

# Runoff Modeling for the Gulf of Alaska Region

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# Acknowledgements

## Students:

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Noa Bruhis, M.S.

## Collaborators:

- Anthony Arendt, UW-APL
- Glen Liston, CSU
- Eran Hood, UAS
- Scott Luthcke, NASA
- Dan McGrath
- Christian Kienholz

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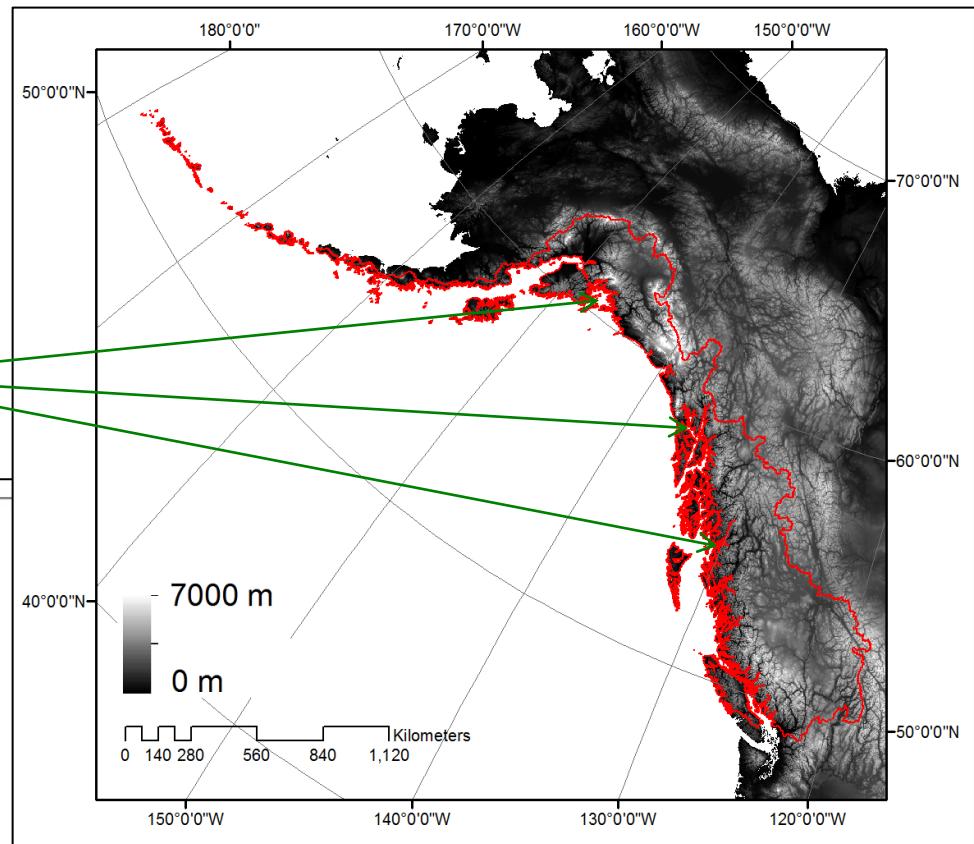
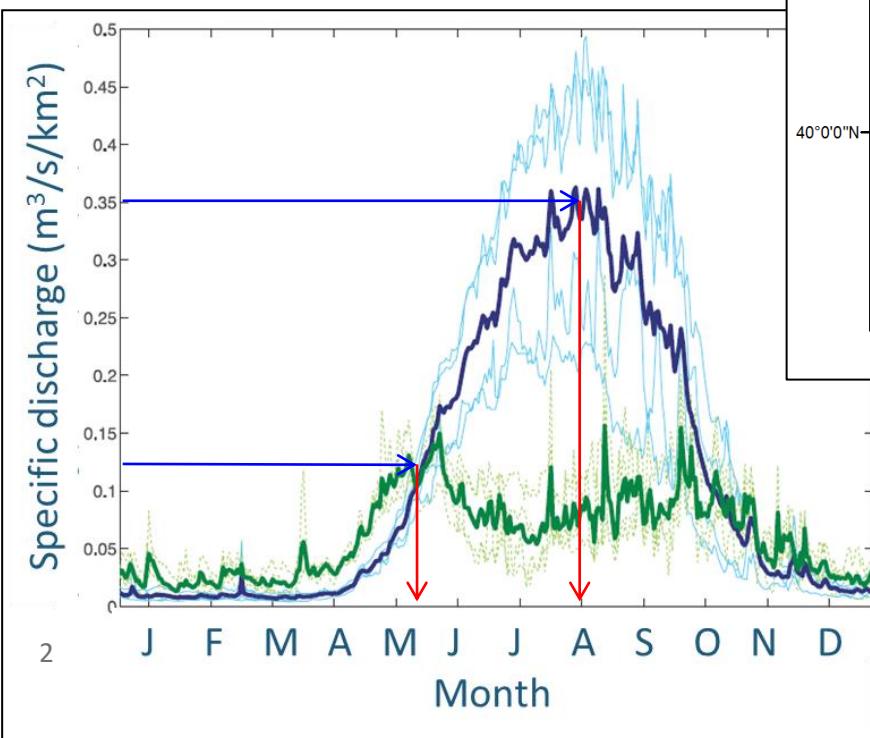


# How's the water?

How Much?

When does it arrive?

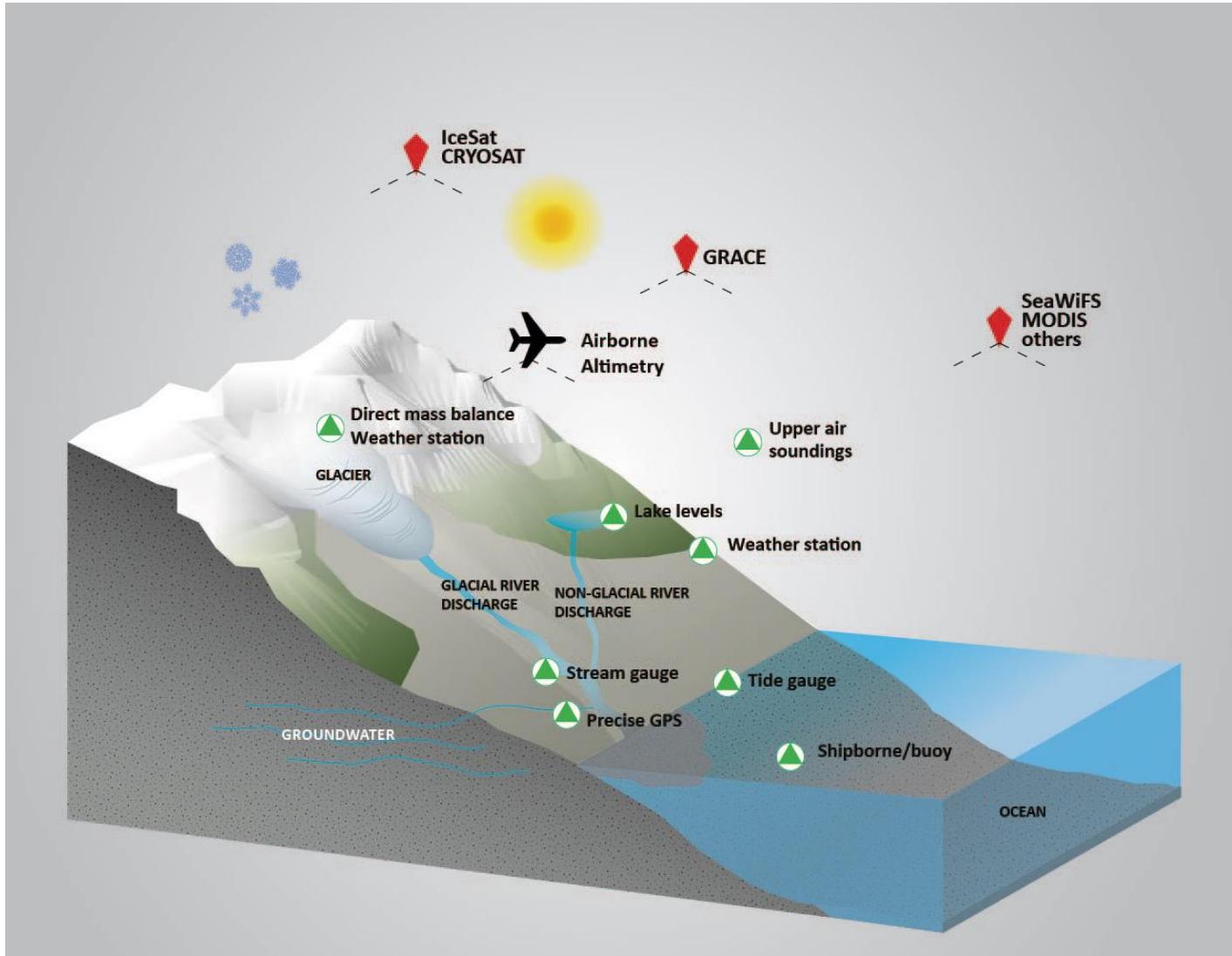
Where is it?



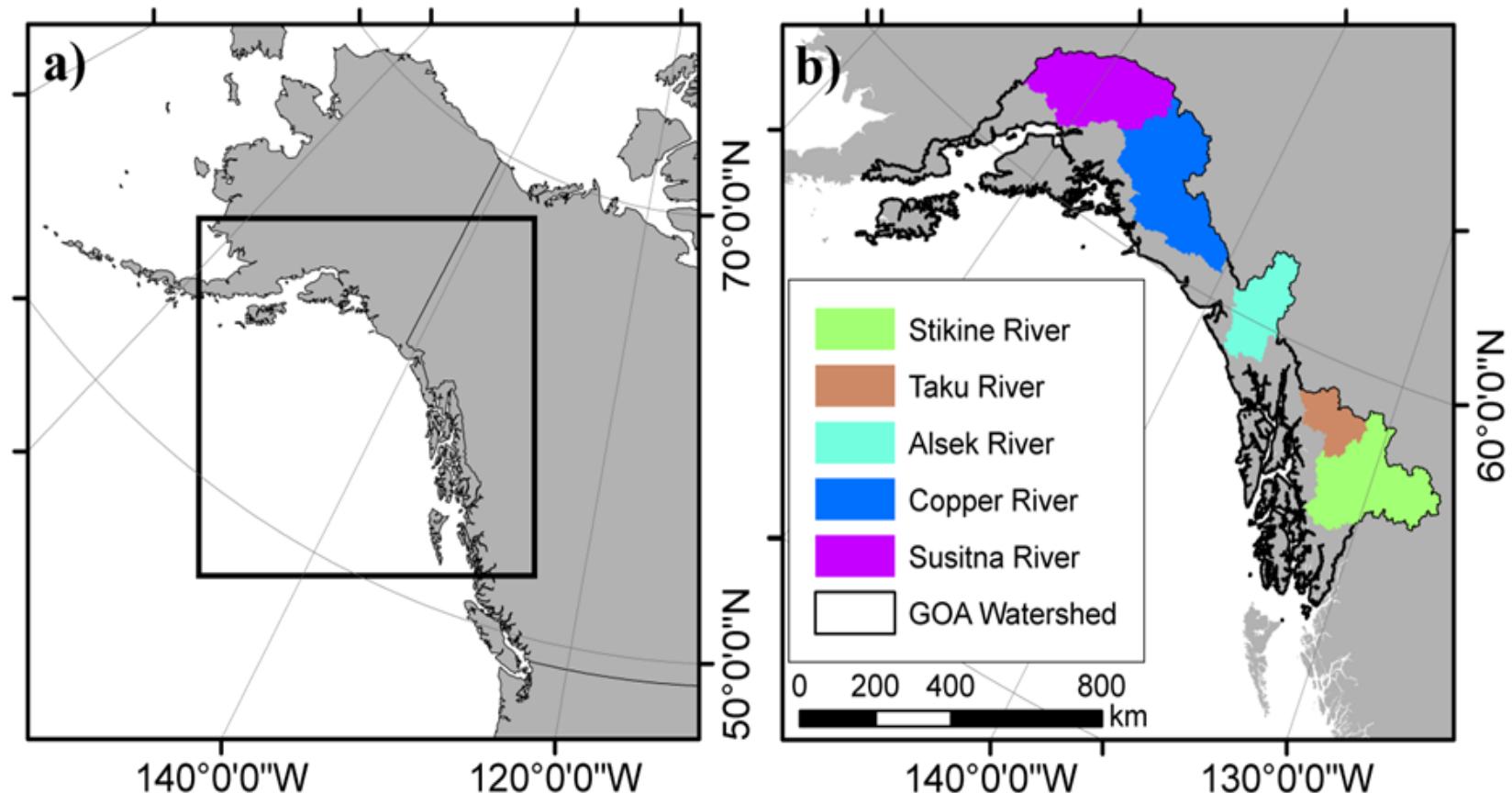
$$Q_{\text{total}} = Q_{\text{rainfall}} + Q_{\text{snowmelt}} + Q_{\text{glacier mass}}$$

