



# Deploying Coupled Snow and Runoff Models in the Next Generation Water Resources Modeling Framework



*Keith Jennings, Luciana Kindl da Cunha, Andy W. Wood, Wanru Wu, Naoki Mizukami, Jessica L. Garrett, Mike Johnson, Zhengtao Cui, Nels J. Frazier, Scott D. Peckham, Ahmad Jan, Robert Bartel, Rachel McDaniel, Matt Williamson, Fred L. Ogden, Trey Flowers, Graeme R. Aggett*

## Evaluation of forest snow processes models (SnowMIP2)

Nick Rutter,<sup>1</sup> Richard Essery,<sup>2</sup> John Pomeroy,<sup>3</sup> Nuria Altimir<sup>4</sup> Kostas Andreadis<sup>5</sup>

The Representation of Snow in Land Surface Schemes: Results from PILPS 2(d)

A. G. SLATER,<sup>a,c</sup> C. A. SCHLOSSER,<sup>b</sup> C. E. DESBOROUGH,<sup>c</sup> A. J. PITMAN,<sup>c</sup> A. HENDERSON-SELLERS,<sup>d</sup>

A comparison of 1701 snow models using observation:

Richard Essery<sup>a,\*</sup>, Samuel Morin<sup>b</sup>, Yves Lejeune<sup>b</sup>, Cécile B Ménard<sup>c</sup>

## Surface-subsurface model intercomparison: A first set of benchmark results to diagnose integrated hydrology and feedbacks

Reed M. Maxwell<sup>1</sup>, Mario Putti<sup>2</sup>, Steven Meyerhoff<sup>1</sup>, Jens-Olaf Delfs<sup>3,4</sup>, Ian M. Ferguson<sup>1,5</sup>,

and DMIP Participants<sup>1</sup>

Validation of the energy budget of an alpine snowpack

The integrated  
IH-MIP2: A

PIE  
ESI

sno

Gerha

integrated hydrology and feedbacks

Stefan Kollet<sup>ID1,2</sup>, Mauro Sulis<sup>ID3</sup>, Reed M. Maxwell<sup>ID4</sup>, Claudio Paniconi<sup>ID5</sup>, Mario Putti<sup>ID6</sup>,

The distributed model intercomparison assessment of water resources in a data-scarce  
(DMIP): motivation and experimental region, the Upper Blue Nile River Basin

## A Comprehensive Distributed Hydrological Modeling

### Continental Hydrologic Intercompar Intercomparison to Support Process Representation

#### 1: A Large-Scale Hydrologic Model Co and Data Collection Strategies

##### Continental United States

Gabriele Baroni<sup>1,2</sup> ID, Bernd Schalge<sup>3</sup>, Oldrich Rakovec<sup>2,4</sup> ID, Rohini Kumar<sup>2</sup> ID,

Danielle Tijerina<sup>1</sup> ID, Laura Condon<sup>2</sup> ID, Katelyn Fitzgerald<sup>3</sup> ID, Lennart Schüller<sup>2</sup> ID, Luis Samaniego<sup>2</sup> ID, Clemens Simmer<sup>3,5</sup> ID, and Sabine Attinger<sup>1,2</sup> ID

Mary Michael O'Neill<sup>4</sup>, Kevin Sampson<sup>3</sup> ID, David Gochis<sup>3</sup> ID, and Reed Maxwell<sup>1</sup> ID

Ming Pan,<sup>1</sup> Justin Sheffield,<sup>1</sup> Eric F. Wood,<sup>1</sup> Kenneth E. Mitchell,<sup>2</sup> Paul R. Houser,<sup>3</sup>

The Project for Intercomparison of Land-surface

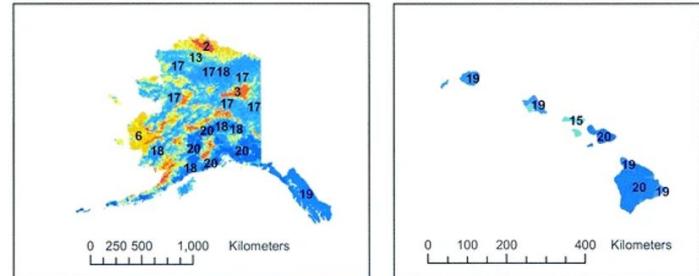
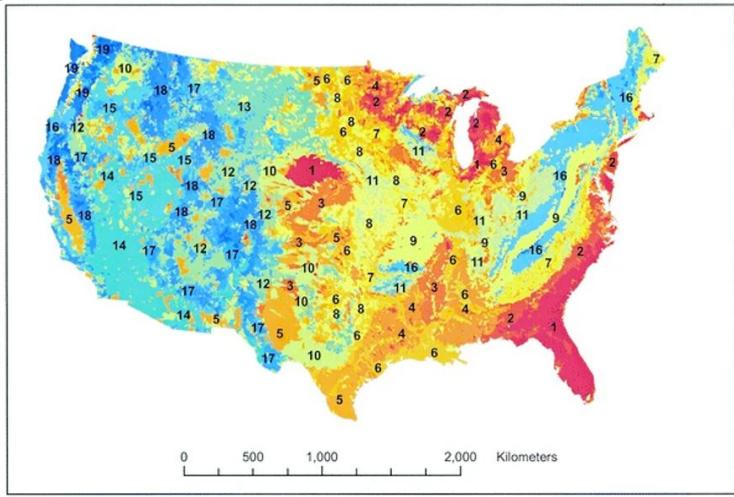
phase 2(c) Red-

3. Spatial and

There is no “best” model

# But what if you have to model a large domain?

- The National Water Model (NWM) does just that
  - Forecasting framework in multiple configurations, historical reanalysis runs, 1 km gridded output for a suite of variables, streamflow forecasts at several million locations
- NWM forecast domain is hydroclimatically and physiographically diverse
  - Need for a multi-model solution



