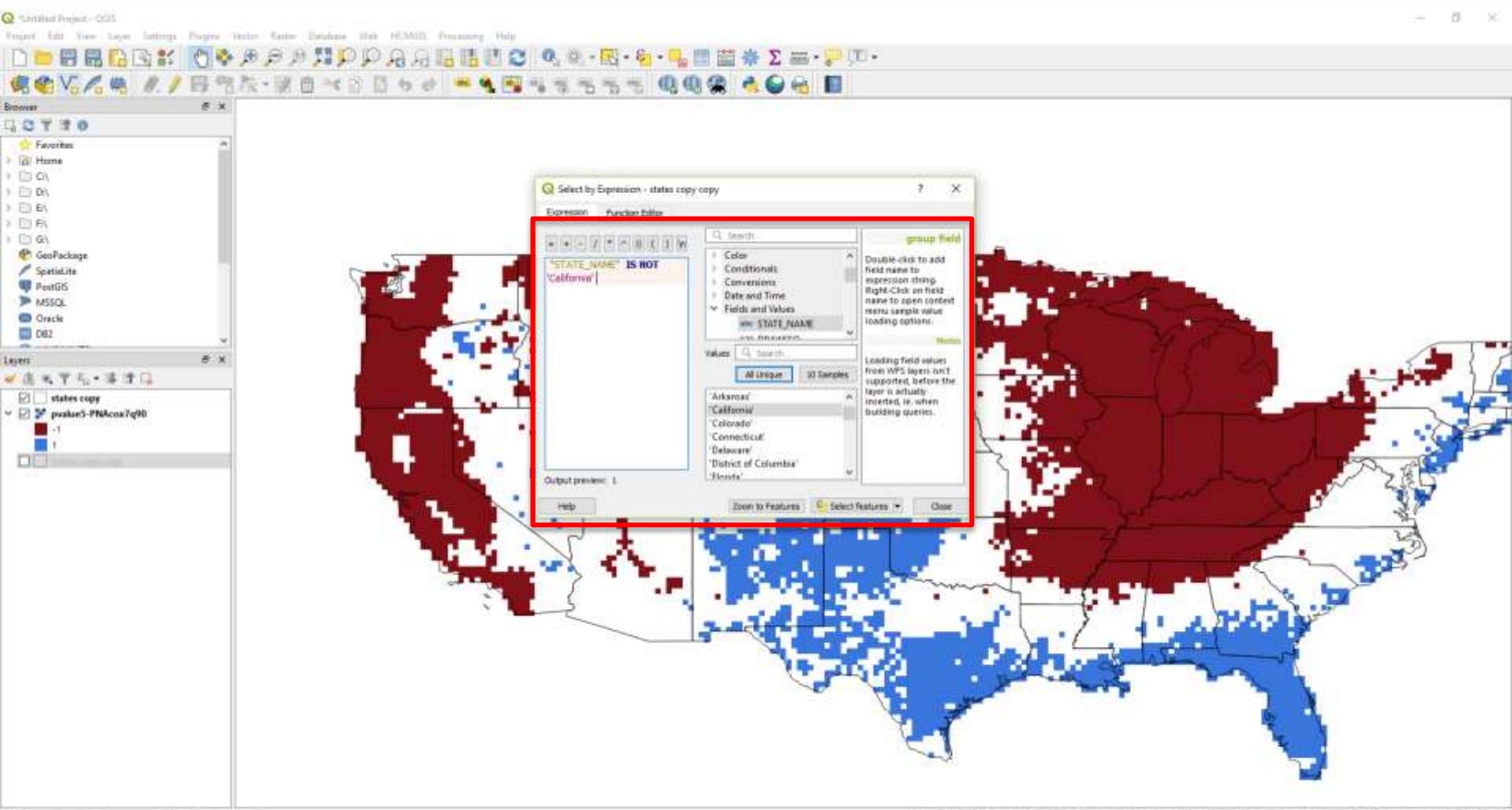
Symbology > Render type > Unique values

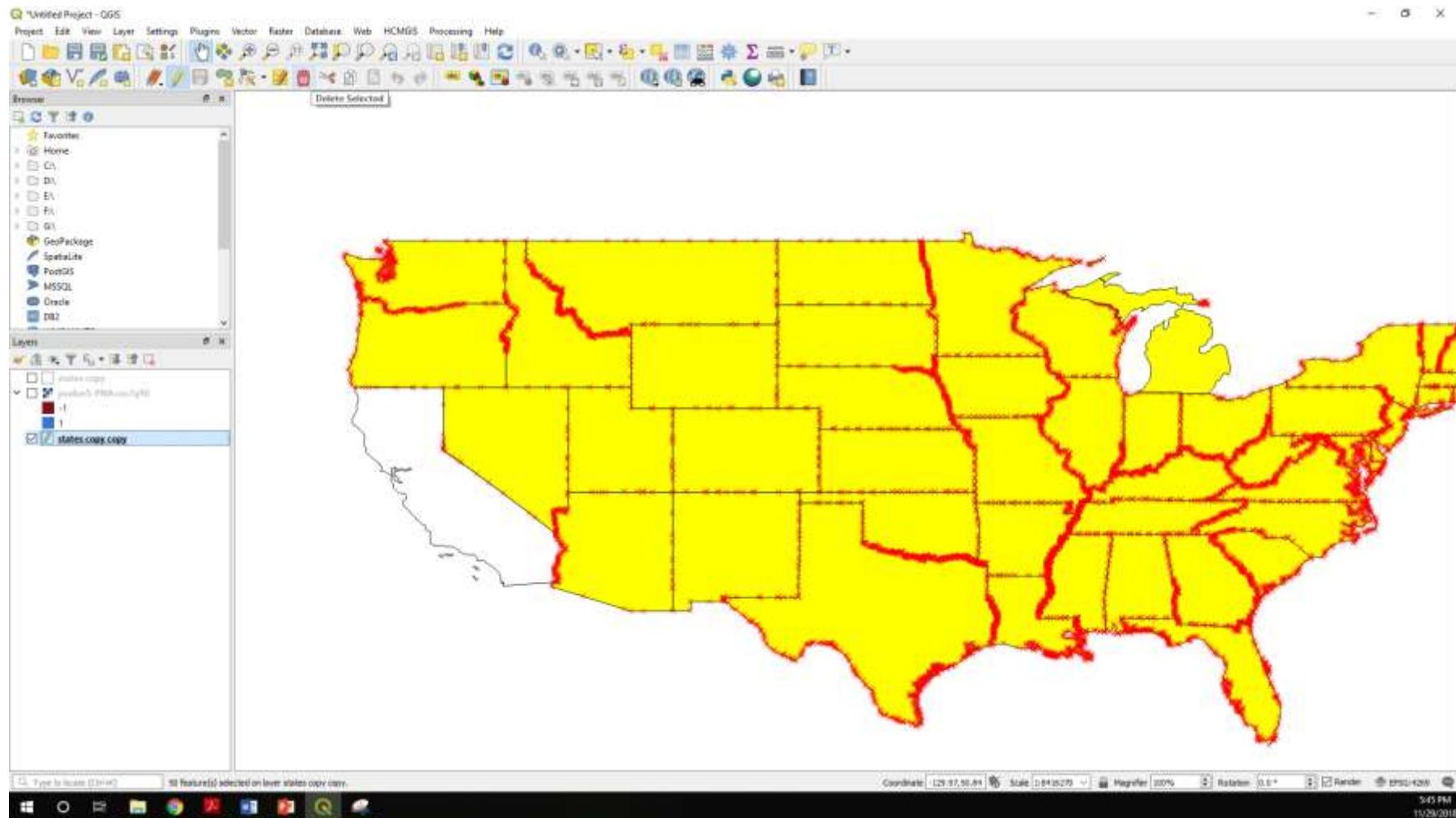




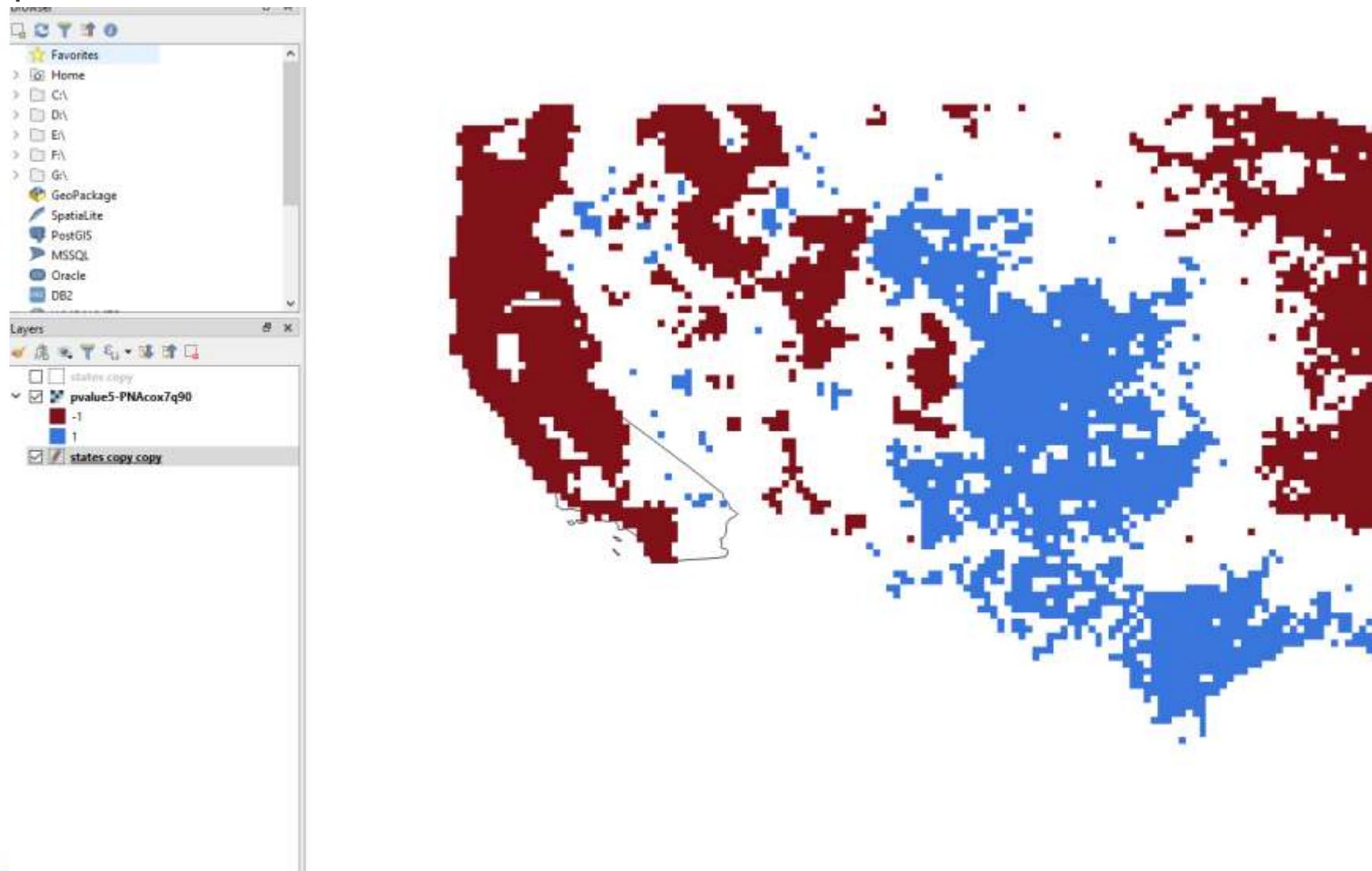
Make a map only for California. You have to select this state first on the State shapefile.



