How climate change may influence stormwater runoff

Insights from the Puget Sound Stormwater Heatmap

Christian Nilsen September 10, 2020

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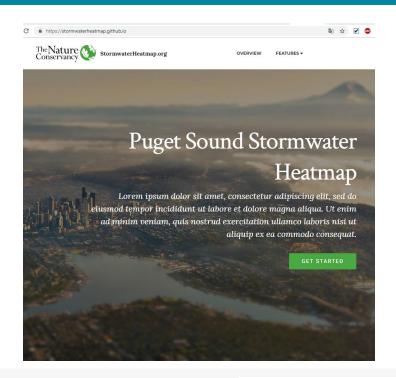




The Puget Sound Stormwater Heatmap Goals and motivation

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- Get the best science and tools in the hands of decision makers
- Lower the costs for effective decision making and planning
- Improve Puget Sound water quality and recover ecosystem health







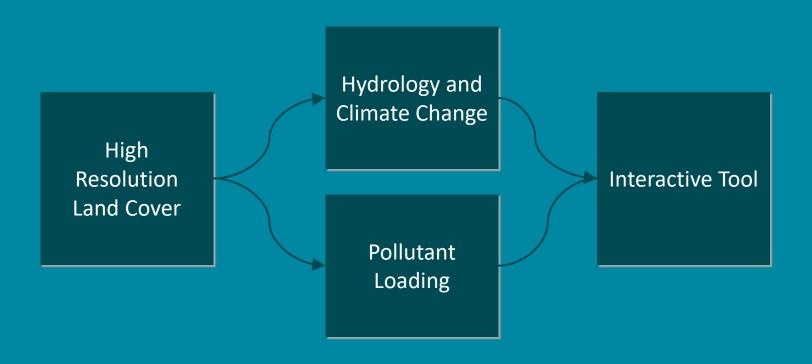






Components and products

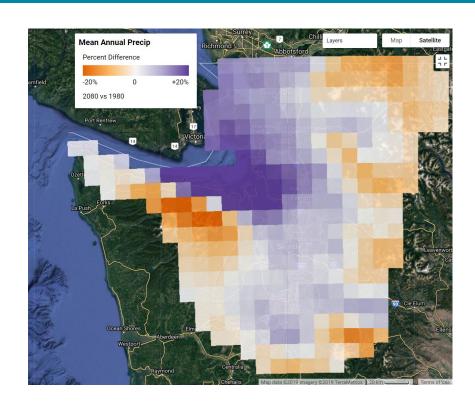




- Downscaled from GFDL CM3. RCP 8.5 (High emissions) "High-High"
- Hourly precipitation developed through application of regional weather model (Weather Research and Forecasting WRF, Skamarock et al. 2005)



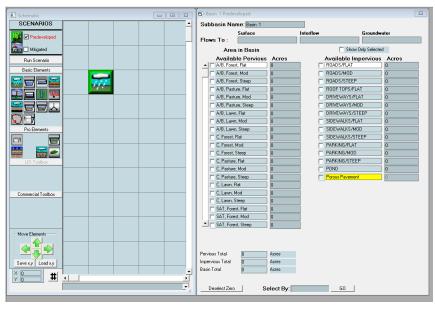
Mauger, G.S., J.S. Won, K. Hegewisch, C. Lynch, R. Lorente Plazas, E. P. Salathé Jr., 2018. New Projections of Changing Heavy Precipitation in King County. Report prepared for the King County Department of Natural Resources. Climate Impacts Group, University of Washington, Seattle.

