

Using Geospatial Indicators of Watershed Condition to Support Freshwater Conservation Actions



Thursday, April 21, 2022, 1:00pm – 3:00pm Eastern

Speakers:

- **Ryan Hill**, Geospatial Aquatic Ecologist, Office of Research and Development, EPA
- **Luisa Riato**, ORISE Postdoctoral Fellow, Office of Research and Development, EPA
- **Marc Weber**, Geographer, Office of Research and Development, EPA

1

Watershed Academy Webcast

- The slides for today's presentations are posted on the Watershed Academy webpage.
- A recording of the webcast will be posted within the next month.

www.epa.gov/watershedacademy

2

Webcast Logistics

- **To Ask a Question** – Type your question into the “Questions” tool box on the right side of your screen and click “Send.”
- **To Report any Technical Issues** (such as audio problems) – Type your issue in the “Questions” tool box on the right side of your screen and click “Send” and we will respond by posting an answer in the “Questions” box.
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3

Audience Polling

4

Speakers

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5



Using Geospatial Indicators of Watershed Condition to Support Freshwater Conservation Actions

Ryan Hill¹

Luisa Riato²

Marc Weber¹

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²Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education c/o US EPA ORD CPHEA

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

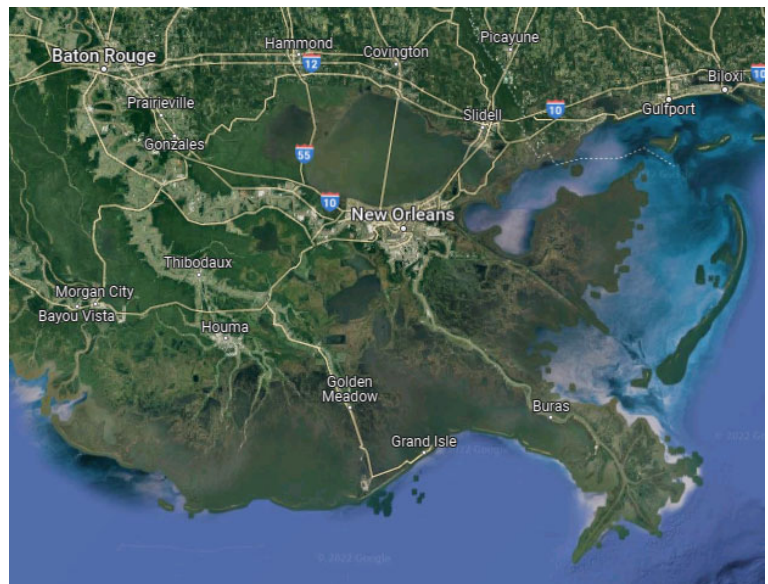
Outline -

- Ryan Hill
 - Overview of geospatial data (StreamCat), Indices of watershed and catchment integrity
- Luisa Riato
 - Application of IWI/ICI and StreamCat datasets in stream conservation
- Marc Weber
 - Accessing and using the StreamCat Data

Understanding rivers

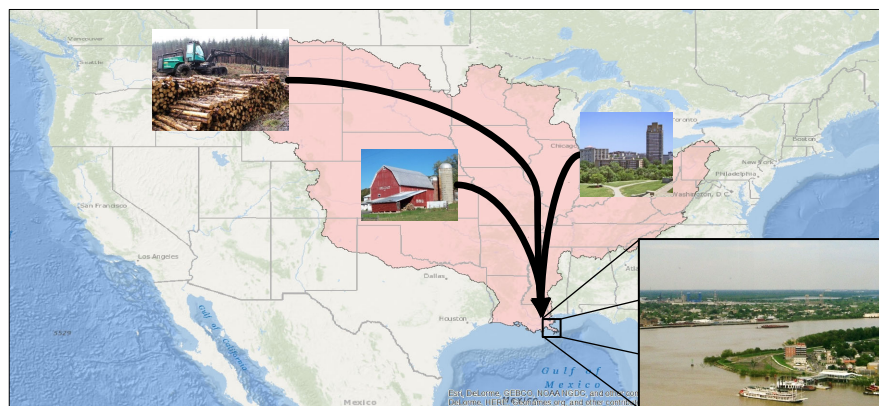
Understanding a river requires more than knowing what is nearby

Agriculture composes 0.2% of land area near outlet of Mississippi



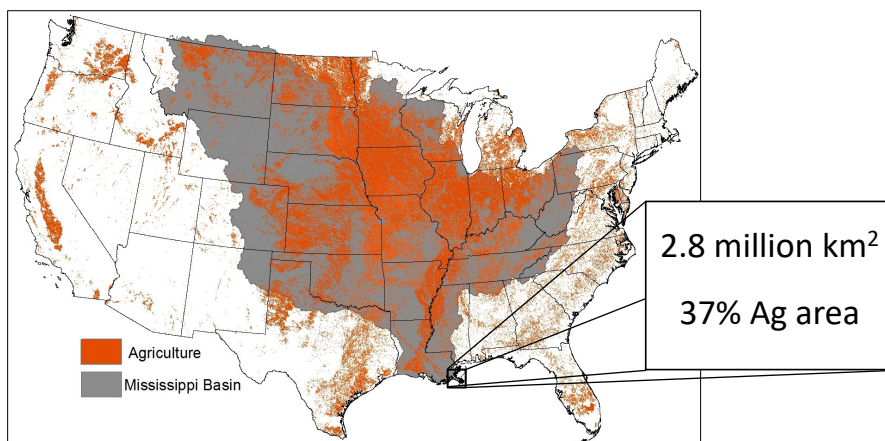
Understanding rivers

Rivers integrate upstream features



Understanding rivers

Understanding a river means understanding the watershed

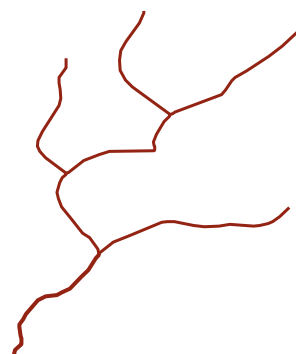


Overview of Data

NHDPlusV2	➔	StreamCat	➔	ICI/IWI
Existing geospatial framework		Suite of watershed metrics we calculated with the NHDPlusV2		Family of indicators built from StreamCat data

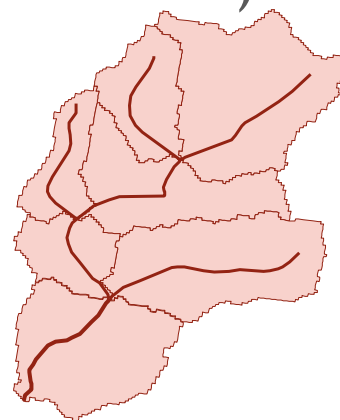
Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)

- NHD - Line network of streams
- 2 resolutions (24k versus 100K)

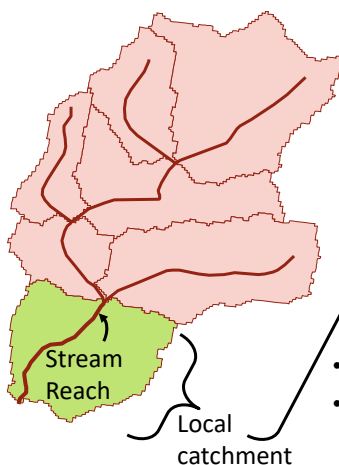


Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)

- NHD - Line network of streams
- 2 resolutions (24k versus 100K)
- Combined with digital elevation data to make value added product - NHDPlus (version 2)
- NHDPlusV2 available at 100K resolution
- Available for download by hydrologic region (e.g., Columbia River Basin)



Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)



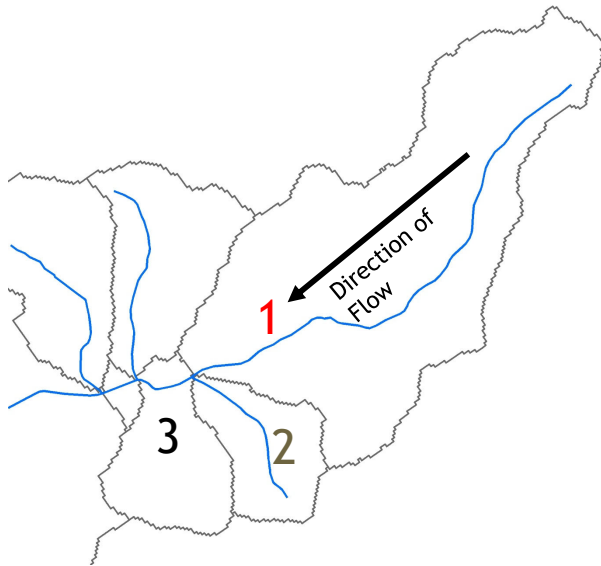
Network watershed

- 1:100,000 scale
- 2.6 million stream reaches with catchments



<https://github.com/NelsonMinar/vector-river-map>

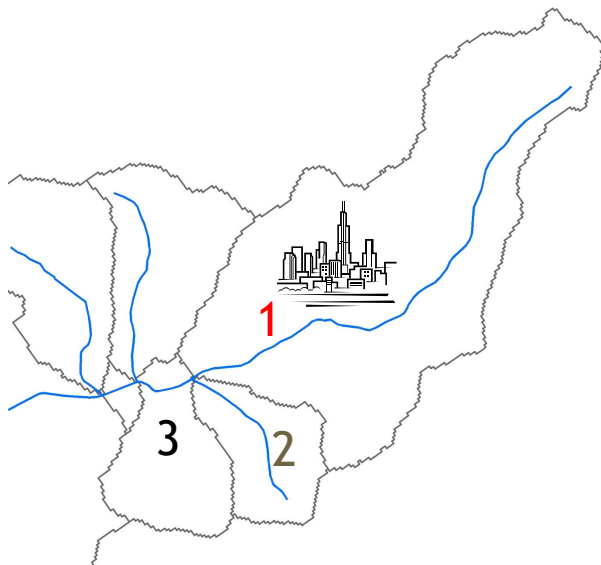
Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)



Topology (from-to relationships)

FROM	TO
-	1
-	2
1	3
2	3
.	.
.	.
.	.

Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)

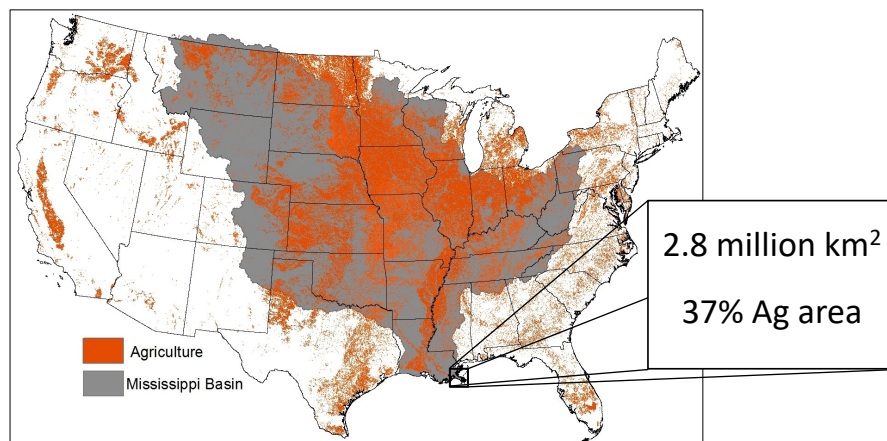


Topology (from-to relationships)

FROM	TO
-	1
-	2
1	3
2	3
.	.
.	.
.	.

Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)

Local catchments + topology table

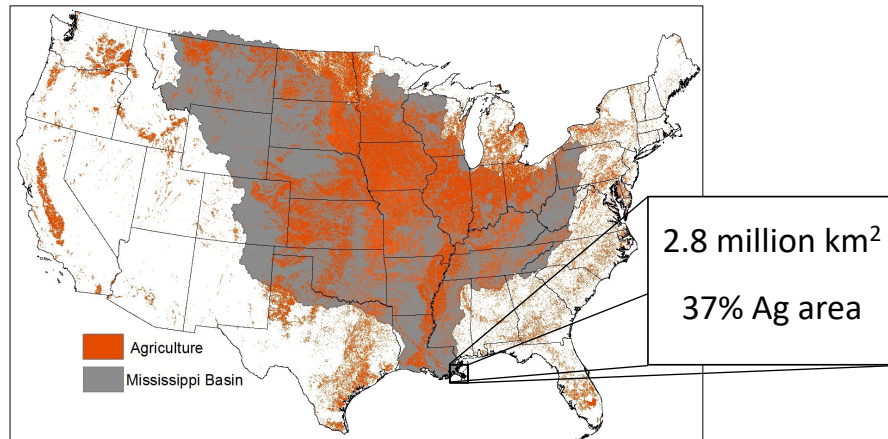


Overview of Data

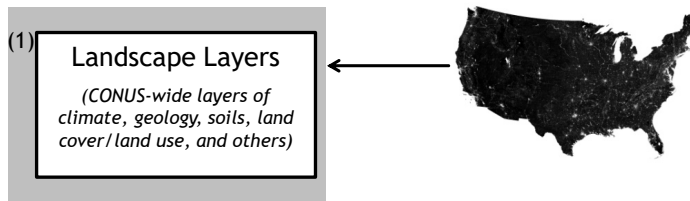
NHDPlusV2	→ StreamCat	→ ICI/IWI
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Geospatial dataset of 2.6 million stream/river lines• 100K resolution - average length ~2km• Value added dataset with local catchments• Topology tables contain from-to connections from each catchment to each downstream catchment• Framework for summarizing landscape information for StreamCat Dataset		

Overview of Data - StreamCat

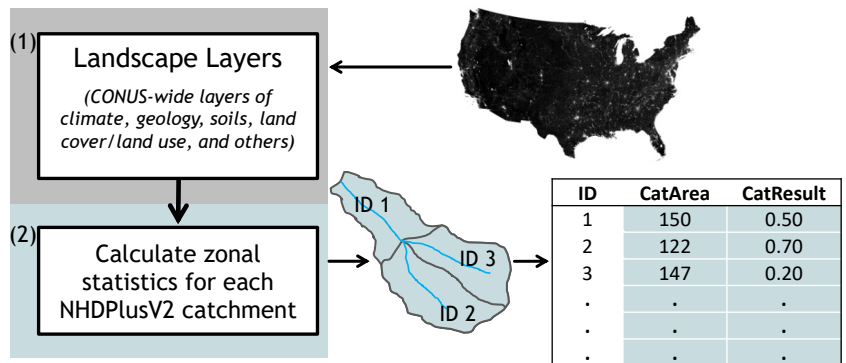
Local catchments + topology table + GIS landscape data



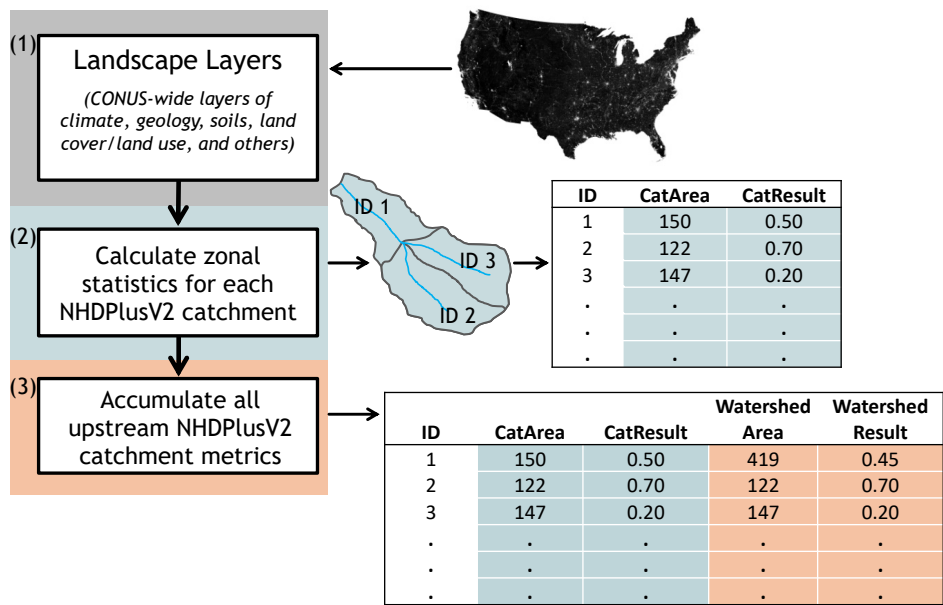
Overview of Data - StreamCat



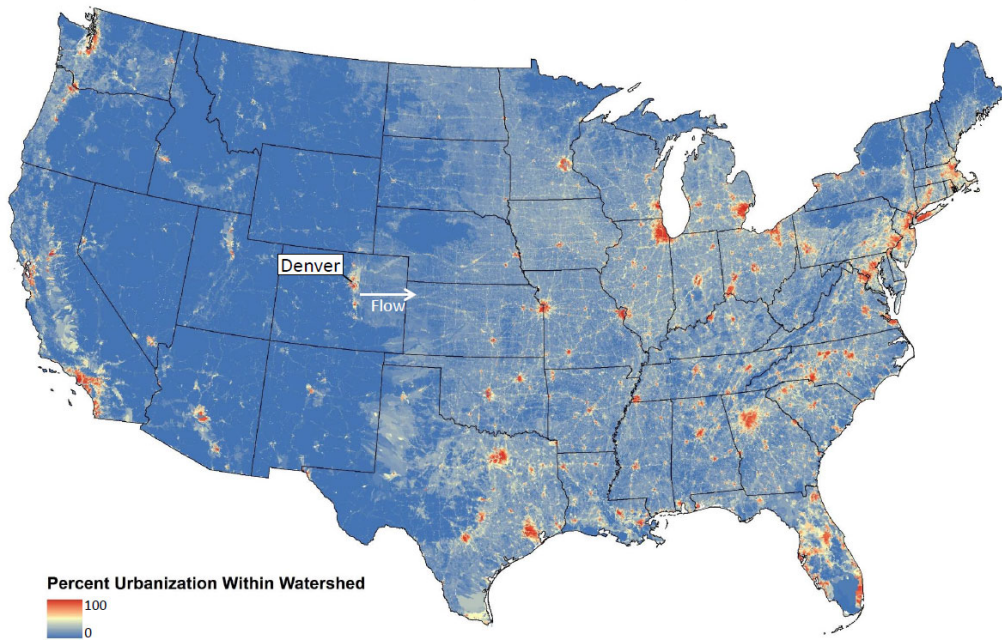
Overview of Data - StreamCat



Overview of Data - StreamCat



Overview of Data - StreamCat



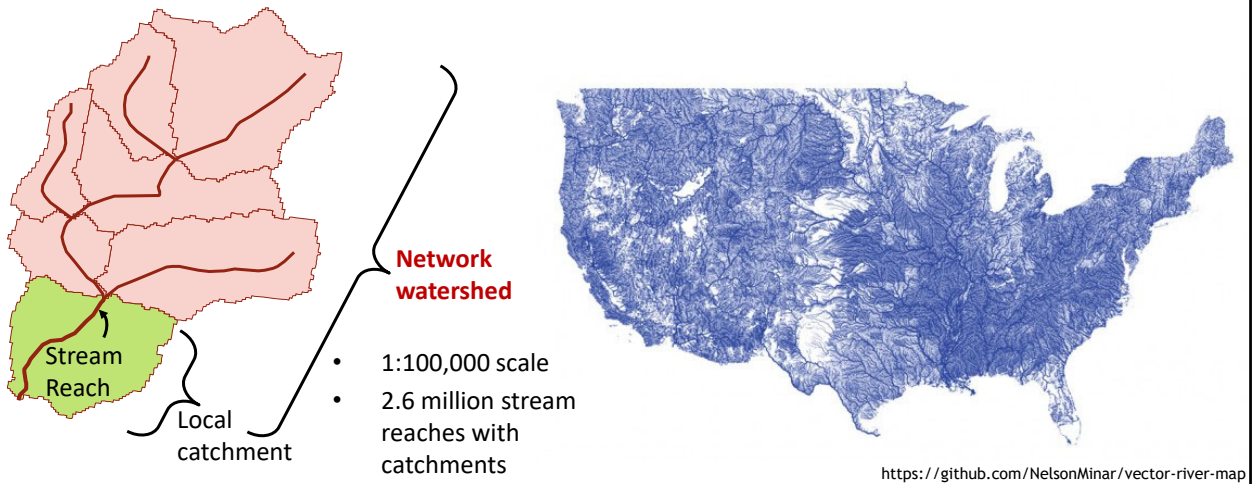
Overview of Data - StreamCat

Variable	Class
agricultural land cover on slopes \geq 10%	disturb
agricultural land cover on slopes \geq 20%	disturb
average runoff 1971 - 2000	natural
cattle density on farmland	disturb
commercial/industrial	disturb
cultivated crops	disturb
dam density	disturb
Dam storage in basin (DAMSTOR)	disturb
deciduous forest	natural
deciduous evergreen mixed forest	natural
estimated groundwater use	disturb
estimated surface water use	disturb
evergreen forest	natural
grassland/herbaceous	natural
groundwater residence time index	natural
high intensity residential	disturb
high intensity urban	disturb
Housing unit density (HUDEN)	disturb
human population density	disturb
Imperviousness	disturb
Linear distance of sampling site to nearest canal/ditch/pipeline (DIST_CANAL_DEFP)	disturb
local catchment area	natural
low intensity urban	disturb
mainstem stream classified as "Canal", "Ditch", "Pipeline" or "Artificial"	disturb
mean annual air temperature	natural
mean annual precipitation	natural
mean basin elevation	natural
medium intensity urban	disturb
mining density	disturb

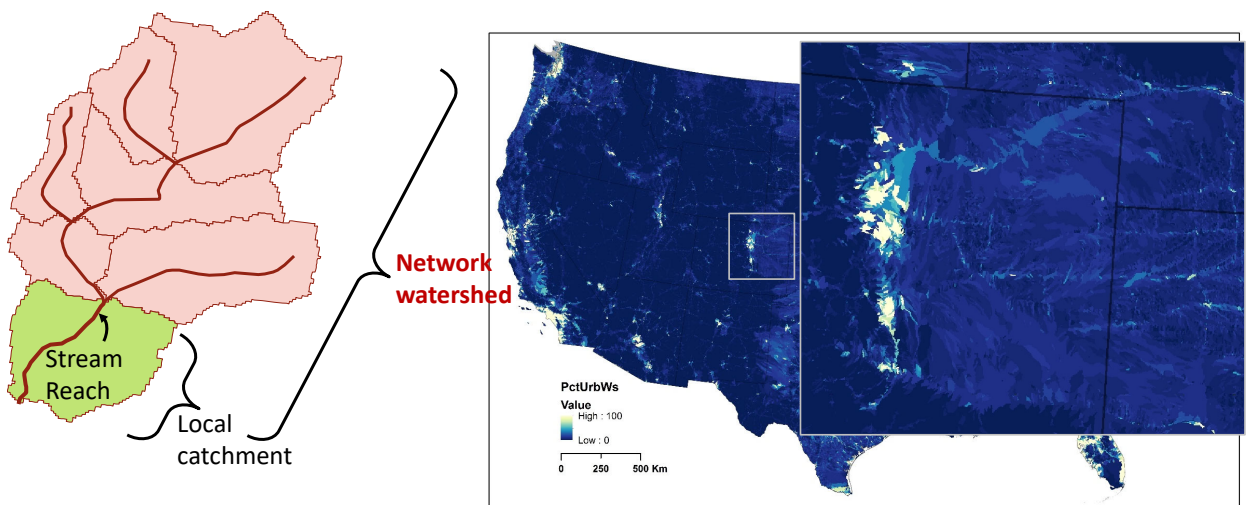
Variable	Class
mixed forest	natural
network catchment area	natural
NPDES density	disturb
open space urban	disturb
open water	natural
open wetlands	natural
pasture/hay	disturb
reach elevation	natural
reach linkage number	natural
reach slope	natural
reach stream order	natural
Road density in watershed (ROADDEN)	disturb
road length density	disturb
roadstream intersections	disturb
shrub/srubb	natural
soil depth to water table	natural
soil organic matter	natural
soil permeability	natural
soil permeability	natural
soil rock depth	natural
soils - percent clay	natural
soils - percent sand	natural
Sum of 251 major pesticide compounds (PESTIC)	disturb
Superfund National Priority List density	disturb
surficial lithography	natural
total nitrogen yield	disturb
total phosphorus yield	disturb
Toxics release inventory density	disturb
Urban + crops + pasture land cover in 600-m mainstem buffer (URBCP_MAINS)	natural
woody wetlands	natural

7500 metrics

Overview of Data - NHDPlus (version 2)



