Change Analysis

Thomas Kincaid

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1 Introduction

This document presents change analysis of a GRTS survey design. The resource employed in the analysis is rivers and streams in the 48 contiguous United States. Data was obtained from two surveys conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: (1) the Wadeable Streams Assessment (WSA) in 2004 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2006) and (2) the National Rivers and Streams Survey (NRSA) in 2008 and 2009 (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2016). Change analysis measures the difference between response variables that were estimated in two surveys. Both continuous and categorical response variables can be employed for change analysis. For a categorical response variable, change is estimated by the difference in category estimates for the two surveys, where a category estimate is the estimated proportion of values in a category. Note that a separate change estimate is calculated for each category of a categorical response variable. For a continuous response variable, change can be estimated for the mean, the median, or for both the mean and median. For a continuous response variable using the mean, change is estimated by the difference in estimated mean values for the two surveys. For change estimates using the median, the first step is to calculate an estimate of the median for the first survey. The estimated median from the first survey is then used to define two categories: (1) values that are less than or equal to the estimated median and (2) values that are greater than the estimated median. Once the categories are defined, change analysis for the median is identical to change analysis for a categorical variable, i.e., change is estimated by the difference in category estimates for the two surveys.

2 Preliminaries

The initial step is to use the library function to load the spsurvey package. After the package is loaded, a message is printed to the R console indicating that the spsurvey package was loaded successfully.

Load the spsurvey package

```
> # Load the spsurvey package
> library(spsurvey)
>
```

Version 3.4 of the spsurvey package was loaded successfully.

3 Load the survey design and analytical variables data set

The original data file contains more than 2,400 records for change estimation. To produce a more manageable number of records, rivers and streams located in the Western Mountains Level III Ecoregion (Omernik 1987) were retained in the data that will be analyzed, which produced a data set containing 668 records.

The next step is to load the data set, which includes both survey design variables and analytical variables. The data function is used to load the data set and assign it to a data frame named NRSA_2009. The nrow function is used to determine the number of rows in the NRSA_2009 data frame, and the resulting value is assigned to an object named nr. Finally, the initial six lines and the final six lines in the NRSA_2009 data frame are printed using the head and tail functions, respectively.

Load the survey design and analytical variables data set

```
> # Load the data set and determine the number of rows in the data frame
> data(NRSA_2009)
> nr <- nrow(NRSA_2009)
>
```

Display the initial six lines in the data file.

> # Display the initial six lines in the data file > head(NRSA_2009)

	s	iteID	xc	coord	усс	ord		wg	ŗt	Survey	Revis	it_Site	Stream_Siz	е	NTL
1	WAZP99	-0833	-136	39578	1345	072	17.	. 1766	0	WSA		Y	Smal	1	119
2	WAZP99	-0545	-122	21990	1291	197	17.	1766	0	WSA		Y	Smal	1	324
3	WAZP99	-0687	-123	31441	1275	327	13.	7059	93	WSA		Y	Smal	1	55
4	WCAP99	-0991	-203	38942	2002	2946	572	. 1827	6'	WSA		Y	Smal	1	55
5	WCAP99	-0587	-226	34511	2285	650	100	4121	.1	WSA		Y	Smal	1	509
6	WCAP99	-0503	-203	35060	1880	456	457	.7462	21	WSA		Y	Smal	1	63
	PTL Be	nthic_	_MMI	NTL_	Cond	PTL_	_Cond	l Ben	ıth	ic_MMI	_Cond				
1	8	46.78	3965		Good		Good	i			Fair				
2	92	27.15	5364		Poor		Poor	<u>-</u>			Poor				
3	39	19.12	2938		Good		Fair	<u>-</u>			Poor				
4	2	61.76	6663		Good		Good	i			Good				
5	27	49.32	2376		Poor		Fair	<u>-</u>			Fair				
6	1	68.5	7991	(Good		Good	i			Good				

>

Display the final six lines in the data file.

