



Hydrologic Trends of Streamflow and Temperature in the Johnson Creek Watershed

Emma Brenneman & Heejun Chang
Department of Geography
Portland State University
Oct 16th, 2018

Why do we care about streamflow?

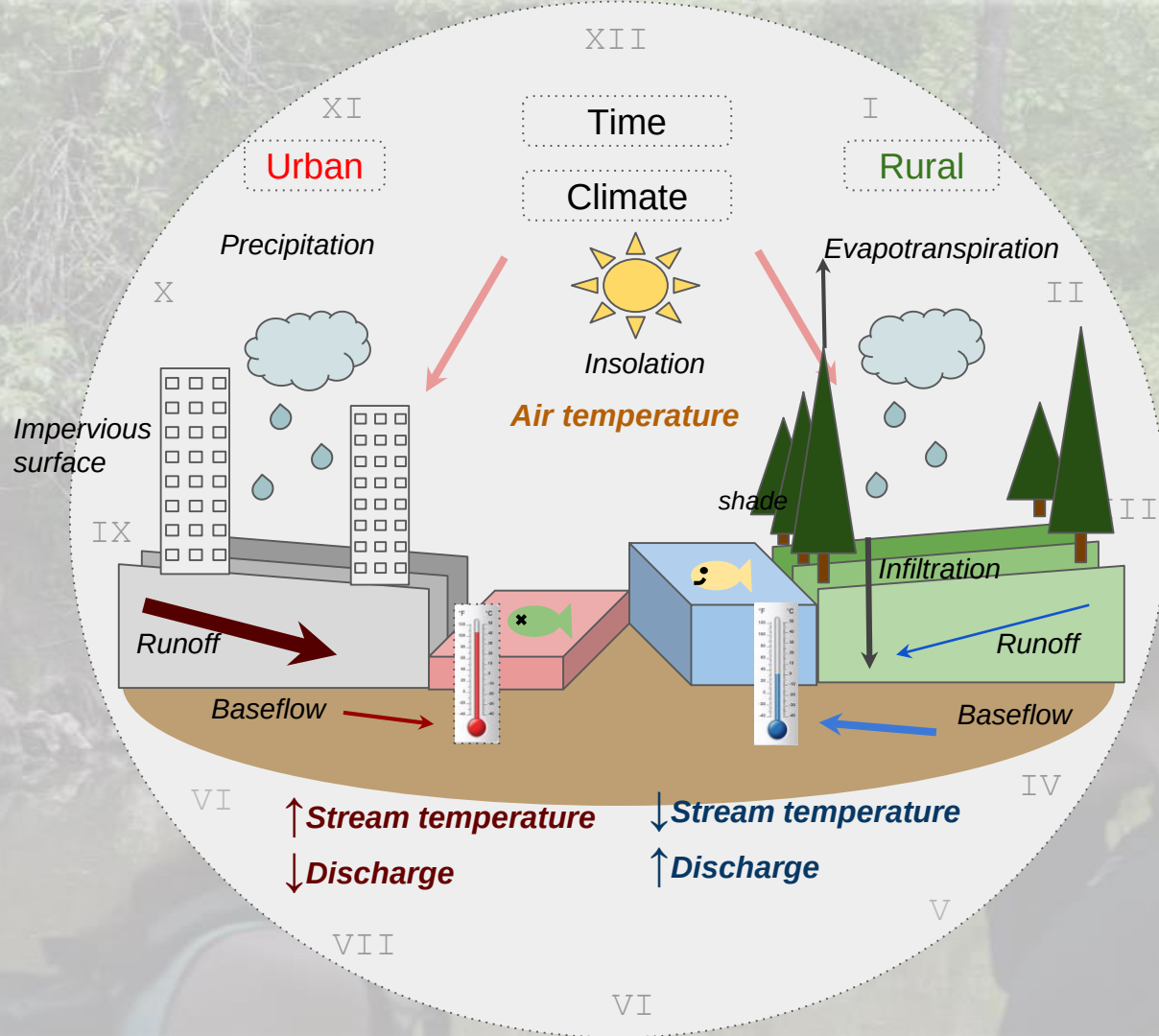
- Urbanization can alter stream hydrology → urban hydrology^{3, 10, 12, 23}
- Altered hydrology can change a stream's geomorphology^{13, 16}
- Urban flooding¹⁴
- Less baseflow and lower low flows ⇒ less aquatic habitat^{18, 22}



Why do we care about stream temperature?