Hydrologic landscape region (HLR) number				
1	5	9	13	17
2	6	10	14	18
3	7	11	15	19
4	8	12	16	20

Wolock et al.  
(2004)



# Challenges

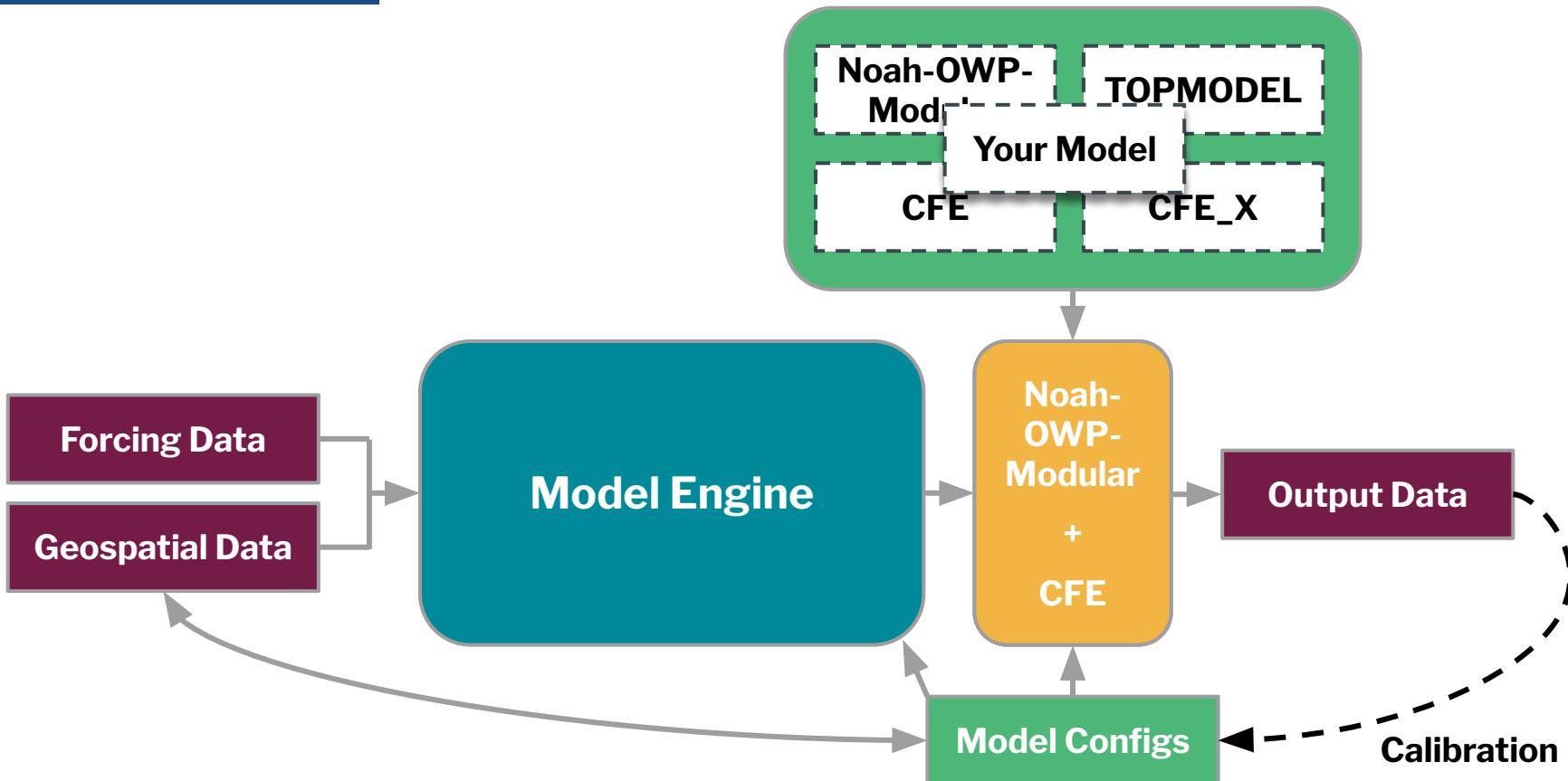
- Models written in different languages
- Inconsistent process representation
- Coupling difficulties
- Myriad data standards and formats
- Incompatible workflows
- Time