> # Display the final six lines in the data file > tail(NRSA_2009)

	siteID	xcoord	ycoord	wgt	Survey	${\tt Revisit_Site}$	Stream_Size	NTL
663	FW08WY041	-868099.9	2401874	1543.3105	NRSA	N	Small	452
664	FW08WY042	-688555.9	2408900	171.6259	NRSA	N	Large	343
665	FW08WY081	-1113106.7	2377400	4876.7431	NRSA	N	Small	301
666	FW08WY085	-1079717.5	2471045	936.4642	NRSA	N	Small	34
667	FW08WY089	-900074.7	2444794	1543.3105	NRSA	N	Small	124
668	FW08WY092	-1181999.6	2221639	1543.3105	NRSA	N	Small	540
	PTL E	Benthic_MMI	NTL_Cond	d PTL_Cond	Benthi	c_MMI_Cond		
663	48.4950	28.72	Poor	Poor		Poor		
664	13.3113	4.90	Poor	Good		Poor		
665	69.6469	38.50	Poor	Poor		Fair		
666	58.7781	44.43	Good	d Poor		Fair		
667	45.3413	17.83	Good	d Poor		Poor		
668	191.2206	10.92	Poor	Poor		Poor		

>

The location of rivers and streams that were sampled in the Western Mountains Ecoregion is displayed in Figure 1. The sample sites are displayed using a unique color for each survey.

Plot of WSA and NRSA Sample Sites Color-Coded by Survey

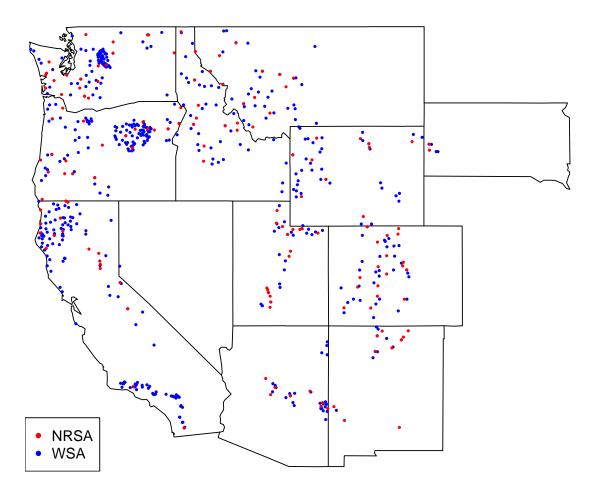


Figure 1: Location of rivers and streams that were sampled in the Western Mountains Ecoregion by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency during the Wadeable Streams Assessment (WSA) conducted in 2004 and the National Rivers and Streams Assessment (NRSA) conducted in 2008-2009.

4 Change analysis

Change analysis will be investigated by examining three continuous response variables and three categorical response variables. The continuous response variables are total phosphorus concentration, total nitrogen concentration, and benthic macroinvertebrate multimetric index (MMI) score. The categorical response variables are condition class variables for each of the continuous response variables. Condition classes are created by grouping values for a continuous response variable into categories that reflect the impact of a response value on the overall ecological condition of a site. Categories used for condition classes are: "Good", "Fair" and "Poor".

The change analysis function will be used to calculate change estimates. Six data frames constitute the primary input to the change analysis function. The site ID provides the unique identifier for each sample site and is used to connect records among the data frames. The site ID variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame is assigned to the site ID variable (or variables in one case) in the data frames. The six data frames that will be created are named as follows: sites, repeats, subpop, design, data.cat, and data.cont. In order to obtain change estimates for the continuous variables using both the mean and median, the test argument of the change analysis function is assigned the following value: c("mean", "median"). Note that the default value for the test argument is "mean".

The sites data frame identifies sites to use in the analysis and contains three variables: (1) siteID - site ID values, (2) Survey1 - a logical vector identifying sites for survey one, and (3) Survey2 - a logical vector identifying sites for survey two. The Survey1 variable is created by assigning the value TRUE to every site for which the Survey variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame equals the value "WSA". Similarly, the Survey2 variable is created by assigning the value TRUE to every site for which the Survey variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame equals the value "NRSA".

The repeats data frame identifies repeat visit sites and contains two variables: (1) siteID_1 - the site ID value for survey one and (2) siteID_2 - the site ID value for survey two. The siteID_1 variable is created by selecting values of the siteID variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame equals the value "WSA" and the Revisit_Site variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame equals "Y". The siteID_2 variable is created using an analogous process. For each row of the repeats data frame, the two site ID values must correspond to the same site. Note that the NRSA_2009 data frame has been organized so that repeat visit sites for WSA occur in the same order as repeat visit sites for NRSA.