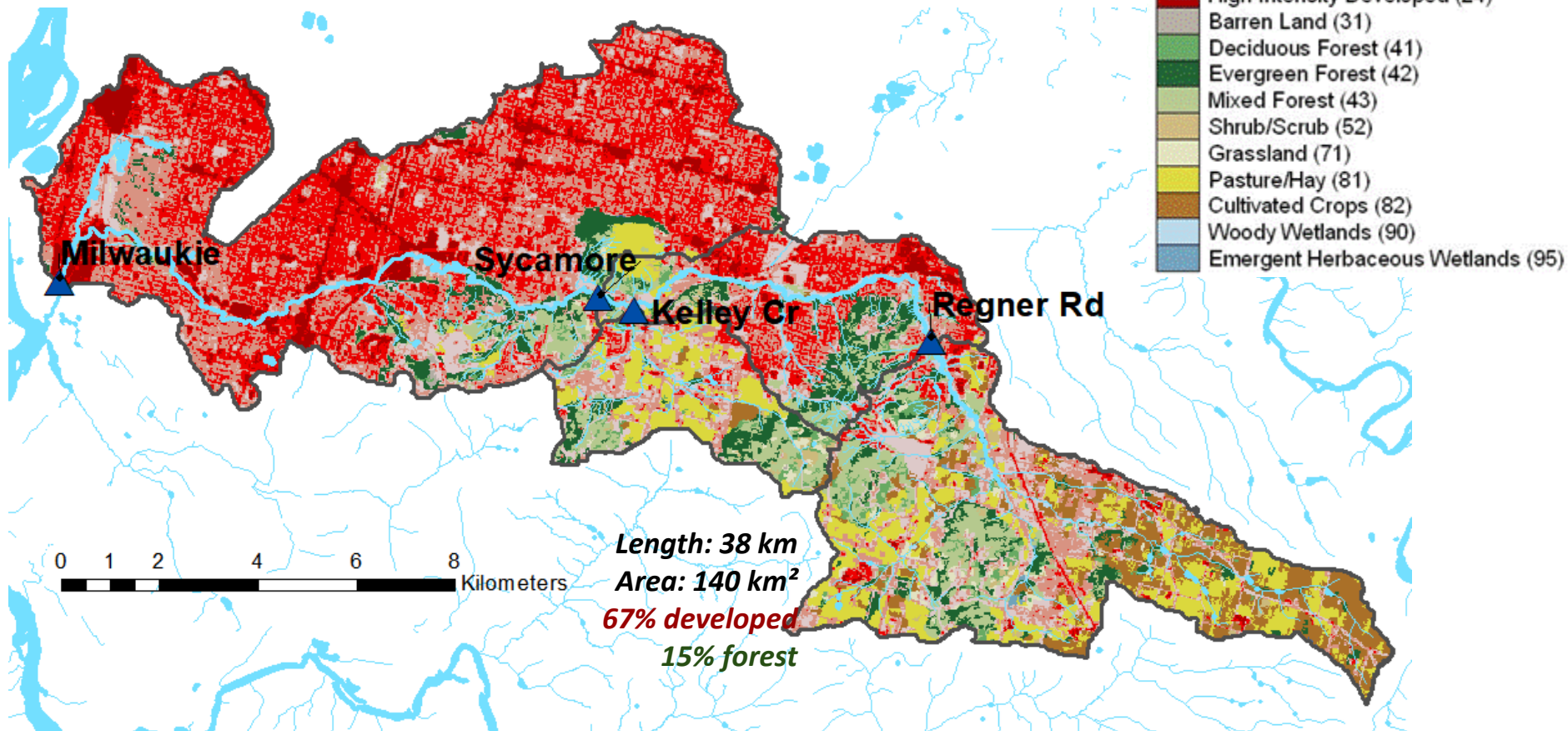
- Urban heat island effect can increase water temperature ^{1, 7}
- Urbanized areas tend to have higher stream temperatures ^{12, 19, 26}
- High stream temperatures are not conducive for healthy habitat ^{1,2, 9,17,21}
 - i.e. plants, benthic macroinvertebrates, salmon
- Temperature and dissolved oxygen