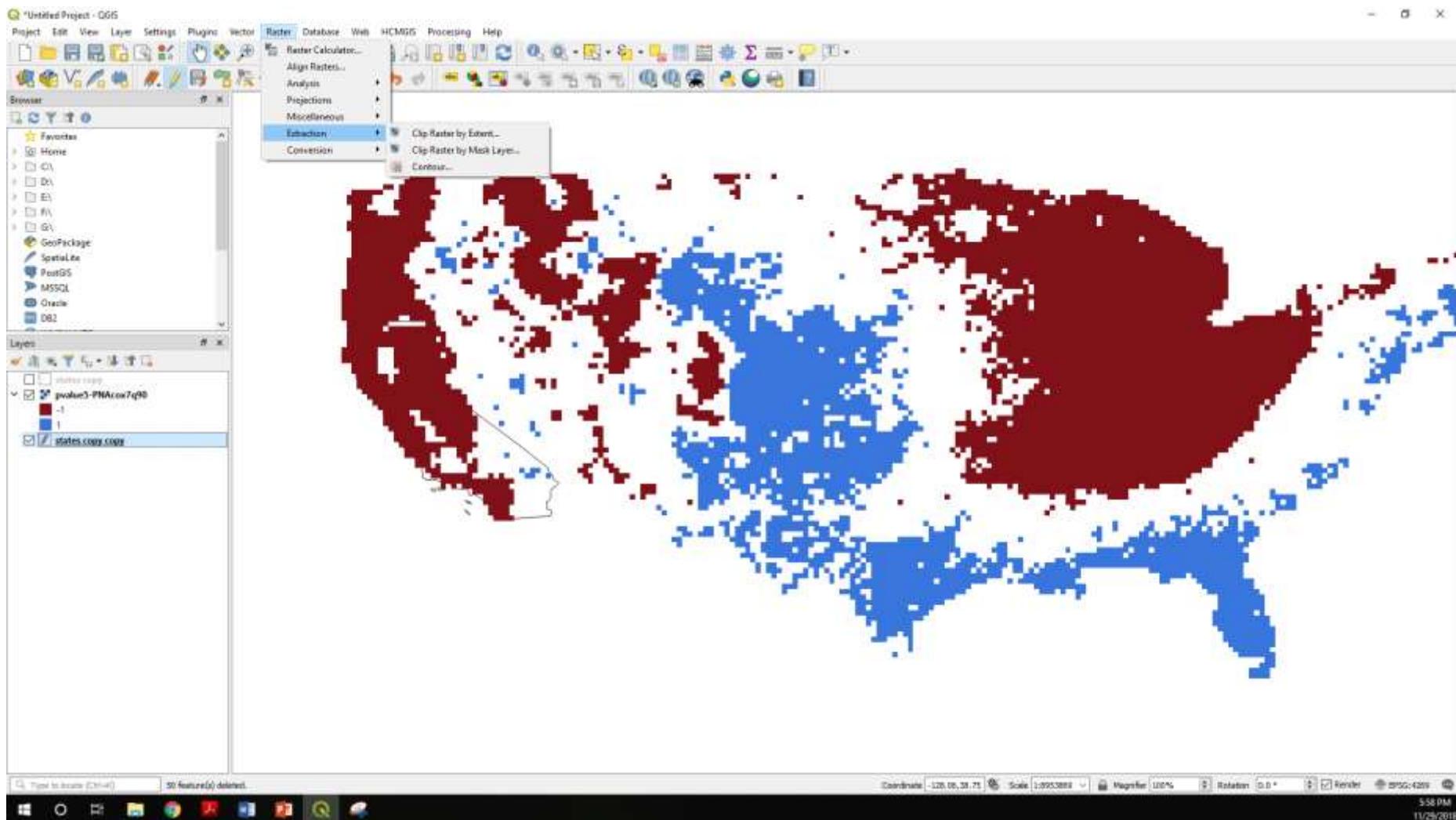


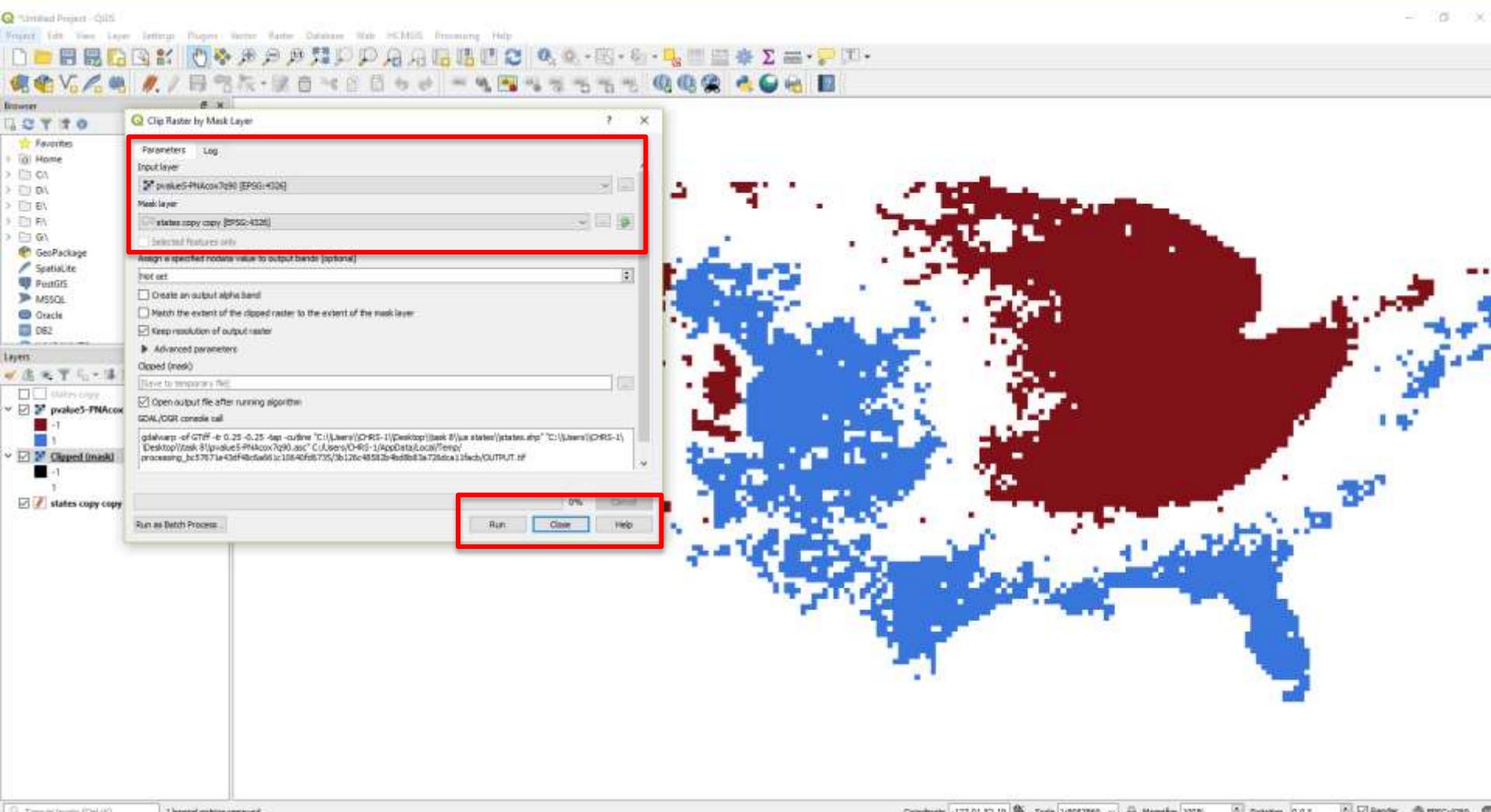


Clip the raster file to the extension of California.

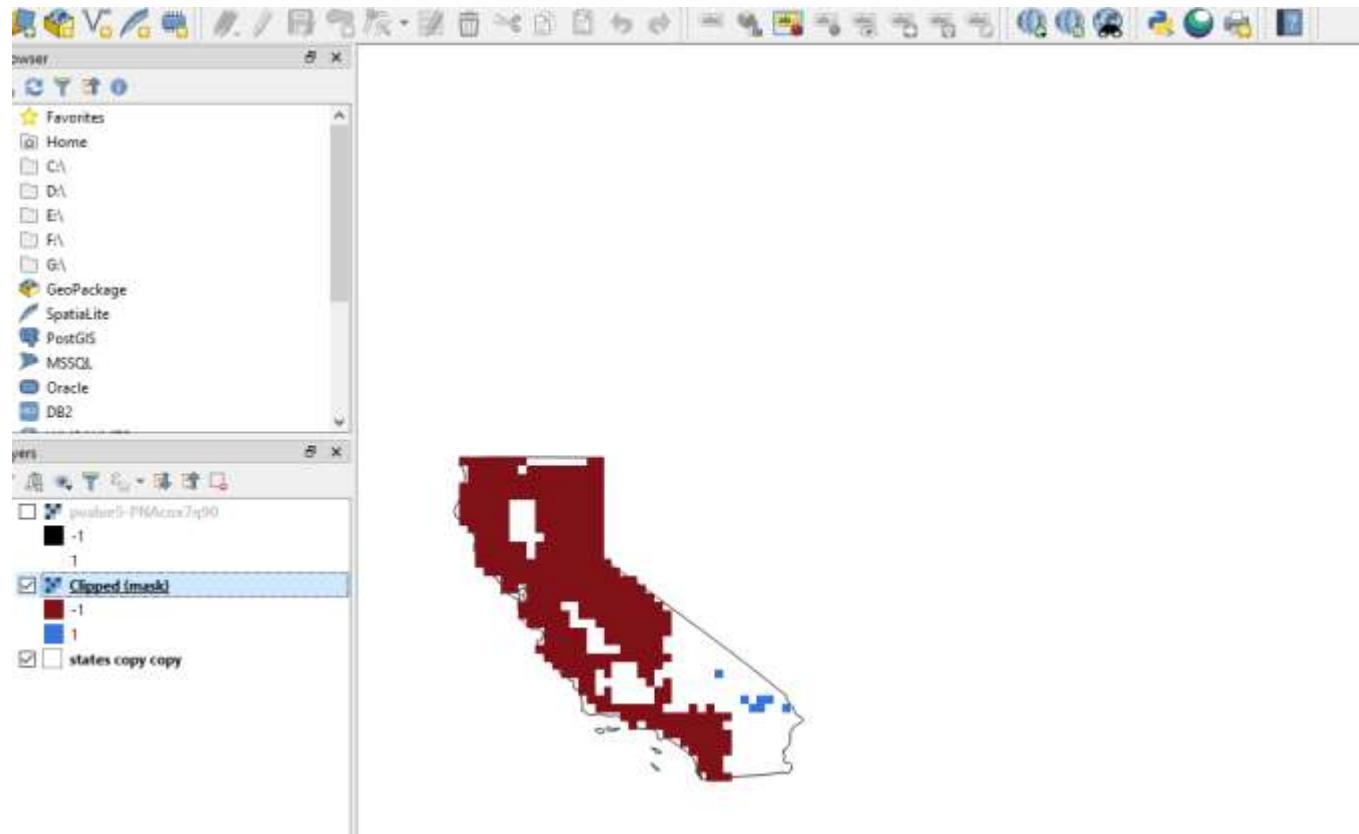


Raster> Extraction> Clip Raster by mask layer



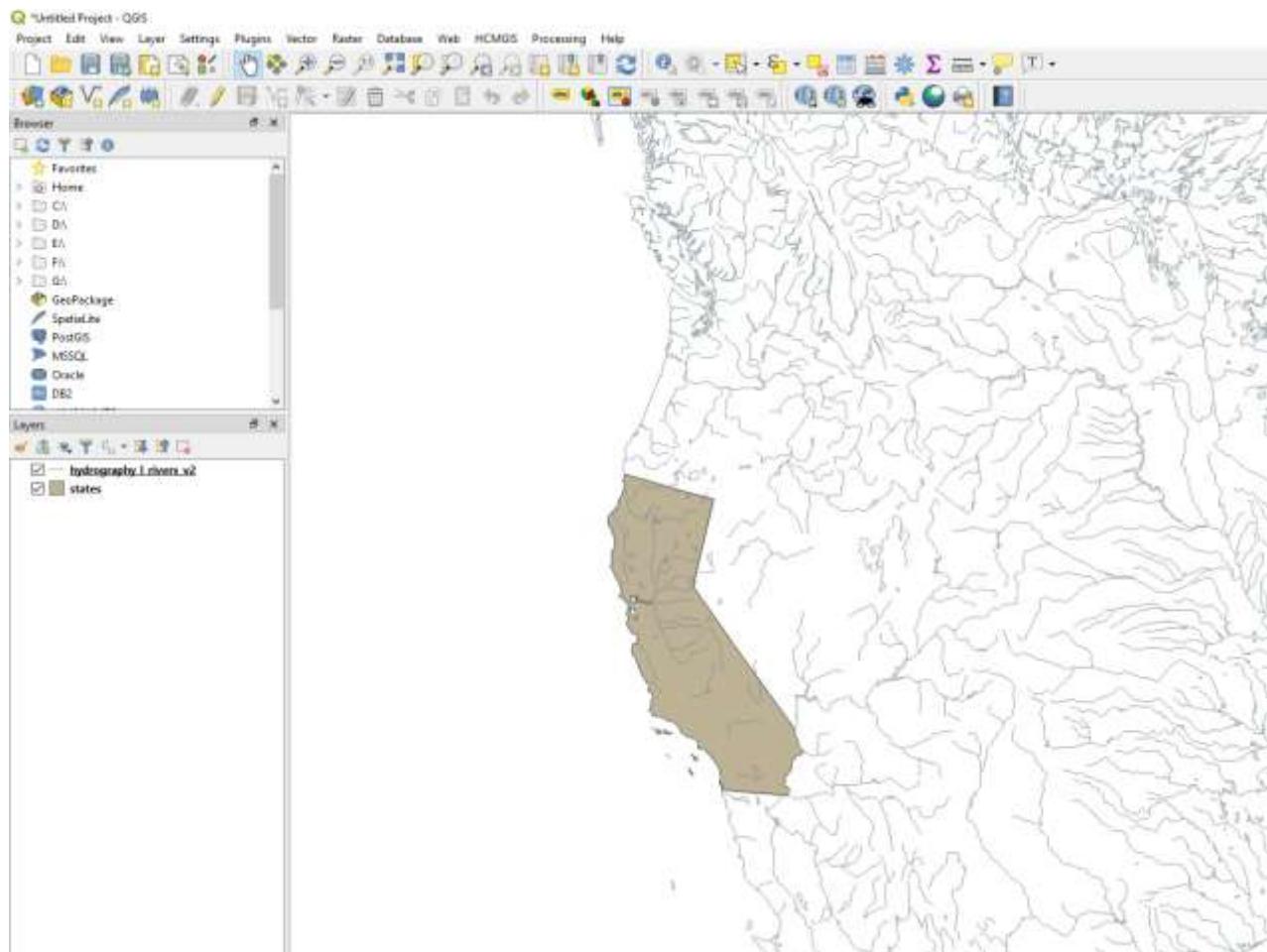


That's what you will get.

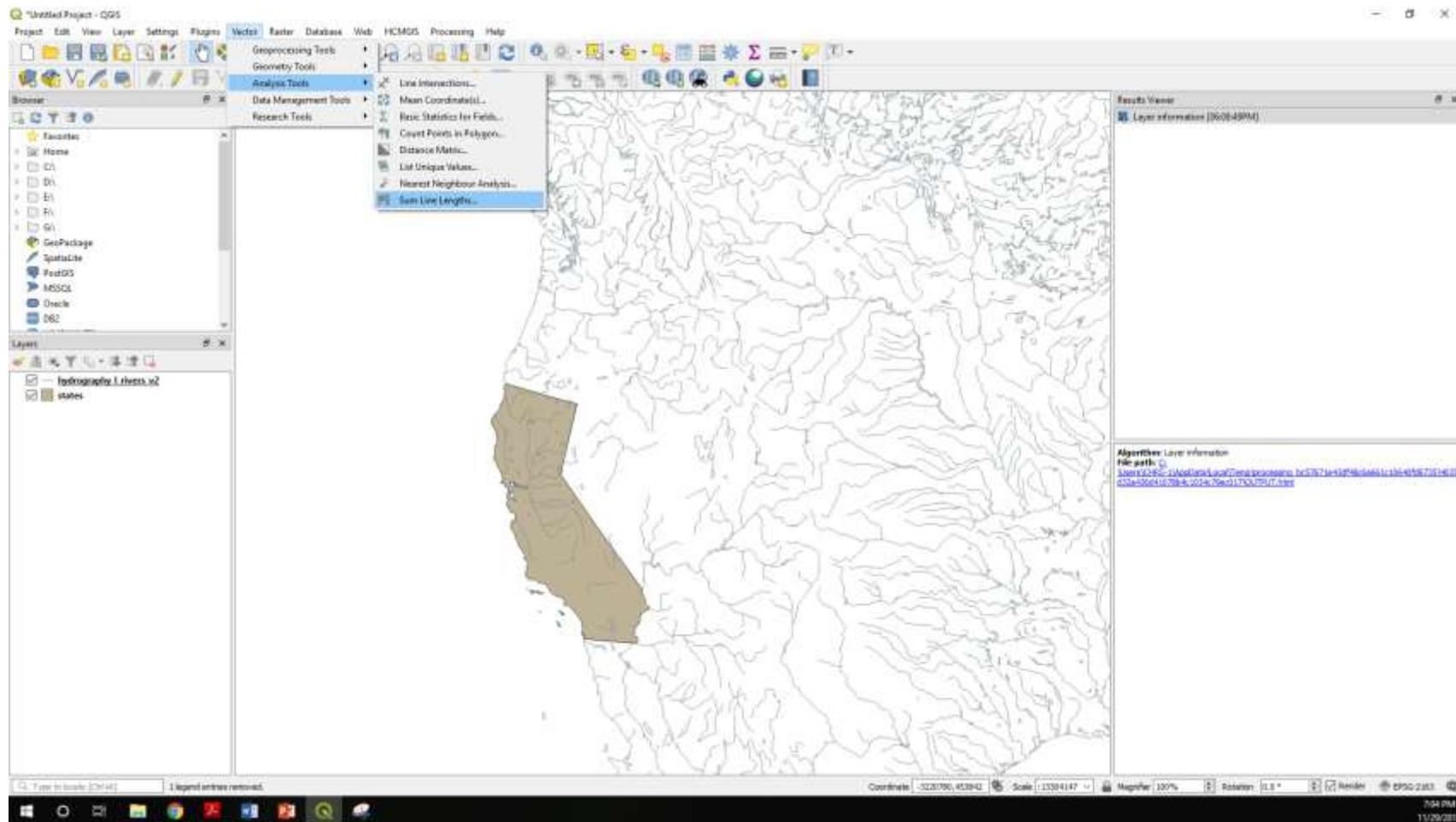


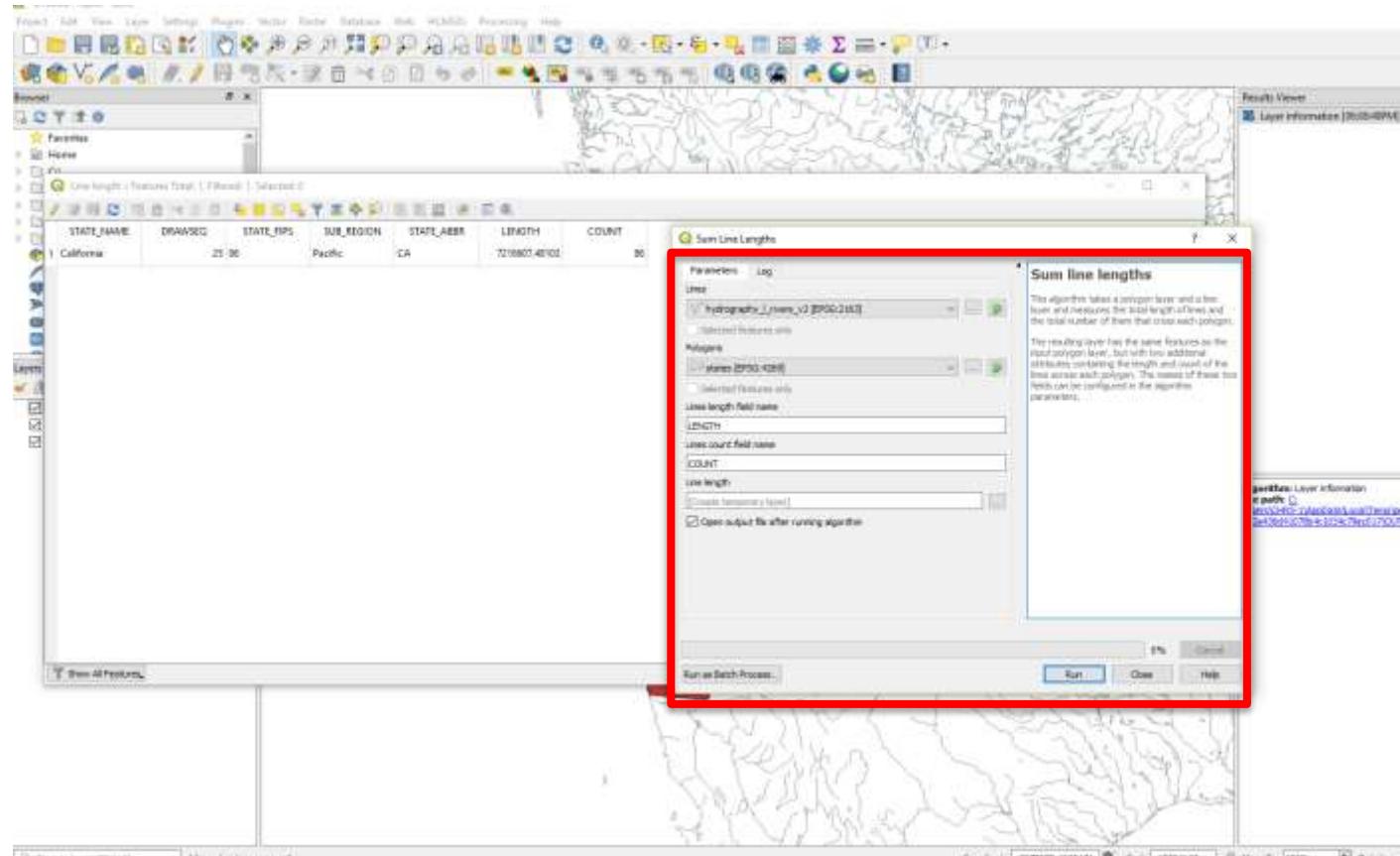
Files you will need to use for this task:

