

# Use of NorWeST for Regionally Consistent Status & Trend Assessments of Stream Temperature

Dan Isaak, Seth Wenger<sup>1</sup>, Erin Peterson<sup>2</sup>, Jay Ver Hoef<sup>3</sup> Charlie Luce, Steve Hostetler<sup>4</sup>, Jason Dunham<sup>4</sup>, Jeff Kershner<sup>4</sup>, Brett Roper, Dave Nagel, Dona Horan, Gwynne Chandler, Sharon Parkes, Sherry Wollrab

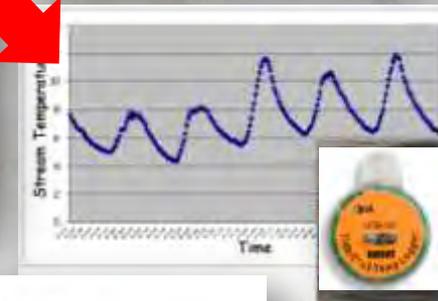
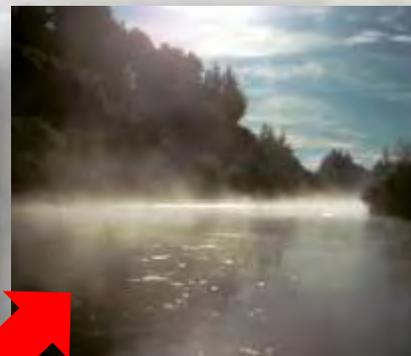
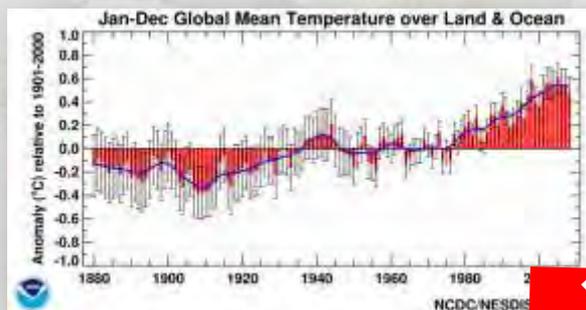
U.S. Forest Service

<sup>1</sup>Trout Unlimited

<sup>2</sup>CSIRO

<sup>3</sup>NOAA

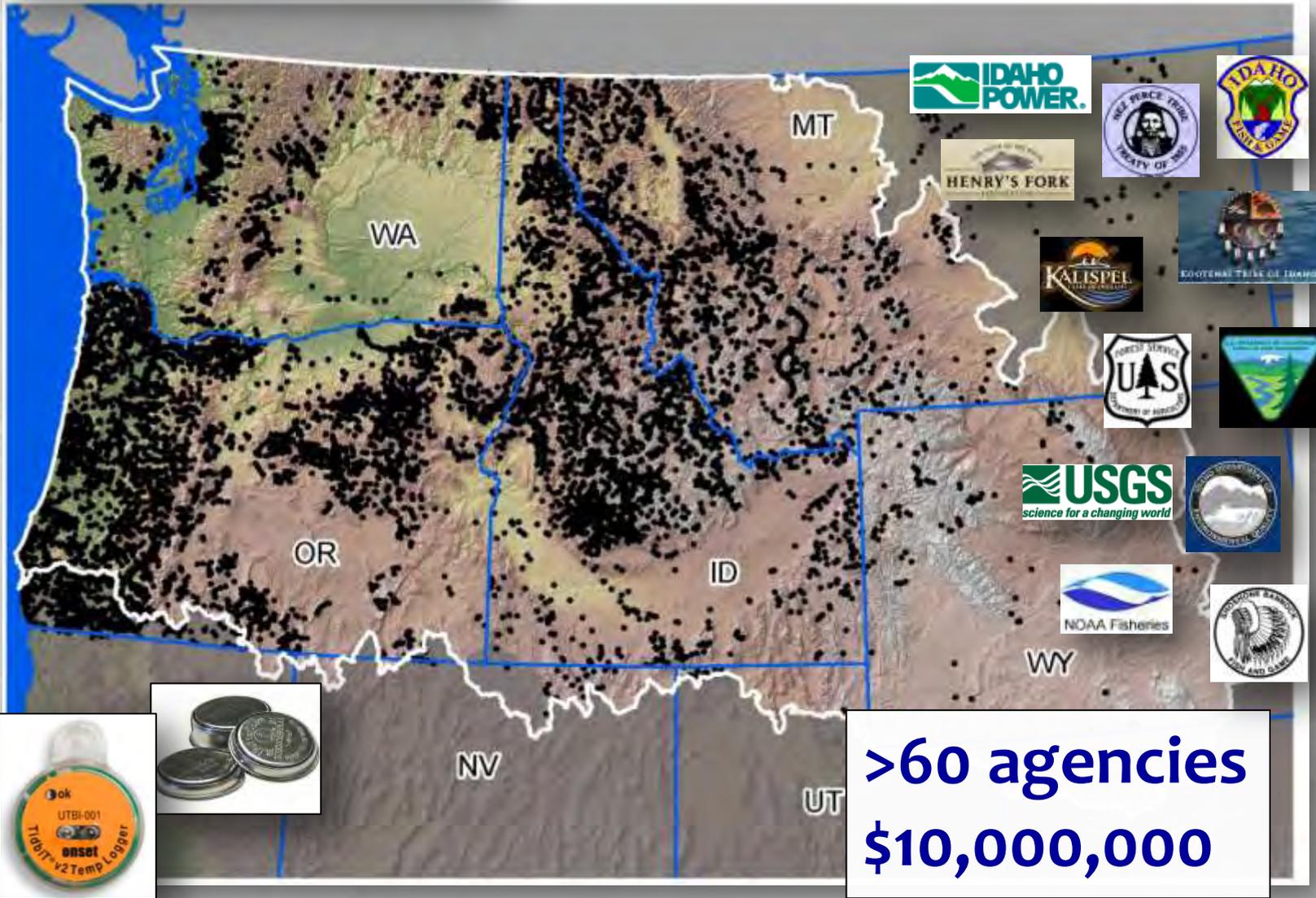
<sup>4</sup>USGS



# NorWeST

Stream Temp

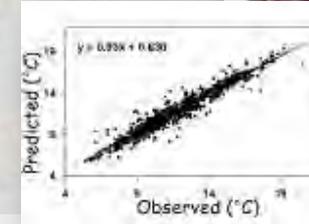
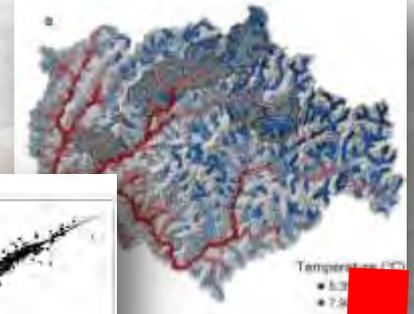
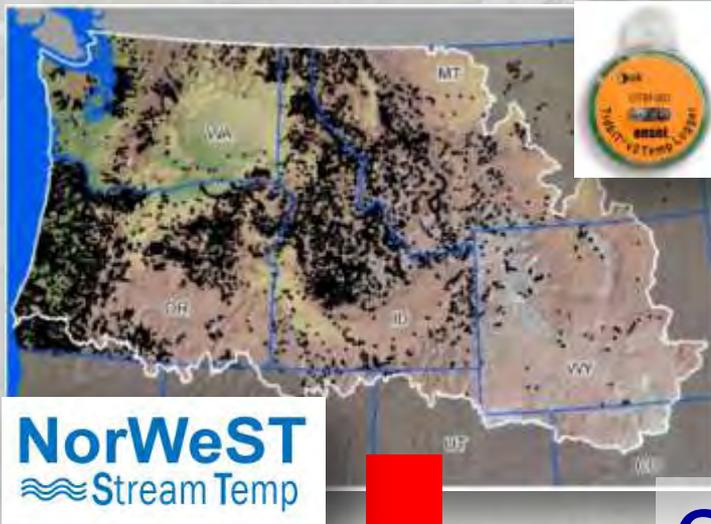
>45,000,000 hourly records  
>15,000 unique stream sites



>60 agencies  
\$10,000,000

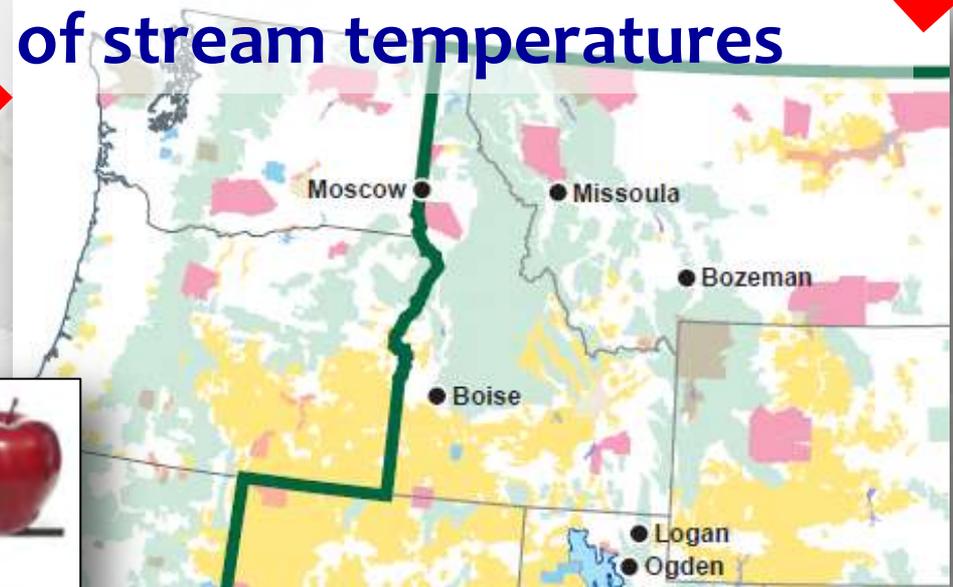
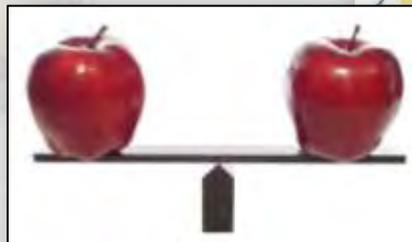
# Regional Temperature Model

Accurate temperature models



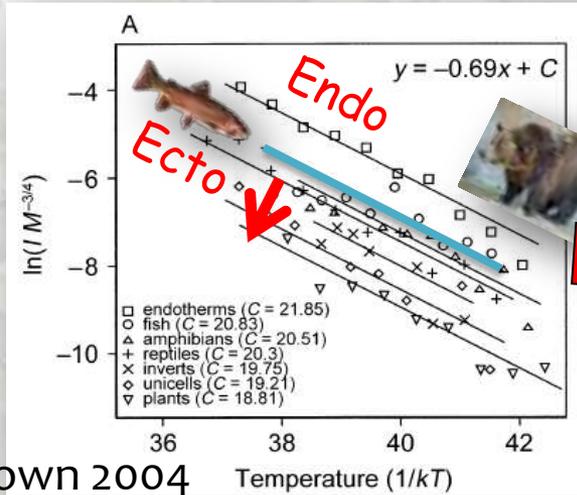
Cross-jurisdictional “maps” of stream temperatures

Consistent information across 350,000 stream kilometers



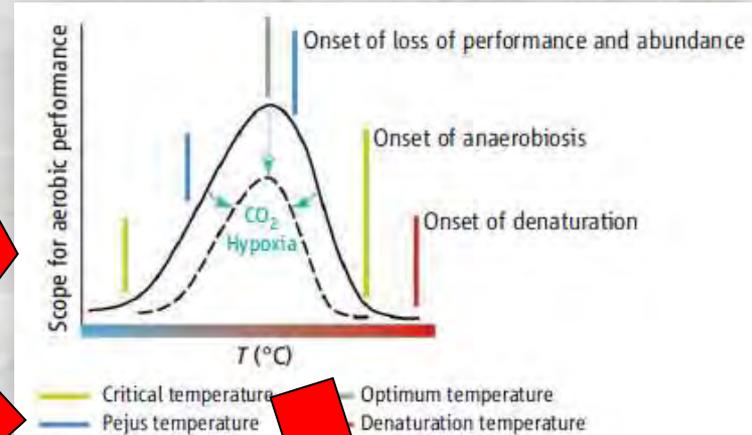
# Temperature is Important for Aquatic Critters

## Metabolism

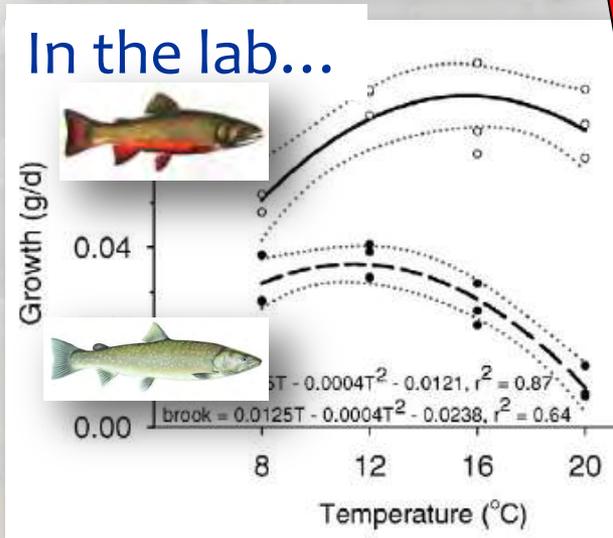


Brown 2004

## Thermal Niche

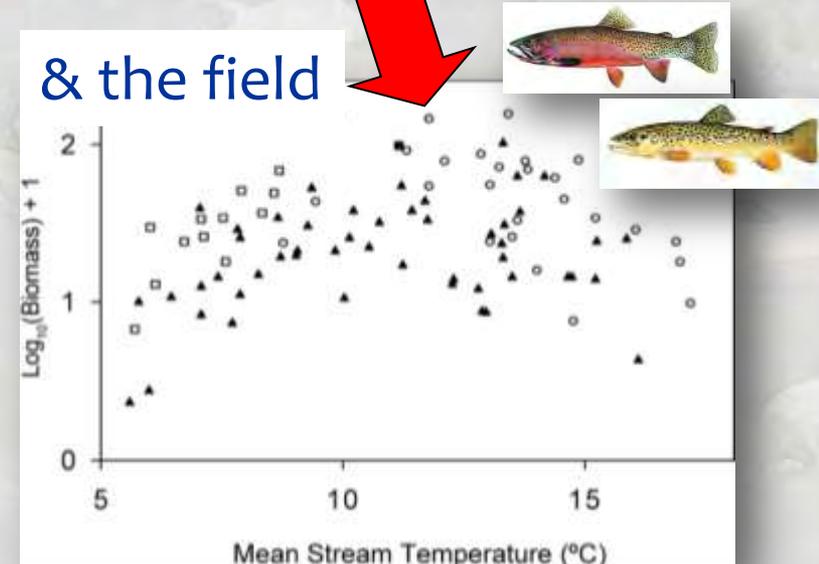


## In the lab...



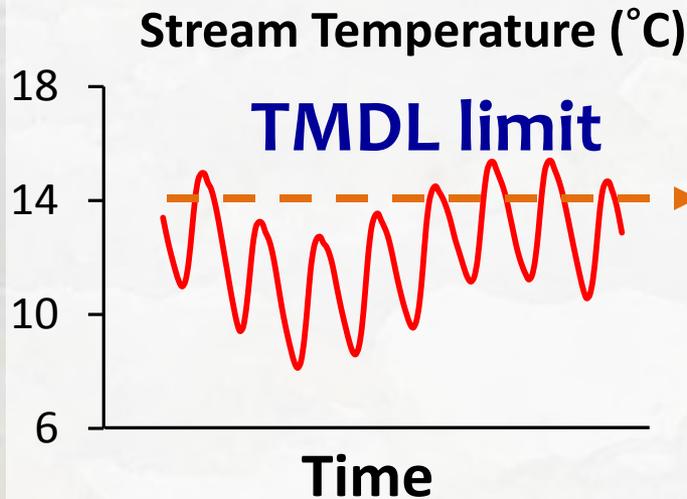
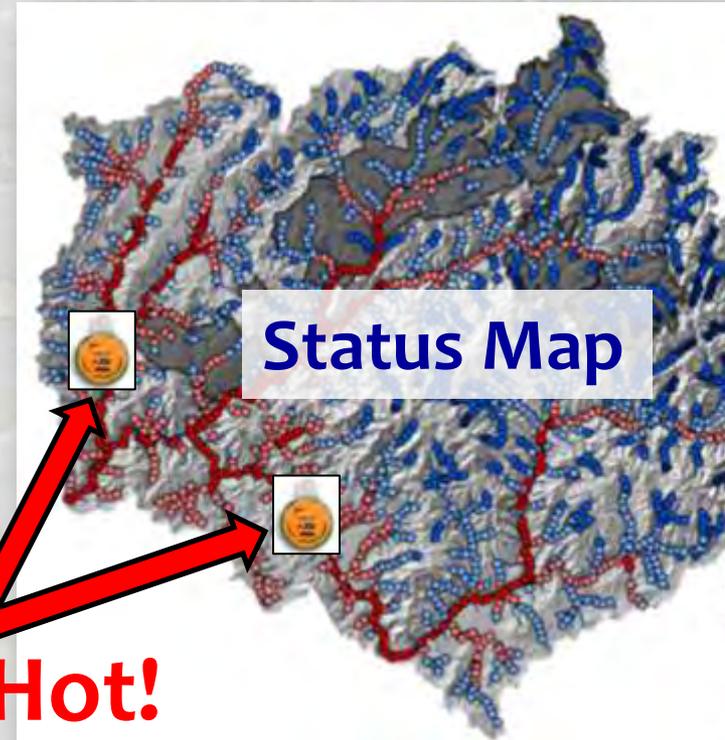
McMahon et al. 2007

## & the field



Isaak & Hubert 2004

# Thermal Status is Important Within Regulatory Contexts



**Too Hot!**

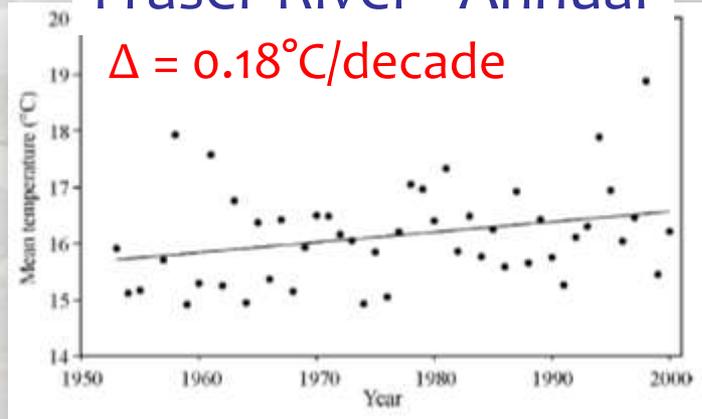
Temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )

- 5.35 - 7.92
- 7.92 - 10.5
- 10.5 - 13.1
- 13.1 - 15.6
- 15.6 - 18.2

# Thermal Status is Changing

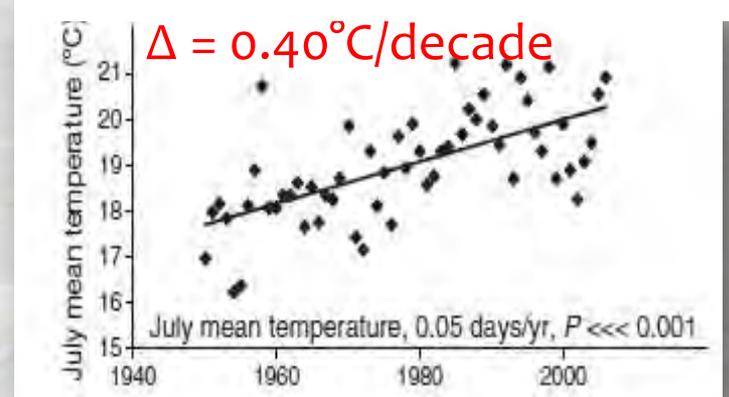
## Regional Trends In Northwest Rivers

### Fraser River - Annual



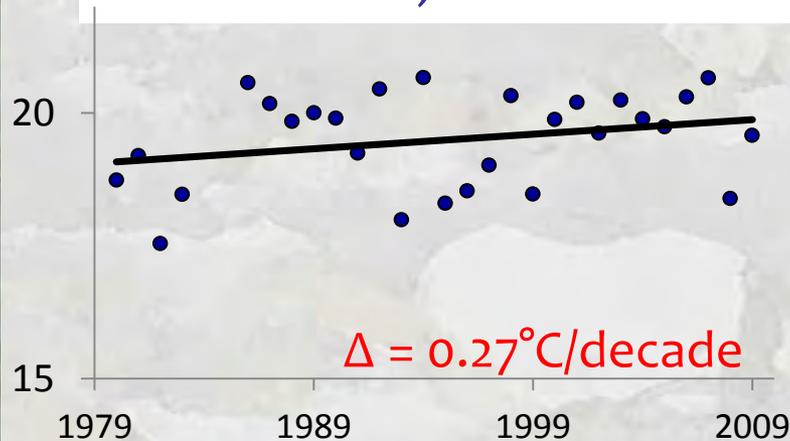
Morrison et al. 2002

### Columbia River - Summer



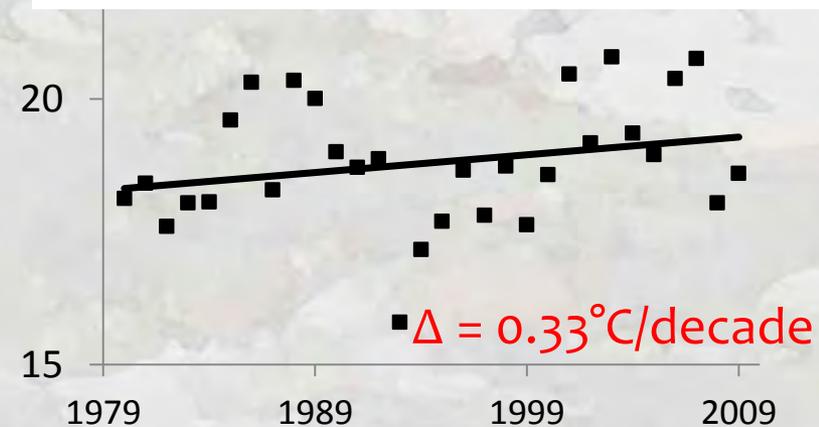
Crozier et al. 2008

### Snake River, ID - Summer

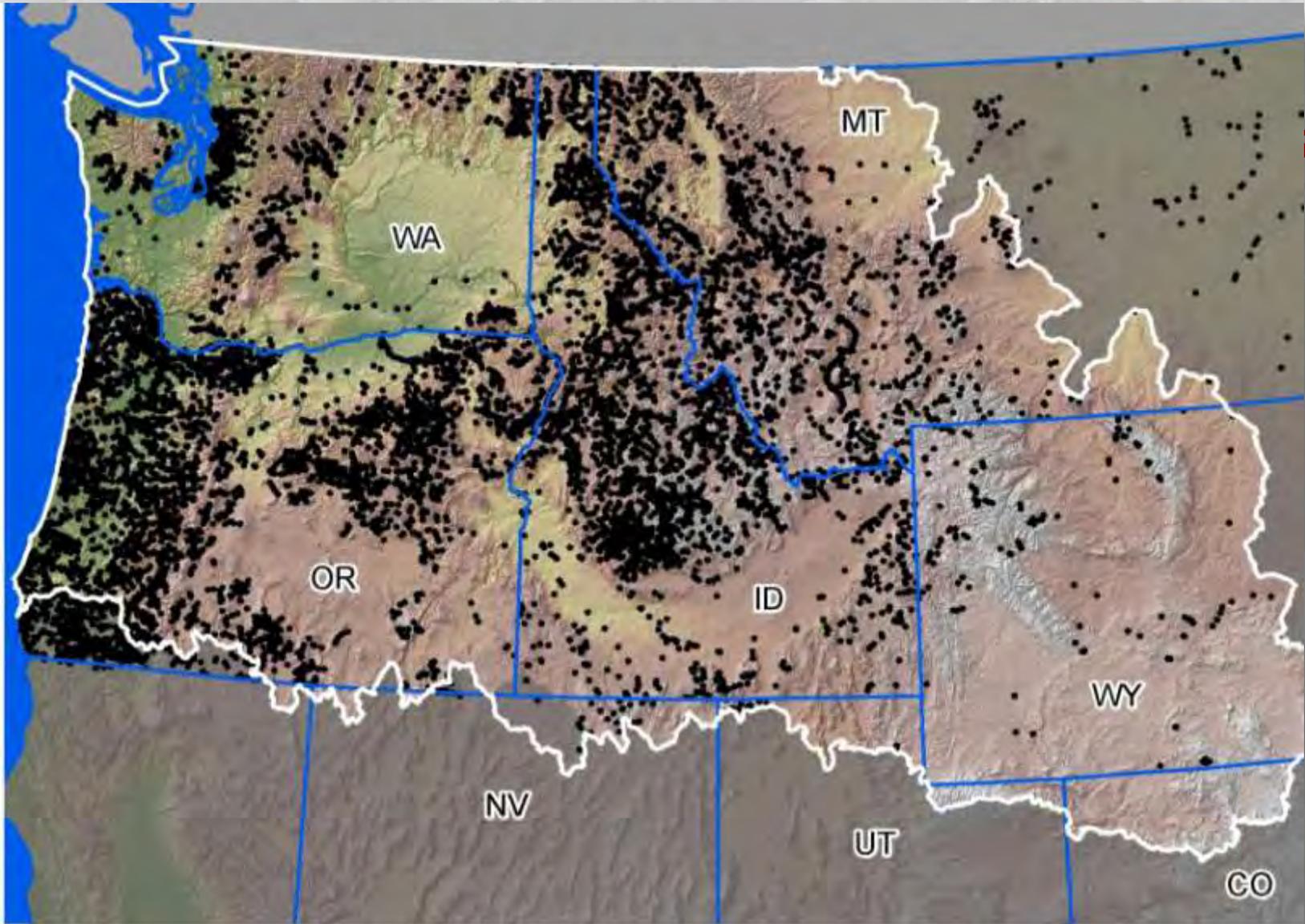


Isaak et al. 2012. *Climatic Change* 113:499-524.