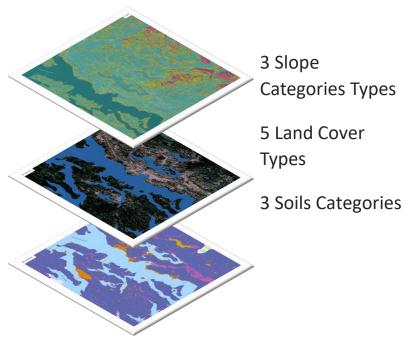


HYDROLOGIC RESPONSE UNITS

30 HRUs – Precalibrated factors

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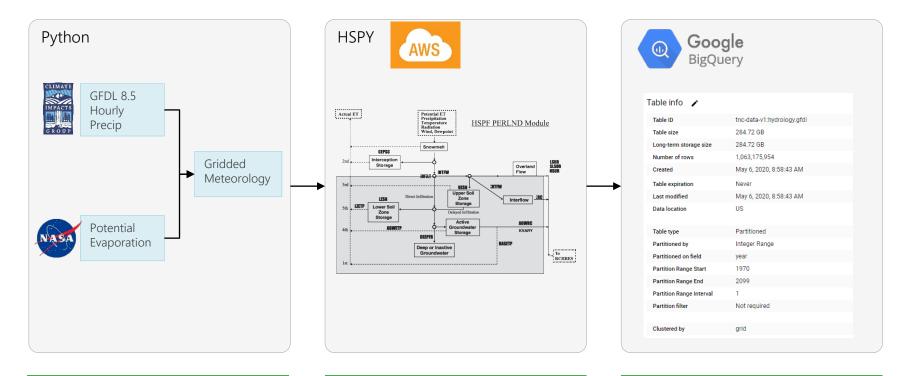




Western Washington Hydrology Model

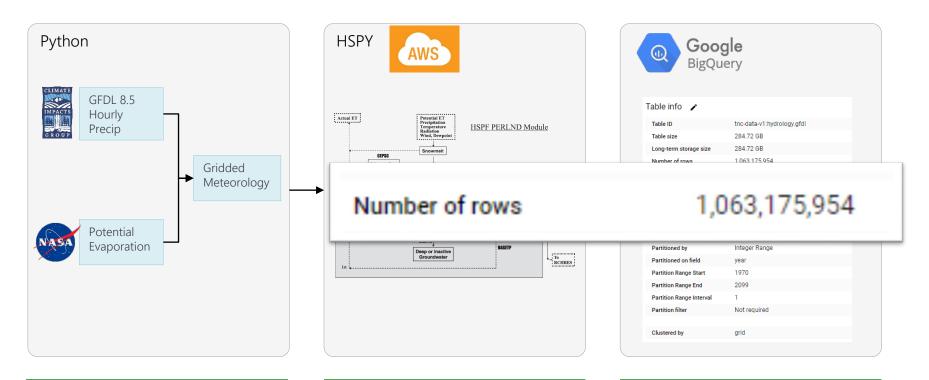
Runoff Simulation Workflow





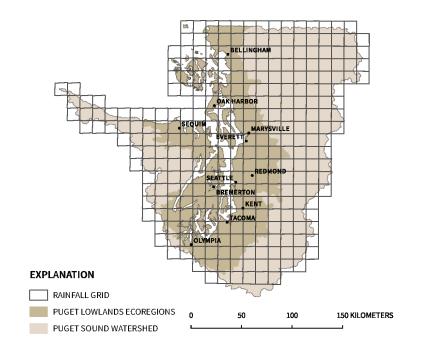
Runoff Simulation Workflow

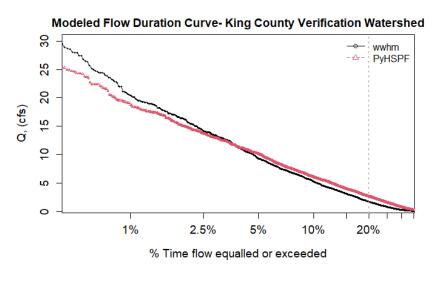




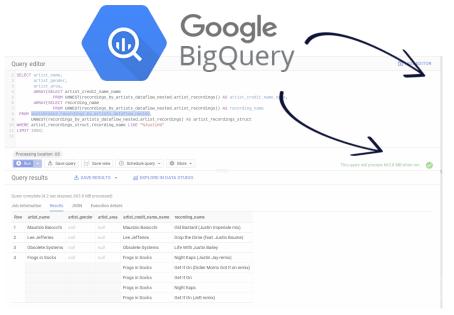
Verification against WWHM Madsen Creek Watershed, King County