The subpop data frame defines populations and, optionally, subpopulations for which estimates are desired. Unlike the sites and design data frames, the subpop data frame can contain an arbitrary number of columns. The first variable in the subpop data frame identifies site ID values and each subsequent variable identifies a type of population, where the variable name is used to identify type. A type variable identifies each site with a character value. If the number of unique values for a type variable is greater than one, then the set of values represent subpopulations of that type. When a type variable consists of a single unique

value, then the type does not contain subpopulations. For this analysis, the subpop data frame contains three variables: (1) siteID - site ID values, (2) Western_Mountains - which will be used to calculate estimates for all of the sample sites combined, and (3) Stream_Size - which will be used to calculate estimates for each of the two classes of stream size (large and small). The rep (repeat) function is used to assign values to the Western_Mountains variable in the subpop data frame, and the Stream_Size variable in the NRSA_2009 data frame is assigned to the Stream_Size variable in the subpop data frame. Recall that nr, which is included in the call to the rep function, is an object containing the number of rows in the NRSA_2009 data frame.

The design data frame consists of survey design variables. For the analysis under consideration, the design data frame contains the following variables: (1) siteID - site ID values; (2) wgt - survey design weights; (3) xcoord - x-coordinates for location; and (4) ycoord - y-coordinates for location. The wgt, xcoord, and ycoord variables in the design data frame are assigned values using variables with the same names in the NRSA_2009 data frame.

The final two data frames, data.cat and data.cont, provide values of categorical response variables and continuous response variables, respectively. Like the subpop data frame, the data.cat and data.cont data frames can contain an arbitrary number of columns. The first variable in the data.cat data frame identifies site ID values and each subsequent variable identifies a categorical response response variable. For this analysis, the categorical response variables are Nitrogen_Condition, Phosphorus_Condition, and Benthic_MMI_Condition, which are assigned, respectively, variables NTL_cond, PTL_cond, and Benthic_MMI_cond in the NRSA_2009 data frame. For benthic MMI score, there are four sites (three in WSA and one in NRSA) for which the MMI score could not be calculated. Those sites are coded as NA for the Benthic_MMI variable and as category "Not Assessed" for the Benthic_MMI_cond variable.

The data.cont data frame is organized analogous to the data.cat data frame. The first variable in the data frame identifies site ID values and each subsequent variable identifies a continuous response response variable. For this analysis, the continuous response variables are Log_Total_Nitrogen, Log_Total_Phosphorus, and Benthic_MMI, which are assigned, respectively, variables NTL, PTL, and Benthic_MMI in the NRSA_2009 data frame. Note that total nitrogen and total phosphorus are analyzed using the base ten log scale, which are created by use of the log10 function.

Create the sites data frame.

```
> sites <- data.frame(siteID=NRSA_2009$siteID,
+ Survey1=NRSA_2009$Survey == "WSA",
+ Survey2=NRSA_2009$Survey == "NRSA")</pre>
```

Create the repeats data frame.

```
+ siteID_2=NRSA_2009$siteID[NRSA_2009$Survey == "NRSA" & NRSA_2009$Revisit_Site == "Y"])
```

Create the subpop data frame.

```
> subpop <- data.frame(siteID=NRSA_2009$siteID,
+ Western_Mountains=rep("Western Mountains", nr),
+ Stream_Size=NRSA_2009$Stream_Size)</pre>
```

Create the design data frame.

Create the data.cat data frame.

Create the data.cont data frame.

```
> data.cont <- data.frame(siteID=NRSA_2009$siteID,
+ Log_Total_Phosphorus=log10(NRSA_2009$PTL+1),
+ Log_Total_Nitrogen=log10(NRSA_2009$NTL+1),
+ Benthic_MMI=NRSA_2009$Benthic_MMI)</pre>
```

Calculate change estimates.

```
> Change_Estimates <- change.analysis(sites, repeats, subpop, design, data.cat,
+ data.cont, test=c("mean", "median"))</pre>
```

During execution of the program, 37 warning messages were generated. The warning messages are stored in a data frame named 'warn.df'. Enter the following command to view the warning messages: warnprnt()

To view a subset of the warning messages (say, messages number 1, 3, and 5), enter the following command: warnprnt(m=c(1,3,5))

Like other functions in the spsurvey package, the change analysis function generates warning messages when certain situations are encountered in the data. When warning messages are

generated, the functions print a message to the R console window stating the number of warning messages and explaining the procedure for recovering the messages. The call to the change analysis function generated thirty-seven warning messages. These messages fall into two categories: (1) cases where the number of repeat visit sites was less than two and (2) cases where a category level was not present among the repeat visit sites in one of the surveys. For both cases, covariance among the revisited sites was not included in calculation of the standard error estimate. The warnprnt function is used to display two of the warning messages.

