

# Climate Data for CVHM

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**U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Central Valley Hydrologic Modeling Workshop  
Sacramento, California  
January 18, 2012**



# ***Today's Presentation***

## ***Climate Background***

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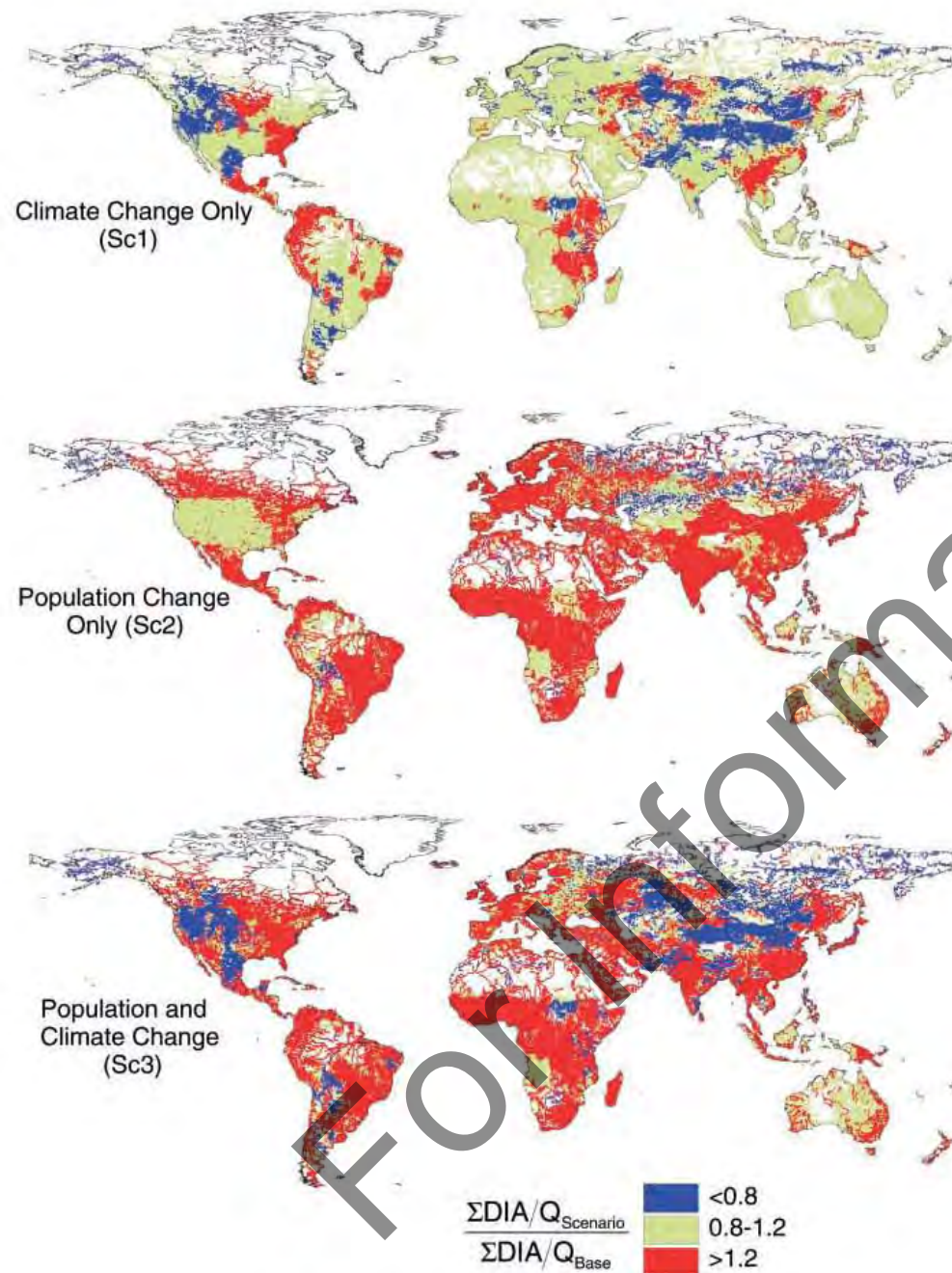
***Precipitation***

***Evapotranspiration***

***Scripts/Tools***

***Climate Analysis***

## Relative Change in Demand per Discharge



## Global Analysis of Water Stress from Major Surface-water Drainages

- Large part of World's Population with Water Stress
- Rising Water Demands outweigh effects of greenhouse warming-climate change through 2025
- Direct human impacts on global water supply poorly articulated but important to larger global change question

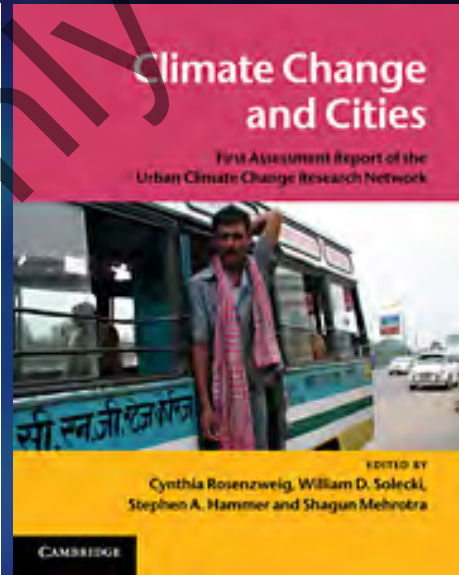
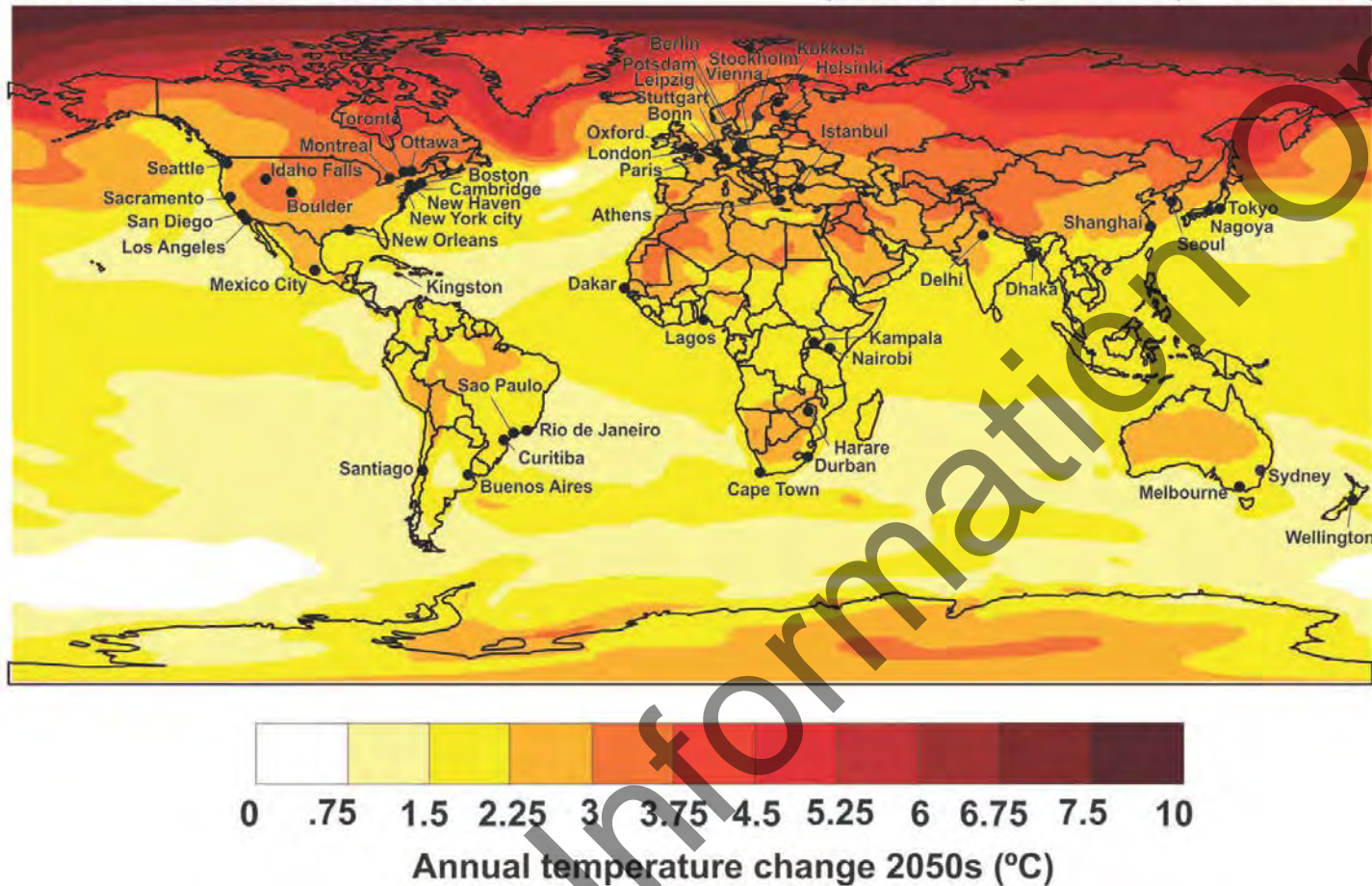
(Vorosmarty et al., April, 2010, Science)



# Additional Urban-Demand and Climate-Change Issues

NCAR CCSM 3.0 GCM A1b

(2040-2069) minus (1970-1999)



**Climate Change and Cities:**  
First Assessment Report of the  
Urban Climate Change  
Research Network  
(Cambridge University Press)  
<http://www.cambridge.org/us/catalogue>

## Risk Framework

- Climate Hazards
- Vulnerabilities
- Adaptive Capacity
- Sustainability



**Urban Climate** → Urban Heat Islands, Air pollution & Climate extremes

**Governance/Management** → Transboundary, Capture of Unappropriated Runoff & Environmental Flows 1<sup>st</sup>

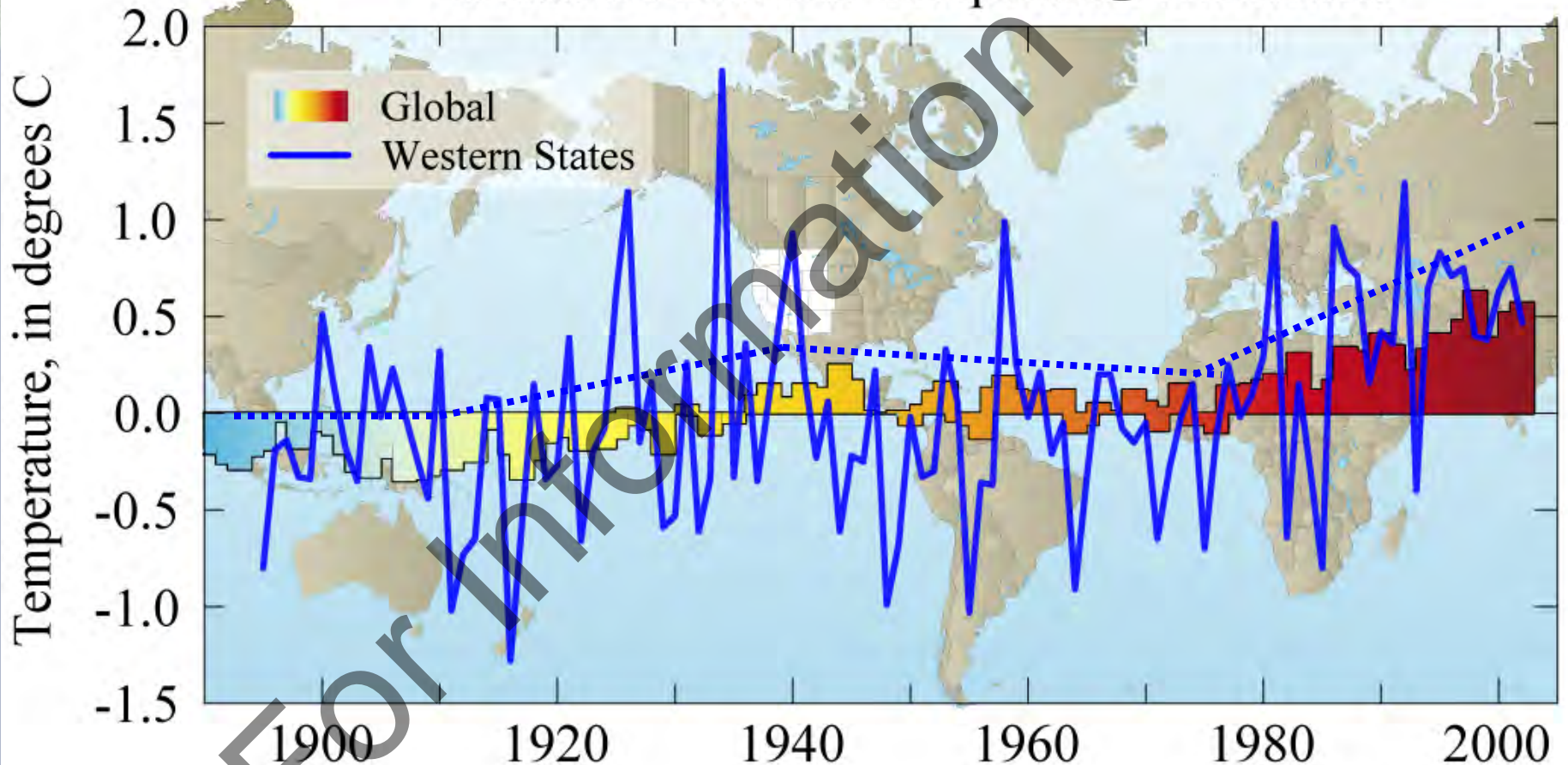
**Managed Resources** → Agriculture to Urban, Water-Energy Nexus, & Formal vs Informal Supply

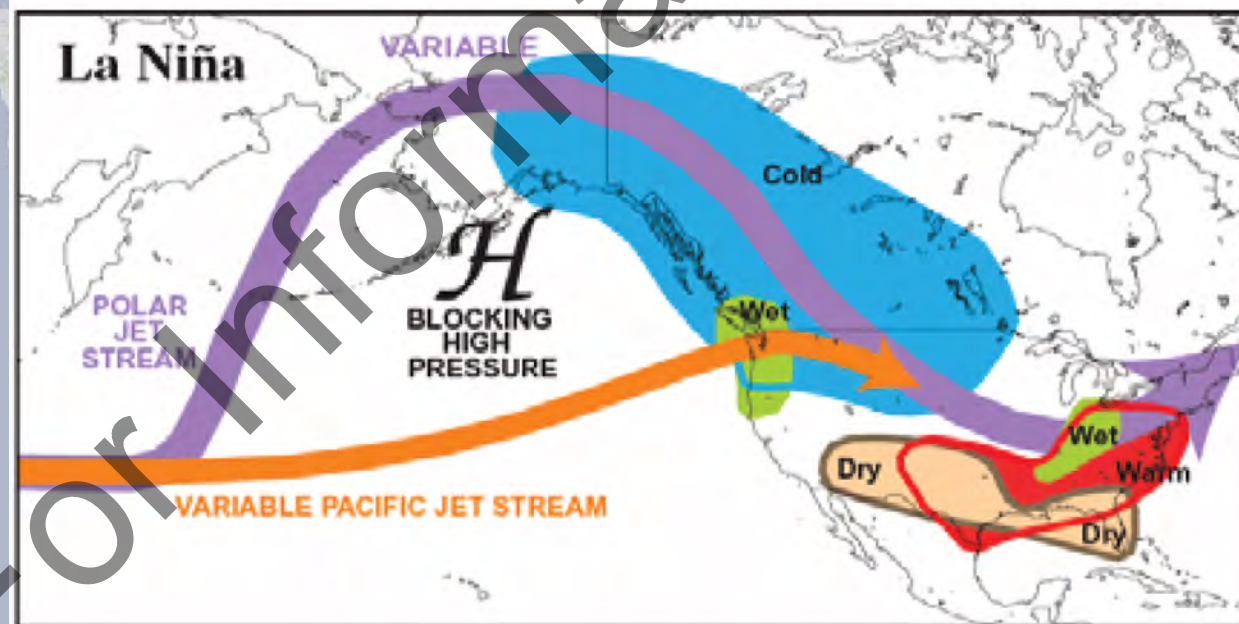
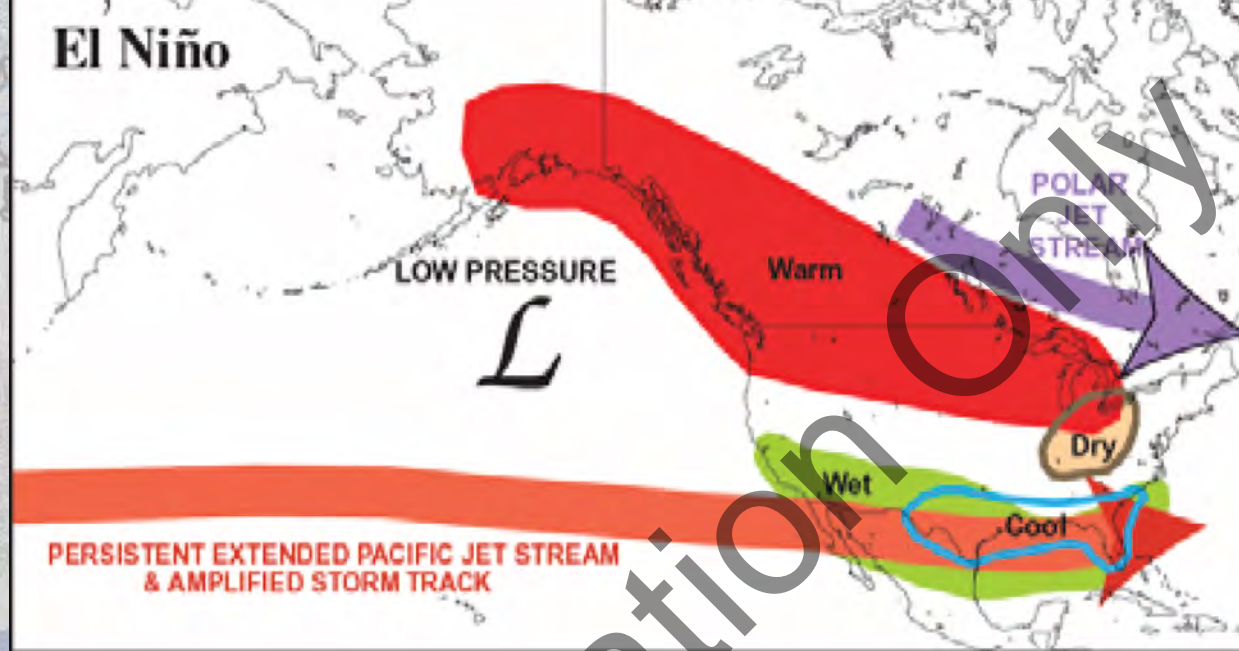


1. Review of recent trends & projections:

The western states have been warming  
in recent decades.

