

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

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# Great Rivers Reference Condition Workshop

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and The Council of State Governments

**EMAP**  
Great River Ecosystems



U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development

Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program

# **Assessing Florida's large rivers: GIS-based data mining and the impacts of the Atlantic Multi-decadal Oscillation**

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**Environmental, Science, Policy and Geography  
&  
The Center for the Science and Policy Analysis of  
Coastal Environments (C-SPACE)**

# **Florida MFL [Minimum Flows and Levels Program]**

**Section 373.042,  
Florida Statutes**

# **Directed to establish Minimum Flows and Levels (MFL's)**

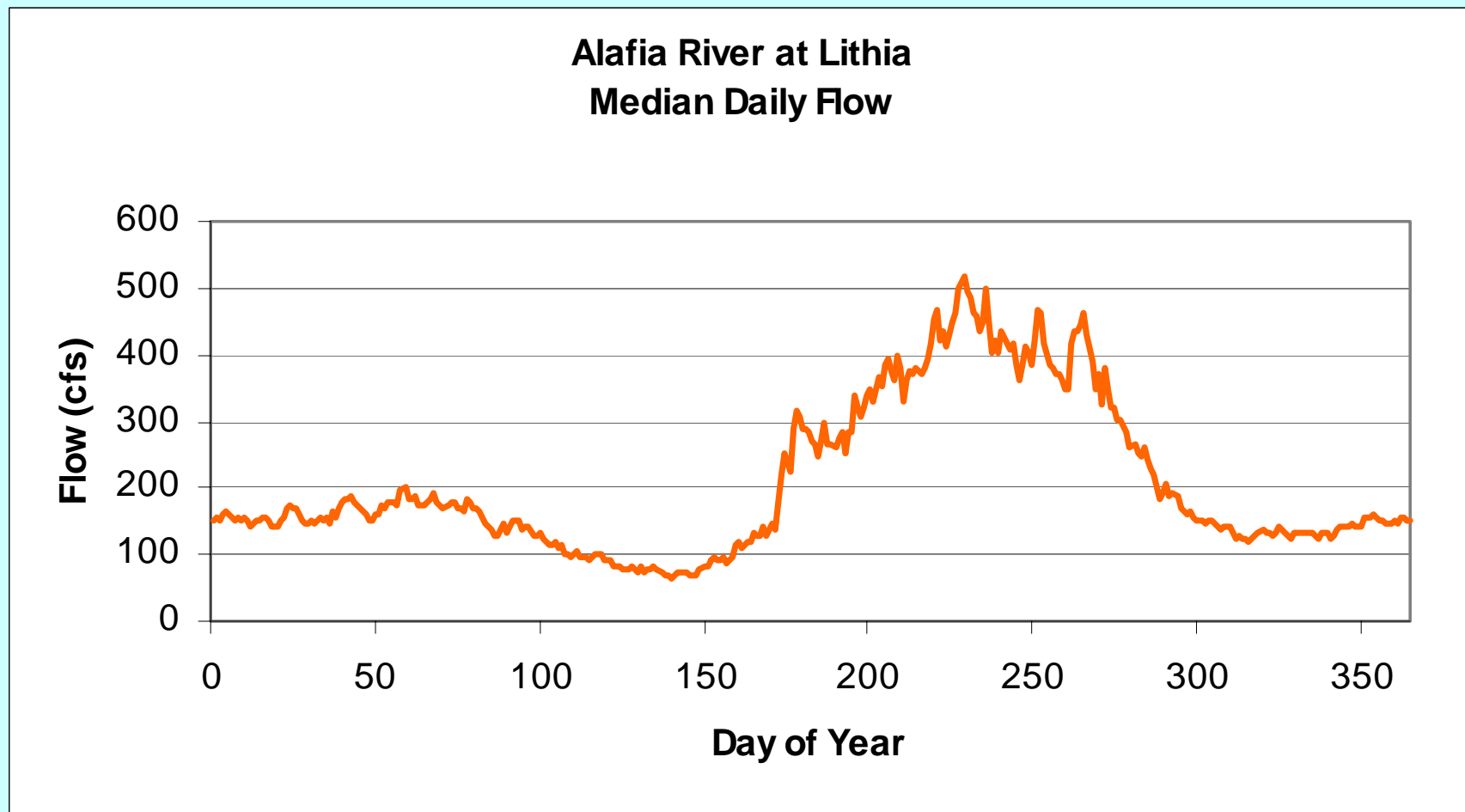
**Balance between  
consumptive use  
and protection of  
the resource from  
“significant harm”**

# **Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD)**

- 1. IFIM / PHABSIM**
- 2. Range of Variability  
(RVA)**

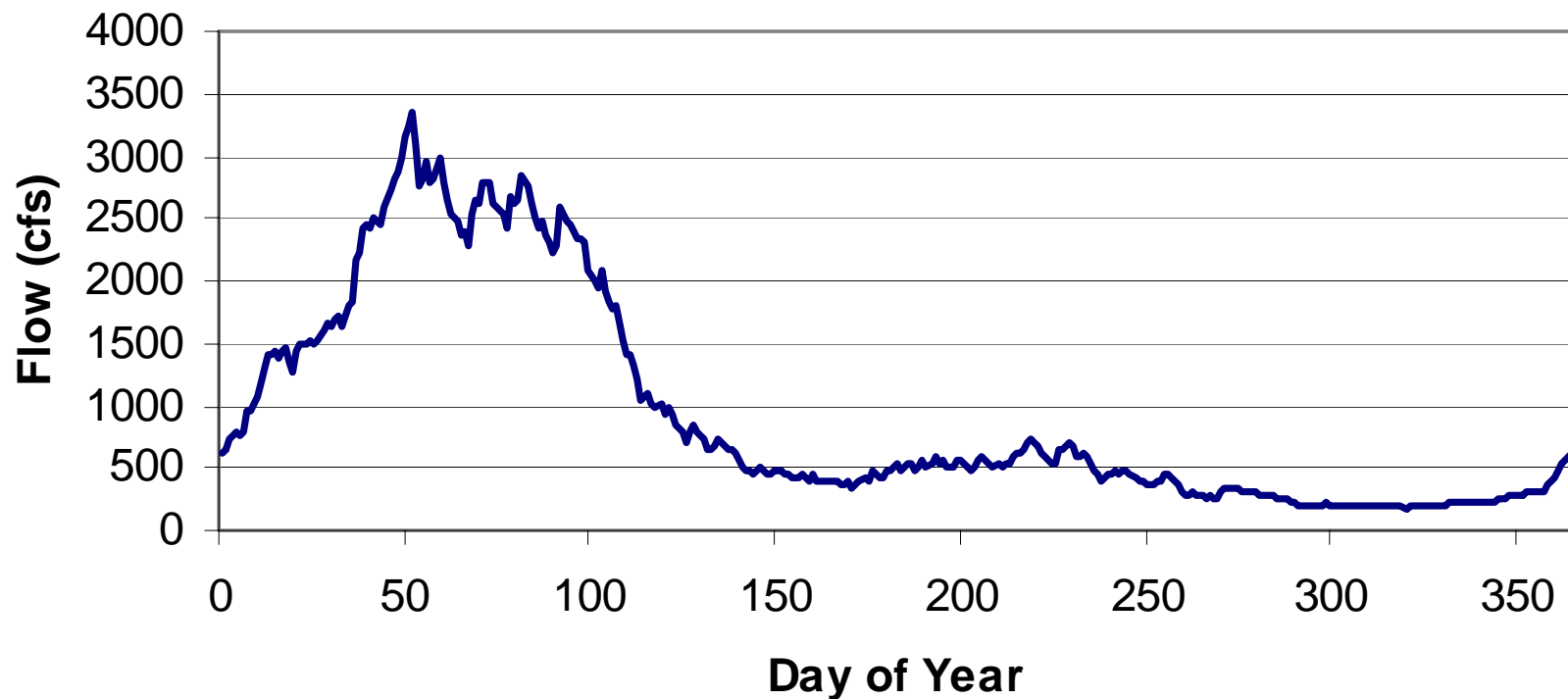


# Southern River Pattern (SRP)



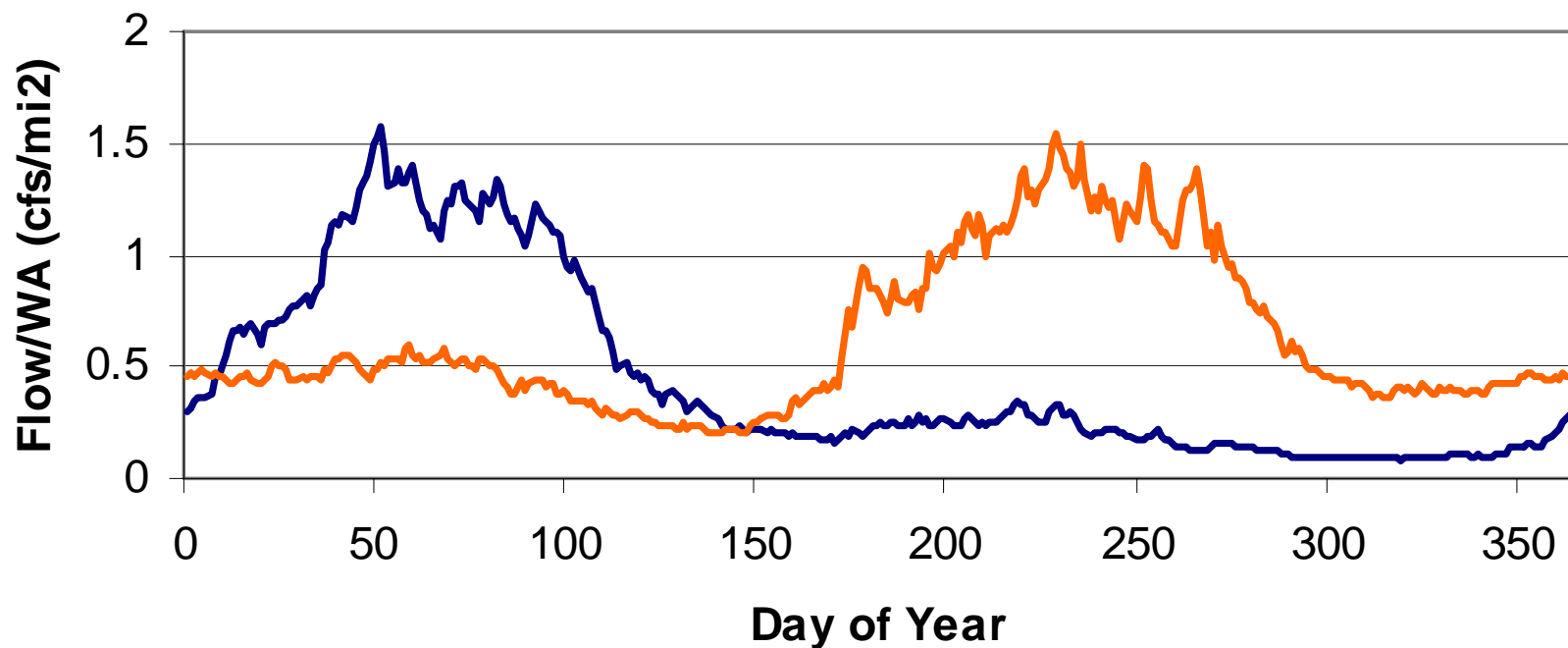
# Northern River Pattern (NRP)

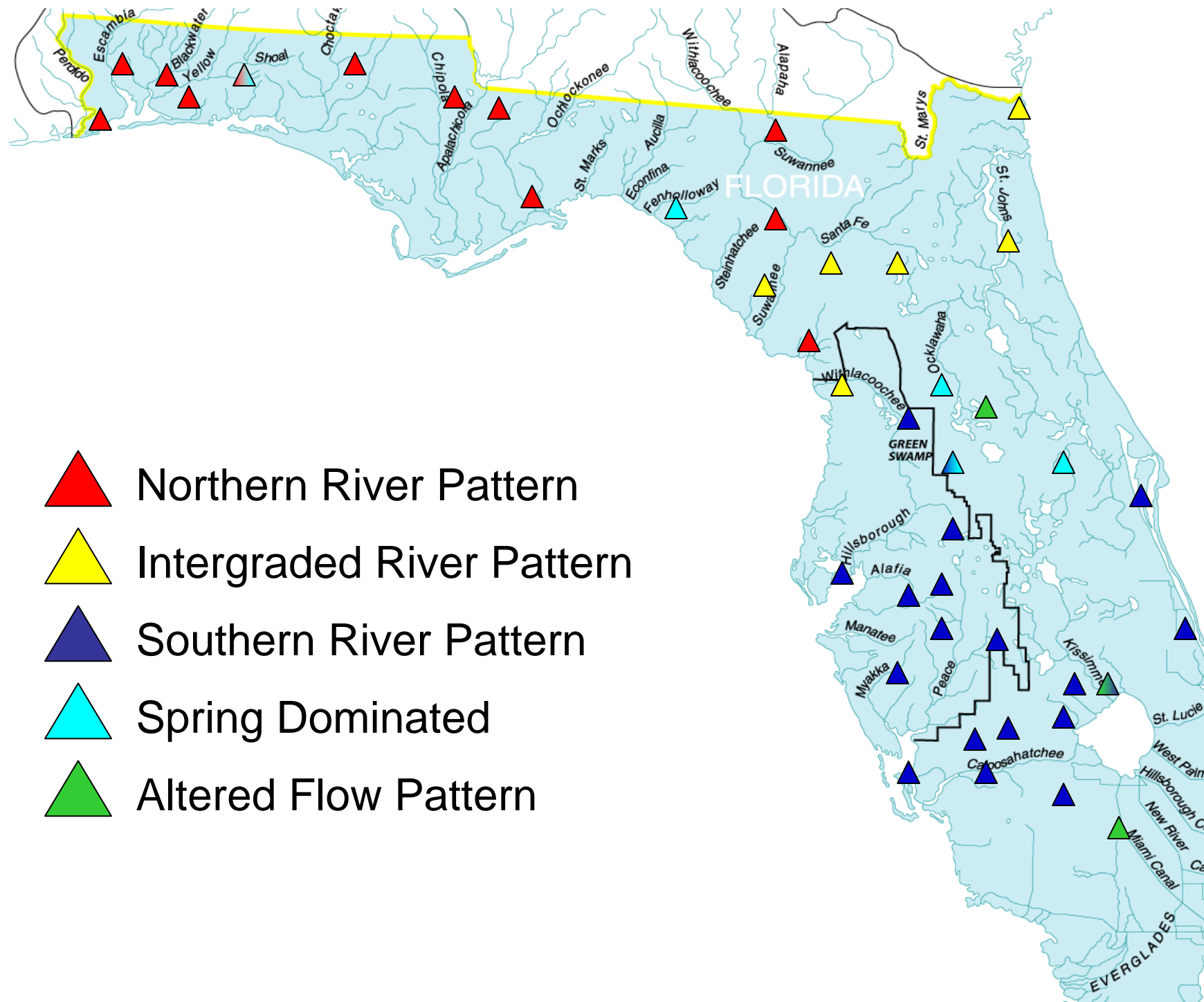
Withlacoochee River near Pinetta  
Median Daily Flow