### Missouri River, MT - Summer

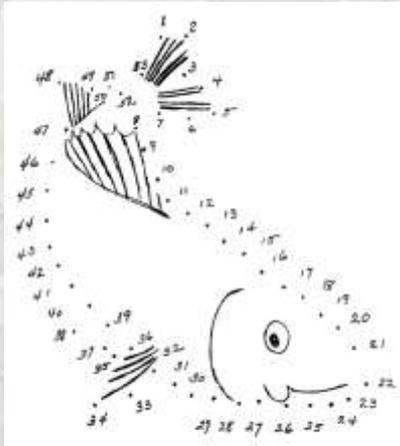


# Information From Data?



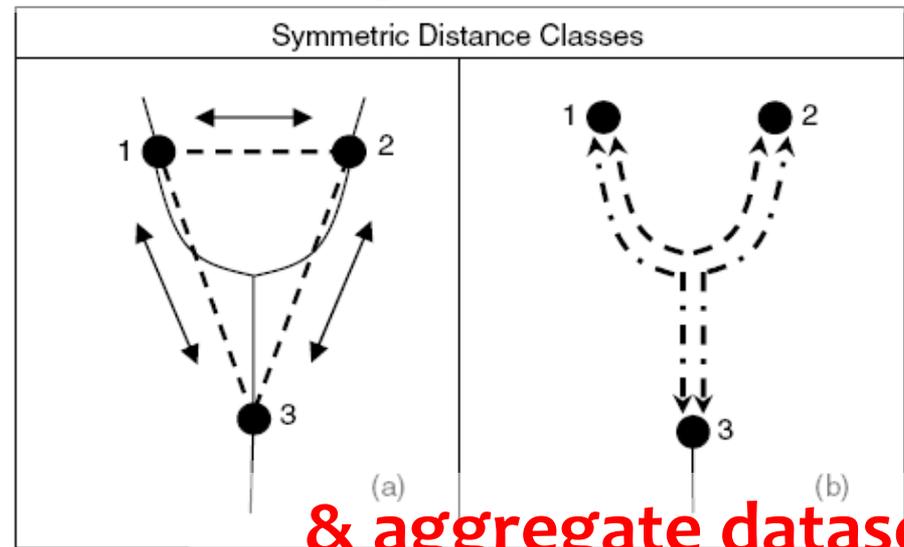
# Information From Data?

## Spatial Statistical Models for Stream Networks



...so we can connect the dots

... let us interpolate on networks



### Advantages:

- valid covariance structures account for network topology
- account for spatial autocorrelation among sites
- improved predictive power & less bias

# “Smart” Maps Developed from Lots of Data to Show Resource Status

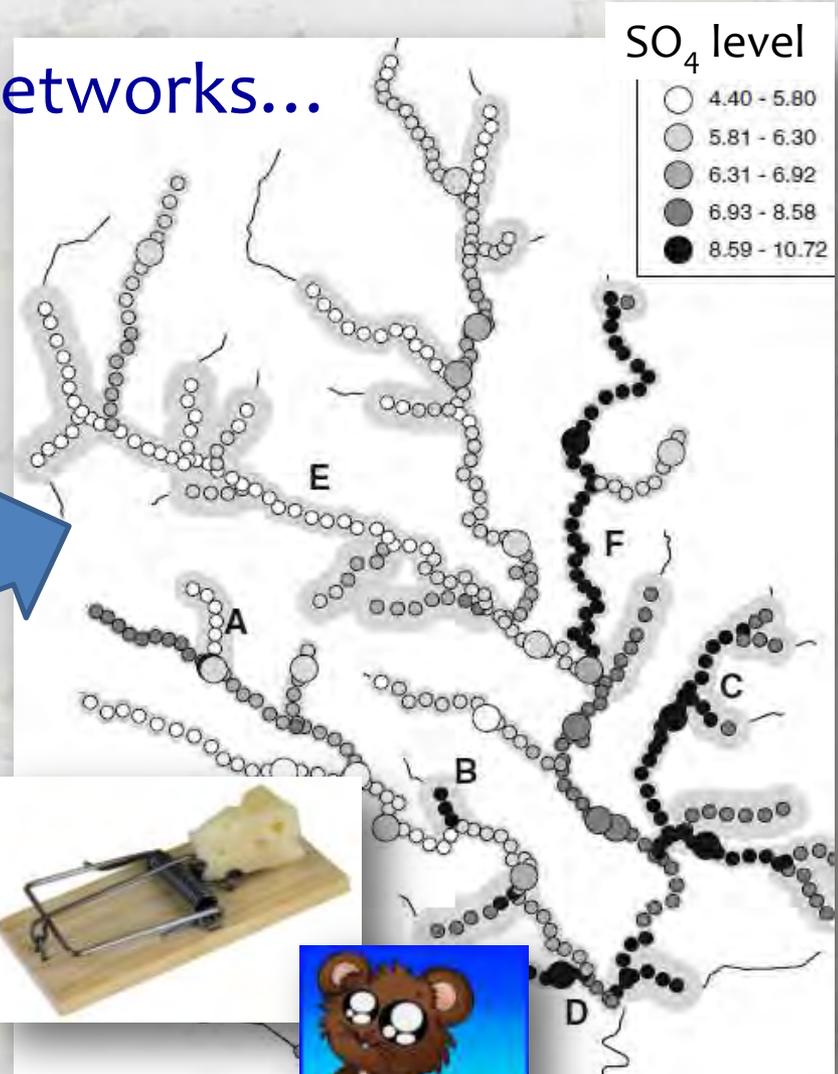
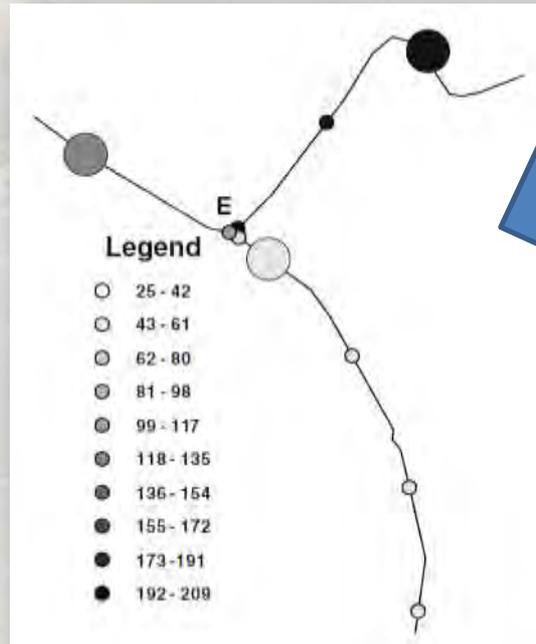
Maps are useful... even when imperfect



# Spatial Statistical Network Models Work the Way that Streams Do...

Gradual trends within networks...

...but also changes at tributary confluences



... & are significantly better mousetraps

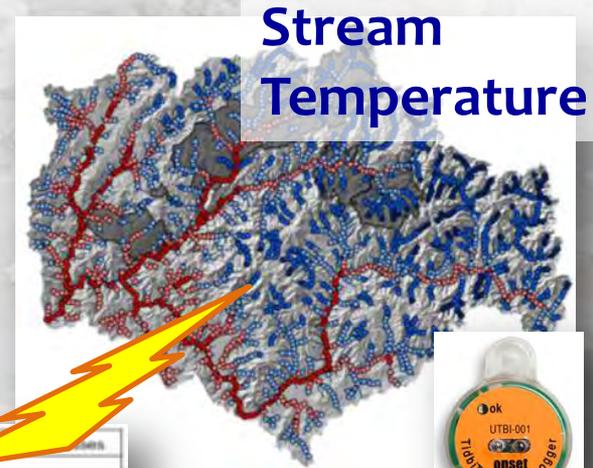
# Stream Models are Generalizable...



Distribution & abundance

Response Metrics

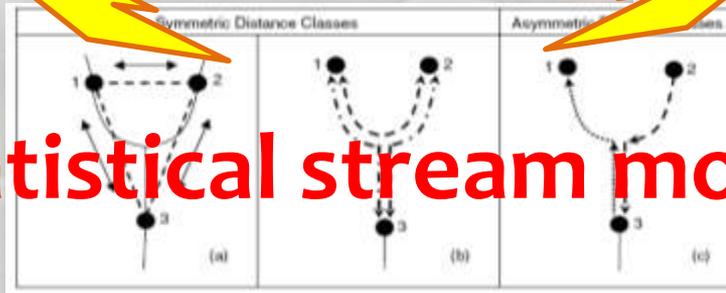
- Gaussian
- Poisson
- Binomial



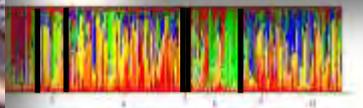
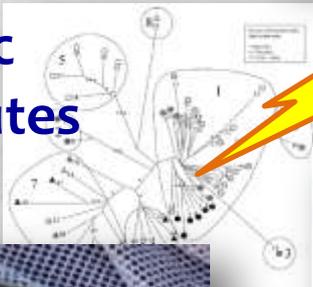
Stream Temperature



Statistical stream models



Genetic Attributes



Water Quality Parameters



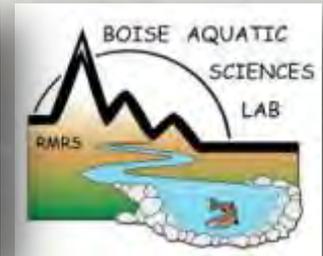
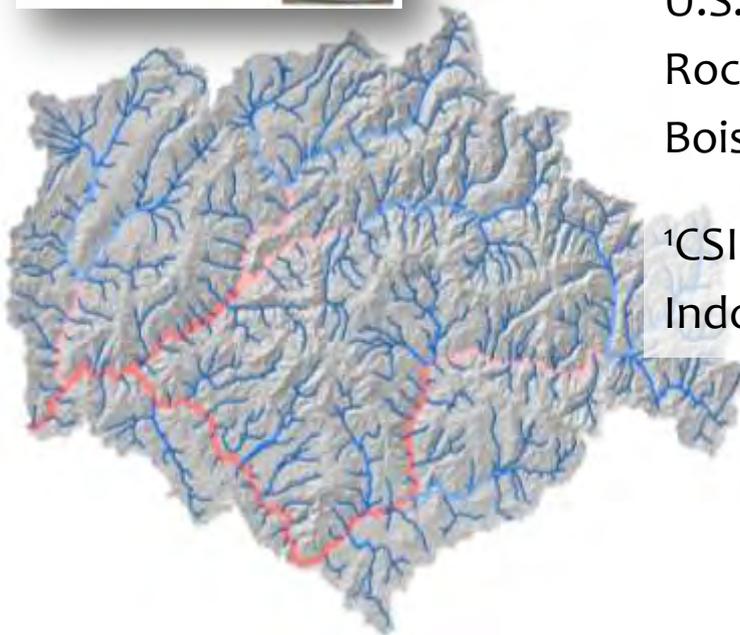
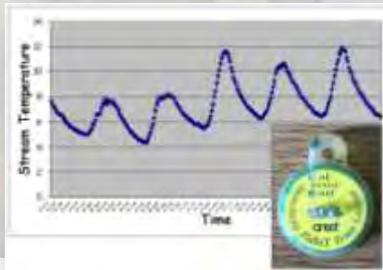
# An Example: Boise River Network Stream Temperature Model & Climate Assessment

Dan Isaak, Charlie Luce, Bruce Rieman,  
Dave Nagel, Erin Peterson<sup>1</sup>, Dona Horan,  
Sharon Parkes, and Gwynne Chandler

Boise Aquatic Sciences Lab  
U.S. Forest Service

Rocky Mountain Research Station  
Boise, ID 83702

<sup>1</sup>CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences  
Indooroopilly, Queensland, Australia



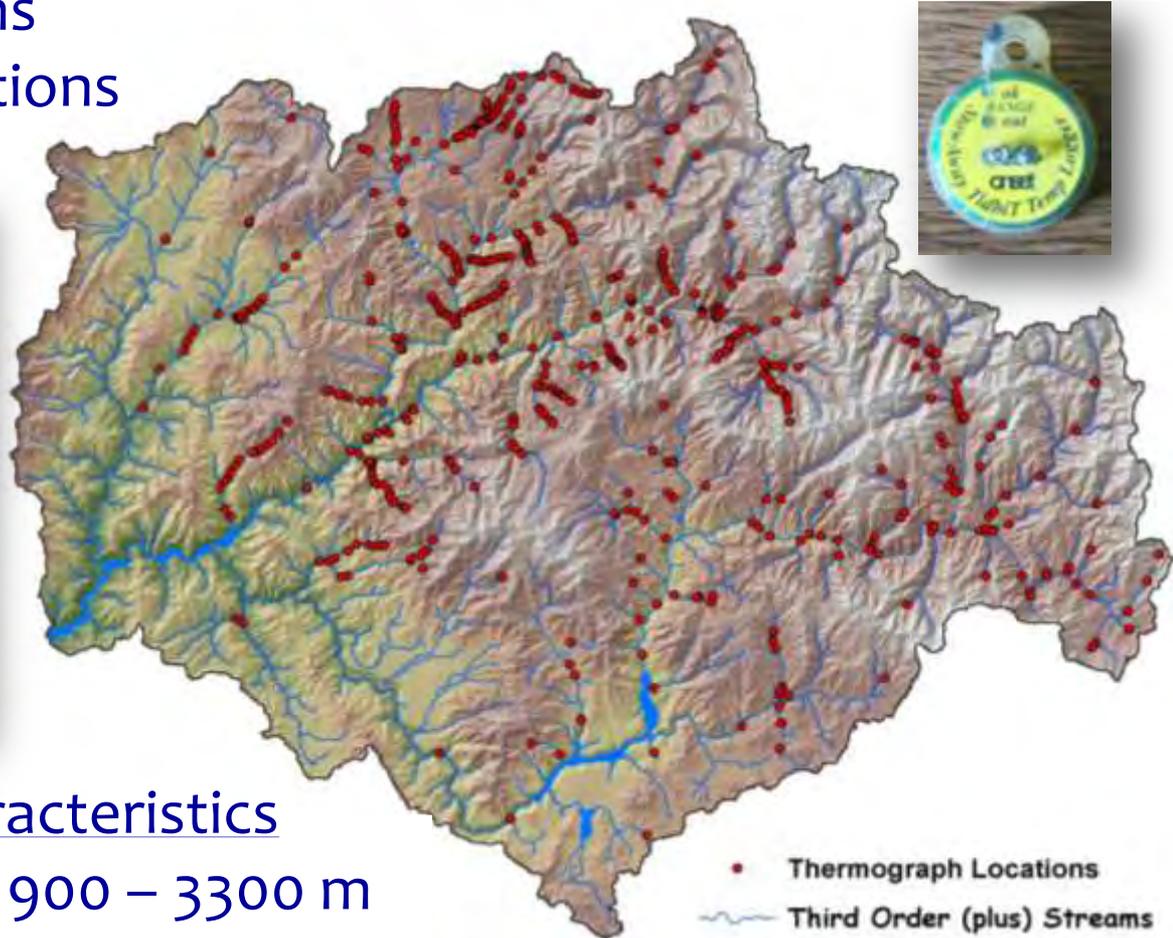
# Boise River Temperature Database

Stream Temperature Database

14 year period (1993 – 2006)

780 observations

518 unique locations



Watershed Characteristics

Elevation range 900 – 3300 m

Fish bearing streams ~2,500 km

Watershed area = 6,900 km<sup>2</sup>

# Boise River Temperature Model

**Non-spatial Stream Temp =**

$$\begin{aligned} & - 0.0064 * \text{Elevation (m)} \\ & + 0.0104 * \text{Radiation} \\ & + 0.39 * \text{AirTemp (}^\circ\text{C)} \\ & - 0.17 * \text{Flow (m}^3\text{/s)} \end{aligned}$$



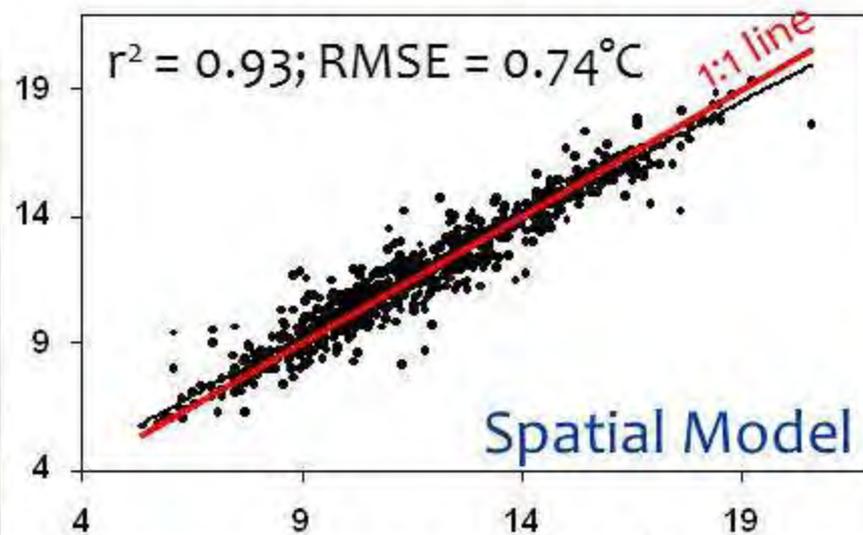
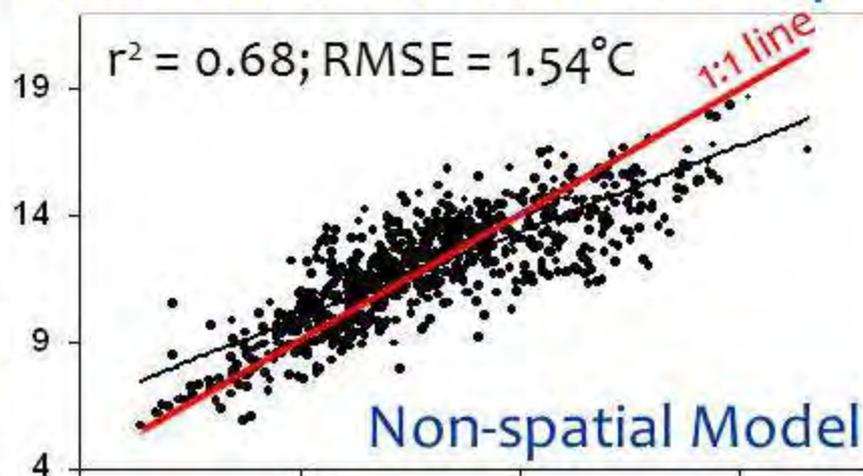
Parameter estimates are different because of autocorrelation in database

**Spatial Stream Temp =**

$$\begin{aligned} & - 0.0045 * \text{Elevation (m)} \\ & + 0.0085 * \text{Radiation} \\ & + 0.48 * \text{AirTemp (}^\circ\text{C)} \\ & - 0.11 * \text{Flow (m}^3\text{/s)} \end{aligned}$$

**Mean Summer Stream Temp**

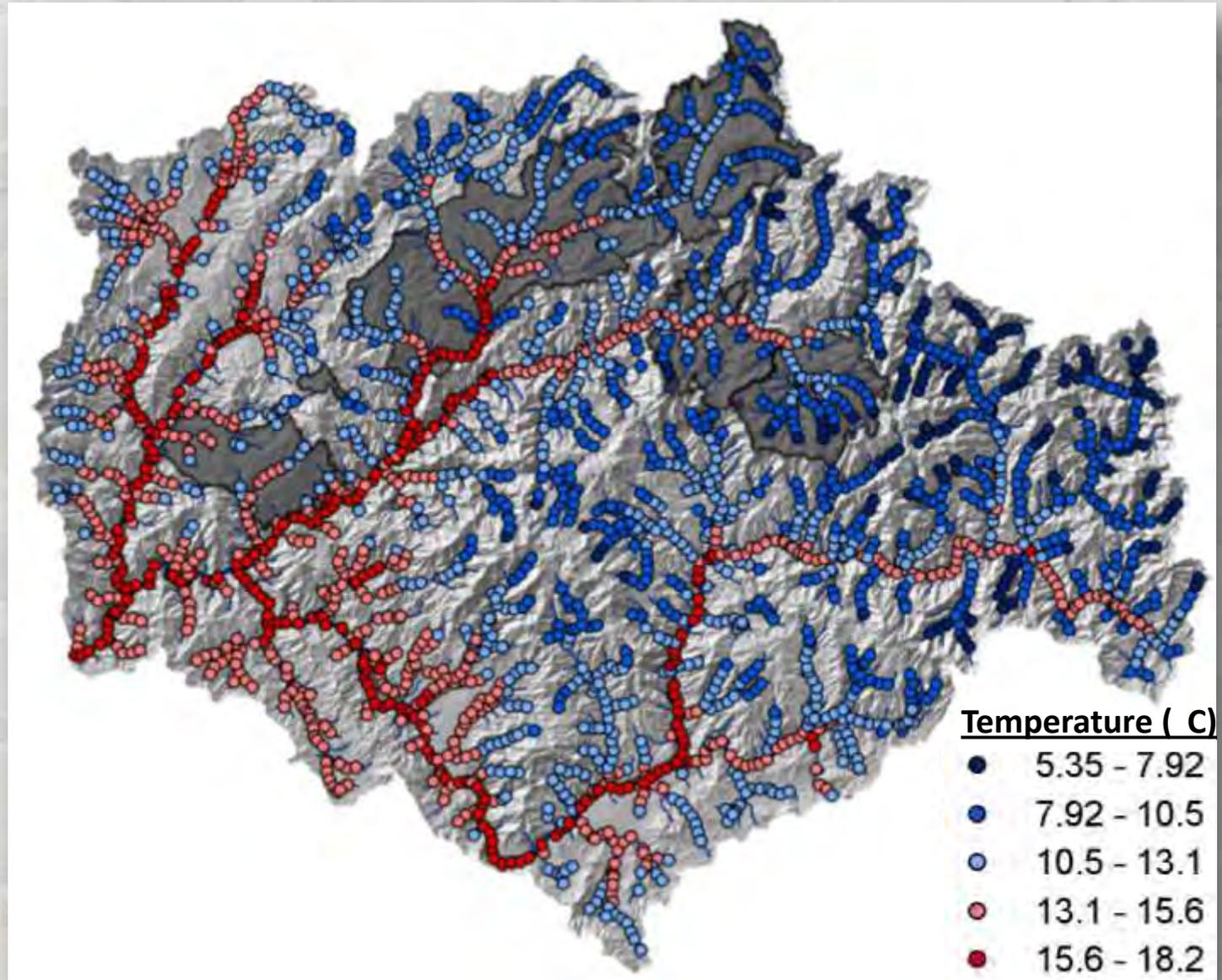
Predicted ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )



Observed ( $^\circ\text{C}$ )

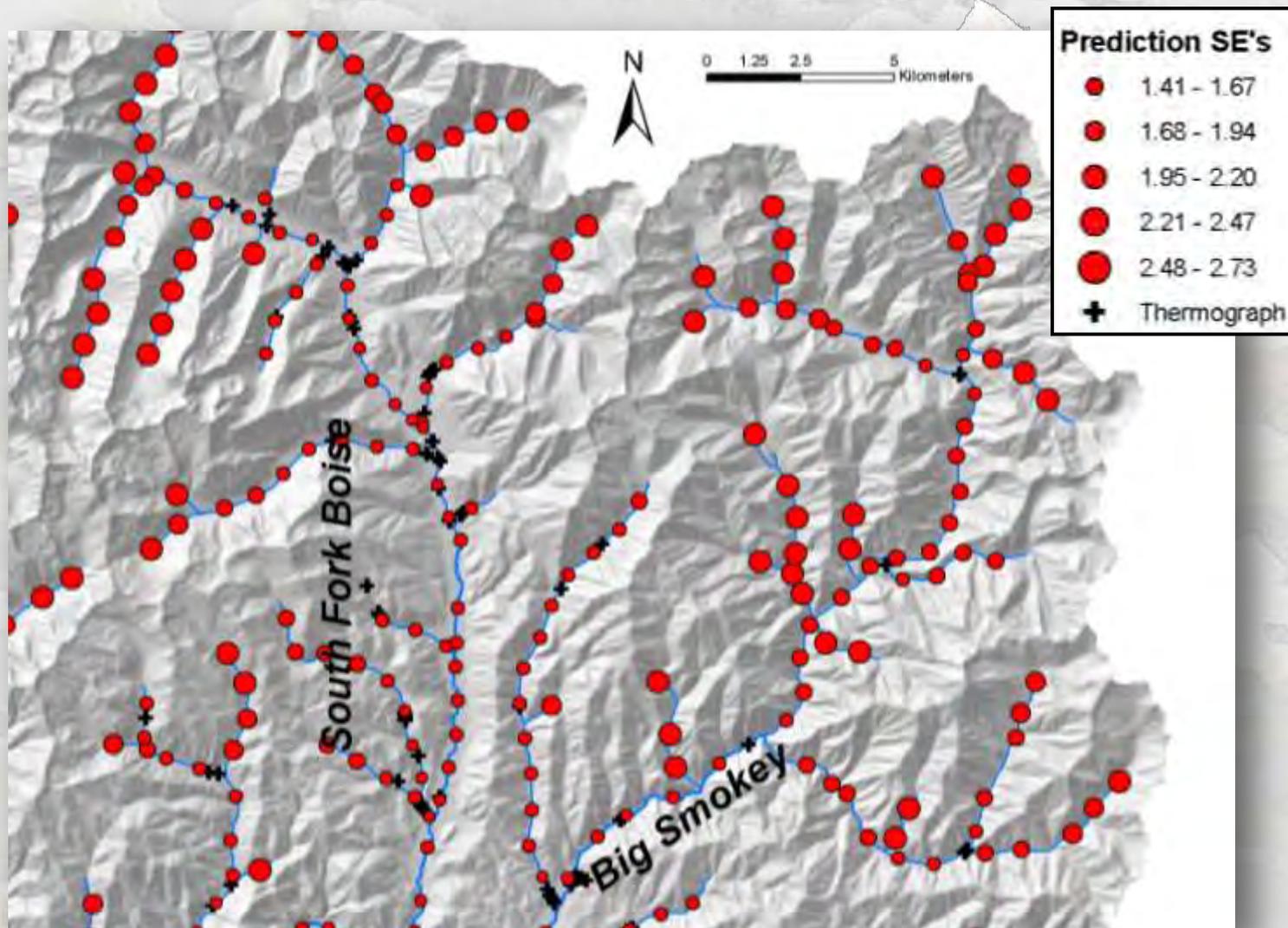
# Application: River Temperature Status Map