O'Neil et al., 2015

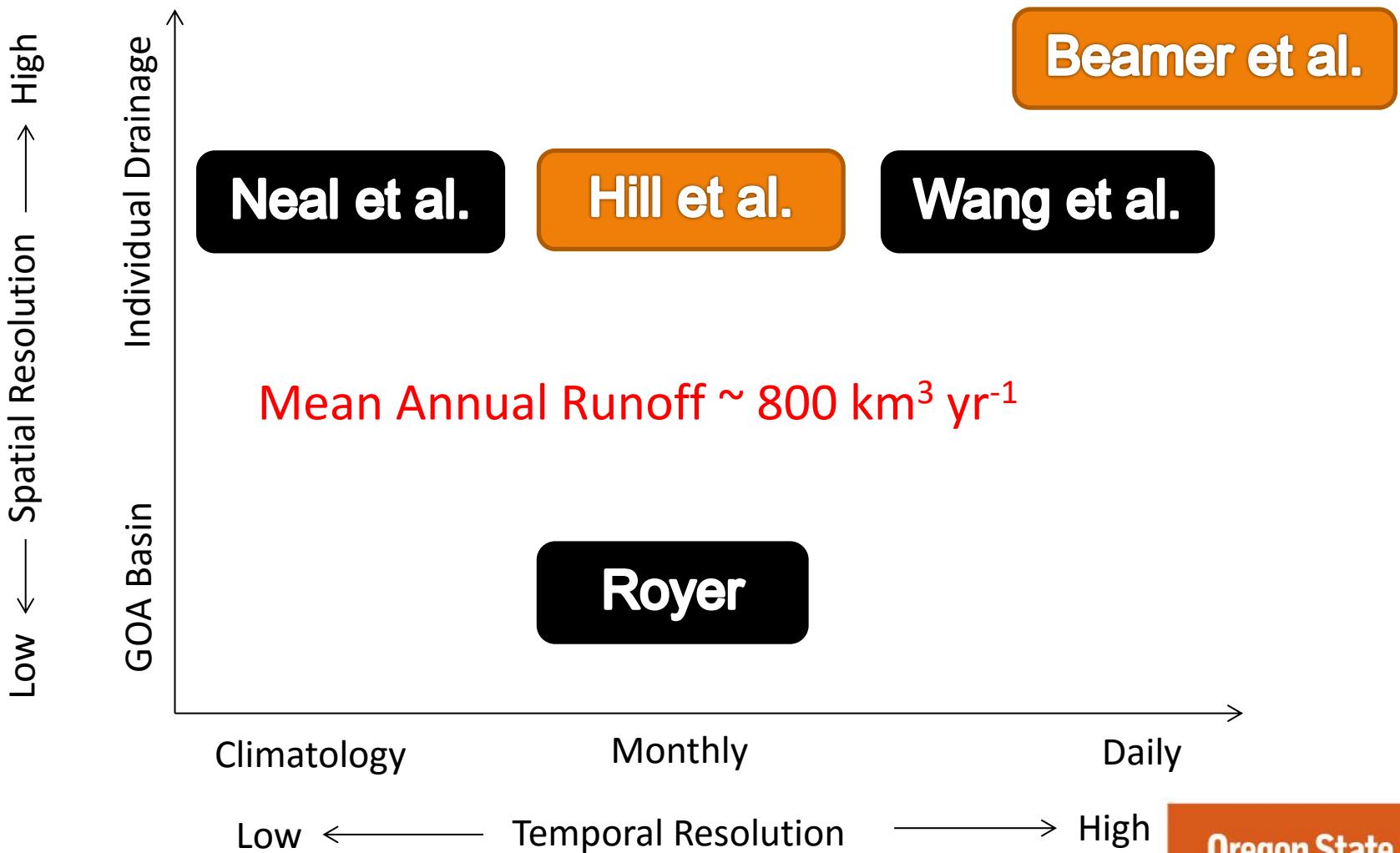
# What do we know?



# What do we know?

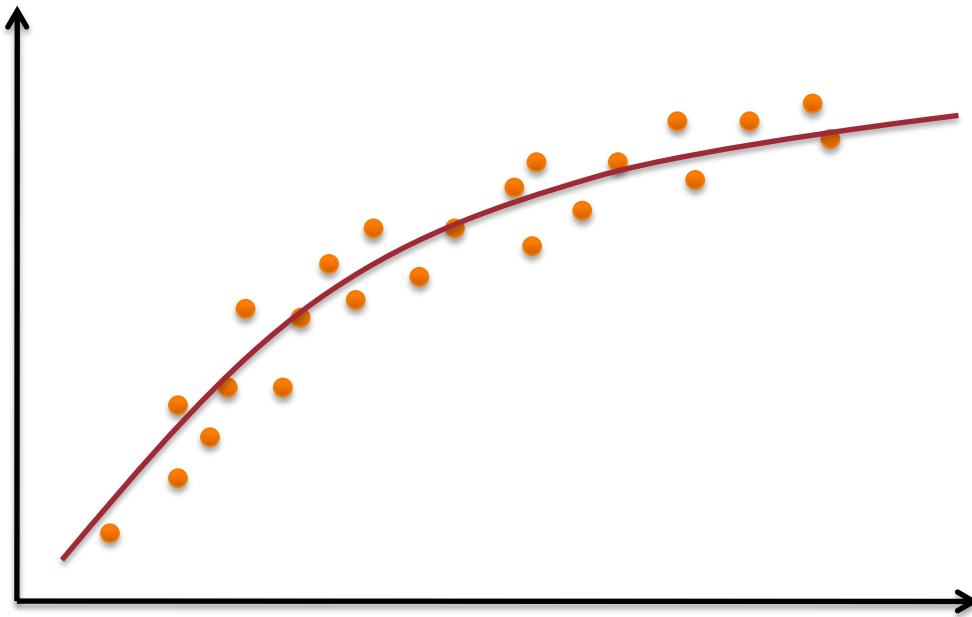


# What do models tell us?



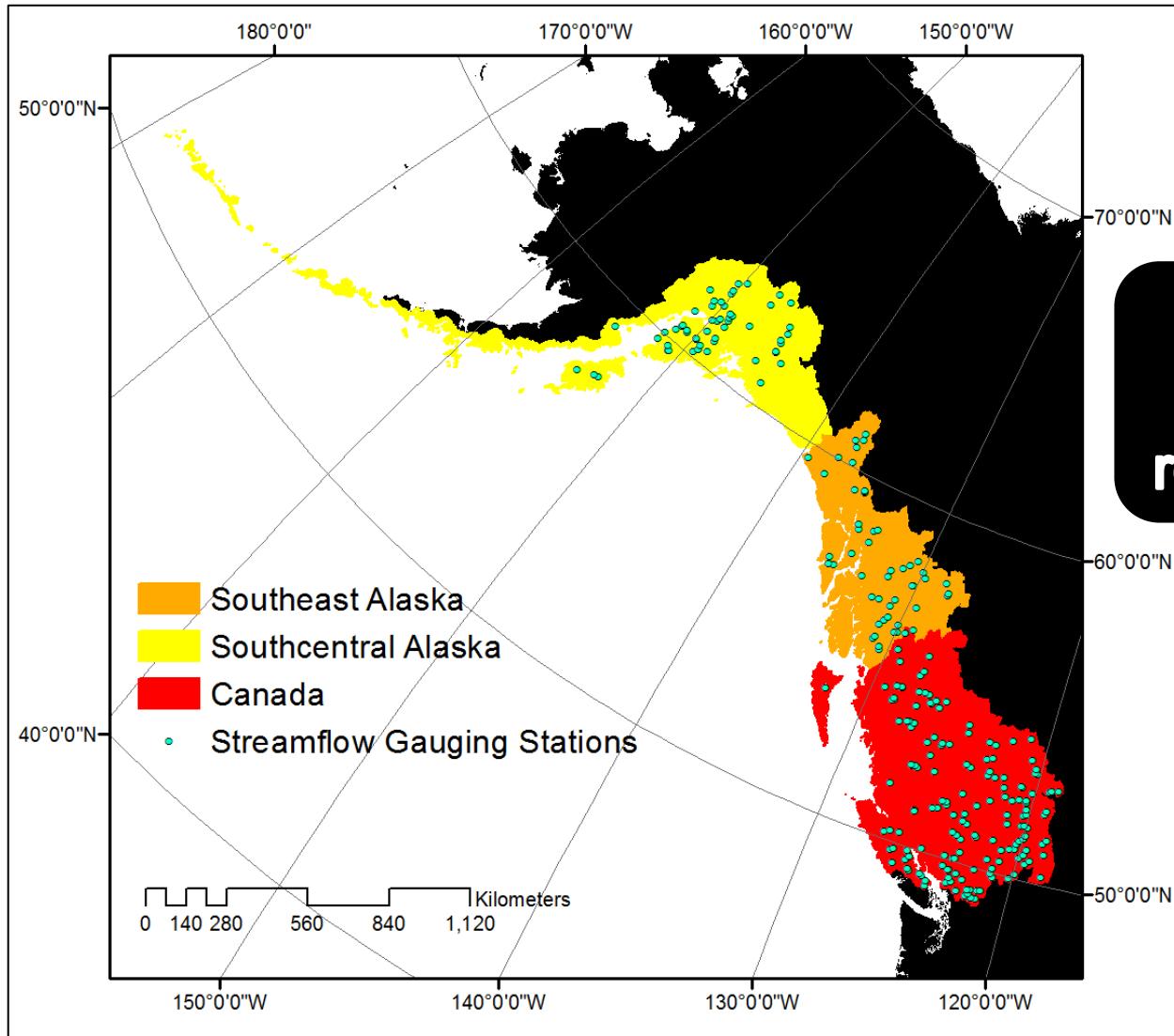
# Regression analysis

$$Q = Ax_1^{a_1}x_2^{a_2}x_3^{a_3} \dots$$



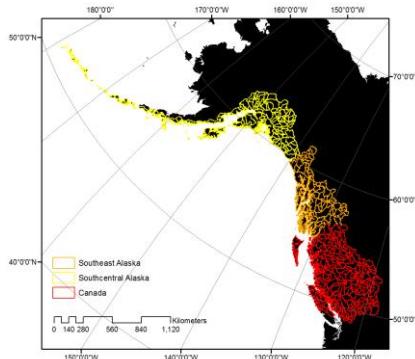
Ingredients → accessible geospatial data  
Outputs → monthly flows

# Regression analysis



Dependent  
variable (Q)  
regionalization

# Regression analysis



= 36

SE AK	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
const.	1.44	0.75	-1.68	-8.02	-13.78	-7.49	-3.06	-4.55	-4.16	-6.20	0.87	2.46
area	1.04	1.04	1.04	0.99	0.98	0.96	0.93	0.89	0.91	0.90	0.96	0.99
elev	<b>-1.58</b>	<b>-1.49</b>	<b>-1.29</b>	<b>-0.98</b>	<b>-0.05</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>-0.18</b>	<b>-1.16</b>	<b>-1.79</b>	<b>-1.94</b>
precip	0.20	0.29	0.50	0.19	0.12	-0.23	-0.01	0.23	0.33	0.01	-0.06	-0.11
cumul. precip												
temp	0.41	0.60	1.88	5.57	7.51	2.45	-0.51	1.25	1.57	5.45	1.90	0.88
glacier	-0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.11	0.04	0.09	0.32	0.47	0.30	0.29	0.18	0.12

# Regression results?

Copper

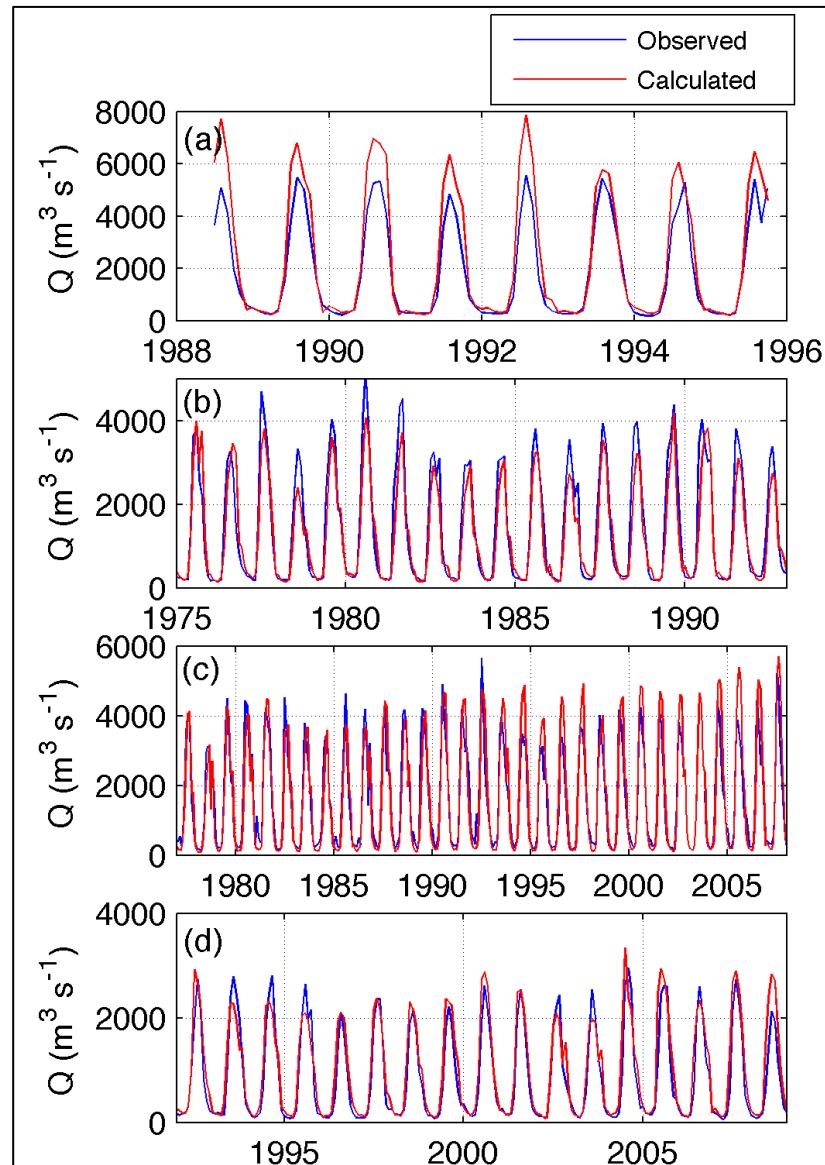
Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiencies  
range from 0.75 – 0.85