Annual Surface-Air Temperature Anomalies





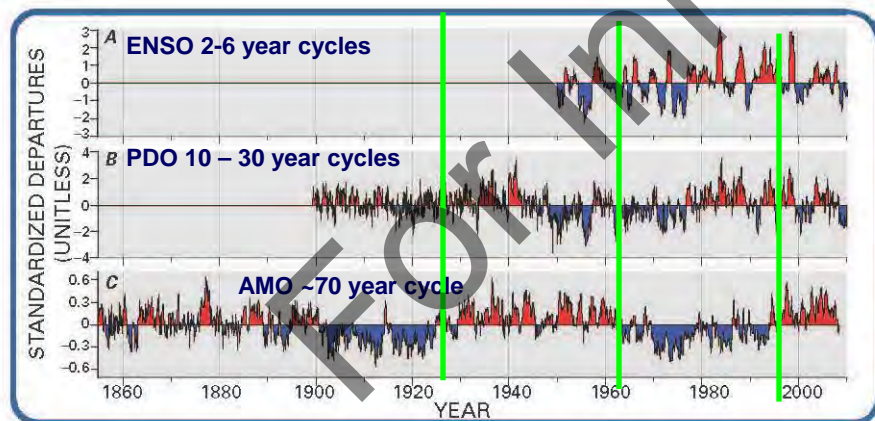
**Figure 2.** Typical winter-time weather anomalies and atmospheric circulations during moderate to strong El Niño and La Niña events, depicting the generalized warm/wet and cool/dry



# RELATION TO USGS MISSIONS

## SUSTAINABILITY/CONJUNCTIVE USE CENTRAL VALLEY

- **One Water** → **Single resource** (Precipitation, surface water and groundwater)
- **Competition for Water** → Demand for water resources People, Agriculture Environment (Entire Central Valley not just Sacramento and San Joaquin)
- **Sustainable development** → Complex system requires integrated water-management approach → **Linked models used to support this analysis**
- **Availability/Sustainability** → Changes in streamflow, groundwater storage, regions suitable for agriculture, and dynamics between natural and societal water-supply demands
- **Groundwater effects** → Significant changes in Flows, Storage, & Secondary effects on multiple time scales (**Flow-centric & Storage-centric Indicators?**)
- **Climate variability/change Analysis** → Management provided with observationally informed modeling and resource analyses
- **Climate change** → **Important influences on management strategies for conjunctive/sustainable use on periods of 100 years or more (ENSO, NAMS/PineappleExp, PDO, AMO, + Change)**



**Figure 1.** Interactions between the positive (red) and negative (blue) phases of the (A) multivariate El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) index (Wolter and Timlin, 1993, 1998), (B) Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO) index (Mantua and Hare, 2002), and (C) Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) index (Enfield and others, 2001) cumulatively affect U.S. climate and, in turn, surface and groundwater resources.

USGS Office of Global Change  
Effects of Climate Variability  
and Change on Groundwater  
Resources of the United States  
Fact Sheet FS09-3074 (2009)  
By Jason Gurdak, Randall T.  
Hanson, and Timothy R. Green

# Paleo-Extreme Climate Events Central Valley, California

Is one person's Climate Change another person's Climate Variability??

**NO--**There are natural & anthropogenic components & competing drivers such as urbanization

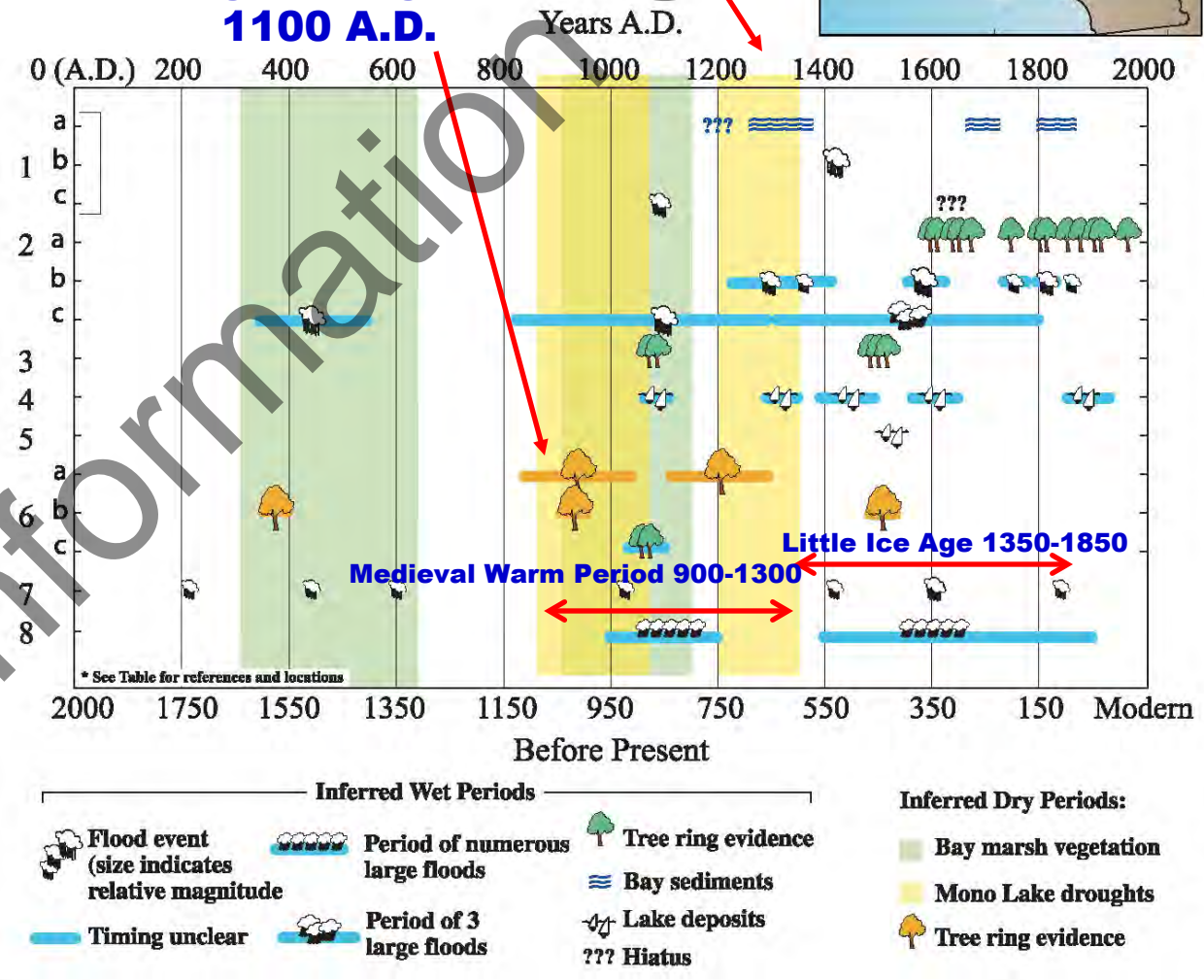
Modified from "Holocene climates and connections between the San Francisco Bay estuary and its watershed--A review", by Malamud-Roam, Dettinger, Ingram, Hughes, and Florsheim, 2007, San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science, 28p.



**Mega-Droughts > 100 years long (900 – 1250 A.D.)**

**Medieval Drought 1210-1350A.D.**

**Mega Drought 910-1100 A.D.**





# How Conjunctive Use/Sustainability Analysis Help Stakeholders?



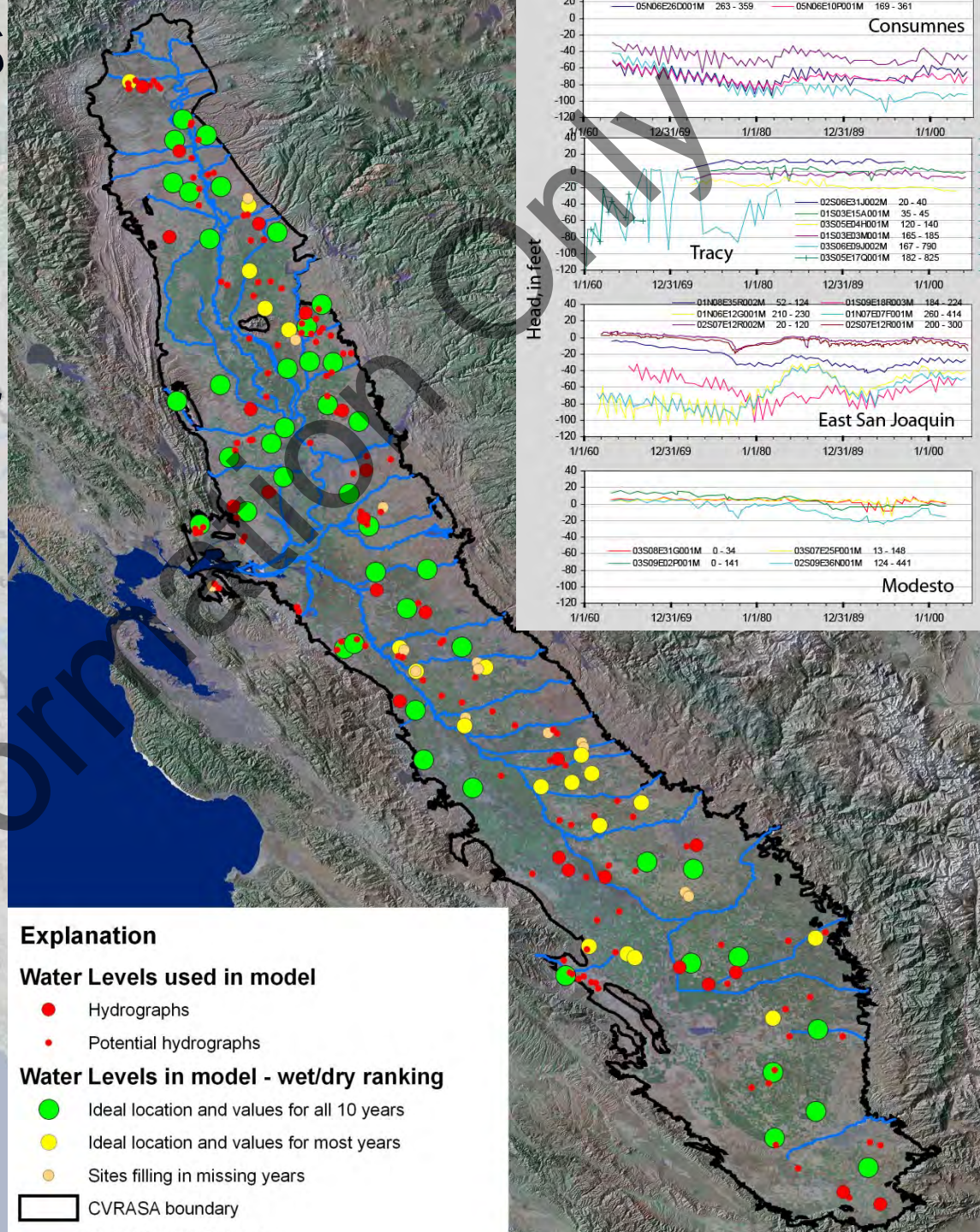
- **Climate Vulnerabilities?** → Extreme Events, Sustained Events, Permanent changes to system, Unsustainable adaptation
  - Primary Effects** → More dry Springs, Higher minimum temperatures, More cloudy/foggy days, More windy days, Amount/timing of snowmelt runoff, Frequency of wet years, Frequency of storms, Length of growing seasons, etc.
  - Secondary Effects** → Land Subsidence, Seawater intrusion, Decreased streamflow gains/losses, Increased soil salinization, Decreased soil moisture, Land-use adaptation (*esp. urbanization!*)
- **Variables/metrics used for vulnerabilities?** Focus of current research and analysis of coupled models -- most "Indicators" only based on data. Need to make decisions on indicators from data and physically-based models.
- **Ensemble Analysis Adequate?** Maybe not -- the traditional statistical and probabilistic approach to synthesis of results may not capture linkages or secondary-limiting factors of conjunctive use. Indicators from ensembles may not catch extremes or tipping points
- **Current Observational Networks & Assoc Data Adequate?** Maintenance of Input Data Streams for regional hydrologic models one of biggest challenges and needs → Part of DSS should include integrated ground and remote-sensing networks in Mountains & Valleys → Support of SELF-UPDATING MODELS

# Selection of wells

Continuous record  
through time frame

**170 wells** selected  
representative of

- 1960 – 2003
- Subareas



## Explanation

### Water Levels used in model

- Hydrographs
- Potential hydrographs

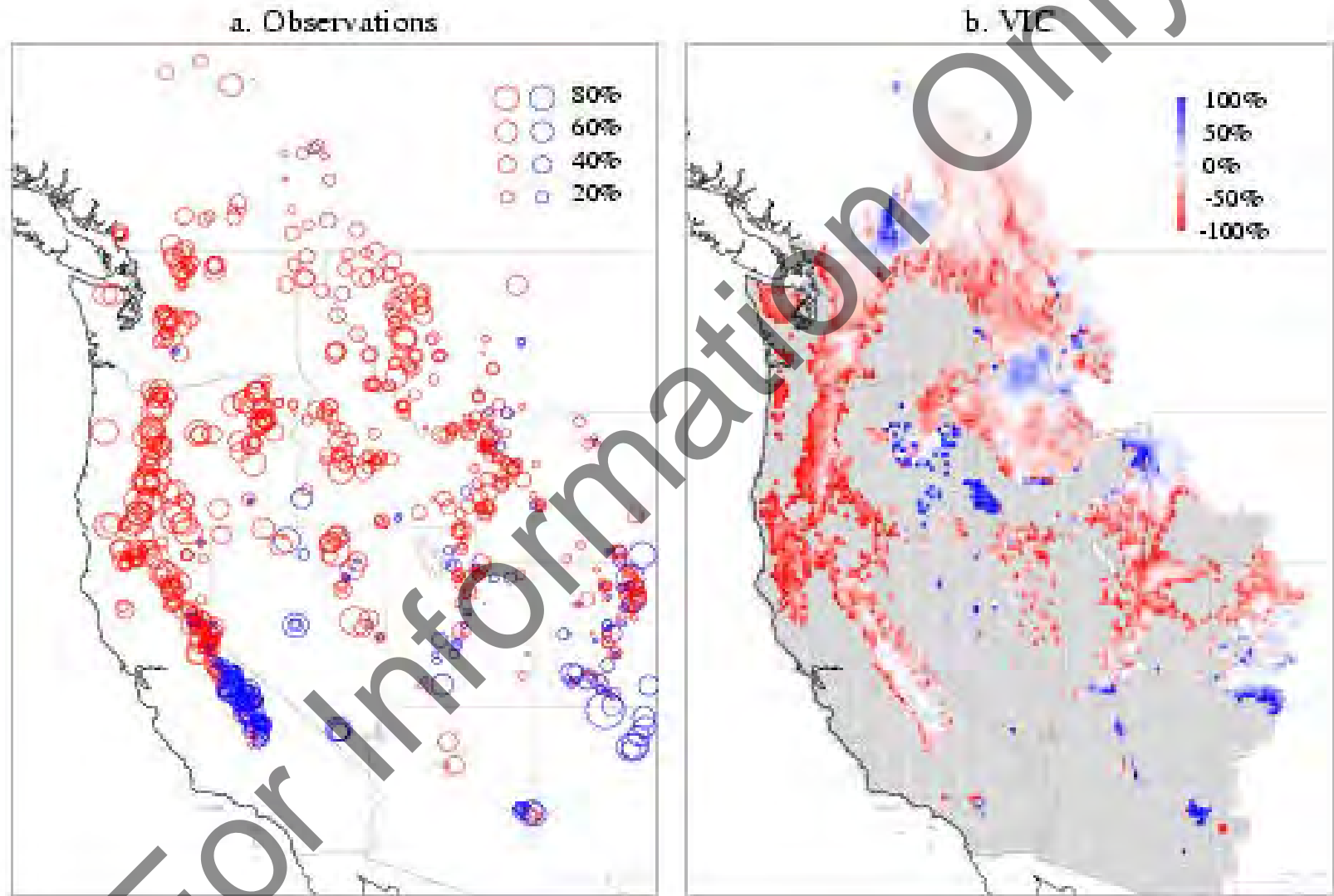
### Water Levels in model - wet/dry ranking

- Ideal location and values for all 10 years
- Ideal location and values for most years
- Sites filling in missing years