- 1- Lakes_and_Rivers_Shapefile
- 2- us states
- 3-powerplants-usa

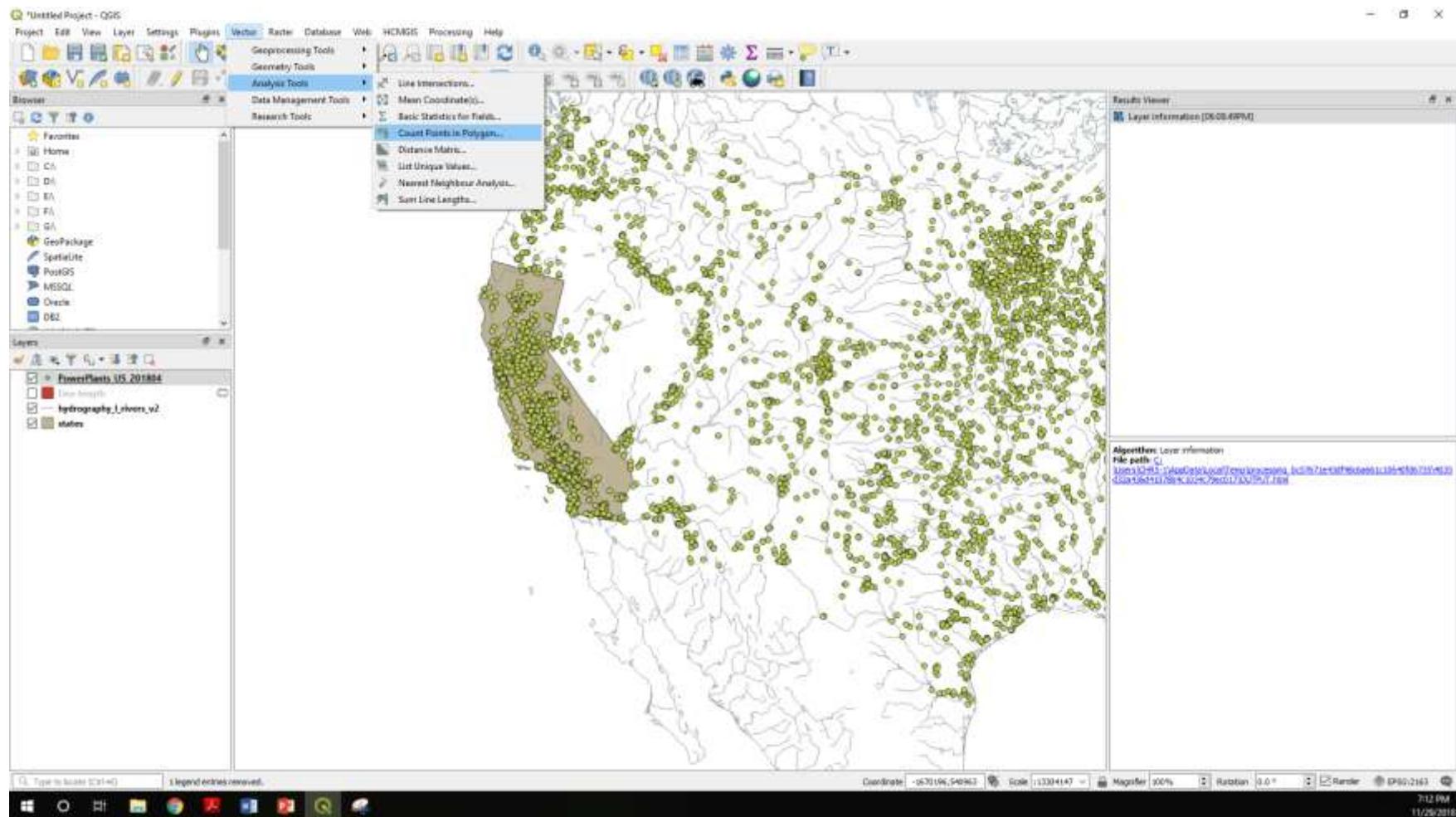


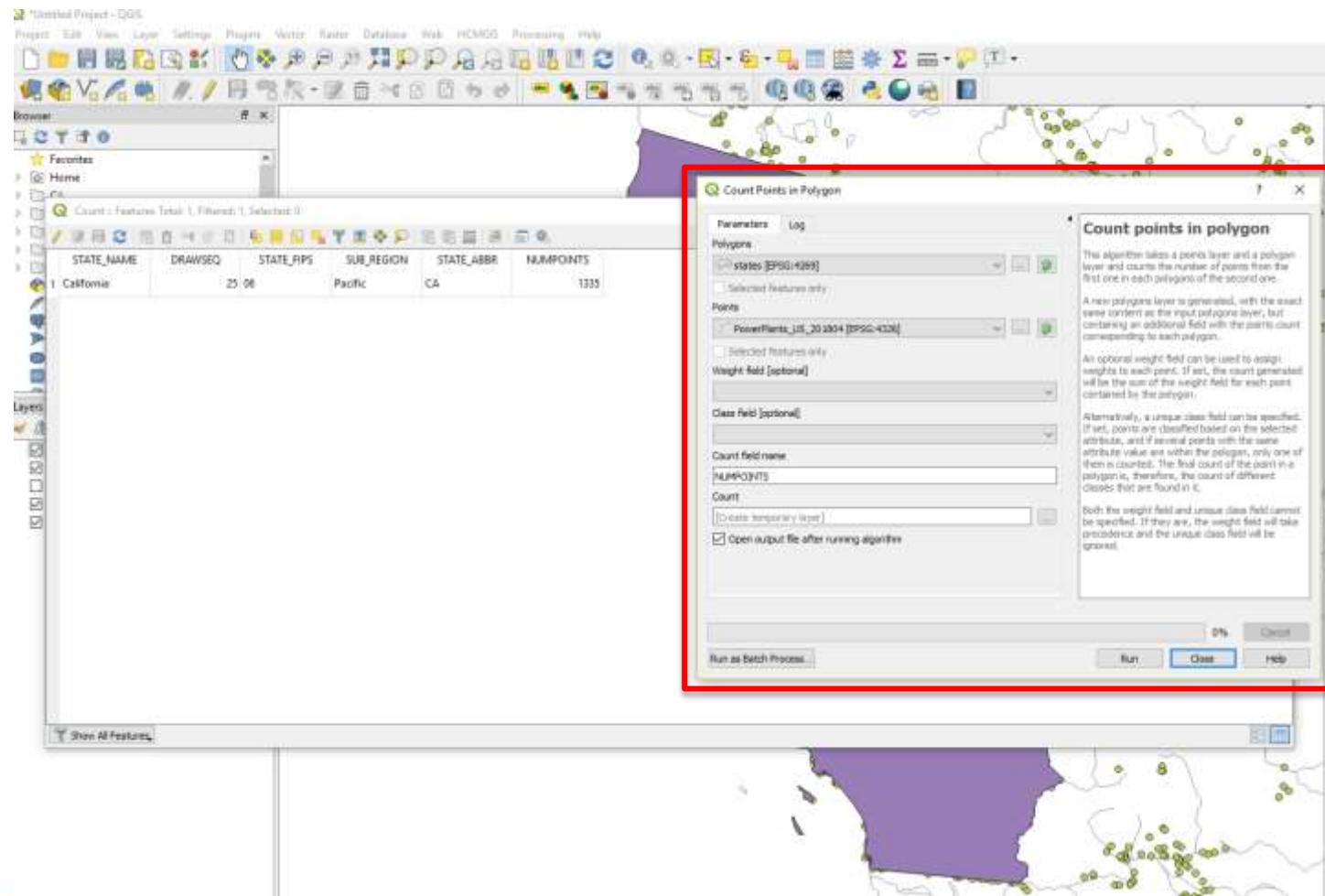
Vector>Analysis Tools> Sum line lengths





Vector>Analysis Tools> Count Points in Polygon





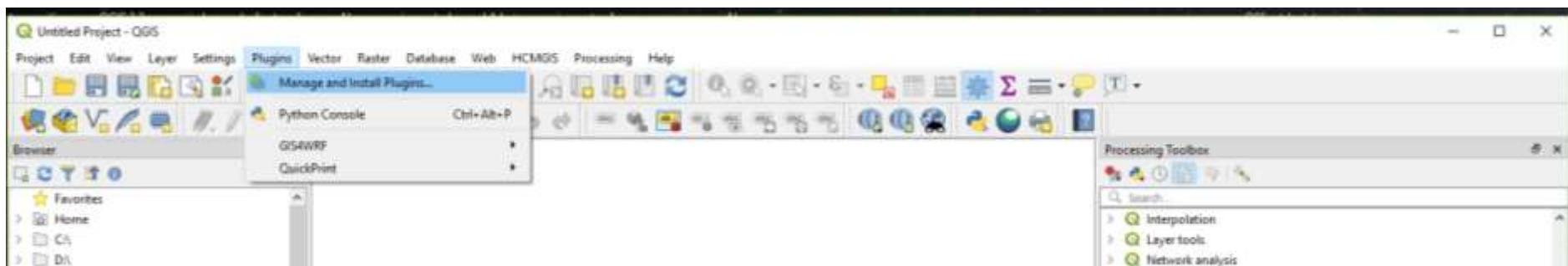
Sampling Raster Data using Points or Polygons and installing plugin.

In the raster files we need to extract the pixel values at certain locations or aggregate them over some area. For this we need to install a QGIS plugin, the Point Sampling Tool

Also we need to work with the Zonal Statistics that is in processing toolbox.

The **Processing Toolbox** is the main element of the processing GUI (more about it here https://docs.qgis.org/testing/en/docs/user_manual/processing/toolbox.html)

Plugins in QGIS add useful features to the software. Plugins are written by QGIS developers and other independent users who want to extend the core functionality of the software. To begin using plugins, you need to know how to download, install and activate them.



|| Search...

Plugins | All (298) ? X

All Point Sampling Tool

Installed Point sampling tool

Not installed

Invalid

Install from ZIP

Settings

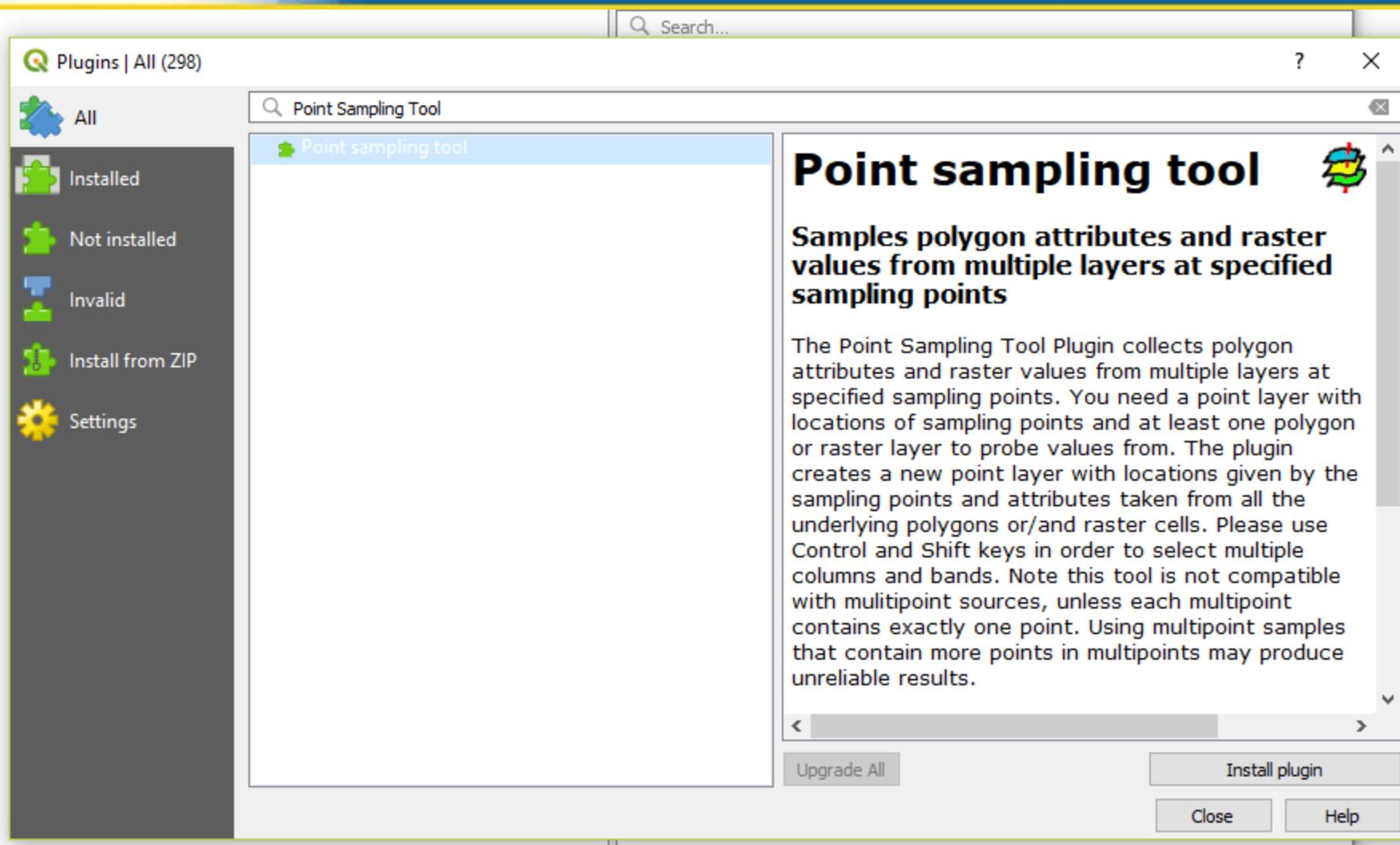
Point sampling tool

Samples polygon attributes and raster values from multiple layers at specified sampling points

The Point Sampling Tool Plugin collects polygon attributes and raster values from multiple layers at specified sampling points. You need a point layer with locations of sampling points and at least one polygon or raster layer to probe values from. The plugin creates a new point layer with locations given by the sampling points and attributes taken from all the underlying polygons or/and raster cells. Please use Control and Shift keys in order to select multiple columns and bands. Note this tool is not compatible with multipoint sources, unless each multipoint contains exactly one point. Using multipoint samples that contain more points in multipoints may produce unreliable results.