Client Libraries























Sign up:

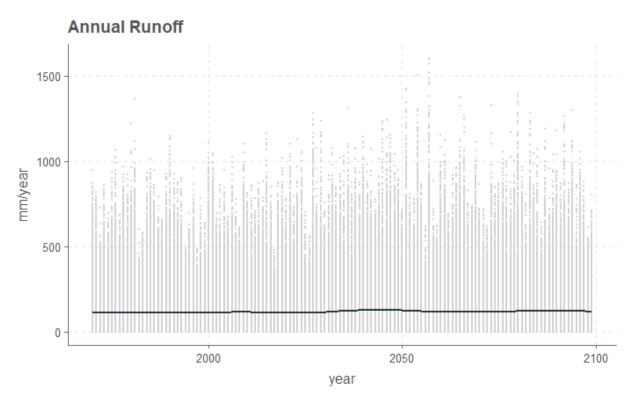
https://groups.google.com/d/forum/stormwaterheatmap/join

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Annual Runoff – All Locations

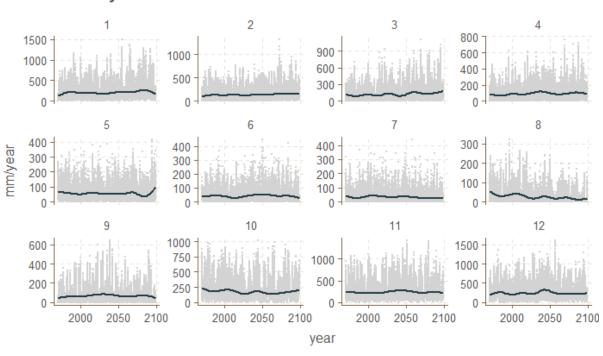
SQL QueryNo model required!

```
SELECT
SUM(mm_hr)
FROM
'tnc-data-v1.hydrology.gfdl_longformat'
WHERE
comp IN ('suro',
'ifwo')
GROUP BY
hru,
grid,
year
```