□ CVRSA boundary

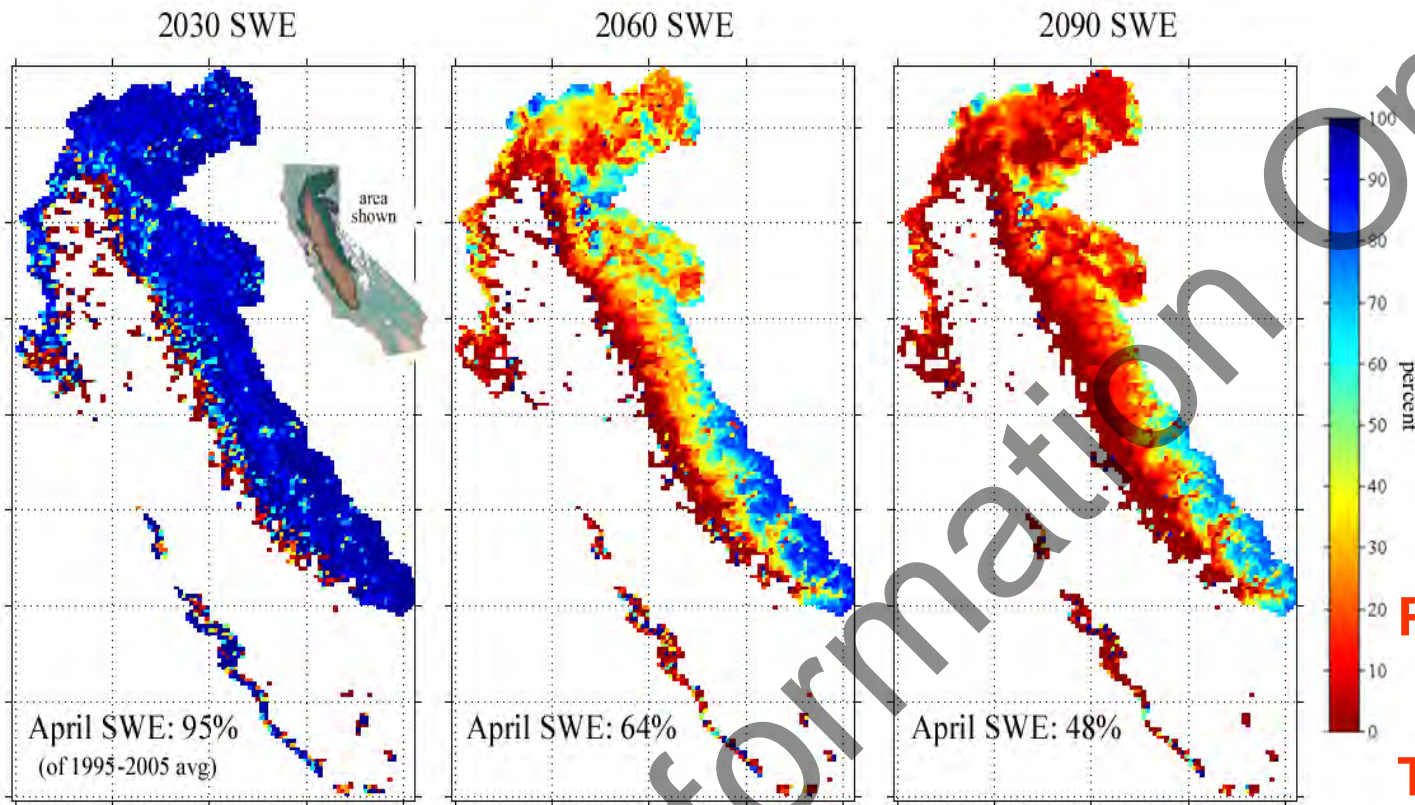


# Downward Trends in April 1 Snow Water Equivalent 1950-1997



Source: Mote et al. (2004)

# We face significant losses of spring snowpack



- Less snow, more rain
- Particularly at lower elevations
- Earlier run-off
- More floods
- Less stored water

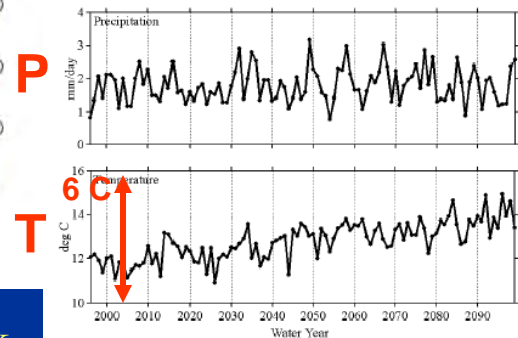


Figure 2. PCM-simulated watershed-averaged annual precipitation and temperature for WY 1995-2099.

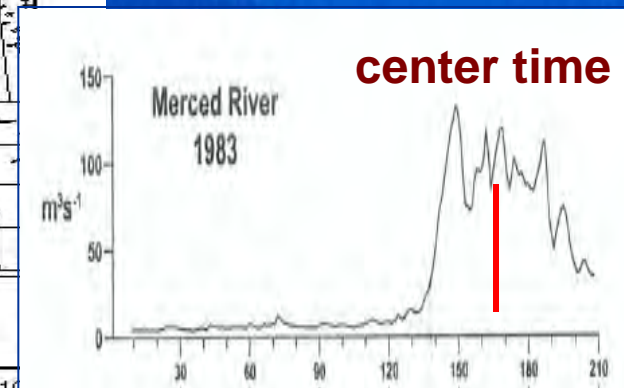
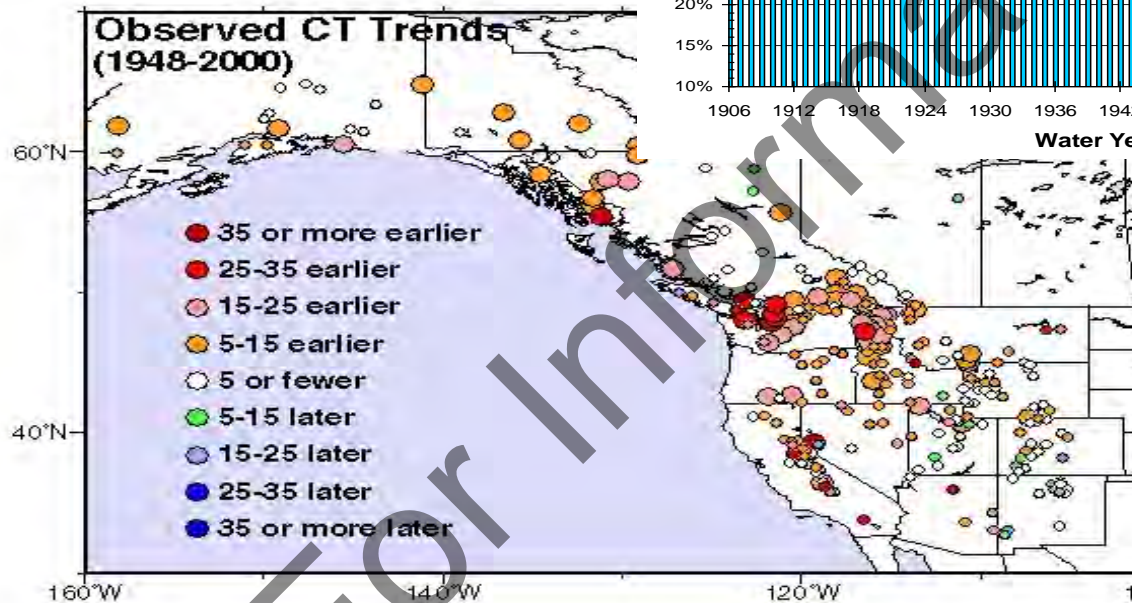
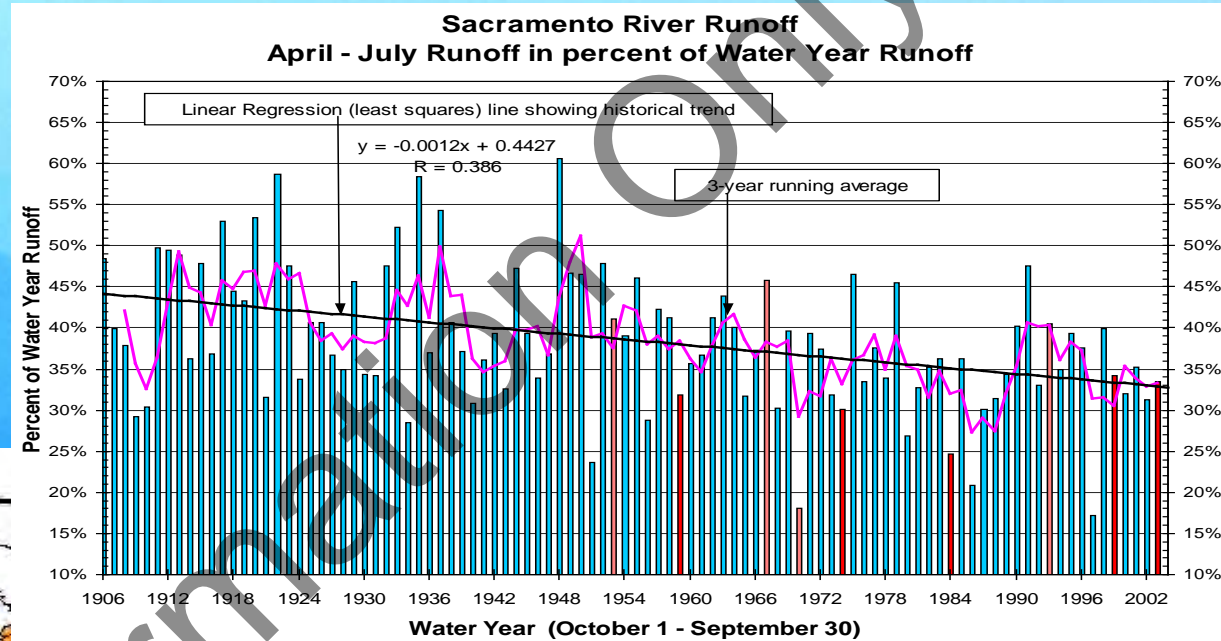
By the end of the century California could lose half of its late spring snow pack due to climate warming. This simulation by Noah Knowles is guided by temperature changes from PCM's Business-as-usual coupled climate simulation. (a middle of the road emissions scenario)

Potential effects of global warming on the Sacramento / San Joaquin watershed and the San Francisco estuary

Noah Knowles and Dan Cayan, Climate Research Division, Scripps Institution of Oceanography/USGS



# Earlier spring flows last 2-3 decades



“Center Timing” of snowmelt watersheds  
have advanced by 1-5 weeks earlier across West

(Stewart et al., 2004)

# ***Today's Presentation***

**Climate Background**

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***Precipitation***

**Evapotranspiration**

**Scripts/Tools**

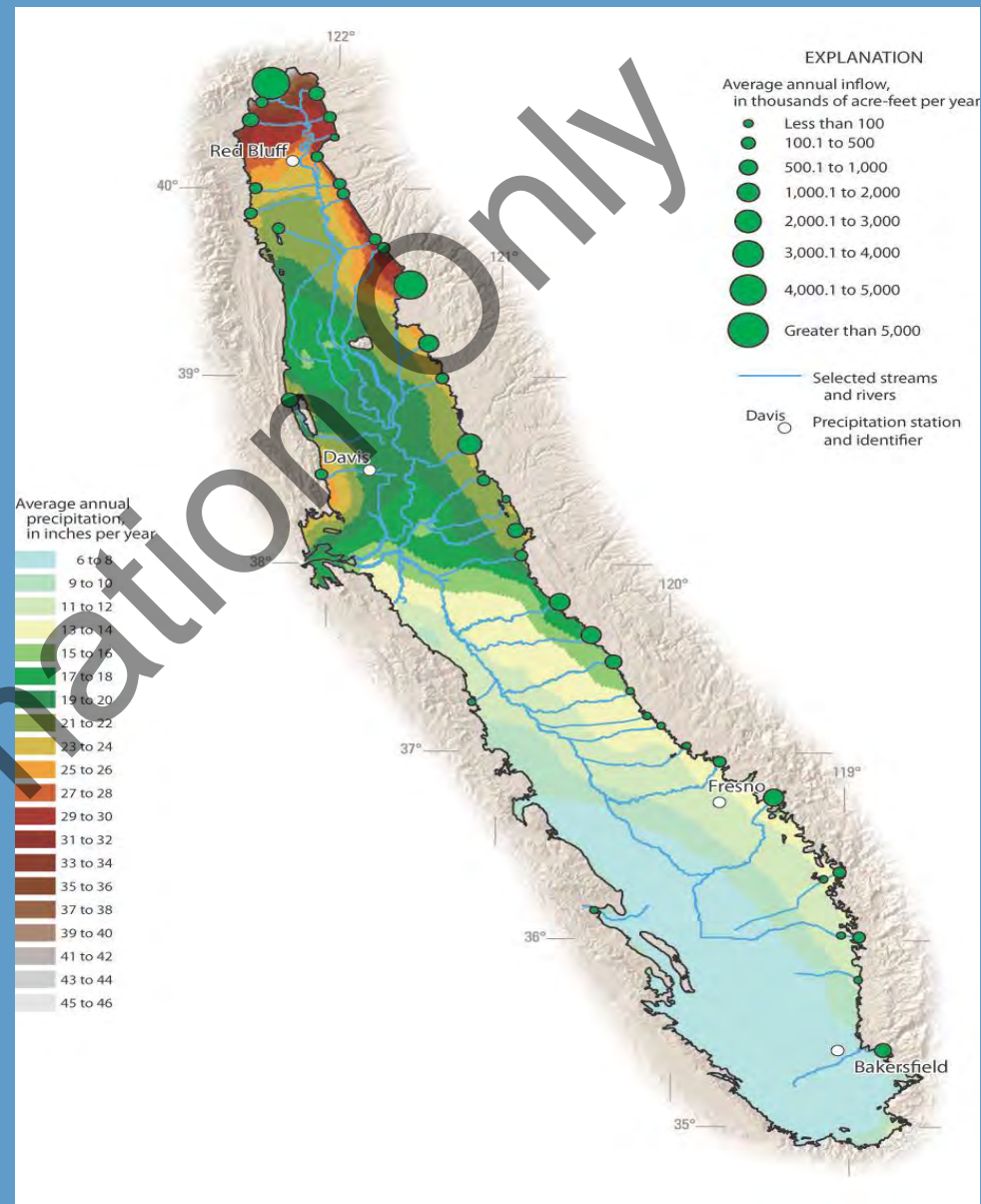
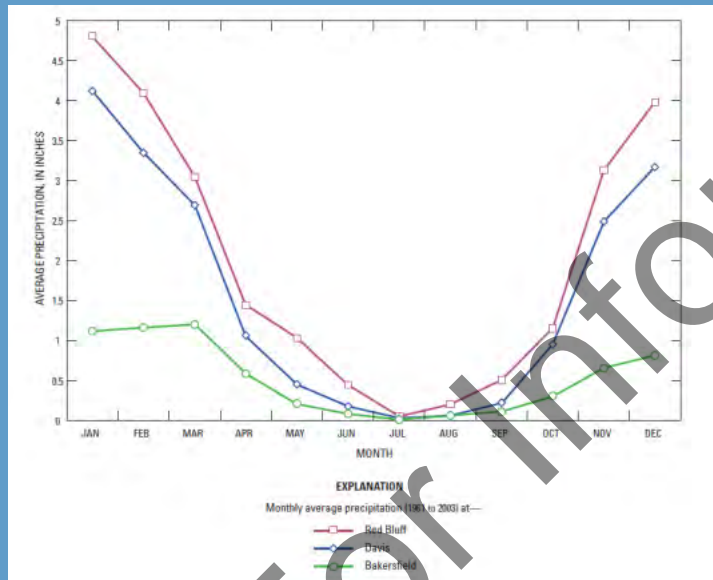
**Climate Analysis**

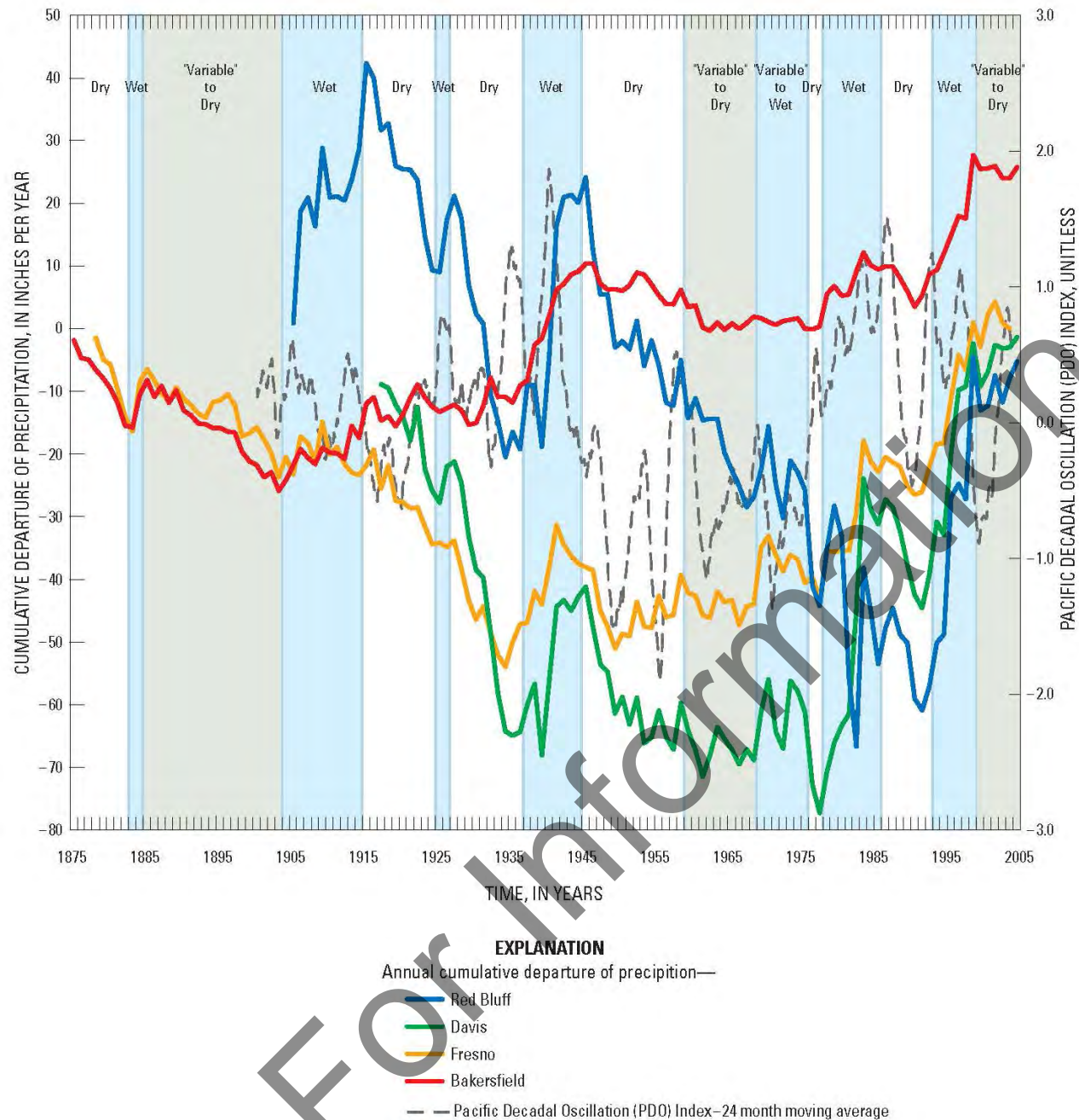




# Climate: Precipitation

- Vary Geographically
- Vary with Time
  - Annually
  - Seasonally





**All Precipitation does not vary together across the Valley→ Fresno/Bakersfield vs Red Bluff/Davis**

**Or in phase with PDO**

**Figure A17.** Cumulative departure from average annual precipitation at Redding, Davis, Fresno, and Bakersfield, California. For reference, a 24-month moving average of the Pacific Decadal Oscillation Index is also plotted.



