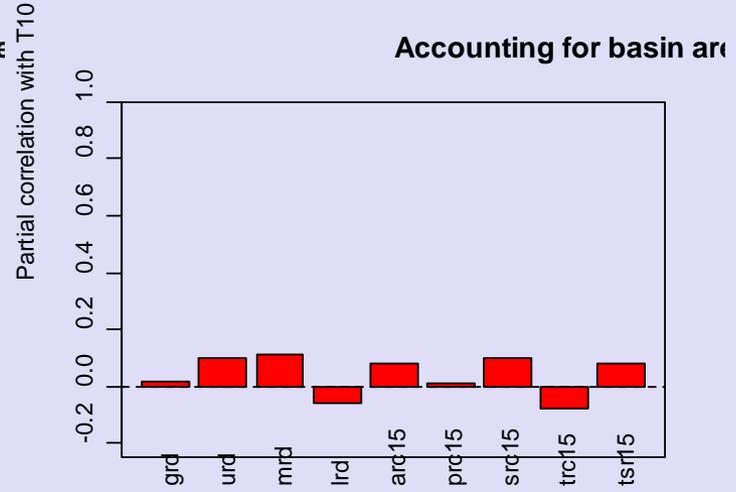
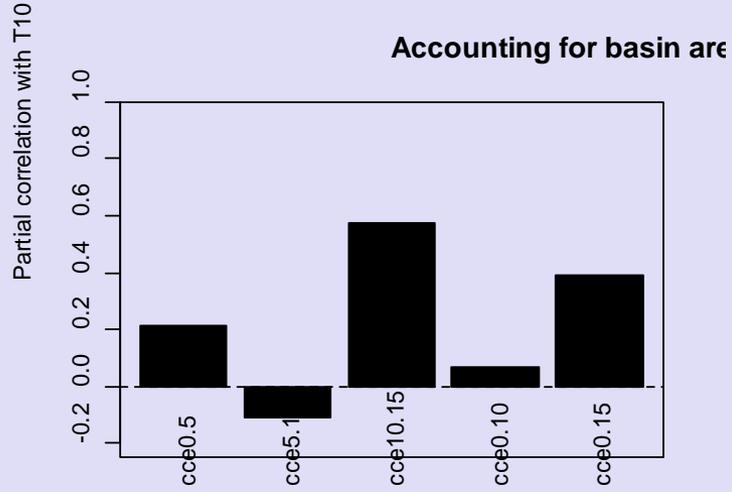
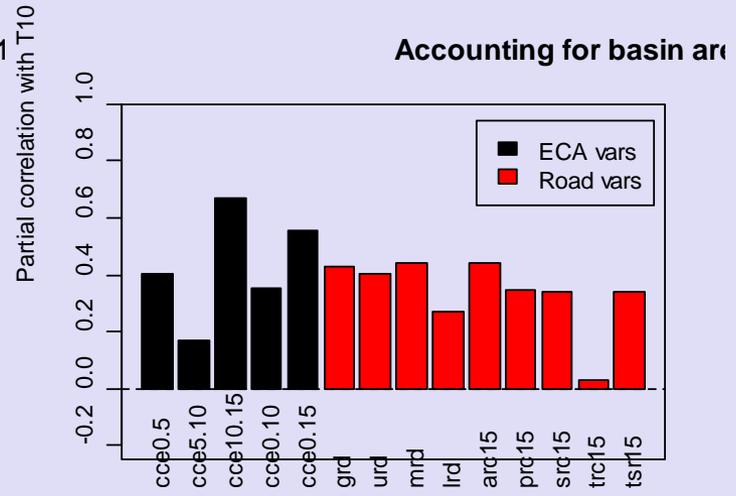
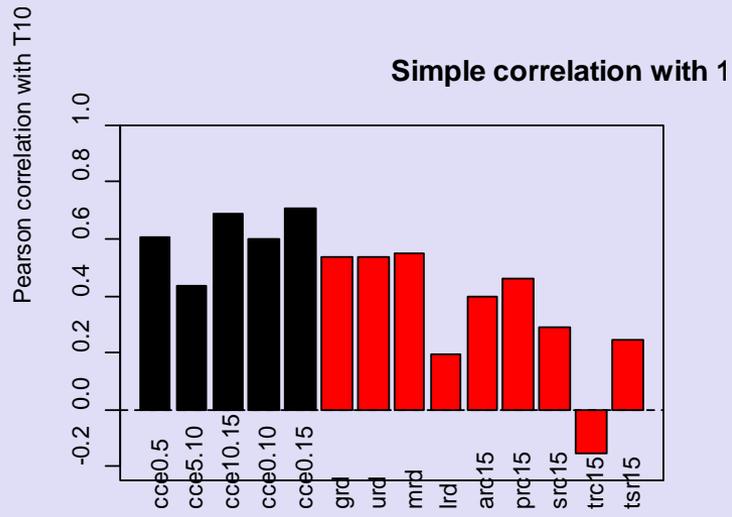
An aerial photograph of a coastal watershed in Humboldt County, California. The image shows a large body of water, likely a bay or estuary, with a prominent spit of land extending into the ocean. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the surrounding land is a mix of green fields, brownish soil, and some buildings. The text is overlaid in a bold, yellow font with a black outline.