Overview of Data - StreamCat



Overview of Data - StreamCat

Data available through EPA's NARS website

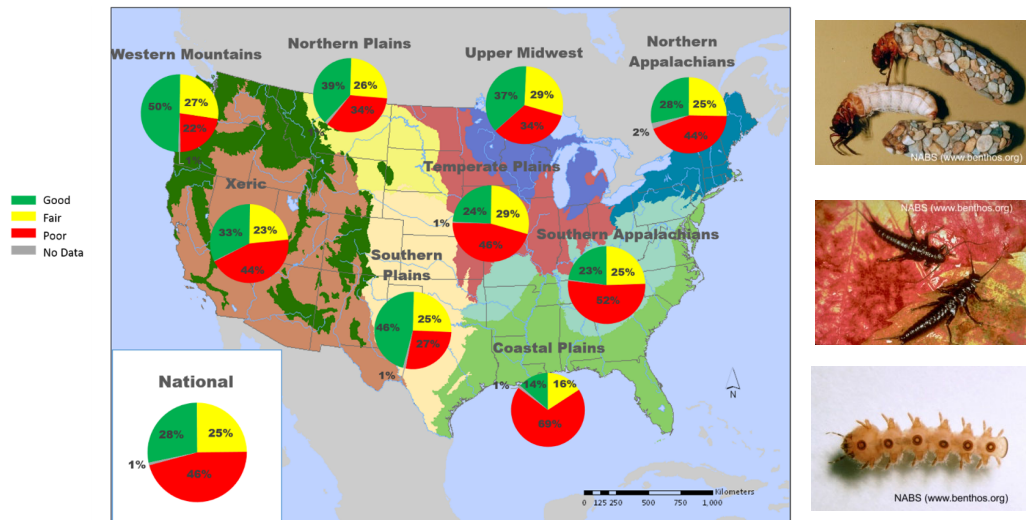
<https://www.epa.gov/national-aquatic-resource-surveys/streamcat>

Overview of Data

NHDPlusV2	→ StreamCat	→ ICI/IWI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geospatial dataset of 2.6 million stream/river lines • 100K resolution - average length ~2km • Value added dataset with local catchments • Topology tables contain from-to connections from each catchment to each downstream catchment • Framework for summarizing landscape information for StreamCat Dataset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summaries of geospatial data done with NHDPlusV2 • Done with nationally-consistent datasets • Local catchment and watershed summaries for ~650 metrics at each scale • Available for download from EPA • Can be linked to NHDPlusV2 streams or catchments by unique ID 	

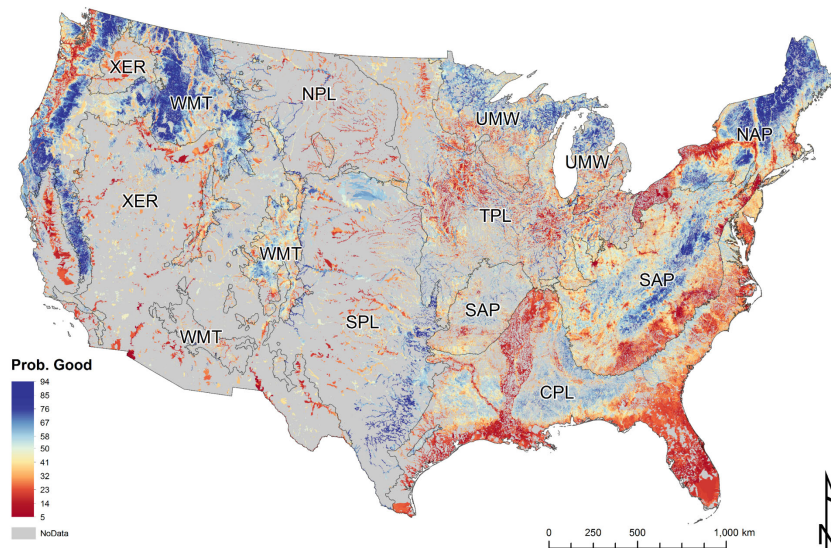
Applications/Examples - StreamCat

National Rivers and Stream Assessment (NRSA) summarizes biological condition across large regions

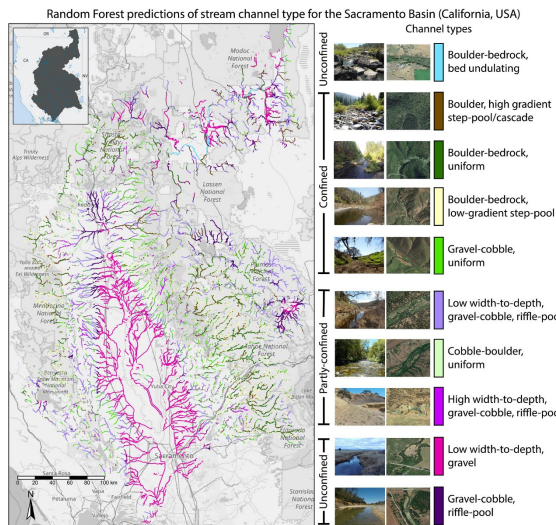


Applications/Examples - StreamCat

Probability of Good MMI Condition

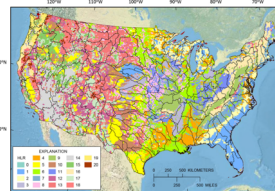


StreamCat - Non-EPA Examples



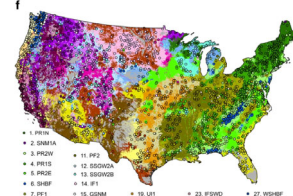
Guillon et al. 2020

Monitoring prioritization



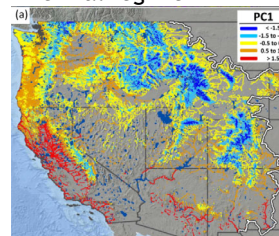
Van Metre et al. 2020

Hydro, thermal, confinement



McManamay & DeRolph 2019

Thermal regime



Isaak et al. 2020

Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

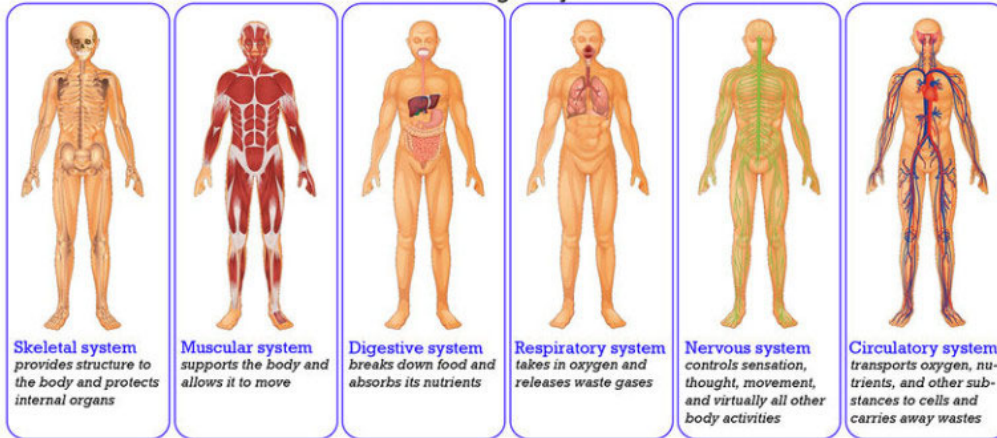
- Watersheds provide a variety of ecosystem services valued by society
- Production of these services is sensitive to watershed alteration by human activities



Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

- Concept borrows from human health perspective
- Can estimate risk based on things like behavior (e.g., diet or smoking)

Human Organ Systems



Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Six key functions must be present for a watershed to have integrity (Flotemersch et al. 2015):

1. Hydrologic regulation
2. Regulation of water chemistry
3. Sediment regulation
4. Hydrologic connectivity
5. Temperature regulation
6. Habitat provision

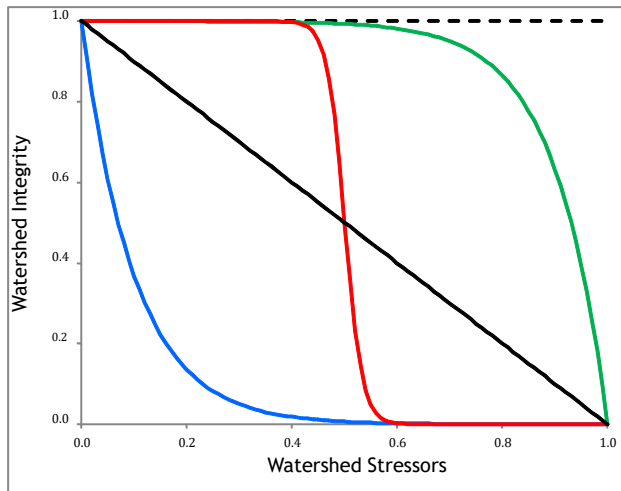
Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Key function	Description	Major stressors	
		Within channel	Outside channel
Hydrologic regulation (HYD)	Maintenance of the natural timing, pattern, supply, and storage of water that flows through the watershed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence and volumes of reservoirs (NABD) • Stream channelization and levee construction (NA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percent of the watershed comprising agricultural land use (NLCD) • Total length and density of canals/ditches (NHD) • Percent imperviousness of human-related landscapes (NLCD) • Alteration to and spatial arrangement of riparian vegetation (LANDFIRE) • Boundaries, depths, and flows of aquifers (NA) • Groundwater use (NA)*
Regulation of water chemistry (CHEM)	Maintenance of the natural timing, supply, and storage of the major chemical constituents of freshwaters: nutrients (nitrogen & phosphorus), salinity or conductivity, total dissolved solids, hydrogen ions (pH), and naturally occurring minor constituents (e.g., heavy metals)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence and volumes of reservoirs (NABD) • Stream channelization and levee construction (NA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric deposition of anthropogenic sources of nitrogen and acid rain (NADP) • Percent of watershed composed of agricultural land uses (NLCD) • Fertilizer application rates (FERT) • Presence and density of wastewater treatment facilities (NPDES), industrial facilities (TRI), superfund sites (SUPERFUND), and mines (MINES) • Cattle density (NA)* • Alteration to and spatial arrangement of riparian vegetation (LANDFIRE) • Chemical constituents of groundwater (NA)

Flotemersch et al. 2015

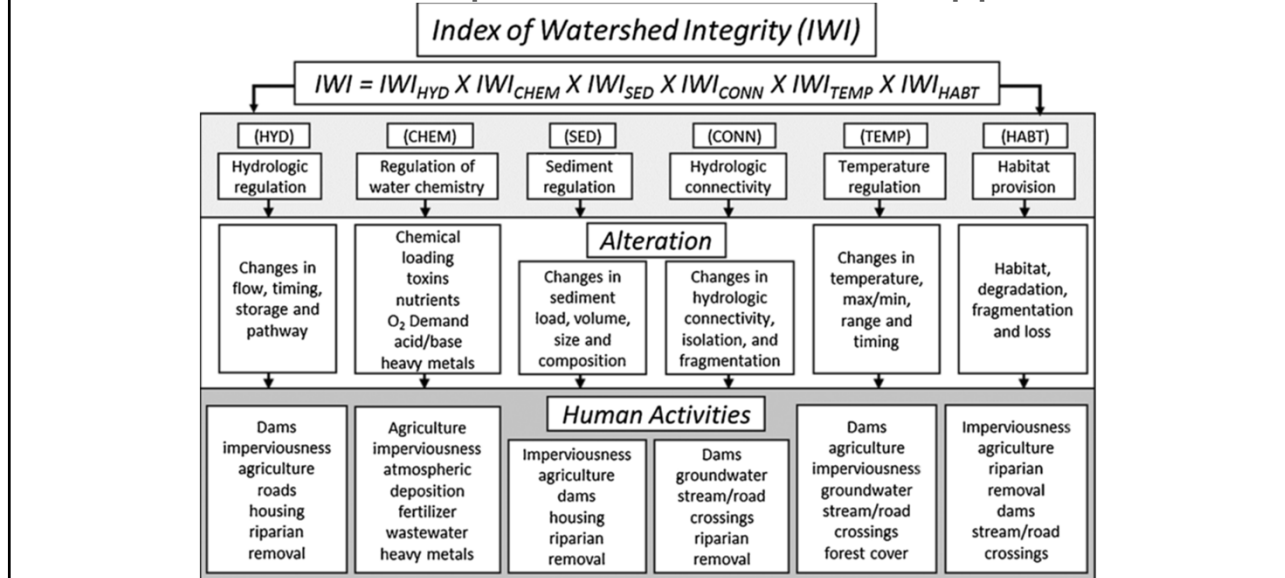
Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Response to stress can be approximated with a variety of potential curves - first cut was negative linear



Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

StreamCat + Conceptual Model + Linear Approximation



Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

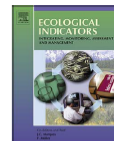
StreamCat + Conceptual Model + Linear Approximation



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

Ecological Indicators

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ecolind



Research paper

Mapping watershed integrity for the conterminous United States

Darren J. Thornbrugh^{a,1}, Scott G. Leibowitz^{b,*}, Ryan A. Hill^a, Marc H. Weber^b,
Zachary C. Johnson^a, Anthony R. Olsen^b, Joseph E. Flotemersch^c, John L. Stoddard^b,
David V. Peck^b