2006 Mean Summer Temperatures

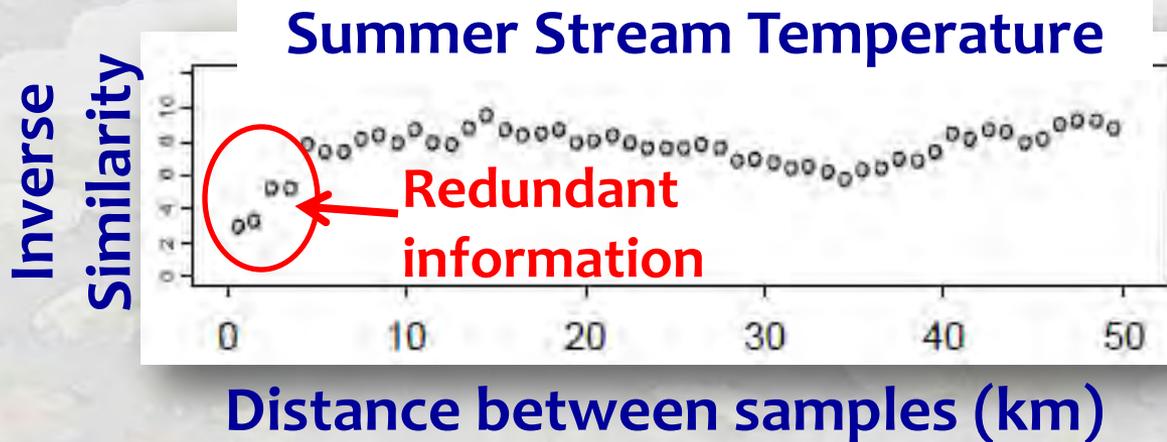


# Mapping Uncertainty

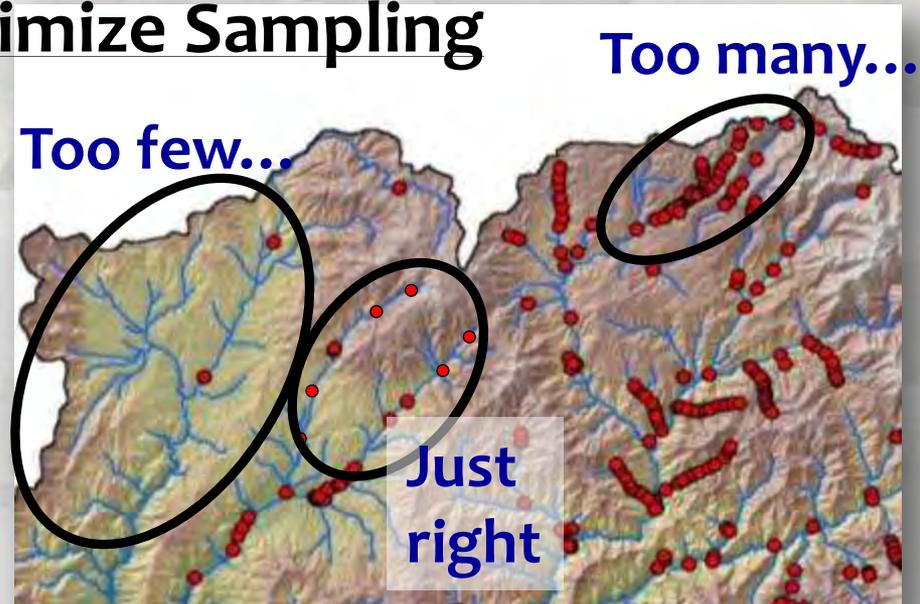
## Temperature Prediction Precision



# Application: Efficient Monitoring Designs

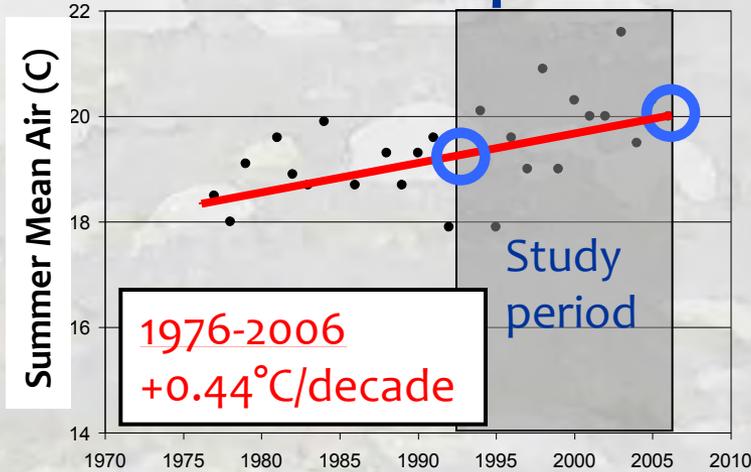


## Optimize Sampling

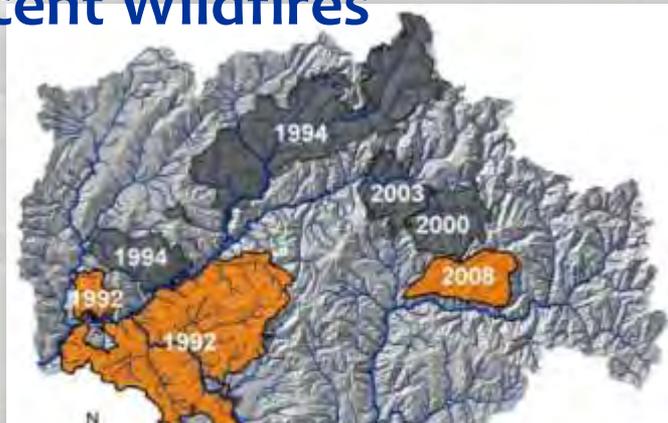


# Trend Assessment = Change in Status Between Time 1 & Time 2

## Summer Air Temperature

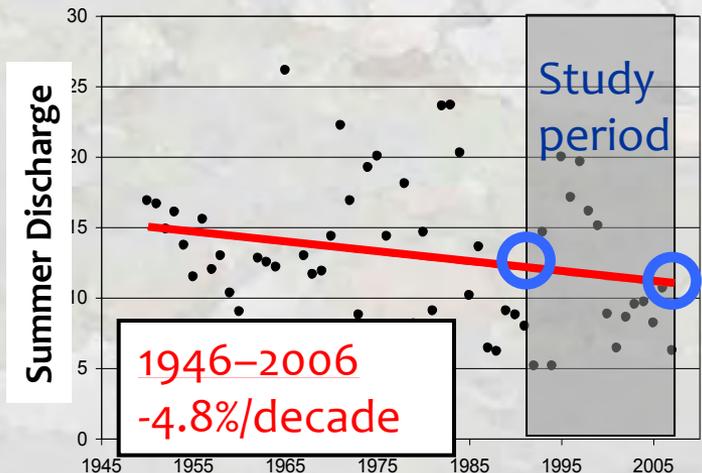


## Recent Wildfires



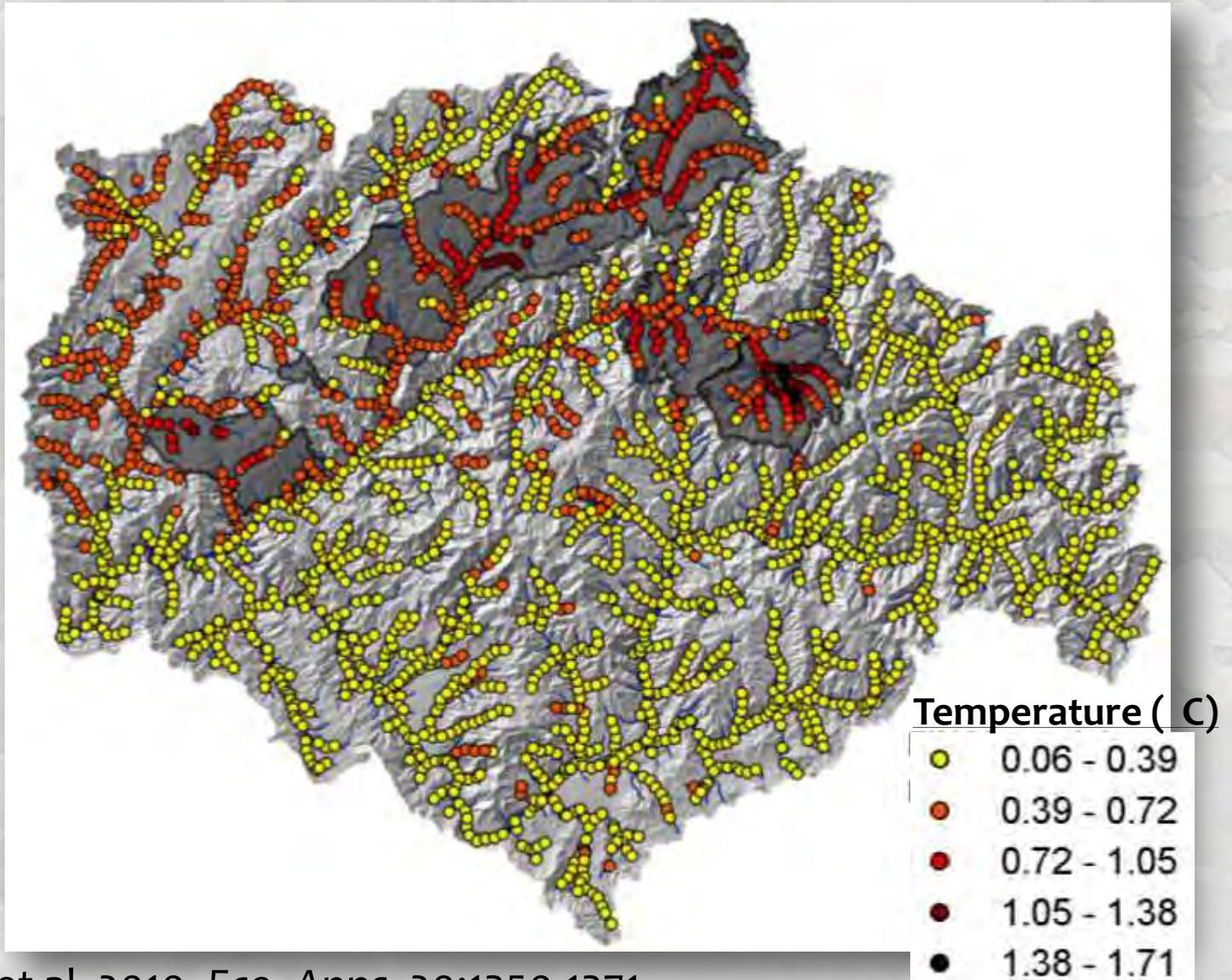
14% burned during 93-06 study period  
30% burned from 92-08

## Summer Stream Flow



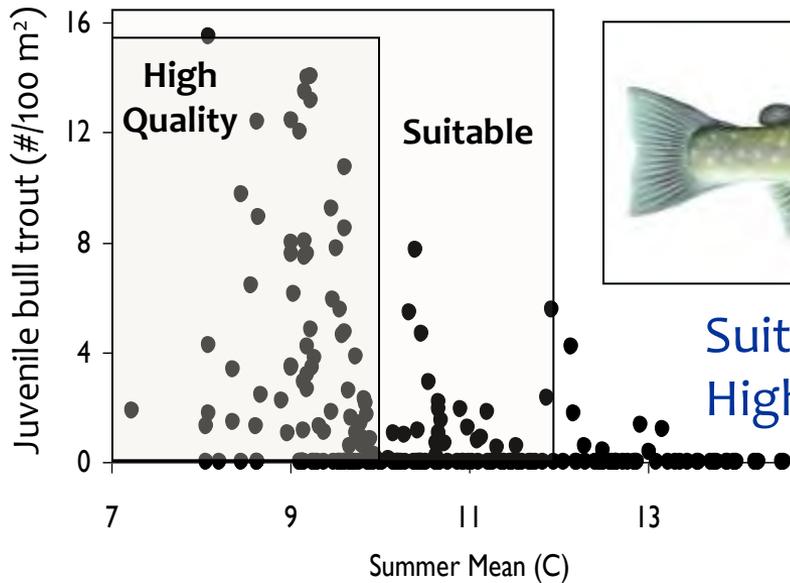
# Climate Change Map – Thermal Gains 93-06

## Change in Summer Temperature Status



# Application: Effects on Thermal Habitats

## Bull Trout

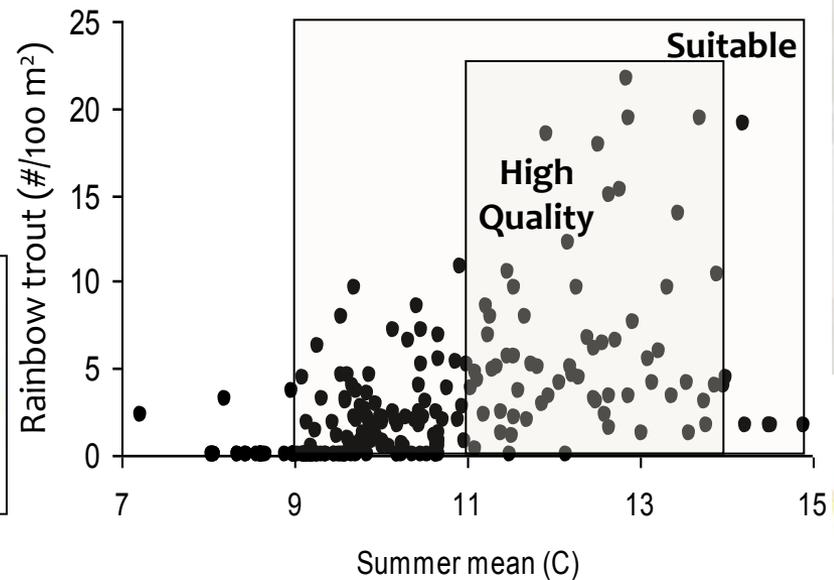


Suitable habitat < 12.0°C  
High-quality habitat < 10.0°C

## Rainbow Trout

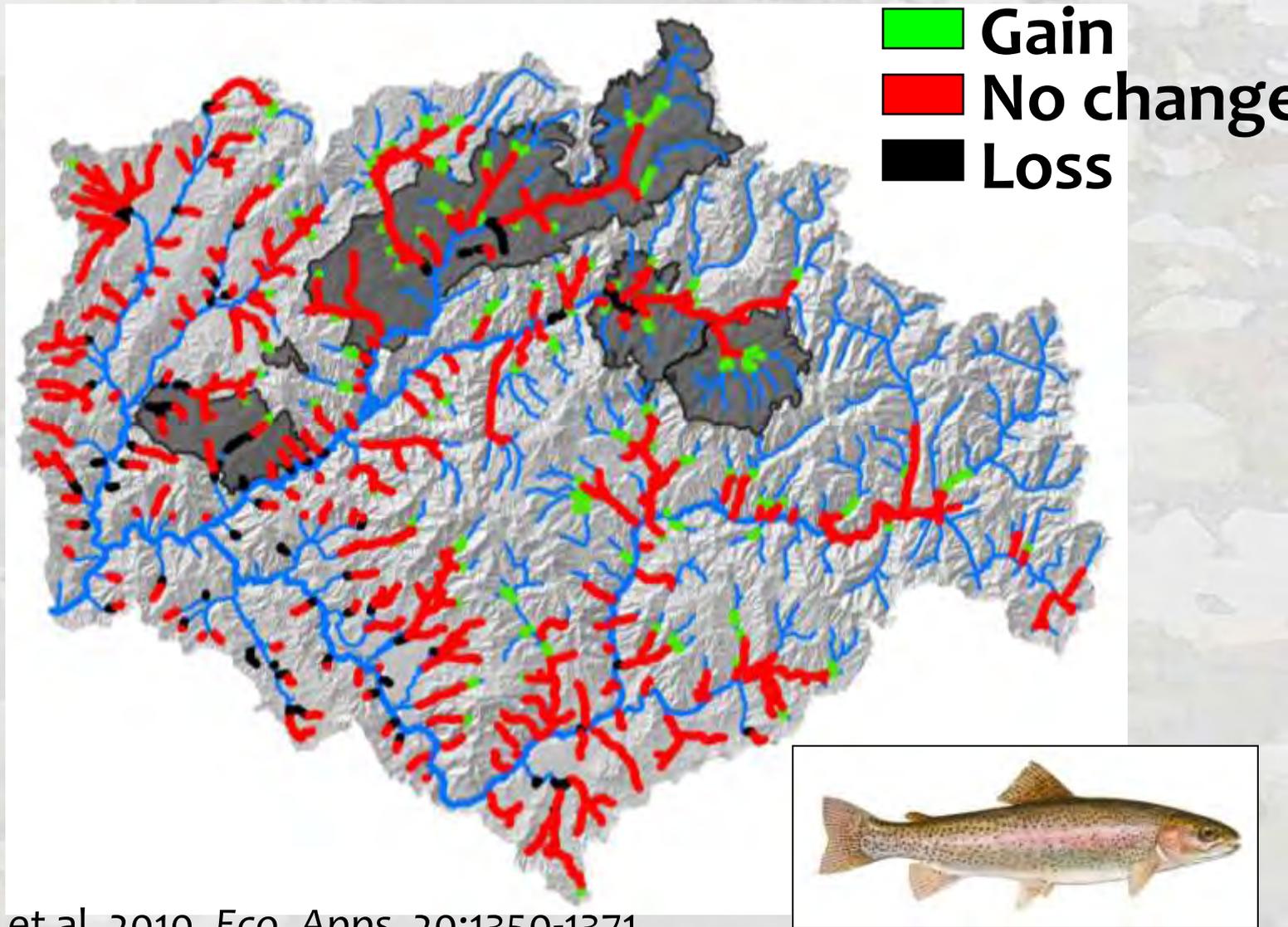


Suitable habitat = > 9.0°C  
High-quality habitat = 11.0-14.0°C



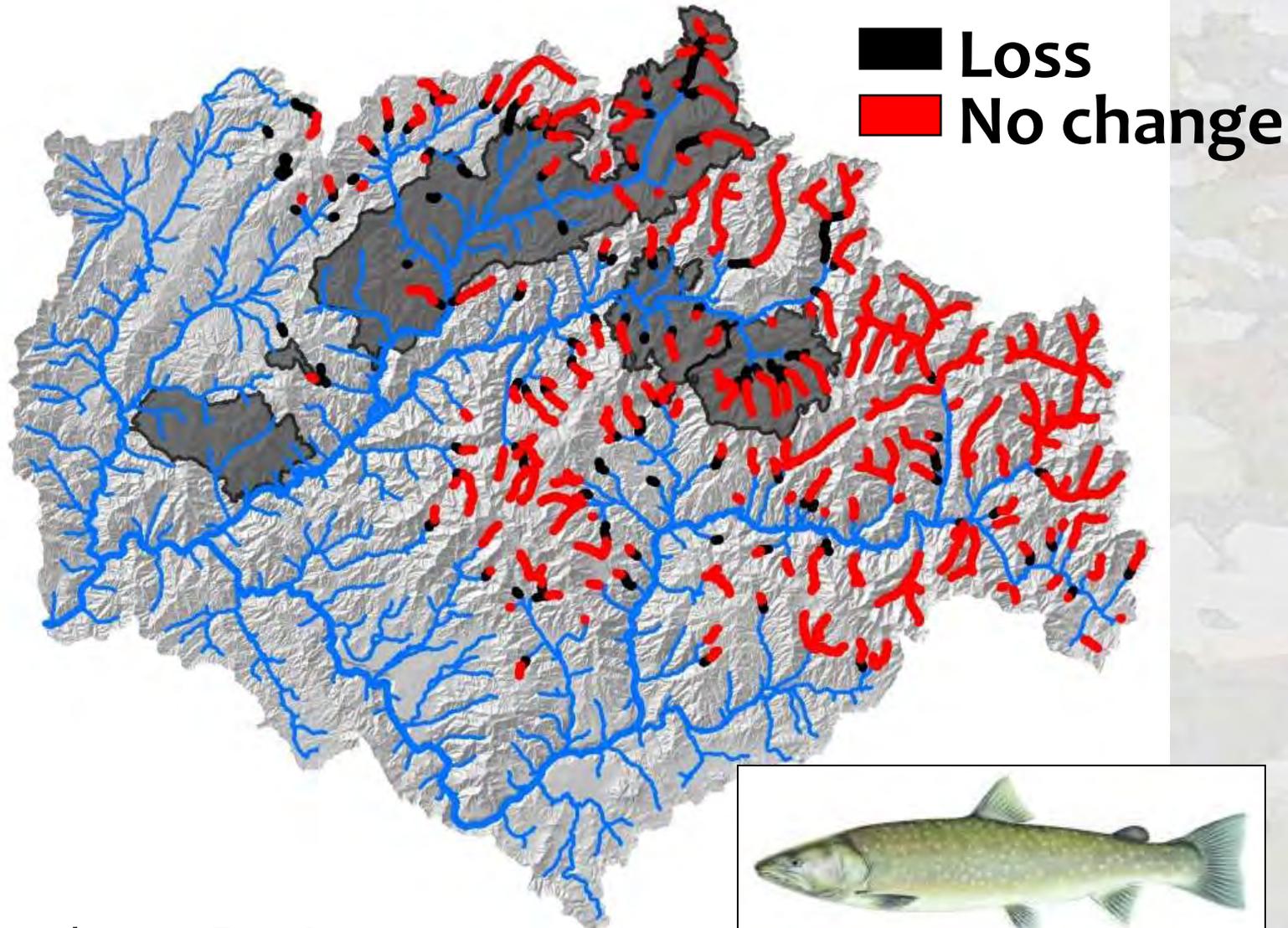
# 93'-06' Rainbow Trout Habitat Changes

Habitat is shifting, but no net gain or loss



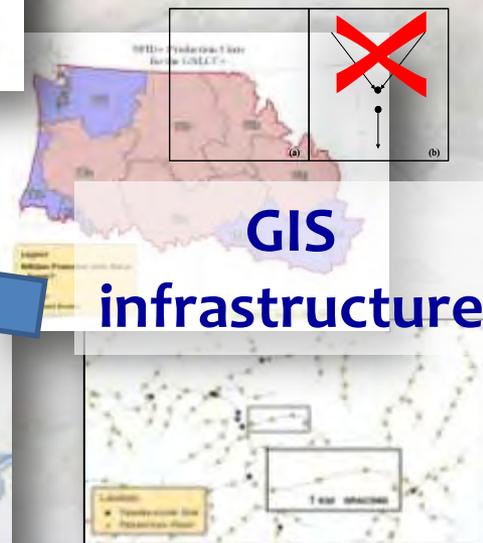
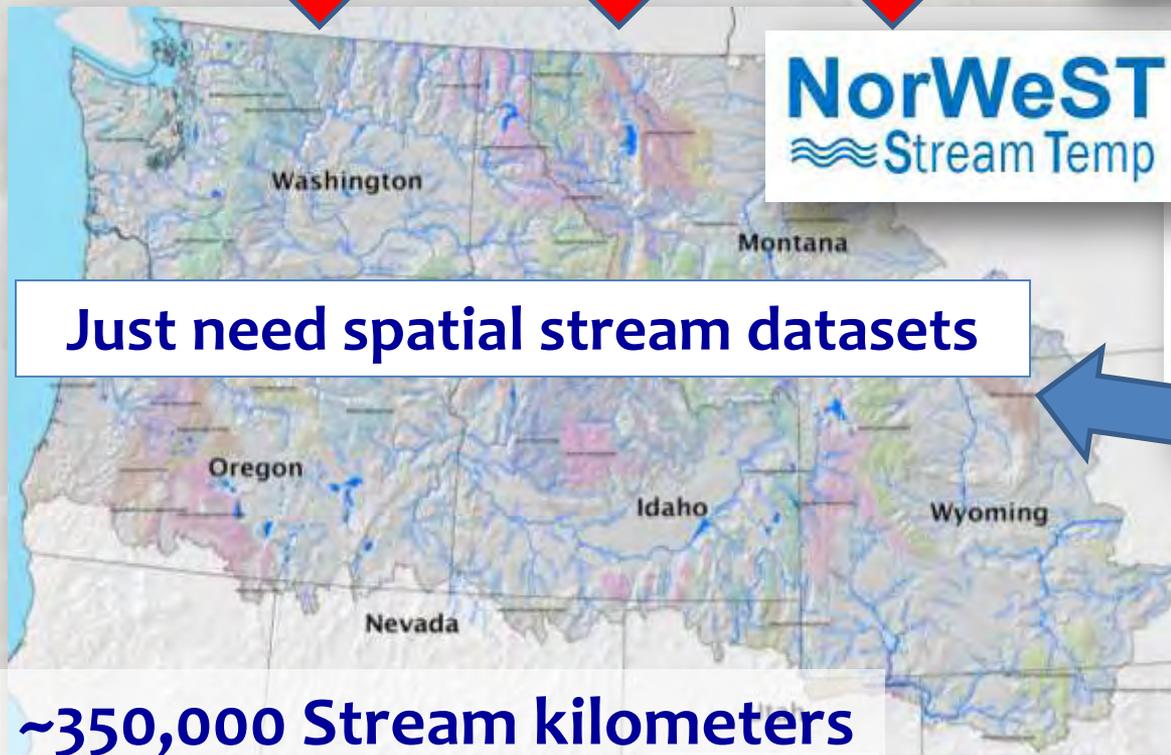
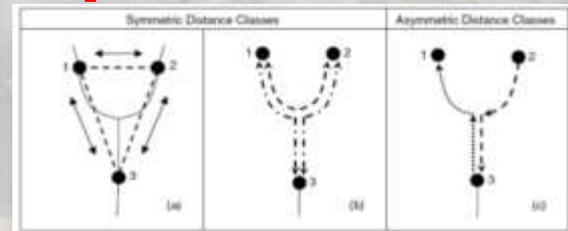
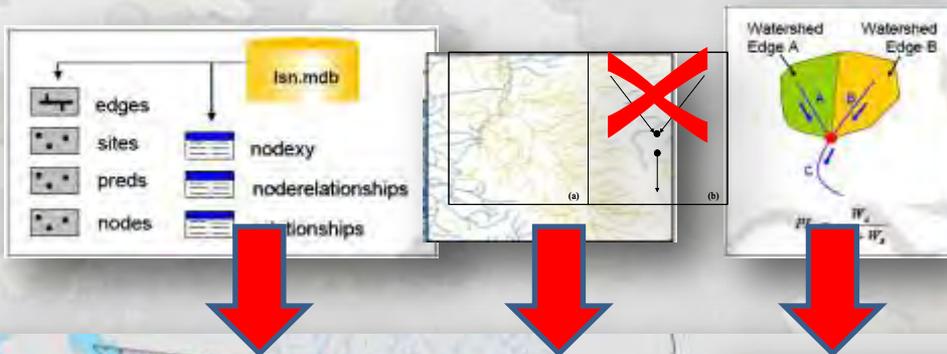
# 93'-06' Bull Trout Habitat Changes