Results from a Decade of  
Watershed Monitoring in Elk River  
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(Humboldt County, CA)

Jack Lewis





**Humboldt Redwood**  
COMPANY, LLC

P.O. Box 712  
Scotia, CA 95565  
Phone (707) 764-4392  
www.HRCLLC.com

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**Trends in Sediment-Related  
Water Quality After a Decade of Forest  
Management Implementing an  
Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan**

Sullivan et al, 2012



# From the HRC report

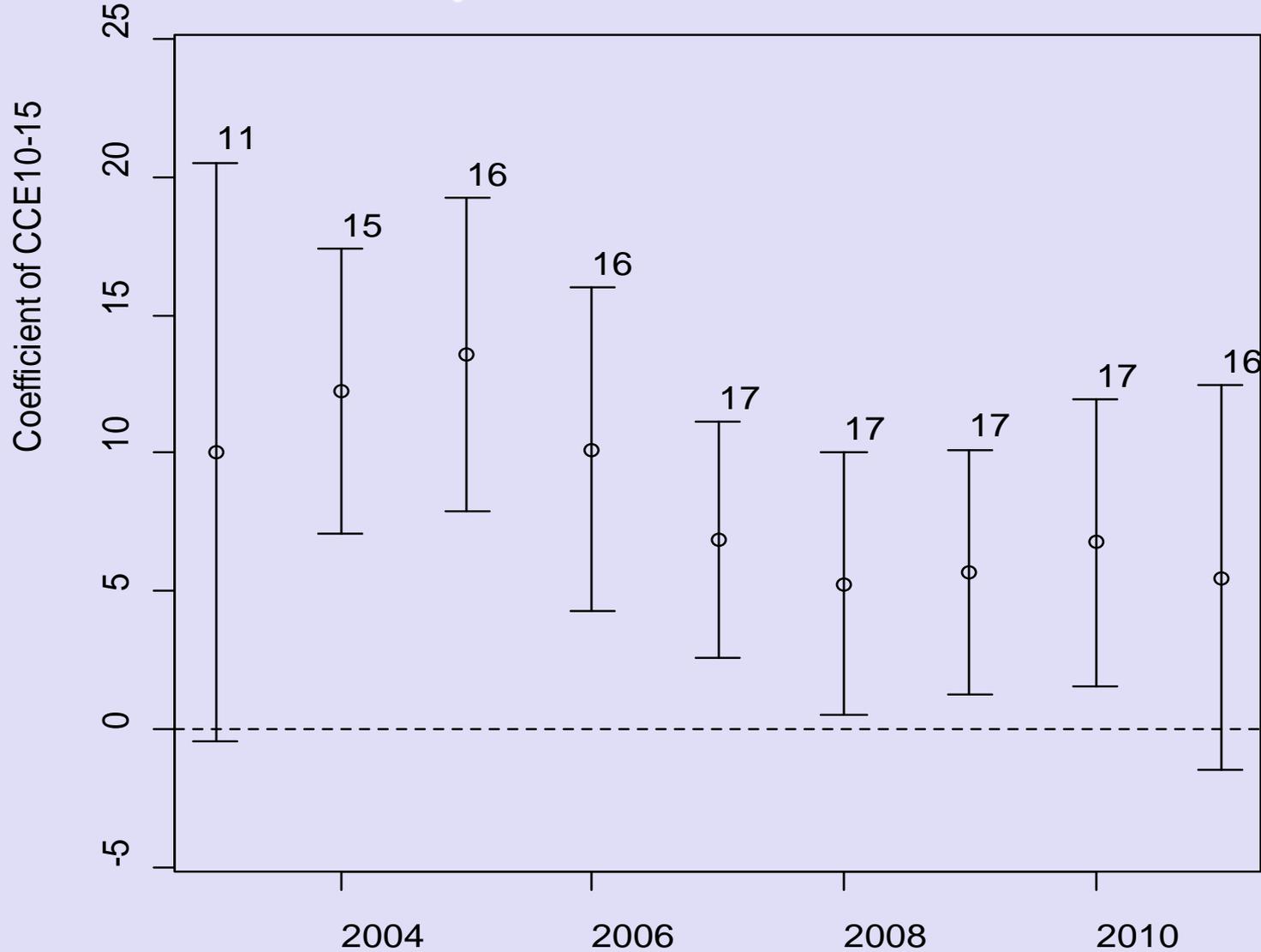
- “The findings reported by Klein *et al.*(2012) that concluded that the previous 10-15 year harvest rate had a positive and highly statistically significant effect on the turbidity 10% exceedance in 2005 were confirmed.”
- “In all other individual years [besides 2005] in the period from 2003 to 2011, and for all data grouped for the entire period, the statistical analysis found the opposite effect, with a *decreasing trend in turbidity with harvest rate.*”