< >

Upgrade All



The aim of this task is to extract

- 1- The temperature at urban areas
- 2- Calculate the average temperature for each county in the United States.

- You need to work with three files.

[us.tmax_nohads_ll_20140525_float.tif](#) (Maximum temperature)

[2013_Gaz_ua_national.zip](#) (representing urban areas in the US.)

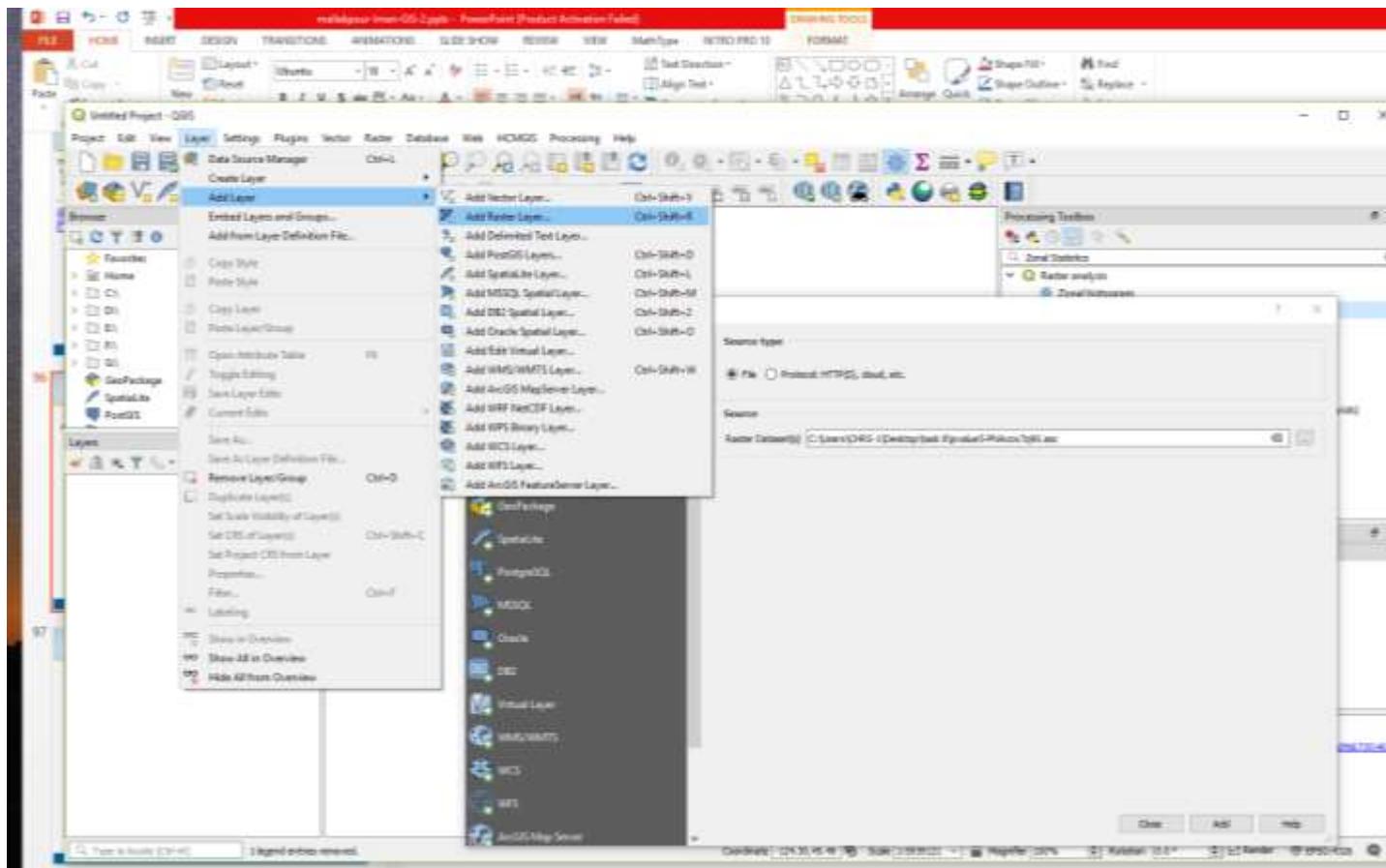
[tl_2013_us_county.zip](#) (The United States counties)

Source of this task:

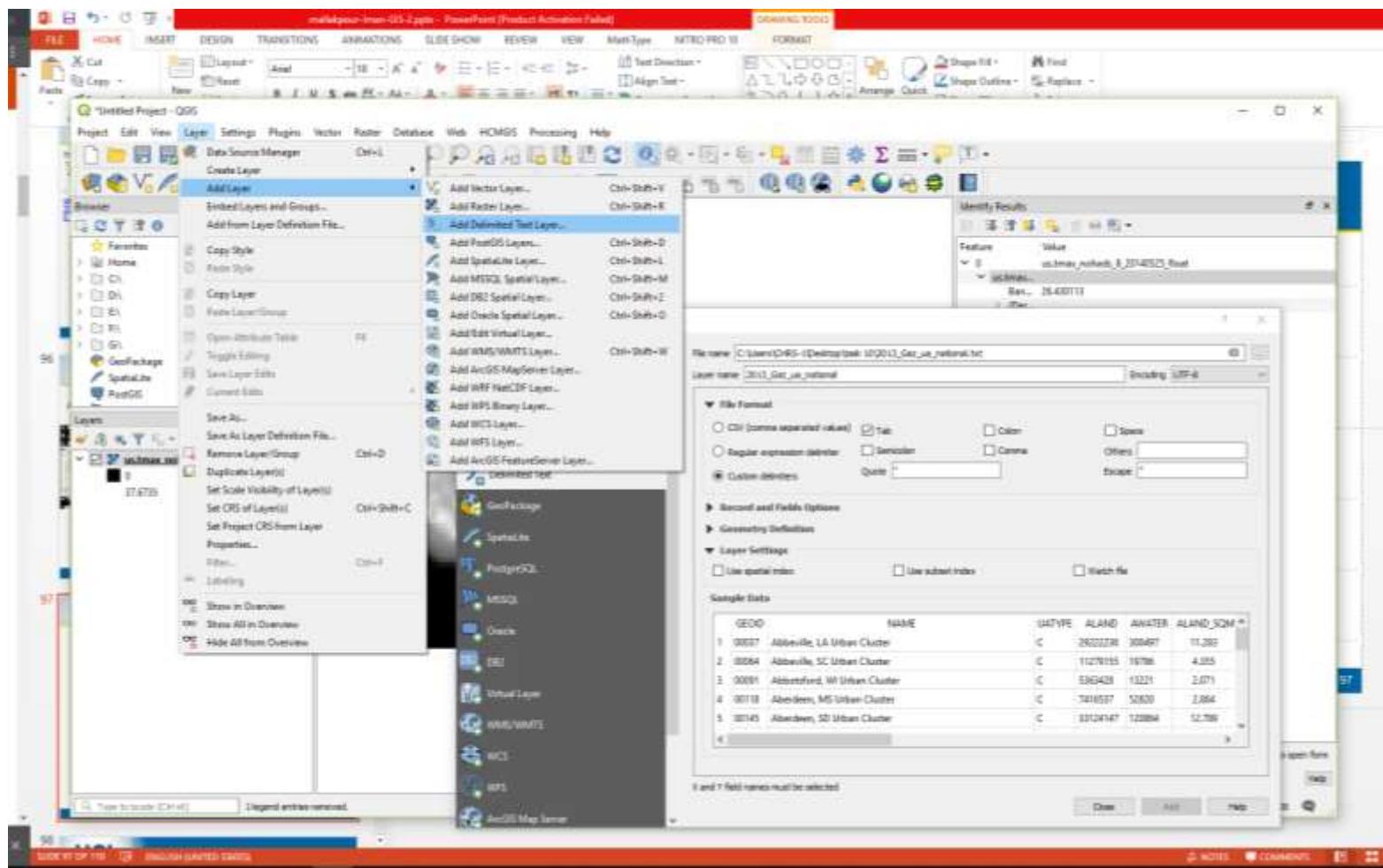
https://www.qgistutorials.com/en/docs/sampling_raster_data.html

Data Sources: [NOAACPC](#), [USGAZETTEER](#) [TIGER](#)

Add the raster file



Add Delimited Text Layer



Data Source Manager | Delimited Text

File name: C:\Users\CHRS-1\Desktop\task 10\2013_Gaz_ua_national.txt

Layer name: 2013_Gaz_ua_national

Encoding: UTF-8

File Format

- CSV (comma separated values)
- Tab
- Colon
- Space

- Regular expression delimiter
- Semicolon
- Comma
- Others:

- Custom delimiters
- Quote:
- Escape:

