A Thermal Map for all Washington Streams





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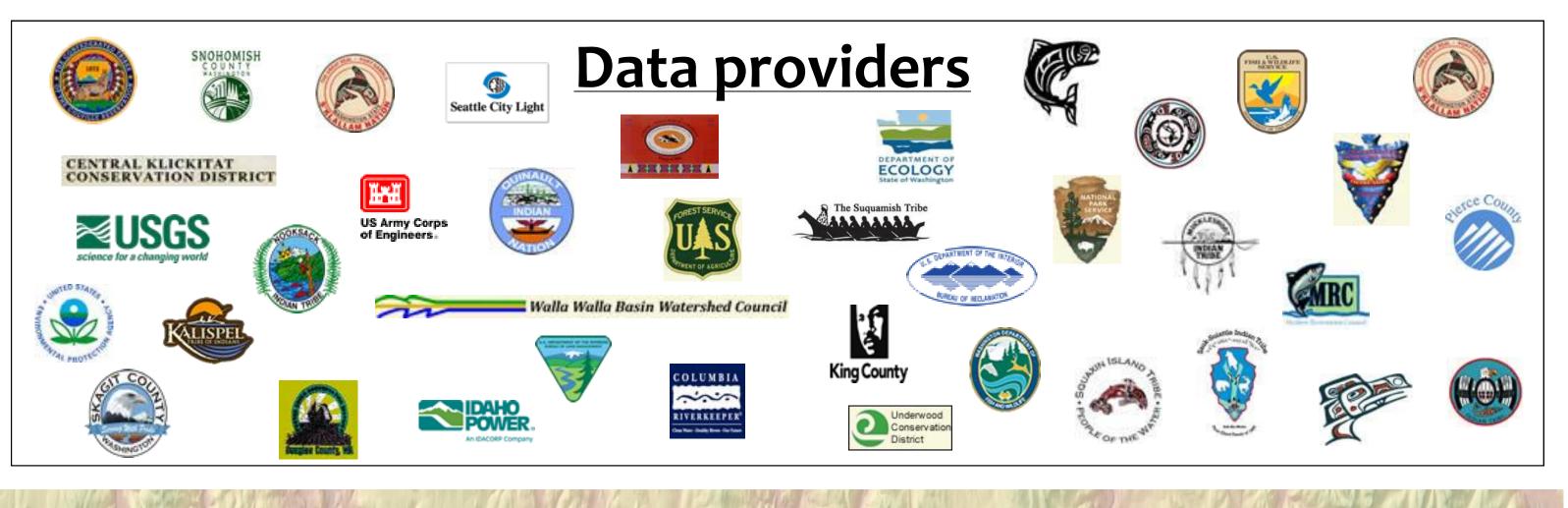












The aquatics community within Washington has amassed significant amounts of stream temperature data through their collective monitoring efforts in previous decades. As part of a West-wide effort, the NorWeST project has developed a comprehensive interagency stream temperature database for Washington that consists of 9,267 summers of monitoring effort at 2,695 unique sites (map inset). Those data were used with spatial-statistical network models (SSN/STARS website: www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/SpatialStreamNetworks.shtml) to develop an accurate stream temperature model (R² = 90%; RMSE = 1.0°C), which was then used to predict 30 high-resolution (1 kilometer) historical and future climate scenarios for streams and rivers in Washington. This poster depicts a historical scenario of the mean August temperature from 1993-2011 for 45,000 kilometers of stream mapped to the 1:100,000-scale NHDPlus hydrography layer trimmed to exclude intermittent reaches and those >15% slope. NorWeST stream temperature scenarios and state temperature maps are available in user-friendly digital formats (e.g., ArcGIS shapefiles and .pdf files) from the project website (www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/NorWeST.html) and can also be viewed dynamically online using this webtool (www.sciencebase.gov/gisviewer/NorWeST/).