# From HRC Report

Table 16. Summary of results of fitting normal linear models of turbidity 10% exceedance with basin area and 10-15 year historic harvest rate. Reported p-values correspond to the statistical test for 10-15 year historical clearcut equivalent area as a significant predictor of 10% (or  $\log|10\%$ ) exceedance. R-square values correspond to the full model with basin area and 10-15 year historical clearcut equivalent area.

Year	Log transformed?	P Value	R <sup>2</sup>
2003	log	0.362	0.213
2004	log	0.037	0.491
2005	untransformed	0.015	0.714
2006	log	0.105	0.575
2007	log	0.130	0.386
2008	log	0.284	0.268
2009	log	0.214	0.225
2010	untransformed	0.313	0.519
2011	log	0.421	0.272

# Effect of 10-15 year harvest rate on 10% Turbidity



# Fixed and mixed effects models

Simple regression (e.g. 10% turbidity vs harvest rate)

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \quad \text{residual error}$$

Fixed effects model with a categorical variable (site)

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \beta_{2i} + \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Mixed effects model: 2 **fixed**, 1 **random** (site)

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + b_i + \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2), b_i \sim N(0, \delta^2)$$

Mixed effects model: 2 **fixed**, 2 **random** (site and year)

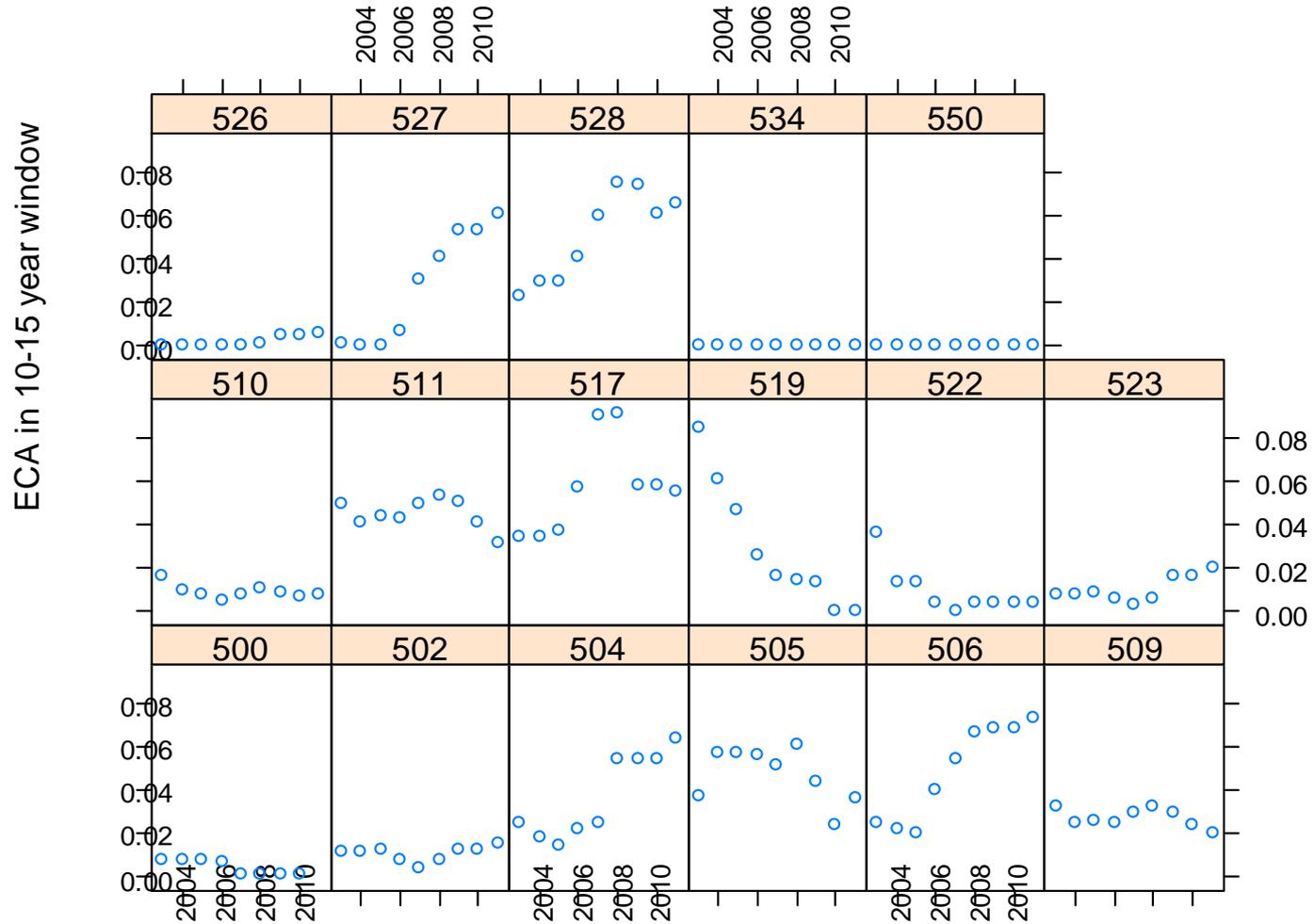
$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + b_{1i} + b_{2i} + \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2), b_{hi} \sim N(0, \delta_h^2)$$