Susitna

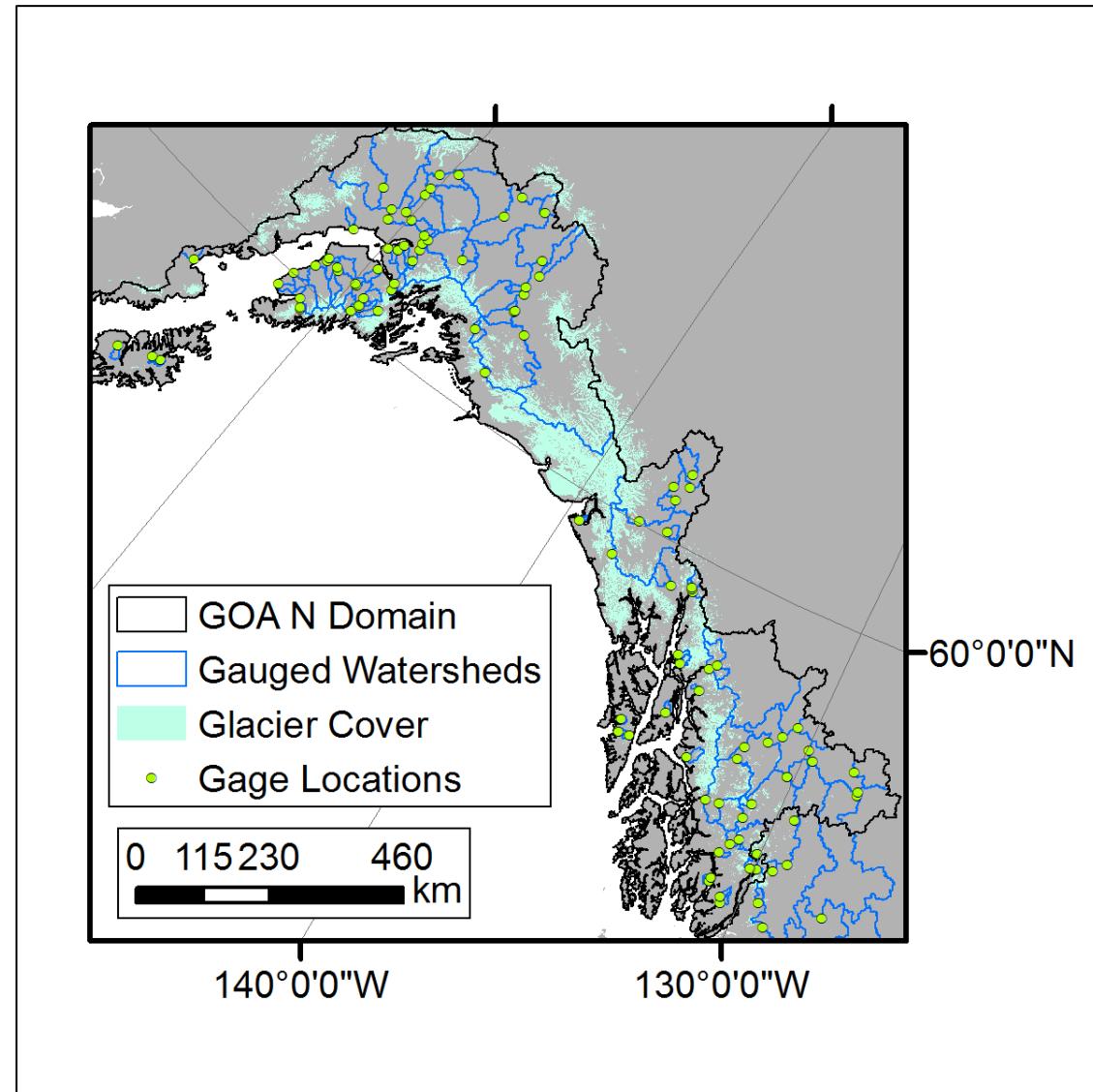
Mean Absolute Percent  
Error  
(MAPE) typically 15%

Stikine

Alsek



# Why a physically-based model?



# Methods: modeling system

**SnowModel** (Liston and Elder, 2006):  
spatially distributed snow-evolution  
modeling system

**MicroMet** (Liston and Elder, 2006):  
climate data assimilation and  
interpolation model

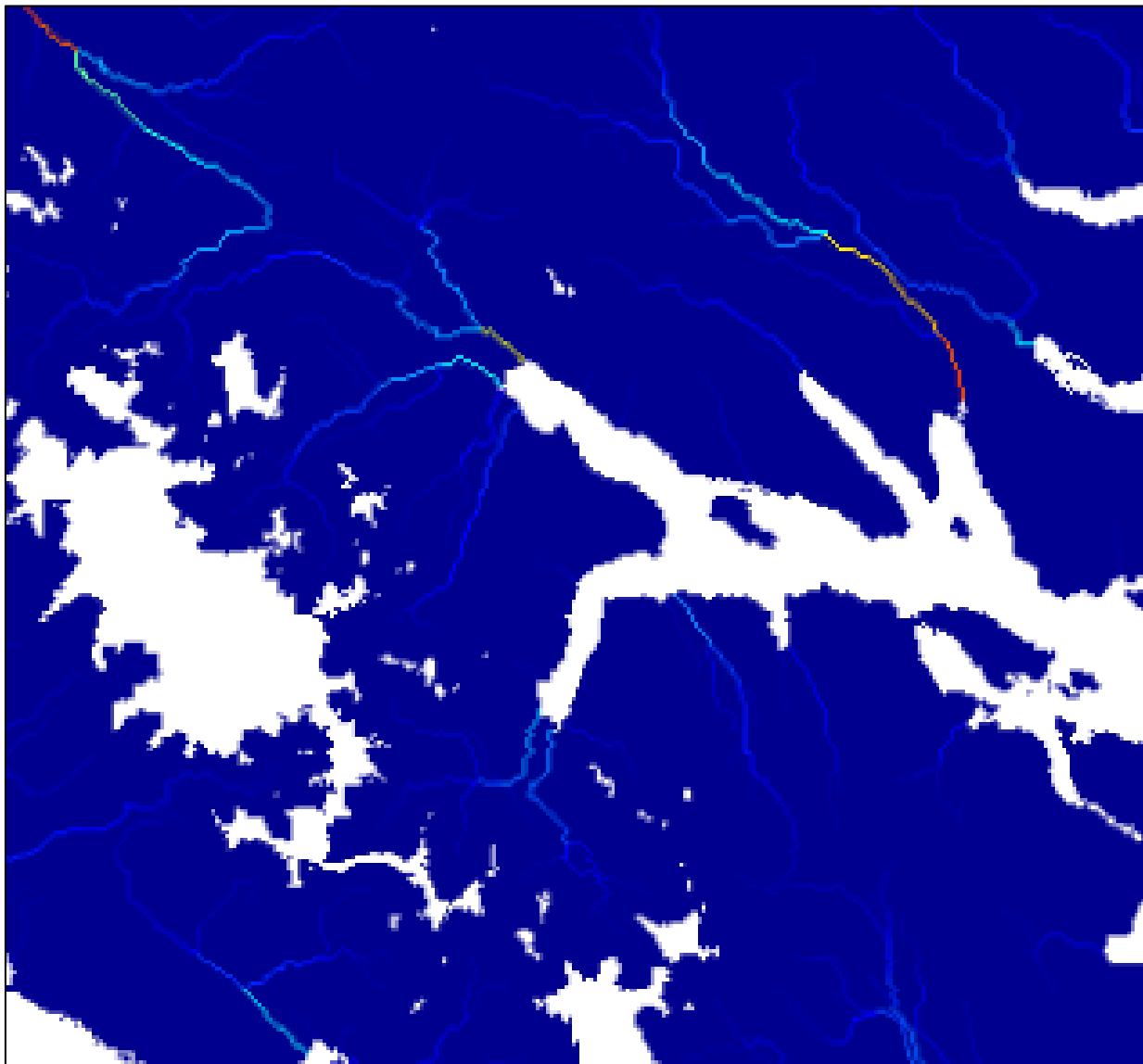
**EnBal** (Liston, 1995): surface energy  
exchanges and snow melt

**SnowPack** (Liston and Hall, 1995):  
snow depth and SWE evolution

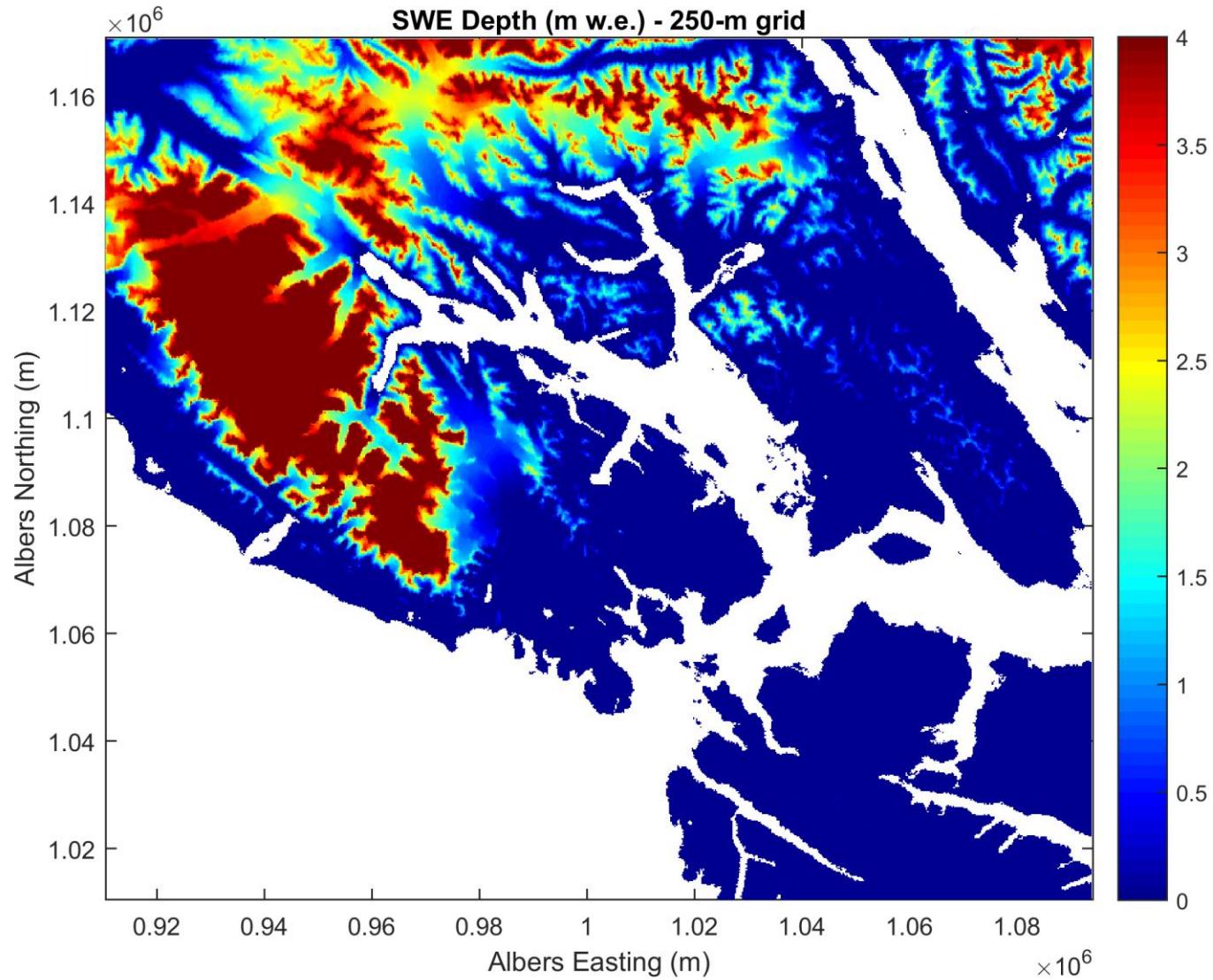
**SoilBal** (Beamer et al., in review): soil  
water balance / ET model