Record and Fields Options

Number of header lines to discard: 0

First record has field names

Detect field types

Decimal separator is comma

Trim fields

Discard empty fields

Geometry Definition

- Point coordinates
- X field: INTPTLONG

- Well known text (WKT)
- Y field: INTPTLAT

- No geometry (attribute only table)
- DMS coordinates

Geometry CRS: EPSG:4326 - WGS 84

Layer Settings

Use spatial index

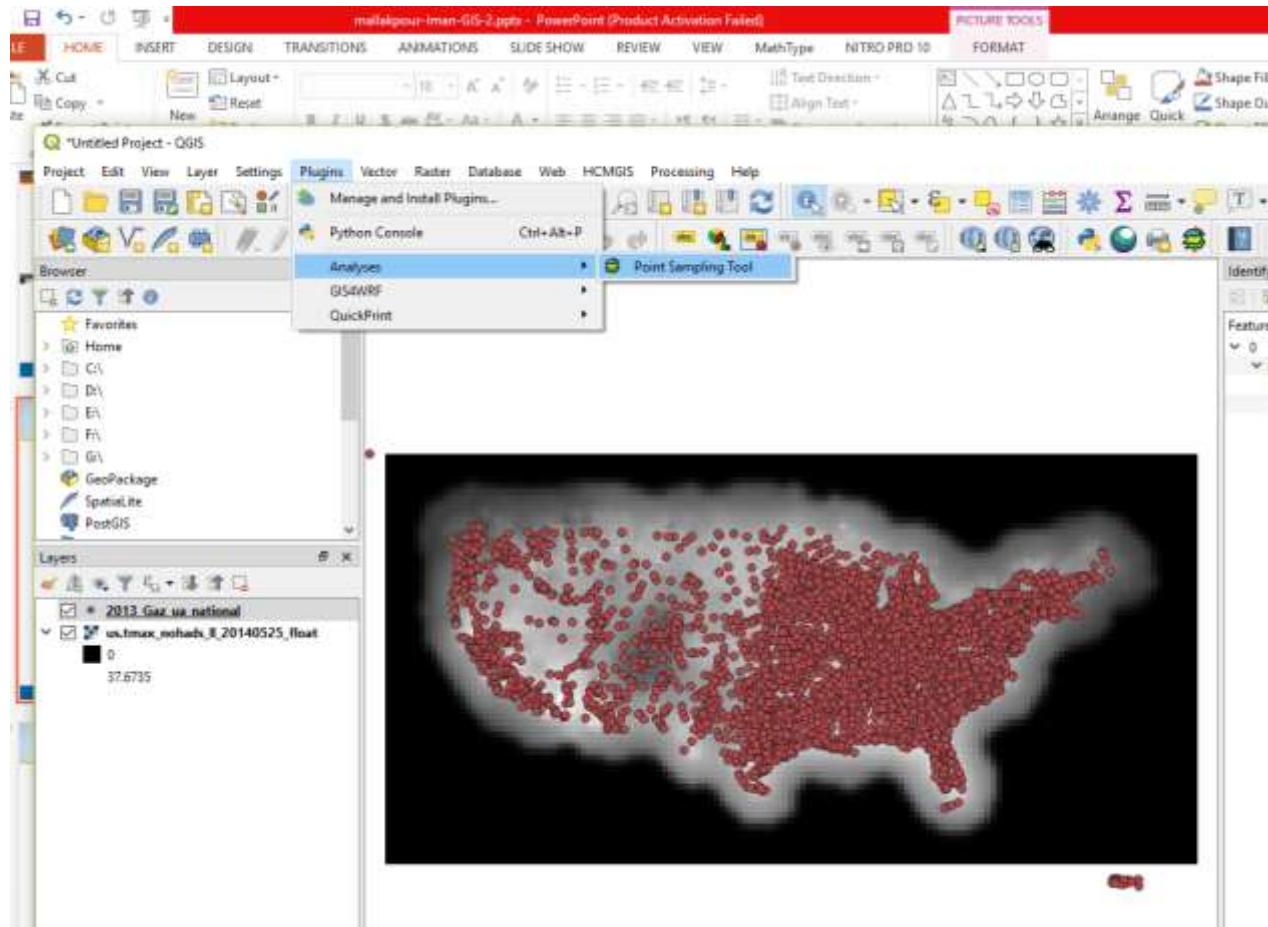
Use subset index

Watch file

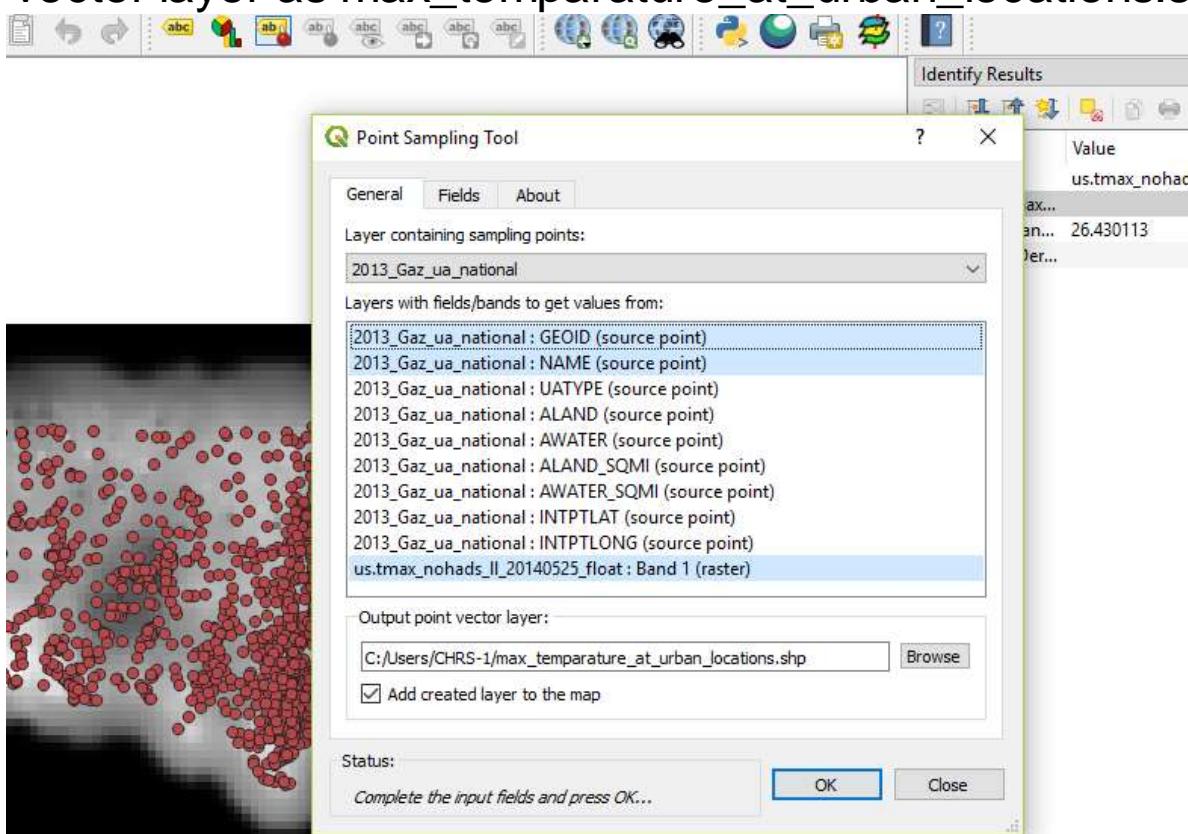
Sample Data

Close Add Help

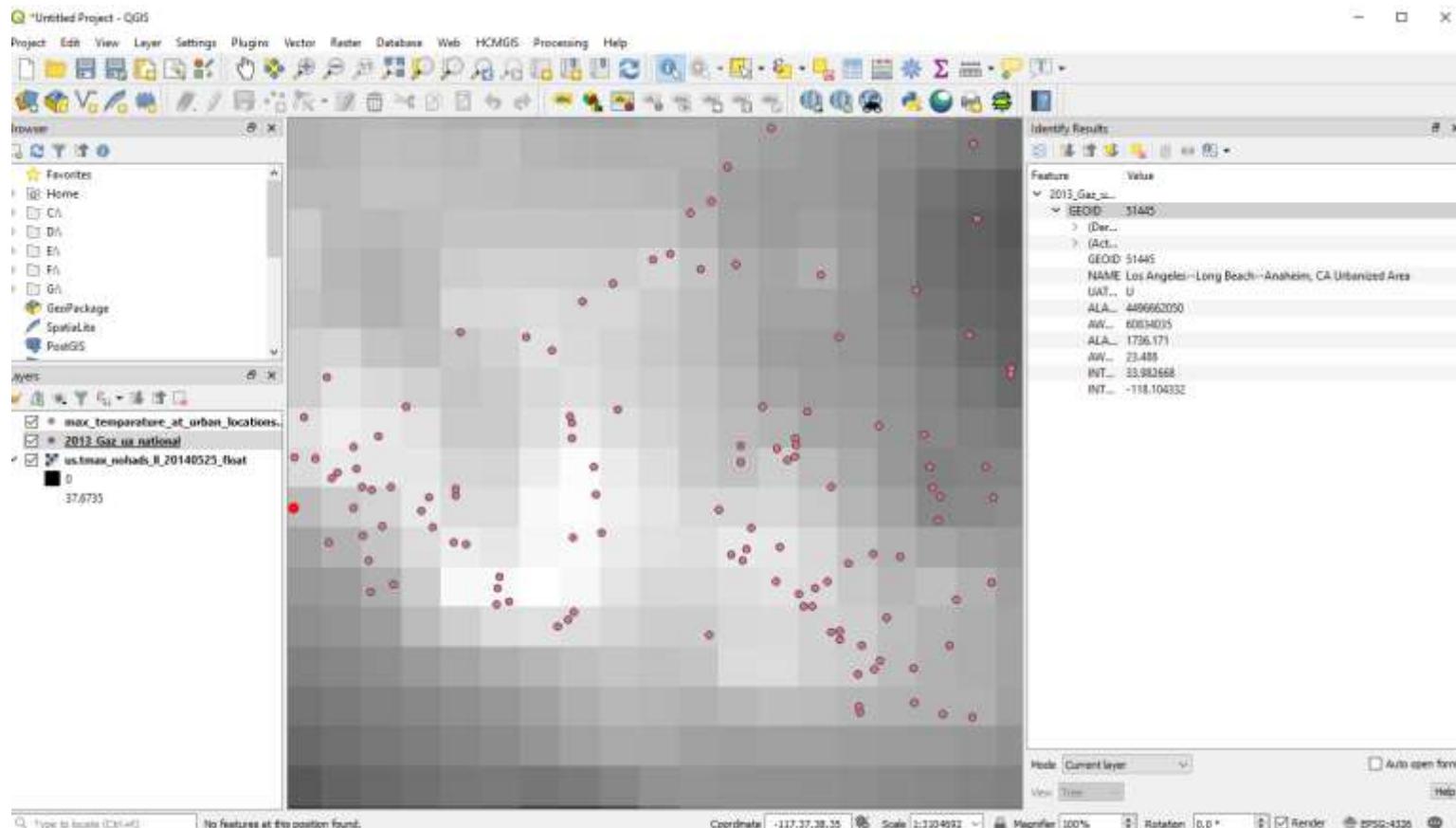
Open Plugins from menu then in the Analyses select the Point sampling tool.



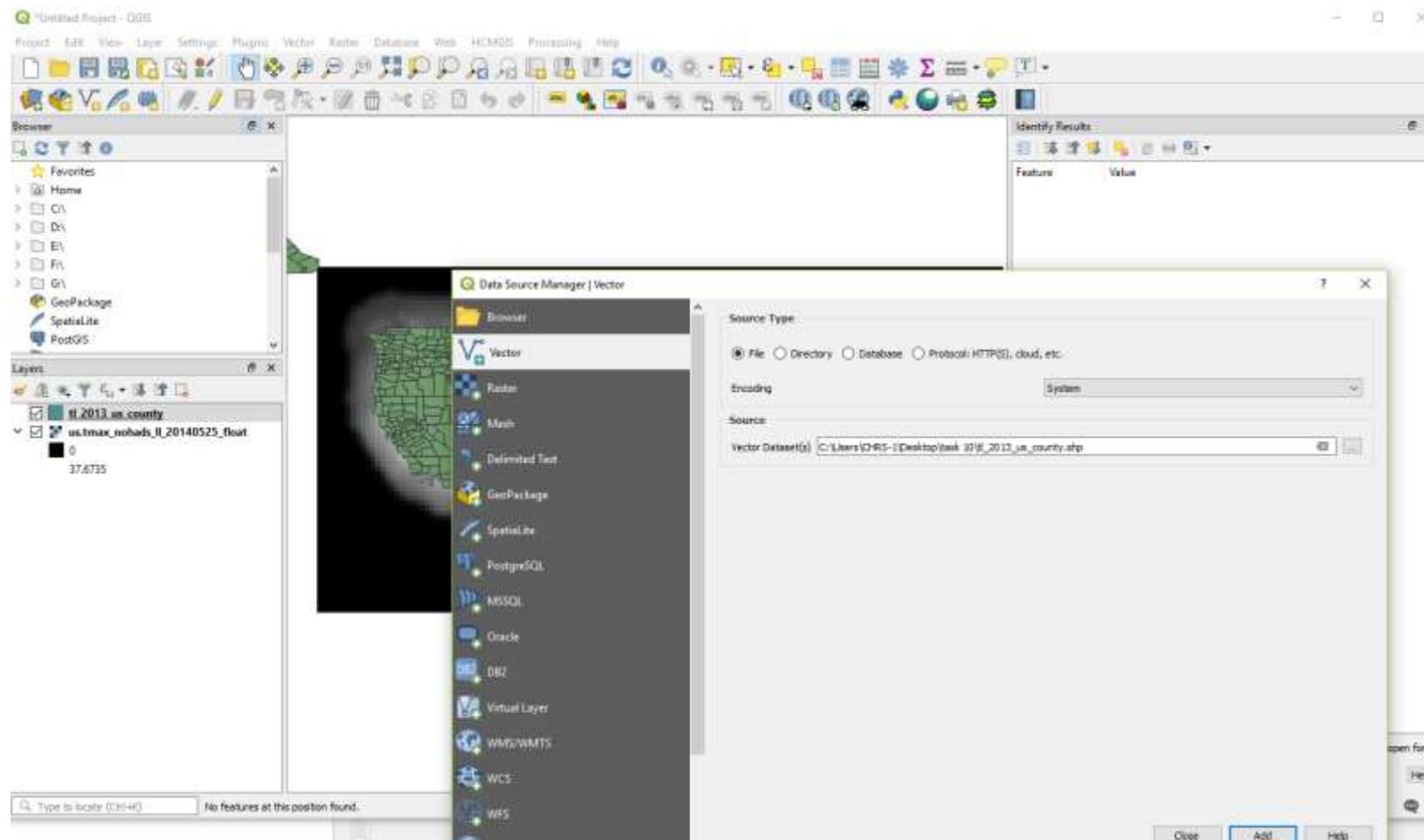
In the Point Sampling Tool dialog please select 2013_Gaz_ua_national as the Layer containing sampling points. Then, Choose GEOID and NAME fields from the 2013_Gaz_ua_national layer. choose the us.tmax_noahds_ll_{YYYYMMDD}_float: Band 1. Name the output vector layer as max_temparature_at_urban_locations.shp



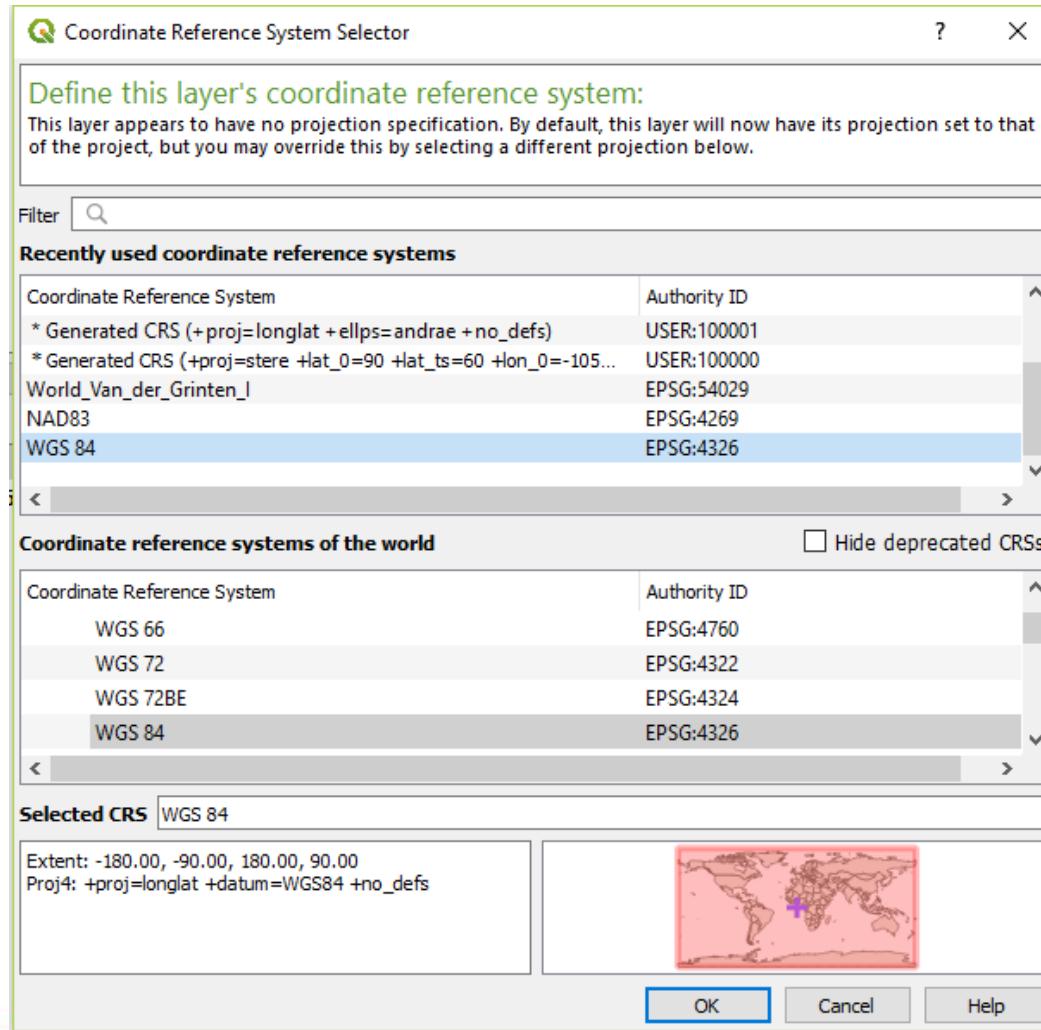
The temperature at urban areas



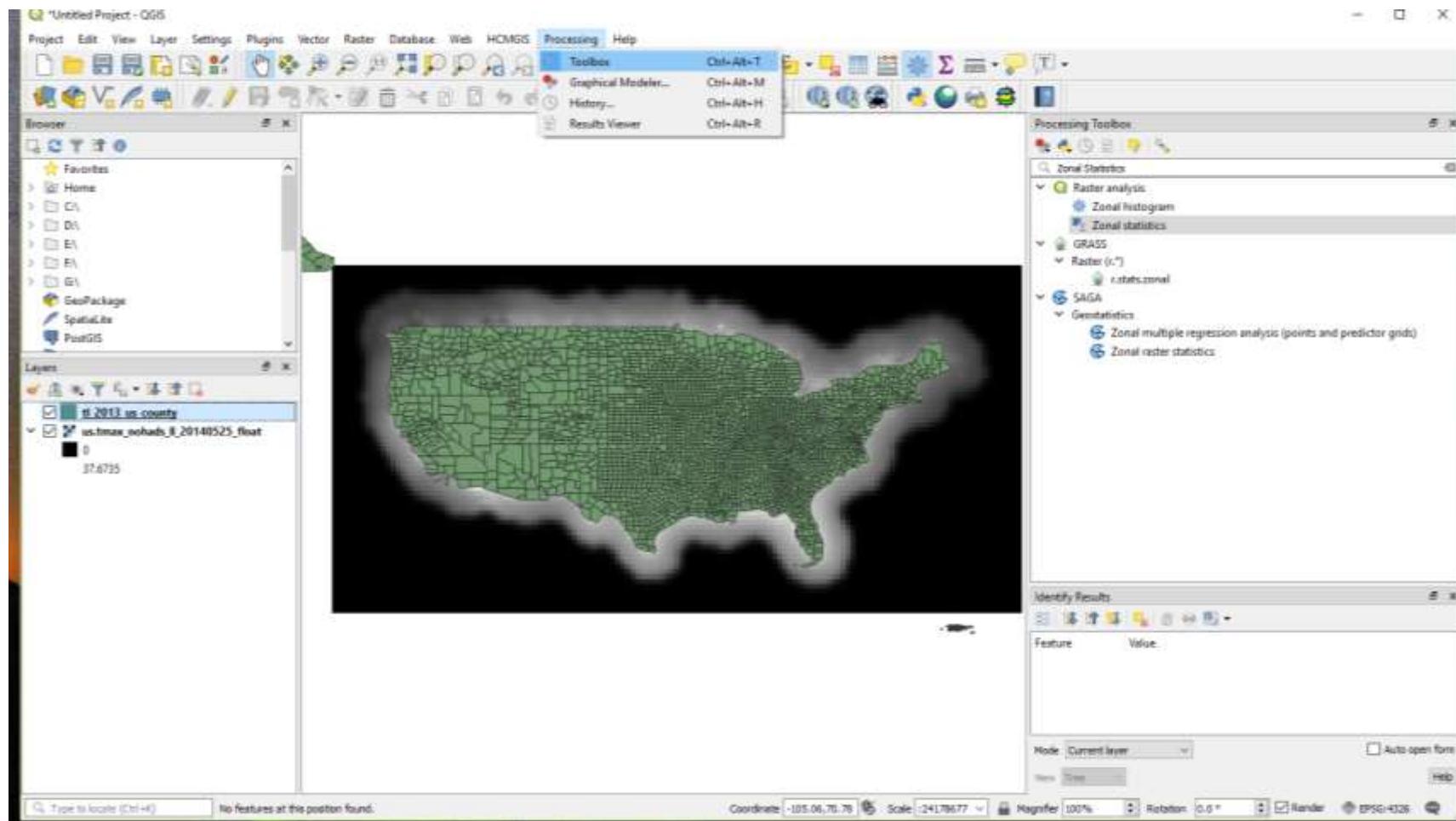
Calculate the average temperature for each county in the United States
Add vector layer.