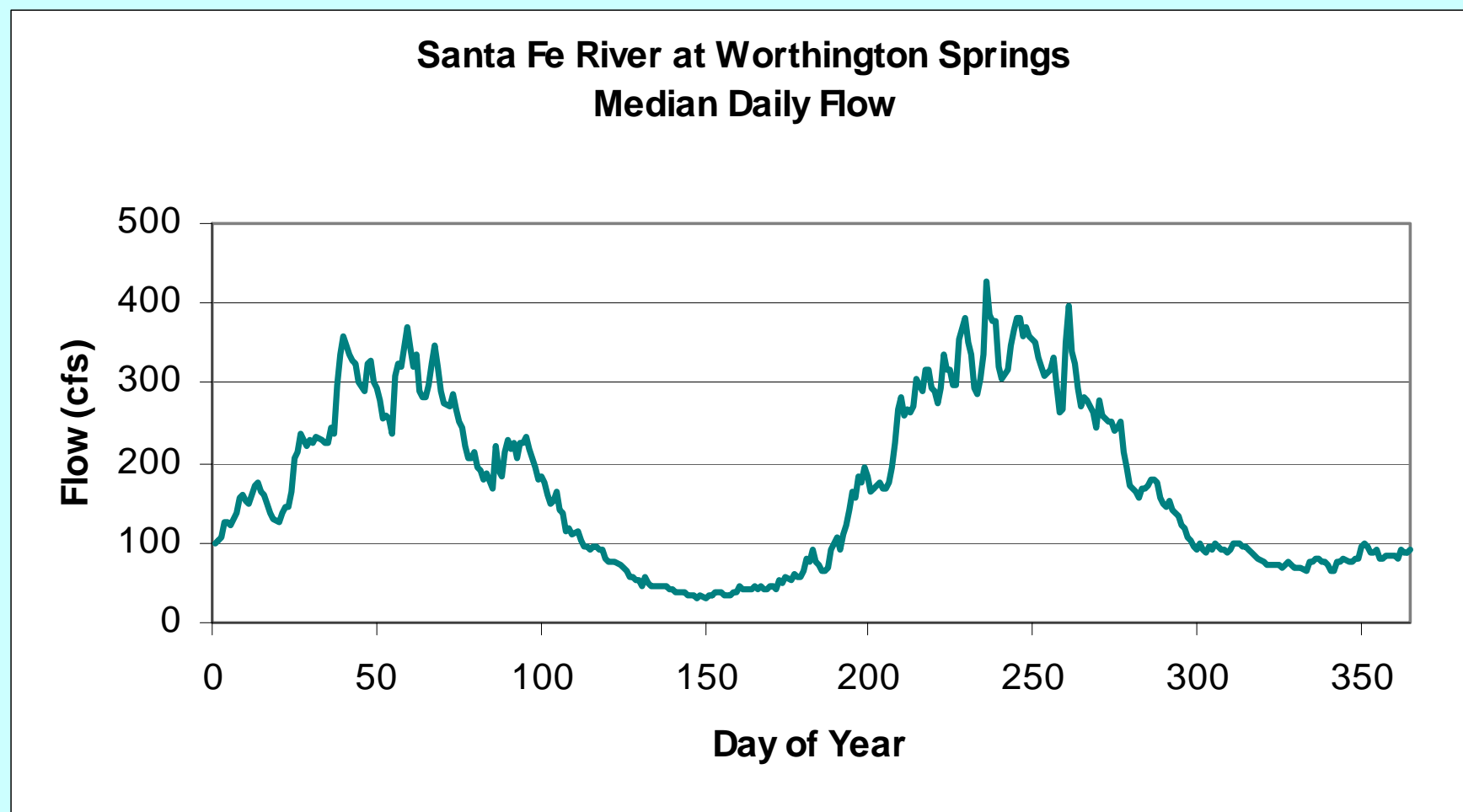
# Comparison of SRP and NRP

Comparison of Median Daily Flows for Northern  
Withlacoochee (blue) with Alafia (orange) Rivers





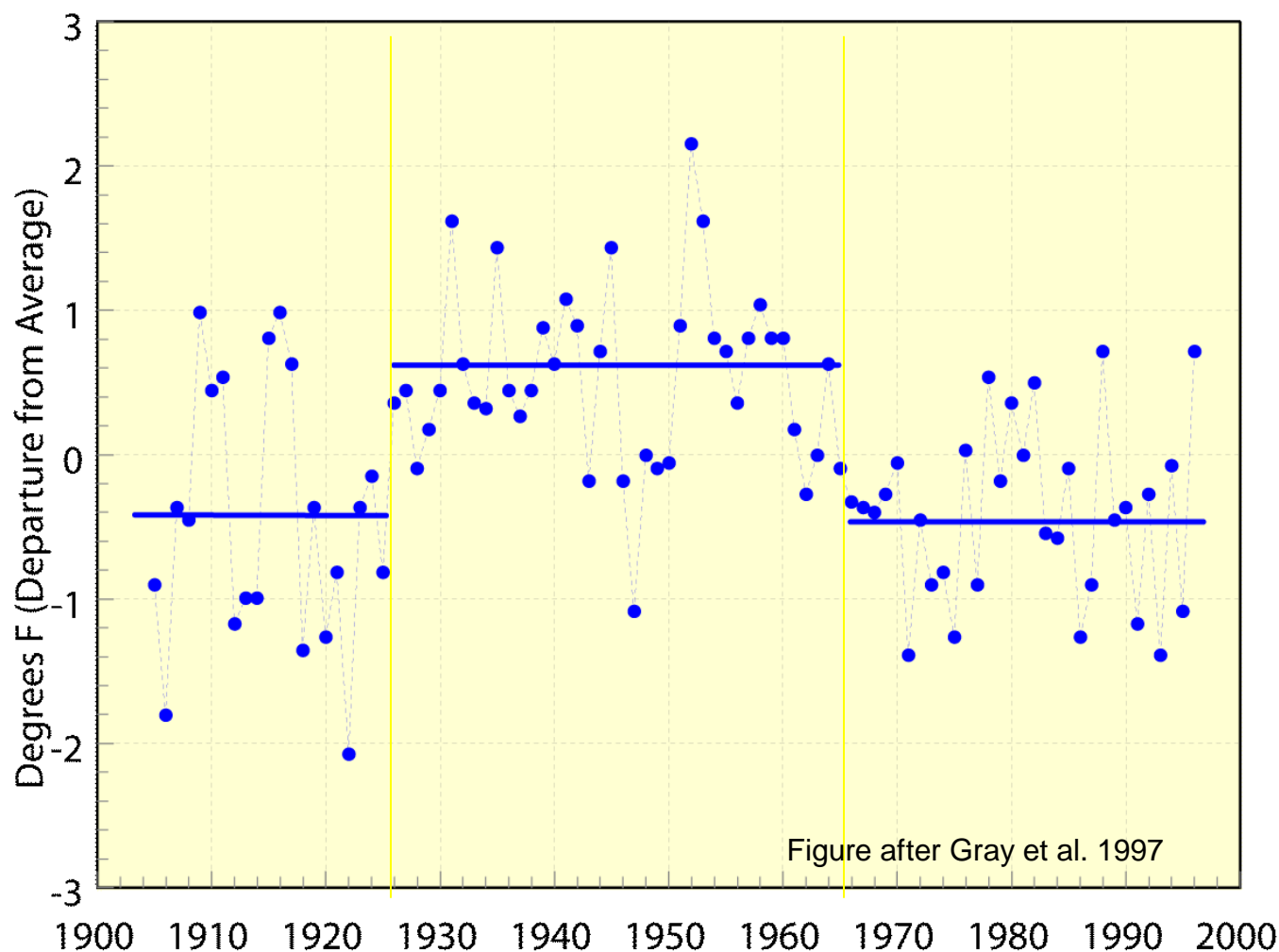
# Intergraded River Pattern (IRP)



# Time-Series Analysis

- Both IFIM and RVA require 20 years of daily flow records for the target river
- Historically, this has been the preceding 20-years of flow
- Enter the AMO !!!

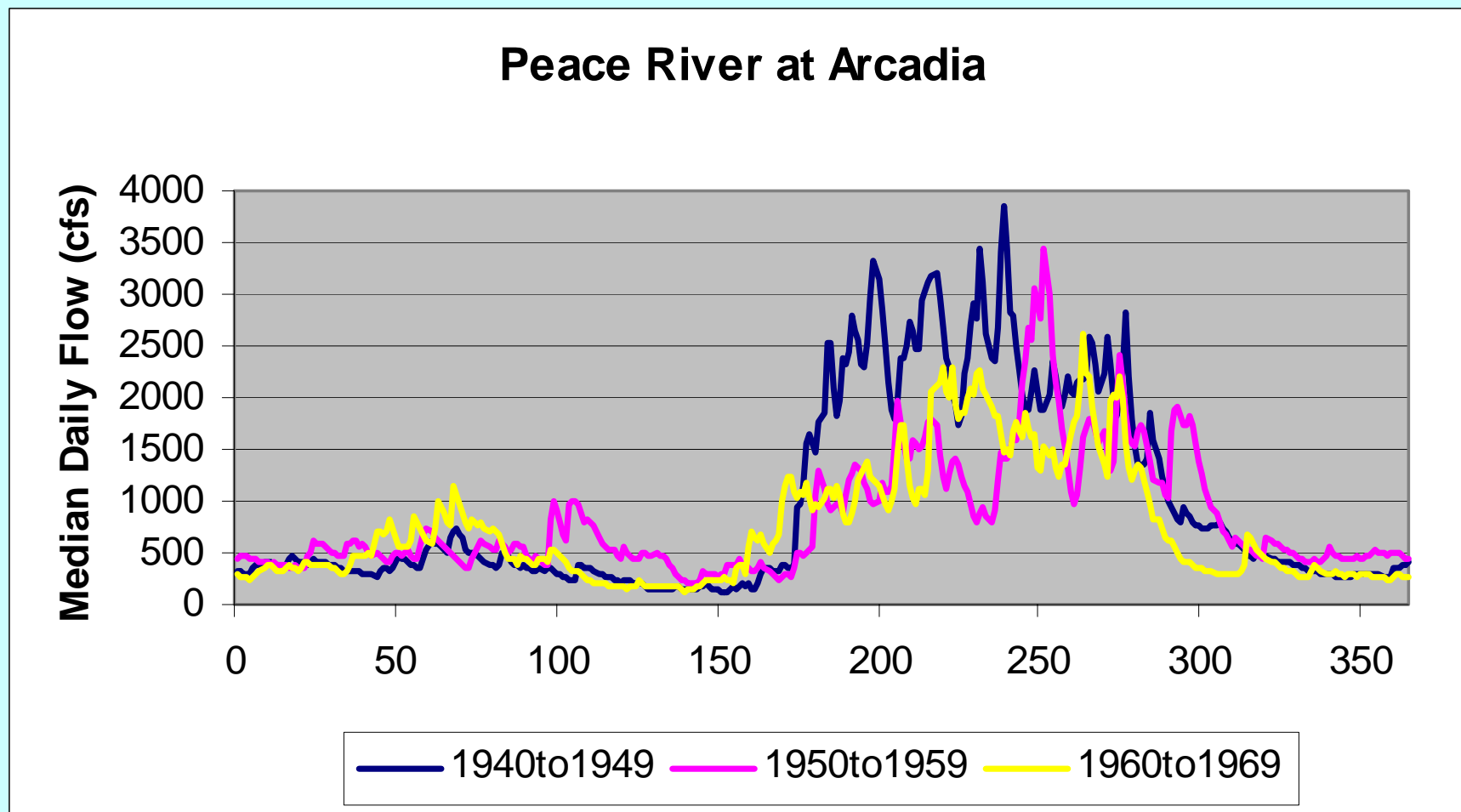
# Atlantic Ocean Sea Surface Temperature 50N-60N Lat/10W-50W Long



“North Atlantic sea surface temperatures for 1856-1999 contain a 65-80 year cycle with a 0.4 C range, referred as the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) by Kerr [2000].”