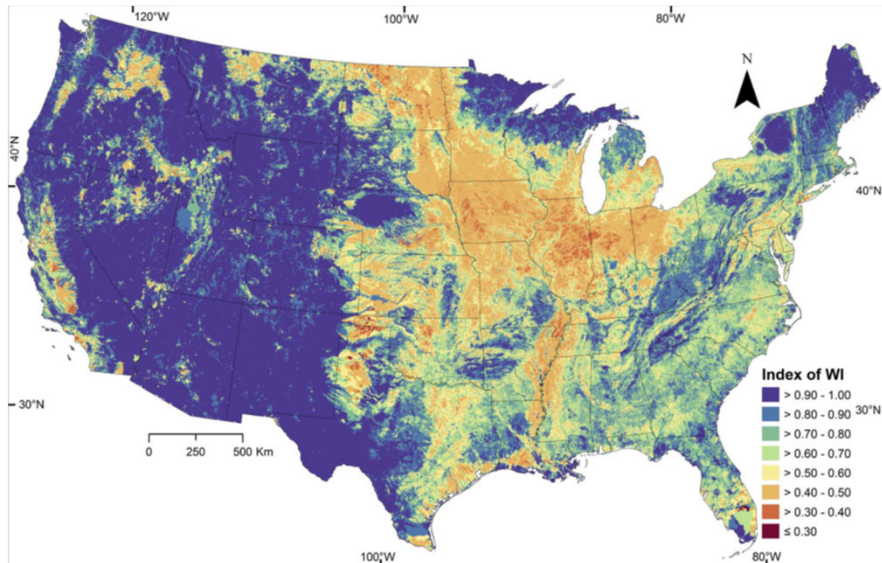
^a Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) Post-Doctoral Fellow c/o U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, Western Ecology Division, 200 SW 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333, USA

^b U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory, 200 SW 35th St., Corvallis, OR 97333, USA

^c U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Exposure Research Laboratory, 26 W. Martin Luther King Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45268, USA

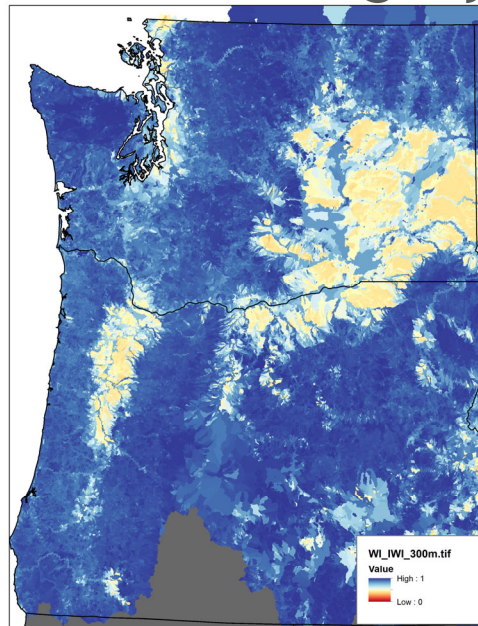
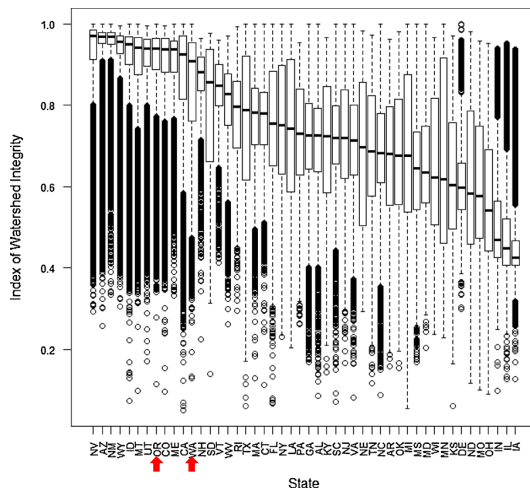
Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Index of Watershed Integrity (IWI)



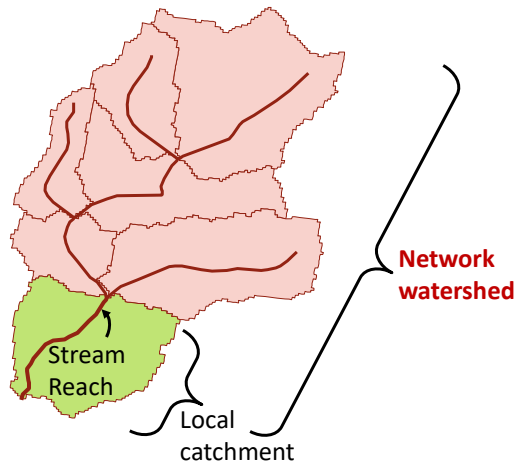
Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

- 232K catchments in Columbia River Basin



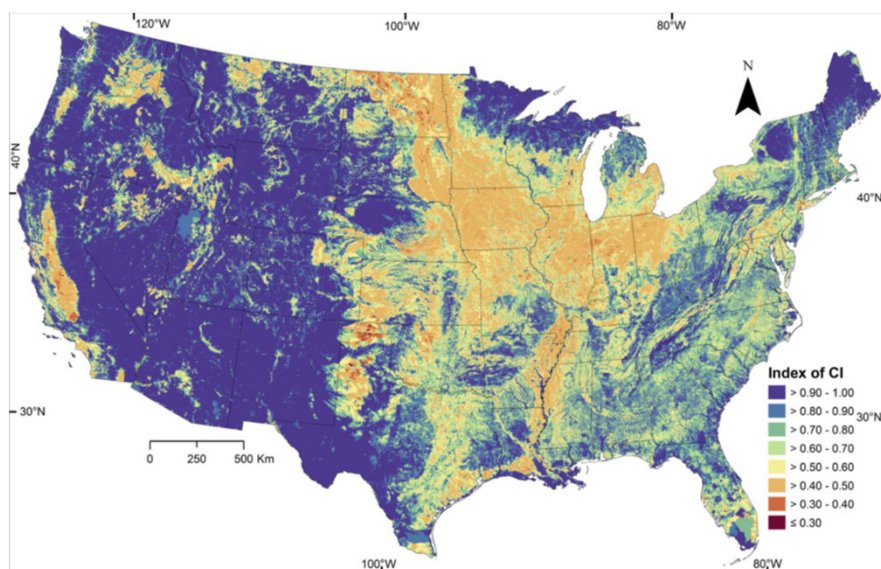
Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Concept expanded to local catchments

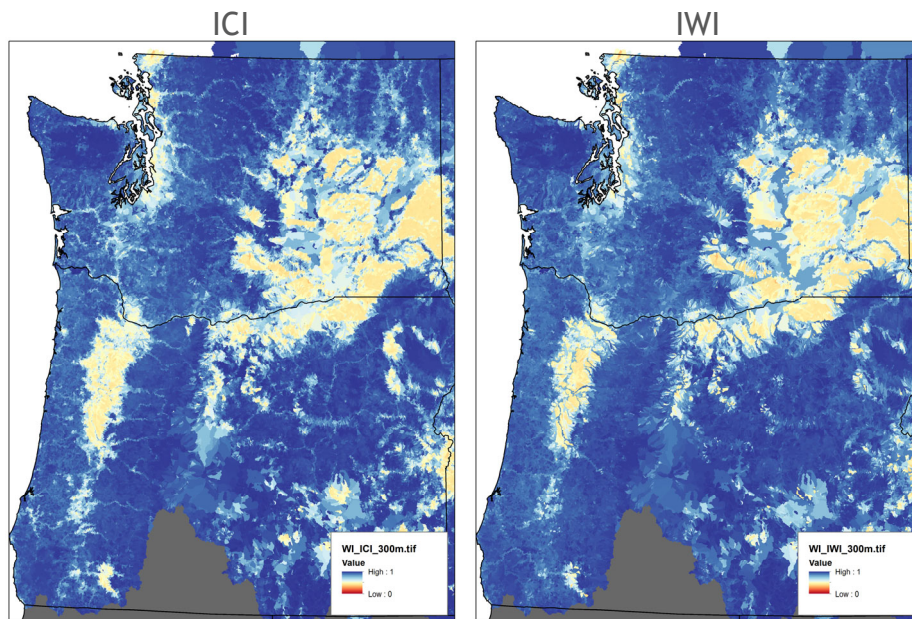


Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Index of Catchment Integrity (ICI)

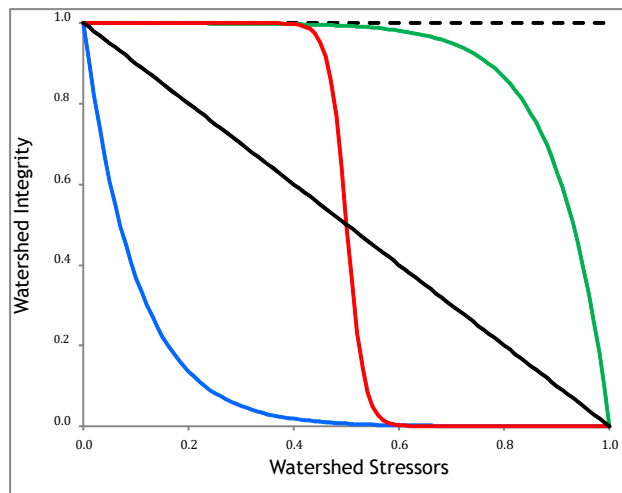


Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity



Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Can we revisit the linear conceptual model?

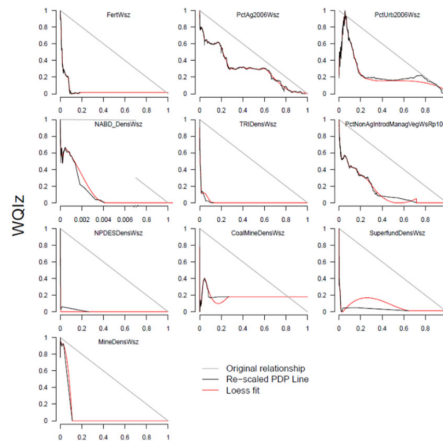
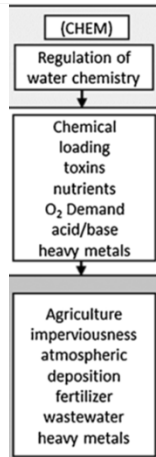


Overview of Data - Watershed Integrity

Zach Johnson et al. 2018

Index of Watershed Integrity (IWI)

$$IWI = IWI_{HYD} \times IWI_{CHEM} \times IWI_{SED} \times IWI_{CONN} \times IWI_{TEMP} \times IWI_{HABT}$$

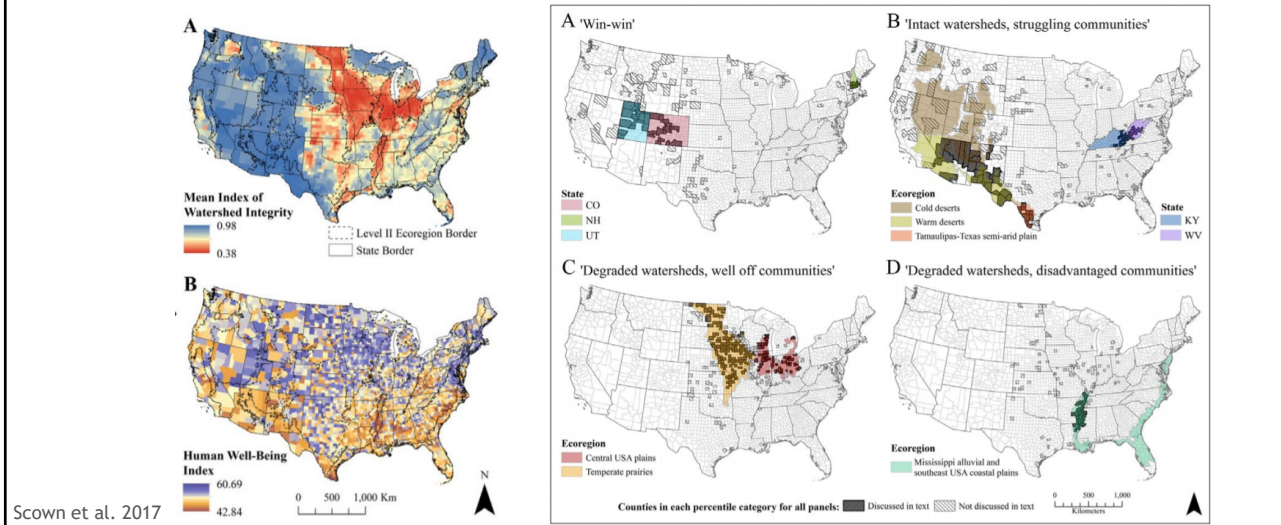


Overview of Data

NHDPlusV2	StreamCat	ICI/IWI
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geospatial dataset of 2.6 million stream/river lines 100K resolution - average length ~2km Value added dataset with local catchments Topology tables contain from-to connections from each catchment to each downstream catchment Framework for summarizing landscape information for StreamCat Dataset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summaries of geospatial data done with NHDPlusV2 Done with nationally-consistent datasets Local catchment and watershed summaries for ~650 metrics at each scale Available for download from EPA NARS website - state or hydro-region Can be linked to NHDPlusV2 streams or catchments by unique ID 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conceptual index based on human health analogy Nationally-consistent index Loss of any function = loss in integrity Applied with linear response of function to stress to CONUS Concept expanded to include local catchment integrity Can be iteratively refined (e.g., non-linear curves)