Habitat is decreasing 8%-16% / decade

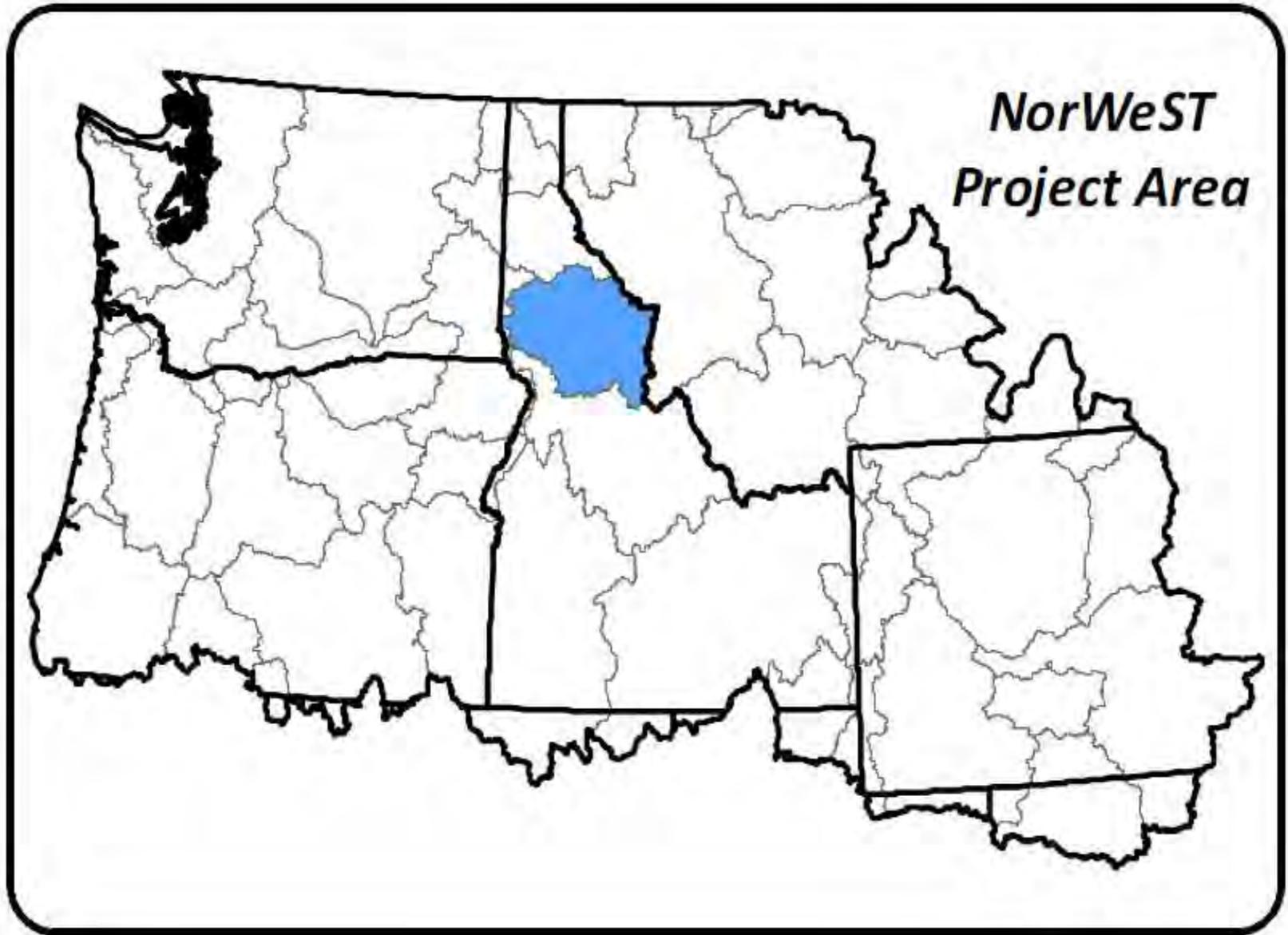


# Infrastructure for Regional Analysis Developed Through NorWeST

**Spatial models**



# Example: Clearwater River Basin

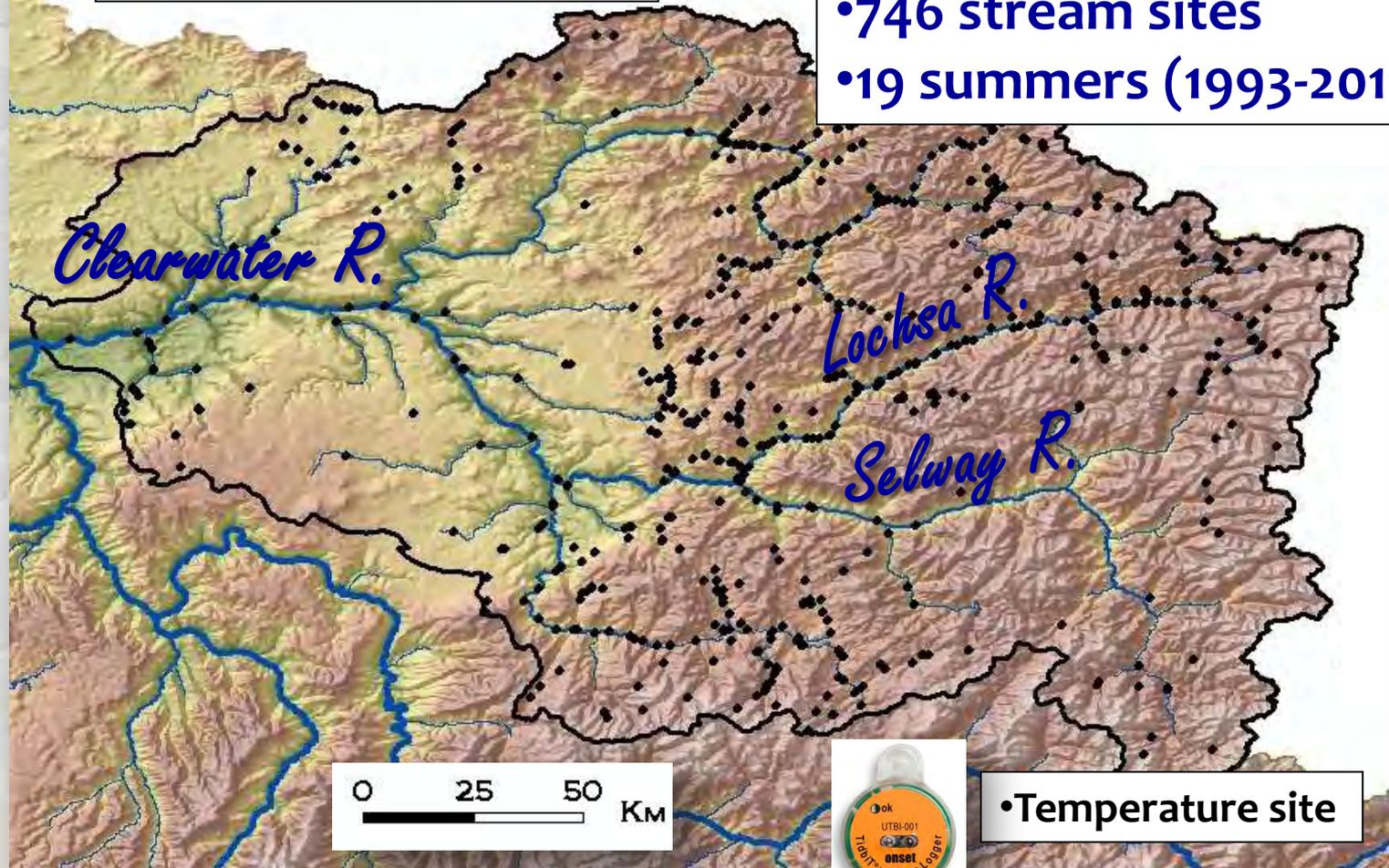


# Example: Clearwater River Basin

Data extracted from NorWeST

16,700 stream km

- 4,487 August means
- 746 stream sites
- 19 summers (1993-2011)

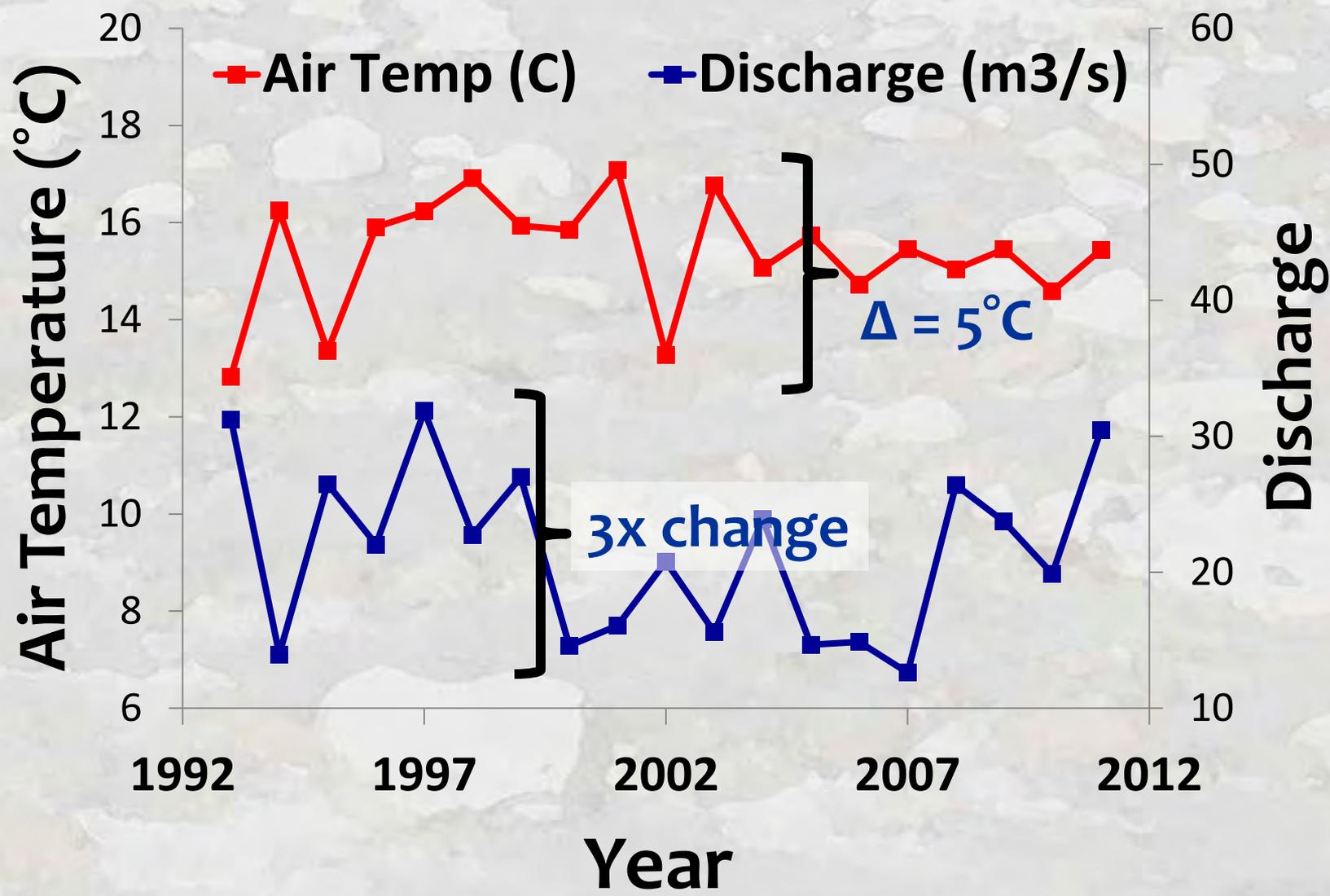


•Temperature site



# Climatic Variability in Historical Record

Extreme years include mid-21<sup>st</sup>-Century “averages”



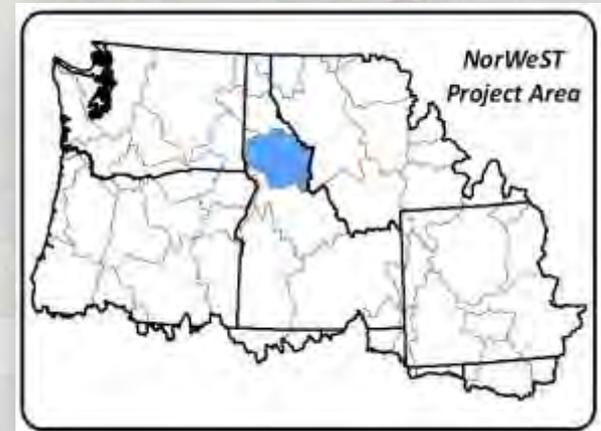
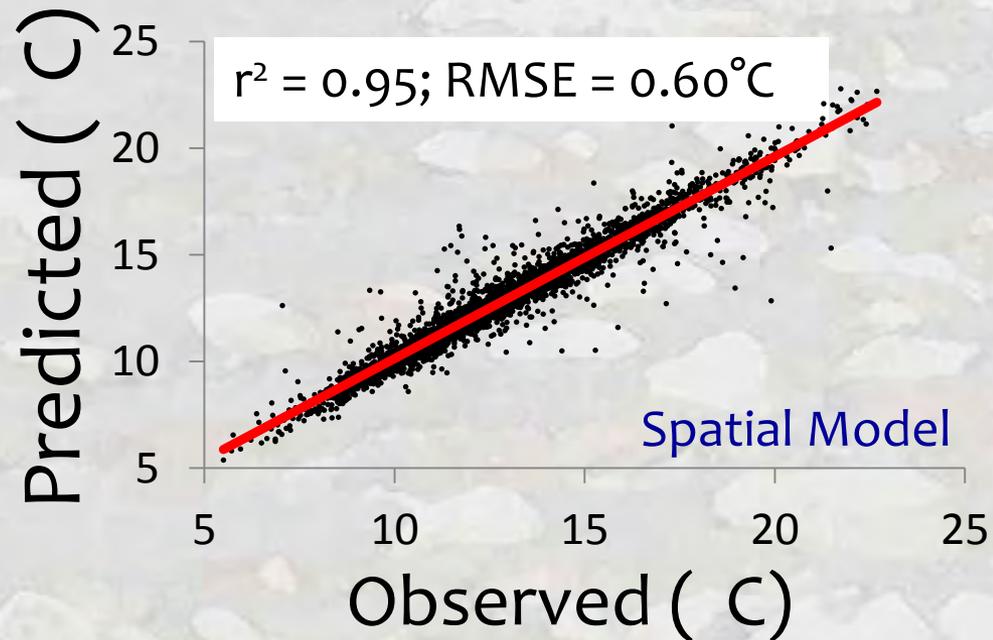
# Clearwater River Temp Model

**n = 4,487**

## Covariate Predictors

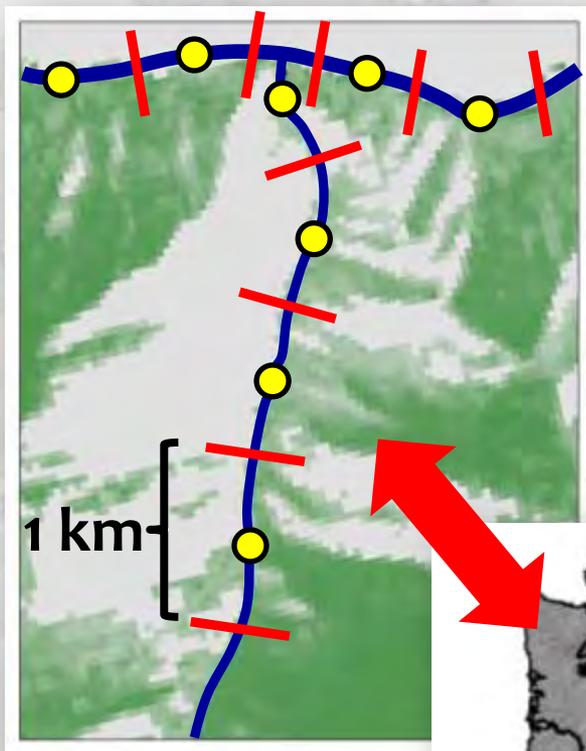
1. Elevation (m)
2. Canopy (%)
3. Stream slope (%)
4. Ave Precipitation (mm)
5. Latitude (km)
6. Lakes upstream (%)
7. Baseflow Index
8. Watershed size (km<sup>2</sup>)
9. Discharge (m<sup>3</sup>/s)  
**USGS gage data**
10. Air Temperature (°C)  
**RegCM3 NCEP reanalysis**  
**Hostetler et al. 2011**

## Mean August Temperature

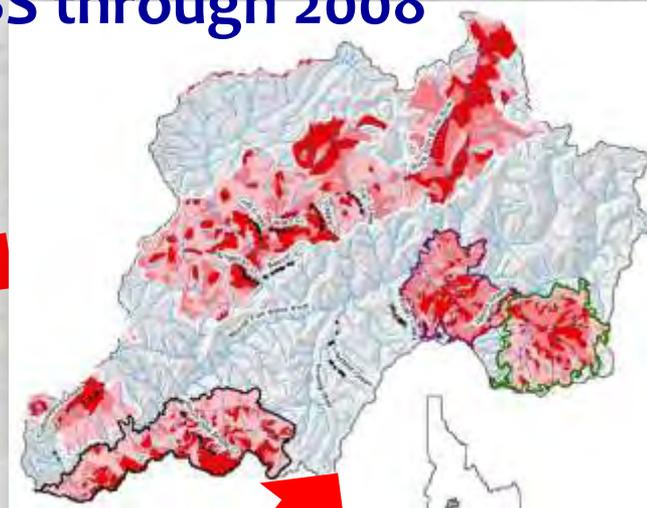


# Riparian Canopy Predictor

%Canopy variable  
from 2001 NLCD



%Canopy adjusted by  
MTBS through 2008



Also tested:

- LandFire
- TreeFrac
- Radiation measurements



# Why August Mean Temperature?

- 1) 95% of temperature data are summer only
- 2) All summer metrics are strongly correlated
- 3) Monthly mean is easily linked to regional climate model

MWAT ~ Maximum ~ Minimum

MDAT ~ AWAT ~ Degree-days ~ Mean

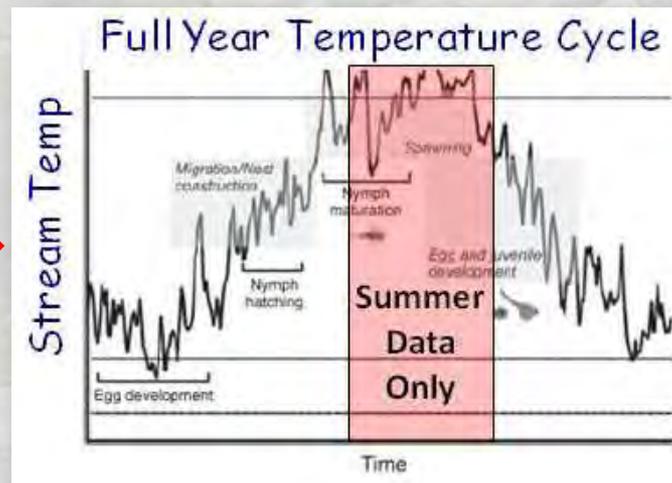
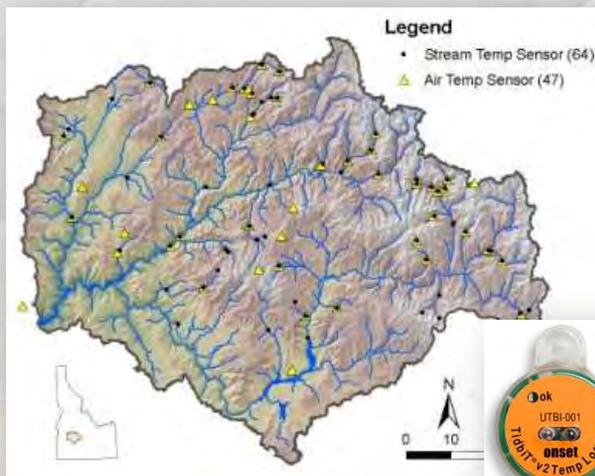
	Summer_mn	Mwmt	Mwat	awat_mn	awmt_mn	August Mean
Summer_mn						
Mwmt	0.93					
Mwat	0.98	0.94				
awat_mn	1.00	0.93	0.97			
awmt_mn	0.96	0.98	0.94	0.96		
<b>August Mean</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>0.99</b>	<b>0.95</b>	
August MWMT	0.92	0.99	0.92	0.92	0.98	<b>0.92</b>

\*Modeling each additional metric doubles computational time

\*Conversion factors can facilitate metric translation

# Summer Temperatures ~ Other Seasons

	Fall mean	Fall SD	Winter Mean	Winter SD	Spring mean	Spring SD	Summer Mean
Fall SD	0.87	---					
Winter Mean	0.50	0.02	---				
Winter SD	0.70	0.35	0.83	---			
Spring mean	0.95	0.76	0.51	0.78	---		
Spring SD	0.69	0.77	-0.05	0.29	0.74	---	
Summer Mean	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.87</b>	---
Summer SD	0.62	0.77	-0.02	0.15	0.48	0.49	<b>0.65</b>



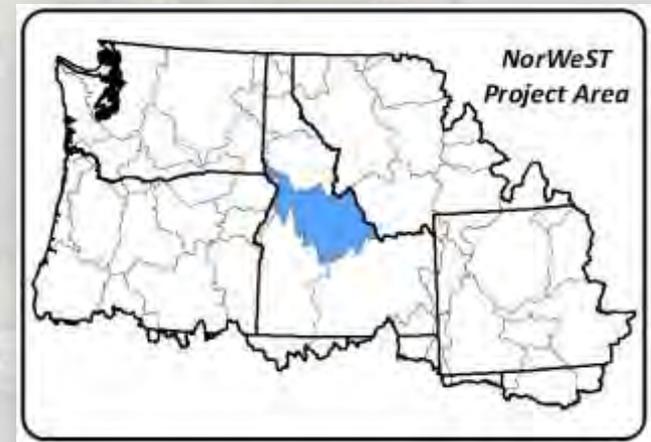
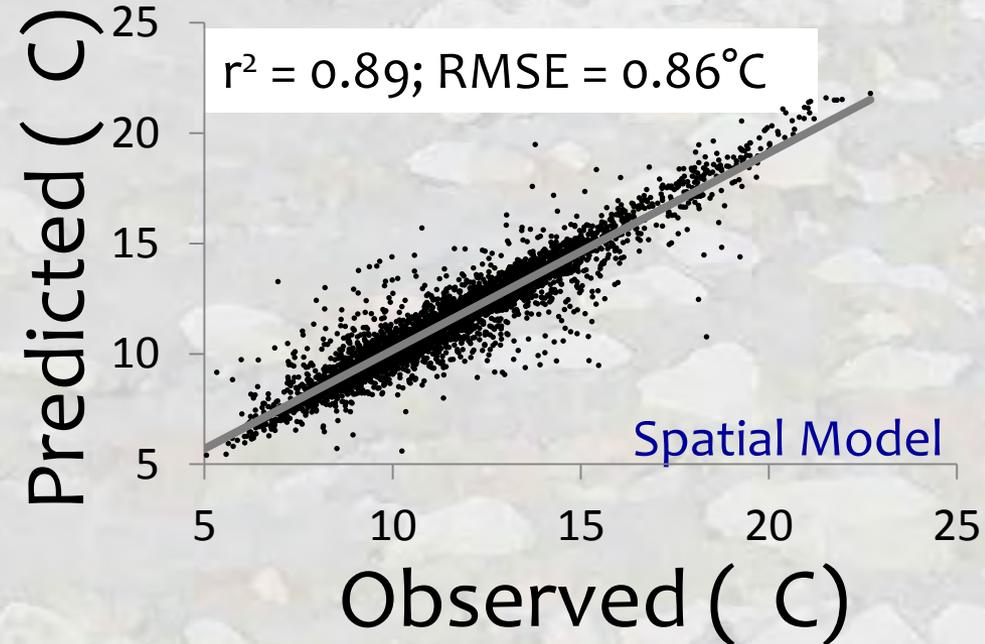
# Salmon River Temperature Model