**HydroFlow** (Liston and Mernild,  
2012): linear-reservoir runoff routing  
model

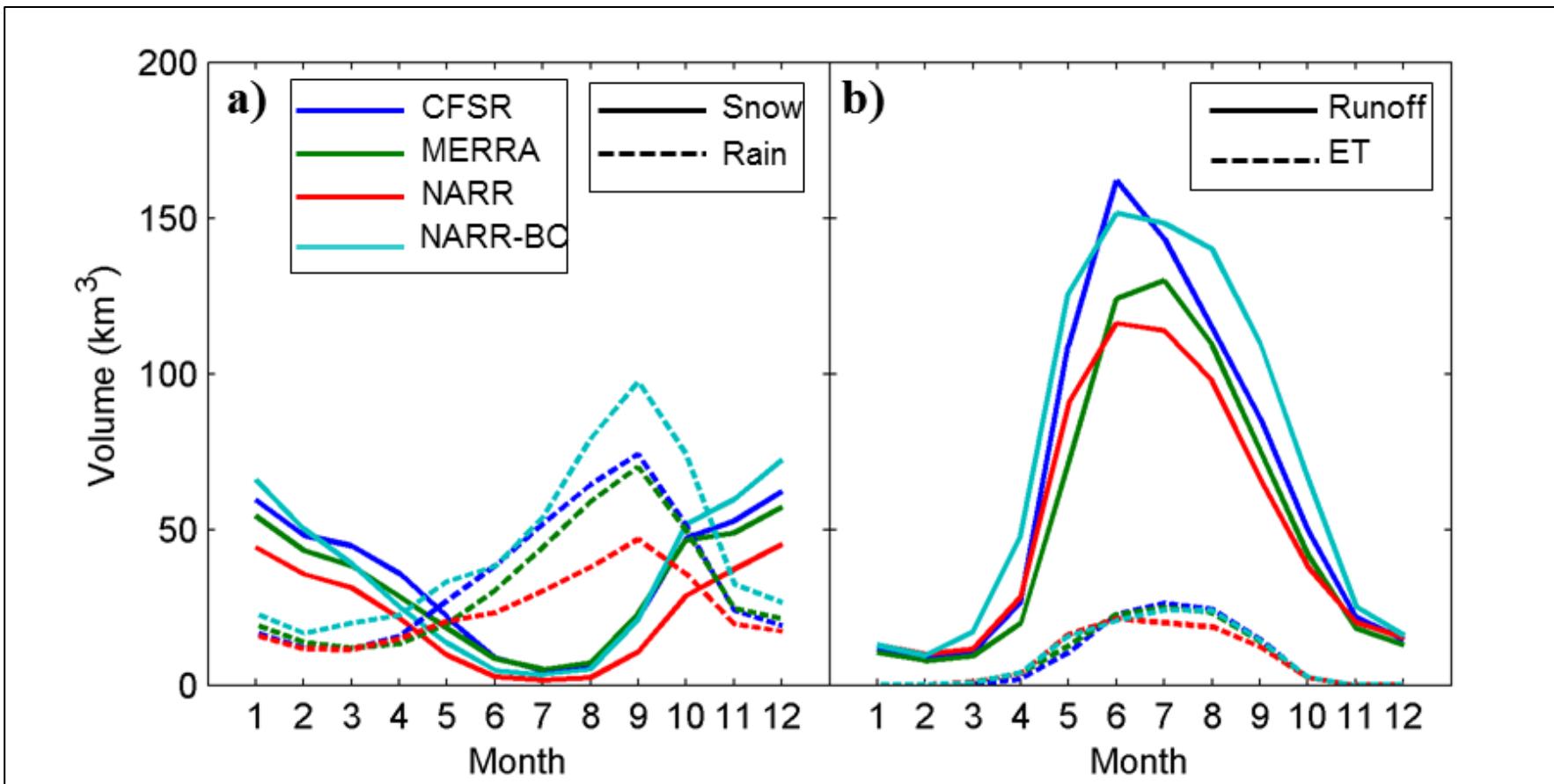
# Methods: model outputs



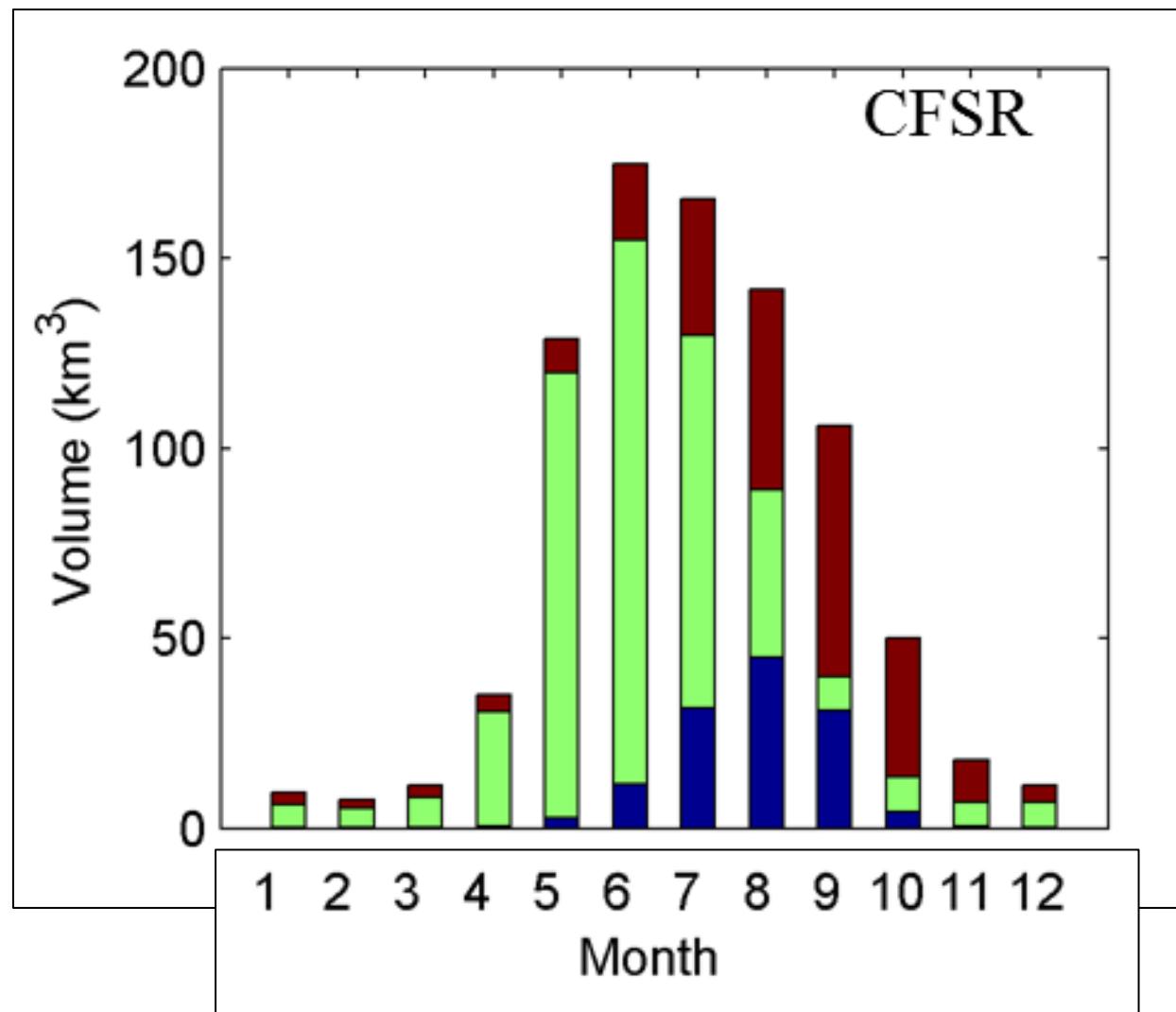
# Methods: model outputs



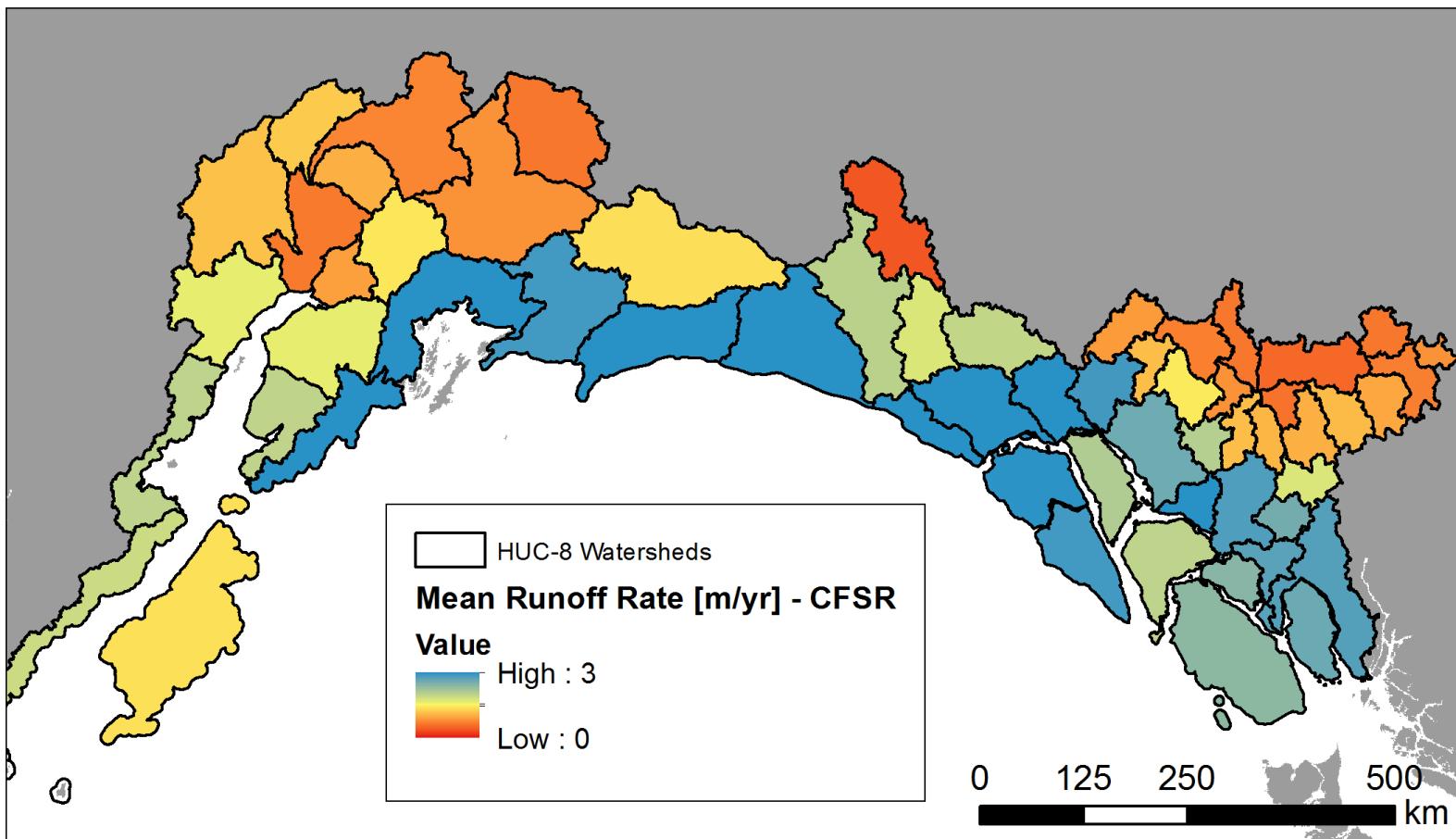
# GOA aggregated results



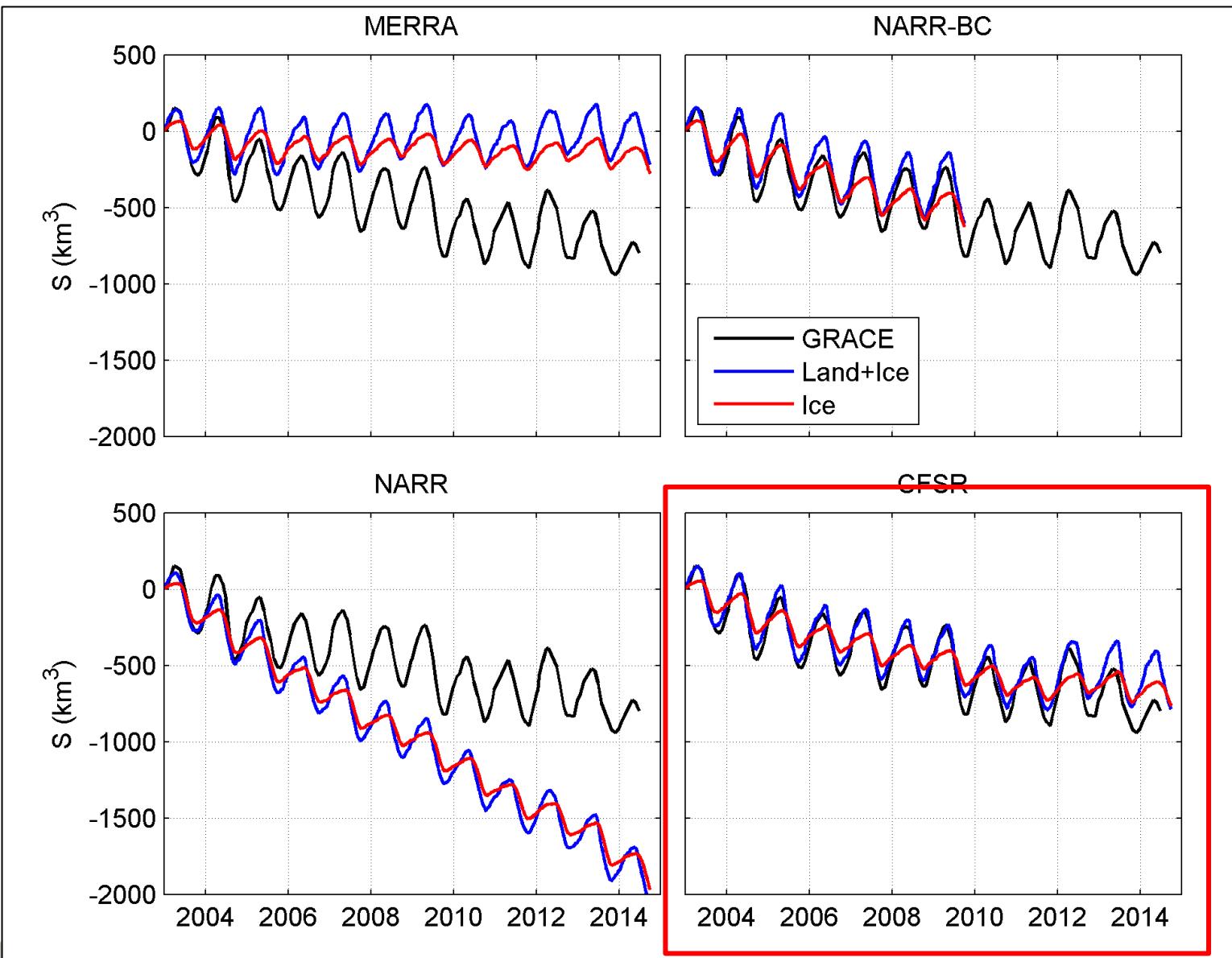
# GOA aggregated results



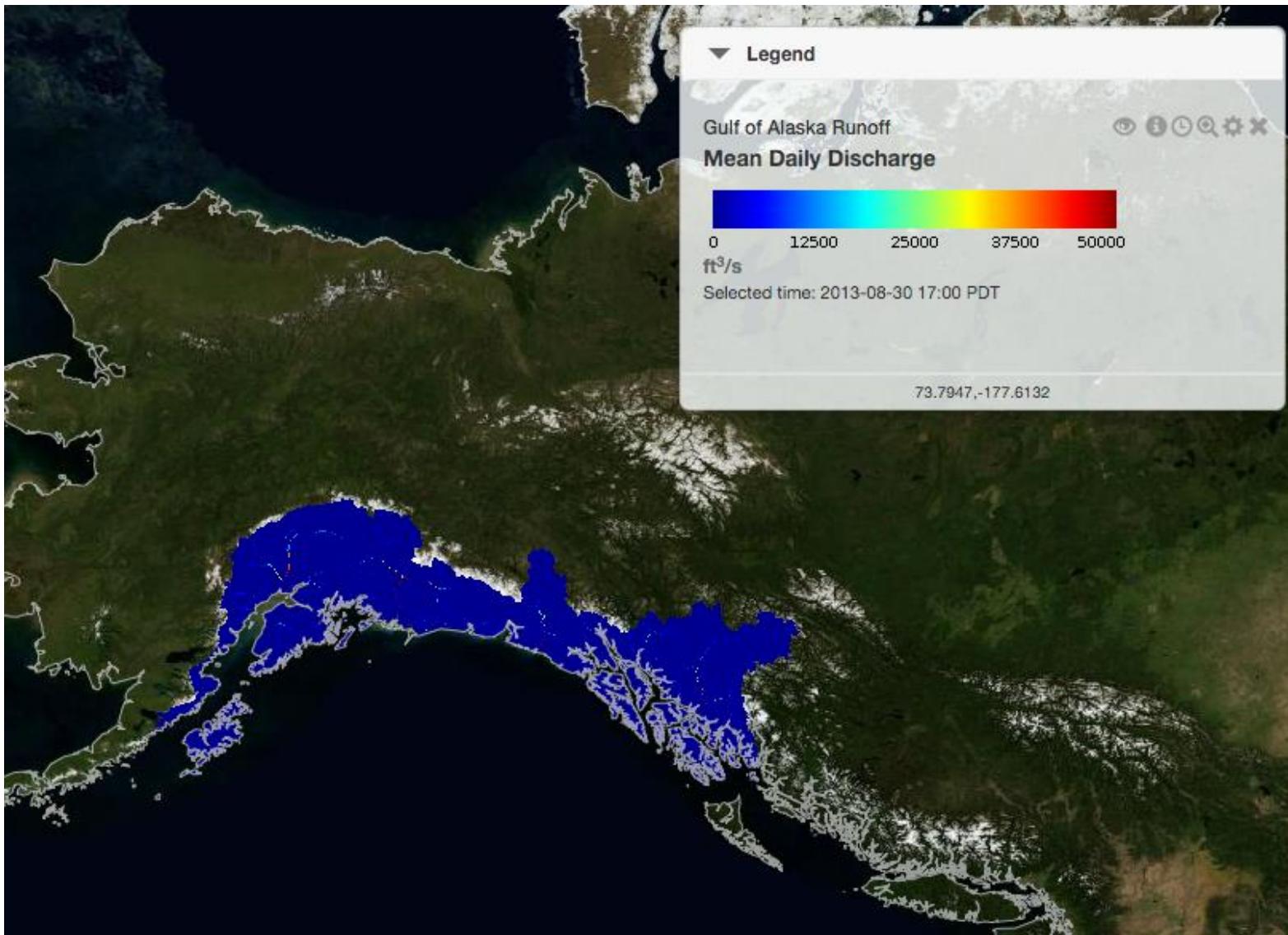
# HUC aggregated results



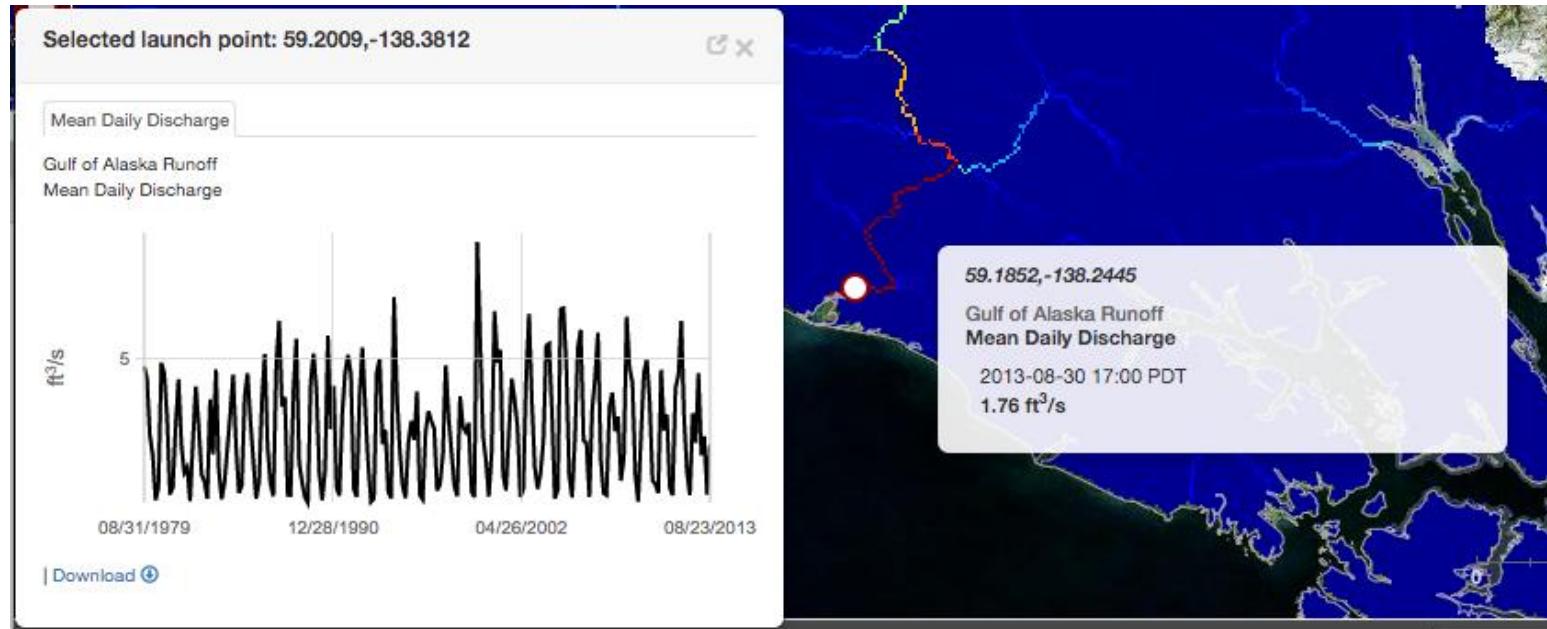
# Comparison to GRACE



# Data availability

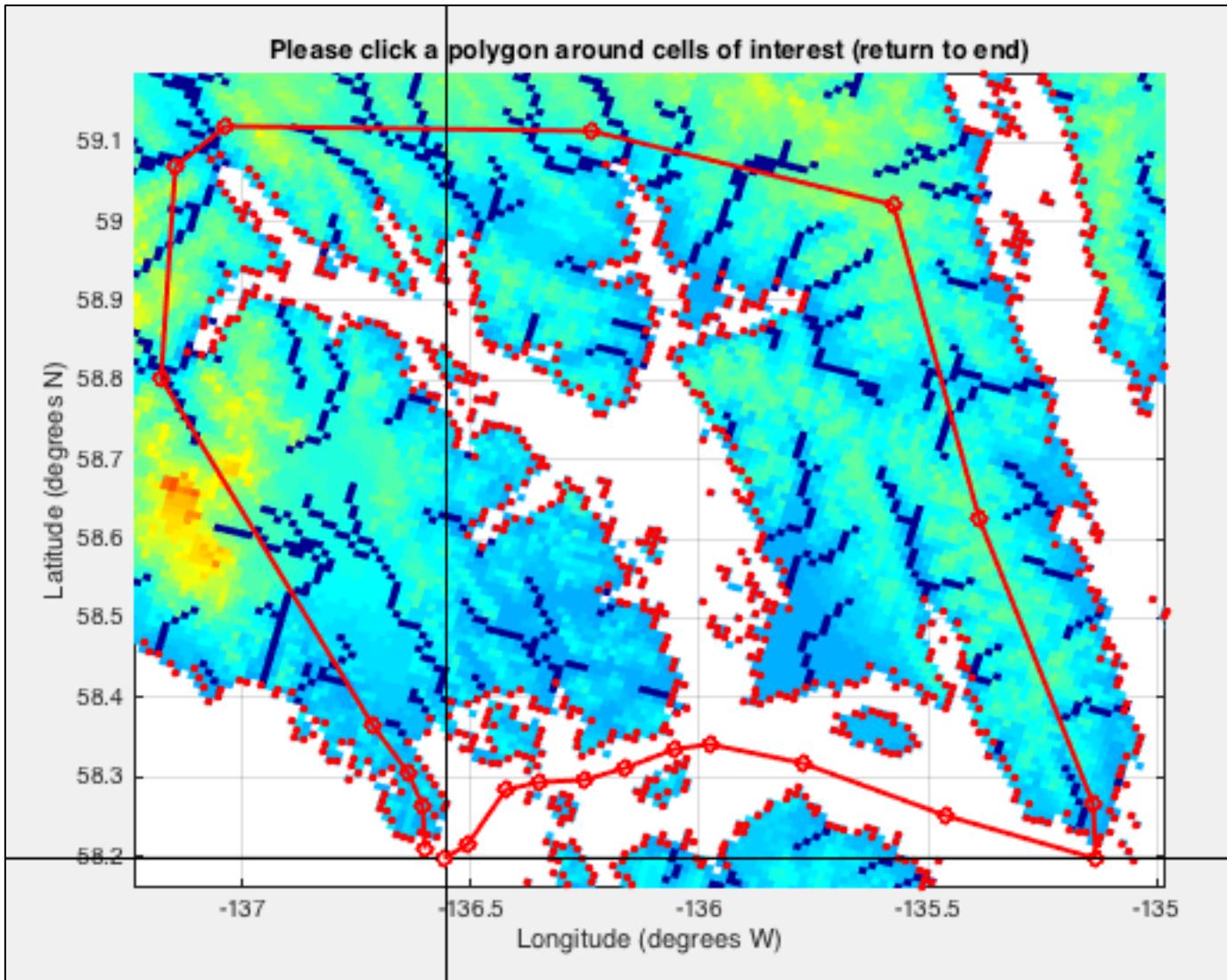


# Data availability

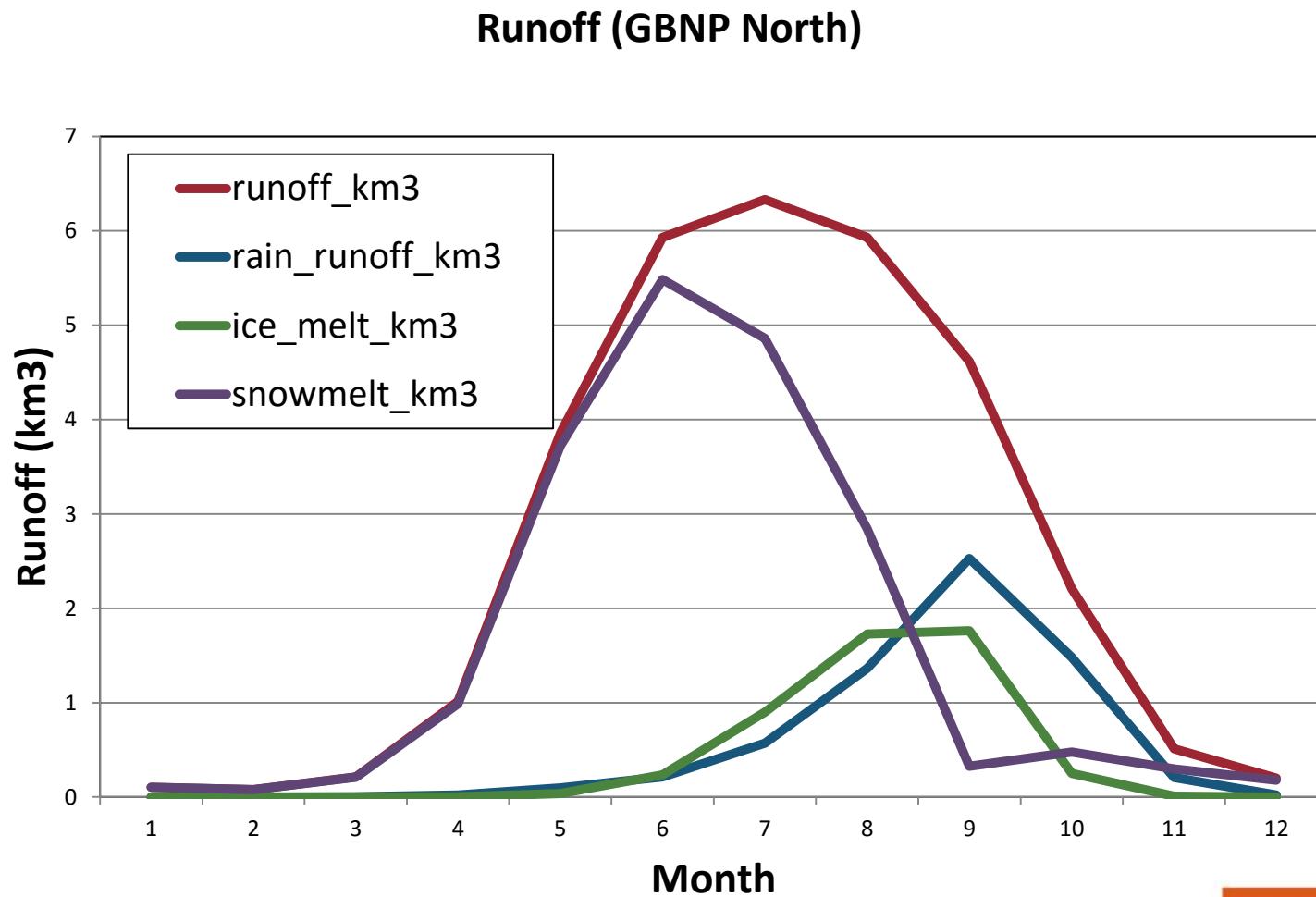