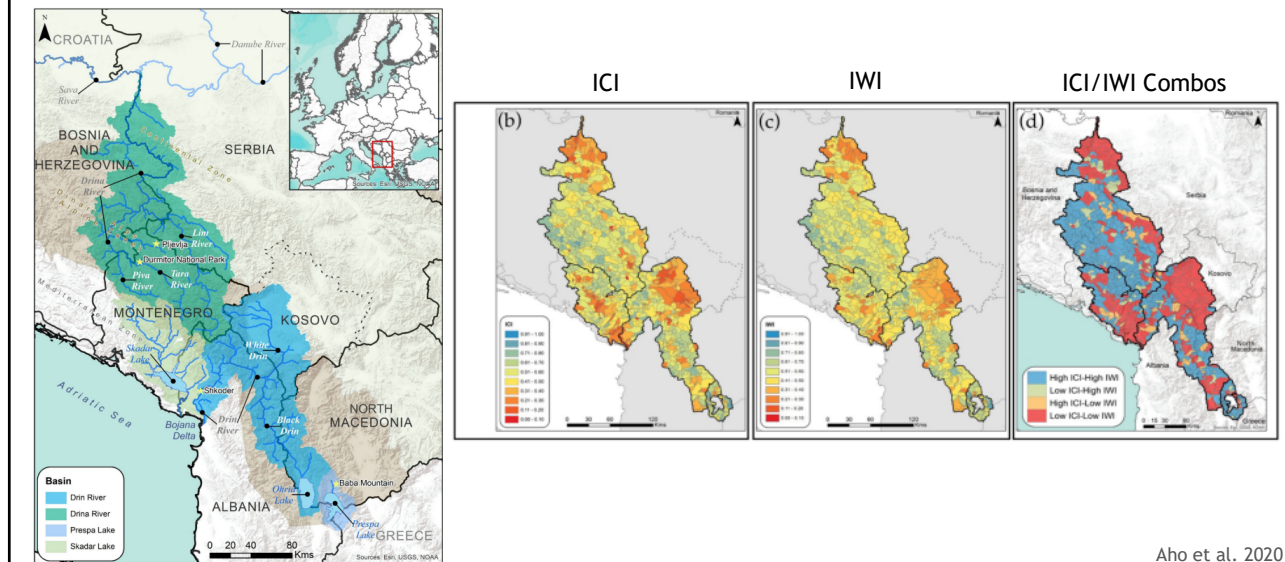
Overview of Data - Applications

Combining Watershed and Social Criteria



Overview of Data - Applications

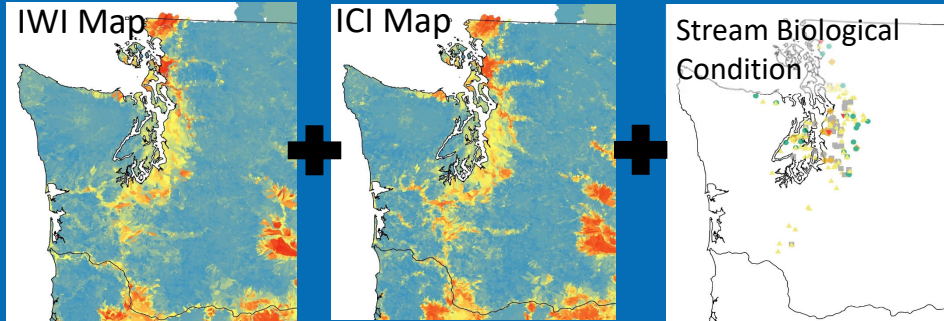
Adapting for Western Balkans Region



Application of IWI/ICI and StreamCat Datasets in Stream Conservation

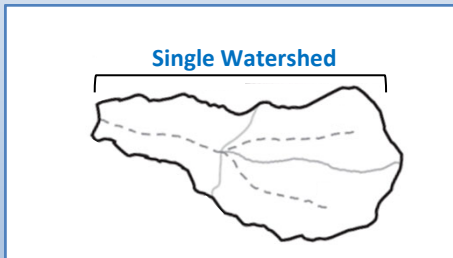
Luisa Riato

ORISE Post-Doctoral Fellow
EPA Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment



Stream Management:

Historically at Single Spatial Scale
e.g., a Watershed or Stream Reach



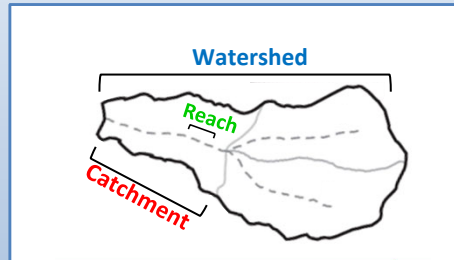
OR



Hill et al. 2016. JAWRA

Stream Management at Multiple Spatial Scales

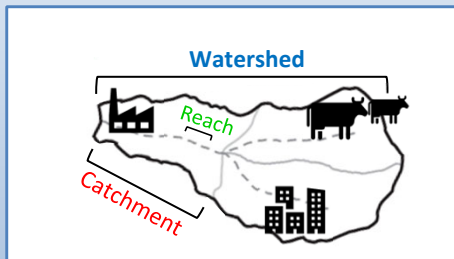
Watershed, Catchment and Stream-Reach scale



- Identify scale(s) which biological condition is responding to stress
- Best spatial scale(s) for management action
- Prioritize streams for restoration/protection

Need Framework To Link:

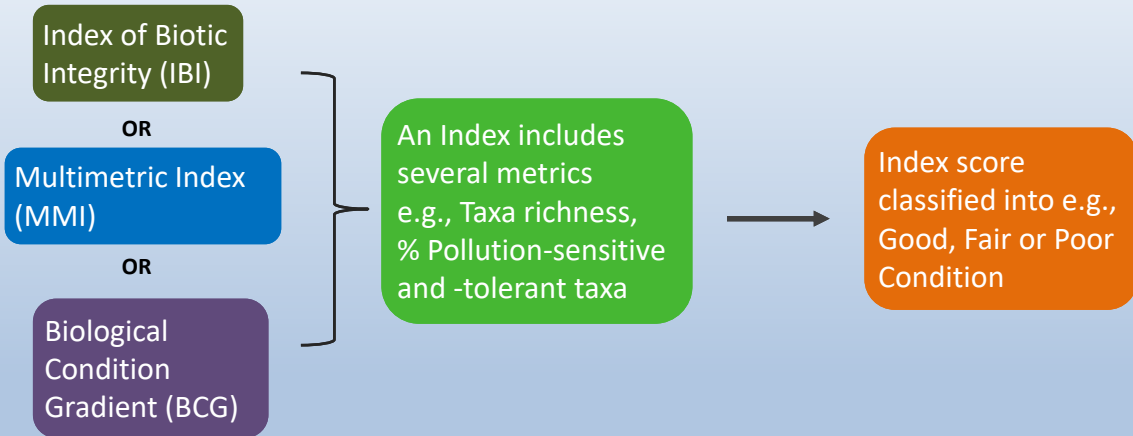
Landscape Information at Multiple Spatial Scales



Stream Biological Condition Data



Stream Biological Condition Indicators



Framework that Enables Flexibility

Stream Biological Condition Data

Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity (B-IBI)

OR

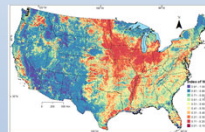
National Rivers and Streams Assessment (NRSA) MMI

OR

Biological Condition Gradient (BCG)

Landscape Integrity Data

State or Regional Watershed/Catchment/Reach Integrity data



National Index of Watershed Integrity (IWI)



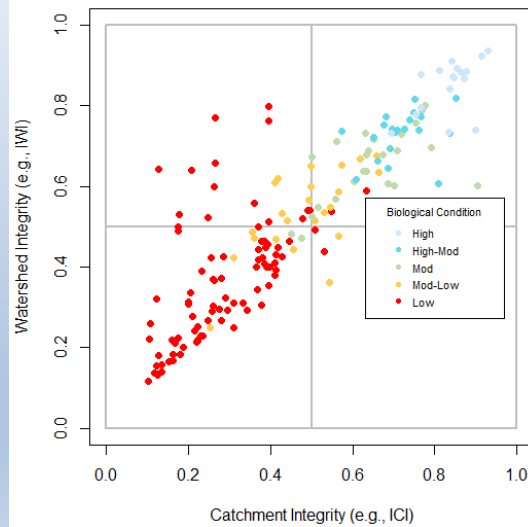
National Index of Catchment Integrity (ICI)

StreamCat data

Linking Stream Biological Condition with Watershed and Catchment Integrity

Upper left quadrant
Possible Candidates
for Restoration –
High IWI, Low ICI

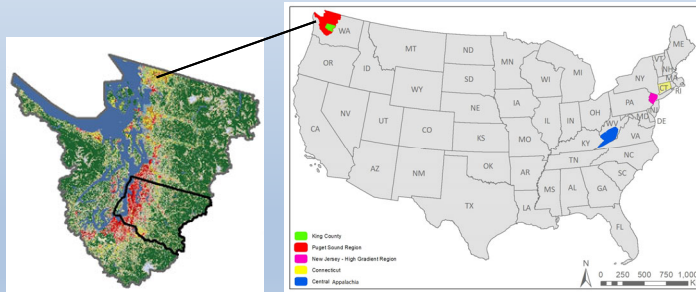
**Lower Left &
Right quadrants**
Worst Candidates
for Restoration –
Low IWI, Low ICI



Upper right quadrant
Best candidates for
Protection –
High IWI, High ICI

Case Study 1: Puget Lowland Region/King County (WA)

**Aim: Link Stream Biological Condition
with Two Scales of Integrity -
Watershed & Catchment**



Case Study 1: Puget Lowland/King County (WA)

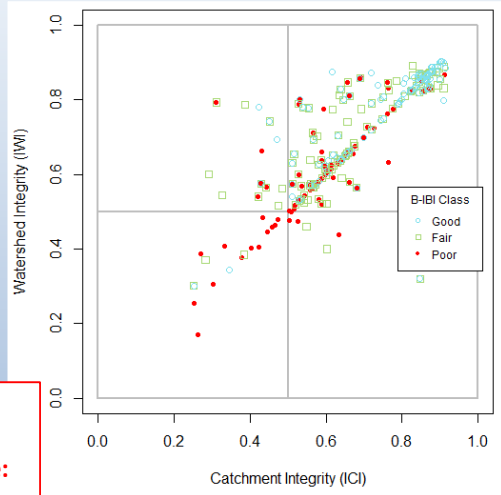
Biological data

- Macroinvertebrate Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity (B-IBI)
- 782 B-IBI samples - Good, Fair or Poor condition

Watershed and Catchment Integrity data

- IWI & ICI values

Linking Macroinvertebrate B-IBI with IWI and ICI

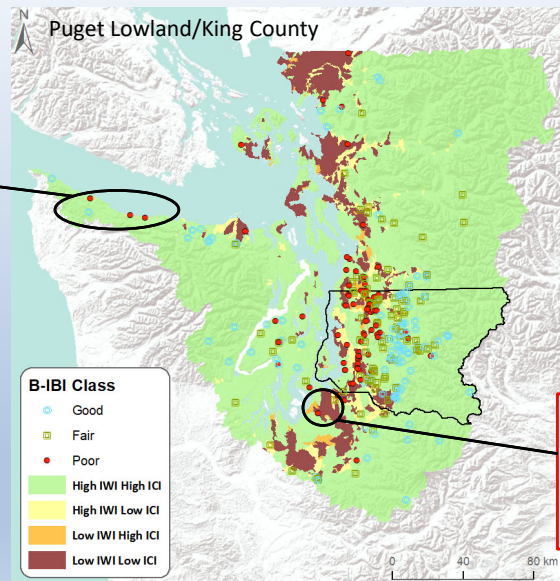


Best Candidates for
Feasible/Effective
Protection & Restoration:
High IWI, High ICI

Protection &
Restoration Less
Feasible/Effective:
Low IWI, Low ICI

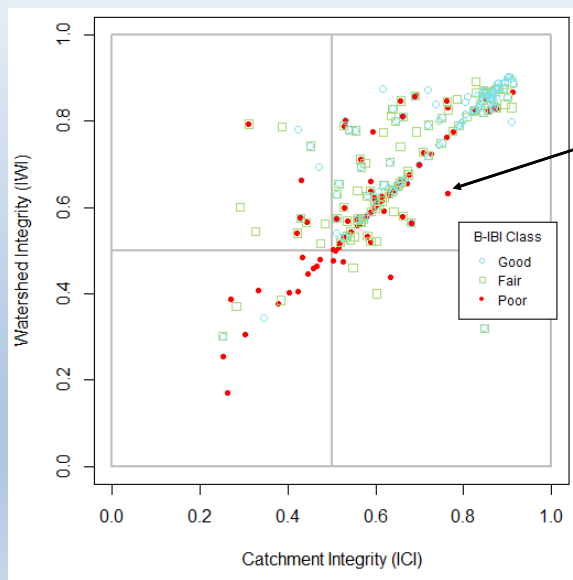
Linking Macroinvertebrate B-IBI with IWI and ICI