**n = 4,401**

## Covariate Predictors

1. Elevation (m)
2. Canopy (%)
3. Stream slope (%)
4. Ave Precipitation (mm)
5. Latitude (km)
6. Lakes upstream (%)
7. Baseflow Index
8. Watershed size (km<sup>2</sup>)
  
9. Discharge (m<sup>3</sup>/s)  
**USGS gage data**
10. Air Temperature (°C)  
**RegCM3 NCEP reanalysis**  
**Hostetler et al. 2011**

## Mean August Temperature



# SpoKoot River Temp Model

**n = 5,482**

## Covariate Predictors

1. Elevation (m)
2. Canopy (%)
3. Stream slope (%)
4. Ave Precipitation (mm)
5. Latitude (km)
6. Lakes upstream (%)
7. Baseflow Index
8. Watershed size (km<sup>2</sup>)

9. Discharge (m<sup>3</sup>/s)

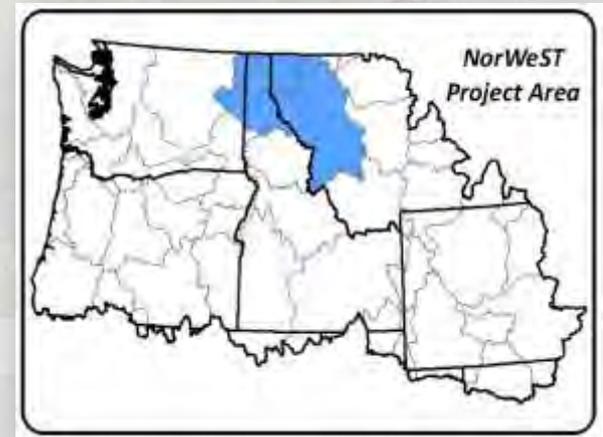
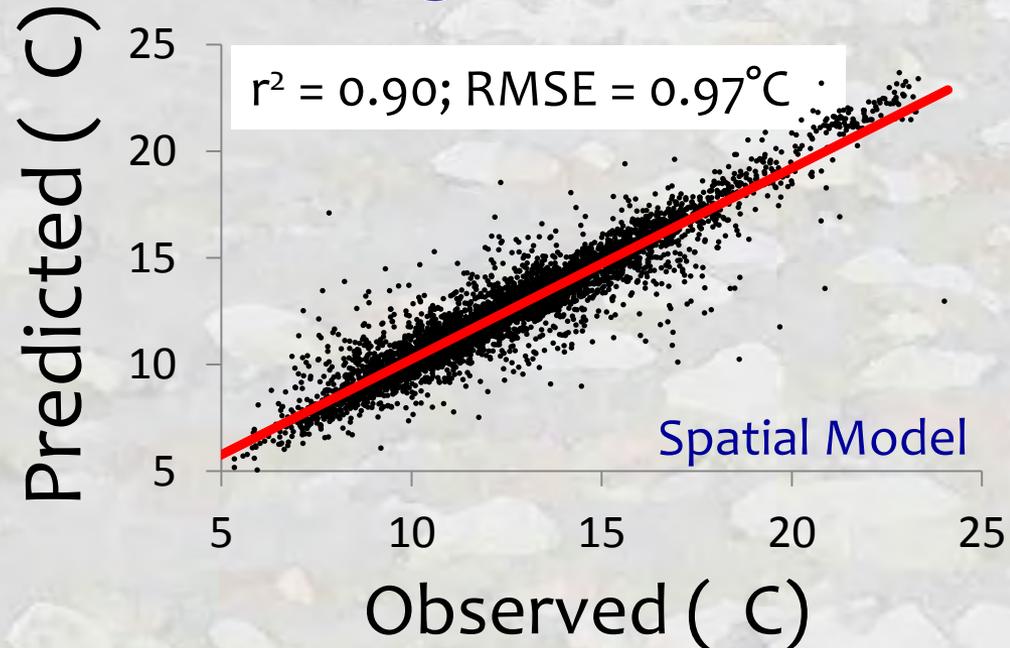
**USGS gage data**

10. Air Temperature (°C)

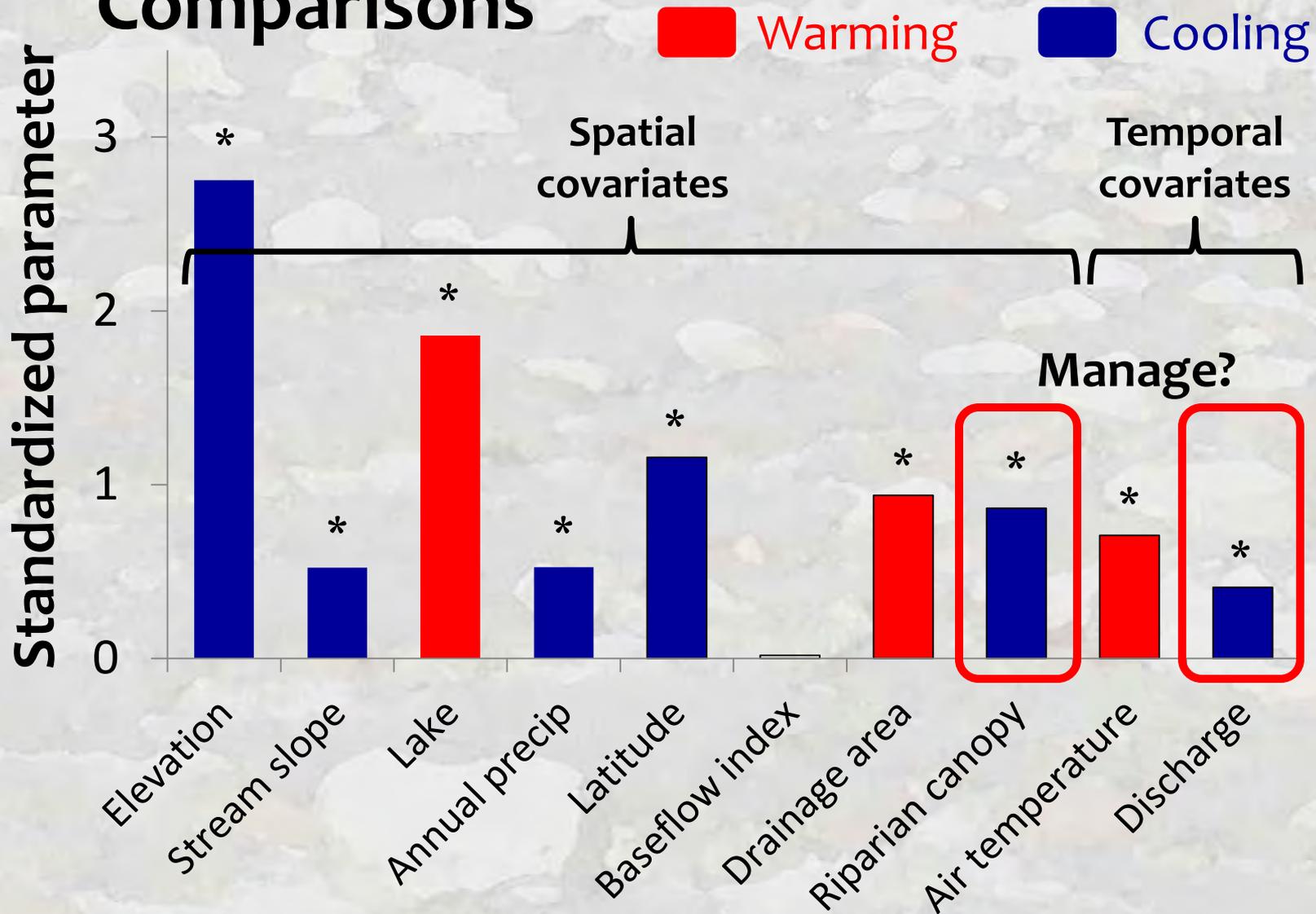
**RegCM3 NCEP reanalysis**

**Hostetler et al. 2011**

## Mean August Temperature



# SpoKoot Temp Model Parameter Comparisons

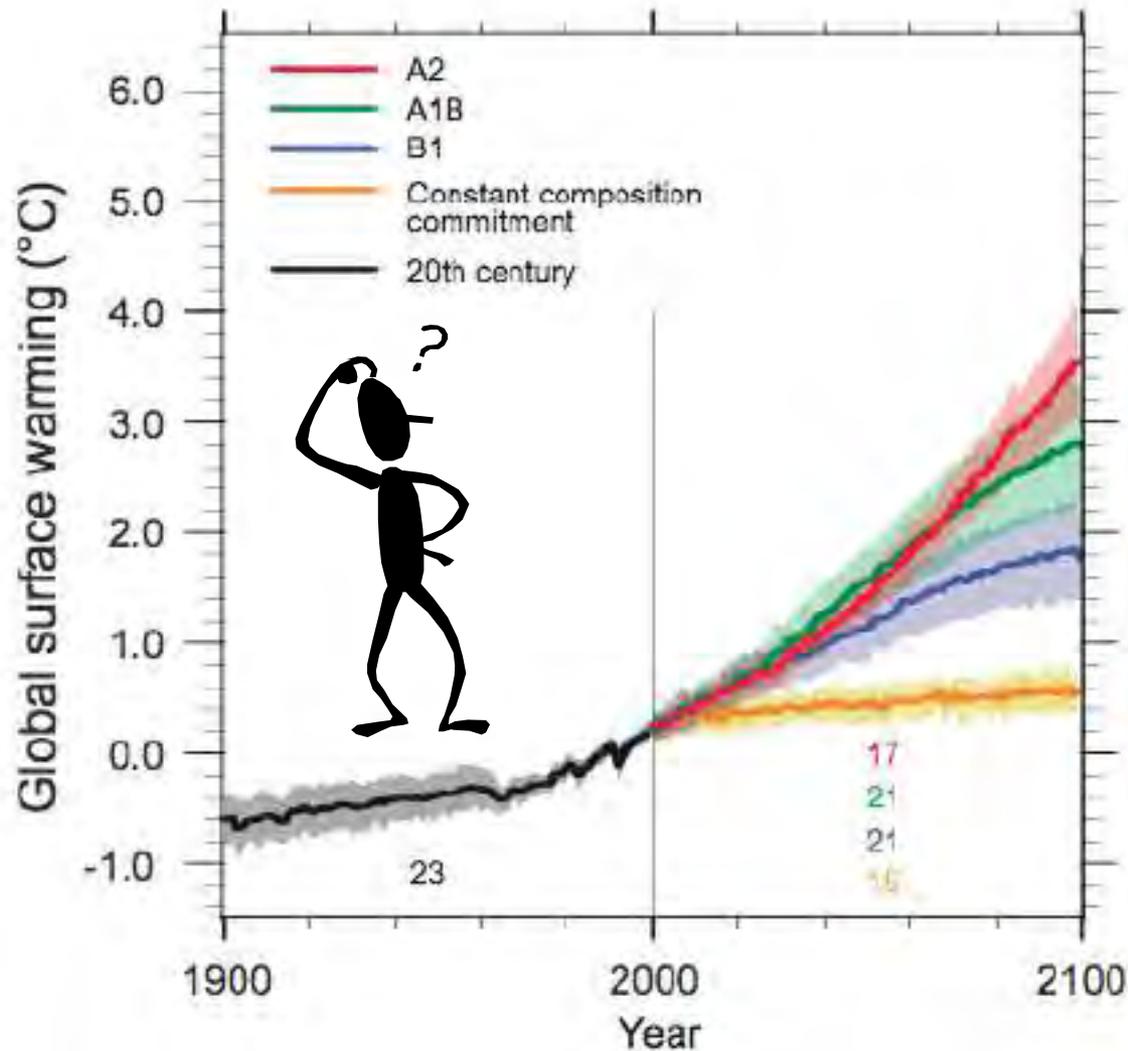


\* = significant at  $p < 0.05$



# Models Enable Climate Scenario Maps

Many possibilities exist...



Adjust...

- Air
- Discharge
- %Canopy

... values to  
create scenarios

# Climate Scenario Descriptions

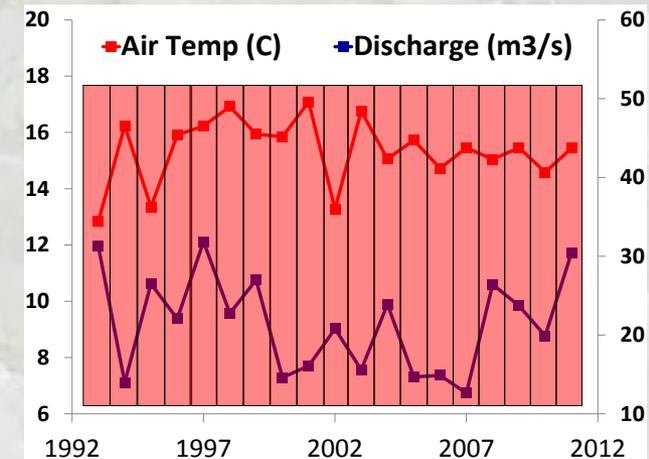
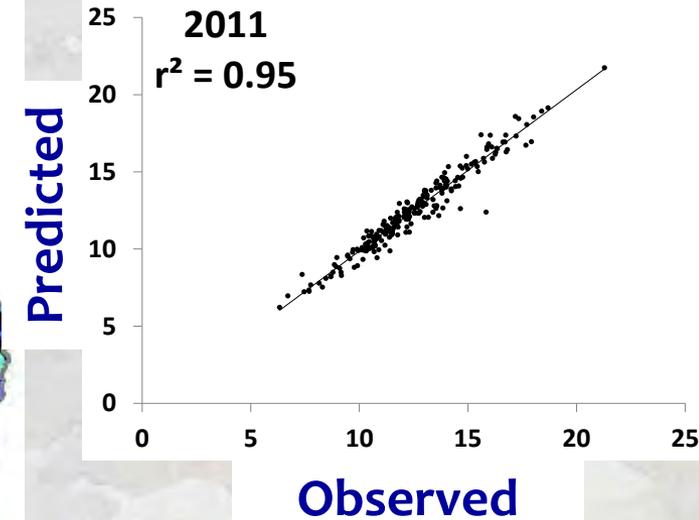
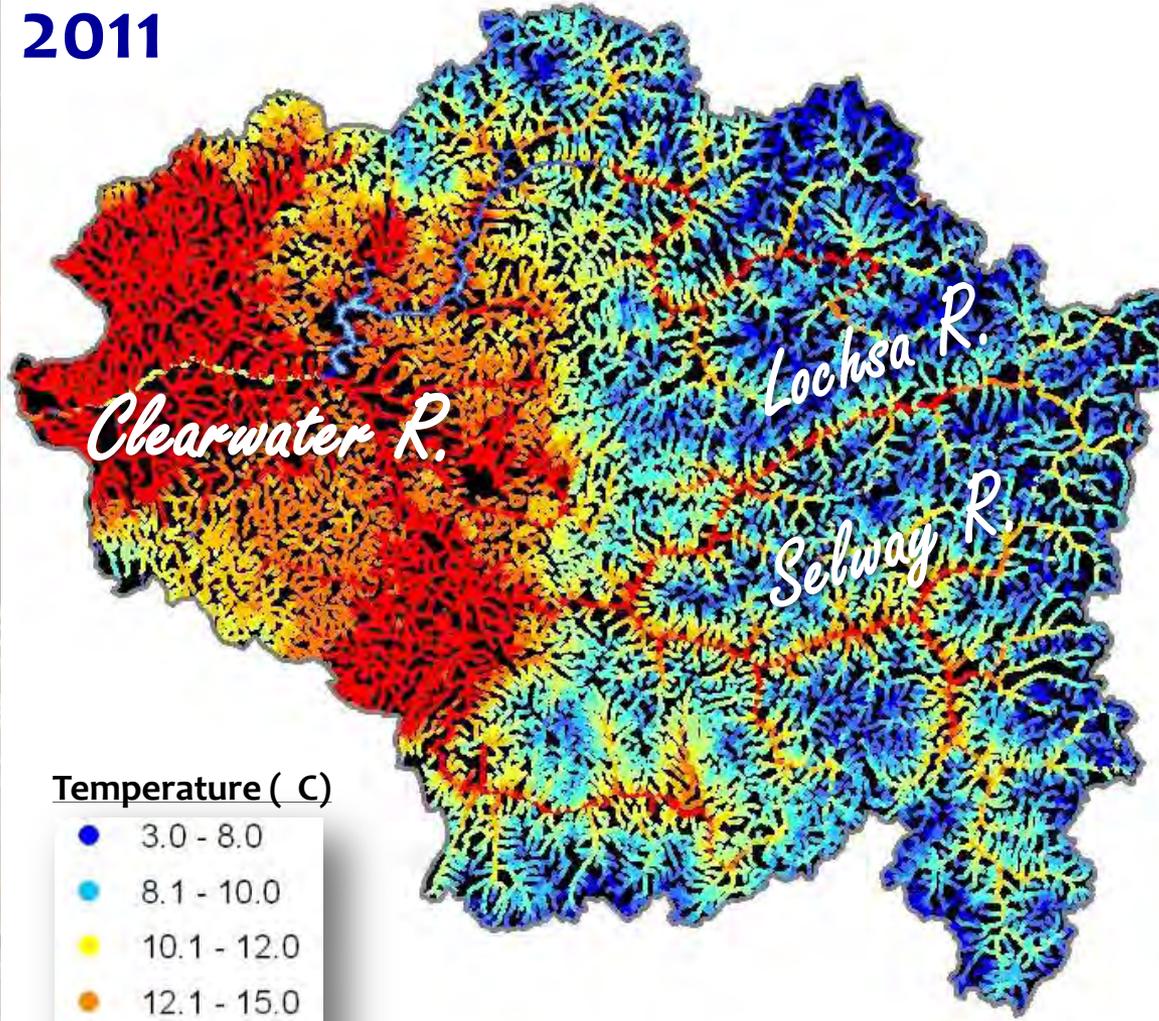
Scenario	Description
S1_93_11	Historical scenario representing 19 year average August mean stream temperatures for 1993-2011
S2_02_11	Historical scenario representing 10 year average August mean stream temperatures for 2002-2011
S3_1993	Historical scenario representing August mean stream temperatures for 1993
S4_1994	Historical scenario representing August mean stream temperatures for 1994
Etc...	
S21_2011	Historical scenario representing August mean stream temperatures for 2011
S22_025C	Future scenario adds 0.25°C to S1_93-11
S23_050C	Future scenario adds 0.50°C to S1_93-11
Etc...	
S33_300C	Future scenario adds 3.00°C to S1_93-11
S34_PredSE	Standard errors of stream temperature predictions



# Historical Year Sequence (1993-2011)

## Mean August Temperature - Clearwater Basin

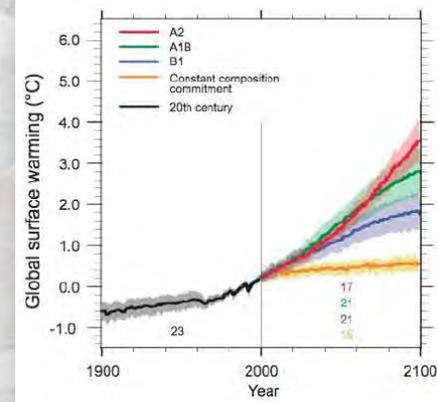
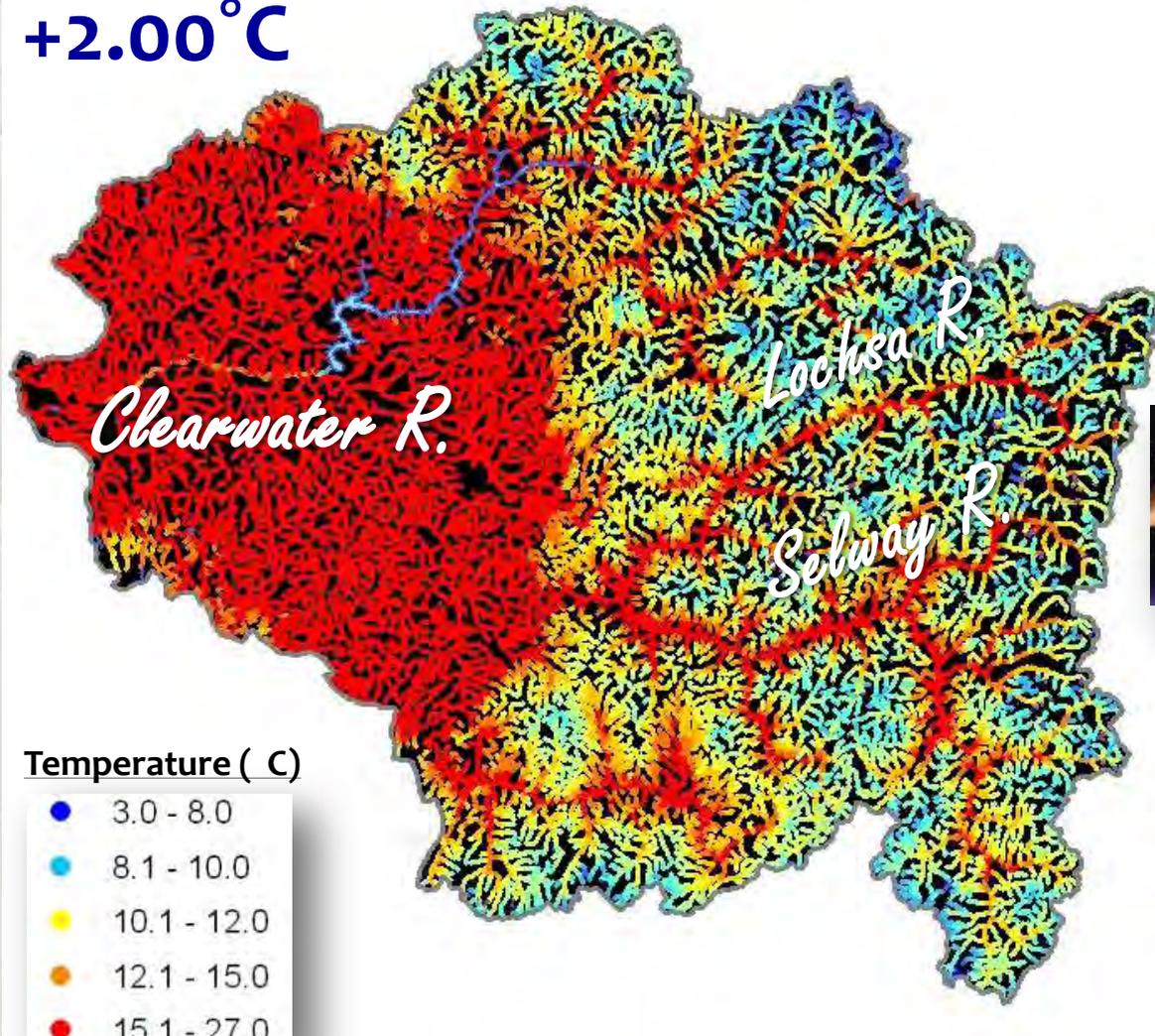
2011



# Future Scenarios (S1, S25, S29)

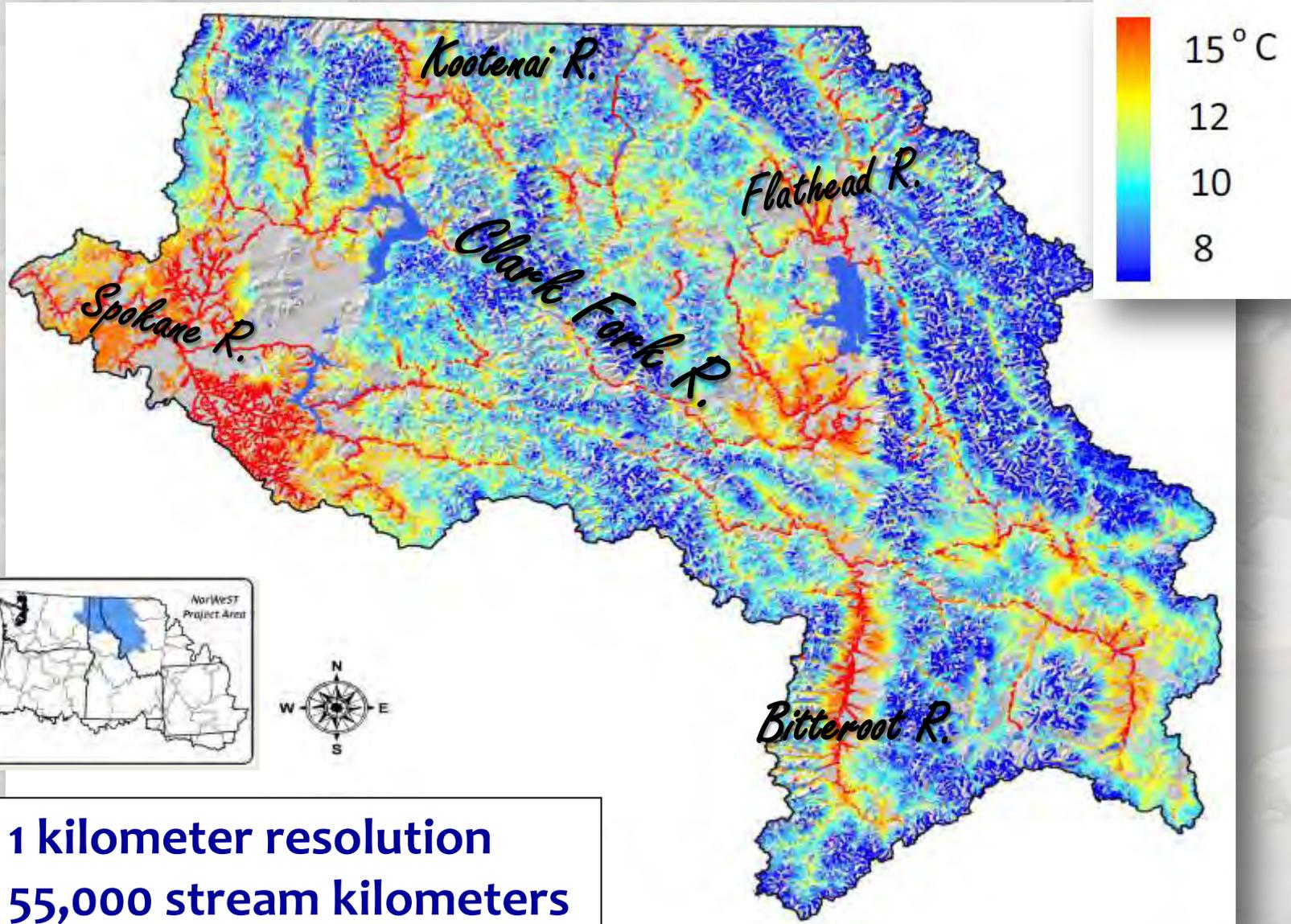
1993-2011, +1.0°C, +2.0°C

+2.00°C



# Historic Scenario: SpoKoot Unit (S1\_93-11)

1993-2011 mean August stream temperatures

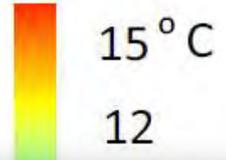
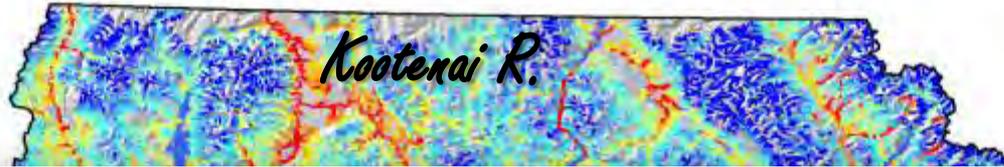