Display warning messages 1 and 3.

> warnprnt(m = c(1, 3))

Warning Message 1 Function: change.est

Population Type: Stream_Size

Subpopulation: Large

Indicator: Nitrogen_Condition

Warning: The number of nonmissing repeat visit sites was less than two in one of the

surveys.

Action: Covariance among the revisited sites was not included in calculation of

the standard error estimate.

Warning Message 3

Function: changevar.prop

Population Type: Western_Mountains Subpopulation: Western Mountains Indicator: Benthic_MMI_Condition

Warning: Category level "Not Assessed" was not present among the repeat visit sites

in one of the surveys.

Action: Covariance among the repeat visit sites was not included in calculation of

the standard error estimate.

The change estimates are displayed using the print function. For categorical response variables and continuous response variables using the median, change estimates are printed for the complete set of sites only. For continuous response variables using the mean, all change estimates are printed. The object produced by change.analysis is a list composed of three data frames. The first data frame, named catsum, contains estimates for categorical response variables. The second data frame, named contsum_mean, contains estimates for continuous response variables using the mean. The third data frame, named contsum_median, contains estimates for continuous response variables using the median. The catsum and contsum_median data frames will be described first. The initial four columns in those data frames identify the population (Type), subpopulation (Subpopulation), response variable (Indicator), and category of the response variable (Category). The next four columns provide results for change estimates using the percentage scale: the change estimate (DiffEst.P),

standard error of the estimate (StdError.P), lower confidence bound (LCB95Pct.P), and upper confidence bound (UCB95Pct.P). Argument conf for change analysis allows control of the confidence bound level. The default value for conf is 95, hence the column names for confidence bounds contain the value 95. Supplying a different value to the conf argument will be reflected in the confidence bound names. Confidence bounds are obtained using the standard error and the Normal distribution multiplier corresponding to the confidence level. The next four columns provide results for change estimates using the size (units) scale: the change estimate (DiffEst.U), standard error of the estimate (StdError.U), lower confidence bound (LCB95Pct.U), and upper confidence bound (UCB95Pct.U). For this data, the units are kilometers of stream length. The next nine columns provide estimates for survey one: the first column is the number of response values for a category (NResp); the next four columns contain survey one estimates, standard errors, and confidence bounds in the percentage scale; and the final four columns contain survey one estimates, standard errors, and confidence bounds in the units scale. The final nine columns of the catsum data frame provide estimates for survey two using the format described for survey one.

Description of the contsum_mean data frame follows. The initial four columns in that data frame identify the population (Type), subpopulation (Subpopulation), response variable (Indicator), and statistic employed for the change estmate (Statistic). The Statistic column contains the value "Mean" as a reminder that change estimates for continuous response variable use the mean. The next four columns provide results for the change estimates: the change estimate (DiffEst), standard error of the estimate (StdError), lower confidence bound (LCB95Pct), and upper confidence bound (UCB95Pct). The next five columns provide estimates for survey one: the first column is the number of response values for a category (NResp); the next four columns contain survey one estimates, standard errors, and confidence bounds. The final five columns of the contsum_mean data frame provide estimates for survey two using the format described for survey one.

> # Print Western Mountains change estimates for categorical variables > print(subset(Change_Estimates\$catsum, Type == "Western_Mountains"))