A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	station_id	sensor_id	latitude (deg	longitude (deg	date_time	<a href="http://mmisw.org/ont/ioos/parameter/river_discharge (ft3.s-1)">http://mmisw.org/ont/ioos/parameter/river_discharge (ft3.s-1)</a>			
2	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-01	0.49173473			
3	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-02	0.55034394			
4	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-03	0.56116651			
5	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-04	0.60278002			
6	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-05	0.59640442			
7	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-06	0.57378688			
8	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-07	0.56225732			
9	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-08	0.54027675			
10	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-09	0.51948676			
11	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-10	0.50271149			
12	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-11	0.21635847			
13	urn:ioos:stat	urn:ioos:sens	59.2008534	-138.38116	1979-09-12	0.36770141			

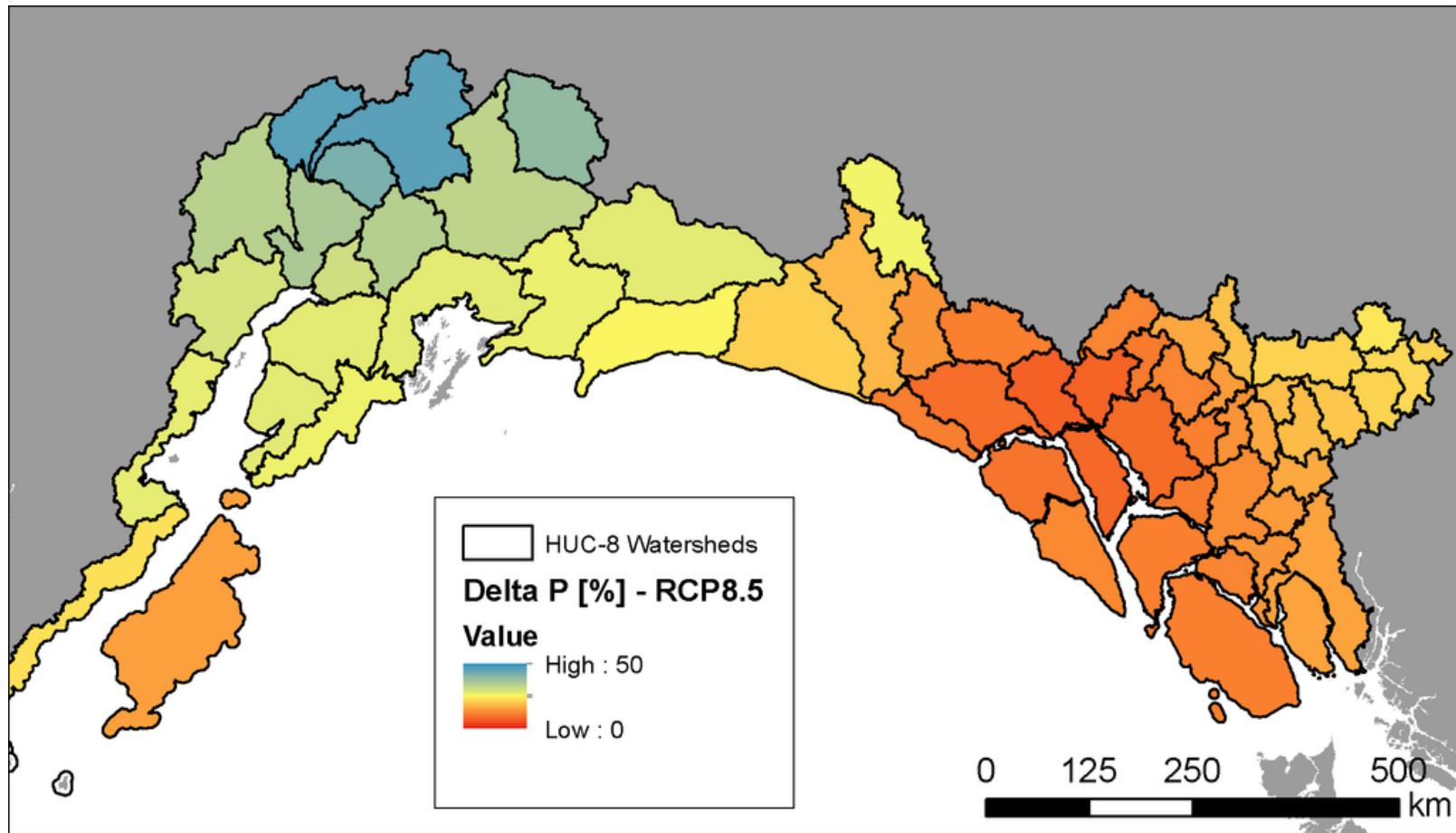
# Data availability (1km model)