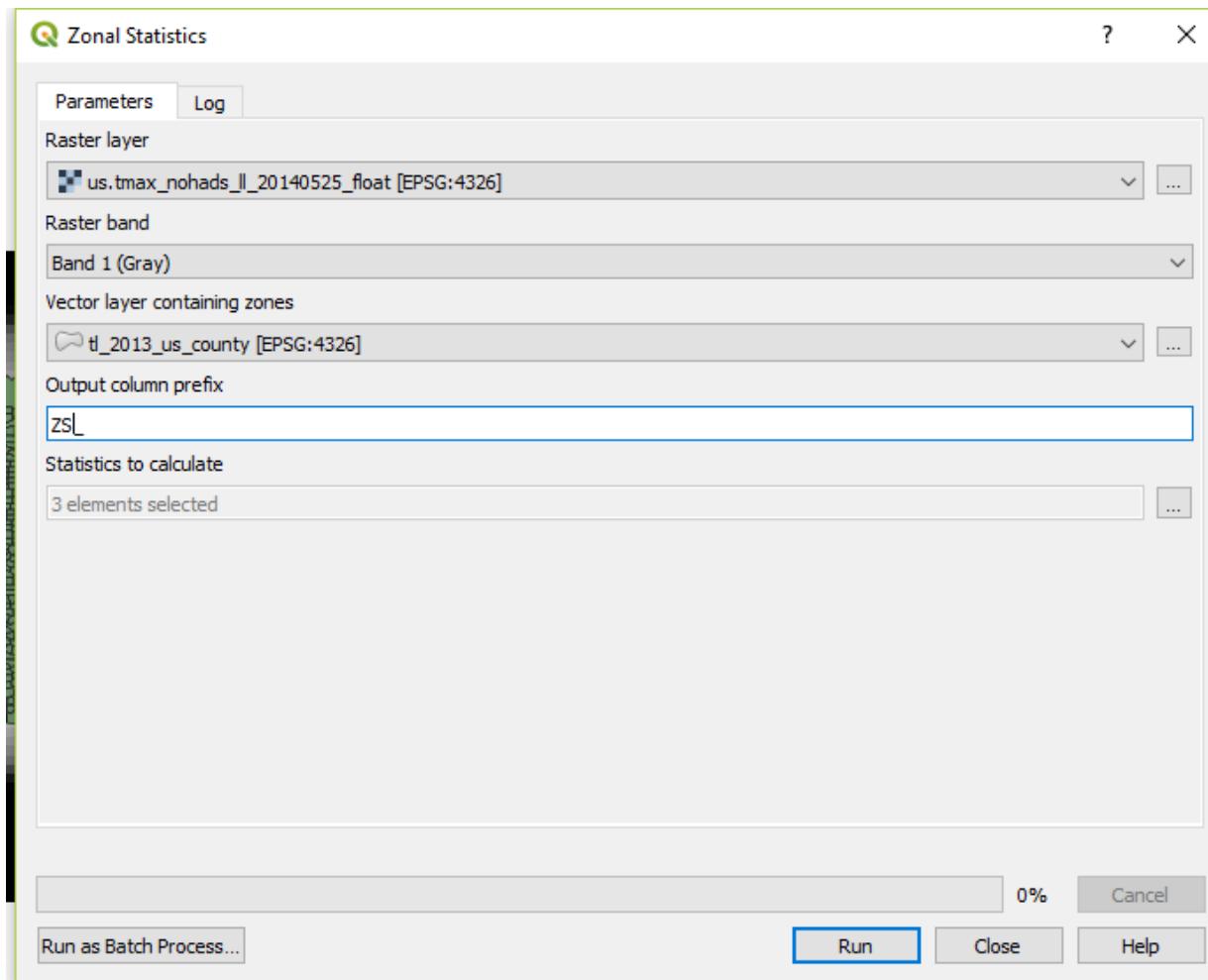
Make sure that both the raster file and the vector file are having same projection system.



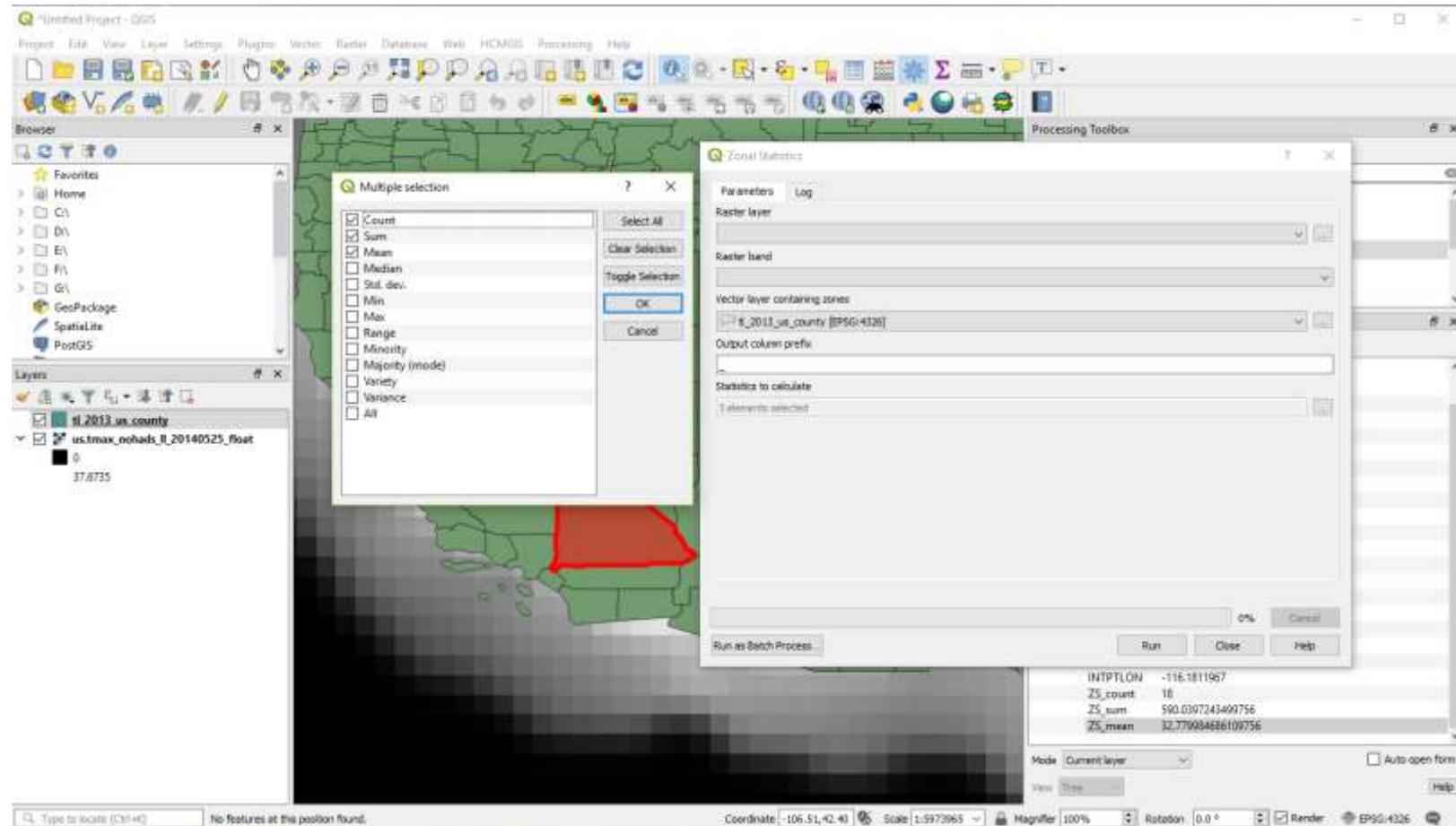
Processing> Toolbox> search for “Zonal Statistics ” and open it .



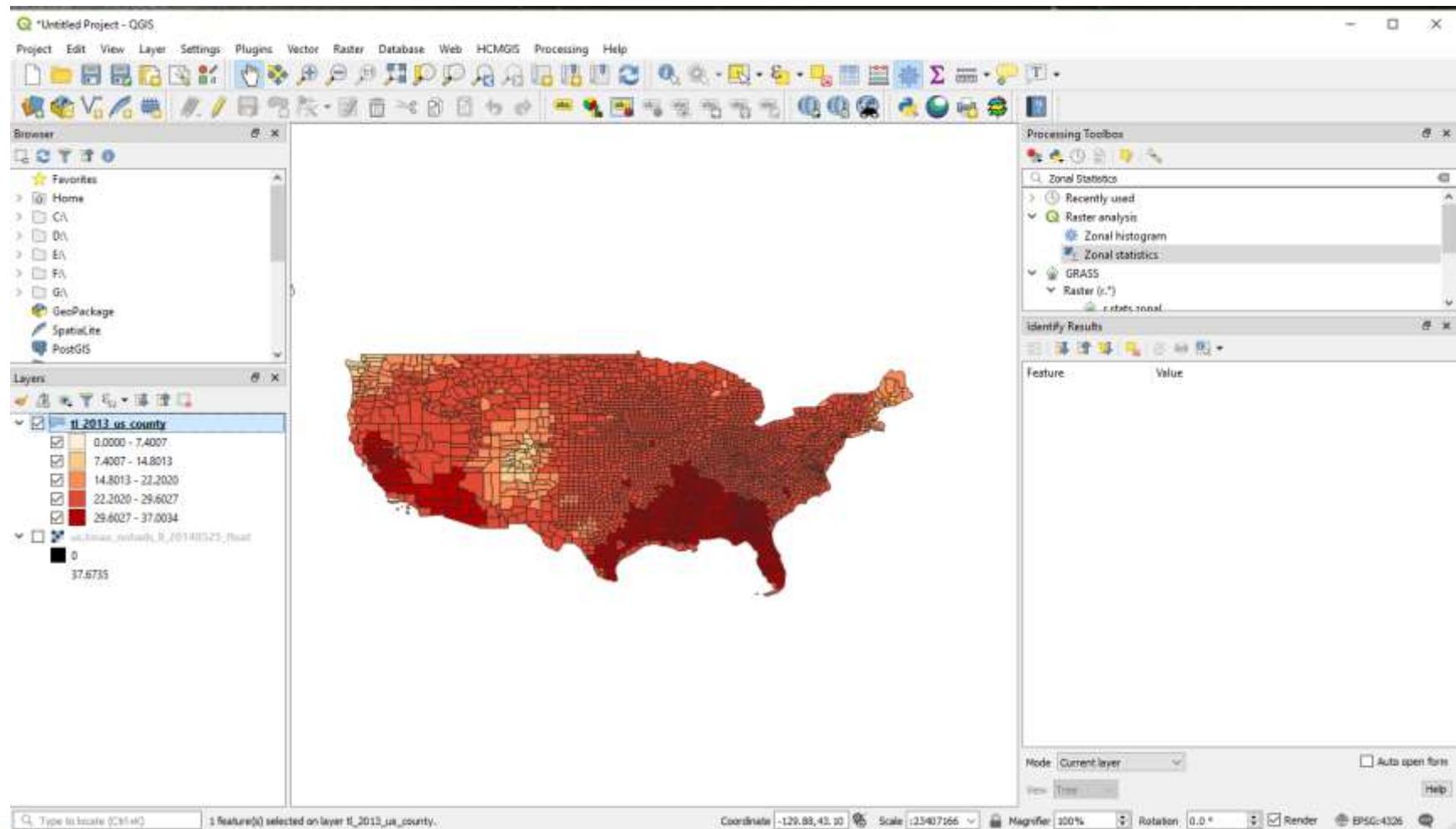
Select us.tmax_noahds_ll_20140525_float as the Raster layer and counties as the vector layer containing the zones. Enter ZS_ as the Output column prefix. Click OK.



Note: You can have different zonal statistics.



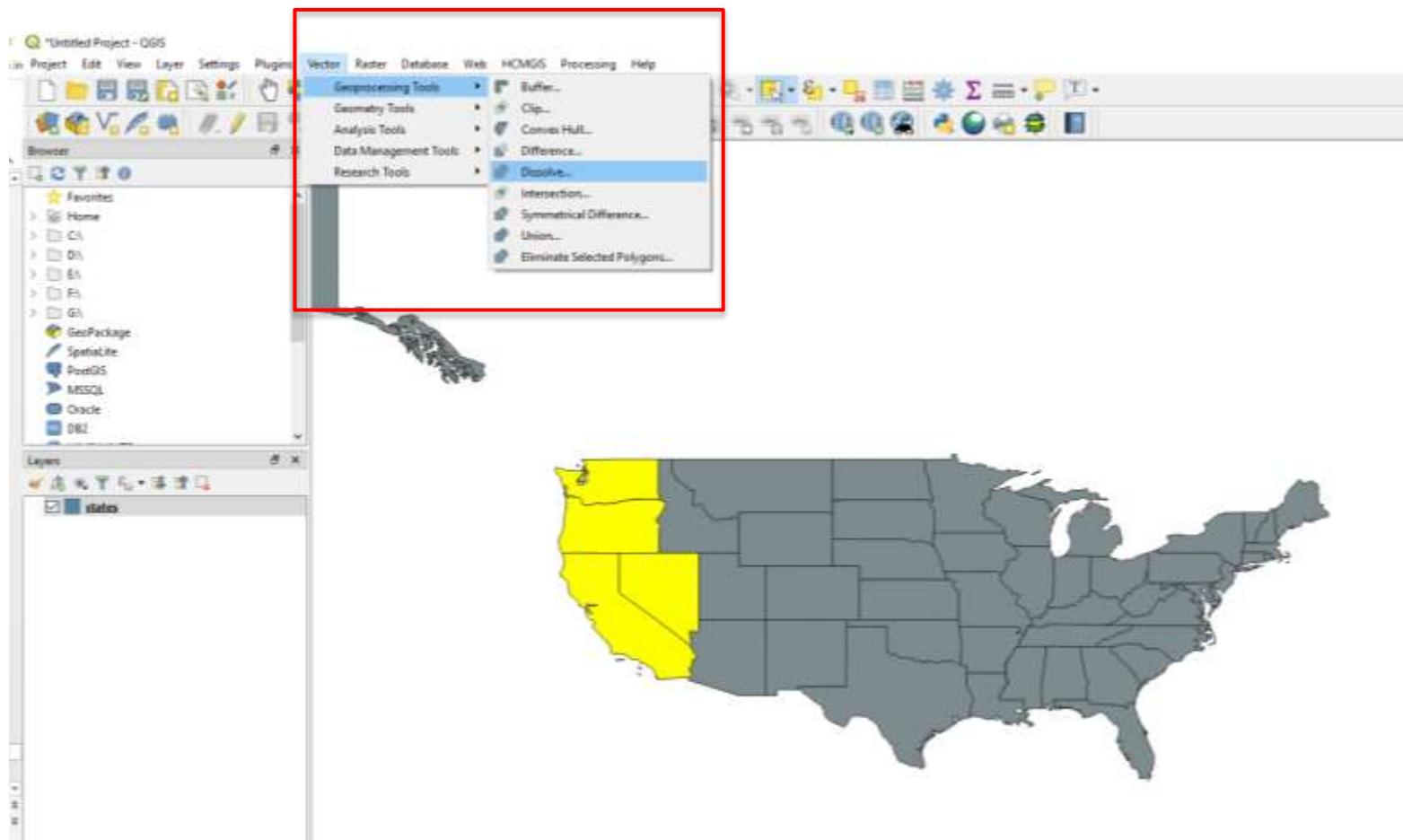
Now is your turn, make the map that show the average temperature for each county in the United States (like the below map)