from Enfield et al. 2001

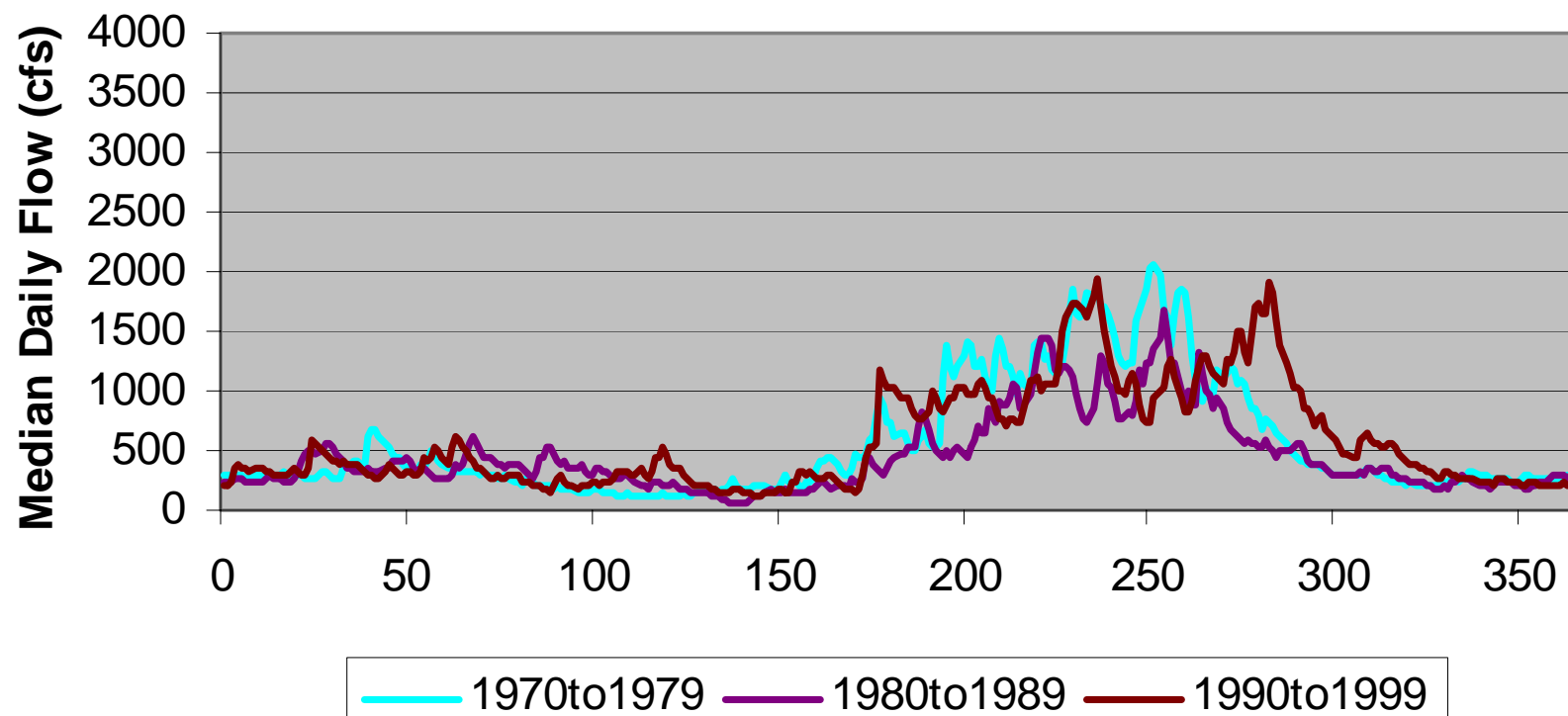
# Mutidecadal flow pattern between 1940 and 1969



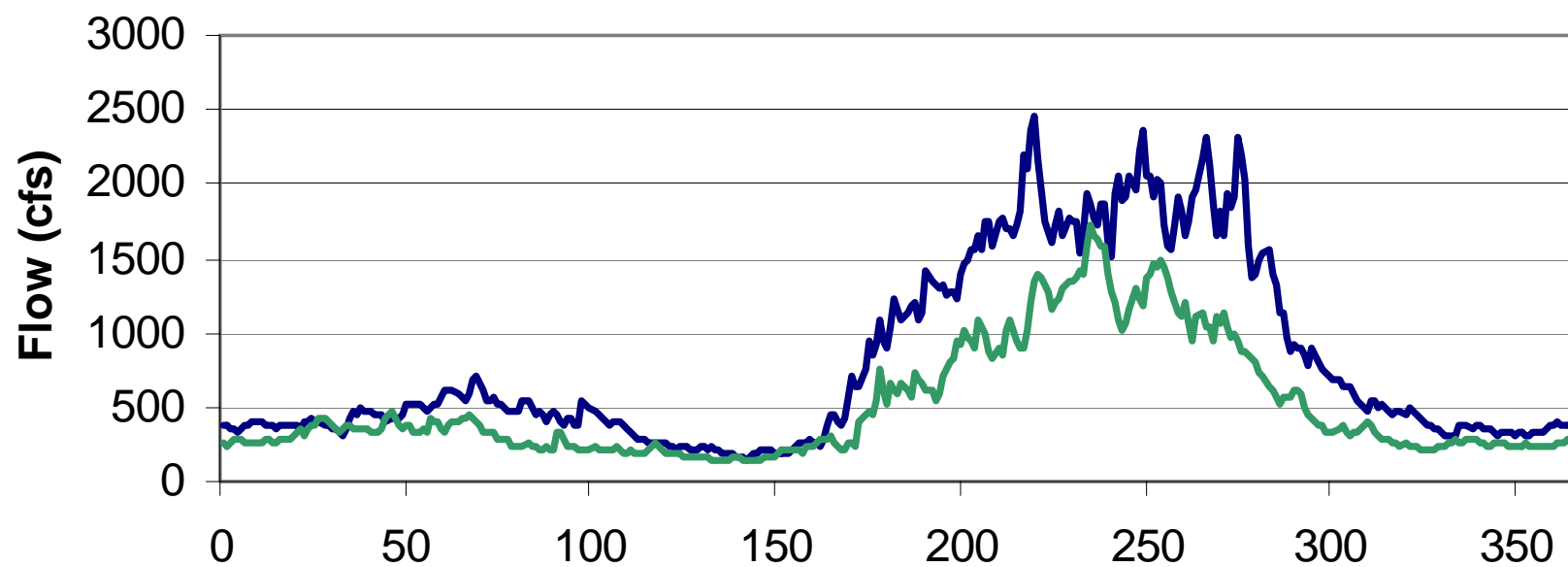


## Between 1970 and 1999

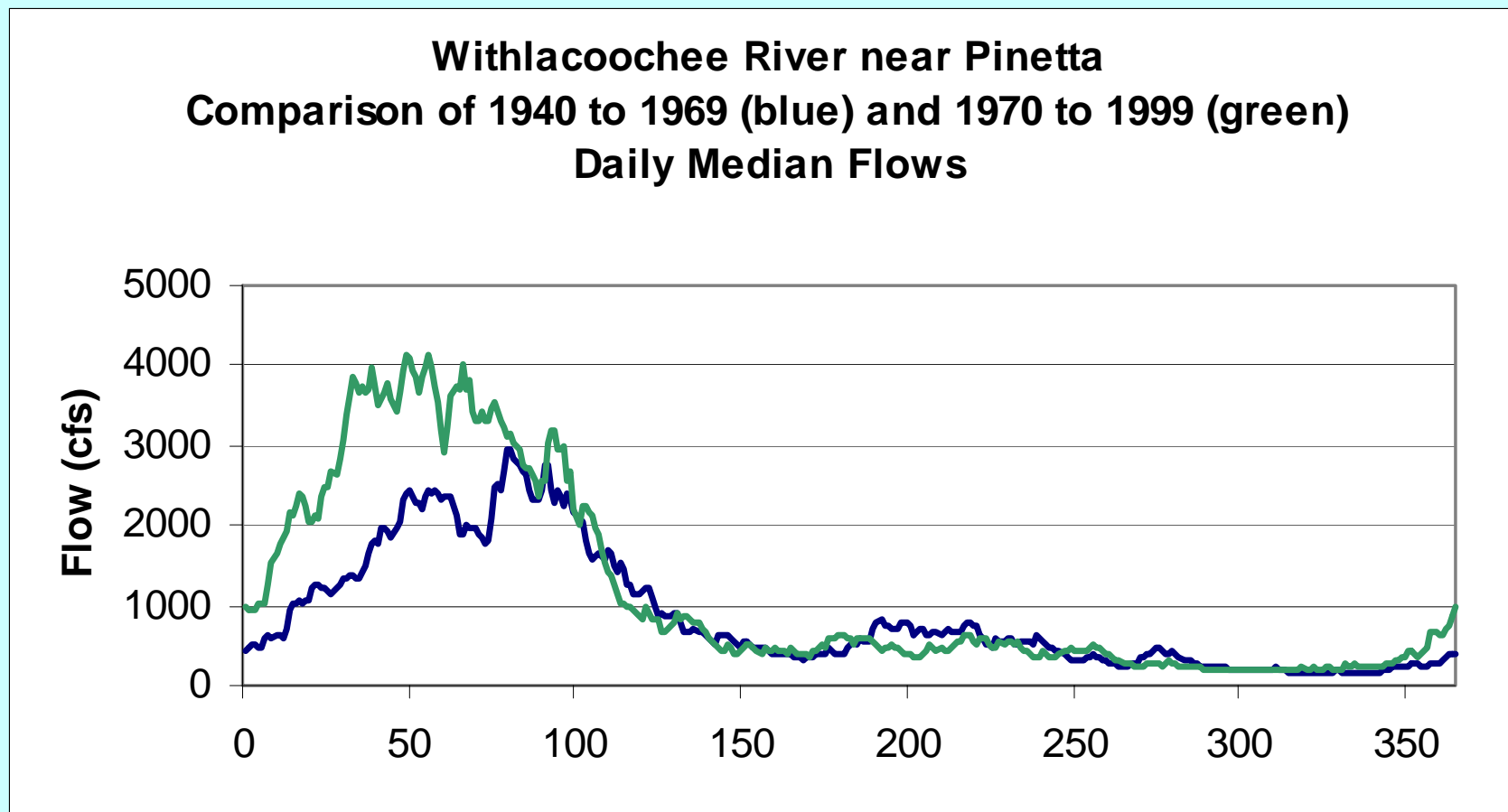
### Peace River at Arcadia



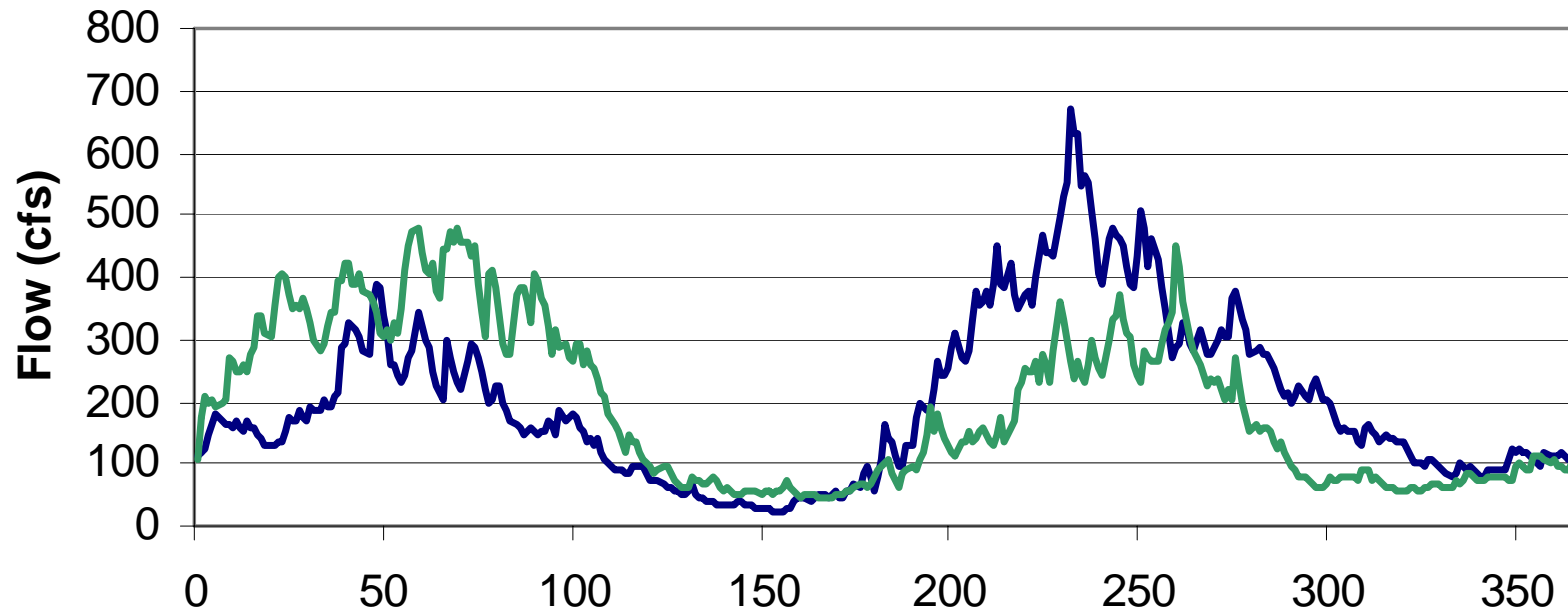
**Peace River at Arcadia**  
**Comparison of 1940 to 1969 (blue) and 1970 to 1999 (green)**  
**Daily Median Flows**



**For Rivers with NRP, flows for the period 1970 to 1999 were greater than for the period 1940 to 1969**



**Santa Fe River at Worthington Springs**  
**Comparison of 1940 to 1969 (blue) and 1970 to 1999 (green)**  
**Daily Median Flows**