***What if we can tackle these challenges?***

## Approach

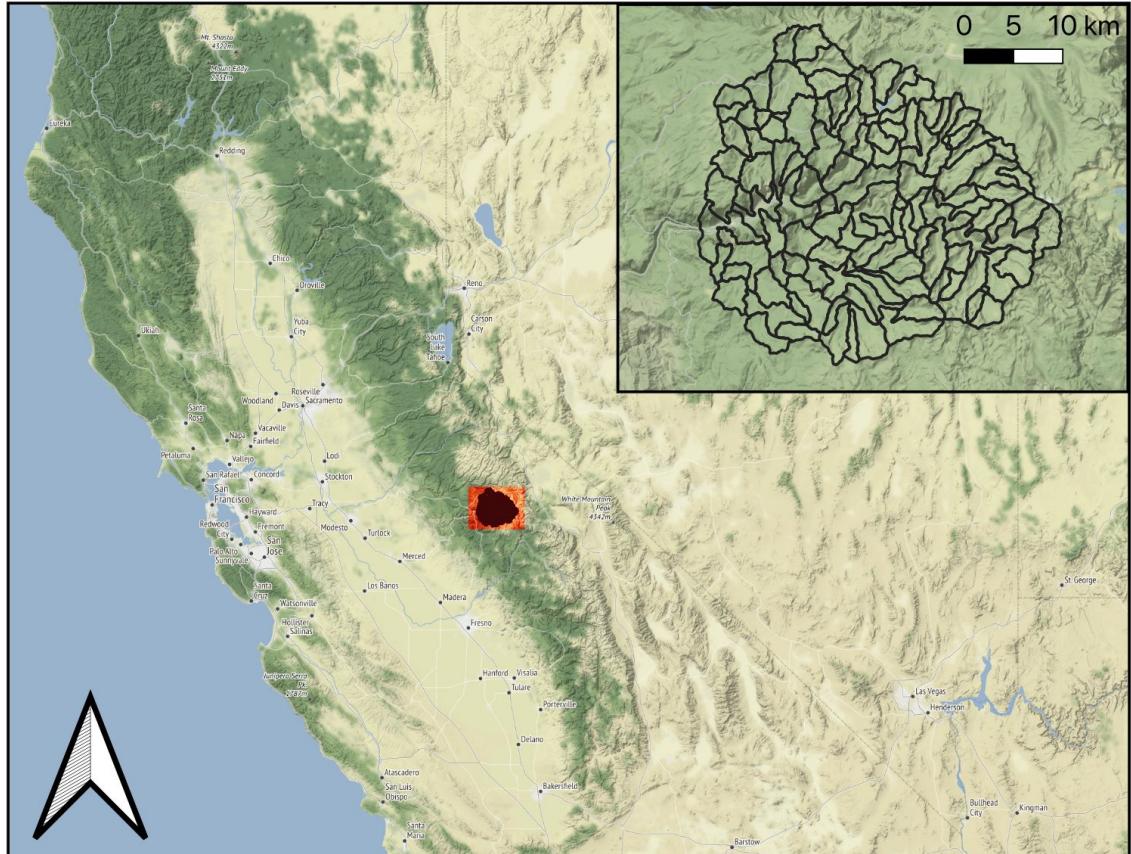
- Language-agnostic modular modeling system
- Plug-and-play capability through standard middleware (Basic Model Interface)
- Unified data standard and workflow
- Time (use less of it)