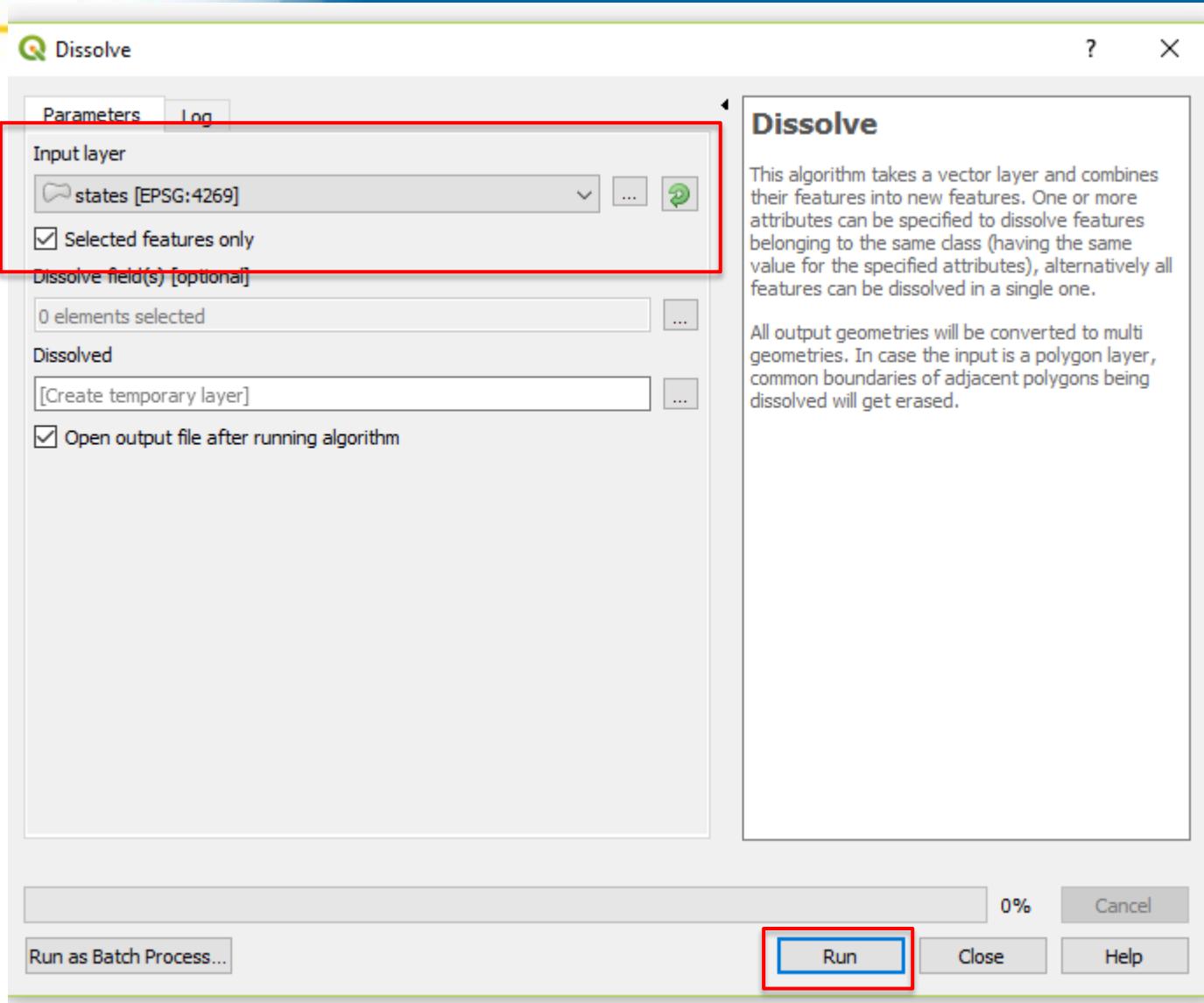


Geoprocessing tools

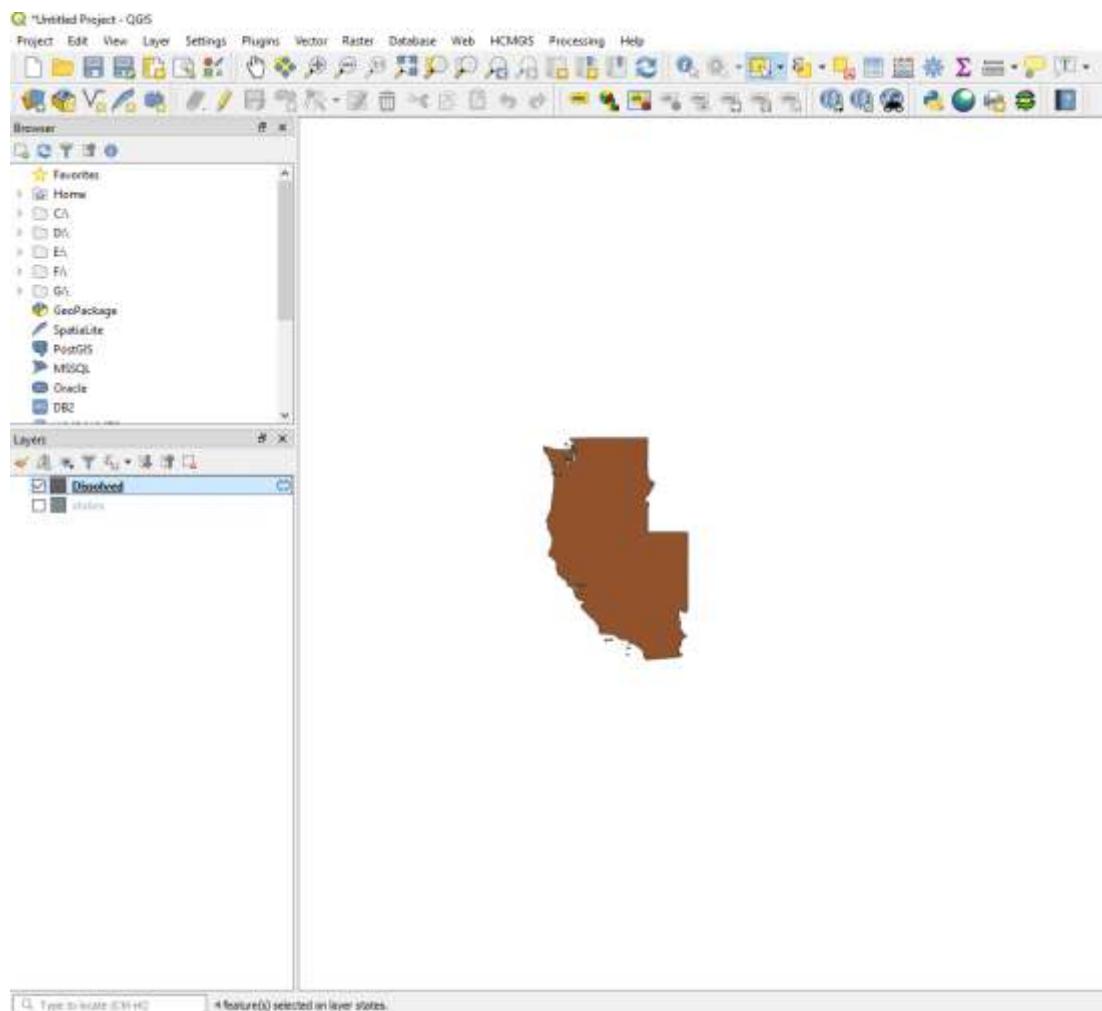
Icon	Tool	Purpose
	Convex hull(s)	Create minimum convex hull(s) for an input layer, or based on an ID field.
	Buffer with * fixed distance * distance field	Create buffer(s) around features * based on fixed distance * based on distance field
	Intersect	Overlay layers such that output contains areas where both layers intersect.
	Union	Overlay layers such that output contains intersecting and non-intersecting areas.
	Symmetrical difference	Overlay layers such that output contains those areas of the input and difference layers that do not intersect.
	Clip	Overlay layers such that output contains areas that intersect the clip layer.
	Difference	Overlay layers such that output contains areas not intersecting the clip layer.
	Dissolve	Merge features based on input field. All features with identical input values are combined to form one single feature.
	Eliminate sliver polygons	Merges selected features with the neighboring polygon with the largest area or largest common boundary.

Open “states.shp”> select the states you want to combined to form a single feature. Then: Geoprocessing tools> Dissolve

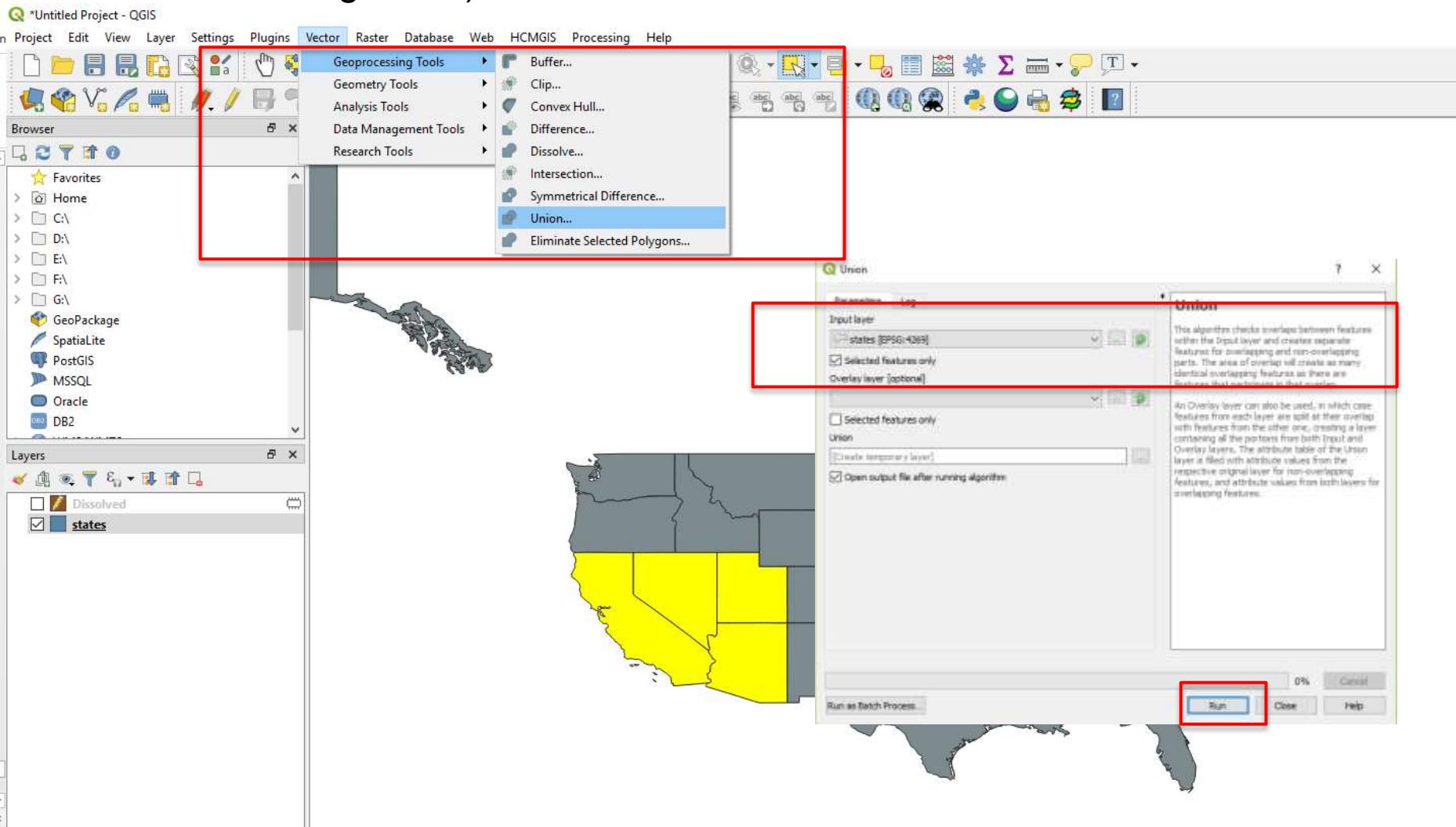


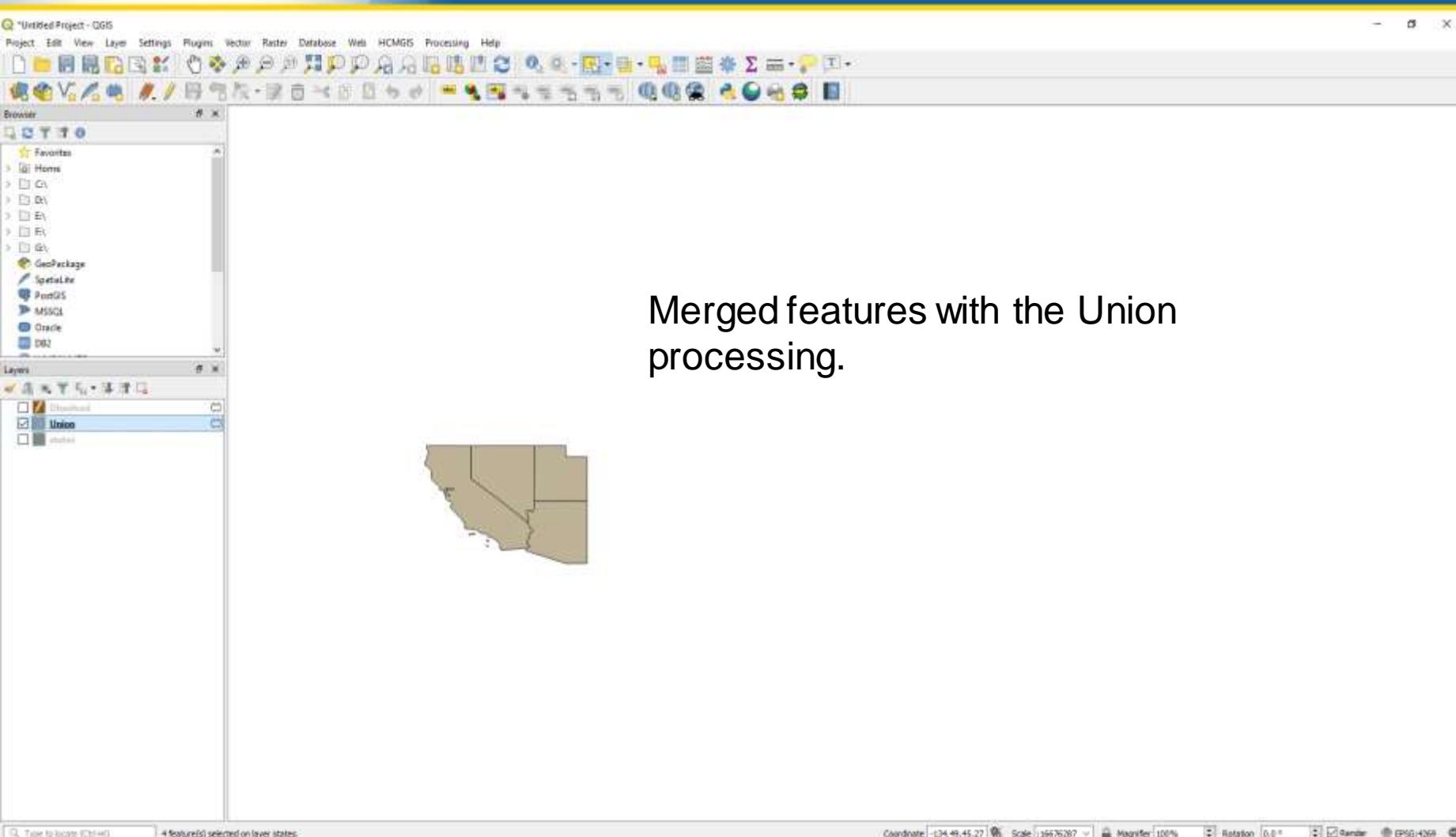


That should be what you will get!



Geoprocessing tools > Dissolve (overlay layers such that output contains intersecting and non-intersecting areas).