Daily summaries (min/max/mean) of the temperature ature data used to develop the temperature model are available through the website if permission was given for their distribution. All data are attributed to the original source agency and contributing biologists or hydrologists in metadata files. By providing open access to stream temperature information in user-friendly formats, the NorWeST project is facilitating coordination of monitoring activities among organizations, better conservation planning, and new research on temperature dynamics and thermal ecology.

The analytical infrastructure used to develop the Washington stream temperature model consists of a new class of spatial-statistical model for data on stream networks that could also be used with water chemistry attributes (e.g., pH, alkalinity, conductivity, etc.), biological datasets (species occurrence, abundance, genetic attributes), or habitat surveys to provide a wealth of new information about streams. More details regarding those applications are provided in the references below and at the National Stream Internet Project website (www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/NationalStreamInternet.html).

KEY REFERENCES

NorWeST Website: www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/ NorWeST.html

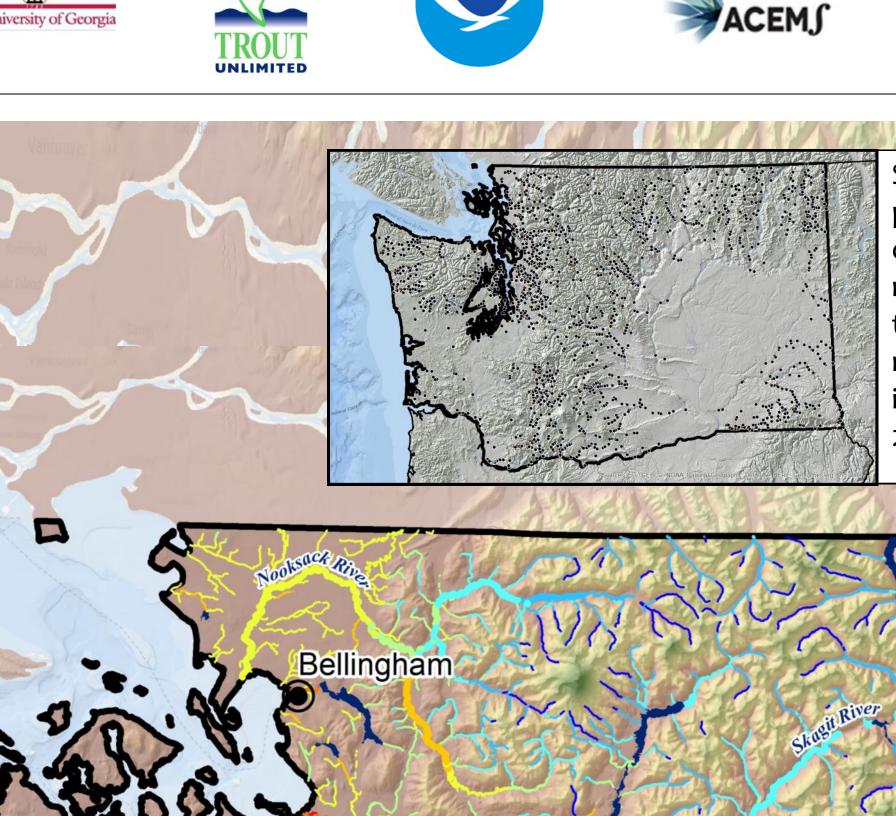
Spatial Statistical Network Models

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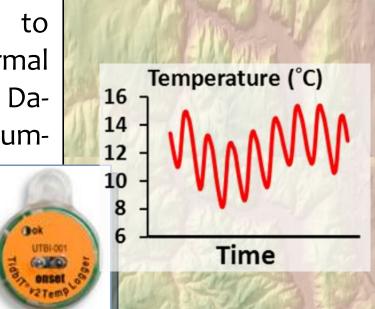
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Ver Hoef, J., E. Peterson, and D. Theobald. 2006. Spatial statistical models that use flow and stream distance. Environmental and Ecological Statistics 13:449–464.

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Stream sites with temperature data used to develop the thermal map for Washington. Data consist of 9,267 summers of monitoring effort from 2,695 unique sites.



NorveST

StreamTemp

Scenario 1:

Mean August

Stream Temperatuture

1993 - 2011

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