# **Are there two flow management strategies ?**

- **Dry Tri-Decade**
- **Wet Tri-Decade**



<b>Month</b>	<b>Dry TriDecade Most Sensitive Life-Stage</b>	<b>Wet TriDecade Most Sensitive Life-Stage</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Juvenile Largemouth Bass</b>
<b>May</b>	<b>Spawning Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Juvenile Largemouth Bass</b>
<b>June</b>	<b>Juvenile Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>July</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>	
<b>August</b>		<b>Benthic Macroinvertebrates</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>October</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>November</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Spotted Sunfish</b>
<b>December</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>	<b>Adult Largemouth Bass</b>

Month	Dry TriDecade Most Sensitive Life-Stage	Wet TriDecade Most Sensitive Life-Stage
January	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
February	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
March	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
April	Adult Largemouth Bass	Juvenile Largemouth Bass
May	Spawning Largemouth Bass	Juvenile Largemouth Bass
June	Juvenile Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
July	Adult Spotted Sunfish	
August		Benthic Macroinvertebrates
September	Adult Spotted Sunfish	Adult Spotted Sunfish
October	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
November	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Spotted Sunfish
December	Adult Largemouth Bass	Adult Largemouth Bass



# **Are there two flow management strategies ?**

- **Dry Tri-Decade**
- **Wet Tri-Decade**

# Are there two reference conditions?

- **Dry Tri-Decade**
- **Wet Tri-Decade**

# **Are there two reference conditions?**

- **How have (or will) changes in landuse affect management and monitoring?**

# **Are there two reference conditions?**

- **Influence of phosphate mining and citrus production?**

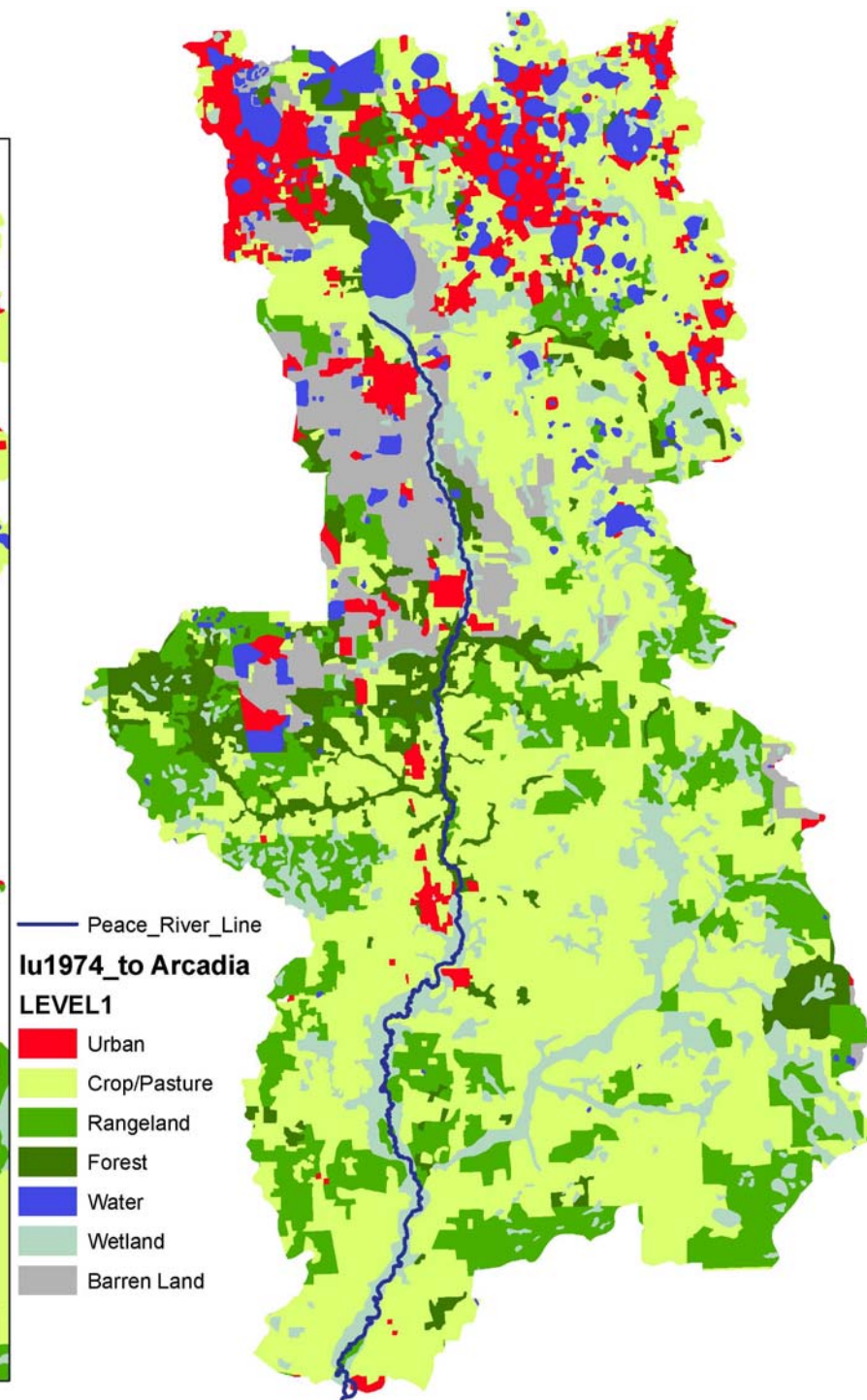
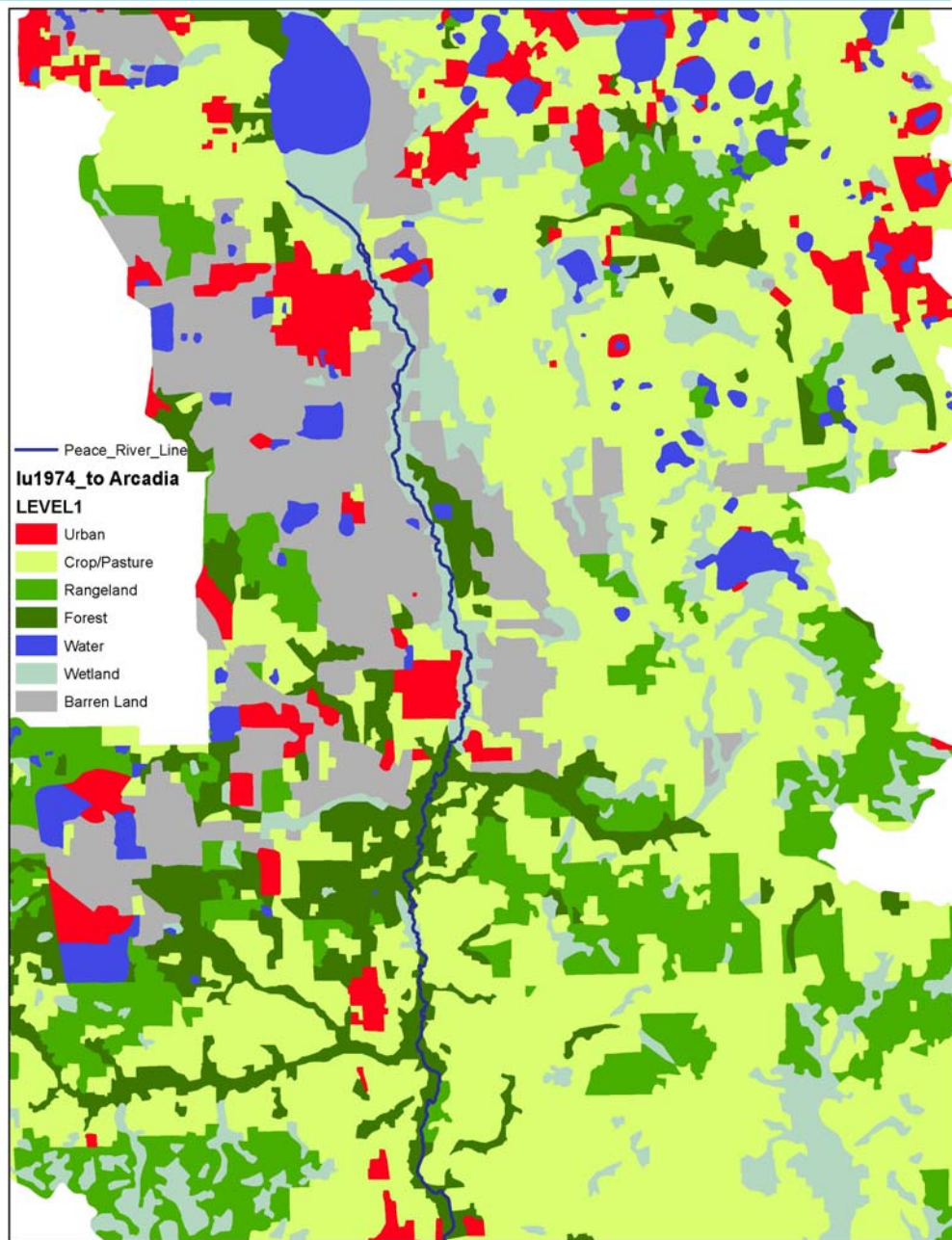






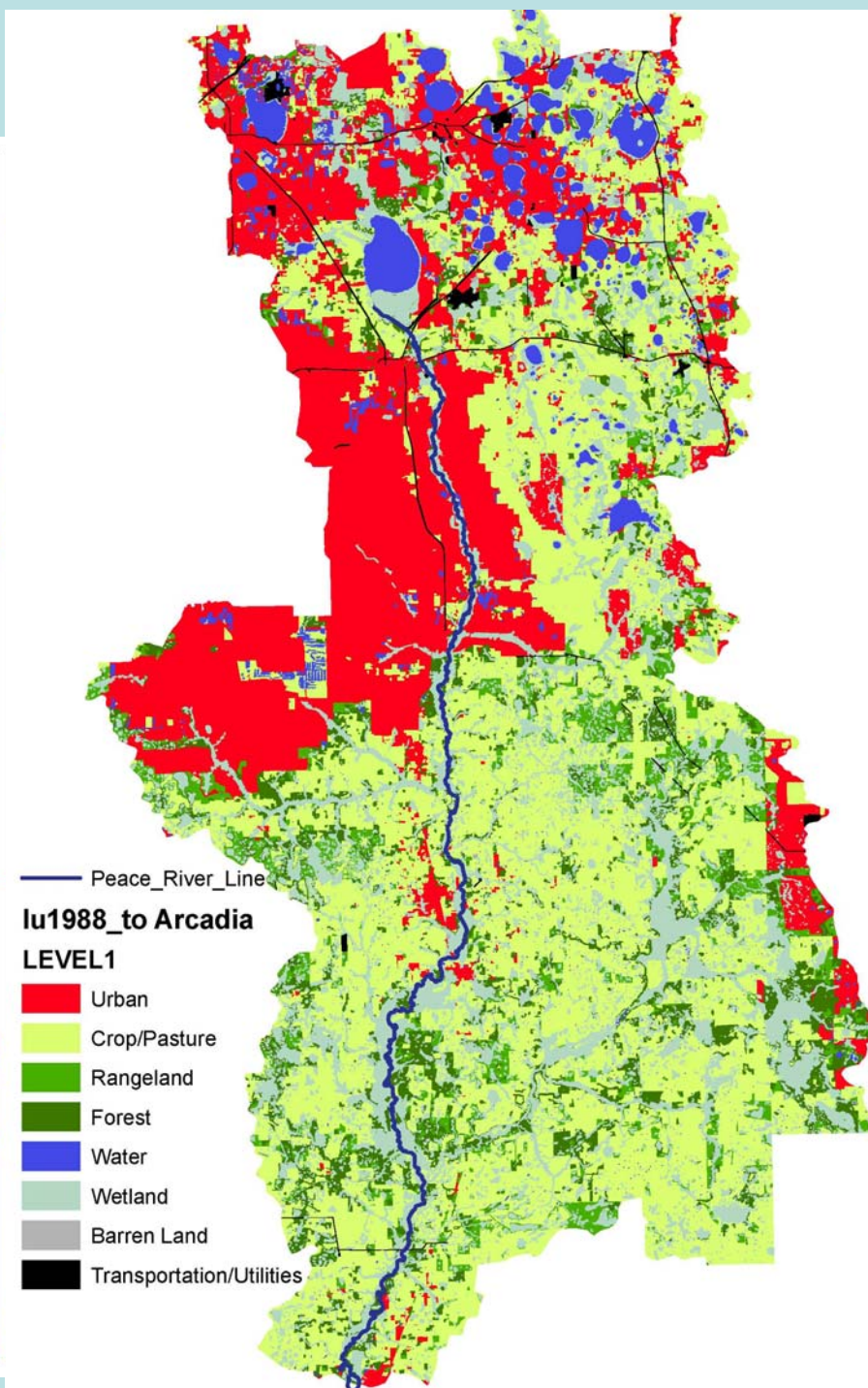
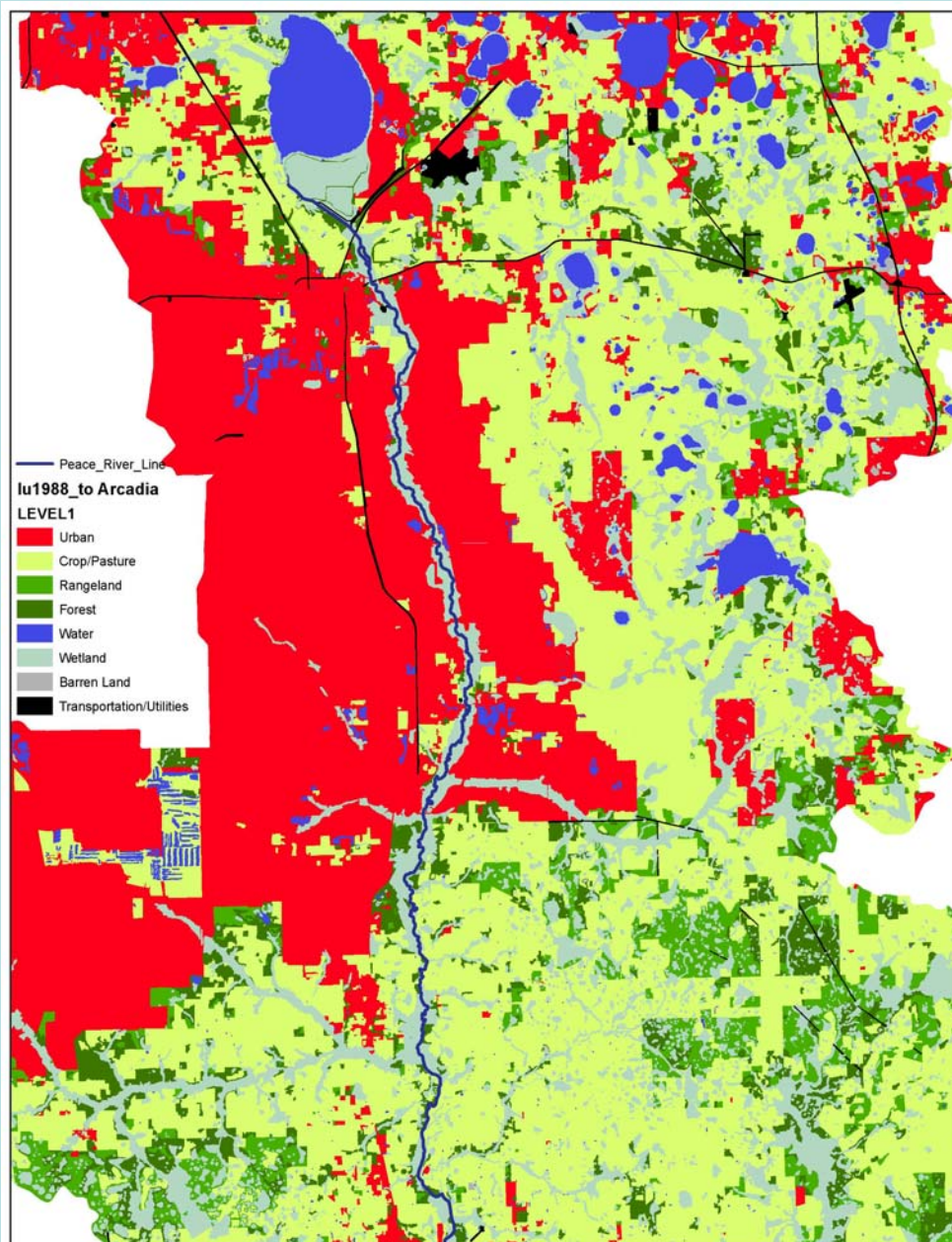