1 kilometer resolution  
55,000 stream kilometers



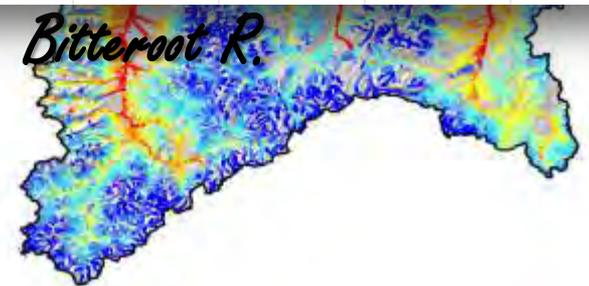
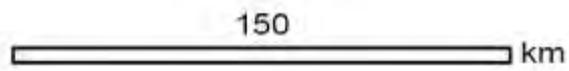
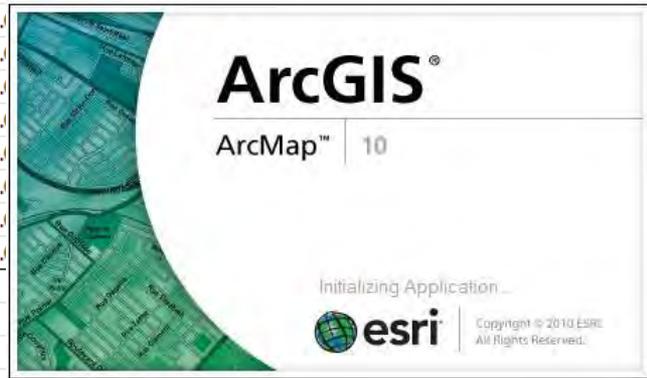
# Historic Scenario: SpoKoot Unit (S1\_93-11)

## 1993-2011 mean August stream temperatures



C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
CANOPY	SLOPE	PRECIP	CUMDRAINAGE	COORD	NLCD11PC	NLCD12PC	BFI	Air_August	Flow_August	Stream_August
2.82	0.08857	299.6256	19.833	1623663.32	0	0	79	14.02	35.71	12.0812903
2.82	0.08857	299.6256	19.833	1623663.32	0	0	79	13.20	40.52	12.333771
2.82	0.08857	299.6256	19.833	1623663.32	0	0	79	13.00	38.99	11.4041581
12.23	0.03514	242.42	69.271	1620504.73	0.012	0	80	15.84	18.47	12.2216452
12.23										11.0053548
12.23										12.7445484
12.23										11.9685161
12.23										10.9931936
12.23										11.3862545
12.23										11.4452903
12.23										11.5266484
12.23										10.7834677
67.2										
62.89										
19.84										
61.45	0.1333	1107.499	3.312	1517620.51	0	0	75	13.59	32.75	
42.49	0.10194	984.29	3.36	1516791.23	0	0	75	13.59	32.75	
52.92	0.10194	984.29	3.36	1517620.42	0	0	75	13.59	32.75	

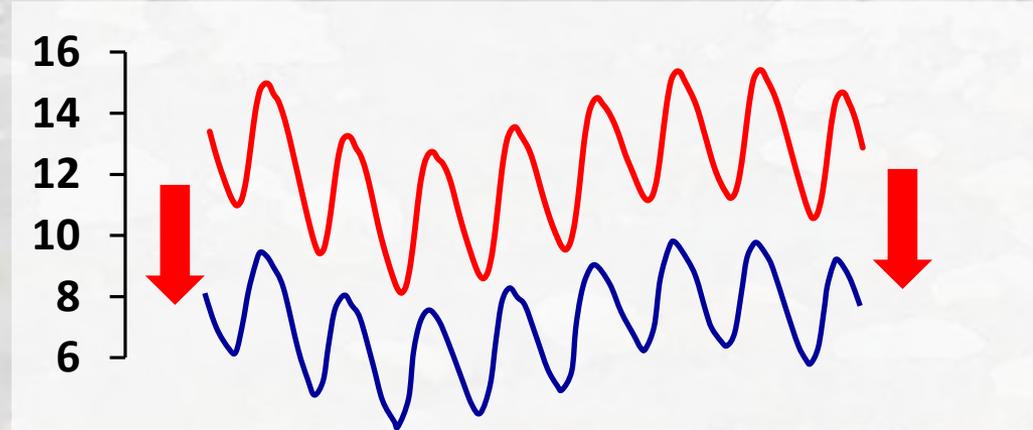
**Scenarios are  
Shapefile Tables  
Easily Displayed &  
Queried in ArcMap**



# Application: Quantify Thermal Degradation

What is the thermal “intrinsic potential” of a stream?

“How much cooler could we make this stream?”



1) Pick “degraded” and “healthy” streams to compare

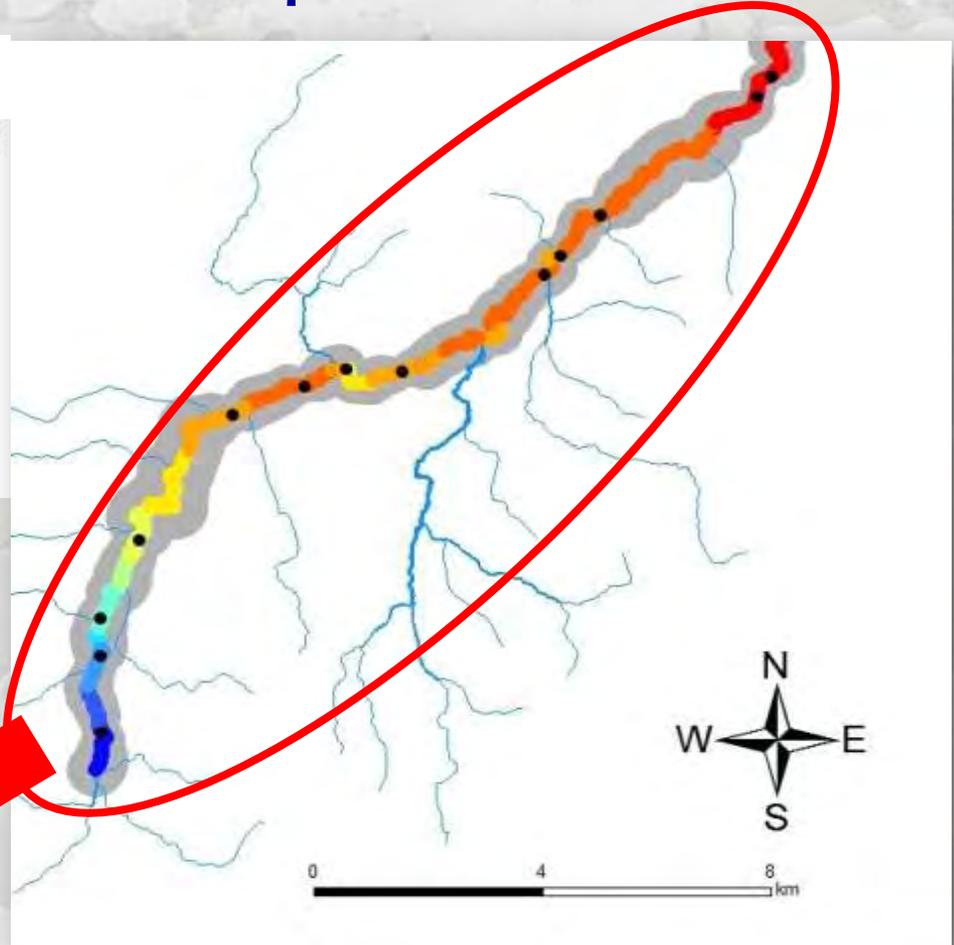
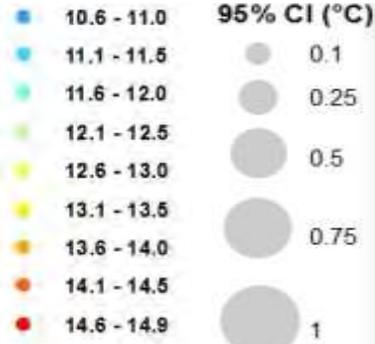


# Application: Quantify Thermal Degradation

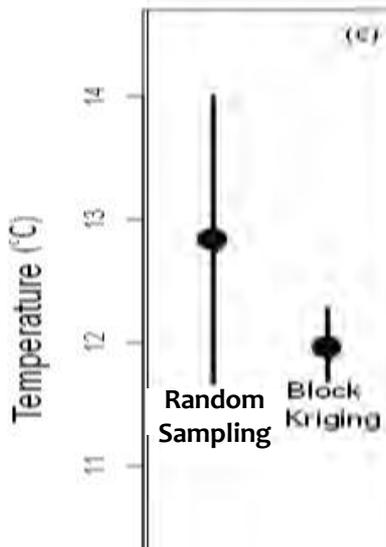
## 2) Block-krige estimates of temperature at desired scale



Temperature (°C)



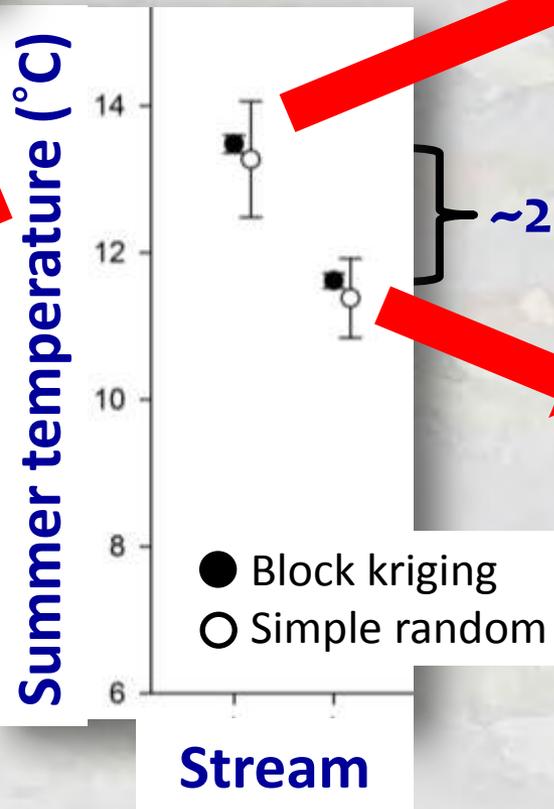
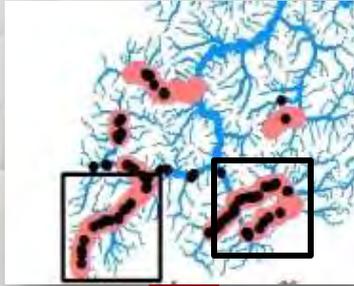
Bear Valley Creek  
Mean Temperature



} Precise & unbiased estimates

# Application: Quantify Thermal Degradation

## 3) Compare estimates among streams



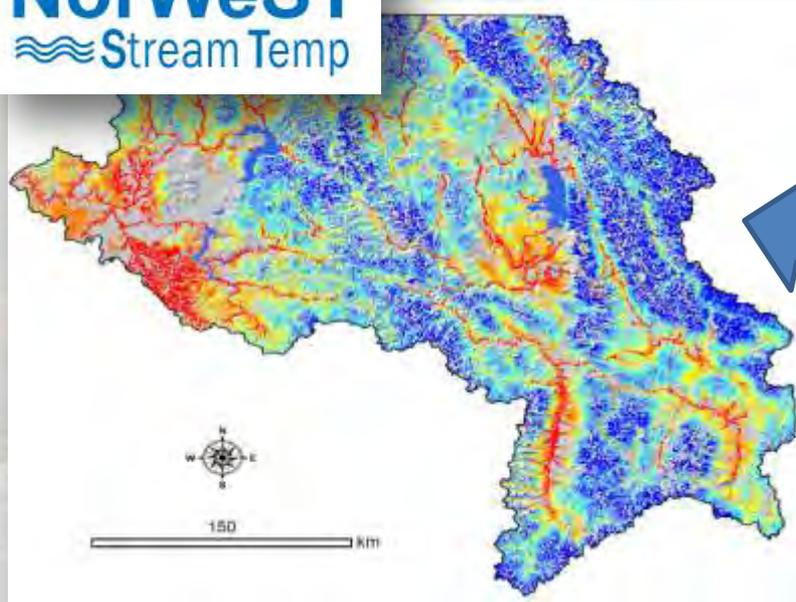
~2°C cooling is possible



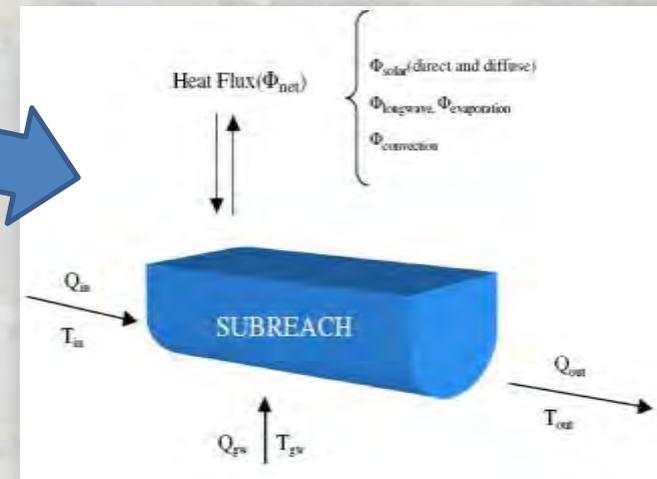
# Complimentary Model Information

## Strategic & Tactical Information

**NorWeST**  
Stream Temp



Mechanistic models...

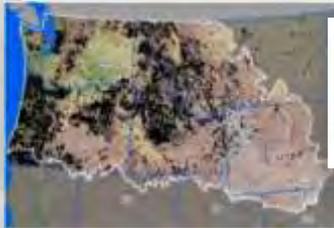
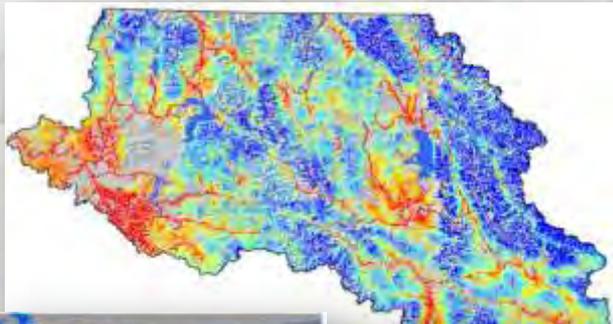


- QUAL2Kw
- SSTEMP/SNTEMP
- BasinTemp
- Heat Source
- WET-Temp



# Application: Regionally Consistent Thermal Niche Definitions

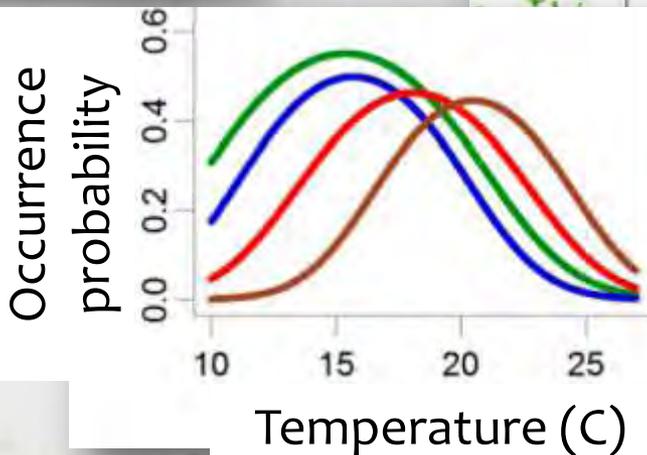
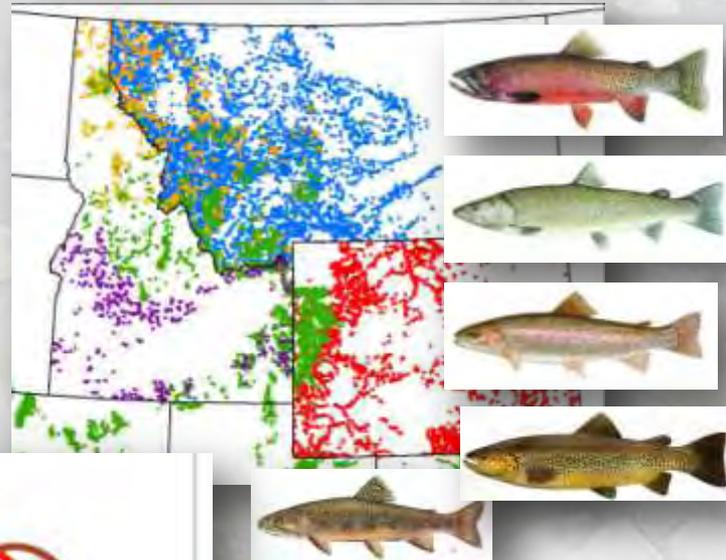
Stream temperature maps



**NorWeST**  
Stream Temp



Regional fish survey databases (n ~ 30,000)

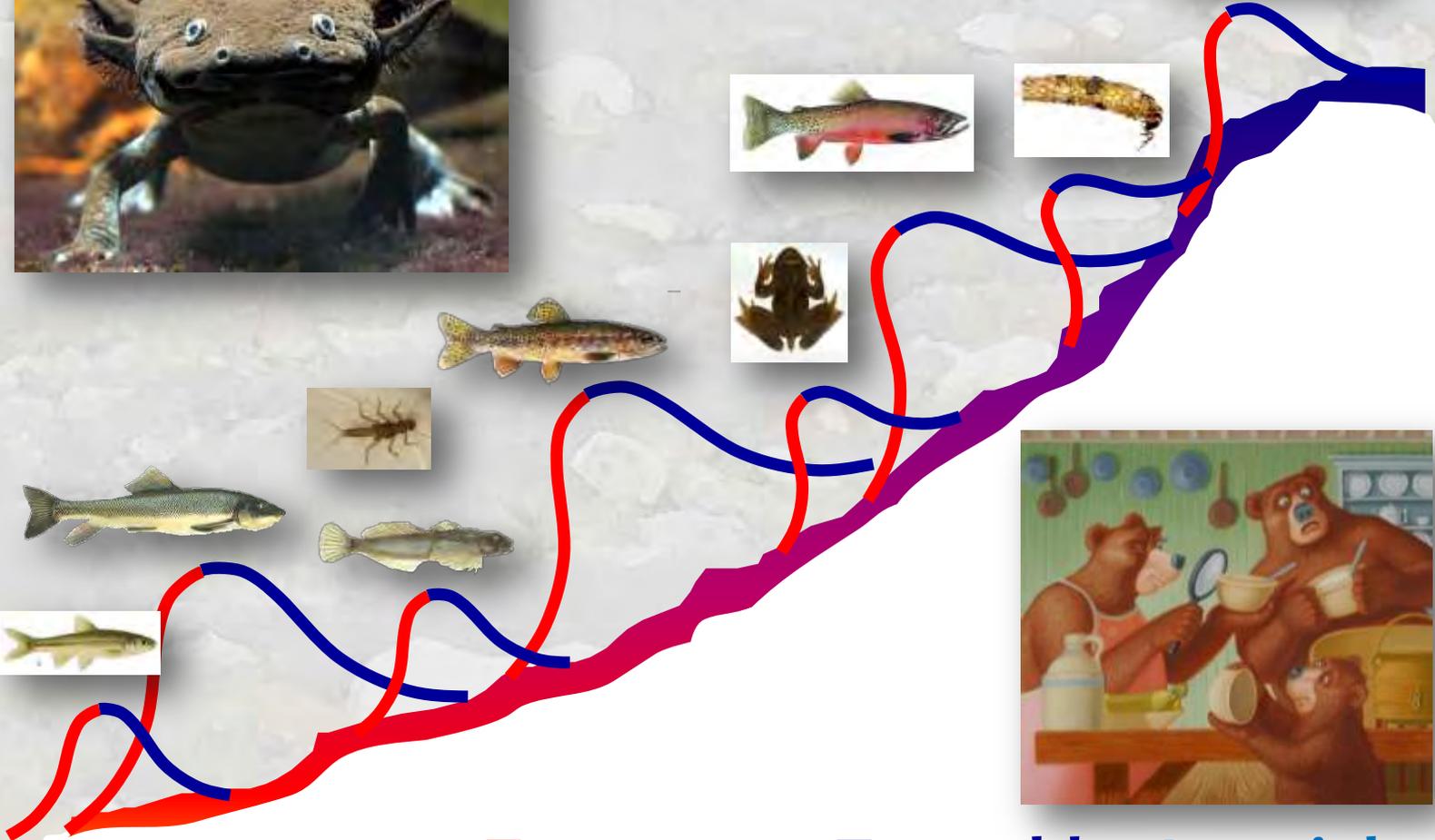


Wenger et al. 2011a. *PNAS* **108**:14175-14180

Wenger et al. 2011b. *CJFAS* **68**:988-1008; Wenger et al., *In Preparation*

# Thermal Niches For All Stream Critters

Just need georeferenced biological survey data

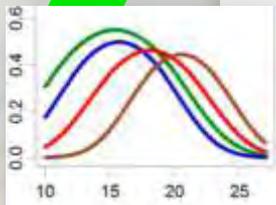
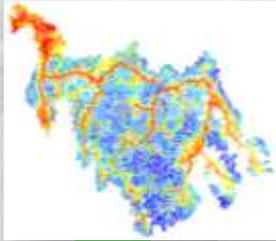


Too warm... Too cold... Just right

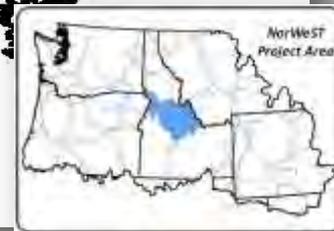
# Salmon River Bull Trout Habitats

2002-2011 Historical

11.2 °C isotherm



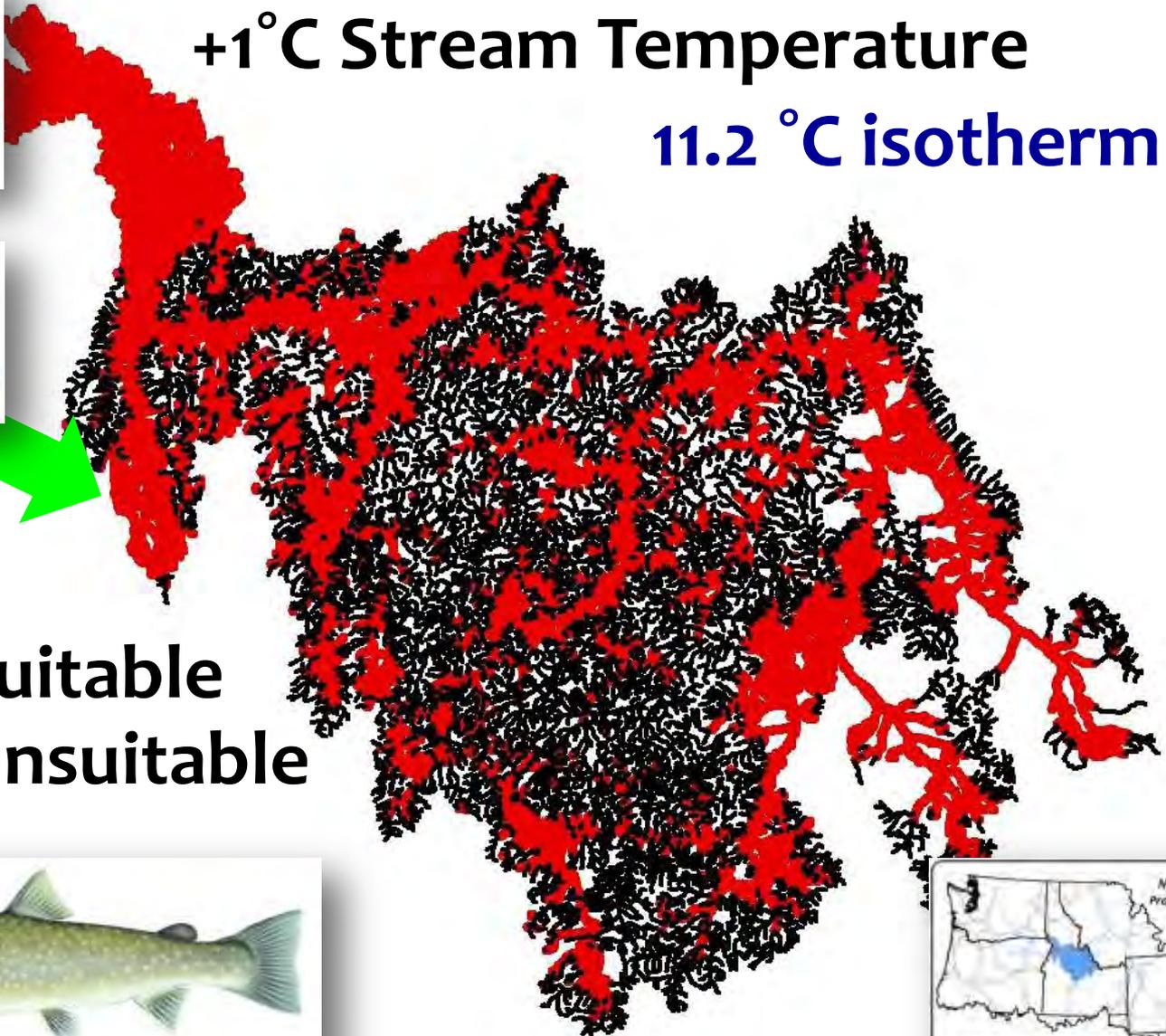
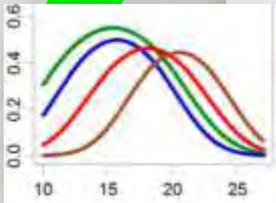
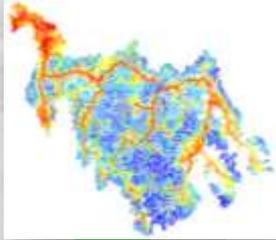
■ Suitable  
■ Unsuitable