Best Candidates for Restoration/Protection
High Integrity Watersheds/Catchments



Worst Candidates for Restoration
Low Integrity Watersheds/Catchments (Low IWI/Low ICI)

Puget Lowland/King County Macroinvertebrate B-IBI with IWI and ICI

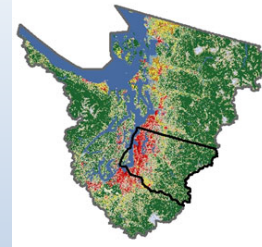


Underperforming Sites:
Poor sites in High Integrity Watersheds/Catchments

Goals

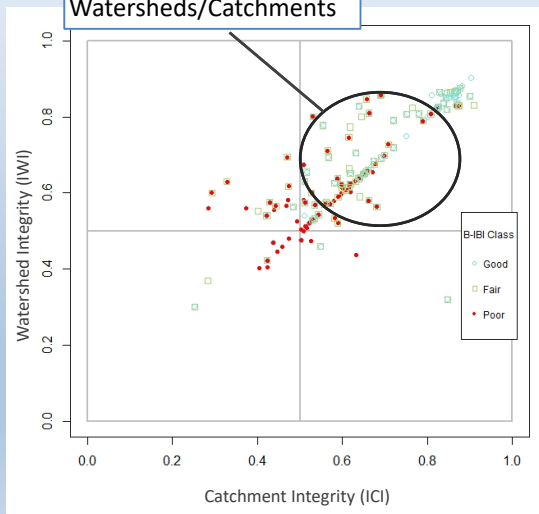
- ❑ Develop a more effective landscape indicator for Puget Lowland/King County
- ❑ StreamCat - examine hundreds of candidate catchment/watershed indicators
- ❑ Determine if the new indicator fits the biological data better in scatterplot than the IWI/ICI?

Puget Lowland/King County (WA)

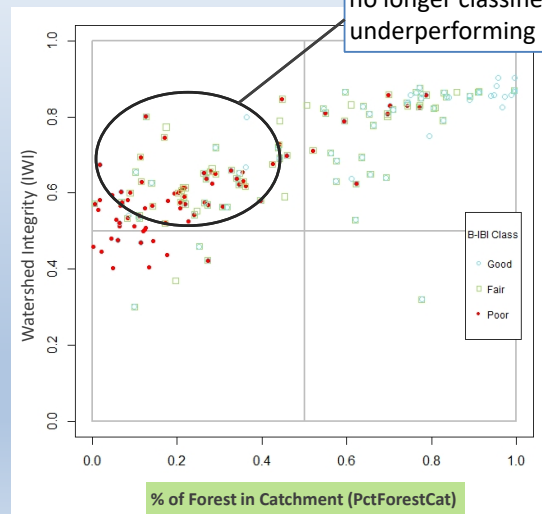


King County B-IBI with IWI/ICI (left) and IWI/PctForestCat (right)

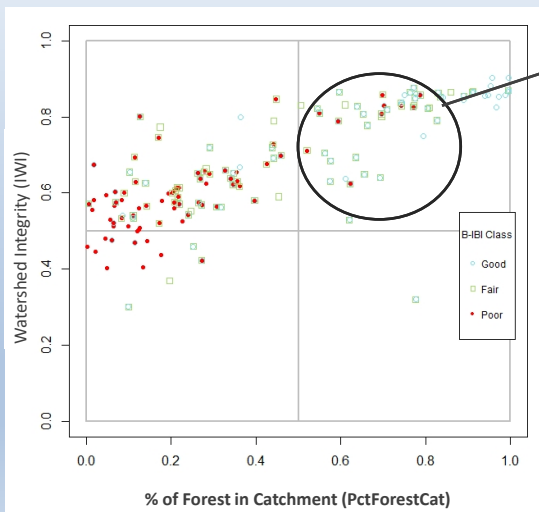
Underperforming Sites:
Poor sites in High Integrity Watersheds/Catchments



Poor Sites with Low PctForestCat, no longer classified underperforming



King County B-IBI with IWI/PctForestCat

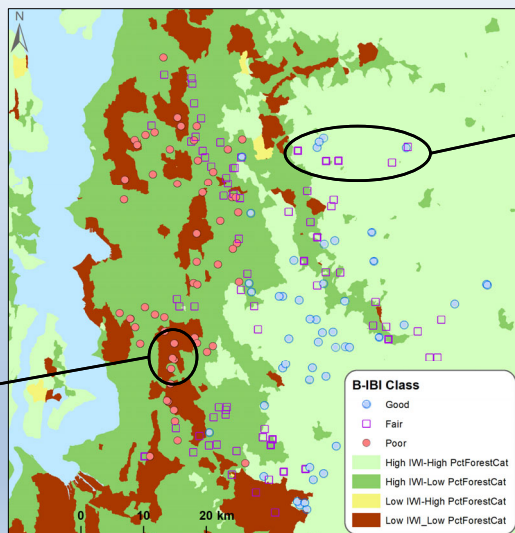


Underperforming Sites

(High IWI/High PctForestCat)

- Other factor(s) causing poor condition (e.g., local pollutants from urban stormwater)
- Best candidates for restoration in relatively intact watersheds/catchments

King County B-IBI with IWI/PctForestCat



Best Candidates for Restoration/Protection

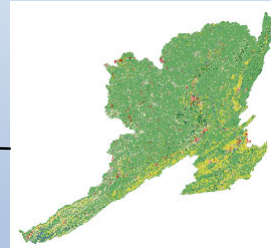
High Integrity Watersheds/
High Forested Catchments

Less Feasible/Effective Restoration

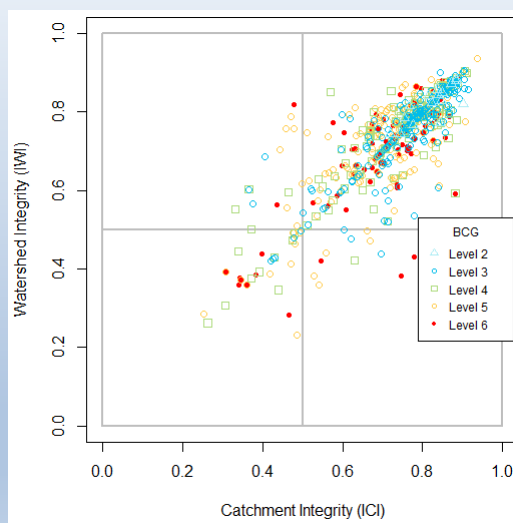
Low Integrity Watersheds/
Low Forested Catchments

Case Study 2: Central Appalachia Region

Aim: Link Stream Biological Condition with Three Scales of Integrity – Watershed, Catchment & Reach

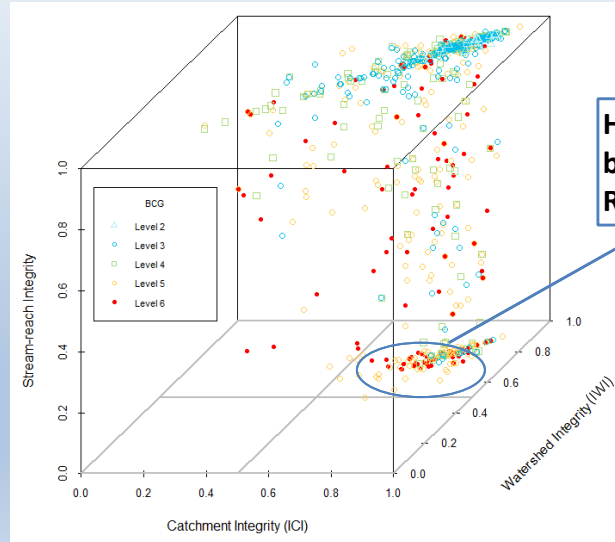


Linking Macroinvertebrate BCG with IWI and ICI



Upper Right Quadrant
High Integrity
Watersheds/Catchments
39% Good sites (BCG 2 & 3)
50% IMPAIRED (BCG 5 & 6)?

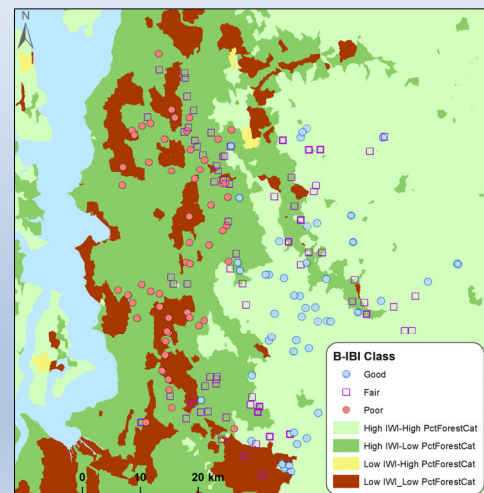
Linking Macroinvertebrate BCG with IWI, ICI & Reach-scale Integrity



High IWI, High ICI
but Low Stream-
Reach Integrity

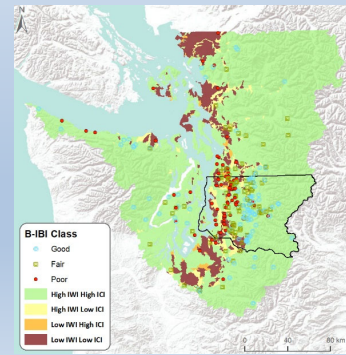
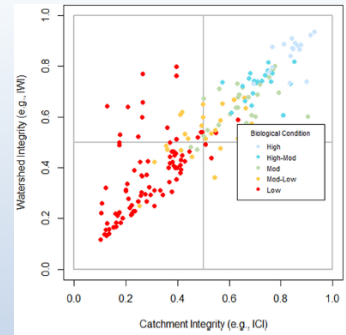
Summary: Application of IWI/ICI and StreamCat Datasets

- ❑ IWI/ICI - default national landscape indicators
- ❑ If IWI/ICI does not fit the biological data, StreamCat data could replace IWI/ICI with a more effective indicator



Multiscale framework

- ❑ Simple, flexible tool
- ❑ Apply to any geographic scale and biological taxa
- ❑ Optimal management decisions
 - Prioritize streams for protection and restoration
 - Identify best spatial scale for management



Puget Sound Region
Chad Larson - WA DOE

King County
Kate Macneale –
King County DNRP

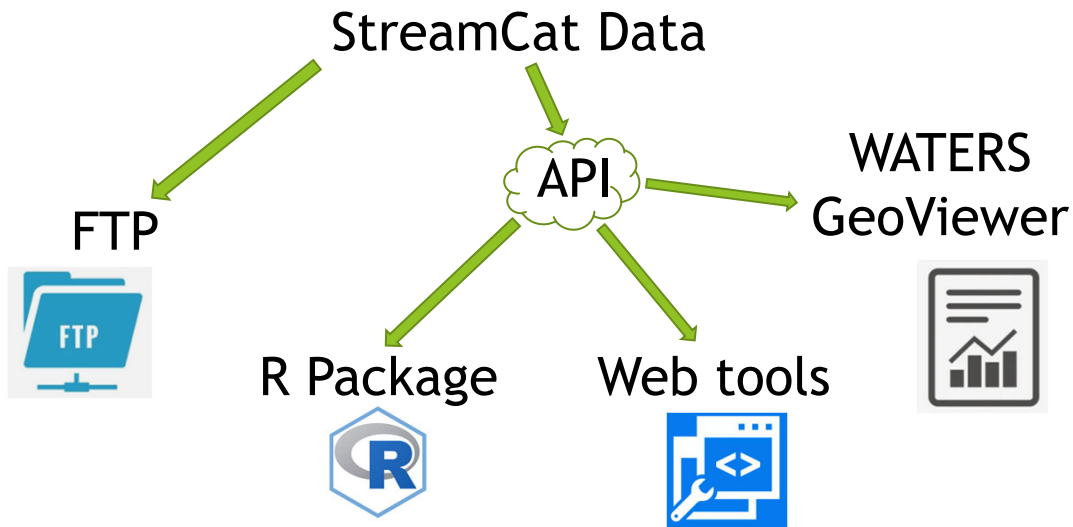
Acknowledgements



Central Appalachia
Lou Reynolds – USEPA Region 3
Jason Hill/Emma Jones - VA DEQ
John Wirts - WV DEP

[Riato et al. 2020. STOTEN.](#)

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Data currently available through EPA's NARS website

<https://www.epa.gov/national-aquatic-resource-surveys/streamcat>

The screenshot shows the "National Aquatic Resource Surveys" website. On the left is a navigation menu with items: "National Aquatic Resource Surveys Home", "Background", "Indicators", "Manuals", "Map of Sampled Sites", "NARS Data" (highlighted), "Journal Articles", "Applying the Data", "Related Studies and Tools", "LakeCat", "StreamCat", and "National Coastal Condition". The main content area is titled "StreamCat Dataset" and includes a "CONTACT US" link. The text describes the dataset's metrics and availability. A green callout box asks "Looking for data on lakes?" and mentions the "LakeCat Dataset". At the bottom, there is a map of the United States.