# 1974 Landuse



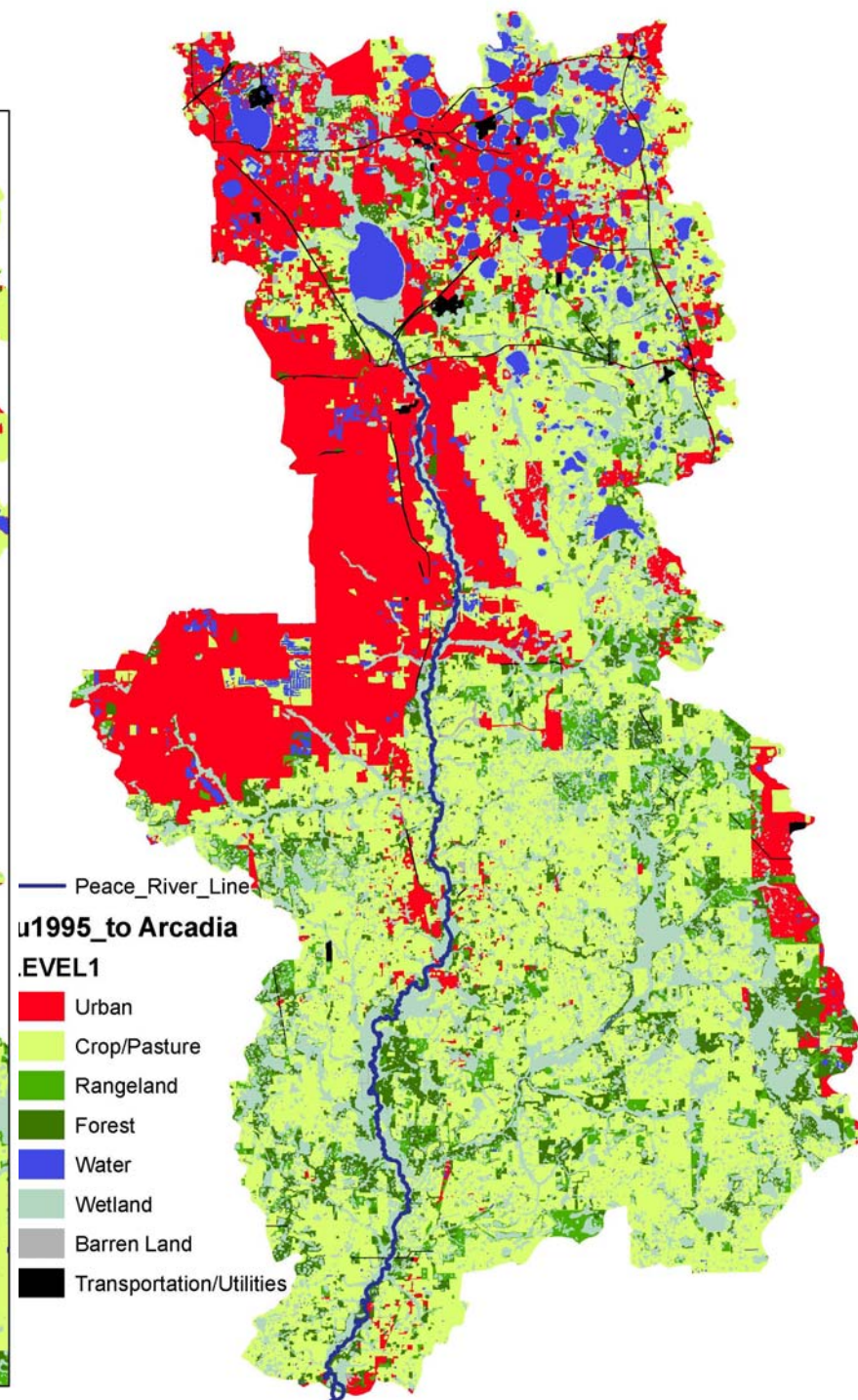
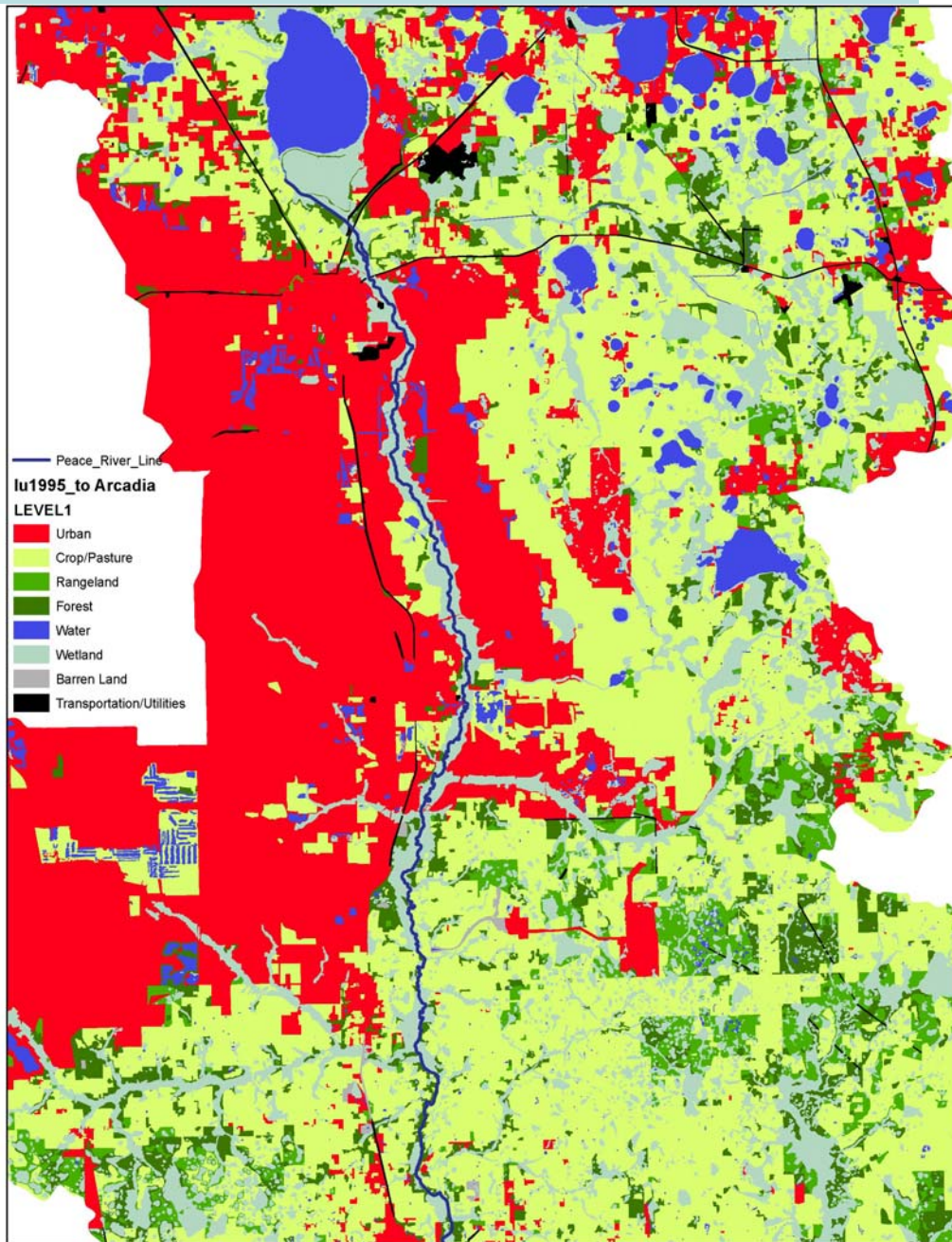