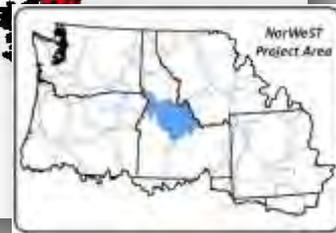
# Salmon River Bull Trout Habitats

+1°C Stream Temperature

11.2 °C isotherm



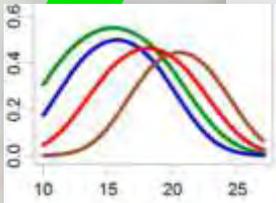
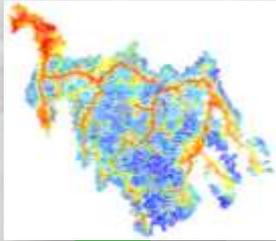
■ Suitable  
■ Unsuitable



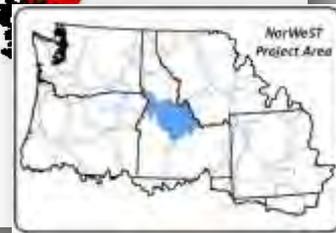
# Salmon River Bull Trout Habitats

+2°C Stream Temperature

11.2 °C isotherm

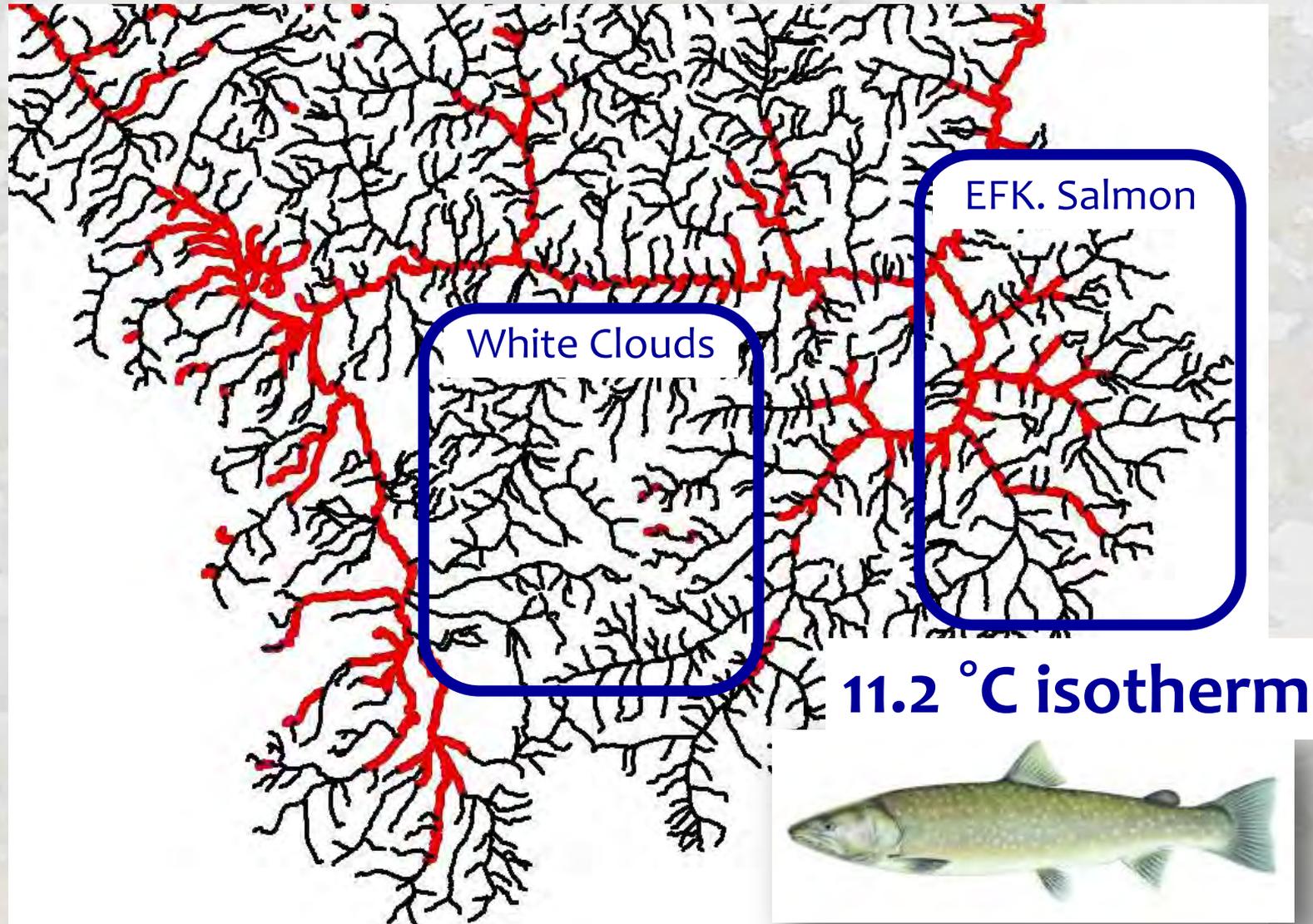


■ Suitable  
■ Unsuitable



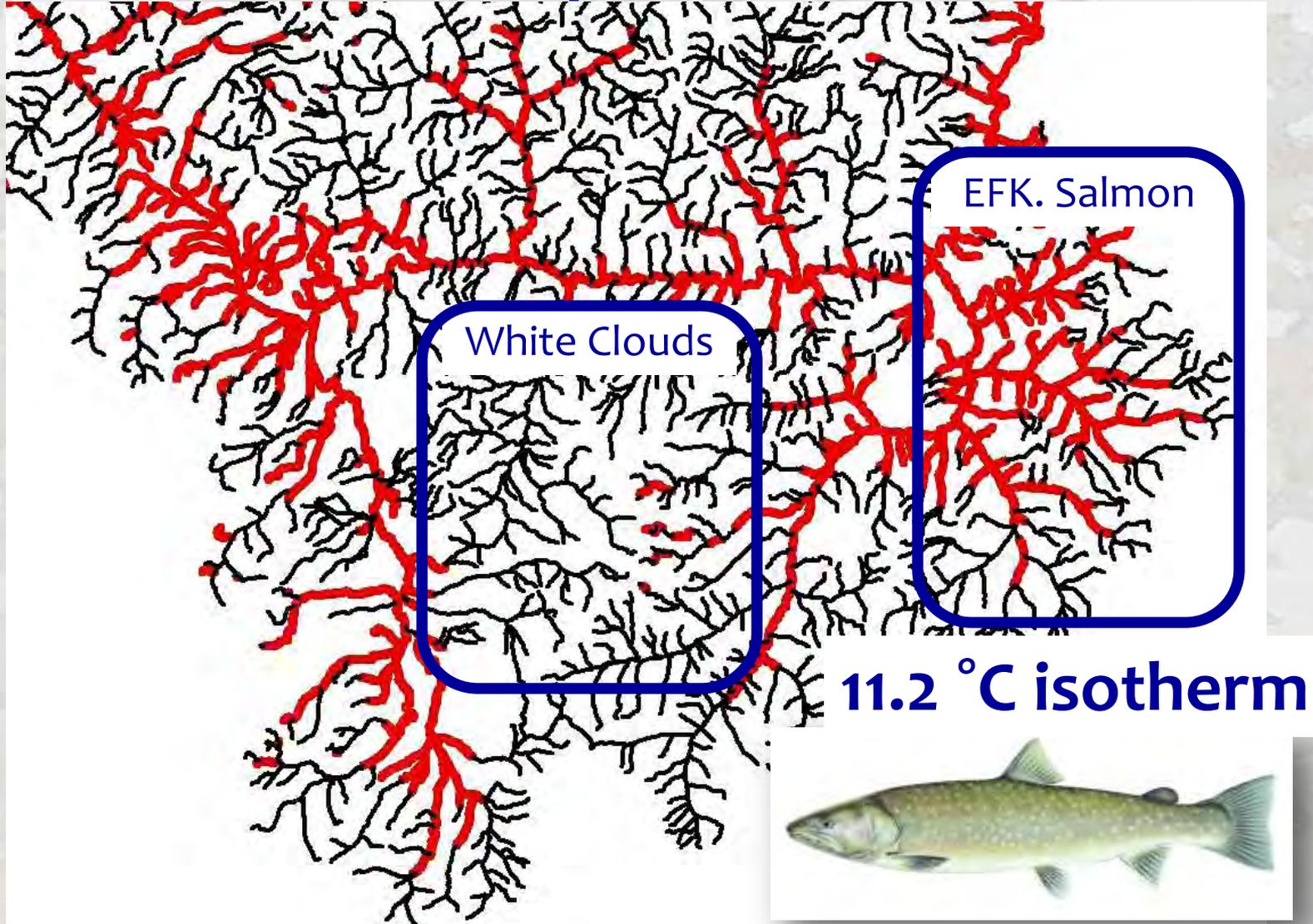
# Spatial Variation in Habitat Loss

2002-2011 historical scenario

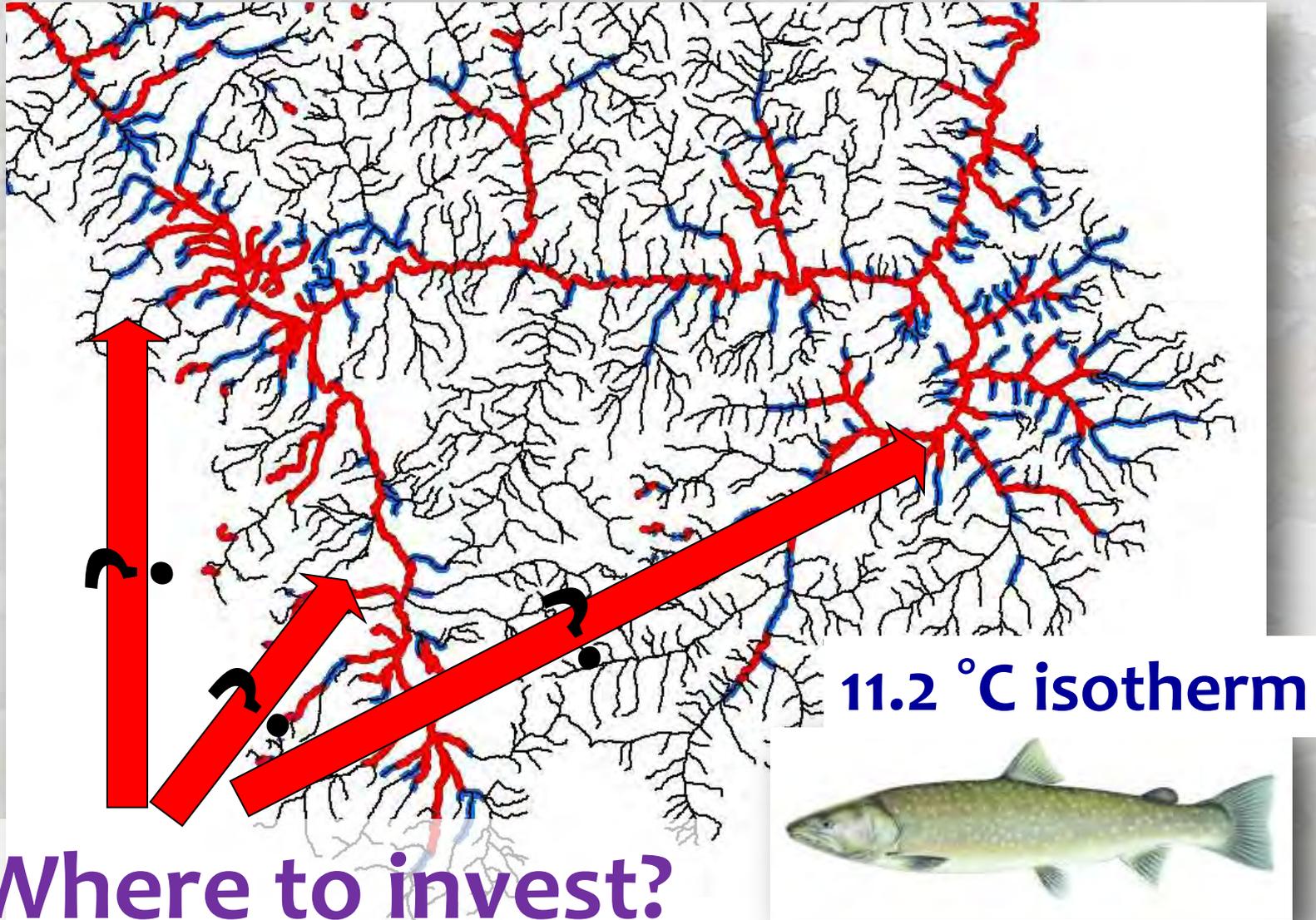


# Spatial Variation in Habitat Loss

+1°C stream temperature scenario



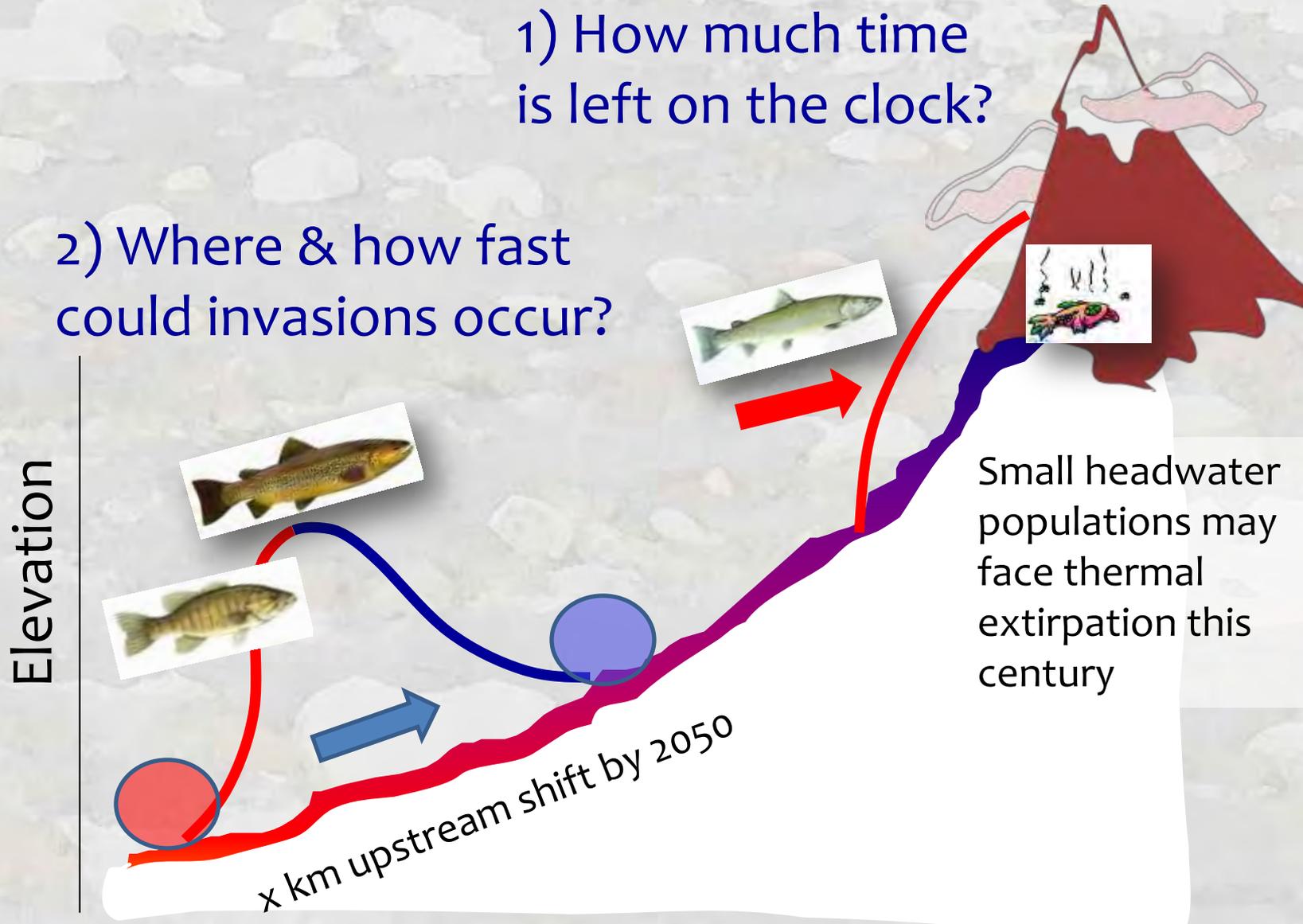
# Difference Map Shows Vulnerable Habitats +1°C stream temperature scenario



# Precise Information Regarding Potential Species Invasions & Population Extirpations

1) How much time is left on the clock?

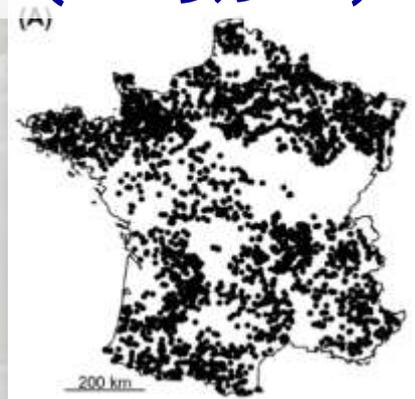
2) Where & how fast could invasions occur?



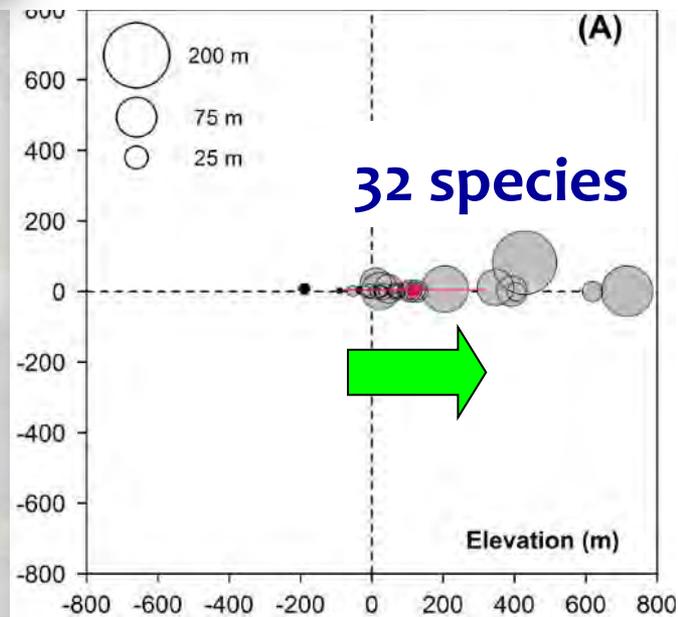
# Climate Change is Causing Stream Fish Distributions to Shift...



**French Fish  
survey sites  
(n = 3,500)**



**Difference in stream fish  
distributions (1980's vs 2000's)**



**Change in Elevation (m)**

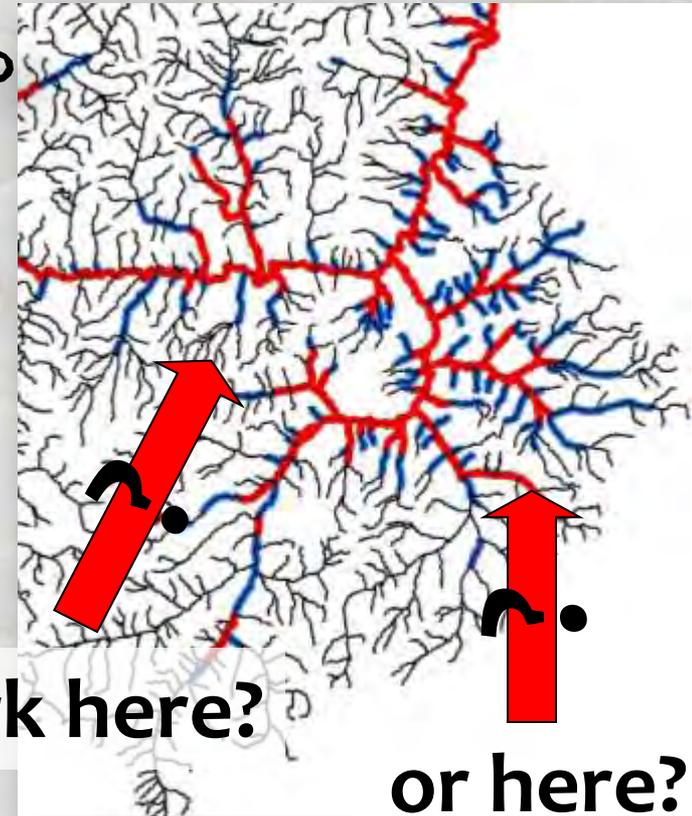


**March of the fishes...**



# Strategic Prioritization of Restoration Actions is Possible

- Maintaining/restoring flow...
- Maintaining/restoring riparian...
- Restoring channel form/function...
- Prescribed burns limit wildfire risks...
- Non-native species control...
- Improve/impede fish passage...

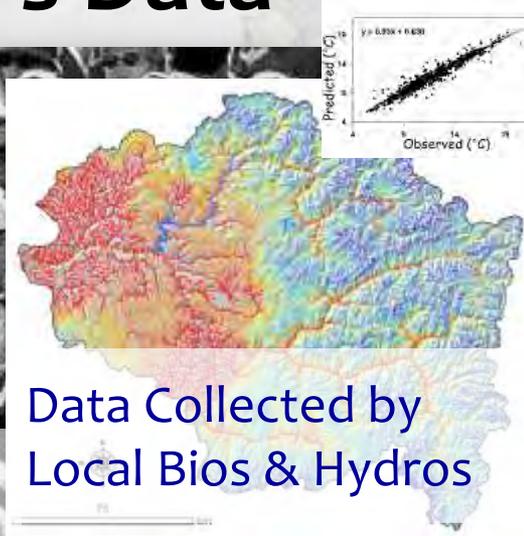
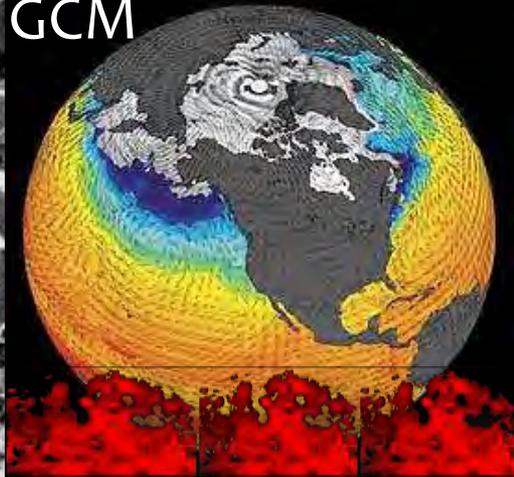


Work here?

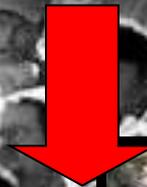
or here?

# NorWeST is a “Crowd-Sourced” Model Developed from Everyone’s Data

GCM

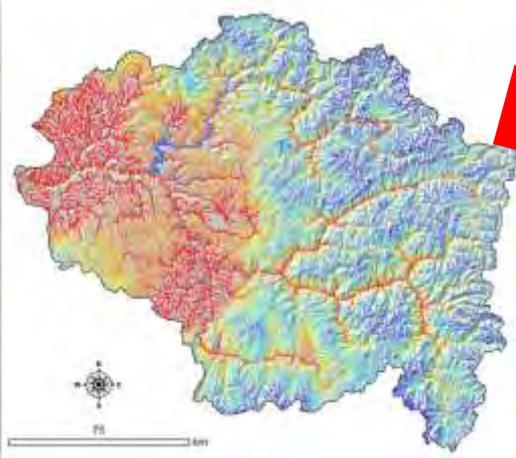


Coordinated,  
Interagency  
Responses?