# Next Generation Water Resources Modeling Framework

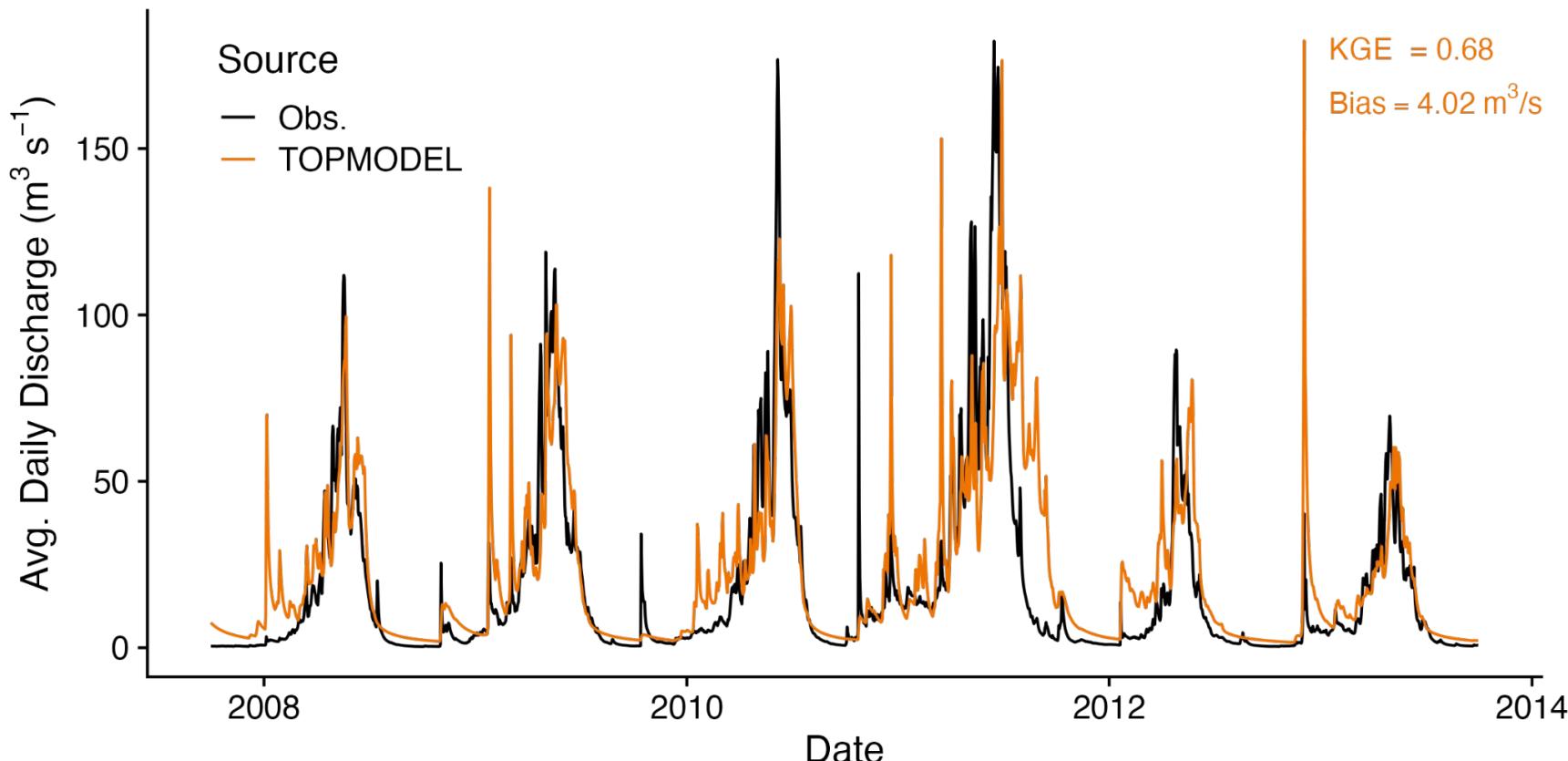


# Merced River headwaters, western Sierra Nevada, USA

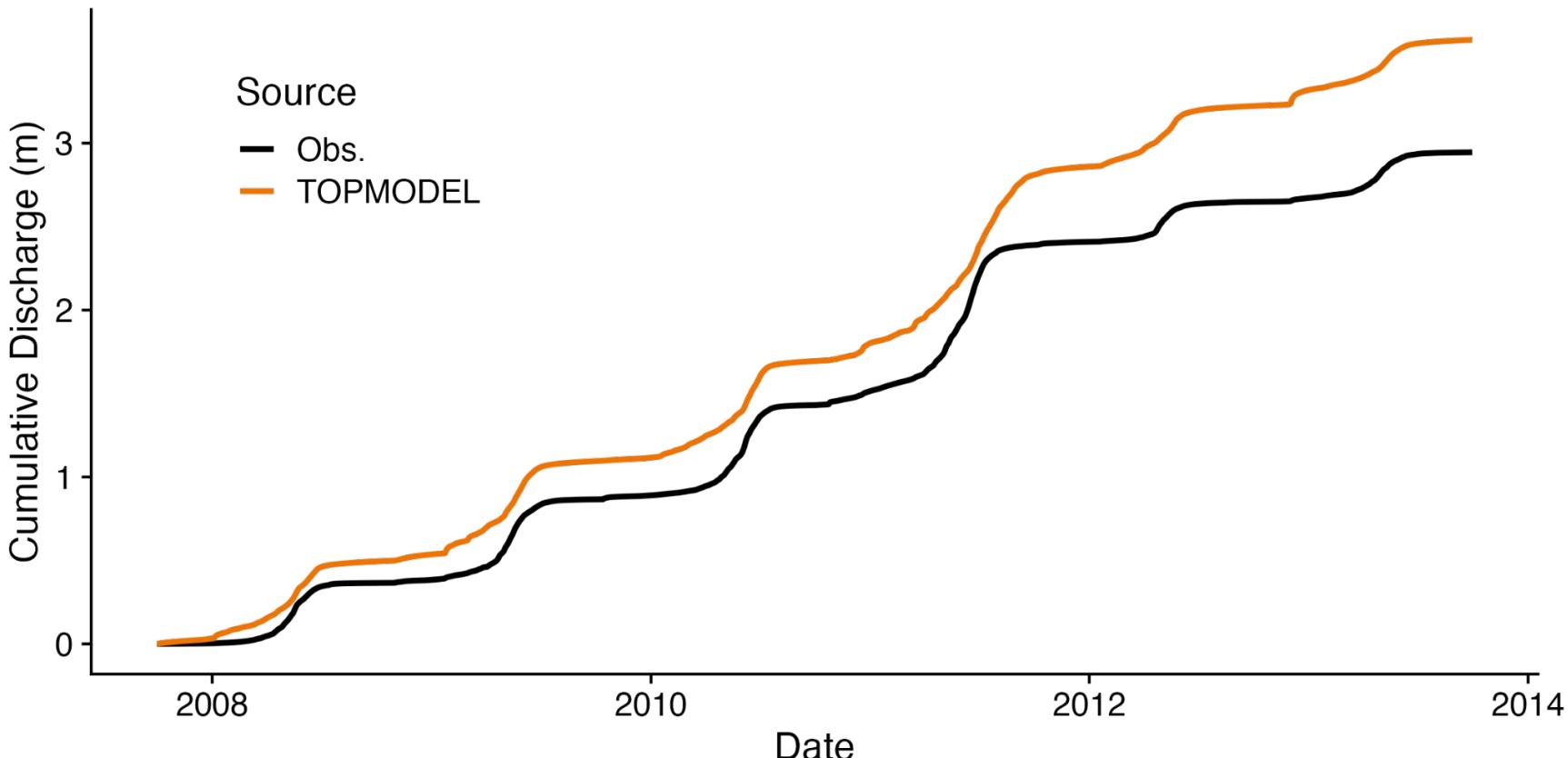
- Sub-basin info:
  - 1714 m to 3484 m elevation
  - 850 mm to 1270 mm annual precipitation
  - 44.4% to 94.4% annual snowfall fraction