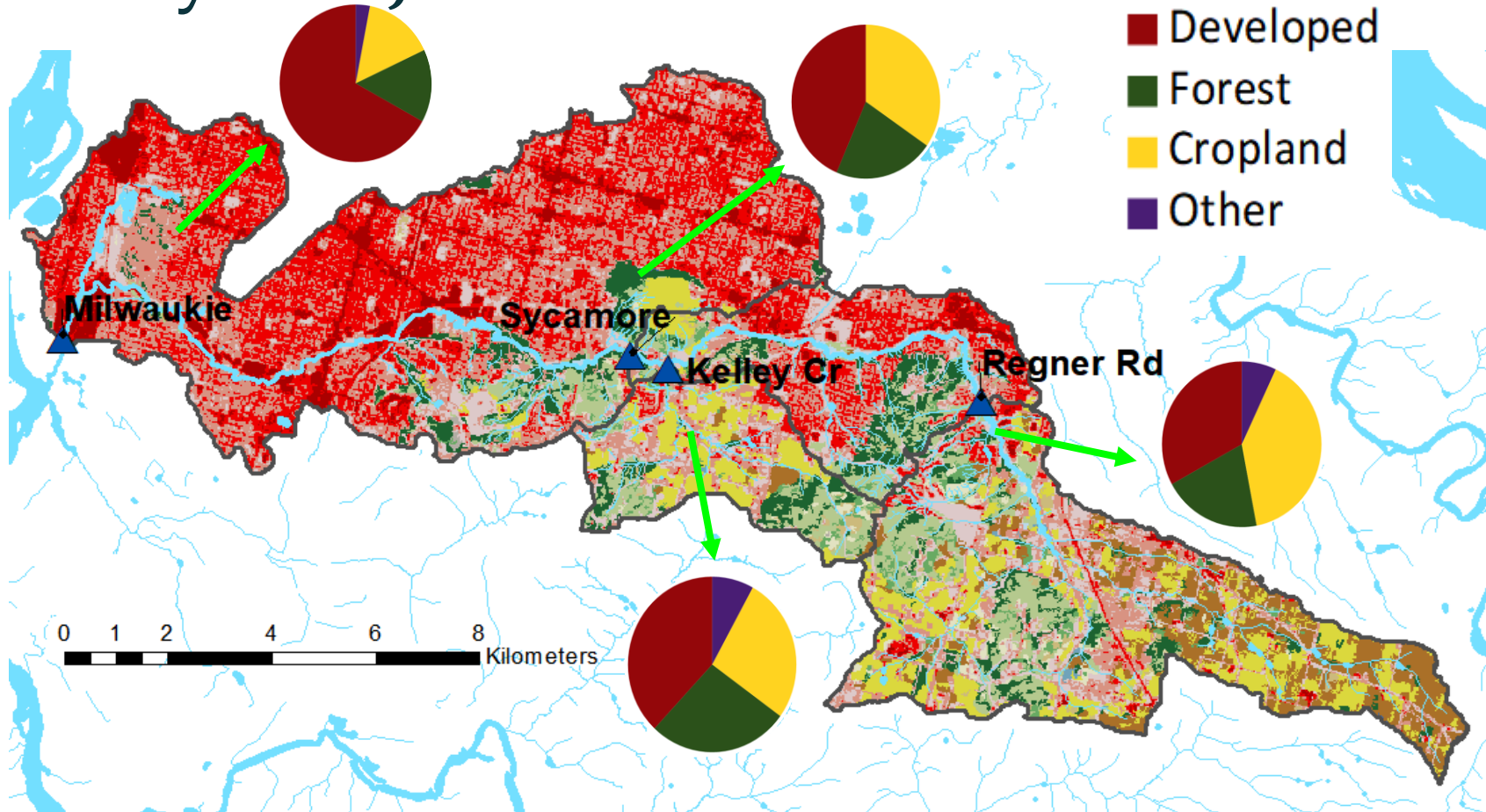
Research questions

1. Are there significant temporal trends of streamflow and stream temperature metrics in Johnson Creek, Oregon?
2. How do the trends vary at annual versus monthly scales?
3. How do they compare for the entire period of record versus the overlapping period of record for all four stations?

Study Site: Johnson Creek



Study Site: Johnson Creek



Data

Station ID	Station Name	Drainage area (km ²)	Temperature record	Discharge record
14211550	Johnson Creek at Milwaukie	137.7	1998 - 2018	1989 - 2018
14211500	Johnson Creek at Sycamore	69.4	1998 - 2018	1940 - 2018
14211499	Kelley Creek at SE 159th	12.2	2000 - 2018	2000 - 2018
14211400	Johnson Creek at Regner Rd	39.8	1999 - 2018	1998 - 2018