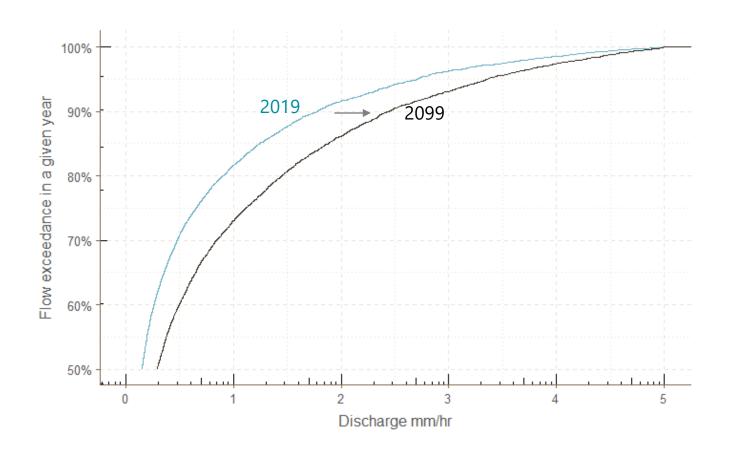


Monthly Runoff – all Locations

Monthly Runoff



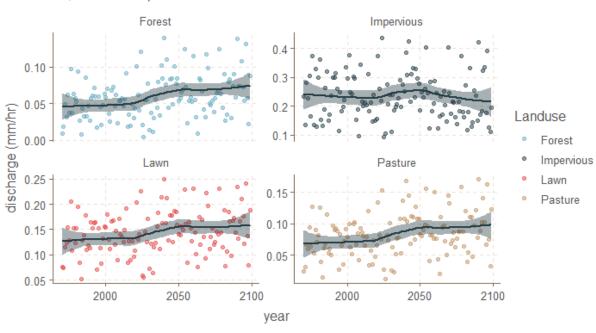
Flow Percentile per Year





90th Flow Percentile, Issaquah, WA

Till, Moderate Slope





90th Flow Percentile, Issaquah, WA

2050

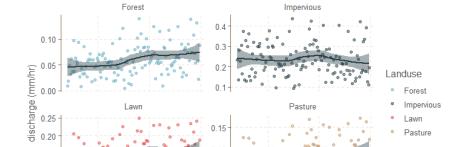
Till, Moderate Slope

2000

0.15

0.10

0.05



0.05

year

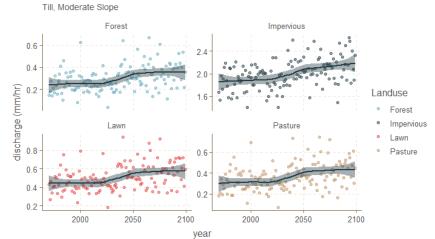
2000

2050

2100

2100

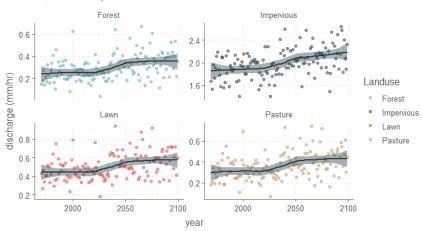
99th Flow Percentile, Issaquah, WA





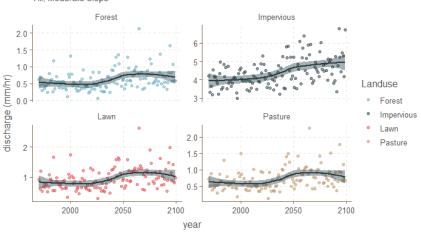
99th Flow Percentile, Issaquah, WA





99.9th Flow Percentile, Issaquah, WA

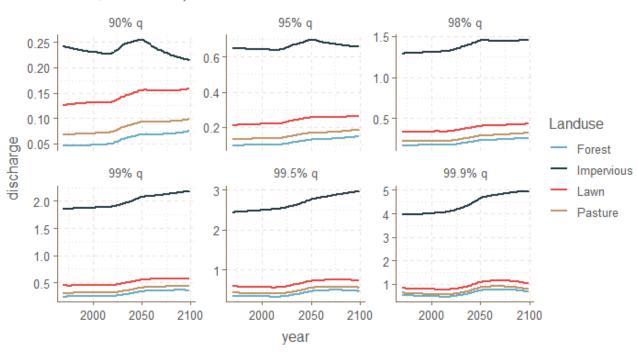
Till, Moderate Slope





Simulated Flow Percentiles, Issaquah, WA

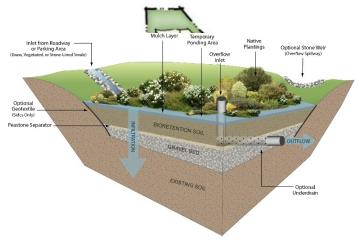
Till Soil, Moderate Slope

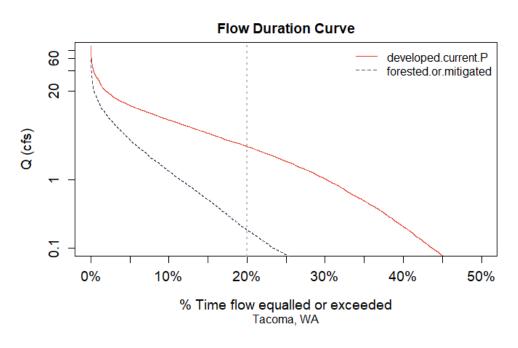


Hypothetical Development Historic Precipitation



<u>Scenario</u>		
Landcover	Acres	
Forest	14	
Grass	16	
Impervious	10	



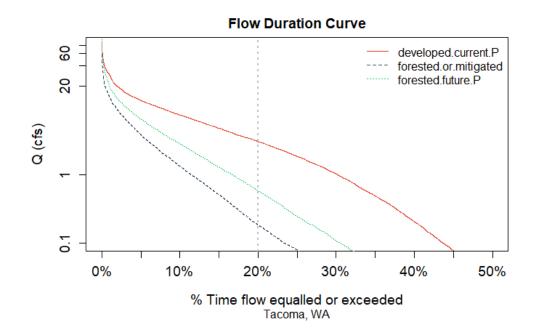


Hypothetical Development 2080 Precipitation