# 1988 Landuse



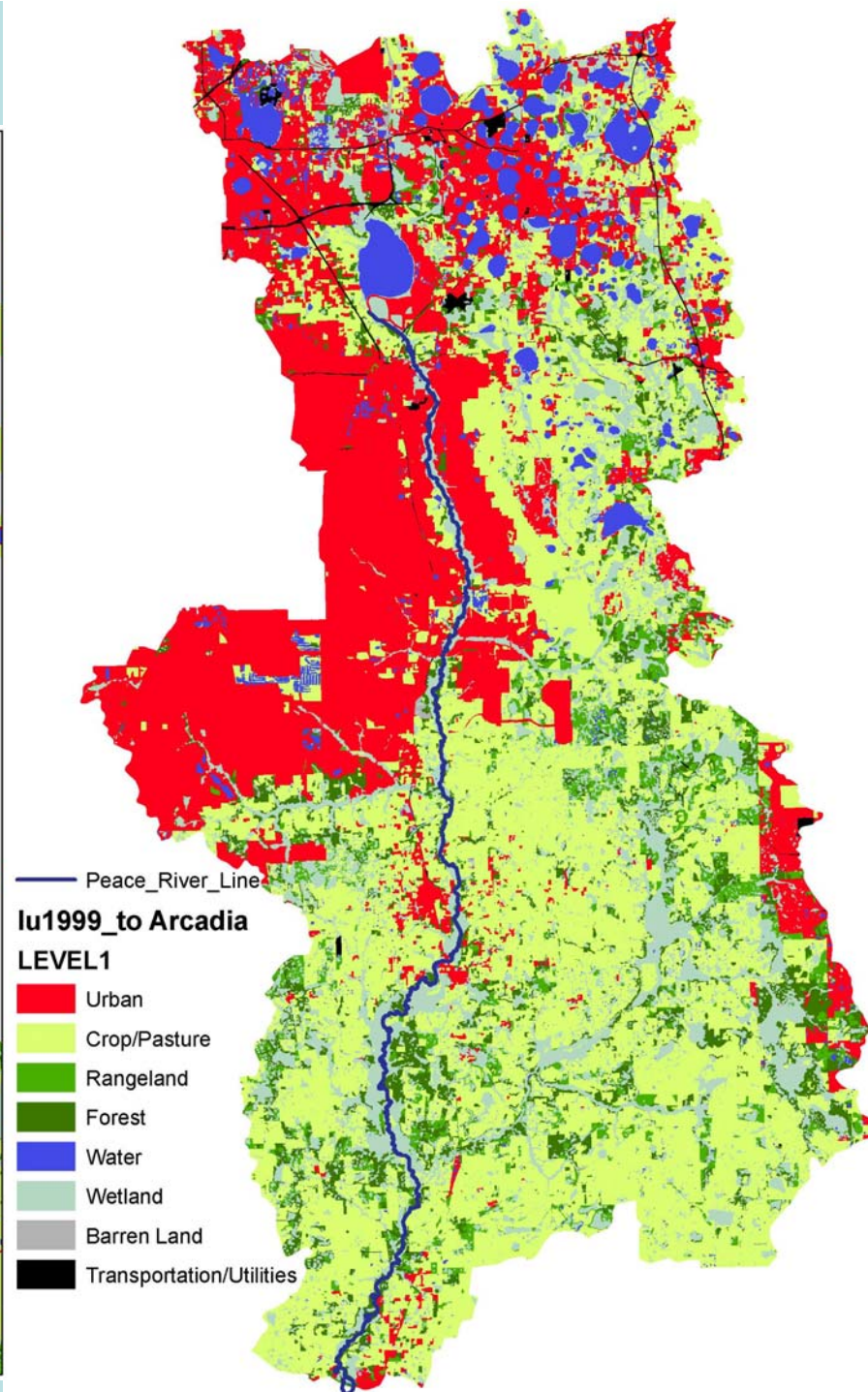
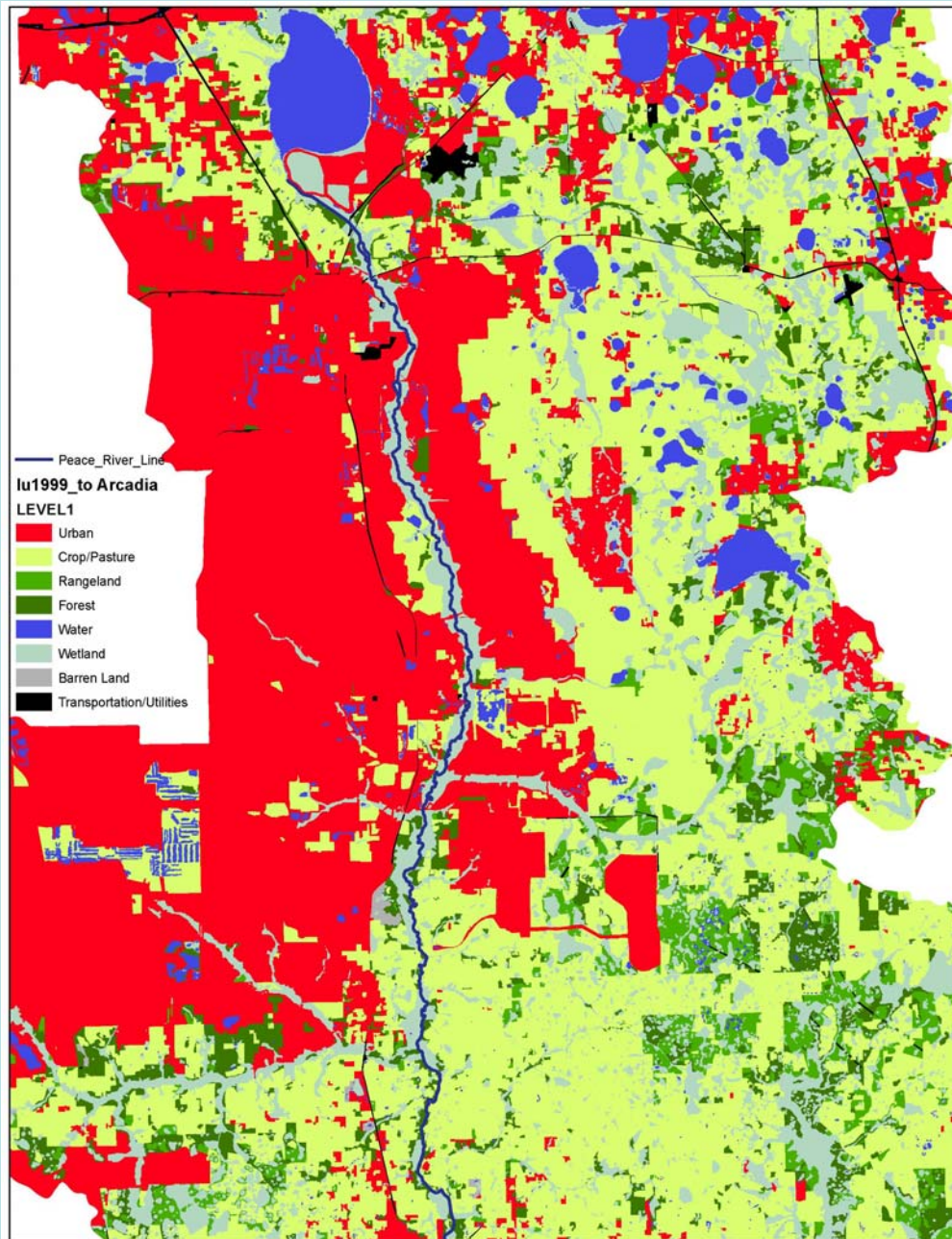


## 1995 Landuse





# 1999 Landuse



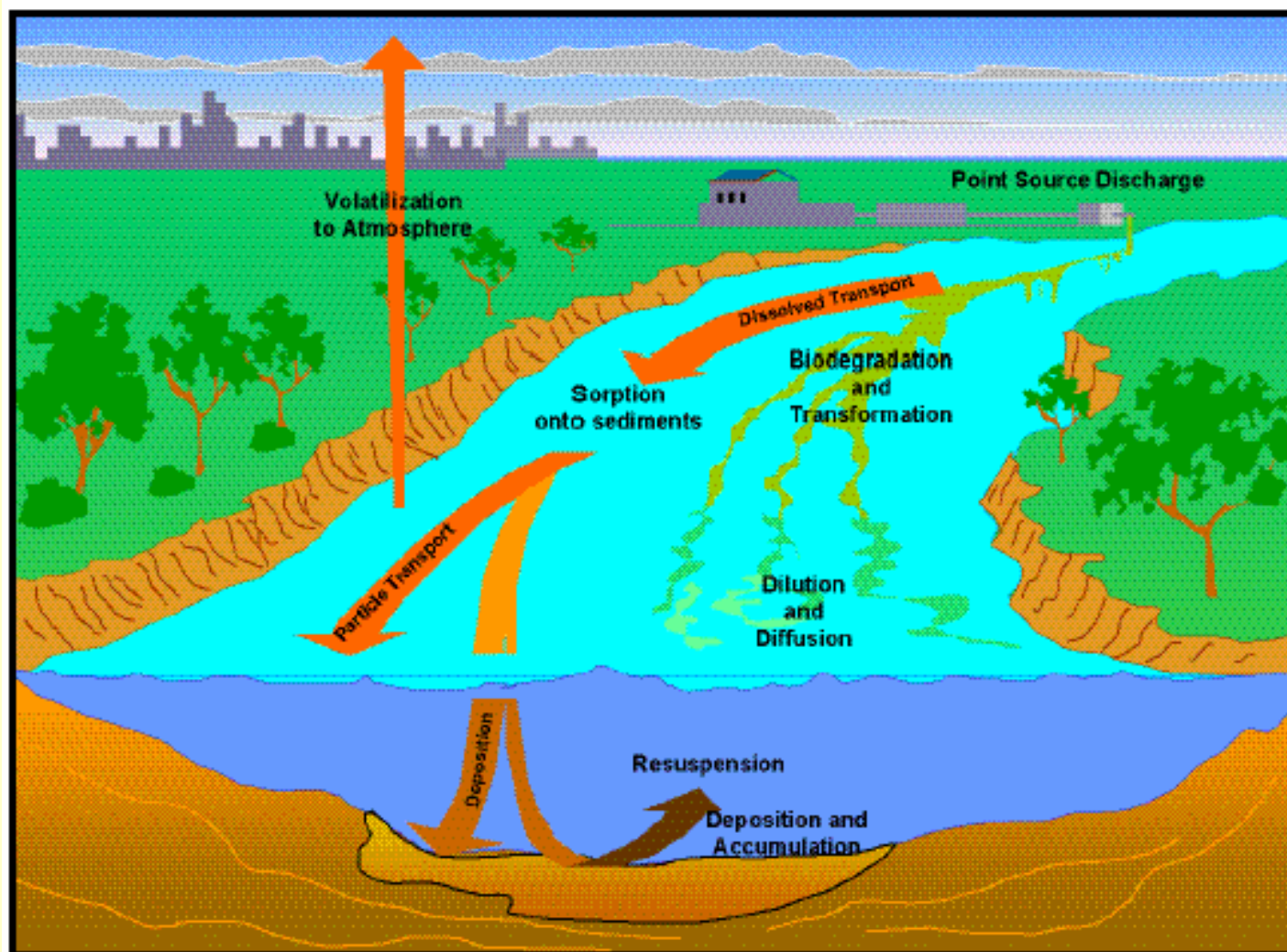
# SWAT

## (Soil Water Analysis Tool)

- GIS-based model supported by EPA for development of TMDL's
- Simulates a river's physical and chemical condition to various "management practices" / land-use changes



# In-stream process modeled by SWAT



## Needed to Create Links to SWAT

1. Surveys of channel geometry through time (Library of Congress, photographs, USGS profiles, remote sensing)
2. Development of habitat criteria for regional biota (largely unknown)
3. Assessment of biological response to increases/decreases in water quality and sediment loading

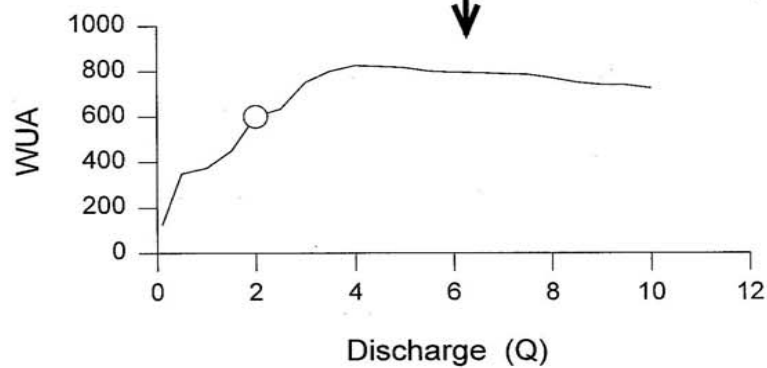
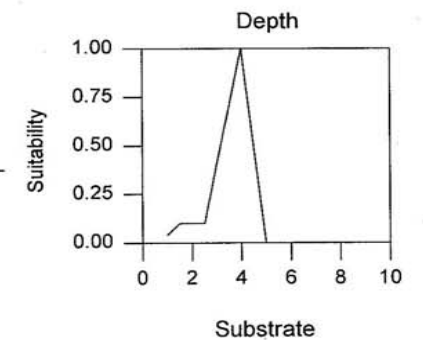
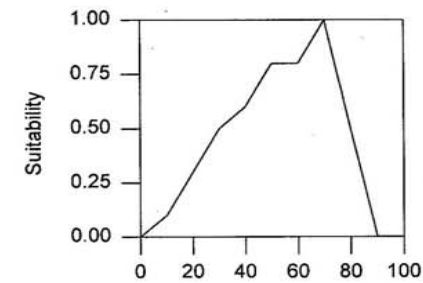
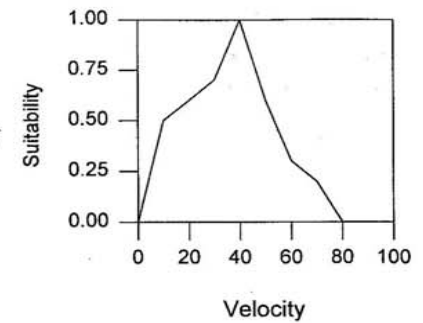
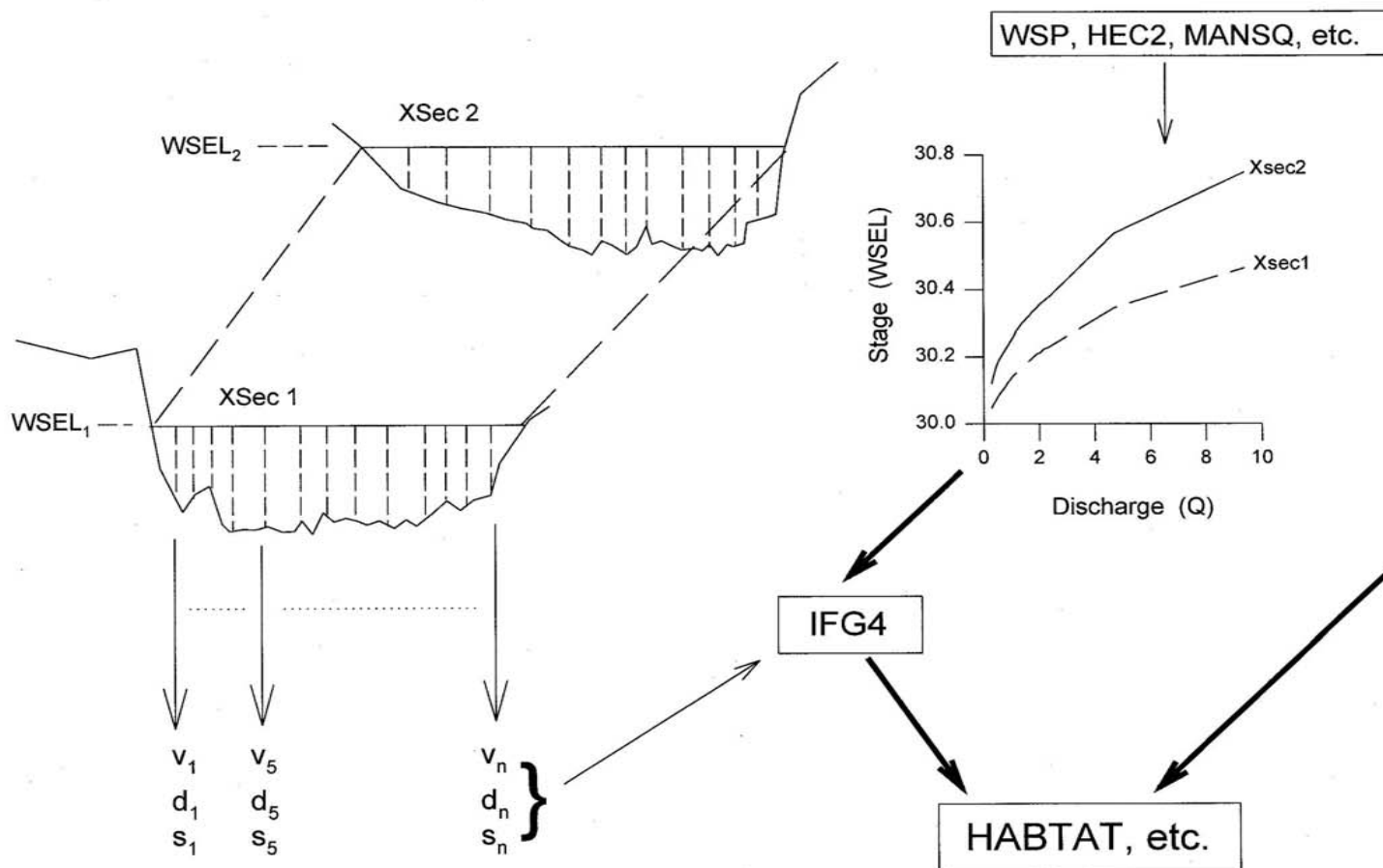
# Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM)