# ***Today's Presentation***

***Climate Background***

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***Precipitation***

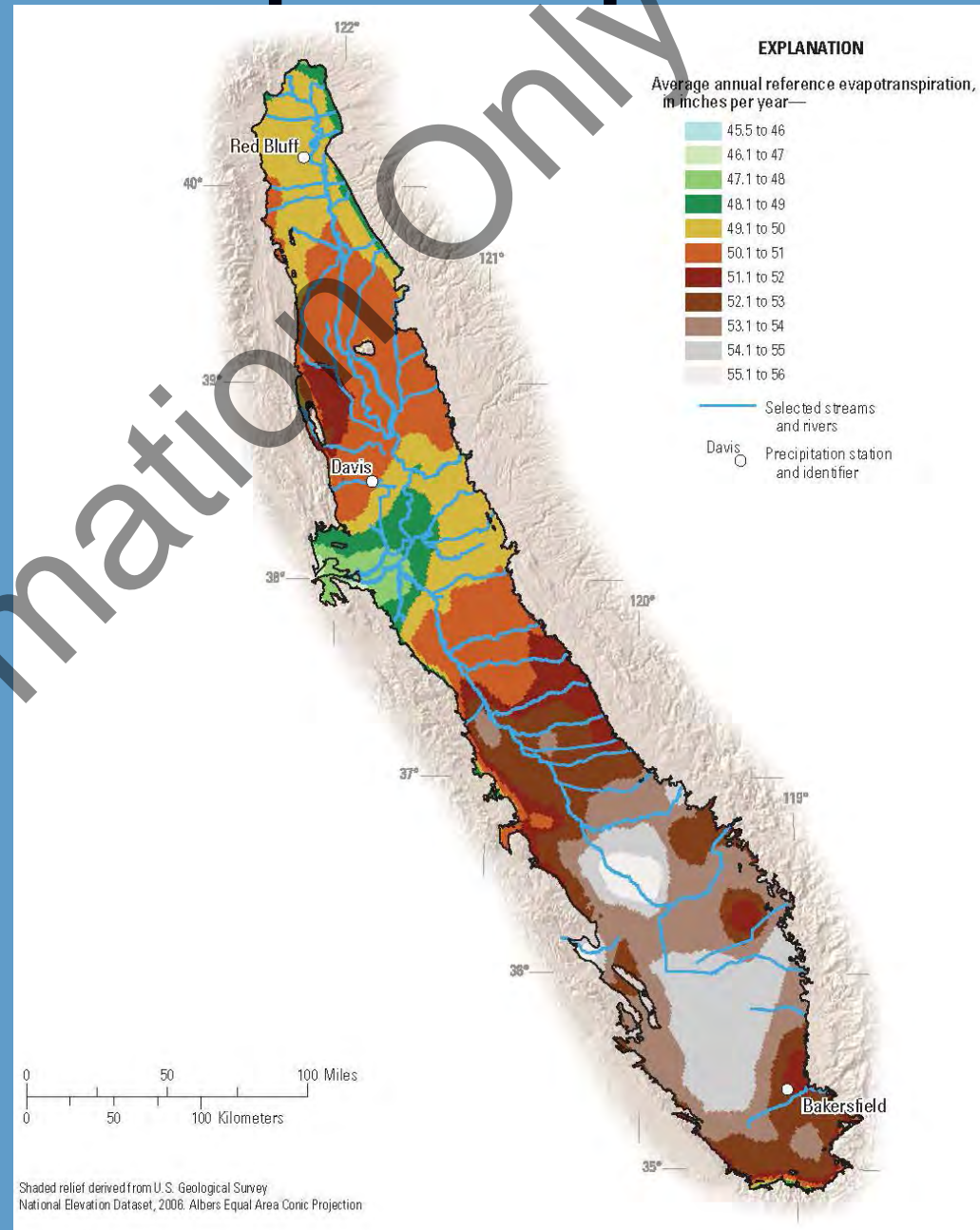
***Evapotranspiration***

***Scripts/Tools***

***Climate Analysis***



# Climate: Potential Evapotranspiration





# ***Today's Presentation***

**Climate Background**

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**Precipitation**

**Evapotranspiration**

***Scripts/Tools***

**Climate Analysis**



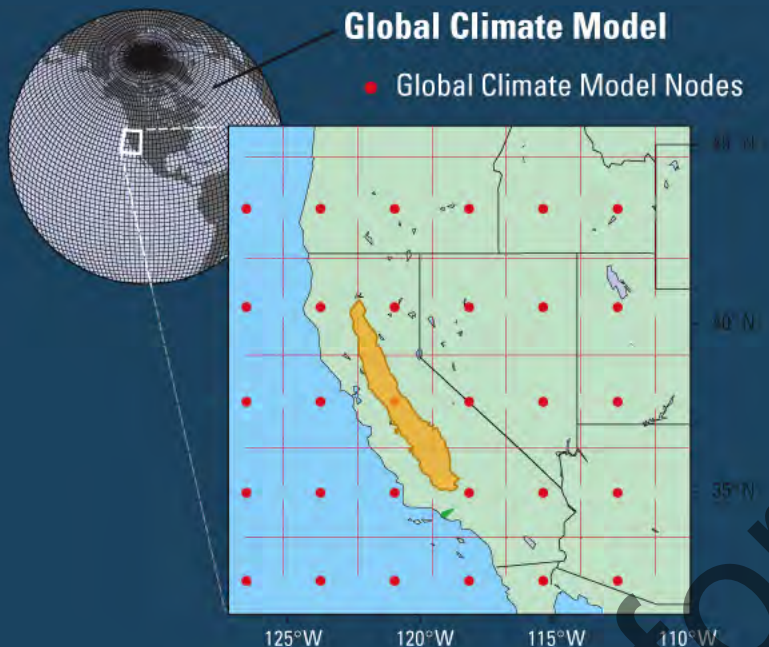
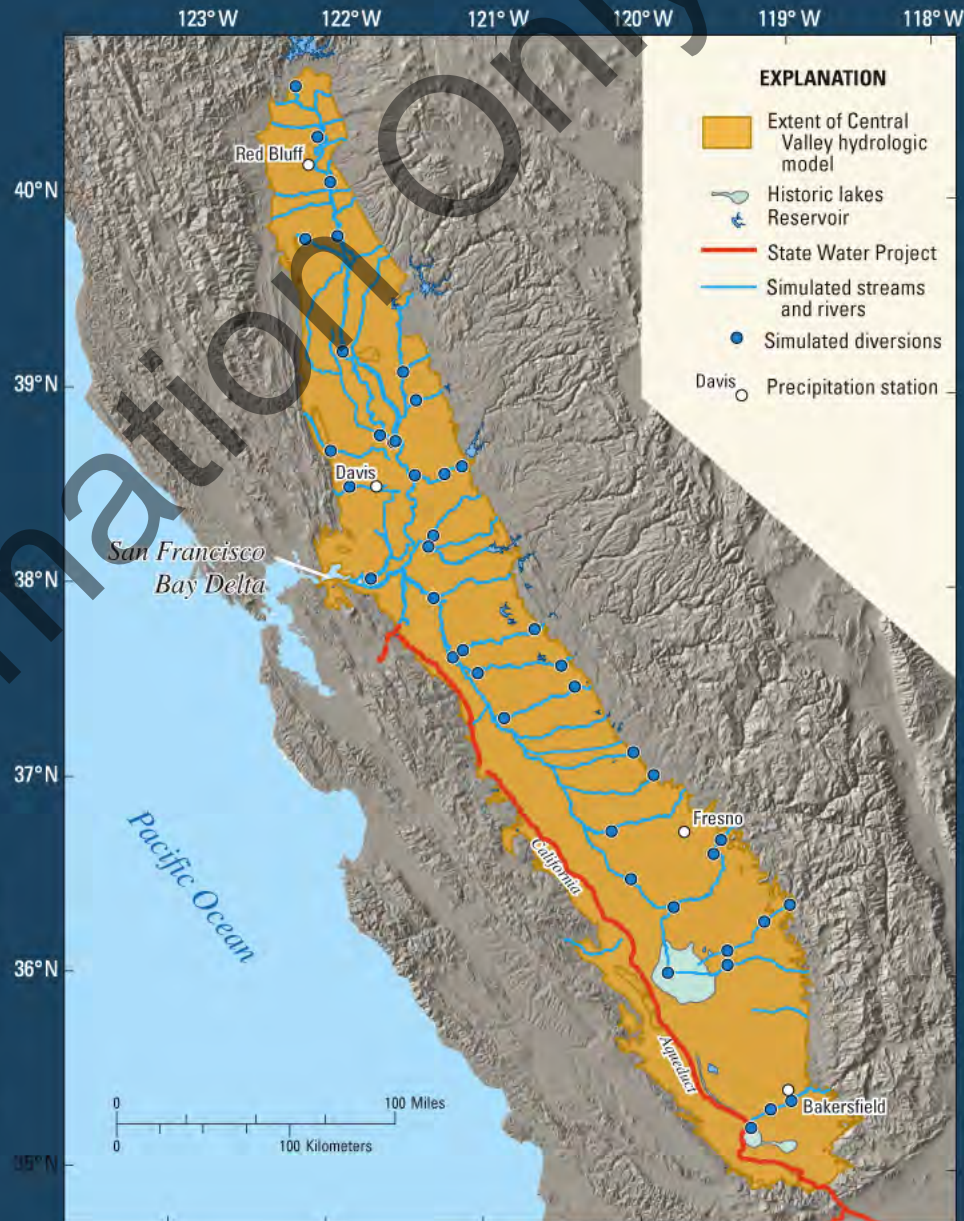


Figure 1. Map of Central Valley Hydrologic Model illustrating relation to the rivers, diversions, and San Francisco Bay Delta

Modified from Hanson and Dettinger, 2005; Faunt and others, 2008a (in review).





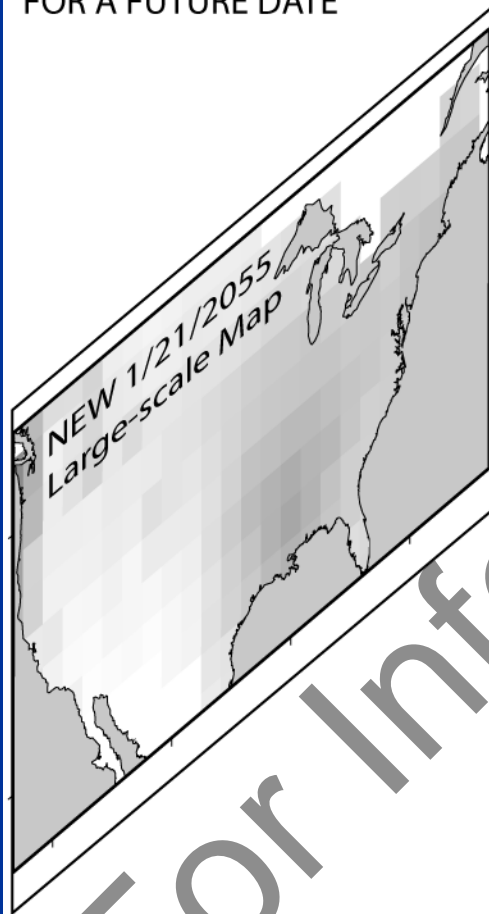
## Our approach towards downscaling climate change:

- Downscale weather day by day
- Downscale enough (daily) weather and you get downscaled climate
- Downscale enough climate and you get downscaled climate change

Don't impose climate or climate change after the fact !

# The constructed-analogs method

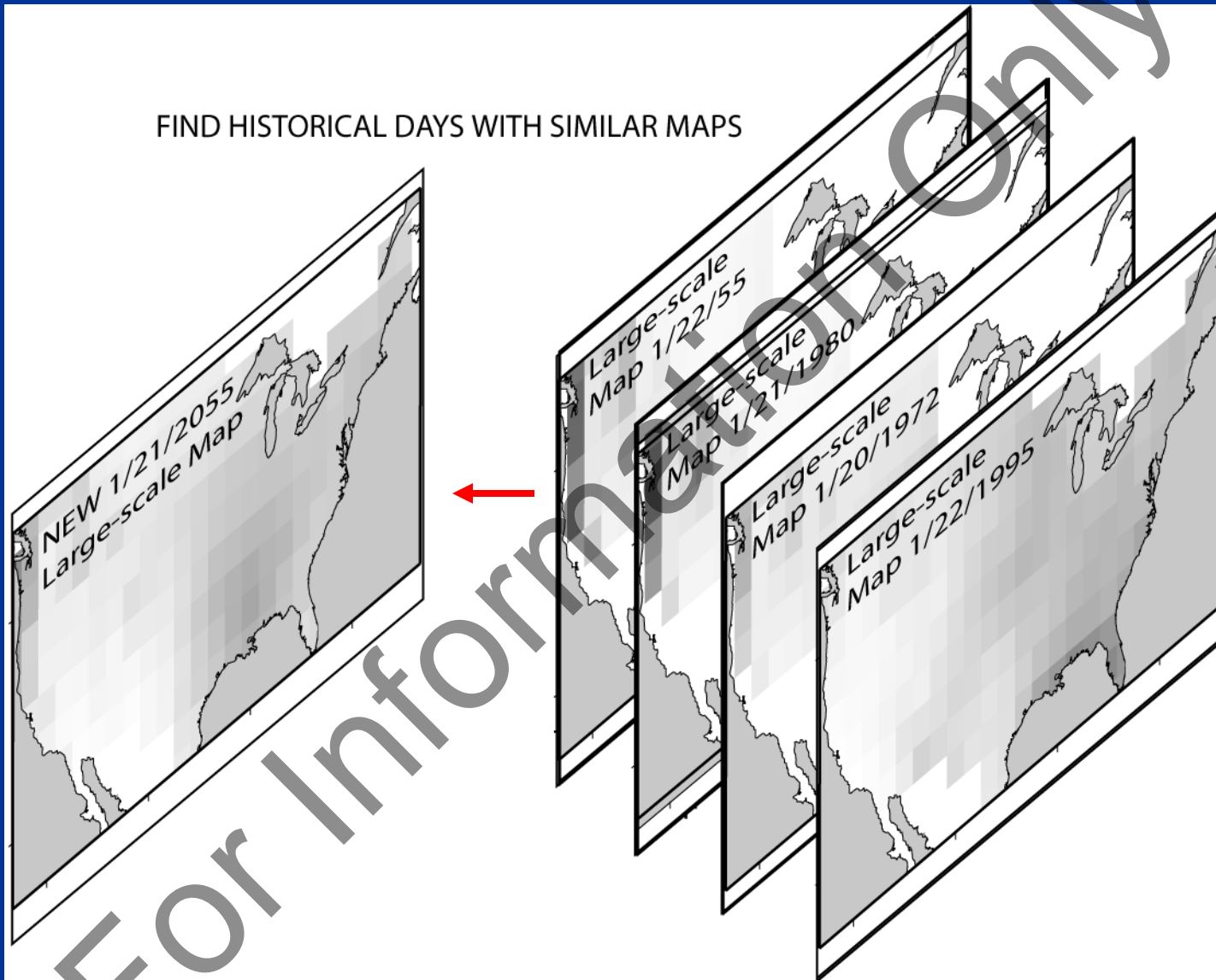
GIVEN THE COARSE RESOLUTION CLIMATE FIELD  
FOR A FUTURE DATE



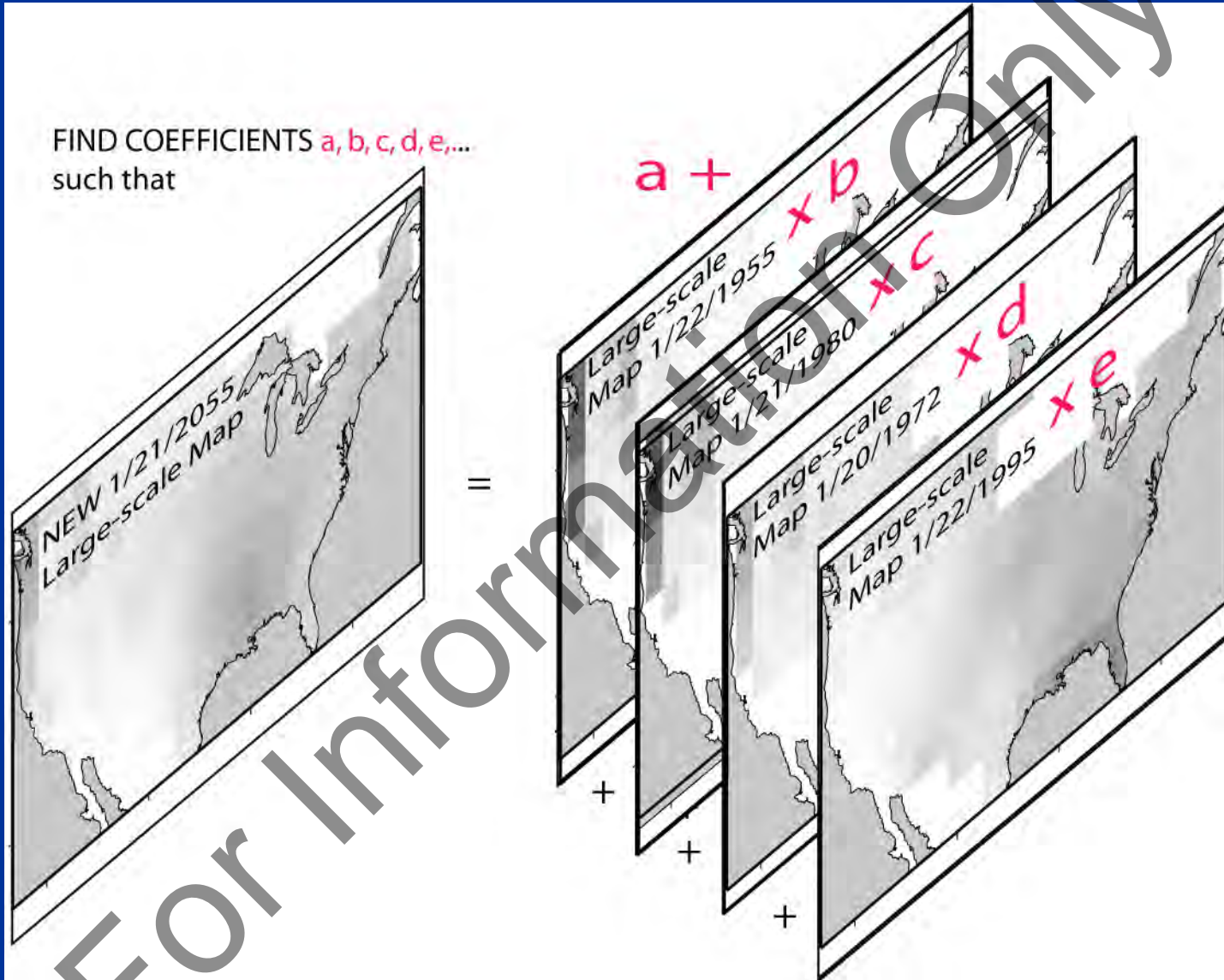
*Hidalgo, H.G., Dettinger, M.D., and  
Cayan, D.R., in review, Downscaling  
using constructed analogues daily US  
precipitation and temperatures: J.  
Climate, 24 p.*