<u>Scenario</u>		
Landcover	Acres	
Forest	40	
Grass	0	
Impervious	0	

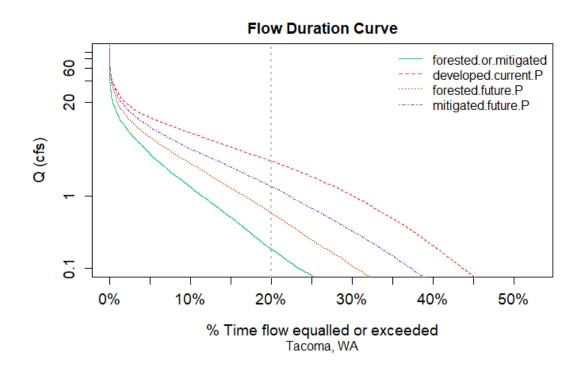




Hypothetical Development 2080 Precipitation

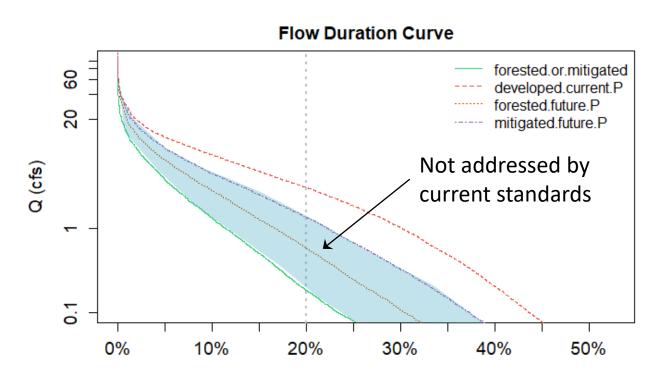
<u>Scenario</u>		
Landcover	Acres	
Forest	24	
Grass	16	
Impervious	0	





Our Challenge







% Time flow equalled or exceeded Tacoma, WA

Conclusions

What we can say about potential climate change effects



- All the caveats everybody has already mentioned
- Different responses based on soil type, and land cover
- Somewhat consistent responses across Puget Sound
 - Pervious land uses more affected by smaller storms
 - Impervious land uses more affected by larger storms
 - Saturated and Till soils show largest responses
- Current flow control standards may not be protective under future climate scenarios



Thank you

Geosyntec^D consultants

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Collaborators



Funding and in-kind support from:







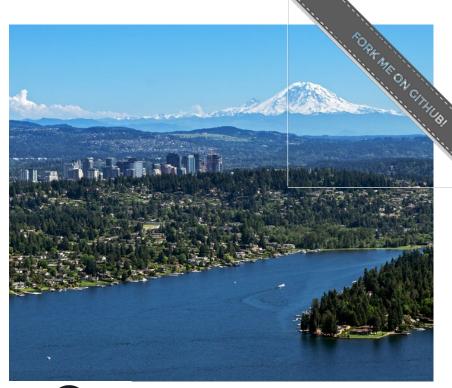














github.com/stormwaterheatmap