Data

Dataset	Derived Metrics
Precipitation	Total daily precipitation
Discharge	Baseflow index Richards-Baker Flashiness index Mean runoff ratio TQmean
Stream Temperature	# of days exceeding 17.8 C 7-day moving average of daily maximum stream temperature 7-day moving average of daily minimum stream temperature Thermal flashiness

Mann-Kendall trend test: to detect monotonic trends in flow and temperature

Milwaukie	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend ▲ .01 ▲ .05 ▲ .10 Negative trend ▼ .01 ▼ .05 ▼ .10 ○ No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

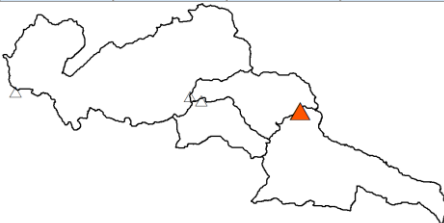
Discharge 2000-present Temperature 2000-present

Milwaukie	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend .01 .05 .10 Negative trend .01 .05 .10 No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

Sycamore	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend .01 .05 .10 Negative trend .01 .05 .10 No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

Sycamore	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend ▲ .01 ▲ .05 ▲ .10 ▼ .01 ▼ .05 ▼ .10 ○ No trend								▲	▲	▲	▲	▲
7DADTmin									○	○	▲	▲	○
Thermal Flashiness									○	○	○	○	○
# days >17.8°C									○	○	▲	▲	▲
BFI									○	○	▲	○	○
RB Index	○	○	▲	○	○	○	○	○	▼	○	▼	○	○
Runoff Ratio	○	▲	○	○	○	○	▲	○					○
TQmean	○	▲	○	▼	○	○	○	○					○

Regner Rd	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend ▲ .01 ▲ .05 ▲ .10 Negative trend ▼ .01 ▼ .05 ▼ .10 ○ No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

Regner Rd	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend    .01 .05 .10 Negative trend    .01 .05 .10  No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

Kelley Cr	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Year
7DADTmax	Trend significant at: Positive trend  .01  .05  .10 Negative trend  .01  .05  .10  No trend												
7DADTmin													
Thermal Flashiness													
# days >17.8°C													
BFI													
RB Index													
Runoff Ratio													
TQmean													

Conclusions

There are significant trends at all stations, on monthly and annual timescales, and for entire and overlapping period of record.

Depending on locations of stream gauge, different trends appear

→ Upstream stations show increases in stream temperature, while downstream station shows decreases in stream temperature in some months.

Differences in trends could be due to unique hydrogeology, land use characteristics, stormwater characteristics, stream restoration?

Thank you to Dr. Heejun Chang, Dr. Andres Holz, and Dr. Alida Cantor!



Emma Brenneman
brennem2@pdx.edu
Department of Geography

Citations

1. Brans, K. I., J. M. T. Engelen, C. Souffreau, and L. De Meester. 2018. Urban hot-tubs: Local urbanization has profound effects on average and extreme temperatures in ponds. *Landscape and Urban Planning* 176:22–29.
2. Caissie, D. 2006. The thermal regime of rivers: a review. *Freshwater Biology* 51 (8):1389–1406.
3. Chang, H. 2007. Comparative streamflow characteristics in urbanizing basins in the Portland Metropolitan Area, Oregon, USA. *Hydrological Processes* 21 (2):211–222.
4. Chang, H., and M. Psaris. 2013. Local landscape predictors of maximum stream temperature and thermal sensitivity in the Columbia River Basin, USA. *Science of the Total Environment* 461–462:587–600.
5. Grabowski, Z. J., E. Watson, and H. Chang. 2016. Using spatially explicit indicators to investigate watershed characteristics and stream temperature relationships. *Science of the Total Environment* 551–552:376–386.
6. Gray, B. R., D. M. Robertson, and J. . Rogala. 2018. Effects of air temperature and discharge on Upper Mississippi River summer water temperatures. *River Research and Applications* 0 (0). <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/rra.3278>.
7. Grimm, N. B., S. H. Faeth, N. E. Golubiewski, C. L. Redman, J. Wu, X. Bai, and J. M. Briggs. 2008. Global change and the ecology of cities. *Science (New York, N.Y.)* 319 (5864).
8. Gu, R., S. Montgomery, and T. A. Austin. 1998. Quantifying the effects of stream discharge on summer river temperature. *Hydrological Sciences Journal* 43 (6):885–904.
9. Honea, J. M., M. M. McClure, J. C. Jorgensen, and M. D. Scheuerell. 2016. Assessing freshwater life-stage vulnerability of an endangered Chinook salmon population to climate change influences on stream habitat. *Climate Research* 71:127–137.
10. Jennings, D., and S. Jarnagin. 2002. Changes in anthropogenic impervious surfaces, precipitation and daily streamflow discharge: a historical perspective in a mid-atlantic subwatershed. *Landscape Ecology* 17 (5):471–489.
11. Kaushal, S., and K. Belt. 2012. The urban watershed continuum: evolving spatial and temporal dimensions. *Urban Ecosystems* 15 (2):409–435.
12. Kaushal, S. S., G. E. Likens, N. A. Jaworski, M. L. Pace, A. M. Sides, D. Seekell, K. T. Belt, D. H. Secor, and R. L. Wingate. 2010. Rising stream and river temperatures in the United States. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment* 8 (9):461–466.
13. Konrad, C. P., D. B. Booth, and S. J. Burges. 2005. Effects of urban development in the Puget Lowland, Washington, on interannual streamflow patterns: Consequences for channel form and streambed disturbance. *Water Resources Research* 41 (7):n/a–n/a.
14. Konrad, C. P. (Christopher P. 2003. *Effects of urban development on floods*. Reston, Va.?: U.S. Dept. of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey.
15. Lee, K. K. 2009. *Hydrology of the Johnson Creek Basin, Oregon*. Reston, Va.: U.S. Dept. of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey.
16. Levell, A. P., and H. Chang. 2008. Monitoring the channel process of a stream restoration project in an urbanizing watershed: a case study of Kelley Creek, Oregon, USA. *River Research and Applications* 24 (2):169–182.