		Туре	Subj	population		Indicato	c Category
1	Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Nitrog	en_Condition	n Fair
2	. Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Nitrog	en_Condition	n Good
3	Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Nitrog	en_Condition	n Poor
1	.0 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Phosphor	us_Condition	n Fair
1	1 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Phosphor	us_Condition	n Good
1	.2 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Phosphor	us_Condition	n Poor
1	.9 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Benthic_M	MI_Condition	n Fair
2	0 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Benthic_M	${\tt MI_Condition}$	n Good
2	21 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Benthic_M	MI_Condition	n Not Assessed
2	22 Western	_Mountains	Western	Mountains	Benthic_M	${\tt MI_Condition}$	n Poor
	DiffE	st.P StdEr	ror.P LC	B95Pct.P U	CB95Pct.P	DiffEst.U S	StdError.U
1	-8.543	2080 3.8	10749 -16	6.012138	-1.074278	-17946.688	8395.978
2	8.051	4935 4.6	19531 -:	1.002621	17.105608	21684.775	16484.007

```
3
     0.4917145
                 3.251915 -5.881922
                                        6.865351
                                                    2026.684
                                                                7167.314
                 3.842896 -15.533795
                                       -0.469918 -16614.900
                                                                8735.346
10
   -8.0018563
                 5.499675 -22.836211
                                        -1.277881 -23754.653
11 -12.0570460
                                                               14805.495
                                       30.139972
12
   20.0589023
                 5.143497
                             9.977833
                                                  46134.325
                                                               12423.393
                 5.209334
                            -9.745990
                                        10.674225
                                                    2633.944
19
     0.4641174
                                                               13136.374
20
     3.1916027
                 5.386772
                            -7.366276
                                        13.749482
                                                   10016.622
                                                               13816.453
21 -0.6911747
                 1.273905
                            -3.187982
                                         1.805633
                                                   -1470.634
                                                                2840.759
22 -2.9645454
                 3.397343
                            -9.623216
                                         3.694125
                                                   -5415.160
                                                                7693.388
   LCB95Pct.U UCB95Pct.U NResp_1 Estimate.P_1 StdError.P_1 LCB95Pct.P_1
1 -34402.502 -1490.8736
                              118
                                      23.563946
                                                    2.610170
                                                                  18.44811
2 -10623.285 53992.8360
                              303
                                      60.554135
                                                    2.706990
                                                                  55.24853
3 -12020.993 16074.3613
                              101
                                      15.881919
                                                    1.646566
                                                                  12.65471
10 -33735.863
                506.0627
                                     25.445973
                                                    2.796803
                                                                  19.96434
                              119
11 -52772.889
              5263.5834
                              315
                                      60.551675
                                                    2.842622
                                                                  54.98024
12 21784.922 70483.7282
                               88
                                      14.002353
                                                    1.934169
                                                                  10.21145
19 -23112.877 28380.7644
                                     27.497661
                                                    2.781613
                              112
                                                                  22.04580
20 -17063.127 37096.3719
                              262
                                      48.649879
                                                    2.801831
                                                                  43.15839
21 -7038.419
               4097.1511
                                3
                                       1.582266
                                                    1.012512
                                                                   0.00000
22 -20493.924
              9663.6033
                              145
                                      22.270194
                                                    2.334555
                                                                  17.69455
   UCB95Pct.P_1 Estimate.U_1 StdError.U_1 LCB95Pct.U_1 UCB95Pct.U_1 NResp_2
1
      28.679786
                    51889.065
                                  5996.625
                                                40135.90
                                                             63642.234
                                                                             30
2
      65.859737
                   133343.431
                                  8129.499
                                               117409.91
                                                            149276.957
                                                                            76
3
                                                                            40
      19.109130
                    34972.831
                                  3513.873
                                                28085.77
                                                             41859.896
                                                                             34
10
      30.927605
                    56033.388
                                  6798.708
                                                42708.17
                                                             69358.609
11
      66.123112
                   133338.013
                                               119805.52
                                                            146870.509
                                                                            51
                                  6904.461
12
      17.793254
                    30833.927
                                  4439.806
                                                22132.07
                                                             39535.786
                                                                            61
19
      32.949522
                    60551.314
                                  6778.412
                                                47265.87
                                                             73836.757
                                                                            29
20
      54.141366
                   107129.625
                                  6320.259
                                                94742.14
                                                            119517.106
                                                                            66
21
                                  2255.171
                                                                             1
       3.566754
                     3484.235
                                                    0.00
                                                              7904.288
22
      26.845839
                    49040.154
                                  5477.911
                                                38303.65
                                                             59776.661
                                                                             50
   Estimate.P_2 StdError.P_2 LCB95Pct.P_2 UCB95Pct.P_2 Estimate.U_2
     15.0207384
                    2.9277034
1
                                  9.282545
                                                20.75893
                                                              33942.38
2
     68.6056284
                    3.9698939
                                 60.824779
                                                76.38648
                                                             155028.21
3
     16.3736332
                                 10.585102
                                                22.16216
                                                              36999.52
                    2.9533868
10
     17.4441164
                    2.7560875
                                 12.042284
                                                22.84595
                                                              39418.49
11
     48.4946287
                    5.0086922
                                 38.677772
                                                58.31148
                                                             109583.36
                                                              76968.25
12
     34.0612550
                    4.9066246
                                 24.44447
                                                43.67806
19
     27.9617781
                    4.6008866
                                 18.944206
                                                36.97935
                                                              63185.26
20
                                 42.459449
                                                             117146.25
     51.8414817
                    4.7868394
                                                61.22351
21
                                                               2013.60
      0.8910915
                    0.7730795
                                  0.000000
                                                 2.40630
22
     19.3056487
                    2.6390704
                                 14.133166
                                                24.47813
                                                              43624.99
   StdError.U_2 LCB95Pct.U_2 UCB95Pct.U_2
1
       6203.537
                     21783.67
                                 46101.087
2
      15236.562
                    125165.09
                                184891.320
3
       6561.709
                     24138.80
                                 49860.229
```