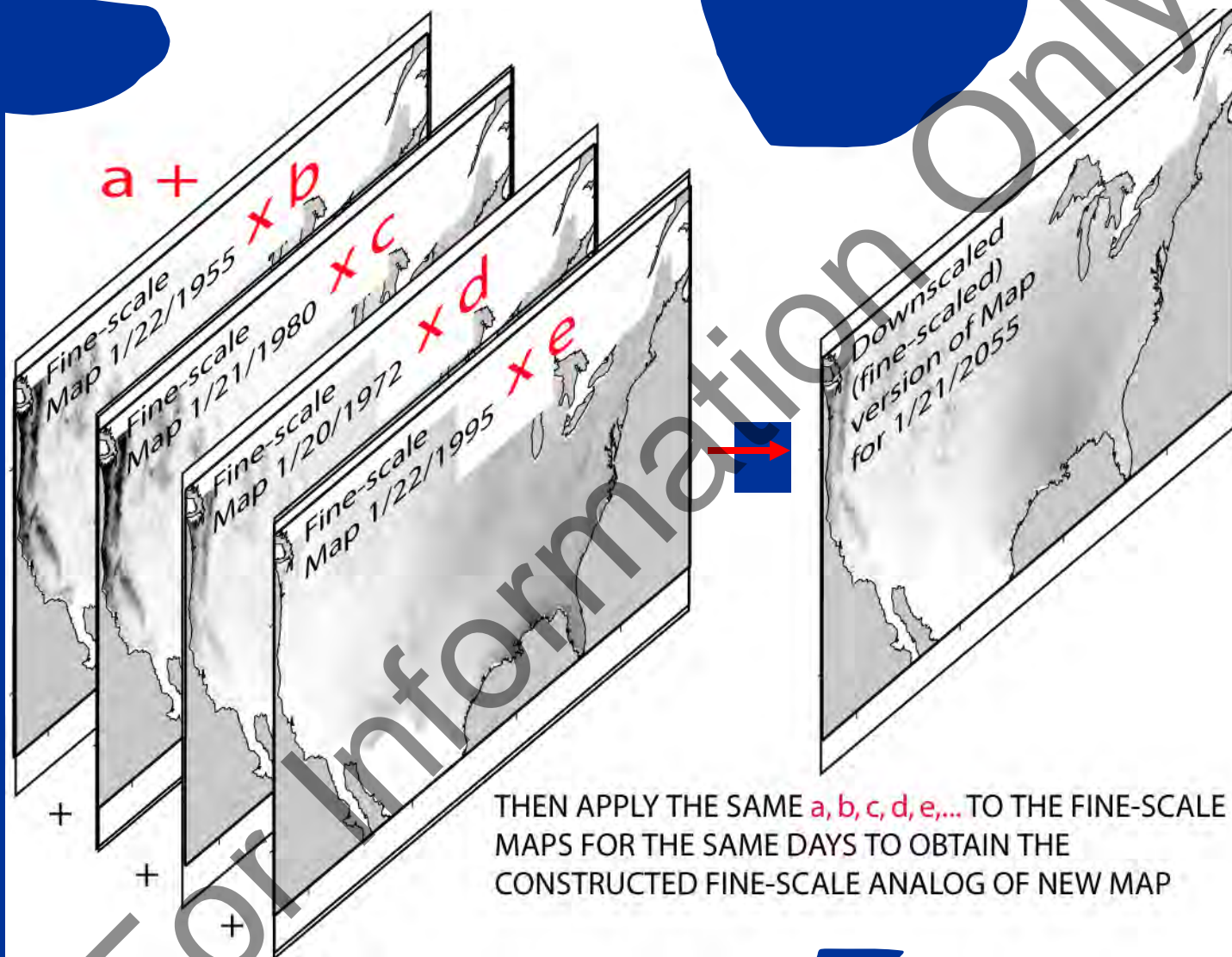
FIND HISTORICAL DAYS WITH SIMILAR MAPS



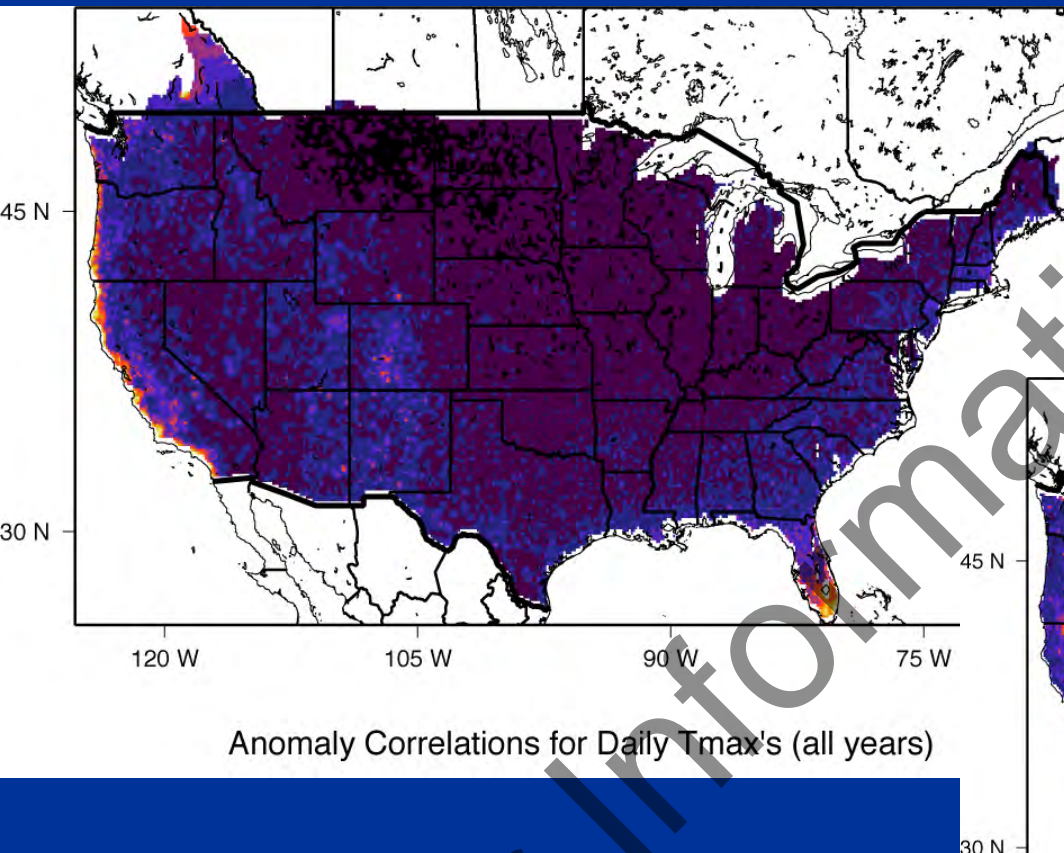
FIND COEFFICIENTS  $a, b, c, d, e, \dots$   
such that



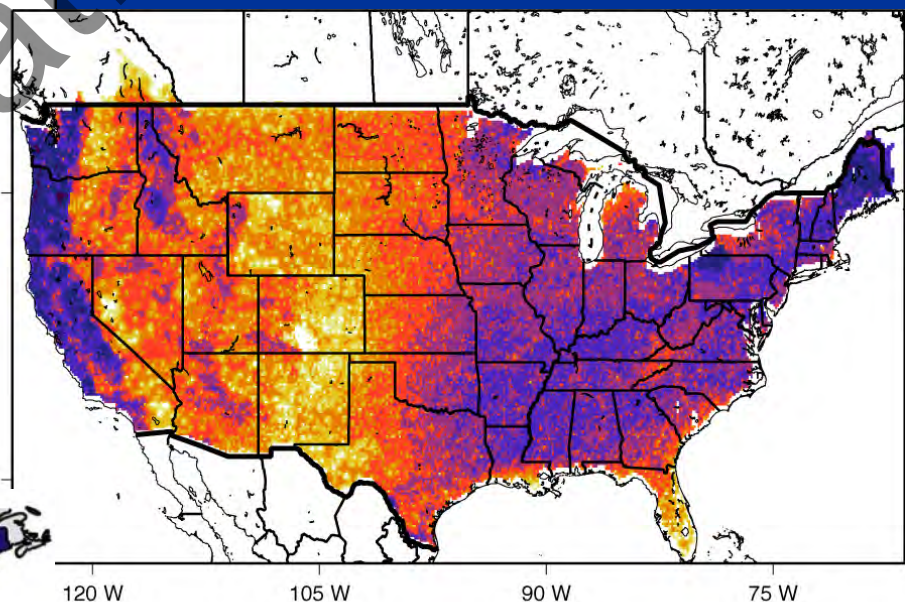
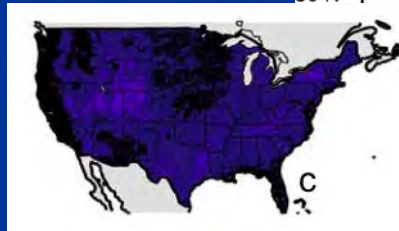




# Skill of downscaling as indicated by application of method to historical OBSERVATIONS

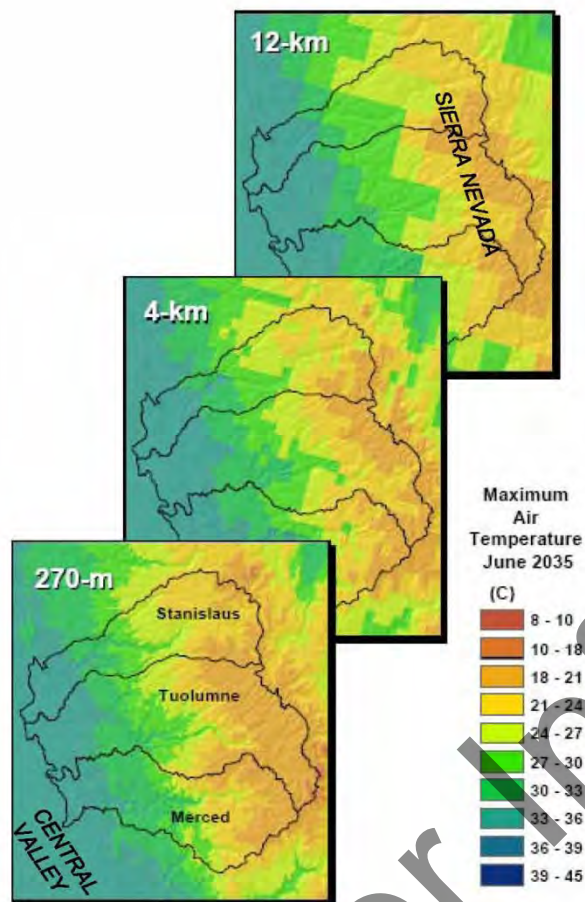


*Skill at monthly  
average scale* →



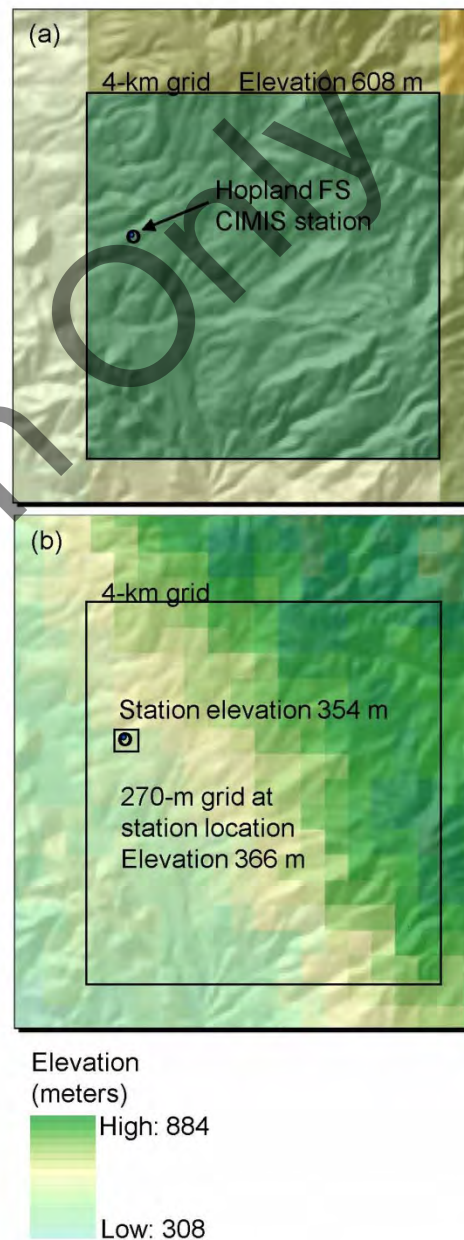


# Final Downscaling and Bias Correction



Processing sequence:

- (1) 2 degree monthly GCM output → 12-km grids using constructed analogues.
- (2) 12-km monthly grids (1950-2000 and 2000-2100) → 4-km grids using GIDS.
- (3) Bias-correction coefficients are determined using monthly downscaled GCM 4-km grids and historical PRISM data for 1950-2000.
- (4) Bias corrections are made on monthly grids using the coefficients. Ratios of corrected to uncorrected data are calculated.
- (5) Monthly 4-km bias-corrected grids → 270-m grids using GIDS.



**Fig. 2** Close up example of the HOPLAND FS station location within the (a) PRISM 4-km grid cell and the (b) 270-m downscaled grid cell, illustrating their corresponding elevations.

# CLIMATE DATA → LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED HYDROLOGIC MODELS

**PRISM**  
**(Climate Source)**  
or  
**Remotely**  
**Sensed Data**

Precipitation,  
Temperature, & Ref-ET  
(Constructed Analogs Method)  
4Km/2Km PRISM  
1Km TOPS (Ames/NASA)  
270m Resampled GIDS (USGS)  
MODIS 250m – 1km

**Maximum and Minimum Temperature  
used to estimate Reference ET  
Hargrave-Samani Monthly Est.**

$$ETh = 0.0023Ra \left( \frac{T_{\max} + T_{\min}}{2 \times 17.8} \right) \left( \frac{T_{\max} - T_{\min}}{2} \right)$$

where,

$T_{\max}$  is the maximum daily air temperature [°C],

$T_{\min}$  is the minimum daily air temperature [°C], and

$Ra$  is the extraterrestrial solar radiation

(megaJoule/m<sup>2</sup>/day).

**Farm Process (FMP) Input of**  
**Monthly Precipitation &**  
**Reference ET**  
**Arc Bilinear Interpolation-**  
**Resampling onto Valley-Wide (CVHM)**  
**MODFLOW-FMP Grid → Simulate**  
**Agricultural Supply & Demand**

**Maximum and Minimum Temperature  
used to estimate Reference ET  
Presley-Taylor Monthly Est.**

$$ET_p = \frac{S}{(S+\gamma)} (Rn - G)\lambda$$

where  $S$  = slope of the vapor deficit curve,

$\gamma$  = the psychrometric constant,

$Rn$  = net radiation,

$G$  = soil heat flux, and

$\lambda$  = the heat of vaporization.

The component is a temperature dependent function  
of the form

$$SSG = -13.281 + .083864 * (T_a) - .00012375 * (T_a)^2$$

where  $T_a$  = average monthly air temperature in  
degrees Kelvin.