- Simulates Hydrologic Conditions
- Linked to Habitat Preferences (velocity, depth, substrate or complex hydraulics)
- Predicts Change in Habitat over a range of Discharges

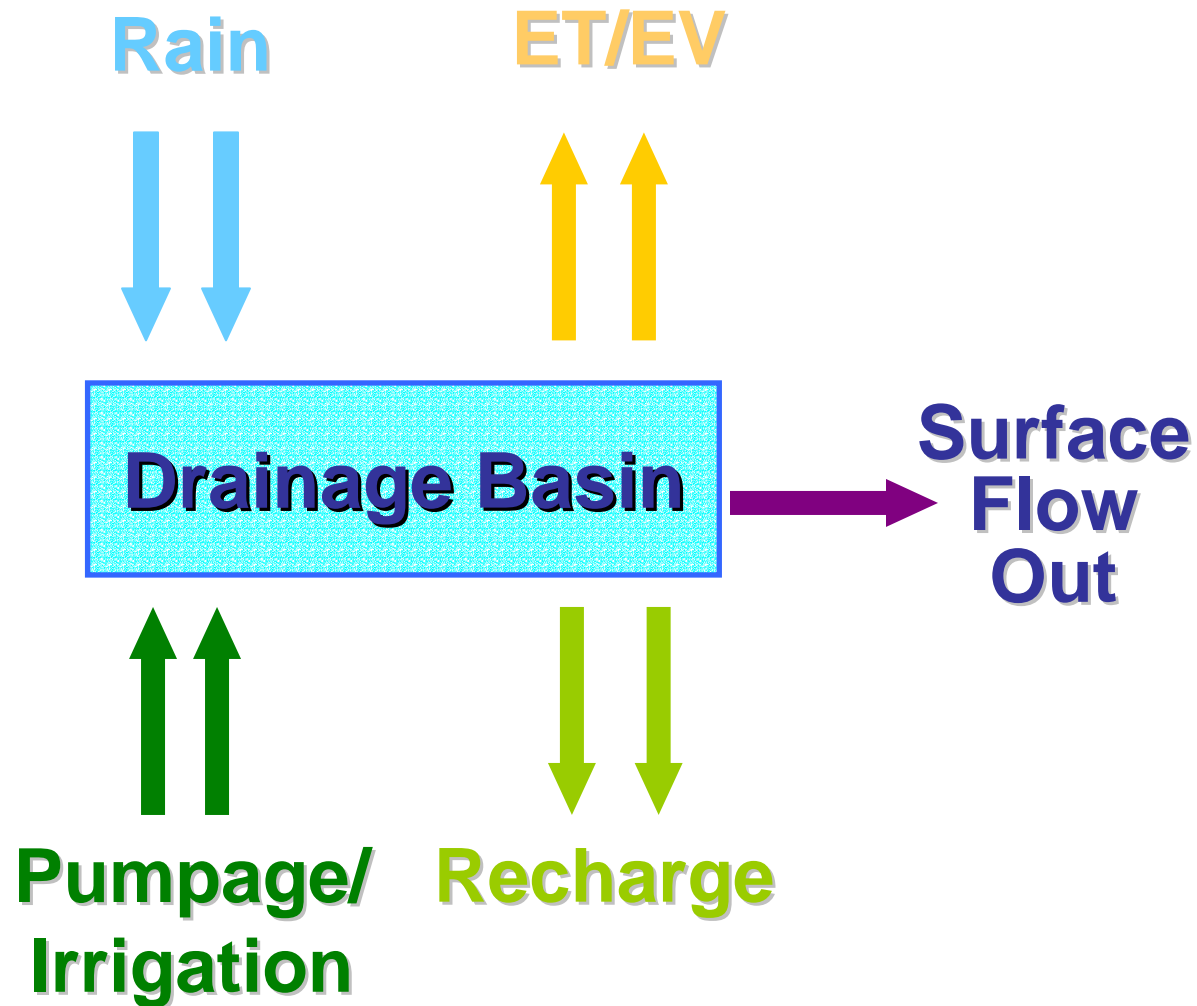
# **Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM)**

- **Software: PHABSIM -  
The Physical HABitat  
SIMulation**



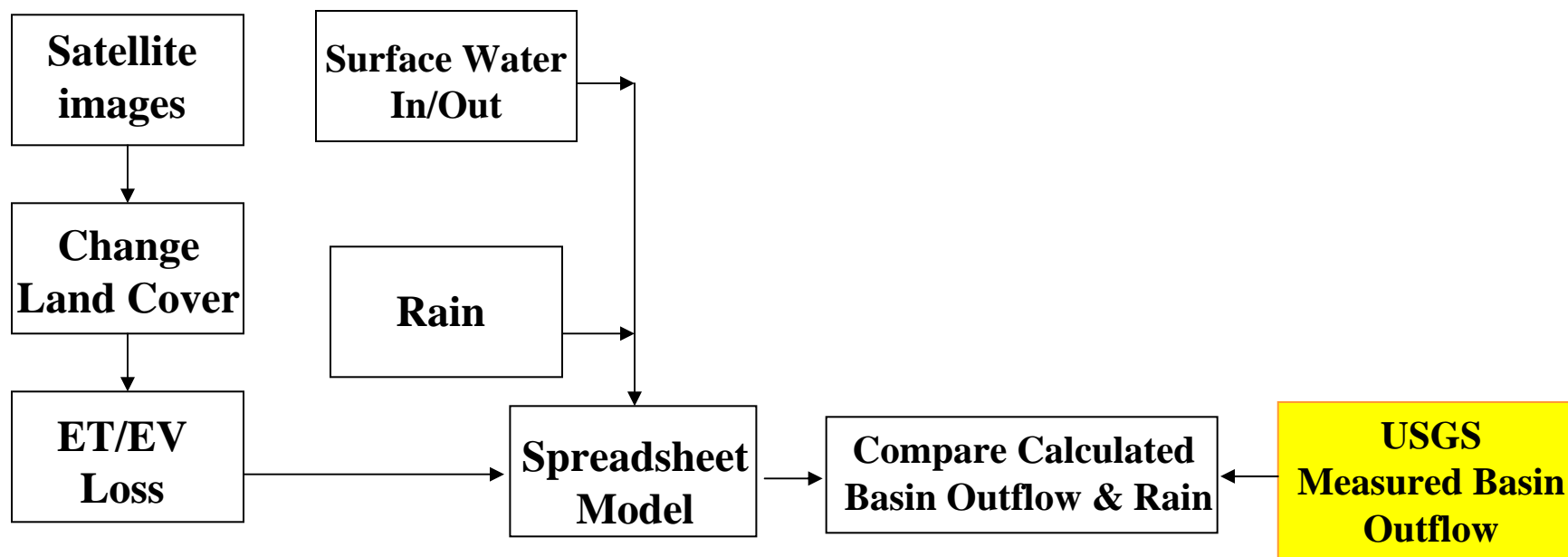


# Water Balance



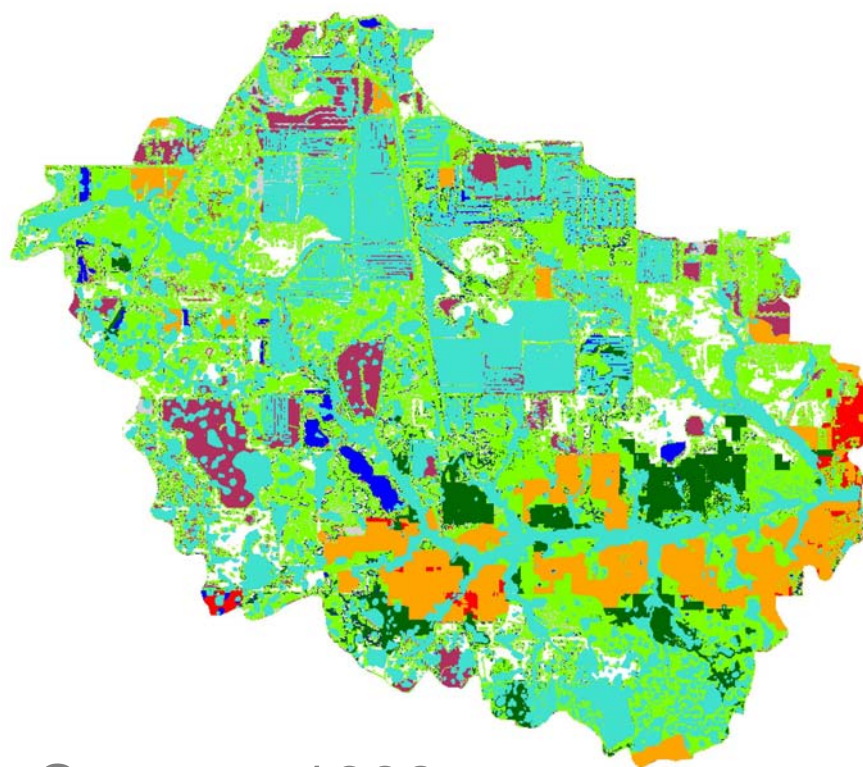
# SWAT Analysis

- Document Land Usage/Land Cover changes and associated loss factors and correlation to streams



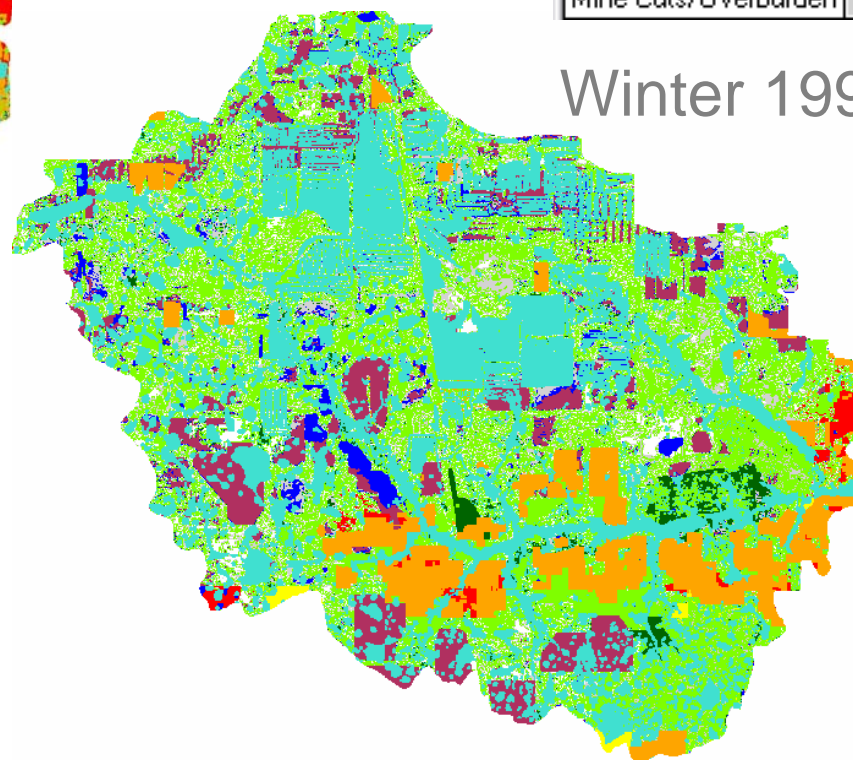
Assumption:  $\Delta s = \sim 0$

# Payne Summer & Winter - 1998

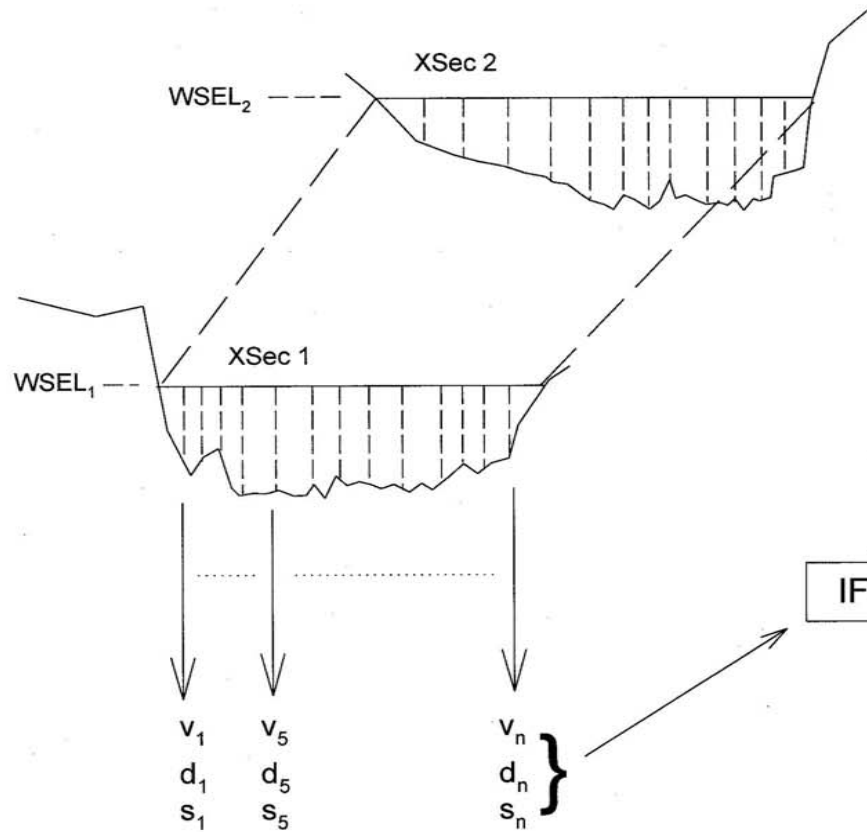


Summer 1998

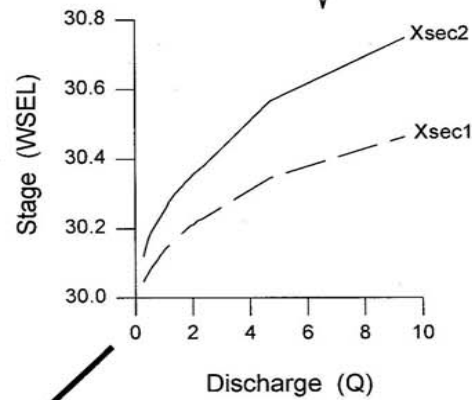
Class Names	Color
Pasture	Green
Citrus	Orange
Wetland	Cyan
Urban	Red
Timber	Dark Green
Water	Blue
CSA/Water	Purple
Sand Tailings	
Mine Cuts/Overburden	Grey