10	5753.495	28141.84	50695.131
11	14240.877	81671.75	137494.966
12	11908.016	53628.97	100307.534
19	11717.757	40218.88	86151.639
20	12850.603	91959.53	142332.968
21	1727.460	0.00	5399.359
22	5751.028	32353.19	54896.801

> # Print change estimates for continuous variables using the mean
> print(Change_Estimates\$contsum_mean)

	T	ype Sub	population		Indi	cator	Statis	tic
1	Western_Mounta:	ins Western	Mountains	Log_To	otal_Phosp	horus	M	ean
2	Stream_S:	ize	Large	Log_To	otal_Phosp	horus	M	ean
3	Stream_S:	ize	Small	Log_To	otal_Phosp	horus	M	ean
4	Western_Mounta:	ins Western	Mountains	Log	_Total_Nit	rogen	M	ean
5	Stream_S:	ize	Large	Log_	_Total_Nit	rogen	M	ean
6	Stream_S:		Small	Log_	_Total_Nit	_	M	ean
7	Western_Mountag		Mountains		Benthi	_		ean
8	Stream_S:		Large		Benthi			ean
9	Stream_S:	ize	Small		Benthi			ean
	DiffEst	${ t StdError}$	LCB95Pct		CB95Pct NR	-		
1		0.05511323	0.1724678		8850773	522	1.07	
2		0.16844500	-0.2602176		0007461	8	1.59	
3		0.05607767	0.1750520		9487238	514	1.06	
4		0.04683131	-0.2307740			522	2.09	
5		0.15987119	-0.1273958		9928775	8	2.29	
6		0.04793736	-0.2378126			514	2.09	
7		1.53852011	-2.3542245		7666346	519		
8	-13.22855538 10				5052052	8	44.32	
9		1.54413067	-2.1480873		0479371	511	49.10	
	StdError_1 LCBS			-				
			. 130409	146	1.357803			1.257396
		. 290625 1	.894475	24	1.662479	0.068	314282	1.528921
			.121289	122	1.352859	0.052	216151	1.250624
			. 125369	146	1.956268			1.866032
5	0.14757094 2	.002035 2	.580503	24	2.477215	0.061	149485	2.356687
6	0.01552844 2	.061236 2	.122106	122	1.947814	0.047	702752	1.855641
7	1.03521685 46	.985144 51	.043119	145	49.675351	1.257	700084	47.211675
8	8.86140780 26	.957140 61	.693221	24	31.096625	4.934	129015	21.425594
9	1.04319033 47	.056636 51	. 145866	121	49.979604	1.250	59598	47.528481
	UCB95Pct_2							
1	1.458210							
2	1.796036							

```
3 1.455093
```

- > # Print change estimates for continuous variables using the median
- > print(subset(Change_Estimates\$contsum_median, Type == "Western_Mountains"))