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Data currently available through EPA's NARS website

<https://www.epa.gov/national-aquatic-resource-surveys/streamcat>

Access StreamCat Data

- Draft [StreamCat Web Tools](#) (requires VPN connection) - NOTE!! Currently for internal use only! Public availability in the near future
- Data by [HydroRegion](#)
- Data by [State](#)
- Data via [EPA WATERS Watershed Characterization Service](#)
 - This is a service providing an HTML report or JSON object listing both standard NHDPlus and StreamCat metrics for a given COMID provided by the user. See HTML Examples in link above, and simply pass a COMID of interest to end of the URL (i.e. pComID=4795168).

StreamCat Documentation

- A detailed description of the StreamCat Dataset and its development is now available in the [Journal of the American Water Resources Association](#) [PDF](#).
- Please include the following citation in any publication or presentation including StreamCat data: Hill, Ryan A., Marc H. Weber, Scott G. Leibowitz, Anthony R. Olsen, and Darren J. Thornbrugh, 2016. The Stream-Catchment (StreamCat) Dataset: A Database of Watershed Metrics for the Conterminous United States. *Journal of the American Water Resources Association (JAWRA)* 52:120-128. DOI: 10.1111/1752-1688.12372.
- The [Read Me](#) file provides additional detail and important information on how to access and use the StreamCat Dataset.
- The [Variable List](#) provides a quick reference of available watershed metrics.
- The [Data Dictionary](#) provides a comprehensive description of each watershed metric and how they were derived.
- [Metadata](#)

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

List of variables and brief descriptions

National Aquatic Resource Surveys Home
Background
Indicators
Manuals
Map of Sampled Sites
NARS Data
Journal Articles
Applying the Data

StreamCat Metrics and Definitions

Below is a list of the metrics included with StreamCat.

- Variables with Cat appended to names are local catchment-level metrics.
- Variables with Ws appended to names are full watershed metrics.
- Metric Name - Short name of variables as stored in data tables
- Description - Brief definition of StreamCat metric
- Data Location - Table on [StreamCat FTP site](#) where metric can be found
- Download a file of the table below - [StreamCat Variable List \(xlsx\)](#)

11	ElevCat	Mean catchment elevation (m)	Elevation_(RegionID).csv, Elevation_(StateID).csv
12	ElevWs	Mean watershed elevation (m)	Elevation_(RegionID).csv, Elevation_(StateID).csv

52	Pc8(2006)Rp100	% of watershed area classified as barren land cover (NLCD 2006 class 31) within a 100-m buffer of NHD streams	NLCD2006Rp8(100)_(RegionID).csv, NLCD2006Rp8(100)_(StateID).csv
53	Pc10w2006Cat	% of catchment area classified as open water land cover (NLCD 2006 class 11)	NLCD2006_(RegionID).csv, NLCD2006_(StateID).csv
54	Pc10w2006Ws	% of watershed area classified as open water land cover (NLCD 2006 class 11)	NLCD2006_(RegionID).csv, NLCD2006_(StateID).csv

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Data available as zipped .csv files by:

- NHDPlus Hydroregion
- US State

 AgMidHiSlopes_Region01.zip	 NLCD2001_AR.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region02.zip	 NLCD2001_AZ.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region03N.zip	 NLCD2001_CA.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region03S.zip	 NLCD2001_CO.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region03W.zip	 NLCD2001_CT.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region04.zip	 NLCD2001_DE.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region05.zip	 NLCD2001_FL.zip
 AgMidHiSlopes_Region06.zip	 NLCD2001_GA.zip

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Metric .csv files look like:

COMID	CatAreaSqKm	WsAreaSqKm	CatPctFull	WsPctFull	ClayCat	ClayWs	SandCat	SandWs
22220519	30.3867	251.2179	100	100	32.6803	10.5478	22.2715	38.689
22220973	2.4354	2.4354	100	100	6.5947	6.5947	39.3678	38.8328
22221761	17.9739	17.9739	100	100	12.2642	12.2642	38.8328	38.8328
22220819	5.8194	49.8987	100	100	6.2451	6.3618	43.5937	40.8023
22221927	4.7646	227.8494	100	100	8.0137	7.8918	42.2042	38.2363
10313430	46.5363	440.2233	100	100	7.6801	9.9608	25.4083	29.194
22221763	16.2495	125.7507	100	100	51.21	41.3177	12.801	16.4106
9.32E+08	9.6642	113.4702	100	100	11.0082	9.8198	31.22	34.7847
22222007	5.6943	29.385	100	100	8.9843	8.4582	37.6079	37.3055
10313588	54.1071	54.1071	100	100	10.9005	10.9005	25.6186	25.6186
10313416	0.6921	1.9413	100	100	5.42	5.42	44.6373	44.6004
22220983	6.5862	179.6715	100	100	6.6474	6.2196	51.1417	41.7342
22220811	0.1008	42.0759	100	100	6.11	6.3719	41.9298	40.4589

Variables in EVERY file

- COMID - the unique NHDPlus identifier
- Area for local catchment and watershed
- Coverage of the dataset - i.e. missing data

Variables for specific metrics

- Each metric shown at both:
 - Catchment scale
 - Watershed scale
- Some at riparian buffer

COMID	CatAreaSqKm	WsAreaSqKm	CatPctFull	WsPctFull	PctUrbLo2019Cat	PctUrbMd2019Cat	PctUrbHi2019Cat	PctUrbLo2019Ws	PctUrbMd2019Ws	PctUrbHi2019Ws
718276	2.3103	2.3103	100	100	0.12	0.08	0.04	0.12	0.08	0.04
718808	3.9429	3.9429	100	100	0.64	0.18	0	0.64	0.18	0
718792	5.8995	5.8995	100	100	0.5	0.15	0	0.5	0.15	0
718288	2.8125	2.8125	100	100	0.38	0.26	0.03	0.38	0.26	0.03
718882	3.6603	3.6603	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
718338	0.4491	5.292	100	100	0	0	0	0.17	0.15	0.03
719118	0.0027	2.0403	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0.04
718834	2.9943	2.9943	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
718062	0.036	8.0676	100	100	0	0	0	0.22	0.11	0
718216	4.6404	8.685	100	100	0.21	0	0.04	0.22	0.08	0.04
718234	2.3391	10.8954	100	100	2.46	0.69	0.08	1.16	0.66	0.07
718938	13.0401	13.0401	100	100	0.27	0.08	0	0.27	0.08	0
718452	3.6702	3.6702	100	100	0.22	0.27	0	0.22	0.27	0

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Advantage of current .csv delivery method:

- Simple, open, machine-readable format

Limitations of current .csv delivery method:

- Extra work to assemble all metrics or desired metrics for certain state / region
- Extra work to pull together a particular metric across states / regions
- Data difficult to ingest directly into models or applications

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Accessing using REST API

The screenshot shows the EPA website's navigation bar with the EPA logo and search bar. Below the navigation bar, the page title is "National Aquatic Resource Surveys" and the sub-page title is "StreamCat Metrics REST API". The page content includes a sidebar with links to "National Aquatic Resource Surveys Home", "Background", "Indicators", "Manuals", "Map of Sampled Sites", "NARS Data", "Journal Articles", "Applying the Data", "Related Studies and Tools", "National Coastal Condition Assessment", "National Lakes Assessment", "National Rivers and Streams Assessment", and "National Wetland Condition". The main content area for "StreamCat Metrics REST API" includes the version "1.0.0", the base URL "http://v26267mcpk506/StreamCat/v1/stable/metrics", and a description of the service: "This web service returns metrics from the StreamCat data tables. When no parameters are passed, this web service returns a JSON file containing a list of available options. Any application that can parse JSON can read this file. The only parameter that the web service does not enumerate is COMIDs, due to the high volume of possible options. When parameters are passed, this web service will return a comma-separated variable (CSV) file. This web service supports the following protocols: GET: You can make a GET request by encoding a parameter string and appending it to the URL to the web service, as shown below: http://v26267mcpk506/StreamCat/v1/stable/metrics?name=fert&area=0&interest=catchment&comid=119".

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Why a REST API?

A REST (Representational State Transfer) API (Application Programming Interface) is:

1. Lightweight - they rely on http standard and are format-agnostic
2. Independent - Client and server independent - data storage separate from UI and server
3. Scalable and flexible - separation of client and server allows easy scaling, developers can easily integrate REST APIs

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Example: We want fertilizer applied within catchment # 179

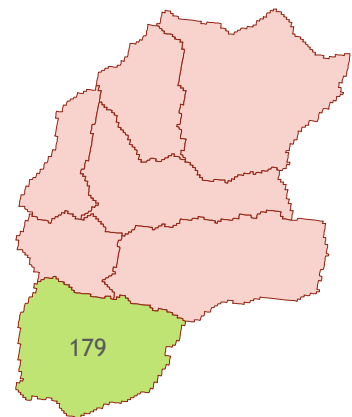
<http://v26267mcpk506/StreamCat/v1/stable/metrics?name=fert&areaOfInterest=catchment&comid=179>

The base URL of the service

The metric to return -
Any StreamCat metric

The area of interest -
can be:

- Catchment
- Watershed
- Riparian buffer



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Example: We want fertilizer applied within watershed # 179

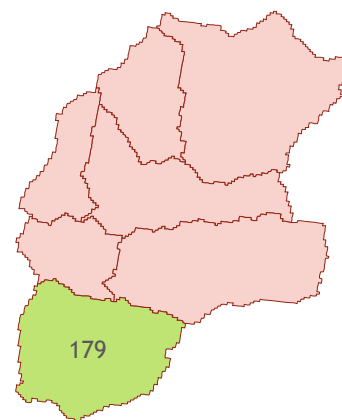
<http://v26267mcpk506/StreamCat/v1/stable/metrics?name=fert&areaOfInterest=watershed&comid=179>

The base URL of the service

The metric to return -
Any StreamCat metric

The area of interest -
can be:

- Catchment
- Watershed
- Riparian buffer



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Example: We want percent urban for CONUS

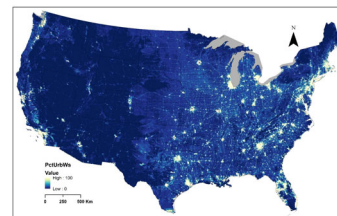
<http://v26267mcpk506/StreamCat/v1/stable/metrics?name=pcturbmd2019&conus=true>

The base URL of the service

The metric to return -
Any StreamCat metric

Staged geography -
Available options are:

1. Conus
2. State
3. County
4. NHDPlus hydroregion



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Accessing using REST API -
Search for a particular metric and get details

The screenshot shows the EPA Research SMART Rewrite interface. At the top, there is a search bar with 'Search EPA.gov' and a 'Hide Admin Info' button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with 'Environmental Topics', 'Laws & Regulations', 'Report a Violation', and 'About EPA'. The main content area is titled 'SMART Rewrite' and features a search box containing the word 'Glacial'. To the right of the search box are 'Match Any' and 'Hide Filters' buttons. Below the search box, a list of search results is displayed, each with a metric name and a brief description:

- Eolian Sediment, Fine-Textured**
PetEolFin[AOI]
% of ACI area classified as lithology type: eolian sediment, fine-textured (glacial loess)
- Glacial Outwash & Glacial Lake Sediment, Coarse-Textured**
PetGlacLakCrs[AOI]
% of ACI area classified as lithology type: glacial outwash and glacial lake sediment, coarse-textured
- Glacial Outwash & Glacial Lake Sediment, Fine-Textured**
PetGlacLakFin[AOI]
% of ACI area classified as lithology type: glacial lake sediment, fine-textured
- Glacial Till, Clayey**
PetGlacTilClay[AOI]
% of ACI area classified as lithology type: glacial till, clayey
- Glacial Till, Coarse-Textured**
PetGlacTilCrs[AOI]
% of ACI area classified as lithology type: glacial till, coarse-textured
- Glacial Till, Loamy**

Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

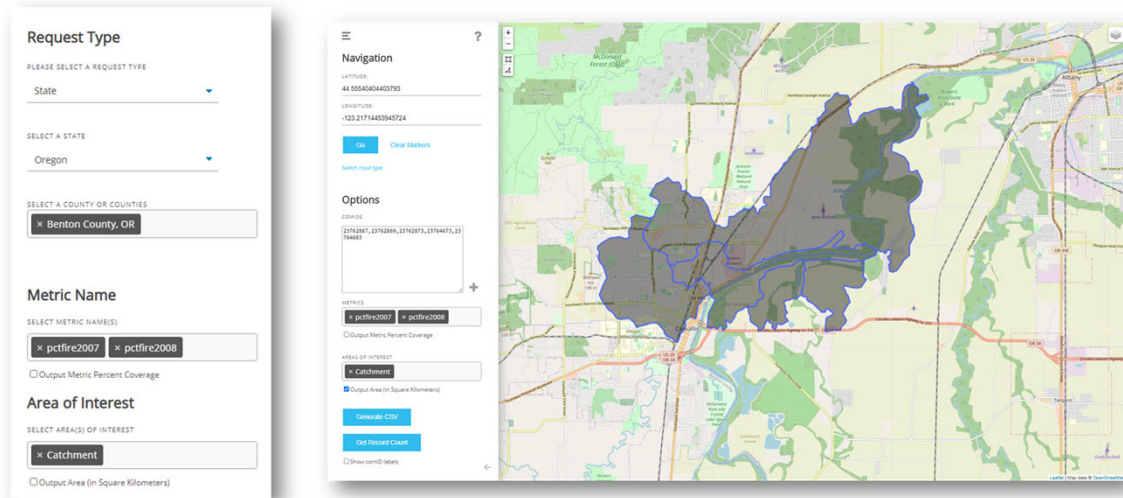
Accessing using REST API -
Search for a particular metric and get details

The screenshot shows the EPA Research SMART Rewrite interface. At the top, there is a search bar with 'Search EPA.gov' and a 'Hide Admin Info' button. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with 'Environmental Topics', 'Laws & Regulations', 'Report a Violation', and 'About EPA'. The main content area is titled 'SMART Rewrite' and features a search box containing the word 'Percent Full'. To the right of the search box are 'Match Any' and 'Hide Filters' buttons. Below the search box, a list of search results is displayed, each with a metric name and a brief description:

- Percent Full**
CatPetFull[AOI]
Percent of the ACI that is covered by the landscape layer.
- Cultivated Biological Nitrogen Fixation Mean Rate**
CBNF[AOI]
Mean rate of biological nitrogen fixation from the cultivation of crops in kg N/ha/yr, within ACI
- CHEM[AOI]**
Regulation of water chemistry component score calculated using ACI metrics
- CHEM_v2_[AOI]**

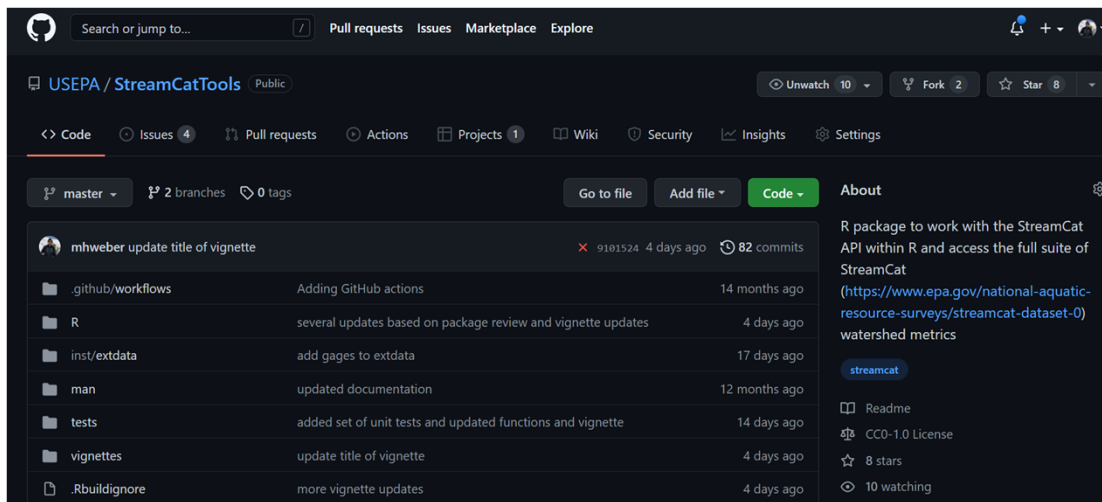
Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

Web Tool and Web Map API Interface



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

StreamCatTools R Package



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

StreamCatTools R Package

0.1 Installing and loading StreamCatTools

- 0.2 Background
- 0.3 Example One
- 0.4 Example Two
- 0.5 Example Three
- 0.6 Example Four
- 0.7 Example Five
- 0.8 Example Six
- 0.9 Example Seven
- 0.10 Example Eight

Introduction

Marc Weber

0.1 Installing and loading StreamCatTools

To install, currently you need to install from GitHub using devtools

After installing load the library

0.2 Background

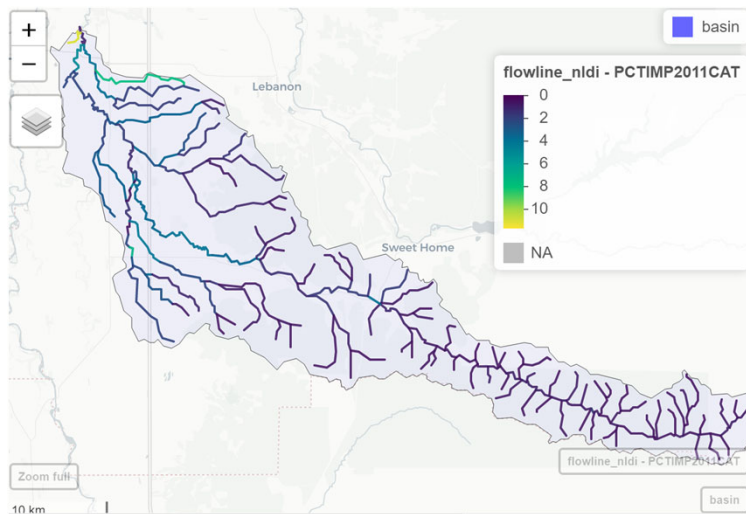
The `StreamCatTools` package was designed to simplify the use of [StreamCat](#) data in R, leveraging the new [API for StreamCat](#).

0.2.1 StreamCat API

We can actually pull data into R from the [StreamCat API](#) by simply using the `read_csv` function from the `readr` package. We have to hard-wire parameters and are limited in the number of records returned through a `GET` request.

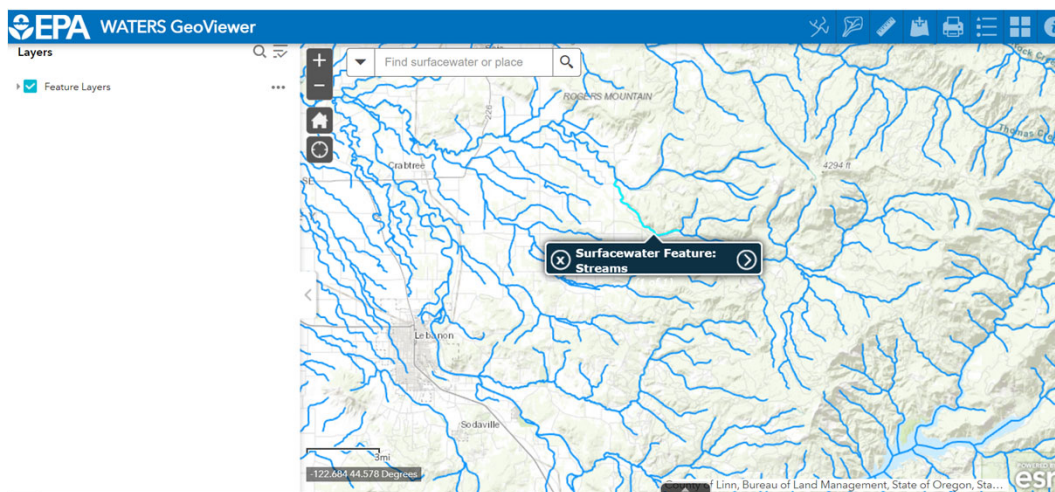
Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

StreamCatTools R Package



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

WATERS GeoViewer



Accessing and Using StreamCat Data

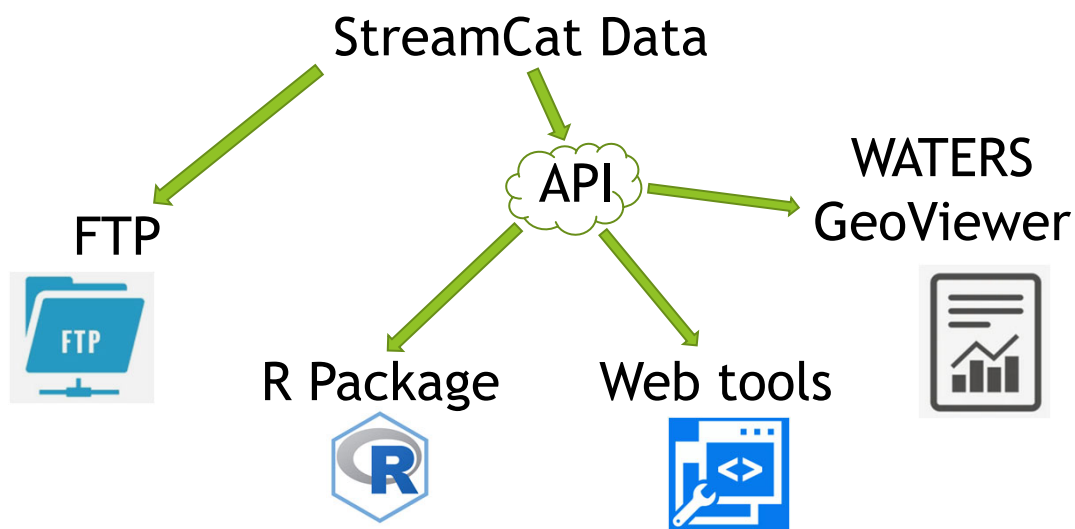
Waters Watershed Report Characterization - StreamCat

2006 National Land Cover Database Impervious Surfaces ⓘ	Value	AOI Percent Covered*
Mean imperviousness of anthropogenic surfaces within catchment.	0.29%	100.00%
Mean imperviousness of anthropogenic surfaces within watershed.	0.02%	100.00%

Mine Density Active Mines and Mineral Plants in the US ⓘ	Value	AOI Percent Covered*
Density of georeferenced mines and mineral plants within the local catchment.	0 sites/km ²	100.00%
Density of georeferenced mines and mineral plants within the upstream watershed.	0 sites/km ²	100.00%

National Anthropogenic Barrier Dataset ⓘ	Value	AOI Percent Covered*
Density of georeferenced dams within the local catchment (dams/square km).	0 dams/km ²	100.00%
Density of georeferenced dams within the total upstream watershed (dams/square km).	0 dams/km ²	100.00%
Mean NID storage volume of all dam reservoirs (NID_STORA in NID) within the local catchment (cubic meters/square km).	0 m ³ /km ²	100.00%
Mean NID storage volume of all dam reservoirs (NID_STORA in NID) within the total upstream watershed (cubic meters/square km).	0 m ³ /km ²	100.00%
Mean normal storage volume of all dam reservoirs (NORM_STORA in NID) within the local catchment (cubic meters/square km).	0 m ³ /km ²	100.00%
Mean normal storage volume of all dam reservoirs (NORM_STORA in NID) within the total upstream watershed (cubic meters/square km).	0 m ³ /km ²	100.00%

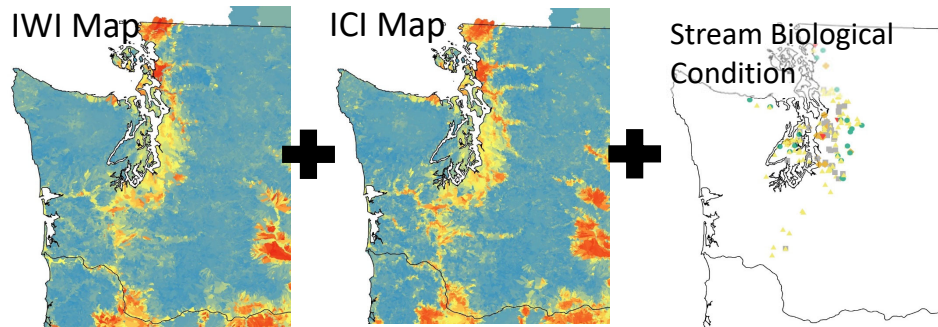
Accessing and Using StreamCat Data



Conclusions

- StreamCat and ICI/IWI available for 2.6 million streams segments of the U.S.
- IWI/ICI + additional information can help to understand and prioritize stream conservation actions
- Accessibility to StreamCat, ICI/IWI + hundreds of other metrics will greatly expand very soon

Questions?



Participation Certificate

- If you would like to obtain a participation certificate you can access the PDF in the **Handouts** section of your control panel.

Questions?

95

Watershed Academy Webcasts

More webcasts coming soon!

The slides from today's presentations are posted on the Watershed Academy webpage.

A recording of the webcast will be posted within the next month.

www.epa.gov/watershedacademy

96

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 - weber.marc@epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/national-aquatic-resource-surveys/streamcat-dataset-0>

97

Thank You!

98