Citations

17. Mantua, N., I. Tohver, and A. Hamlet. 2010. Climate change impacts on streamflow extremes and summertime stream temperature and their possible consequences for freshwater salmon habitat in Washington State. *Climatic Change* 102 (1):187–223.
18. Martin, E. H., C. Kelleher, and T. Wagener. 2012. Has urbanization changed ecological streamflow characteristics in Maine (USA)? *Hydrological Sciences Journal* 57 (7):1337–1354.
19. Nelson, K. C., and M. A. Palmer. 2007. Stream Temperature Surges Under Urbanization and Climate Change: Data, Models, and Responses 1. *JAWRA Journal of the American Water Resources Association* 43 (2):440–452.
20. Norman, L., M. Villarreal, H. R. Pulliam, R. Minckley, L. Gass, C. Tolle, and M. Coe. 2014. Remote sensing analysis of riparian vegetation response to desert marsh restoration in the Mexican Highlands. *Ecological Engineering* 70:241–254.
21. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. Lower Willamette Subbasin TMDL. Willamette Basin. <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/tmdls/Pages/TMDLs-Willamette-Basin.aspx> (last accessed 30 May 2018).
22. Price, K. 2011. Effects of watershed topography, soils, land use, and climate on baseflow hydrology in humid regions: A review. *Progress in Physical Geography* 35 (4):465–492.
23. Rose, S., and N. E. Peters. 2001. Effects of urbanization on streamflow in the Atlanta area (Georgia, USA): a comparative hydrological approach. *Hydrological Processes* 15 (8):1441–1457.
24. Van Vliet, M. T. H., F. Ludwig, J. J. G. Zwolsman, G. P. Weedon, and P. Kabat. 2011. Global river temperatures and sensitivity to atmospheric warming and changes in river flow. *Water Resources Research* 47 (2):n/a–n/a.
25. Velpuri, N. M., and G. B. Senay. 2013. Analysis of long-term trends (1950–2009) in precipitation, runoff and runoff coefficient in major urban watersheds in the united states. *Environmental Research Letters* 8 (2).
26. Violin, C. R., P. Cada, E. B. Sudduth, B. A. Hassett, D. L. Penrose, and E. S. Bernhardt. 2011. Effects of urbanization and urban stream restoration on the physical and biological structure of stream ecosystems. *Ecological Applications* 21 (6):1932–1949.
27. Watson, E., and H. Chang. 2017. Relation Between Stream Temperature and Landscape Characteristics Using Distance Weighted Metrics. *Water Resources Management* 32 (3):1167–1192.
28. Webb, B. W., and F. Nobilis. 2007. Long-term changes in river temperature and the influence of climatic and hydrological factors. *Hydrological Sciences Journal* 52 (1):74–85.
29. Morrill, J., R. Bales, and M. Conklin. 2005. Estimating stream temperature from air temperature: Implications for future water quality. <http://www.escholarship.org/uc/item/7k4804k7>.