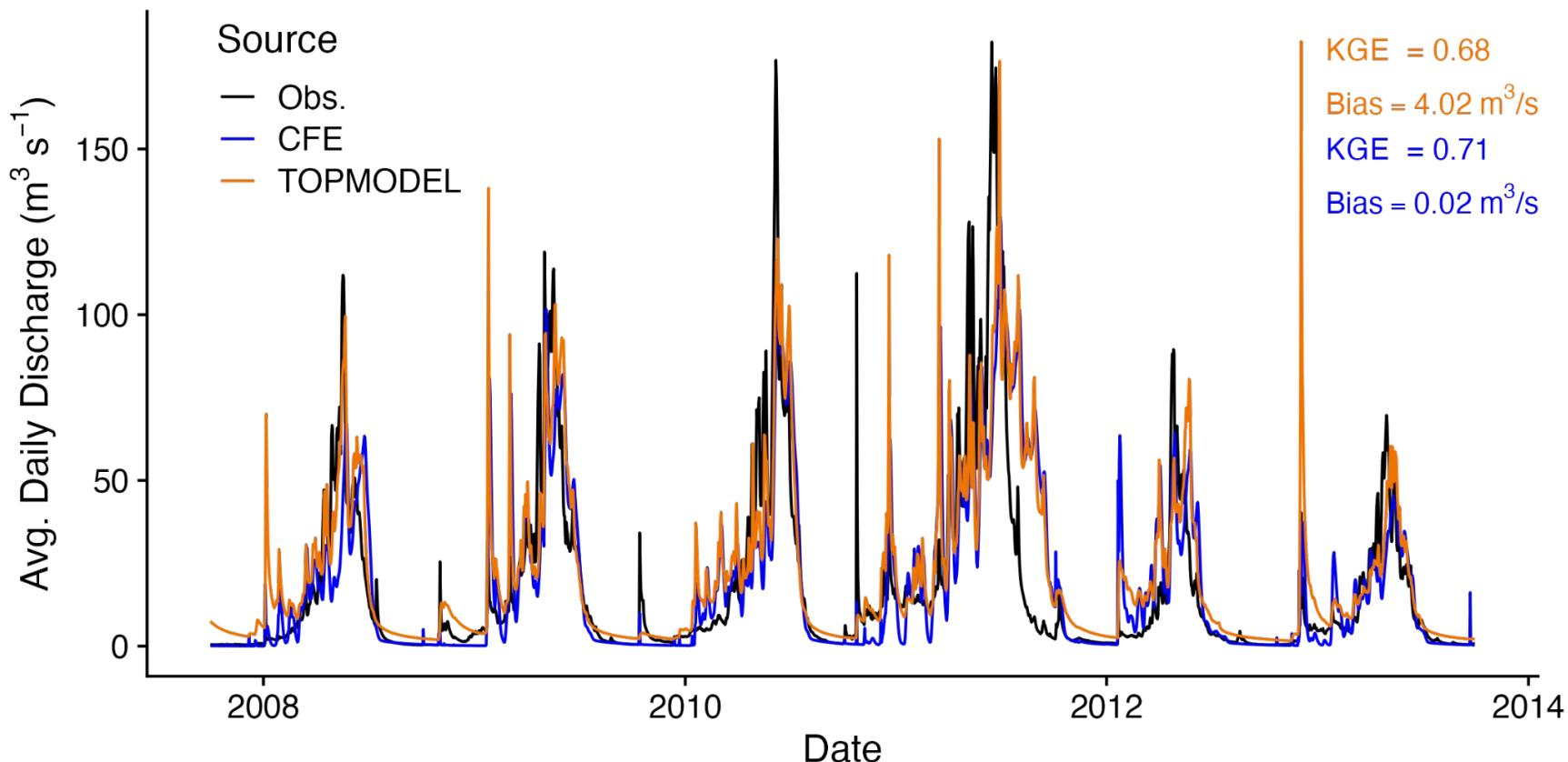
# Noah-OWP-Modular coupled to TOPMODEL



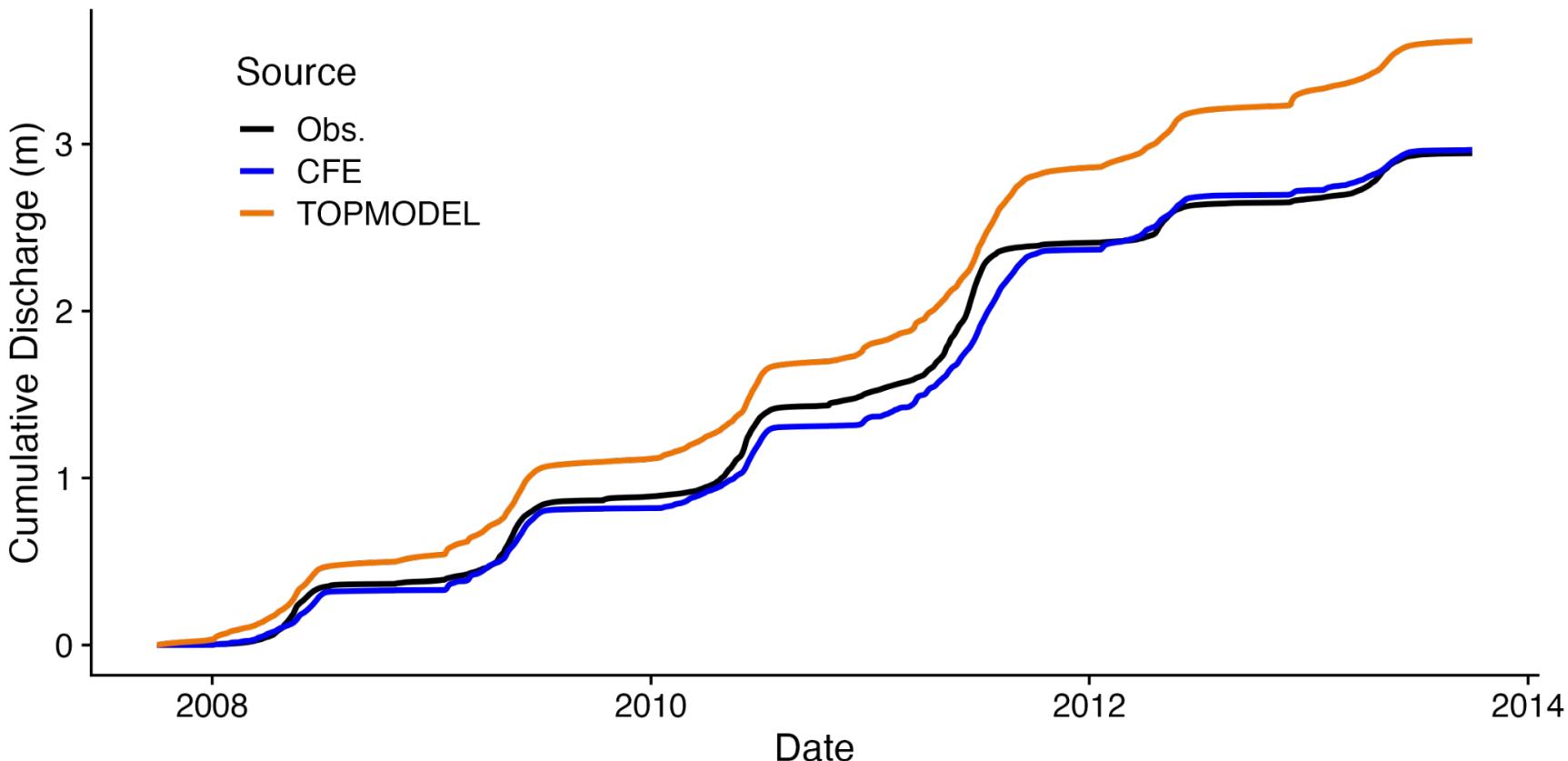