	Туре	Subpop	ulation	Indicat	or	Category
1	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains Log	_Total_Phosphor	us Greater_Tha	an_Median
2	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains Log	_Total_Phosphor	us Less_Tha	an_Median
7	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains L	og_Total_Nitrog	en Greater_Tha	an_Median
8	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains L	og_Total_Nitrog	en Less_Tha	an_Median
13	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains	Benthic_M	MI Greater_Tha	an_Median
14	Western_Mountains	Western Mo	untains	Benthic_M	MI Less_Tha	an_Median
	DiffEst.P StdErr	or.P LCB95P	ct.P UCB95P	ct.P DiffEst.	U StdError.U	
1	19.993073 5.32	29139 9.548	8152 30.43	7994 48065.054	2 15968.94	
2	-19.993073 5.32	29139 -30.43 [°]	7994 -9.548	8152 -42300.282	4 12852.20	
7	-9.172204 5.21	8530 -19.400	0334 1.05	5926 -17837.009	8 11977.46	
8	9.172204 5.21	8530 -1.05	5926 19.40	0334 23601.781	6 16267.11	
13	1.921212 5.48	38400 -8.83	5855 12.67	8278 7953.648	6 14054.77	
14	-1.921212 5.48	38400 -12.678	8278 8.83	5855 -718.242	7 14693.78	
	LCB95Pct.U UCB95F	ct.U NResp_:	1 Estimate.	P_1 StdError.P_	1 LCB95Pct.P_:	1
1	16766.500 79363	3.608 270	0 50.07	461 2.79676	3 44.5930	3
2	-67490.127 -17110).438 252	2 49.92	539 2.79676	3 44.44383	3
7	-41312.402 5638	3.382 26	5 50.12	2.83175	7 44.57202	2
8	-8281.173 55484		7 49.87	783 2.83175	7 44.32769	9
13	-19593.202 35500).499 264	4 50.45	979 2.80936	6 44.9535	3
14	-29517.523 28081	1.038 25	5 49.54	021 2.80936	6 44.03396	3
	UCB95Pct.P_1 Esti	mate.U_1 Sto	dError.U_1	LCB95Pct.U_1 UC	B95Pct.U_1 NRe	esp_2
1	55.55617	110267.0	7655.957	95261.56	125272.4	113
2	55.40694	109938.4	6795.463	96619.50	123257.2	33
7	55.67231	110371.7	6862.229	96921.96	123821.4	80
8	55.42798	109833.6	7717.698	94707.24	124960.1	66
13	55.96604	109357.0	6322.352	96965.42	121748.6	67
14	55.04647	107364.1	7836.067	92005.68	122722.5	78
	Estimate.P_2 StdE	error.P_2 LC	B95Pct.P_2	UCB95Pct.P_2 Es	timate.U_2	
1	70.06769	4.536281	61.17674	78.95863	158332.02	
2	29.93231	4.536281	21.04137	38.82326	67638.08	
7	40.94996	4.383401	32.35865	49.54127	92534.67	
8	59.05004	4.383401	50.45873	67.64135	133435.43	

^{4 2.046503}

^{5 2.597743}

^{6 2.039986}

^{7 52.139027}

^{8 40.767656}

^{9 52.430727}

```
13
       52.38100
                     4.714870
                                   43.14002
                                                 61.62197
                                                              117310.65
       47.61900
14
                     4.714870
                                   38.37803
                                                 56.85998
                                                              106645.85
   StdError.U_2 LCB95Pct.U_2 UCB95Pct.U_2
1
      14014.046
                    130864.99
                                  185799.04
2
      10908.743
                     46257.34
                                   89018.82
7
       9816.791
                     73294.11
                                  111775.23
8
      14319.779
                    105369.18
                                  161501.68
13
      12552.471
                     92708.26
                                  141913.04
14
      12429.933
                     82283.63
                                  131008.07
```

>

The write.csv function is used to store the change estimates as comma-separated value (csv) files. Files in csv format can be read by programs such as Microsoft Excel. The three data frames created by the change.analysis function are stored in separate files.

> write.csv(Change_Estimates\$catsum, file="Change_Estimates_Categorical.csv", row.names

> write.csv(Change_Estimates\$contsum_mean, file="Change_Estimates_Continuous_Mean.csv",

> write.csv(Change_Estimates\$contsum_median, file="Change_Estimates_Continuous_Median.c

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- Omernik, J. M. (1987). Ecoregions of the conterminous united states. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 77, 118–125.
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- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2016). National Rivers and Streams Assessment 2008-2009: A collaborative survey. Technical report, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Water and Office of Research and Development. EPA 841-R-16-007.