**Run Central Valley**  
**Hydrologic Model (CVHM)**  
**(MODFLOW-FMP)**



# ***Today's Presentation***

**Climate Background**

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**Precipitation**

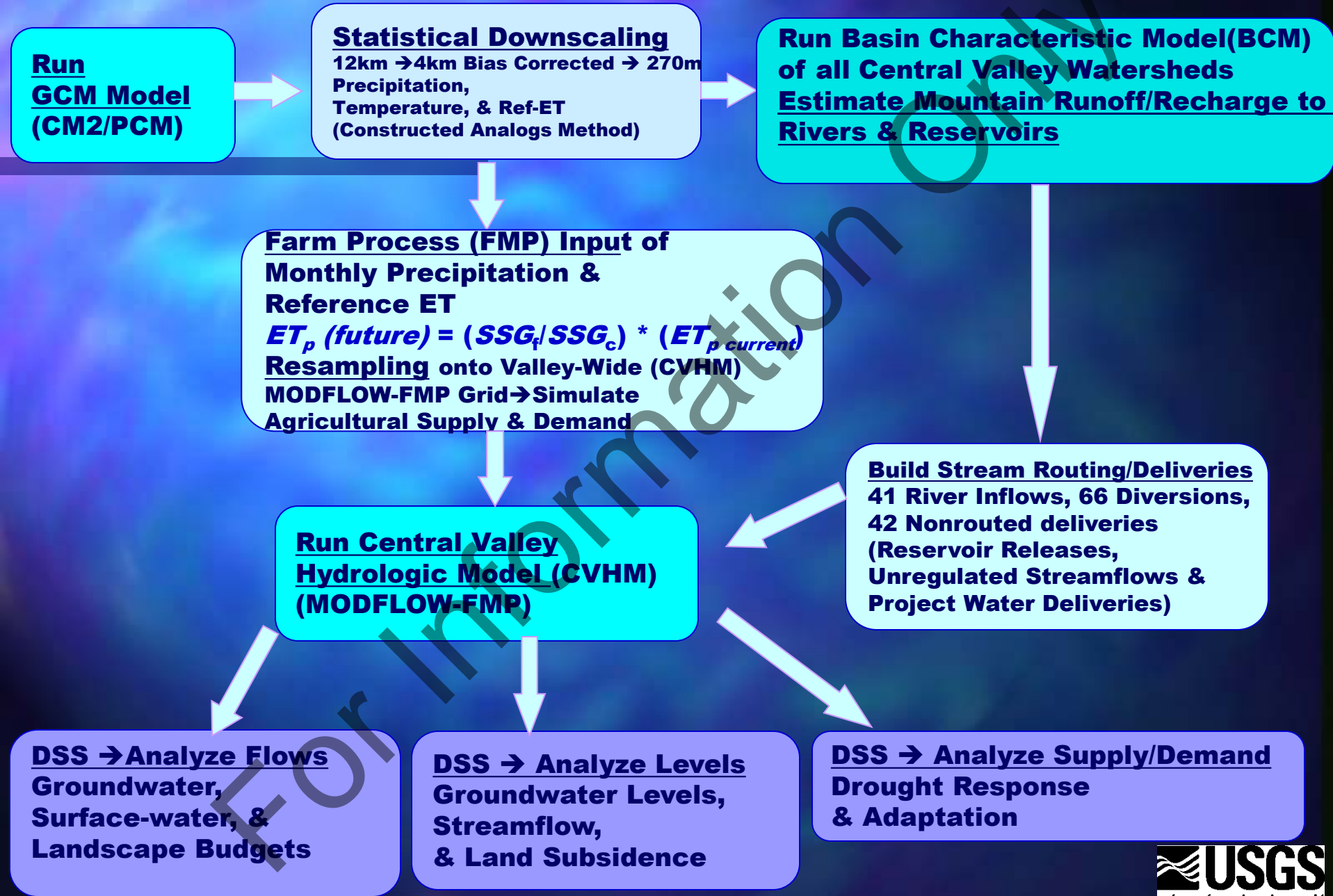
**Evapotranspiration**

**Scripts/Tools**

***Climate Analysis***



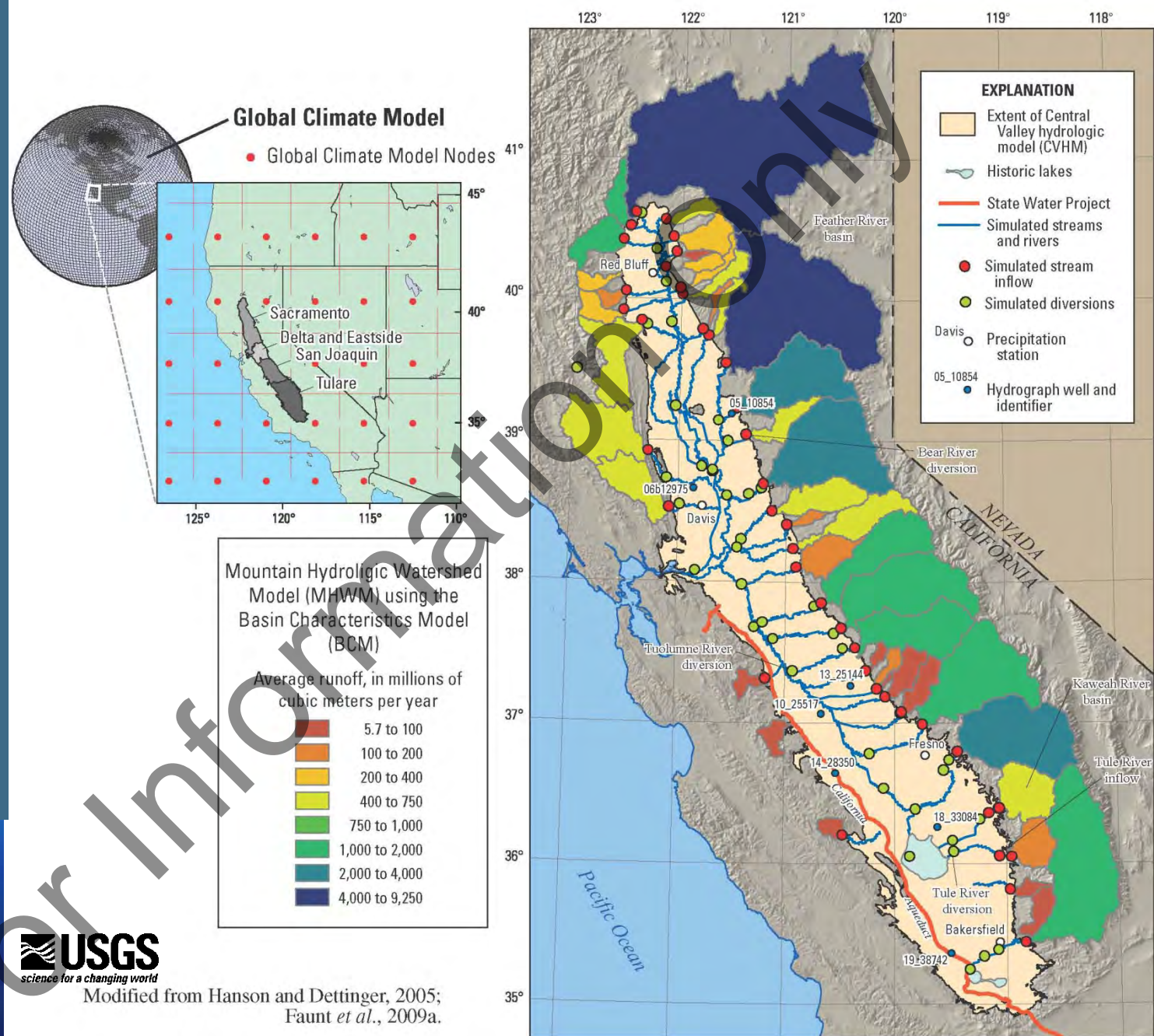
# Decision Support System (DSS) & LINKAGE BETWEEN GCM and BCM & CVHM → Supply-Constrained/Demand-Based Hydrologic Model System





**Basin  
Characteristics  
Model (BCM)  
Simulates  
Precipitation-  
Runoff/Recharge  
from downscaled  
climatology in  
the mountain  
watersheds  
surrounding the  
Central Valley  
(Sierra Nevada  
and Coast  
Ranges  
Mountains)**

**Also Developing  
Linkage with VIC  
Model**



**Linkage of Global Climate Model to Regional Hydrologic Models**

## A2- Scenario & Model Linkages

➤ **Future projection (A2)** → Extreme conditions - generally characterized as climatically quite, warm, substantially drier, assumes high growth in population, regionally based economic growth, and slow technological changes that represents "heavy emissions" and "business as usual" increase in future greenhouse emissions (Cayan et al., 2009). → Reduced Snowfall, reduced Precipitation, Increased Temperature and ET

➤ **Model Assumptions:**

- (1) No Adaptation → Land use (Agriculture, Urban, & Native) held constant at 2006.
- (2) Future urban water use → Increase 1.2% per year through at least 2040.
- (3) Sea-Level rise GW only → One meter rise with monthly variation in sea level at Delta controls groundwater outflow.

➤ **GCM → MHWM (BCM) & CVHM (MF-FMP)** used to evaluate potential effects of extreme climate change on conjunctive use of water → Runoff & recharge from mountains, irrigation supply & demand, and groundwater, surface water, and agricultural components

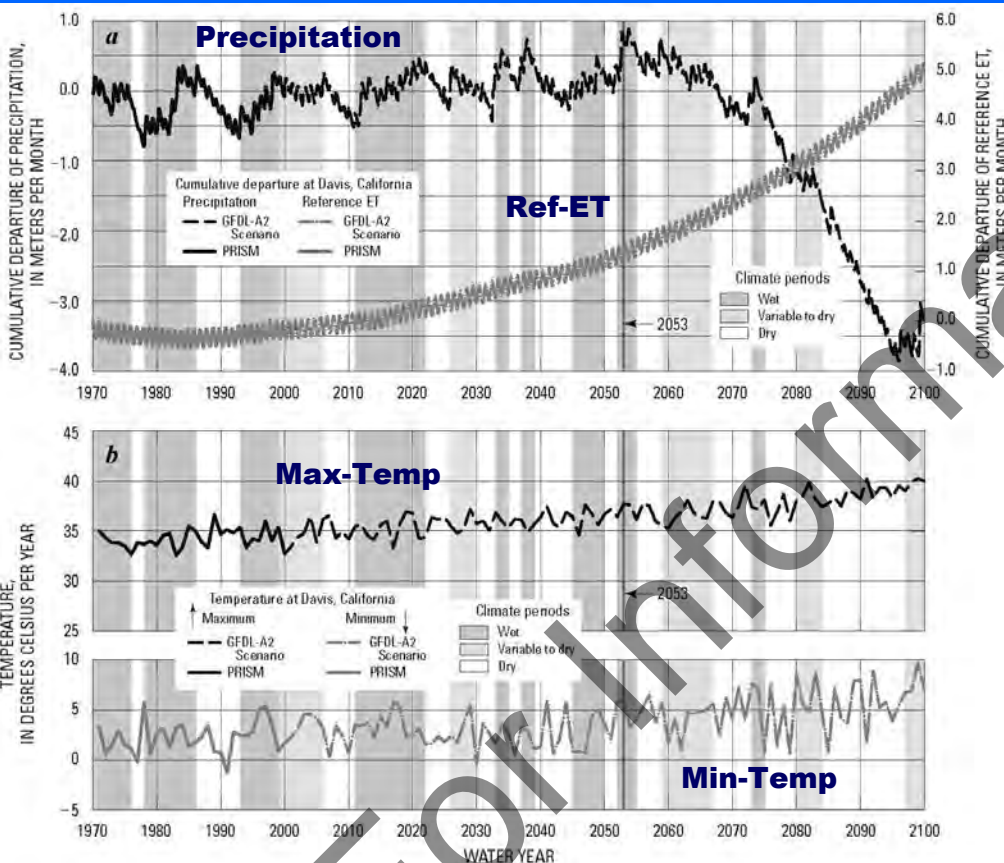
➤ **Simulation Response metrics of Conjunctive Use** → SW Diversions, streamflow and infiltration/base-flow, groundwater storage, and related effects → potential land subsidence and groundwater/surface-water relations in the Sacramento Delta.



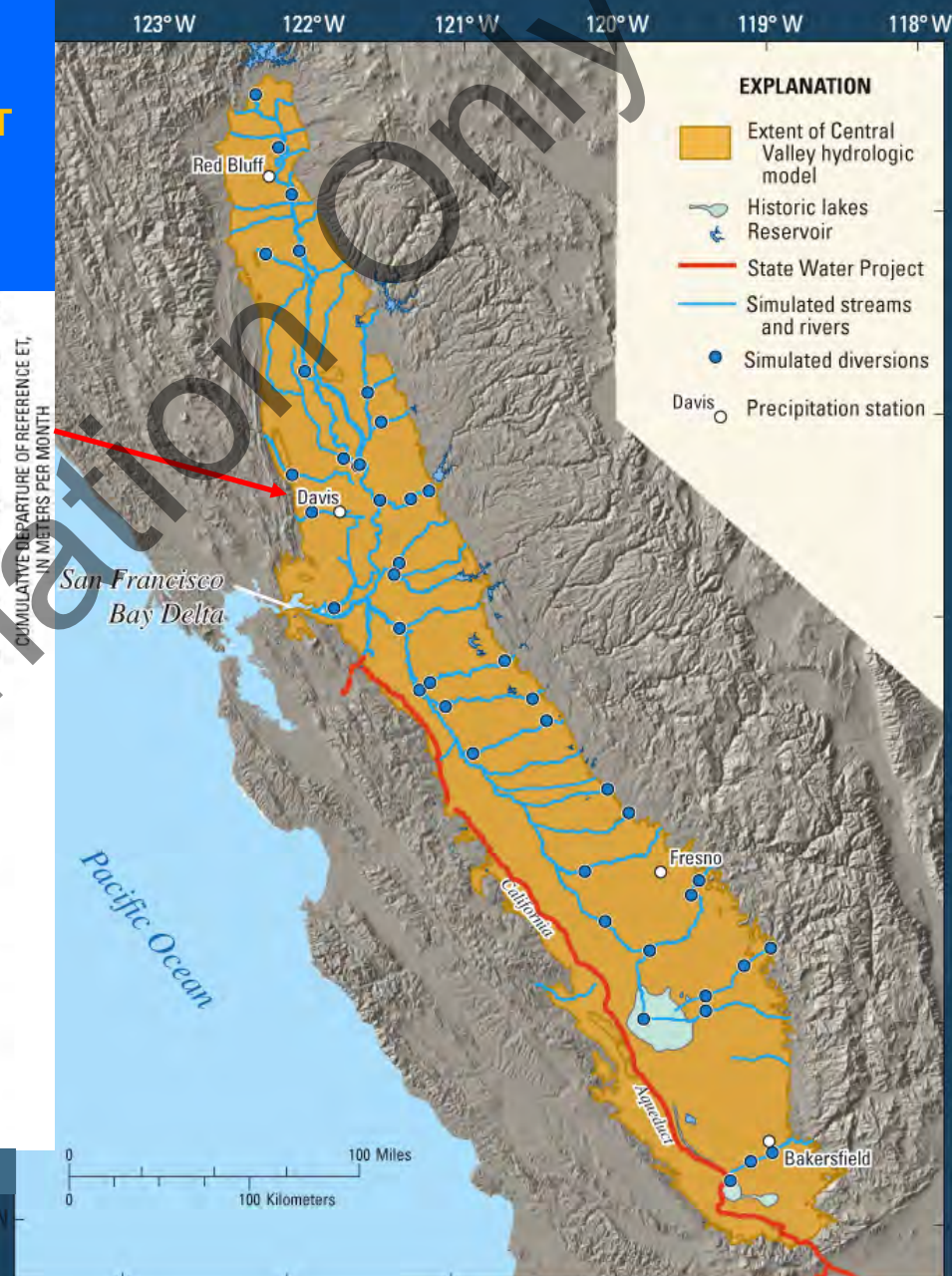
# Cumulative Precipitation & Temperature Downscaled

Shows A2 Scenario at Davis with the potential for

- Decreased Precipitation
- Increases in Temperature of +2 to +4°C & ET
- Sustained droughts in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (10-15% Drier)

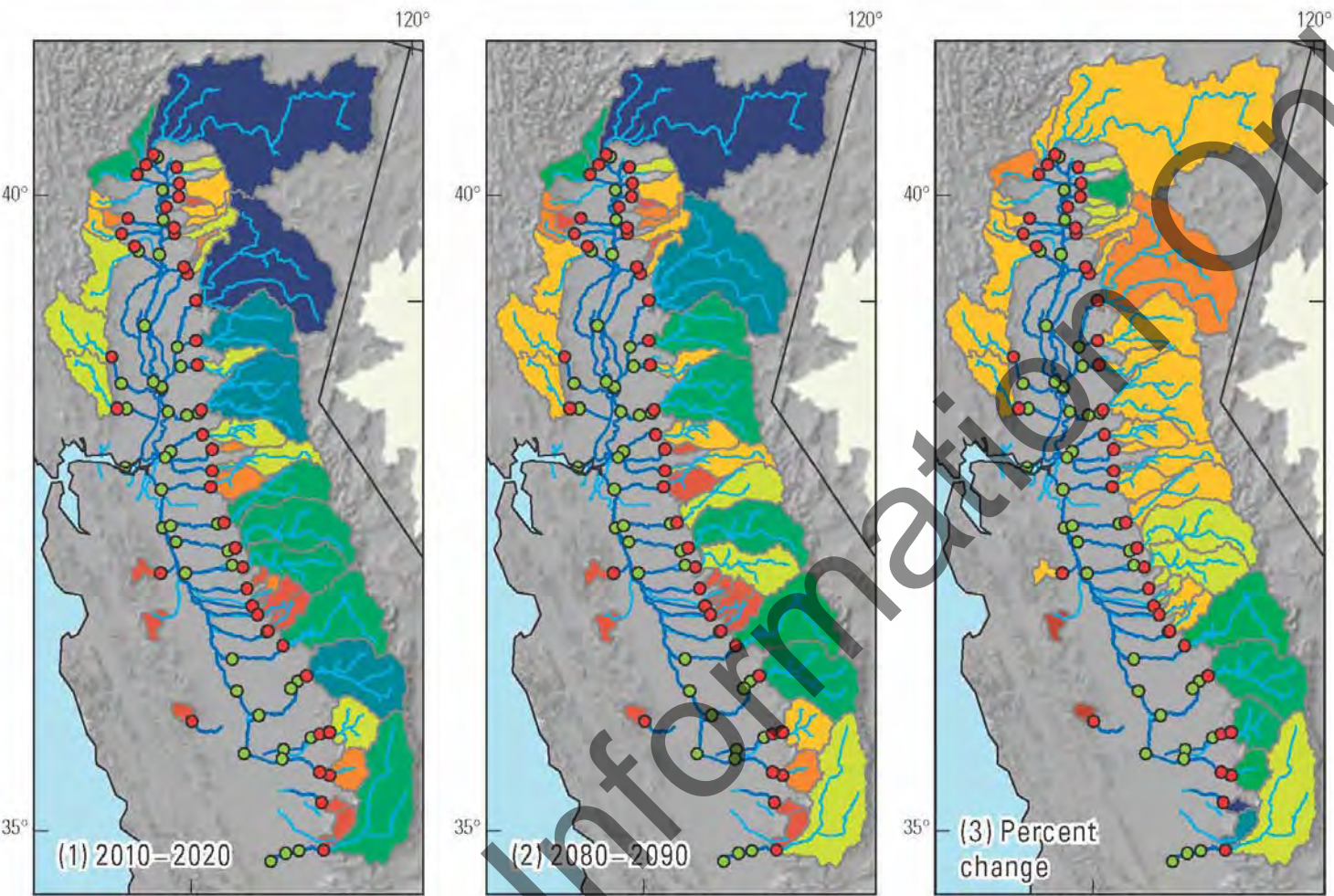


Faunt and others, 2009 (USGS Prof. Paper 1766)