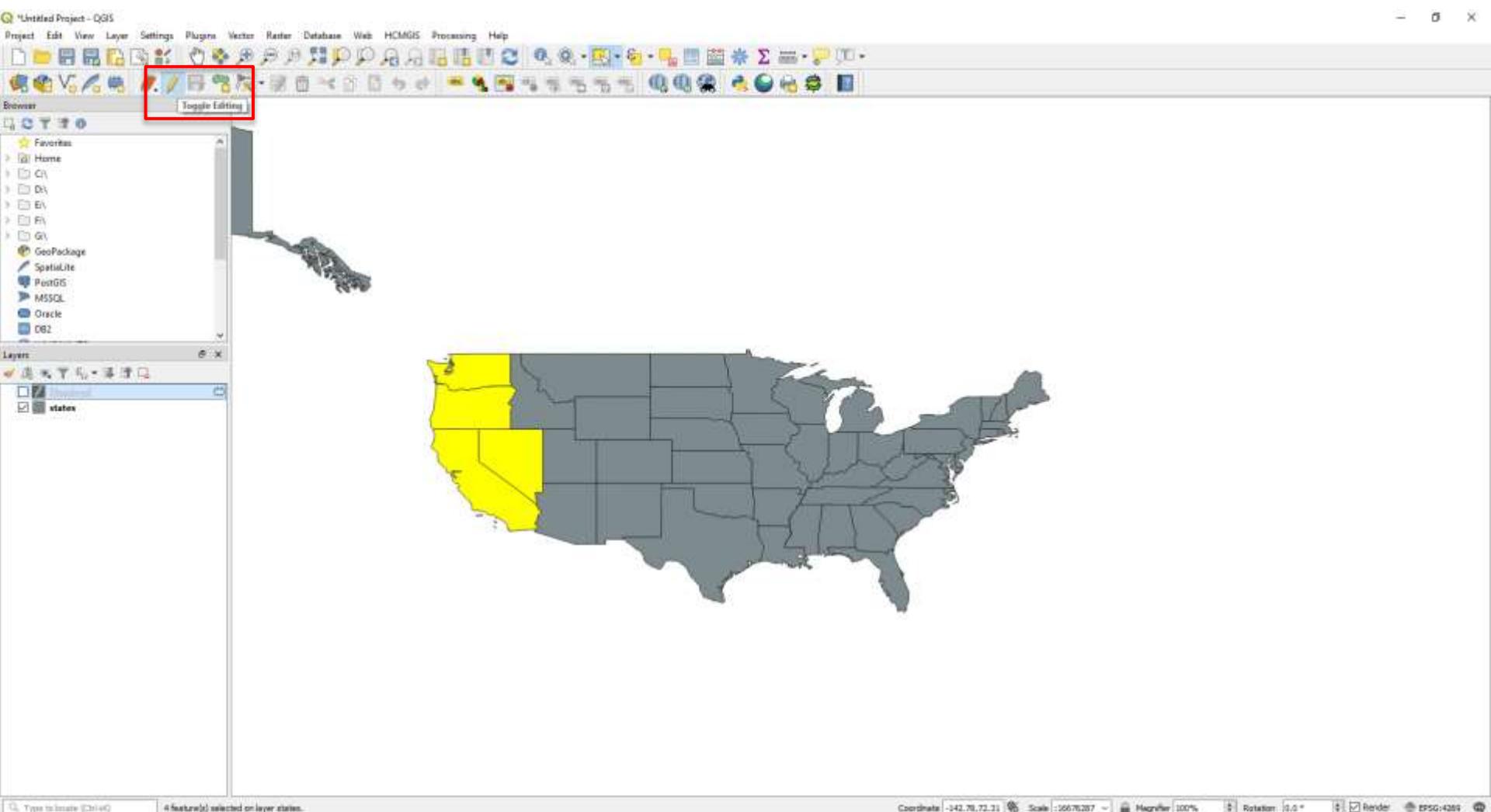




Merged features with the Union processing.

More reading on Geoprocessing tools : <https://grindgis.com/software/qgis/basic-editing-tools-in-qgis>

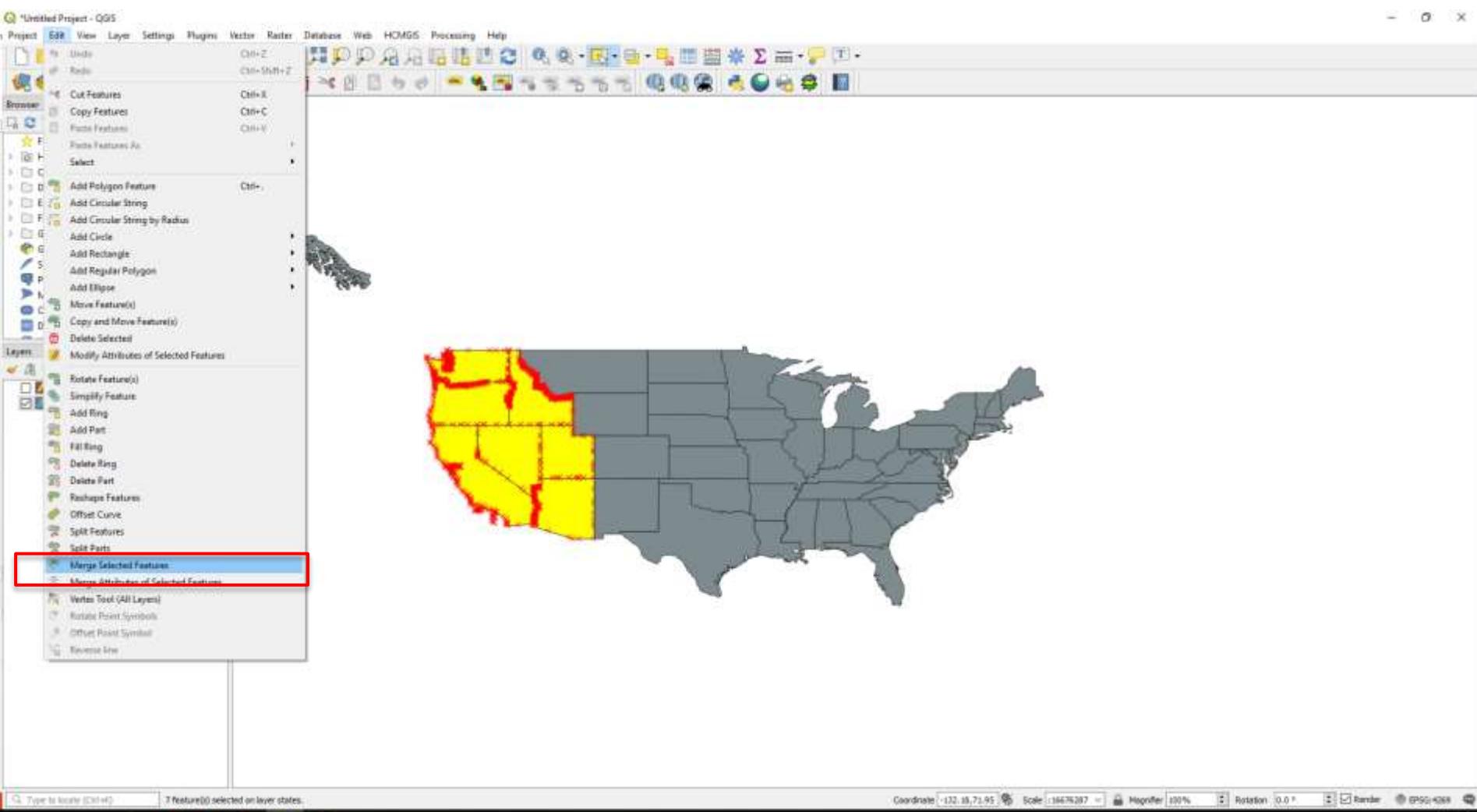
Open “states.shp” and select “the States” layer and then select the toggle edit



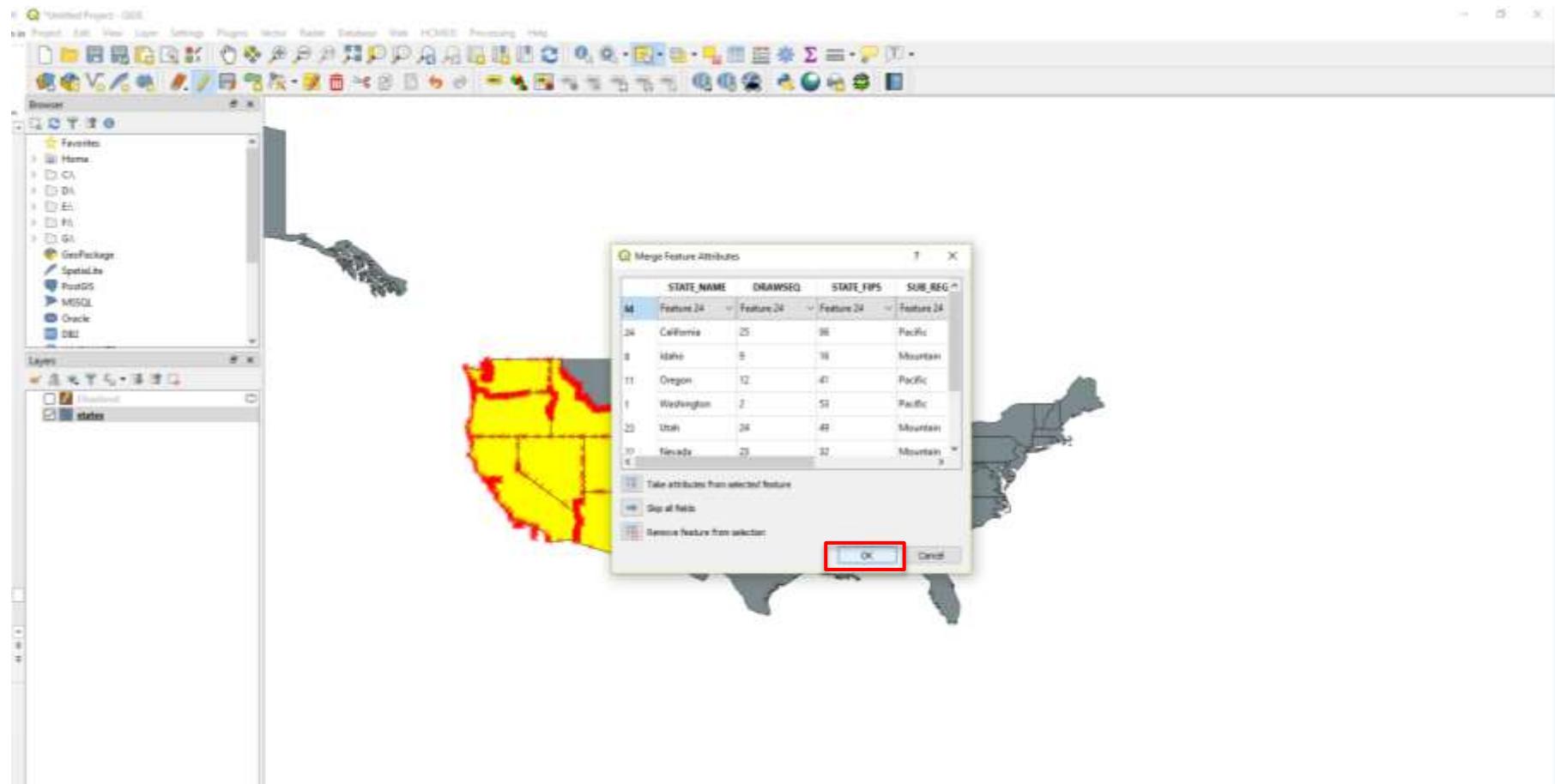
Select the features you want with the selection tool from toolbar (by area or single click) and press ctrl key and click on the features.



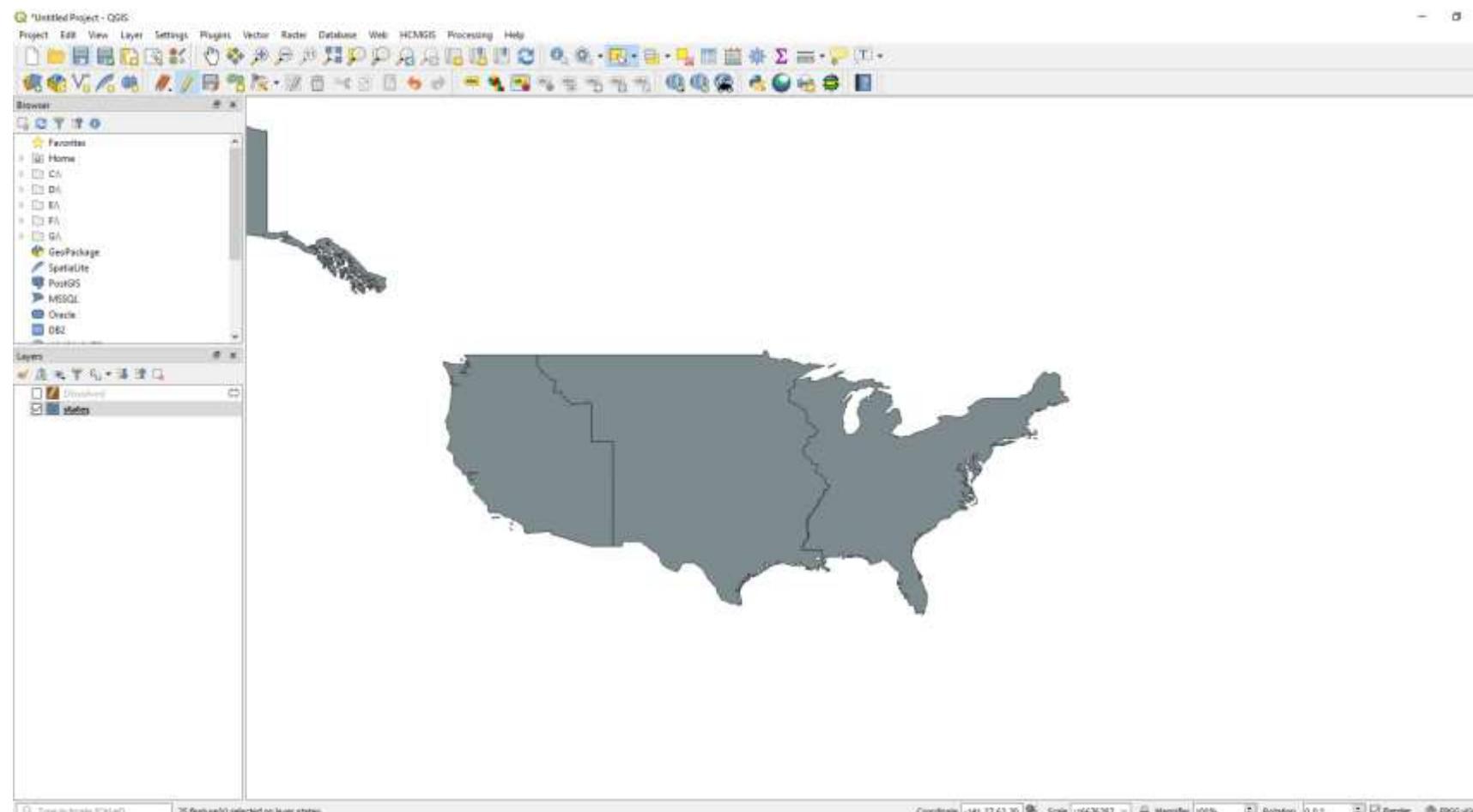
From the Edit menu find merge selected features.



Click ok.



Please make a merged map like the one below.



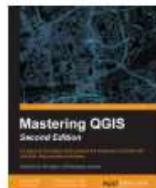
Books to read!

[Learning QGIS - Third Edition by Anita Graser](#) ⓘ

Call Number: G70.212 .G73 2016

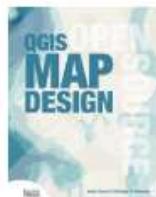
ISBN: 1785880330

Publication Date: 2016-03-10

[Mastering QGIS - Second Edition by Kurt Menke, Richard Smith Jr., Luigi Pirelli, John Van Hoesen, Phillip Davis](#) ⓘ

ISBN: 1786460378

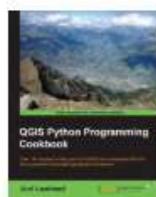
Publication Date: 2016-09-30

[QGIS Map Design by Anita Graser, Gretchen N. Peterson](#) ⓘ

Call Number: GA102.4.E4 G73 2016

ISBN: 9780989421751

Publication Date: 2016-03-01

[QGIS Python Programming Cookbook by Joel Lawhead](#) ⓘ

Call Number: QA76.73.P98 L39 2015

ISBN: 1783984988

Publication Date: 2015-03-26

[Building Mapping Applications with Qgis \(ebook\) by Erik Westra](#) ⓘ

Call Number: G70.212 .W478 2014eb

ISBN: 9781783984671

Publication Date: 2014-12-30

Free data:

<https://freegisdata.rtwilson.com/>

Good Resources:

https://docs.qgis.org/2.18/en/docs/user_manual/processing/vector_menu.html

https://docs.qgis.org/2.8/it/docs/training_manual/

<https://www.nab.vu/sites/default/files/documents/QGIS%20Training%20Manual.PDF>

<https://automating-gis-processes.github.io/2017/course-info/course-info.html>



THANK
YOU!