# Noah-OWP-Modular coupled to TOPMODEL



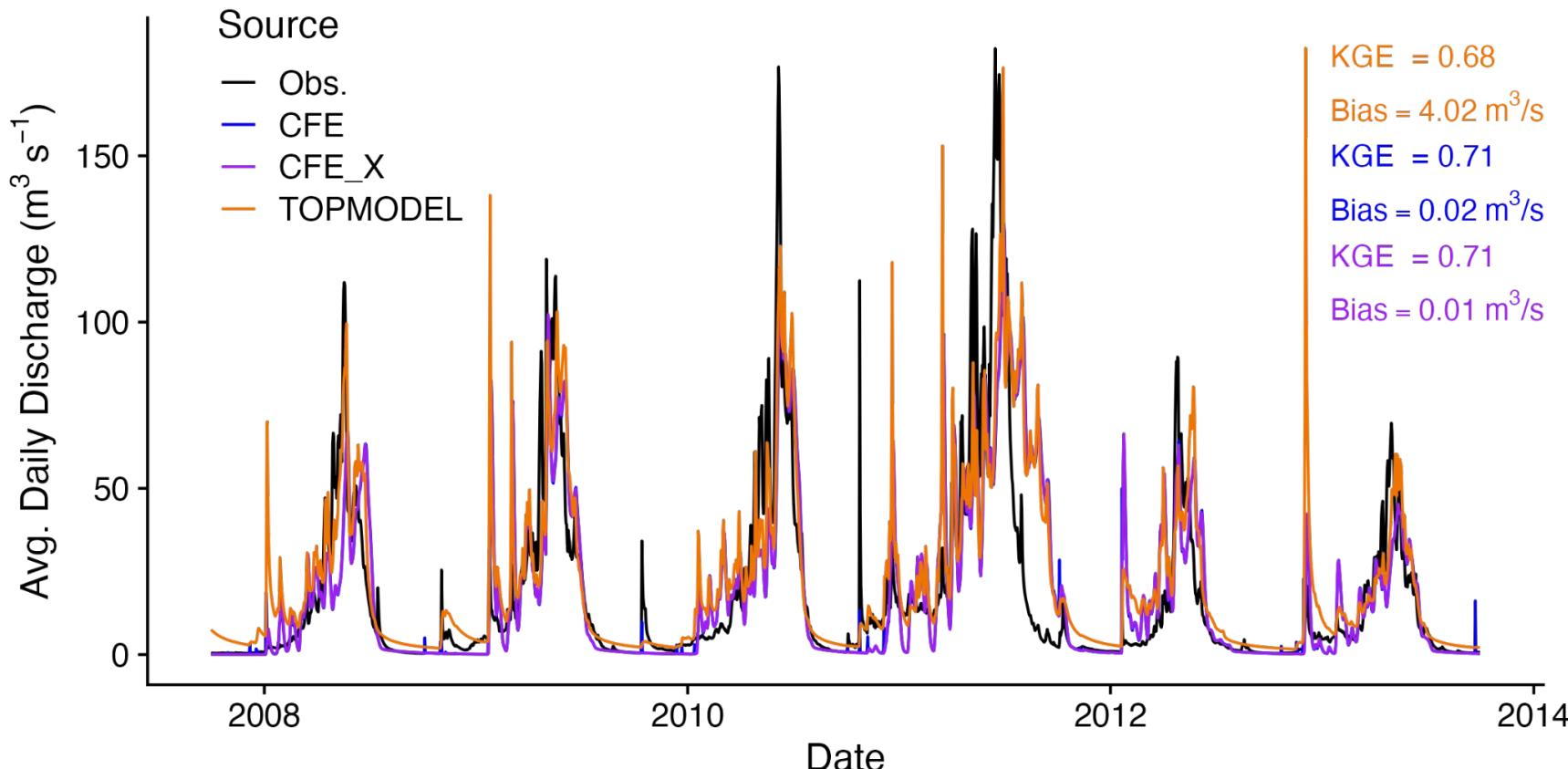
# Noah-OWP-Modular coupled to CFE w/Schaake



