

Snow cover impacts on watershed discharge

Miles Austin

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How do remotely sensed snow cover metrics impact discharge in the same wate year in central Colorado?

Data checking

Data read in

First we need to get our snow metric (ndsi) data and then also download discharge data from the USGS

```
library(tidyverse)
library(lubridate)
library(dataRetrieval) #for downloading USGS data

#ndsi
ndsi <- read_csv('data/hayman_ndsi.csv') %>%
  rename(burned=2,unburned=3) %>%
  filter(!is.na(burned),
         !is.na(unburned)) %>%
  gather(.,key='site',
         value='ndsi',
         -DateTime) # For this analysis we want the data in long format

#USGS gauge above cheeseman lake '00060'
q_hayman <- readNWISdata(sites=c('06700000'), #Site code
                        parameterCd='00060', #discharge code in cfs
                        service='dv', # service = daily values (versus annual)
                        startDate='1984-10-01', #Start date for getting the data
                        endDate = '2019-9-10') %>% # End date (today)
  rename(q_cfs = X_00060_00003,
         quality_cd = X_00060_00003_cd) %>% #rename long column name
  filter(!is.na(q_cfs)) %>% #Drop NAs which can occur when there is ice or sensor breaks
  as_tibble() #To make it act like a tibble
```

Data Exploring

NDSI Summary

```
##      DateTime      site      ndsi
## Min.      :1984-04-10 Length:3208 Min.      : -0.5727
## 1st Qu.:1999-10-13 Class :character 1st Qu.: -0.4835
## Median :2006-05-01 Mode  :character Median : -0.4307
## Mean    :2005-06-30      Mean    : -0.2364
## 3rd Qu.:2013-03-17      3rd Qu.: -0.1352
## Max.    :2019-08-02      Max.    :  0.9459
```

Q summary

```
##      agency_cd      site_no      dateTime
## Length:3133      Length:3133      Min.      :2002-08-01 00:00:00
## Class :character Class :character 1st Qu.:2007-04-10 00:00:00
## Mode  :character Mode  :character Median :2011-05-31 00:00:00
##                                     Mean  :2011-04-24 03:37:24
##                                     3rd Qu.:2015-07-21 00:00:00
##                                     Max.   :2019-09-10 00:00:00
##      q_cfs      quality_cd      tz_cd
## Min.      : 53 Length:3133      Length:3133
## 1st Qu.: 124 Class :character Class :character
## Median : 179 Mode  :character Mode  :character
## Mean    : 243
## 3rd Qu.: 291
## Max.    :2210
```

Combining the data

Adding a water year column

When analyzing water flux data, we typically break the year up into “water years” which run from October to the end of September. For this exploratory analysis, we want to group the datasets by water year and then join them to each other so we can compare winter average, max, median, etc... of snow cover versus the next water year’s water flux. So we have to add a column called water year

Q Water year

```
q_water_year <- q_hayman %>%
  mutate(month=month(dateTime),
         year_offset = ifelse(month > 9,1,0),
         wtr_yr = year(dateTime) + year_offset)

table(q_water_year$wtr_yr)
```

```
##
## 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016
##   61  183  183  164  183  183  183  183  183  183  183  183  183  183  183
## 2017 2018 2019
##  183  183  163
```

NDSI water year

```
##
## 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
##   14   34   44   66   44   48   26   34   50   56   60   60   64   60   60
## 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013
##   78  106  120  134  116  128  132  132  130  114  112  128  130   90  108
```

```
## 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019
## 138 116 130 114 130 102
```

Filtering and summarizing

Now that we have our matched datasets we want to do a couple filtering operations. First, we want to make sure that we are only analyzing complete water years from the Q dataset. Second, we want to make sure we are only summarizing the snow data over months where snow cover is possible, which I would guess is between october and may. Once we have these filtering operations done, we want to summarize each dataset by water year so we can eventually join them and see if snow cover predicts Q.