# Discharge Reduced by 20 – 65%→Largest in North & Central



**Mean total basin discharge for**  
**(1) 2010-2020,**  
**(2) 2080-2090,**  
**(3) Percent reduction in discharge between the 2 decades, for each of the 43 basins in the study area.**

**Basin discharge, in millions of cubic meters**

< 100	750 - 1,000
100 - 200	1,000 - 2,000
200 - 400	2,000 - 4,000
400 - 750	> 4,000

**EXPLANATION**

- Inflow locations
- Diversions
- Central Valley streams
- Watershed streams

**Percent reduction from period 1 to period 2**

> 55	35 - 40
50 - 55	30 - 35
45 - 50	25 - 30
40 - 45	< 25

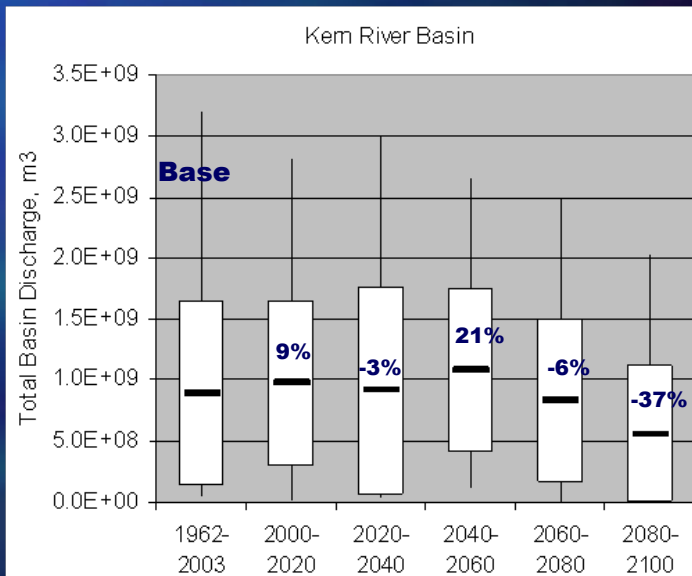
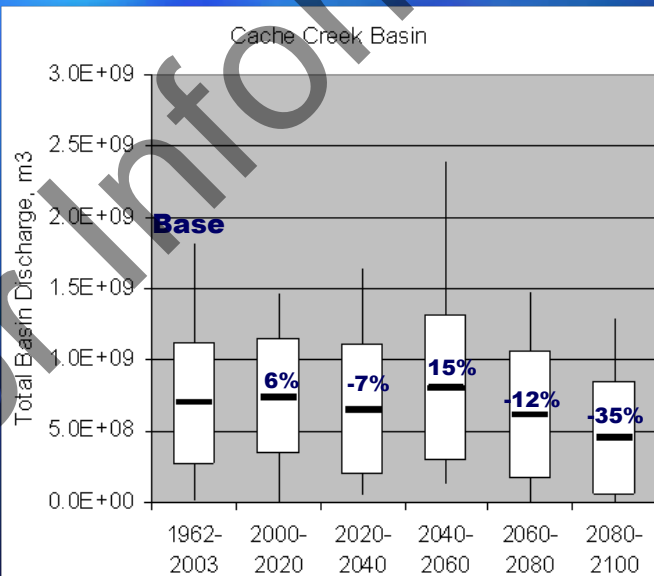
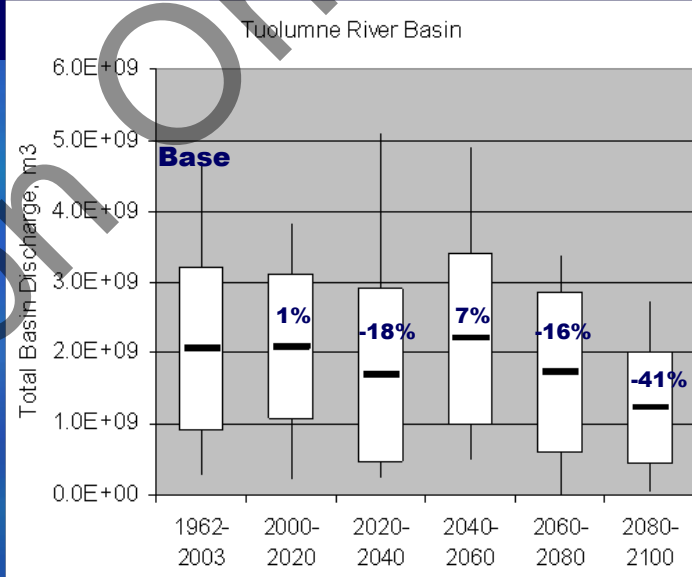
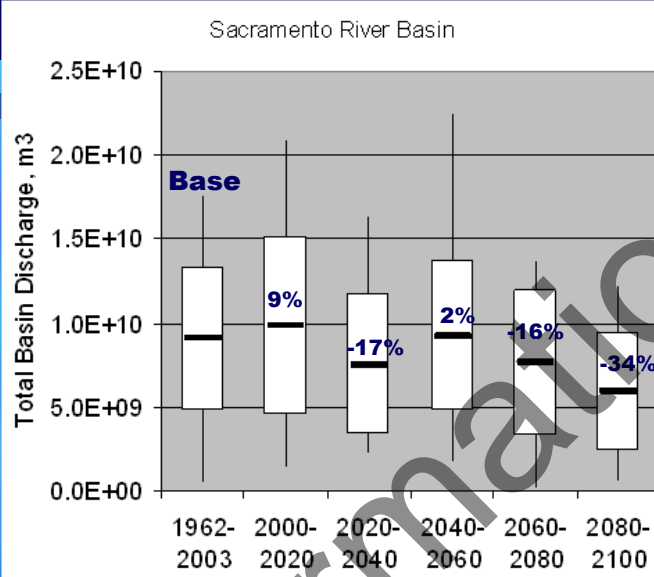


**Current (1962-2003) modeled and future 20-year projections of total basin discharge for 4 basins in the study area, depicted as mean (black bar), standard deviation (white box), and range (vertical lines). Percent change in future mean discharge from current mean is indicated for each 20-yr period.**

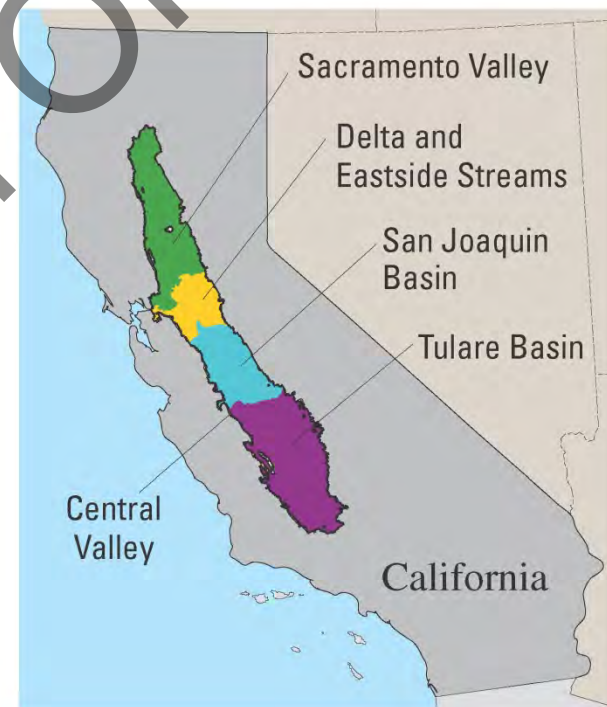
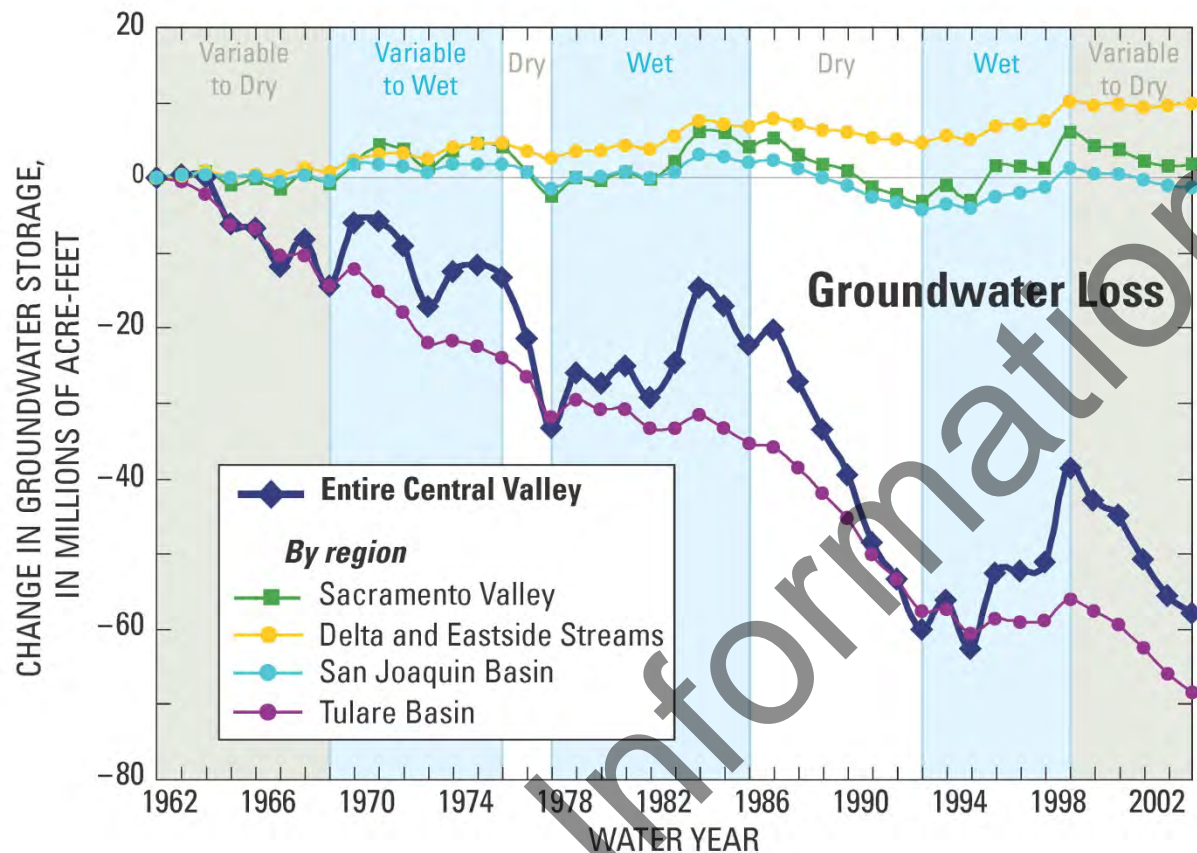
**Streamflow  
Reductions of  
~30 – 40% from  
major Rivers  
flowing from  
Sierra's to  
Central Valley in  
later decades of  
21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**EXPLANATION**

Percentages are change in median value from historic period (1962 to 2003)



# Historical Change in Groundwater Storage (Water Years 1961 – 2003)

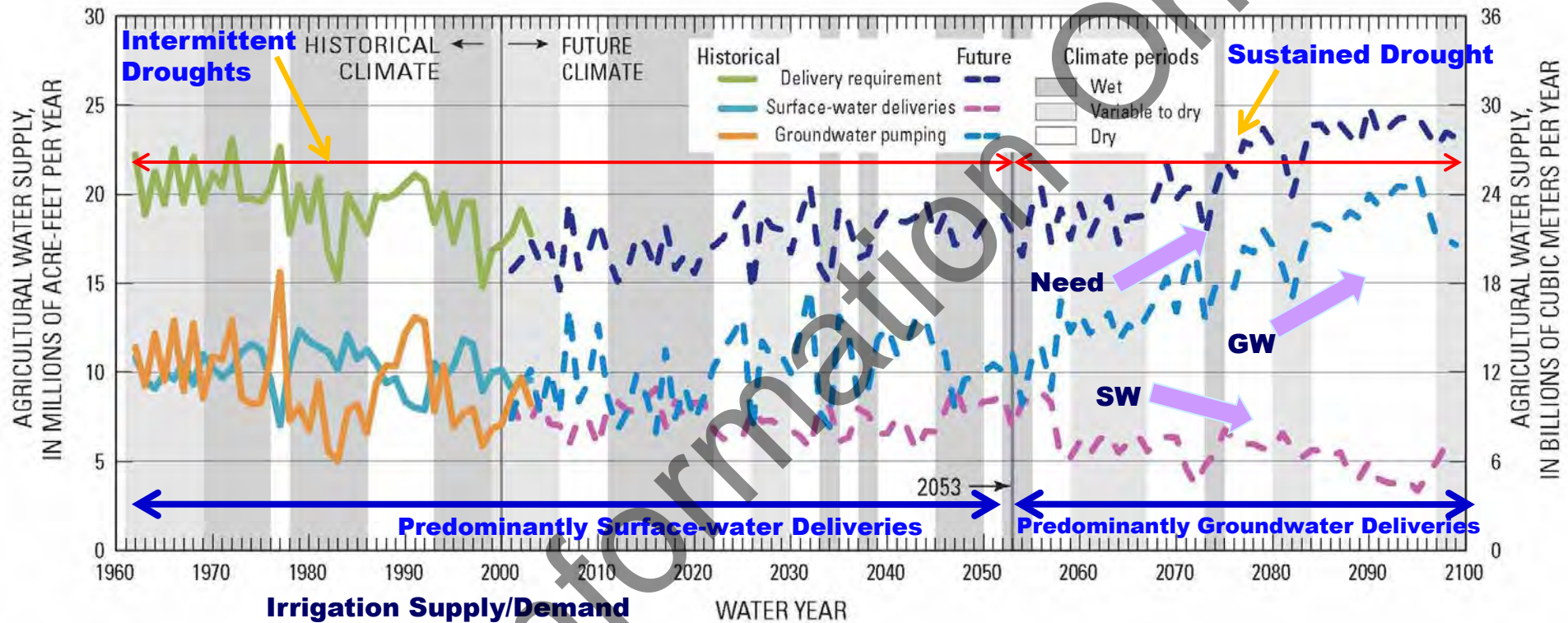


**Agricultural and Urban Water Supply → 20% of a groundwater pumped in USA**

Faunt, C.C., Hanson, R.T., Belitz, Kenneth, and Rogers, Laurel, 2009, California's Central Valley Groundwater Study: A Powerful New Tool to Assess Water Resources in California's Central Valley: U.S. Geological Survey Fact Sheet 2009-3057, 4 p. ( <http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2009/3057/> )