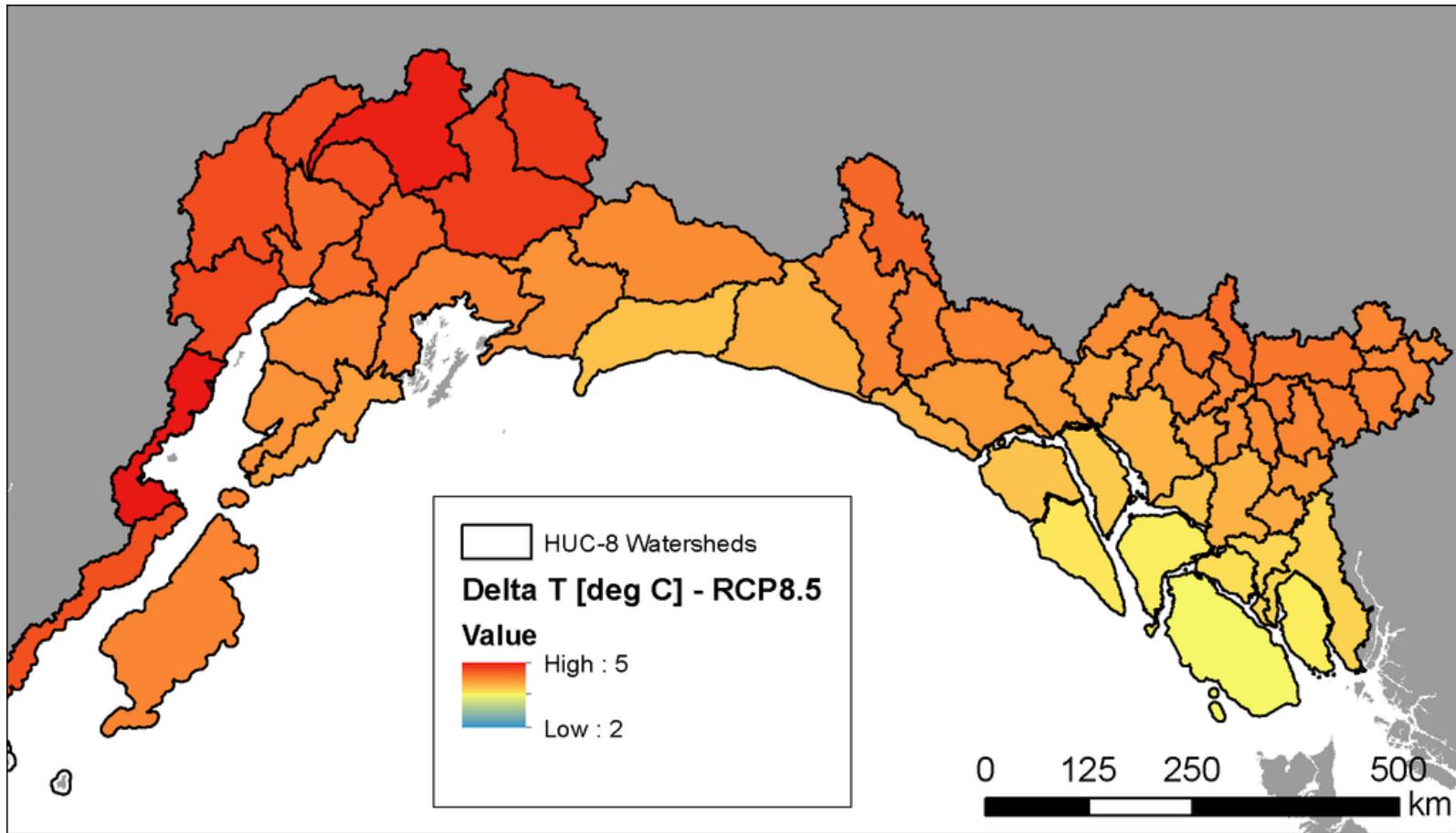
# Glacier Bay aggregated results



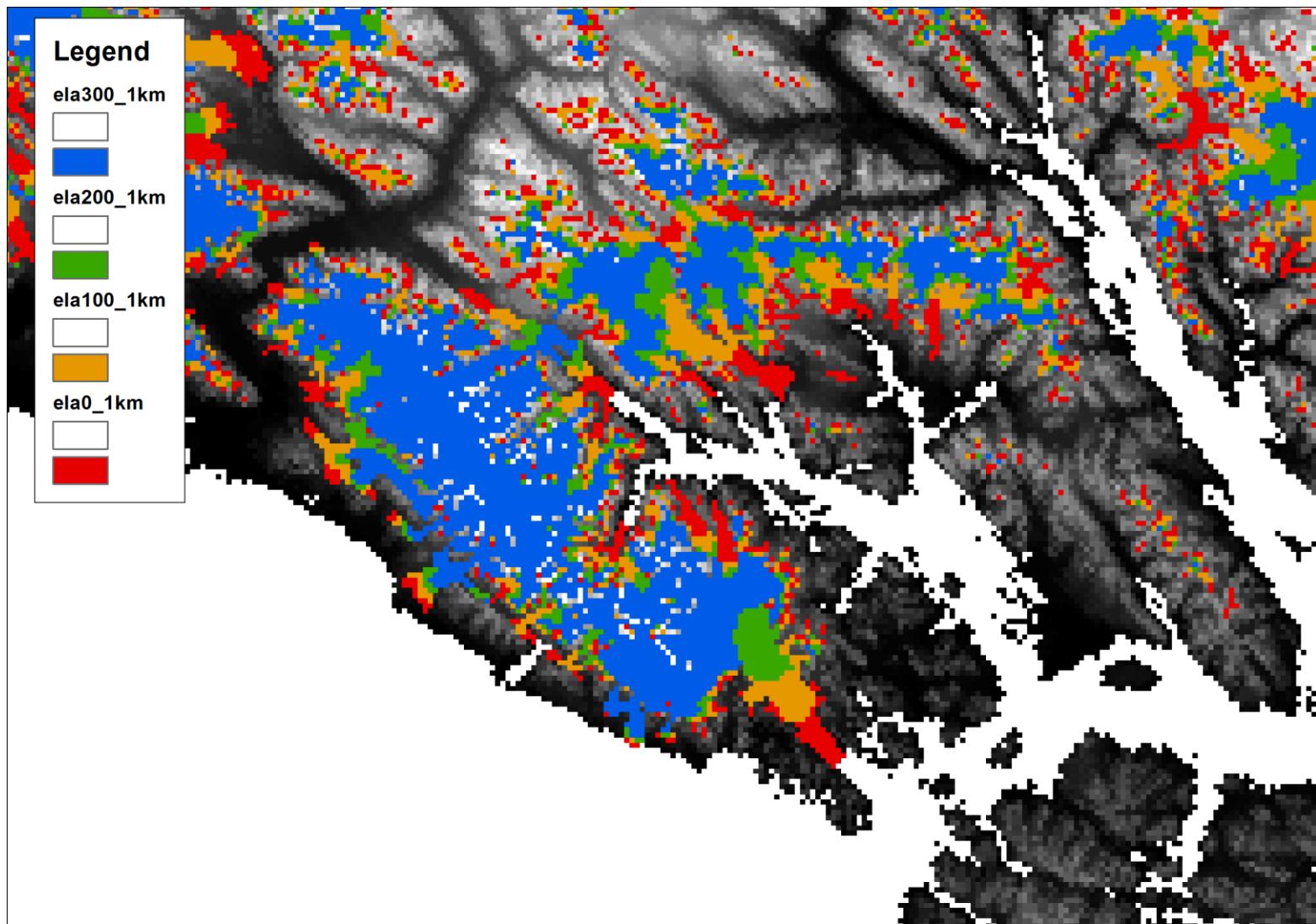
# Drivers of change



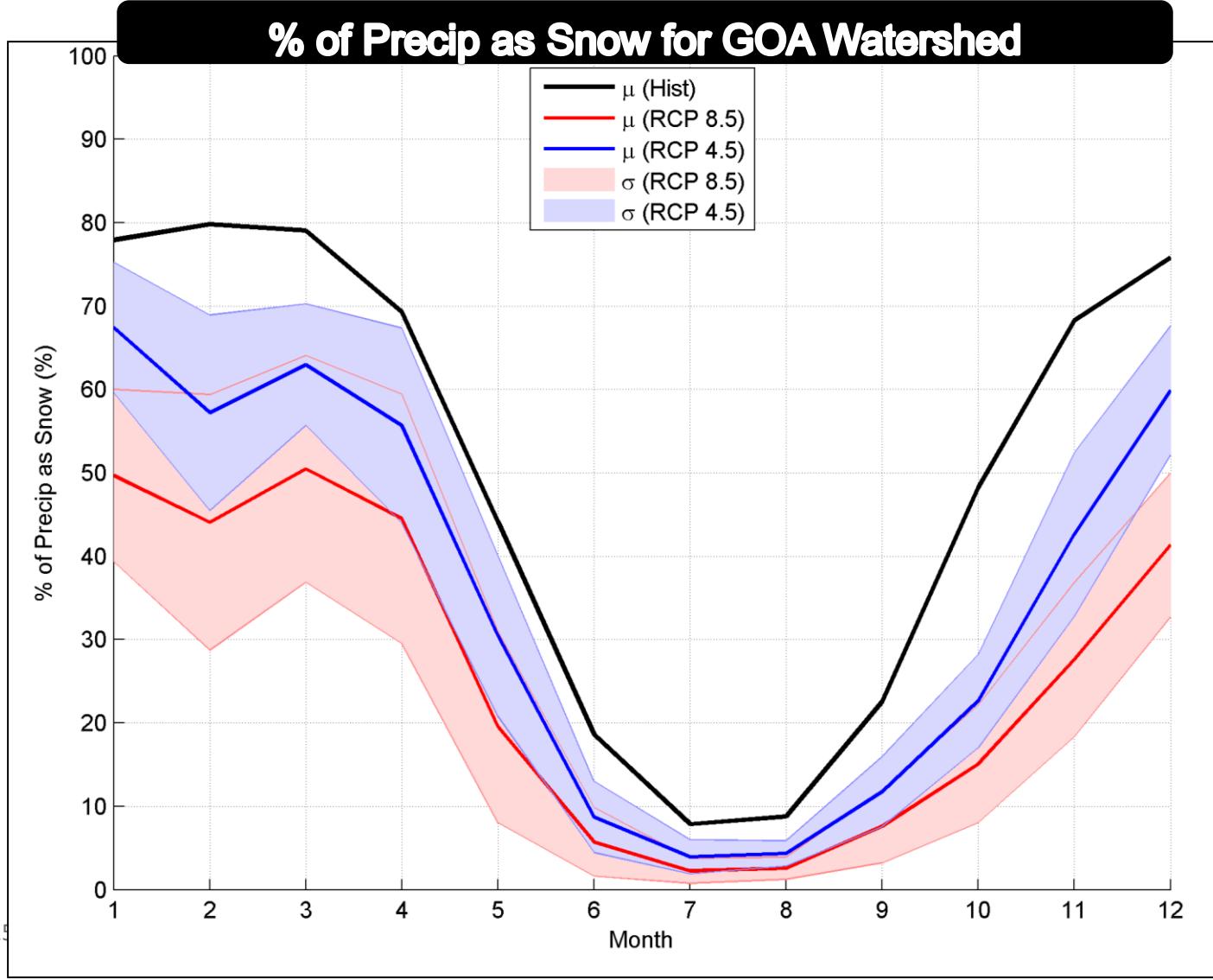
# Drivers of change



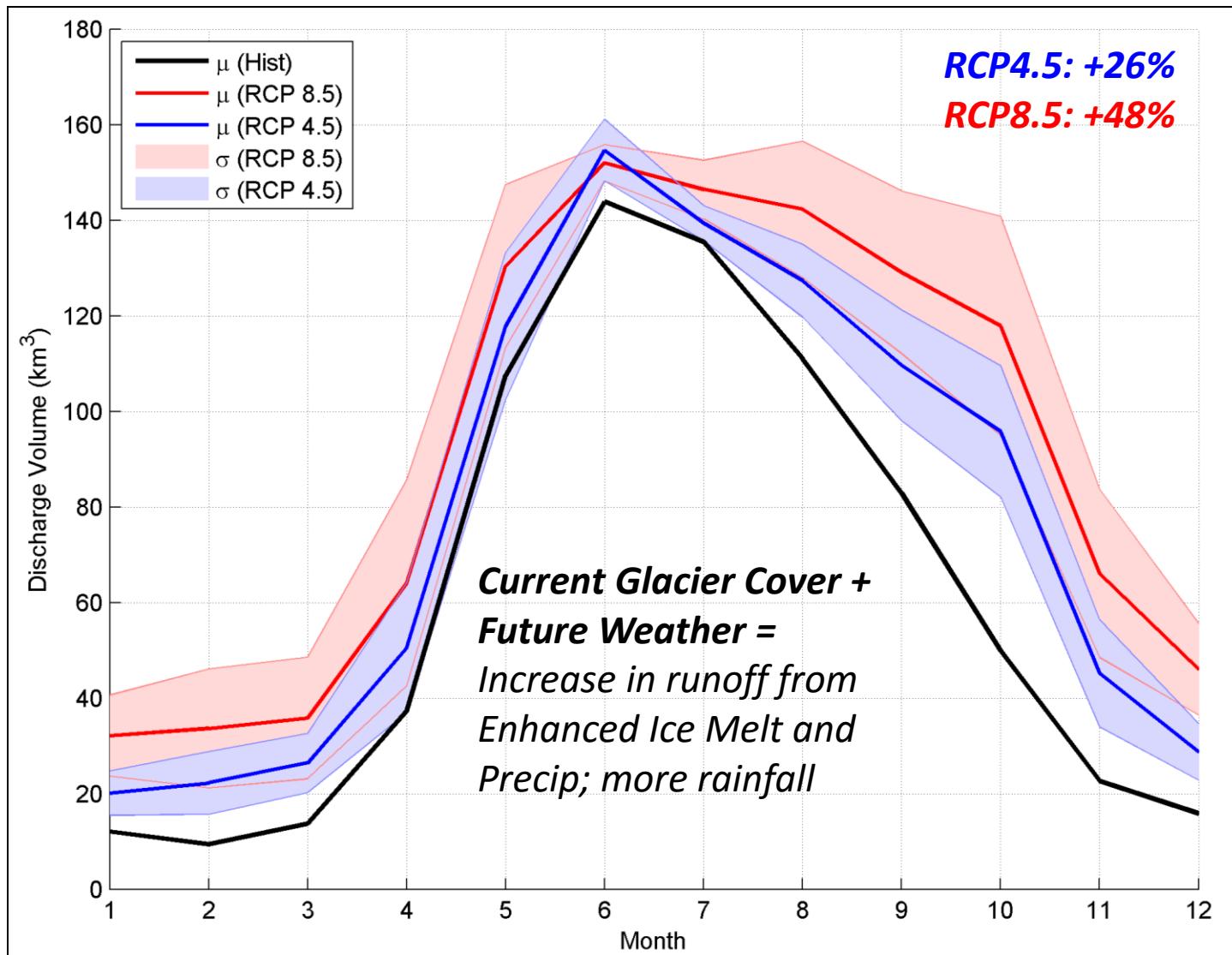
# Drivers of change



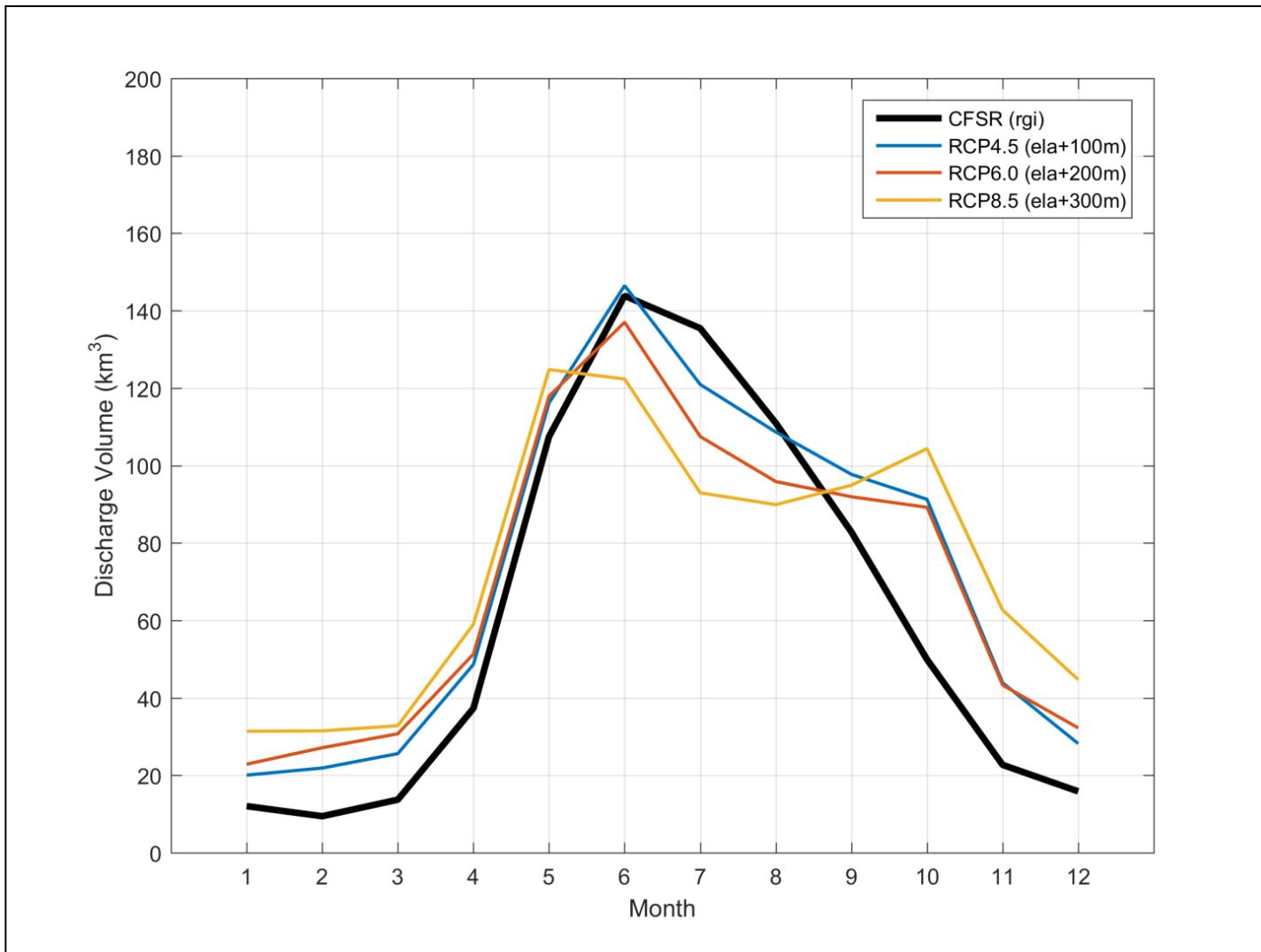
# Future snow in the GOA



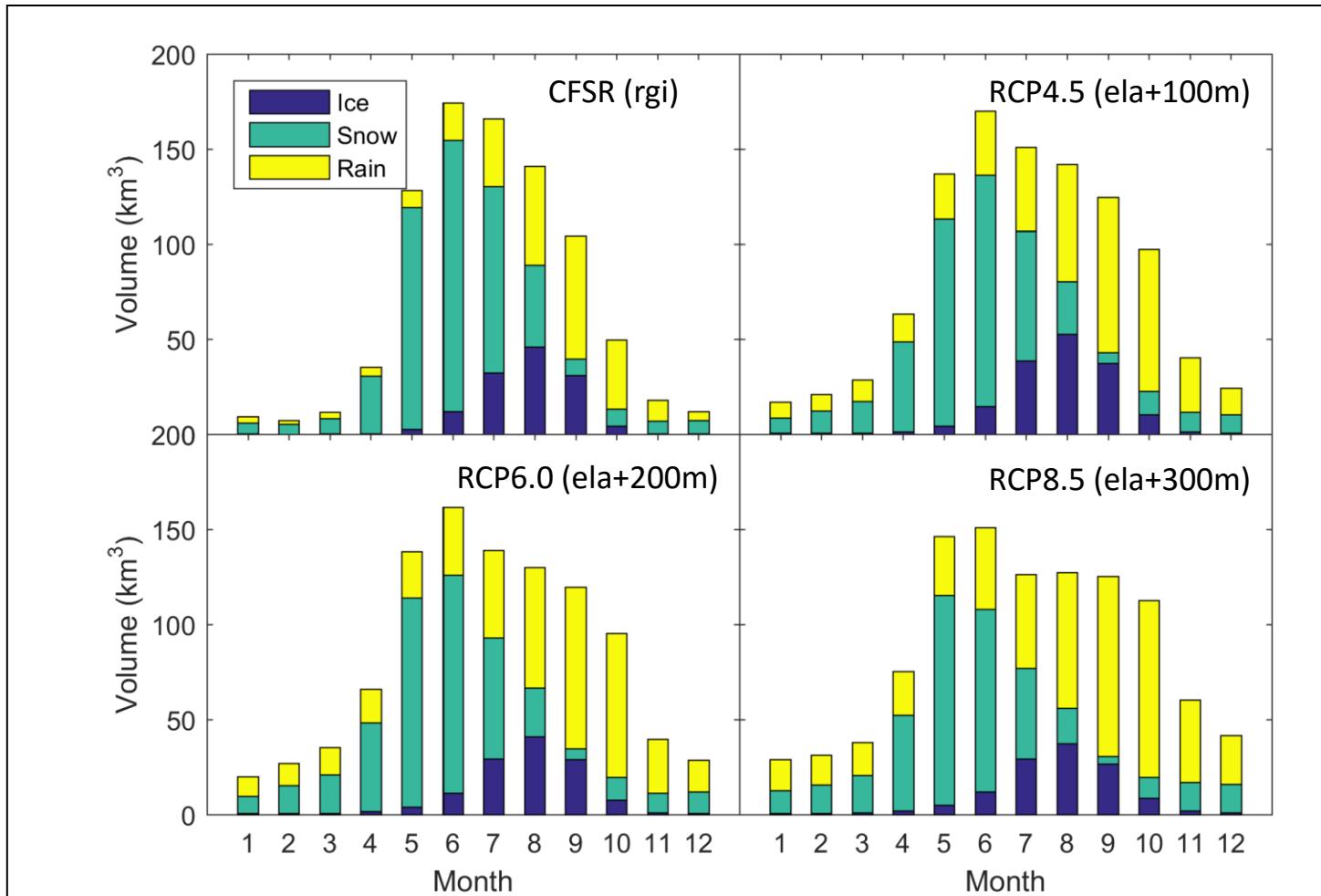
# Future GOA runoff (weather change only)



# Future GOA runoff (weather + landscape change)

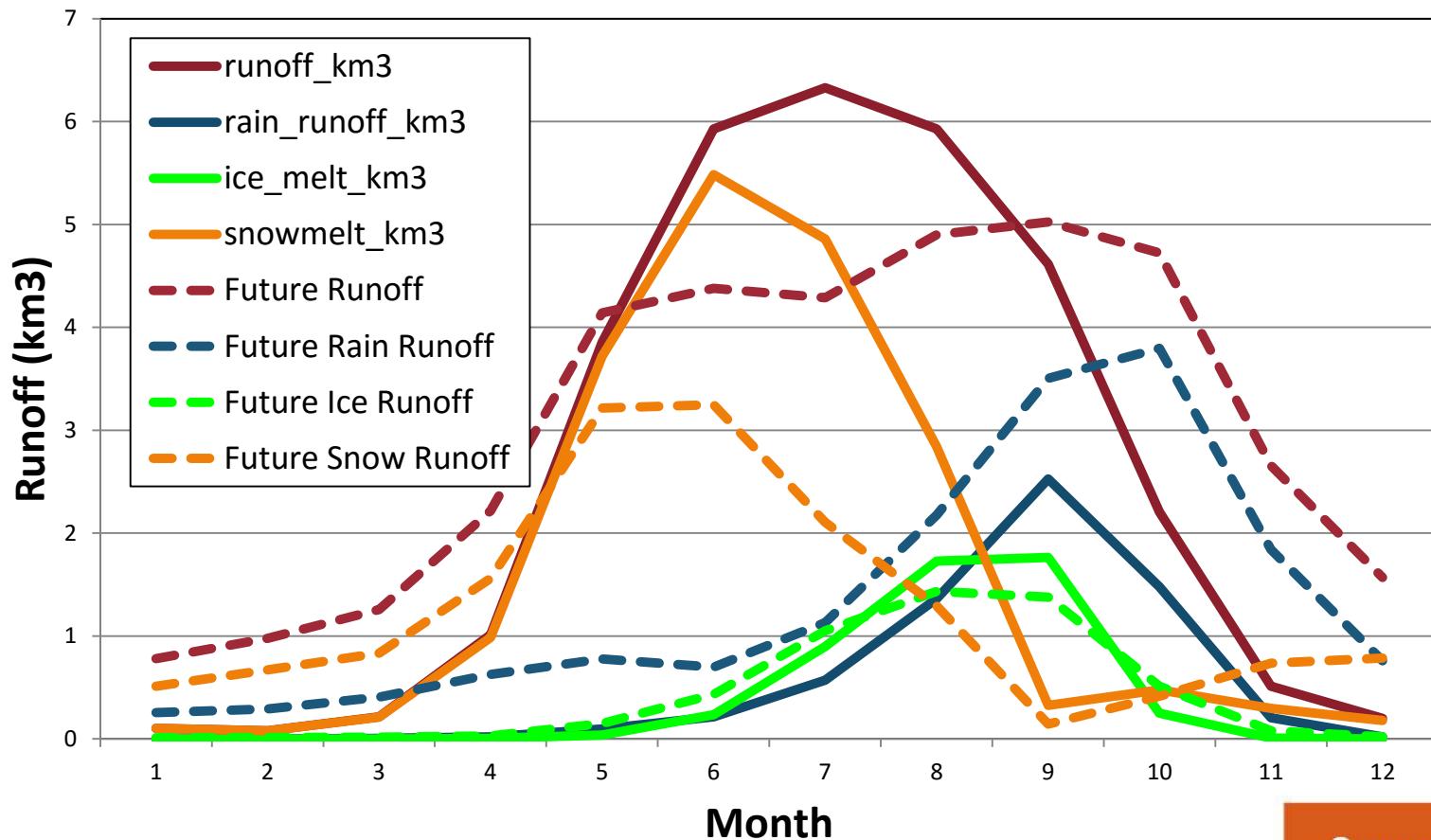


# Future partitioning

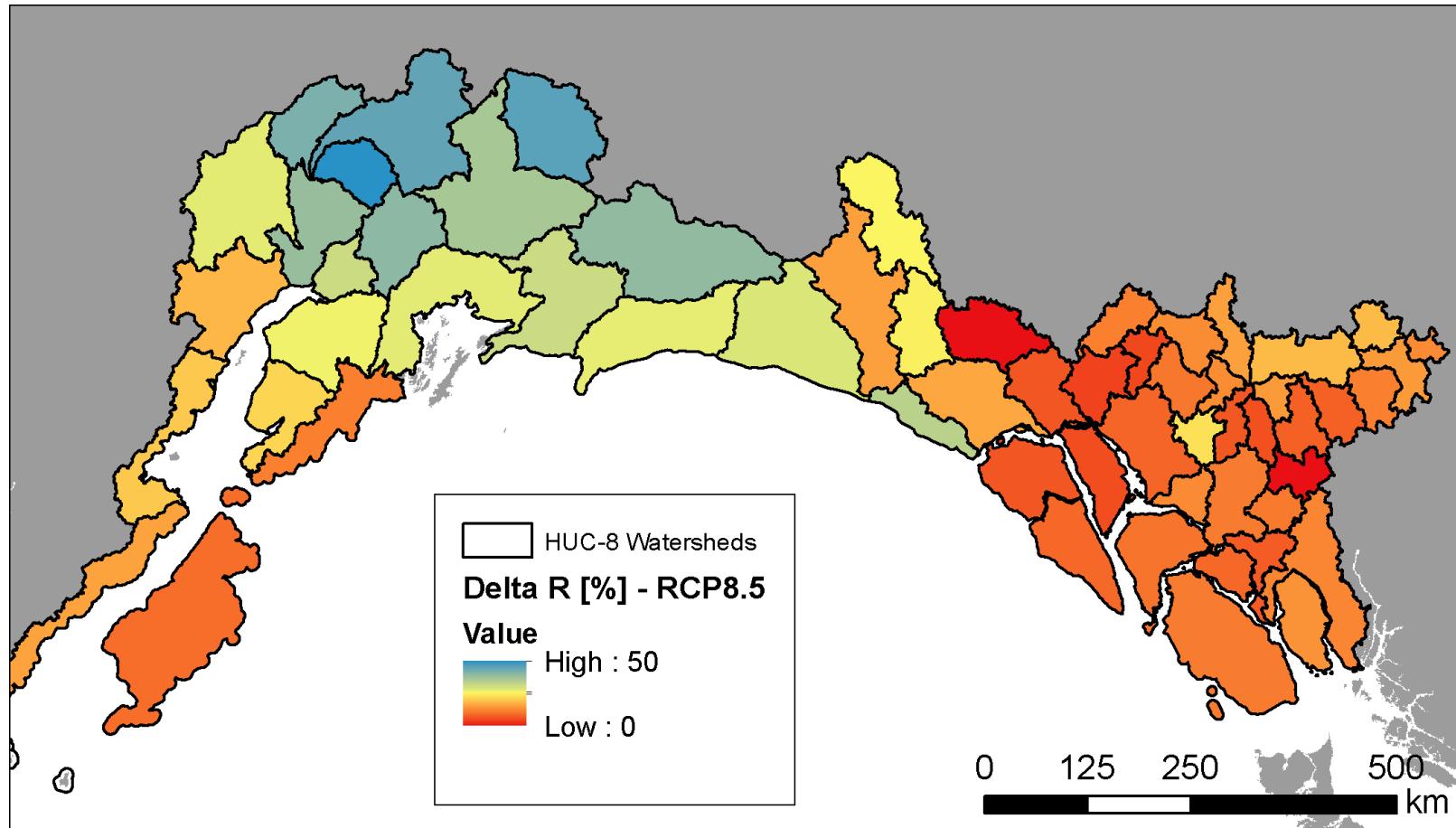