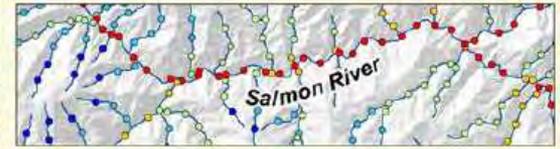


# NorWeST Website Distributes Temperature Products GIS Data

1) GIS shapefiles of stream temperature scenarios

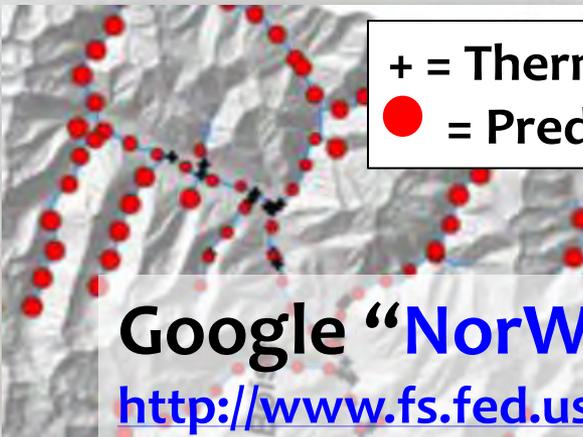


**NorWeST**  
Stream Temp



*Regional Database and Modeled Stream Temperatures*

2) GIS shapefiles of stream temperature model prediction precision



+ = Thermograph  
● = Prediction SE

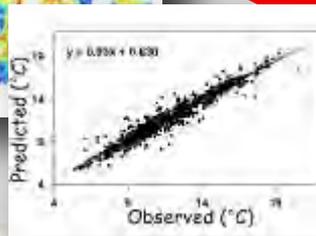
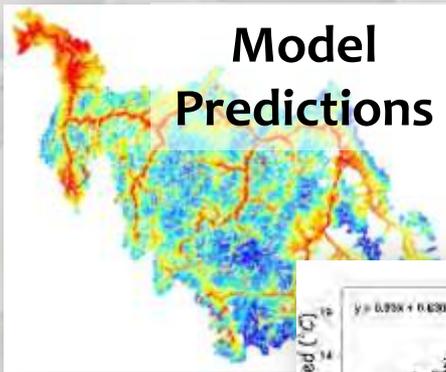
3) Temperature data summaries



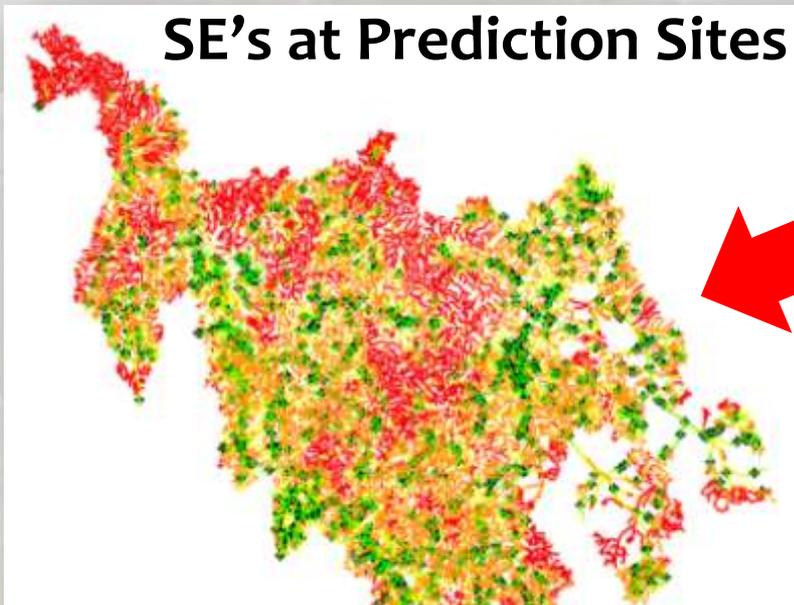
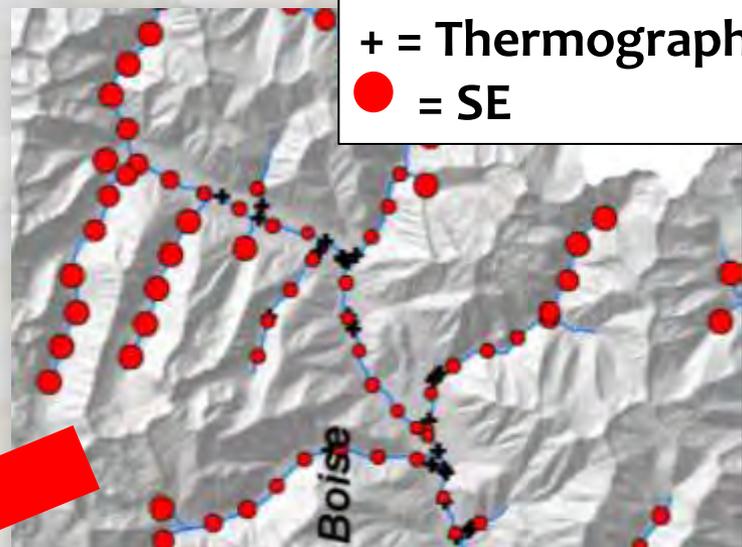
Google **NorWeST** or go here...

<http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/NorWeST.shtml>

# S34\_PredSE = Spatially Explicit Maps of Prediction Uncertainty



Temperature Prediction SE's



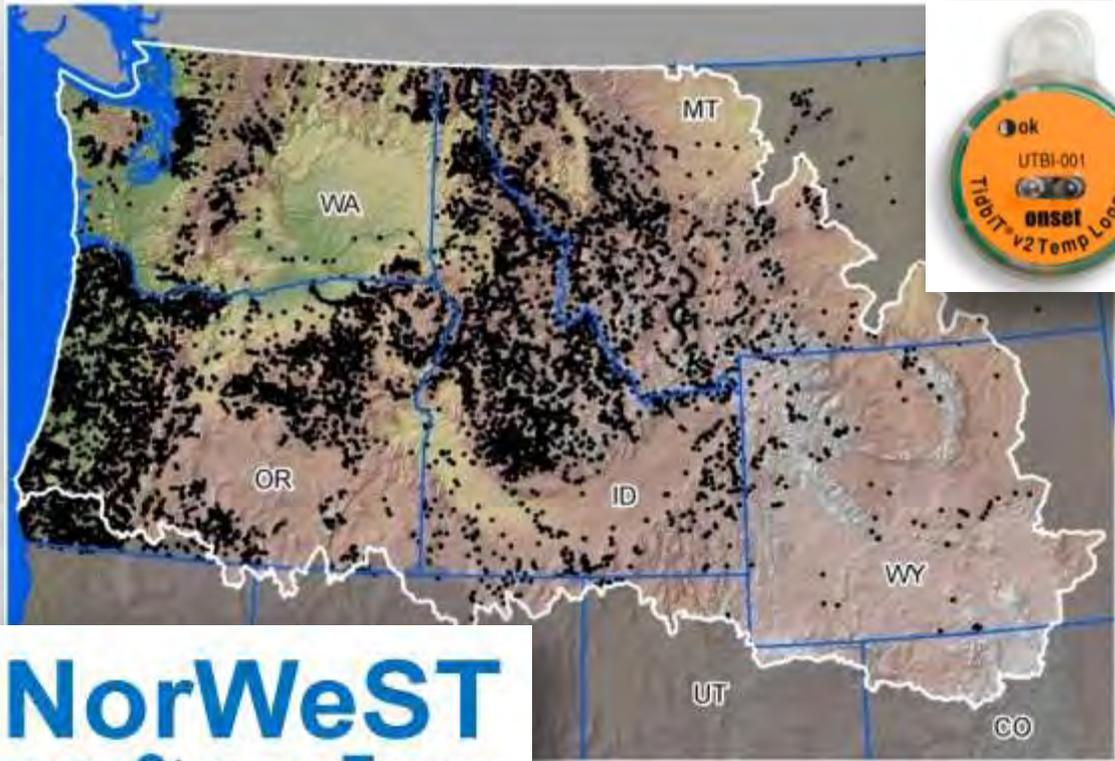
SE's are small near sites with temperature measurements

Design of "optimal" monitoring networks now possible



# Data Availability Provides Flexibility

Daily Data Summaries (Min/Max/Mean)



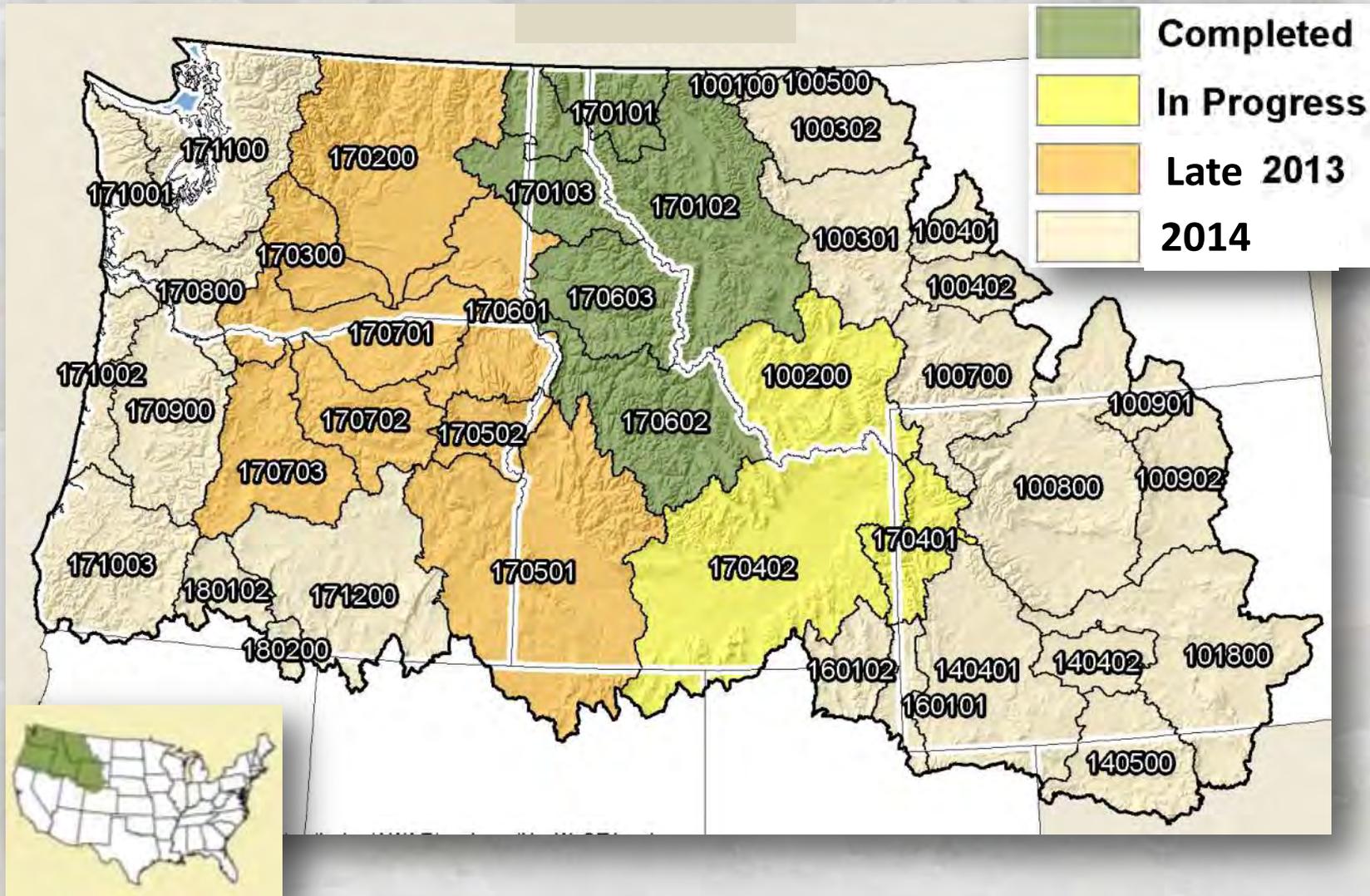
- Calculate other metrics
- Fit other models

MWAT ~ Maximum ~ Minimum

MDAT ~ AWAT ~ Degree-days ~ Mean

# NorWeST Schedule

Interior Columbia Done by end of 2013

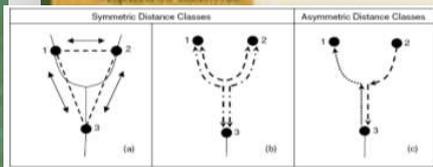


# SSN/STARS Website Google “SSN/STARS”

Open Source SoftWare Tools, Example Datasets, & Documentation

Analytical Stream Ecosystem is Growing

SSN & STARS: Tools for Spatial Statistical Modeling on Stream Networks



ECOLOGY LETTERS  
Ecology Letters, (2013) doi: 10.1111/ele

Modelling dendritic ecological networks in space: an integrated network perspective

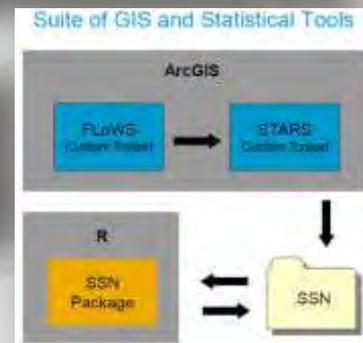
Journal of Statistical Software  
MMMMMM YYYY, Volume: 57, Issue: 11. <http://www.jstatsoft.org/>

SSN: An R Package for Spatial Statistical Modeling on Stream Networks

Jay M. Ver Hoef (NOAA National Marine Mammal Laboratory) Erin E. Peterson (CSIRO, Brisbane) David Clifford (CSIRO, Brisbane) Bohan Shoh (CSIRO, Brisbane)

**A Moving Average Approach for Spatial Statistical Models of Stream Networks**  
Jay M. VER HOEF and Erin E. PETERSON

**STARS: An ArcGIS toolset used to calculate the spatial data needed to fit spatial statistical models to stream network data**



# Supporting Research...

## Regional Stream Temperature Modeling Approach...

*Ecological Applications*, 20(5), 2010, pp. 1350–1371  
© 2010 by the Ecological Society of America

Effects of climate change and wildfire on stream temperatures and salmonid thermal habitat in a mountain river network

DANIEL J. ISAAK,<sup>1,2</sup> CHARLES H. LUCE,<sup>1</sup> BRUCE E. RIEMAN,<sup>1</sup> DAVID E. NAGEL,<sup>1</sup> ERIN E. PETERSON,<sup>2</sup> DONA L. HORAN,<sup>1</sup> SHARON PARKES,<sup>1</sup> AND GWYNNE L. CHANDLER<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Boise Aquatic Sciences Laboratory, 322 E. Front Street, Suite 401, Boise, Idaho 83702 USA

<sup>2</sup>Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Division of Mathematical and Information Sciences, Indooroopilly, Queensland, Australia

## A Moving Average Approach for Spatial Statistical Models of Stream Networks

Jay M. VAN HOEF and ERIN E. PETERSON

Journal of the American Statistical Association  
March 2010, Vol. 105, No. 489, Applications and Case Studies  
DOI: 10.1198/jasa.2009.ap08248

## Regional Stream Temperature Trend Assessment...

*Climate change effects on stream and river temperatures across the northwest U.S. from 1980–2009 and implications for salmonid fishes*

D. J. Isaak, S. Wollrab,  
G. Chandler

## Climatic Change

An Interdisciplinary, International Journal Devoted to the Description, Causes and Implications of Climatic Change

Co-Editors: MICHAEL OPPENHEIMER  
GARY YOHE



## Climate “Velocity” in streams...

## Global Change Biology

Global Change Biology (2012), doi: 10.1111/gcb.12075 (Online at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcb.12075>)

Stream isotherm shifts from climate change and implications for distributions of ectothermic organisms

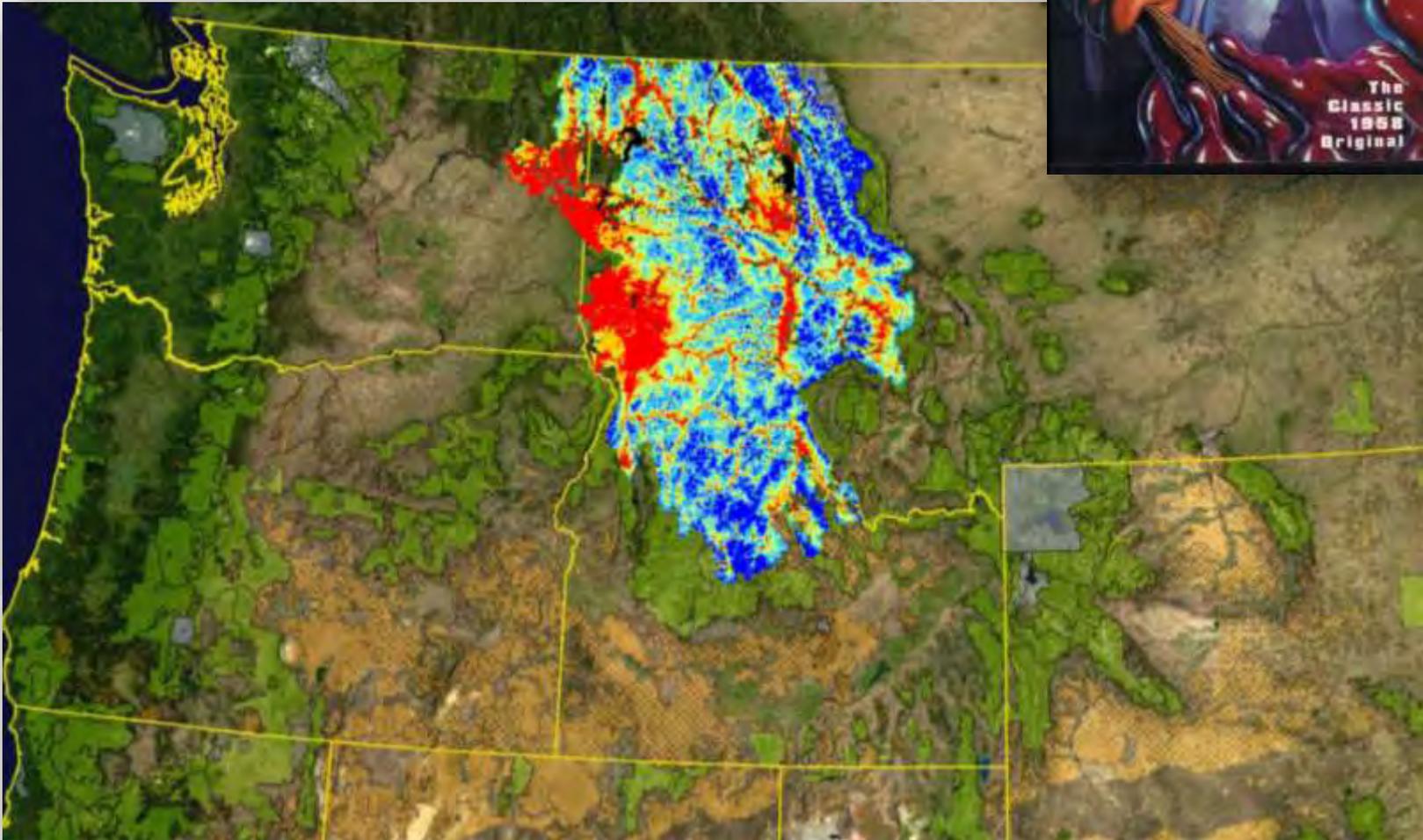
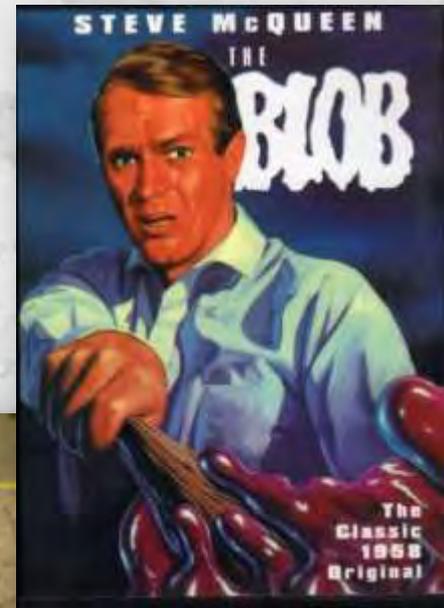
DANIEL J. ISAAK\* AND BRUCE E. RIEMAN†

\*U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Boise Aquatic Sciences Laboratory, 322 E. Front St., Suite 401, Boise, Idaho †U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station (retired), P.O. Box 1541, Seeley Lake, MT

Isaak & Rieman. 2012. *Global Change Biology* 19, doi: 12073

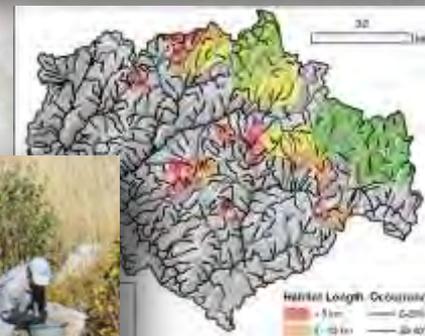
# The Blob is Growing...

- 14,370 summers of data swallowed
- 92,000 stream kilometers of thermal ooze mapped



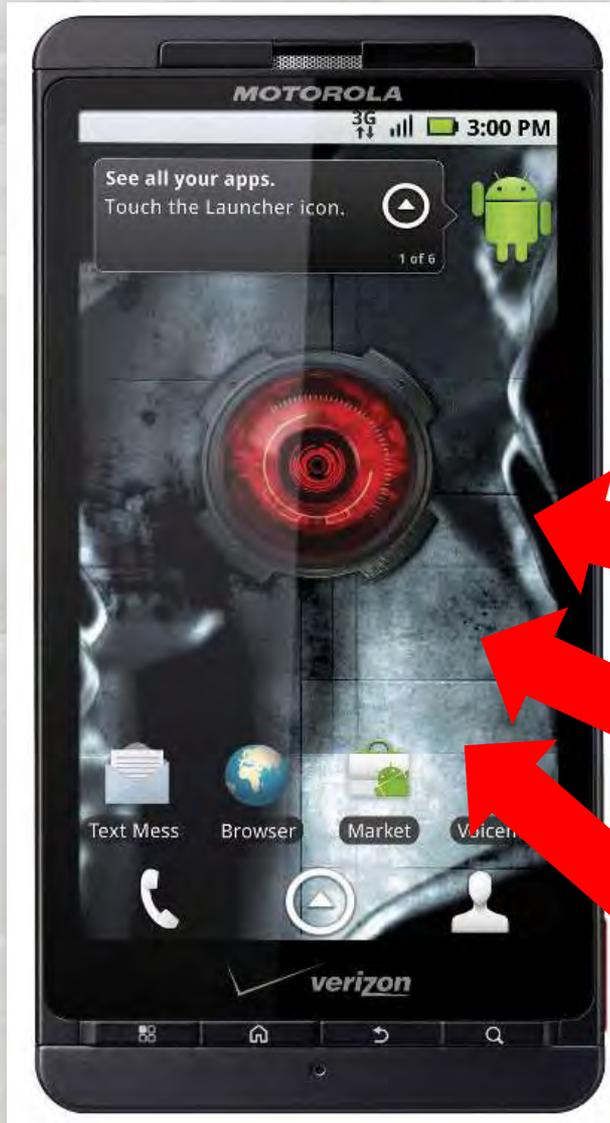
# NorWeST Facilitating Related Projects

- Regional bull trout climate vulnerability assessment (J. Dunham)
- Cutthroat & bull trout climate decision support tools (Peterson et al., 2013)
- Landscape-scale bull trout monitoring protocol (Isaak et al. 2009)
- Consistent thermal niche definitions & more accurate bioclimatic models for trout & nongame fishes (S. Wenger, In Prep.)
- Efficient stream temperature monitoring designs



# NorWeST Facilitating Related Projects

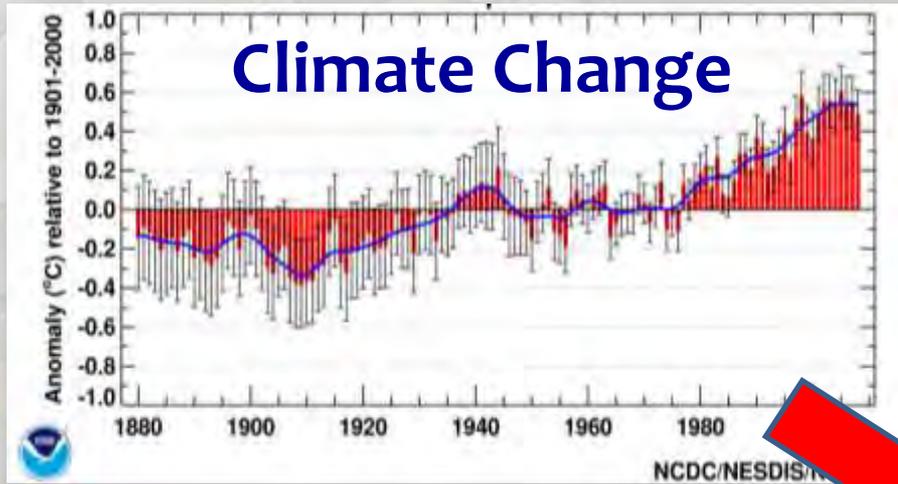
“Apps” Run on  
a Consistent  
Data Network



ate vulnerability  
climate decision  
out monitoring  
Definitions &  
ic mod  
(S. Wenger, In  
ature



# Need to Do More With Less, but What If... We Did Much More?



Urbanization &  
Population Growth



Shrinking  
Budgets



# A Special Thanks to The 60+ Data Contributors and Partner Agencies...





The End