Snow water year summary statistics

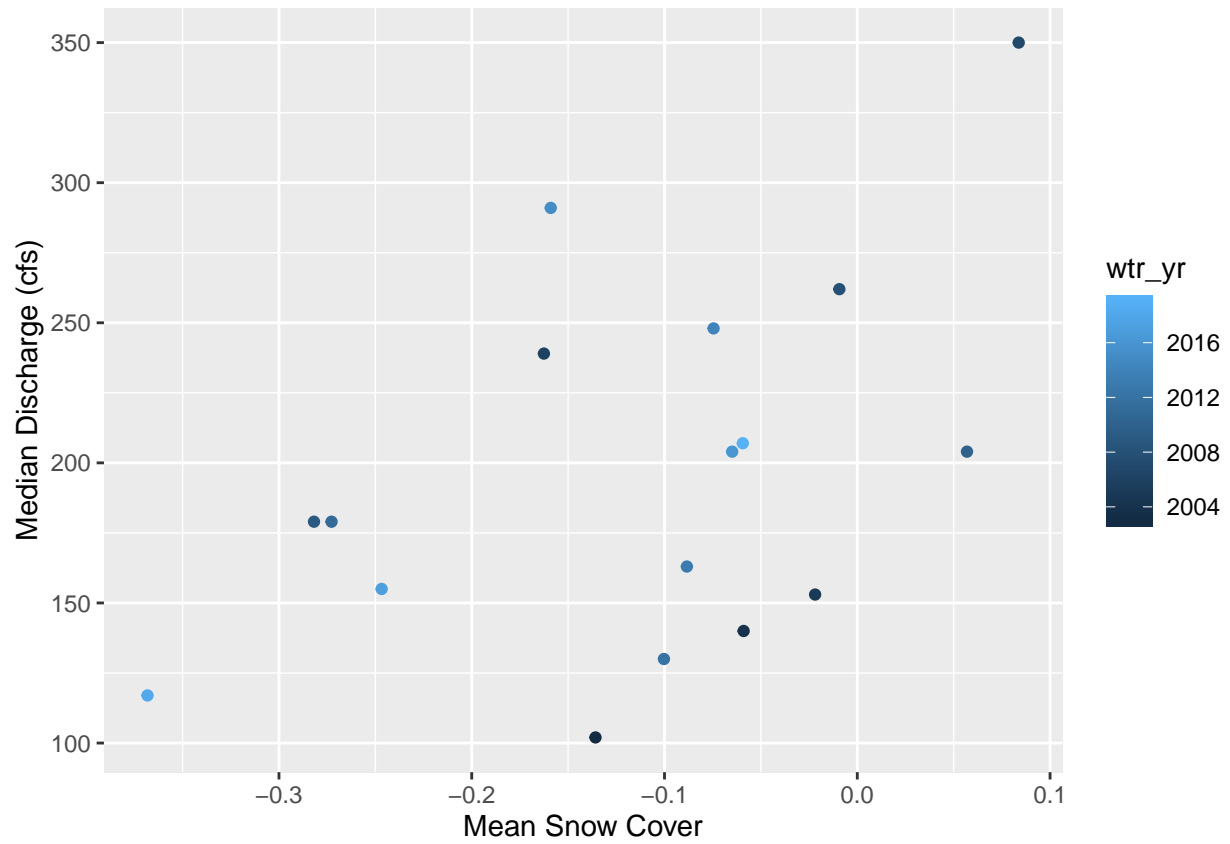
```
## # A tibble: 36 x 4
##   wtr_yr mean_ndsi max_ndsi median_ndsi
##   <dbl>     <dbl>     <dbl>     <dbl>
## 1 1984    0.483      0.605      0.483
## 2 1985   -0.104      0.539     -0.123
## 3 1986   -0.130      0.436     -0.203
## 4 1987    0.0614     0.655      0.247
## 5 1988   -0.309      0.616     -0.425
## 6 1989   -0.398     -0.208     -0.404
## 7 1990   -0.269      0.524     -0.428
## 8 1991    0.0130      0.632     -0.0550
## 9 1992   -0.0982      0.592     -0.272
## 10 1993  -0.00697     0.626     -0.0943
## # ... with 26 more rows
```

Wohle Q water year summaries

```
## # A tibble: 17 x 4
##   wtr_yr mean_q max_q median_q
##   <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 2003 121. 350 102
## 2 2004 145. 296 140
## 3 2005 154. 241 153
## 4 2006 222. 395 239
## 5 2007 325. 494 350
## 6 2008 294. 585 262
## 7 2009 253. 667 179
## 8 2010 251. 622 204
## 9 2011 272. 783 179
## 10 2012 149. 278 130
## 11 2013 184. 332 163
## 12 2014 280. 542 248
## 13 2015 562. 2210 291
## 14 2016 204. 349 204
## 15 2017 205. 582 155
## 16 2018 131. 281 117
## 17 2019 355. 1010 207
```

Plots of Snow Cover vs Q

Mean Snow vs Median Q



Max Snow vs. Median Q