# Noah-OWP-Modular coupled to CFE w/Schaake

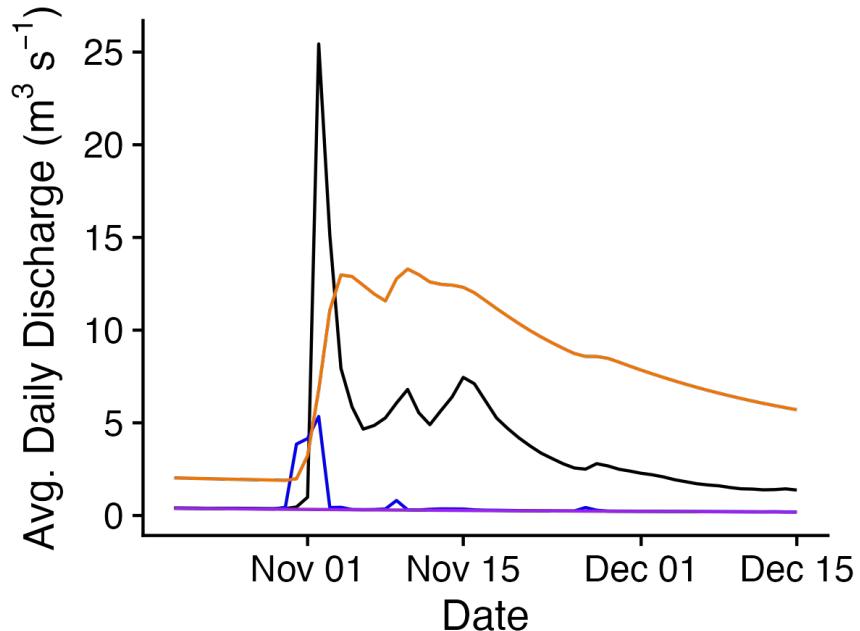


# Noah-OWP-Modular coupled to CFE w/Xinanjiang

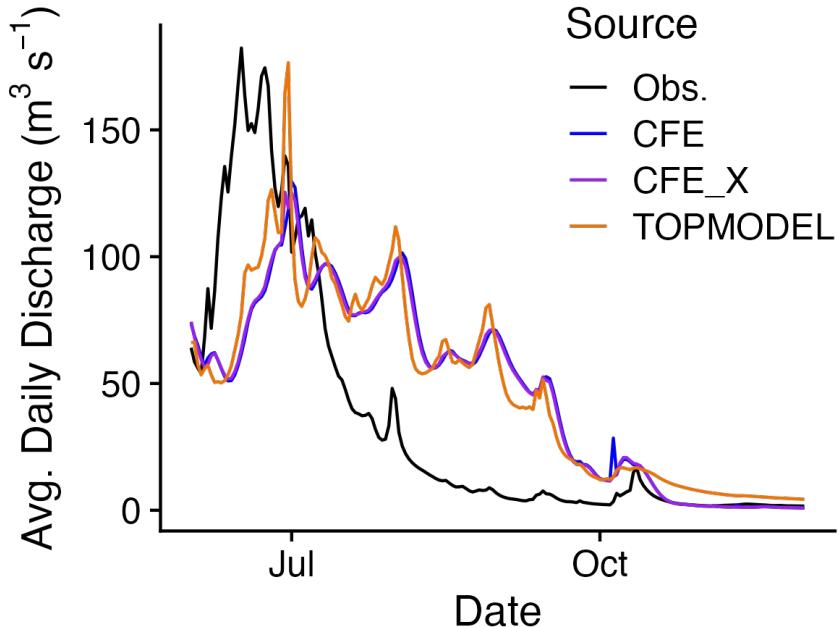


# Still more opportunities for improvement

*Runoff dynamics not captured*



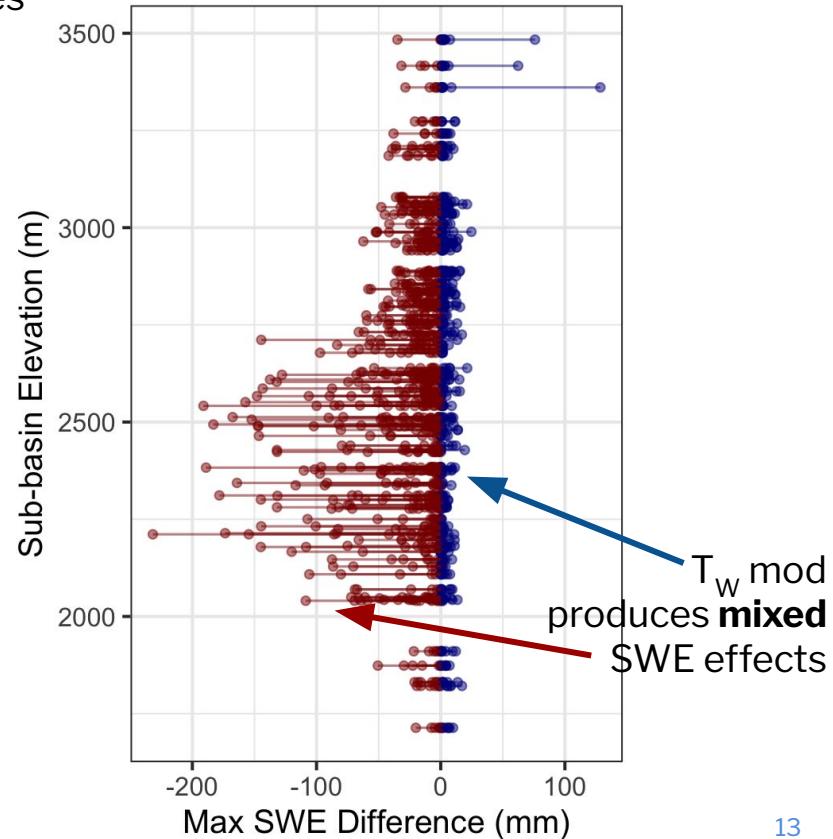
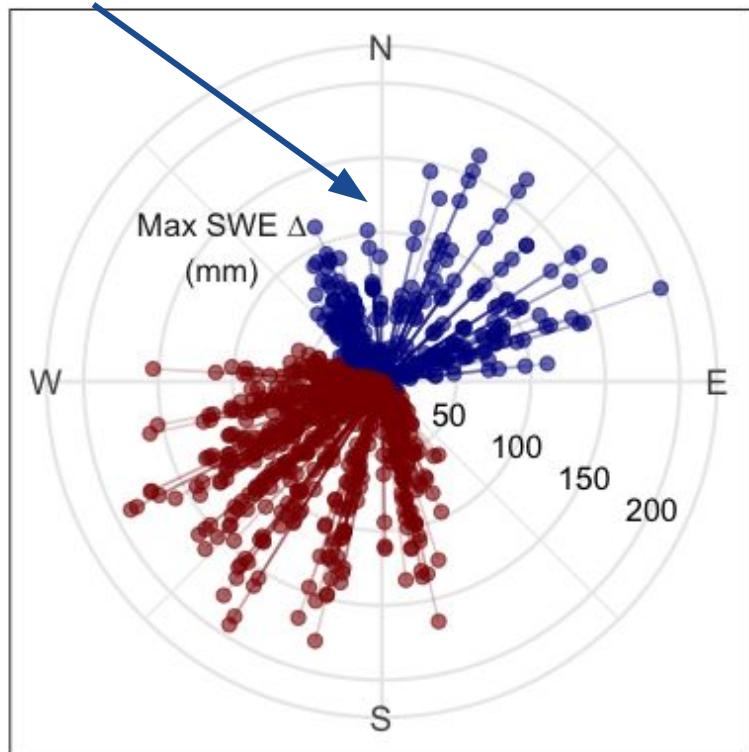
*Snowmelt dynamics not captured*