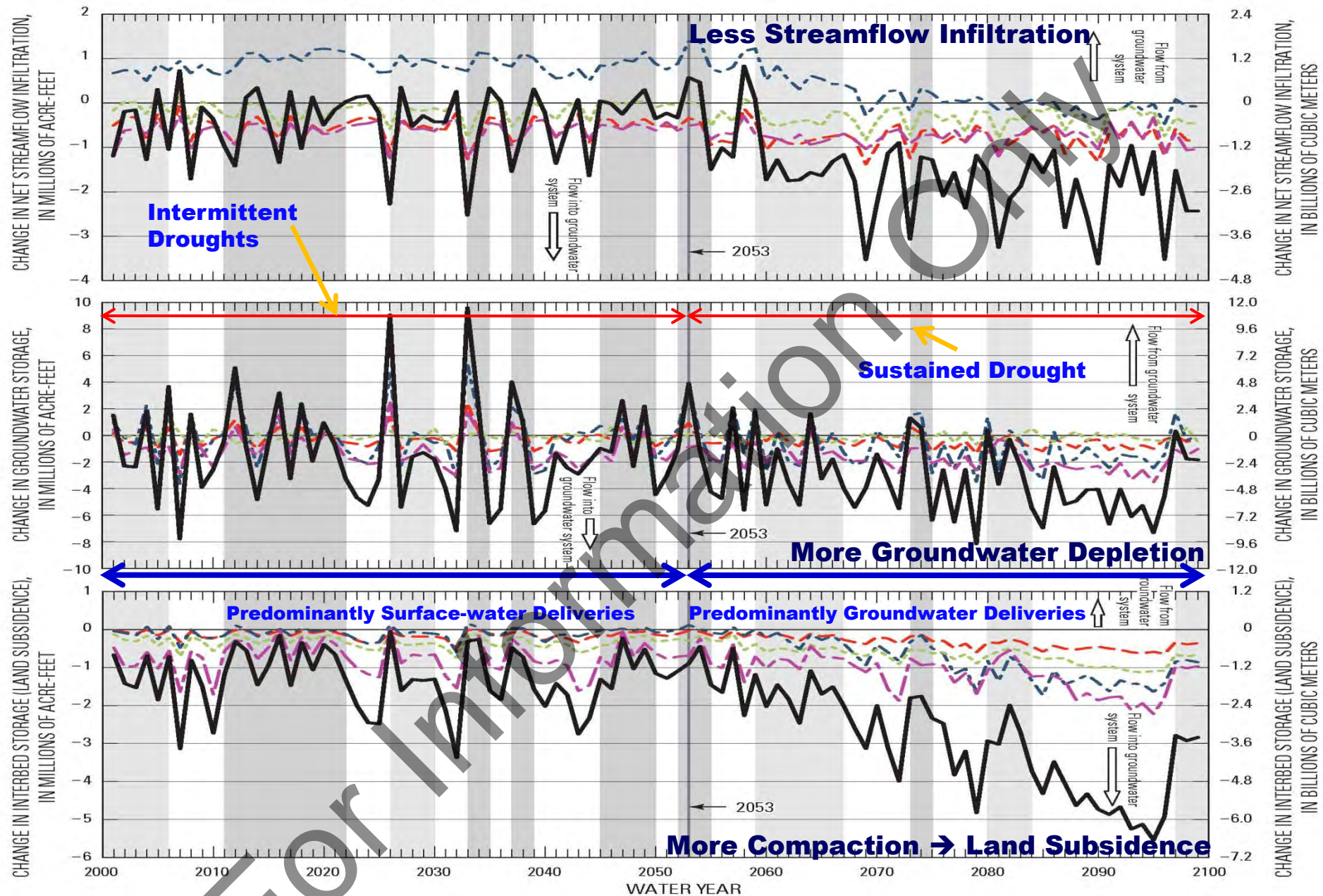


# Conjunctive Use Transition from Surface-Water to Groundwater Use



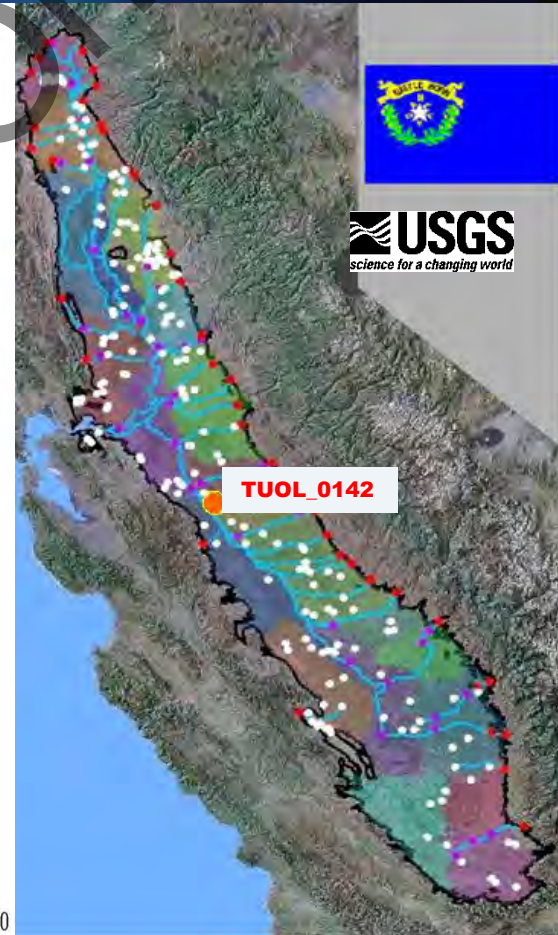
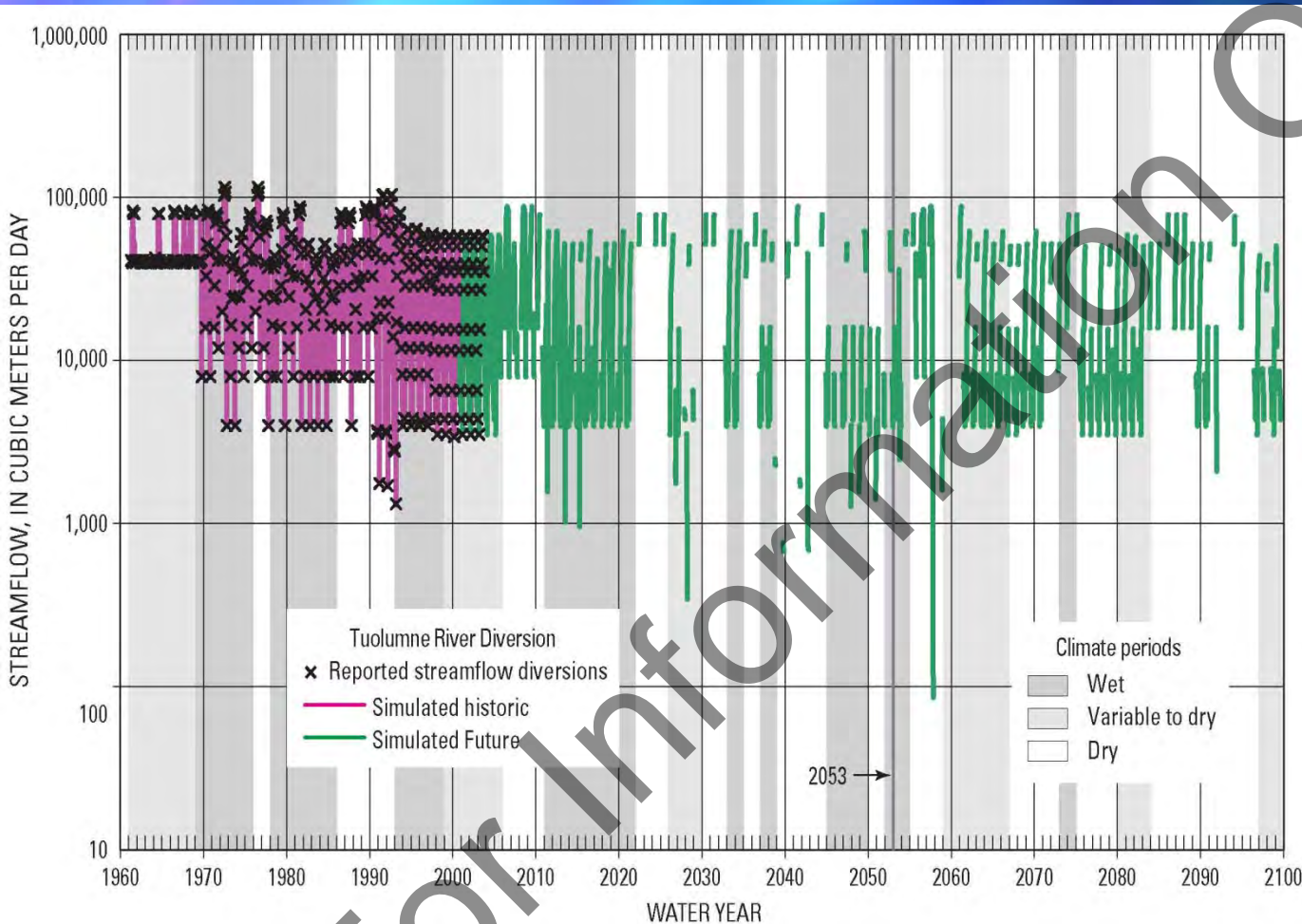
- Historical Surface-water to groundwater deliveries averaged about 1.33-to-1, (ranging from 2-to-1 → wet periods to 1-to-3 during persistent dry periods)
- GFDL-A2 scenario yields modeled ratios of surface-water to groundwater deliveries averaged about 1-to-2.75 (ranging from 1-to-1 → wet periods to 1-to-3 during dry epochs)



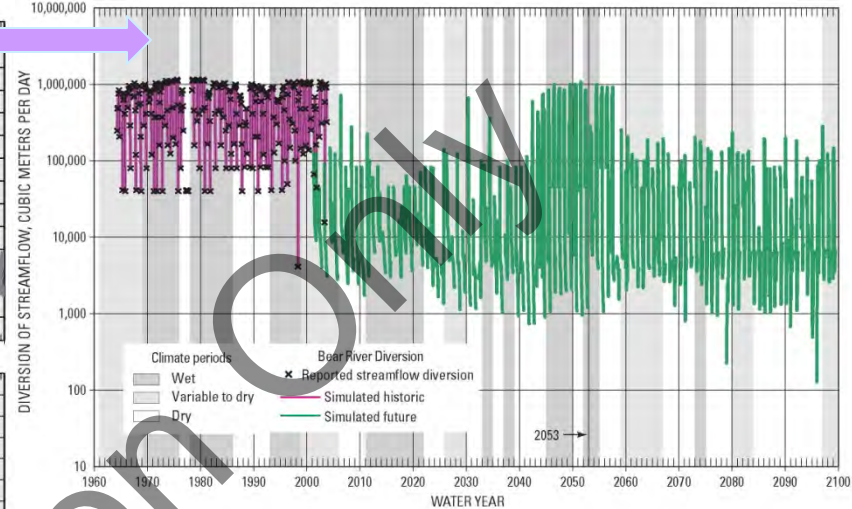
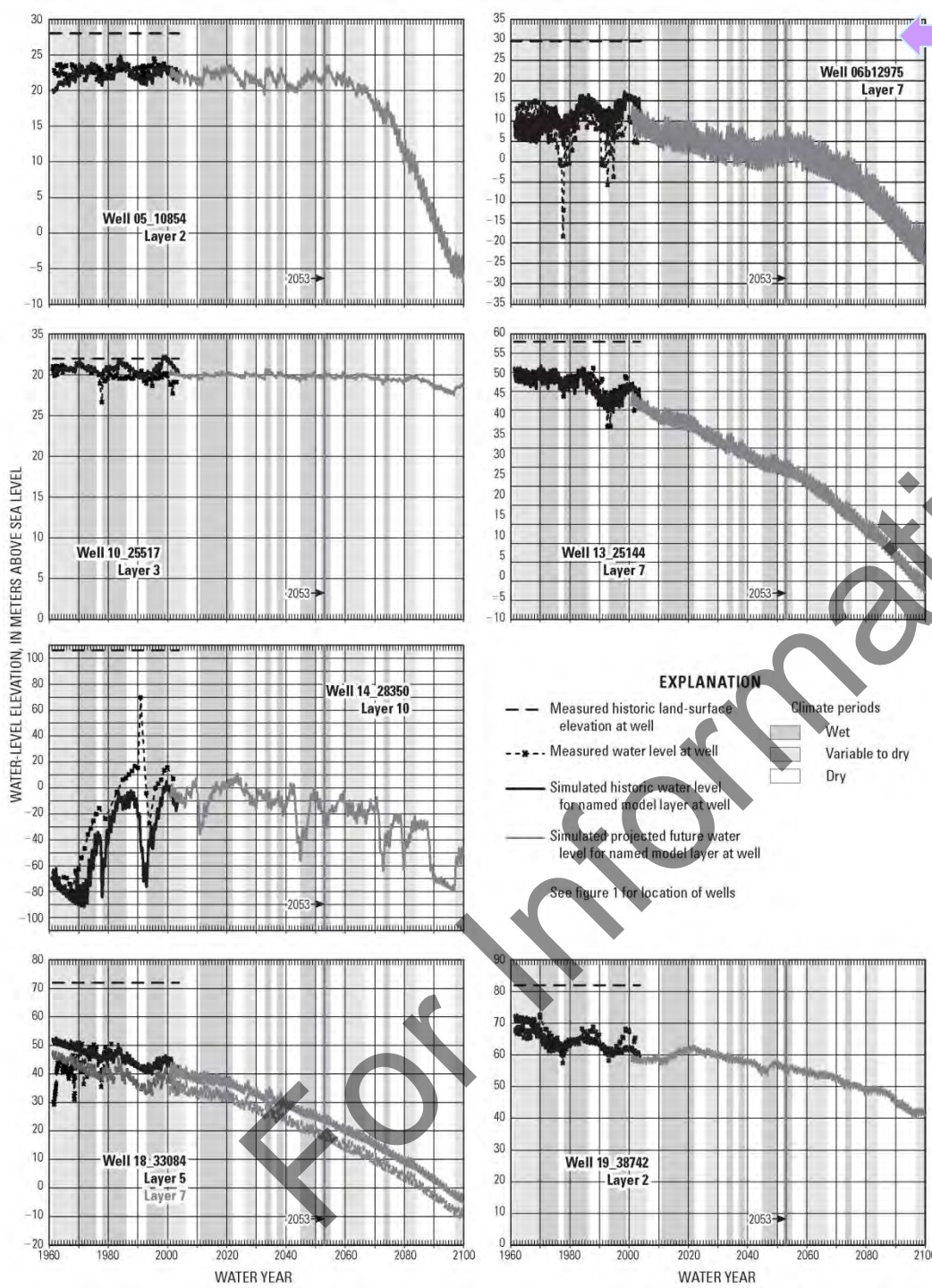




# A2-Reduction in Surface-Water Diversions for Riparian Habitat on the Tuolumne River, San Joaquin Valley, Central Valley, California



**Water diverted for maintaining Riparian Habitat from the Central Sierras may become intermittently unavailable in 21<sup>st</sup> Century**



**Continued  
Increase in  
Groundwater  
Demand →  
Increased  
Pumpage →  
Increased  
Declines in  
groundwater  
Levels**



# Old and New Subsidence

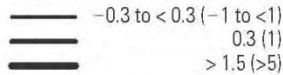
## Renewed Subsidence in Historical Areas

**Largest new Subsidence Adjacent to Sierras where Surface-water Deliveries for Irrigation become less**

**Additional subsidence in growing Urban areas**

### EXPLANATION

Subsidence, in meters (in feet),  
from 1961 to 1975, (Williamson *et al.*, 1989).



Simulated subsidence 1962–2003, in meters  
(in feet), (Faunt *et al.*, 2009c)



Model streams and canals

Model water-balance subregion

Potential simulated subsidence,  
from 2000 to 2099.



Model streams  
and canals

**Urban  
Areas**

Delta outflow to  
San Francisco Bay

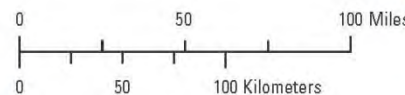
Delta-Mendota  
Canal

**Canals Used for Surface-  
water Delivery System**

Potential  
problem area

California  
Aqueduct

Water deliveries to  
southern California



Map from U.S. Geological Survey National Elevation Dataset, 2006.  
Albers Equal Area Conic Projection

(Hanson *et al.*, 2010)



# Summary of A2 Scenario Simulation of 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- **Increased** Groundwater Storage Depletion under A2 scenario for 21<sup>st</sup> Century in Central Valley
- **Increased** Land Subsidence throughout Central Valley and especially in the Tulare Basin and areas adjacent to Sierras (southern Central Valley)
- **Increased** streamflow infiltration and decreased groundwater outflow in the Sacramento Delta from 1-meter rise in sea level & 1.2% per year Urban Water Growth (model sensitive to even larger urban-demand growth rates!)
- **Decreased** Precipitation → Intermittent droughts in first half of century followed by sustained drought in 2<sup>nd</sup>-half of 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- **Decreased** Outflow at the Delta plus many rivers & diversions
- **Water-Use Transition** Surface-water dominated irrigation supplies to groundwater supplies with sustained drought.
- **No Operational Drought** Simulated capacity of sw/gw supply in system still greater than combined potential demand on conjunctive-use system
- **Climate Change and Increased Urban water use** → Both affect sustainability → land subsidence and reduced outflow at the Sacramento Delta
- **GCM-MHWM-CVHM Linkage Coupled physically-based, supply-constrained, and demand driven models** Basis for a Decision Support System  
Evaluate Outflow of streamflow at the Delta, Streamflow, Surface-water Diversions, Land Subsidence, & Drought Scenarios, Supply-&-Demand Components
- **Hydrologic projections** of a Century are more reliable in trends and changes than actual outcomes



# ***Today's Take-Home Messages***

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## ***One Water***

***Linked & Integrated Models and Observation networks needed for Physically-based Resource Analysis (Self-Updating Models → DSS & Indicators)***

***Sustainability, Conjunctive Use, Adaptation Controlled by Secondary effects***

***Management horizons may range from years-decades to more than a Century (2050 time frame may be inadequate ex. California Water Plan?)***

***Multiple Stressors on Resource → Climate change, Urbanization, Agricultural, Environmental***

# ***Today's Presentation***

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## ***Outlook***





# **Develop Tools for Integrated Flow/Transport Models & Self-Updating Models → Conjunctive-Use, Adaptation, Sustainability Analysis of Water Resources**

- **Remote Sensing Data-Stream Linkages → Self-Updating Models & ground-based networks**
- **Regional Climate Modeling → Coastal and intermontane Agricultural Regions**
- **Linkages to Climate Models & Analysis - Visualization Tools → Climate-In-A-Box**
- **Automated Analysis/Synthesis of Remote Sensing Data (ex TOPS)**
- **Develop Decision Support Systems**



# **USGS Integrated Hydrologic Models**

## **Supply-Constrained & Demand-Driven Conjunctive Use Analysis**

**Principal Investigator**

**Randy Hanson →**

**[rthanson@usgs.gov](mailto:rthanson@usgs.gov)**

**San Diego, CA**

**For more information refer to →**

**USGS Office of Groundwater Software:**

**<http://water.usgs.gov/nrp/gwsoftware/fmp/fmp.html/>**

**USGS WEBINAR CLIMATE-CHANGE (*Hanson et al.* 3/17/2011)**

**<http://wwwrcamnl.wr.usgs.gov/wrdseminar/playwrd.htm?id=17mar2011>**

**California-Nevada Applications Program (CNAP) & The California Climate Change Center (CCCC) : <http://meteora.ucsd.edu/cap/>**

**NASA's Climate-In-A-Box: <http://climateinabox.nasa.gov/>**

**NASA's Modeling GURU: <https://modelingguru.nasa.gov/index.jspa>**

**The End? → Thank You!**