# Future Runoff (Glacier Bay)

Future Runoff (GBNP North)



# Watershed runoff changes

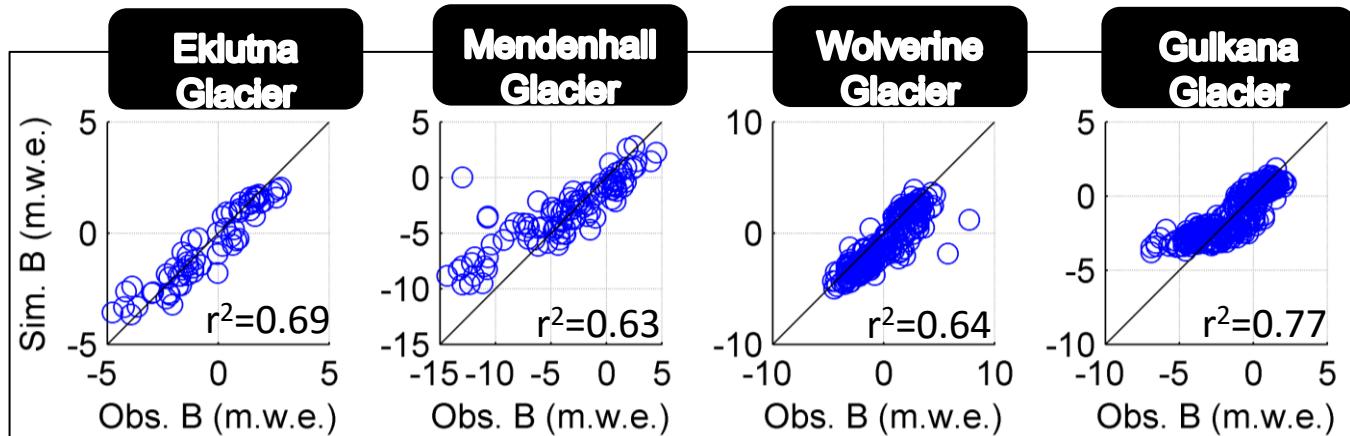
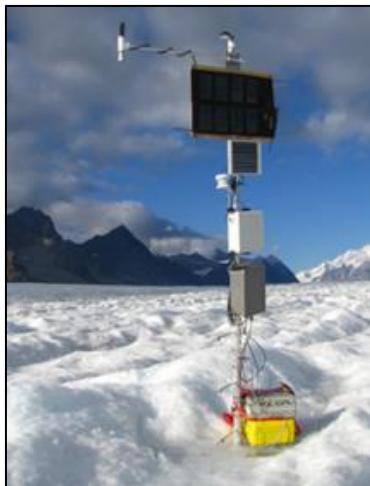


# Conclusions

- Alaskan hydrology is complex → the changes that are coming will be complex (in time and space)
- Overall, seasonal hydrographs will ‘flatten’ due to warmer, wetter conditions.
- We have NOT studied changes to extreme flows
- We have products (regression equations, map-based data products online) suitable for general audiences

# Does the model work?

## Glacier Mass Balance



## Streamflow