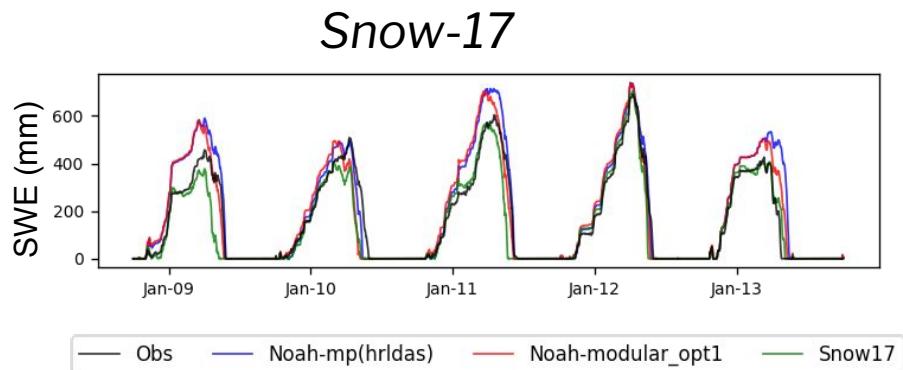
- Calibrate surface and infiltration-runoff models
- Improve process representation or add new models

# Process improvements to Noah-OWP-Modular

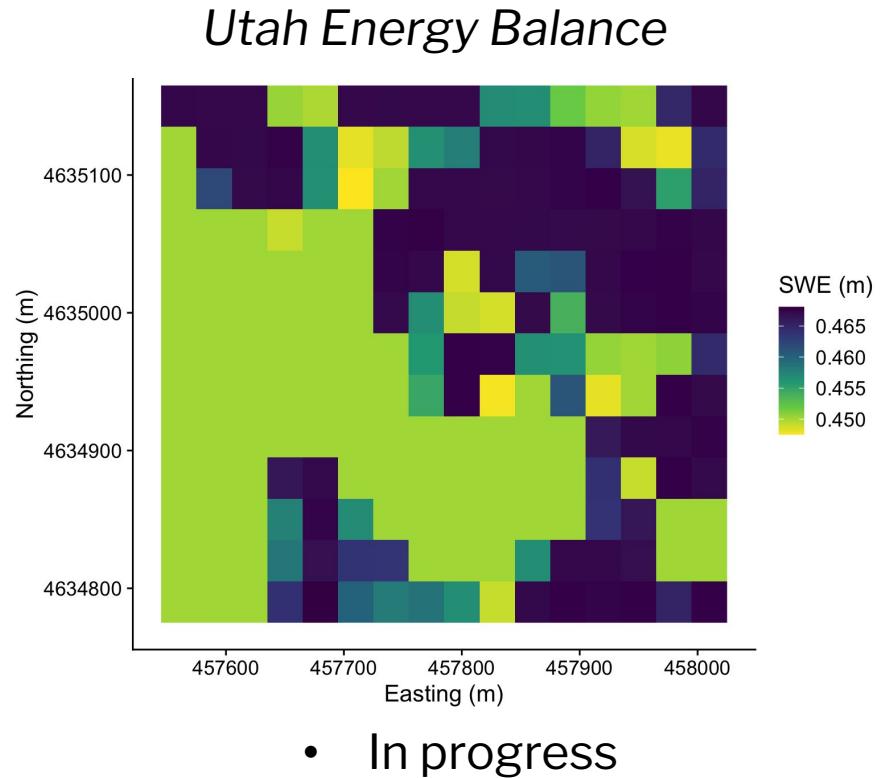
Slope and aspect mod produces **more** SWE on N-facing slopes



# Other snow models



- BMI implementation
  - Tested in NextGen





## Findings and next steps

- There is no “best” model
- NextGen allows multi-model coupling
  - Language-agnostic
  - Standardized input/output data
- Example shows variable output depending on infiltration-runoff model
- Still some shortcomings in process representation
- Calibration can improve output
- Additional snow models in progress
- ***Community input wanted!***





# Thank You!

---



Keith Jennings



keith.jennings@noaa.gov



<https://water.noaa.gov>

OWP | OFFICE OF  
WATER  
PREDICTION



**Looking for more  
OWP  
presentations at  
AGU?**

**Scan the QR code  
to the right to see a  
full schedule of  
events!**