Winter 1998

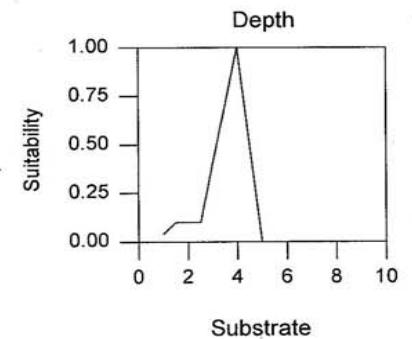
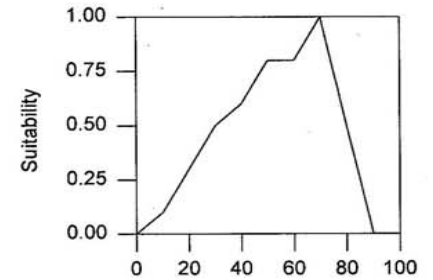
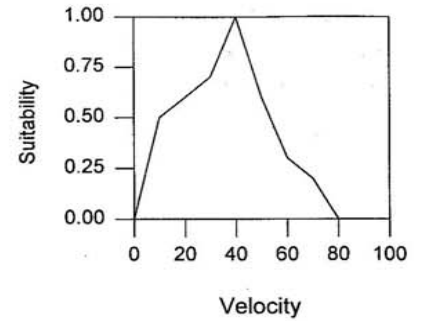


## SWAT Water Budget



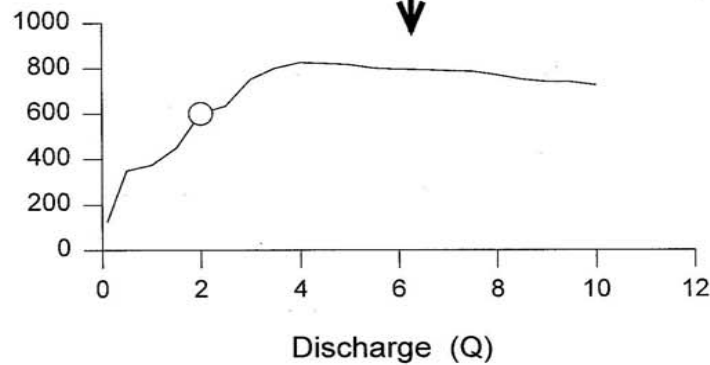
IFG4

HABTAT, etc.



Macrohabitat Modifier

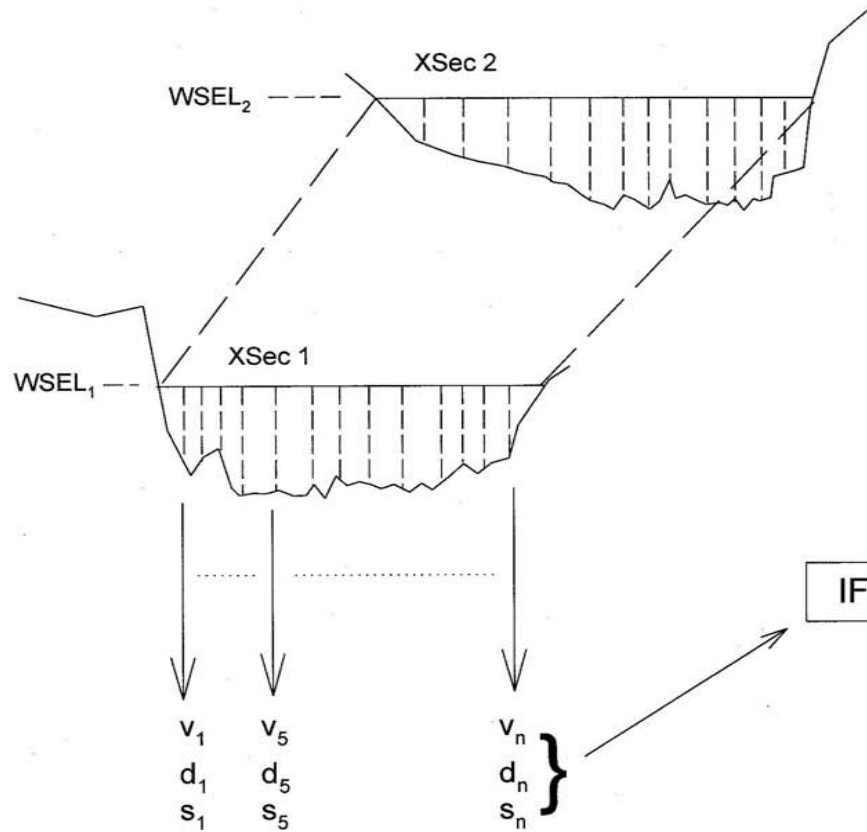
WUA



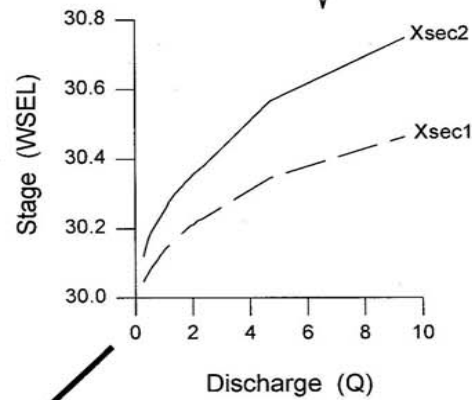






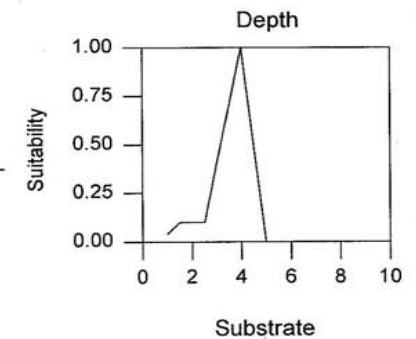
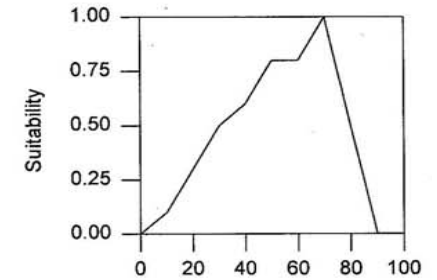
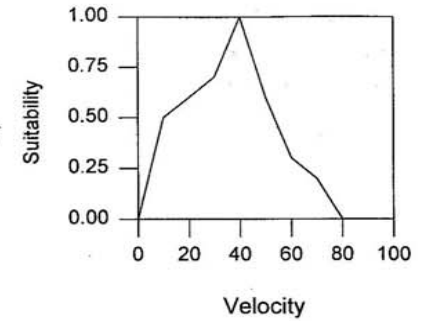


## SWAT Water Budget



IFG4

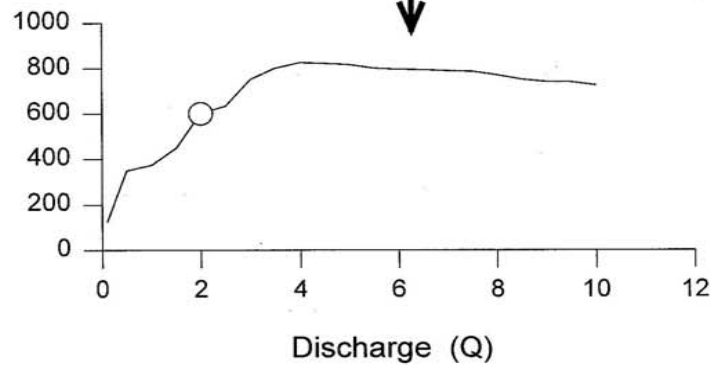
HABTAT, etc.



Macrohabitat Modifier

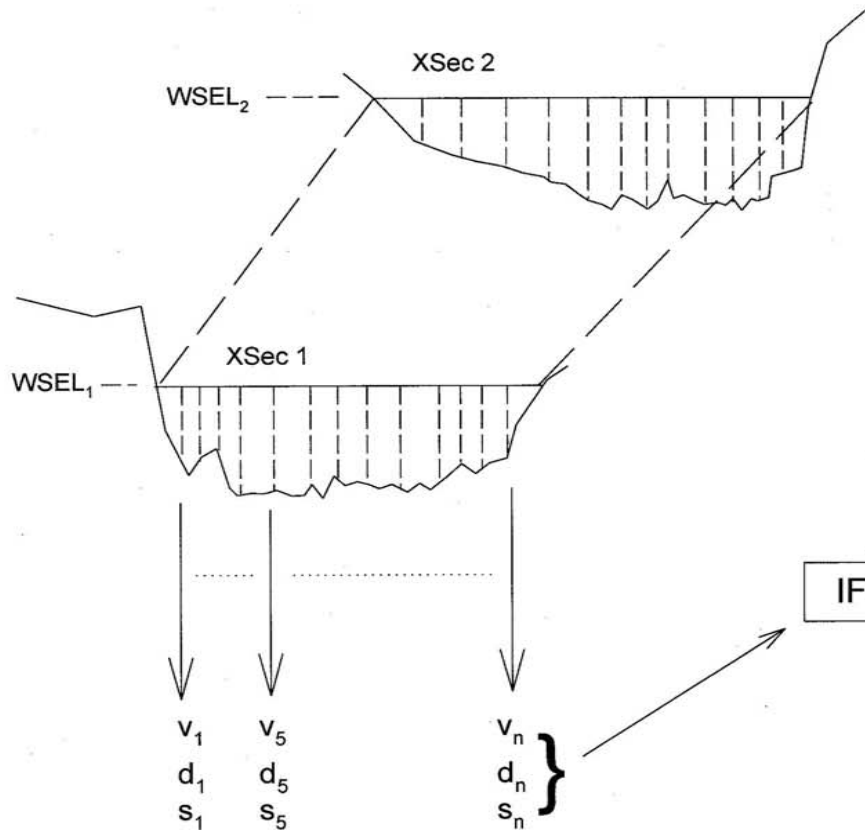
Temperature

WUA

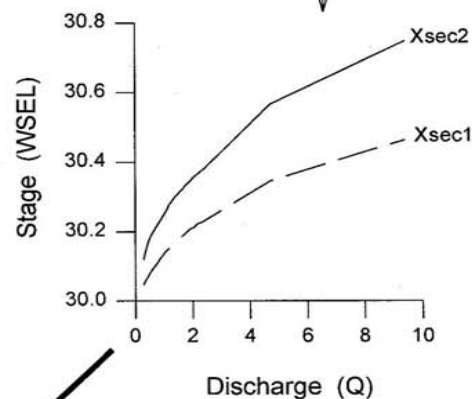






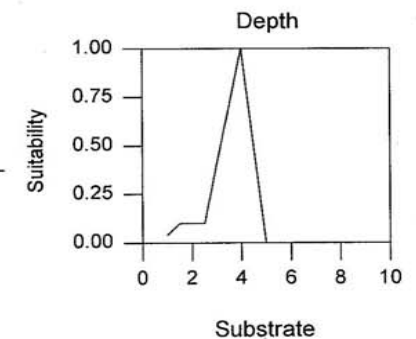
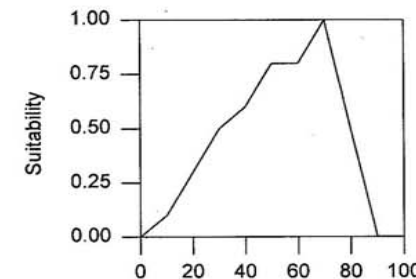
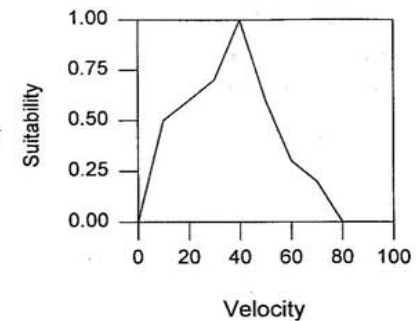


## SWAT Water Budget



IFG4

HABTAT, etc.



Macrohabitat Modifier

WUA

Temperature

Sediment, Nutrients, etc.