# Mixed-effects model statistics for 10% exceedence turbidity

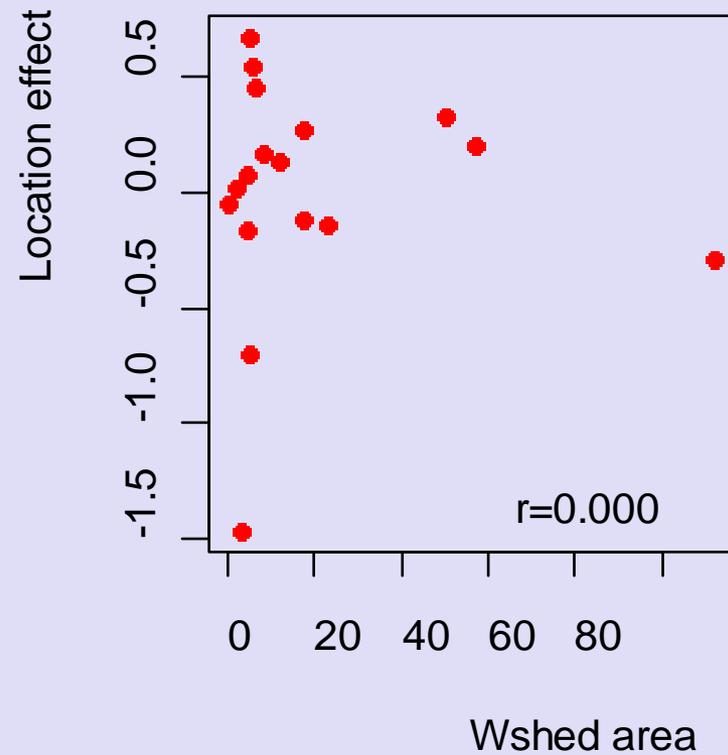
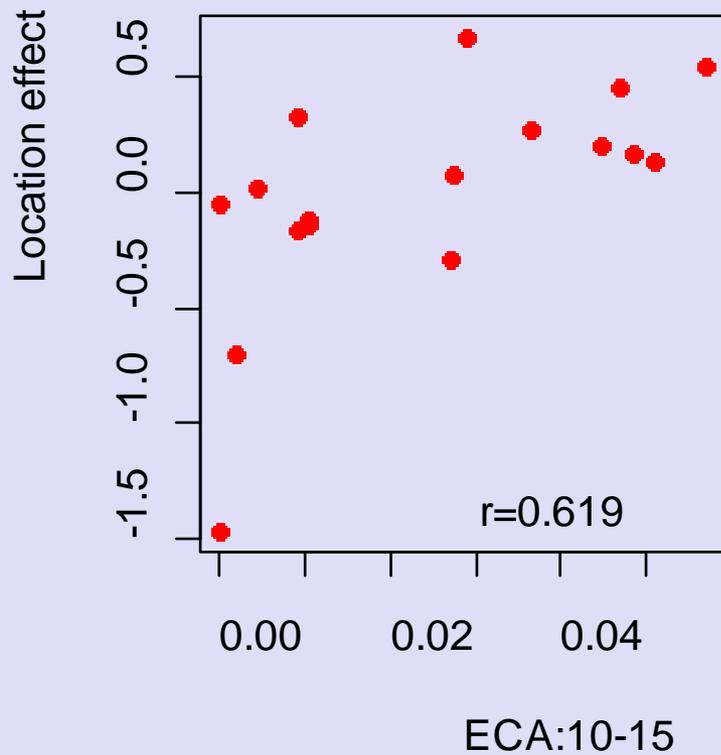
Model	Term	Estimate	Std Error	DF	t	Pr >  t
Sullivan	Intercept	3.632	0.1947	8	18.65	<0.0001
Sullivan	Area	0.0103	0.0046	116	2.24	0.0272
Sullivan	CCE10-15	-3.270	1.3527	116	-2.42	0.0172
Lewis repro	Intercept	3.627	0.1951	139	18.60	<0.0000
Lewis repro	Area	0.0104	0.0046	139	2.27	0.0249
Lewis repro	CCE10-15	-3.286	1.3563	139	-2.42	0.0167
Lewis alt*	Intercept	3.398	0.1369	139	24.82	<0.0001
Lewis alt	Area	0.0096	0.0014	139	6.75	<0.0001
Lewis alt	CCE10-15	7.039	1.7514	139	4.02	0.0001

\*Lewis alt model omits the “Site” random effect (retains “Year”)

# Harvest rate in 10-15 yr window by site and year



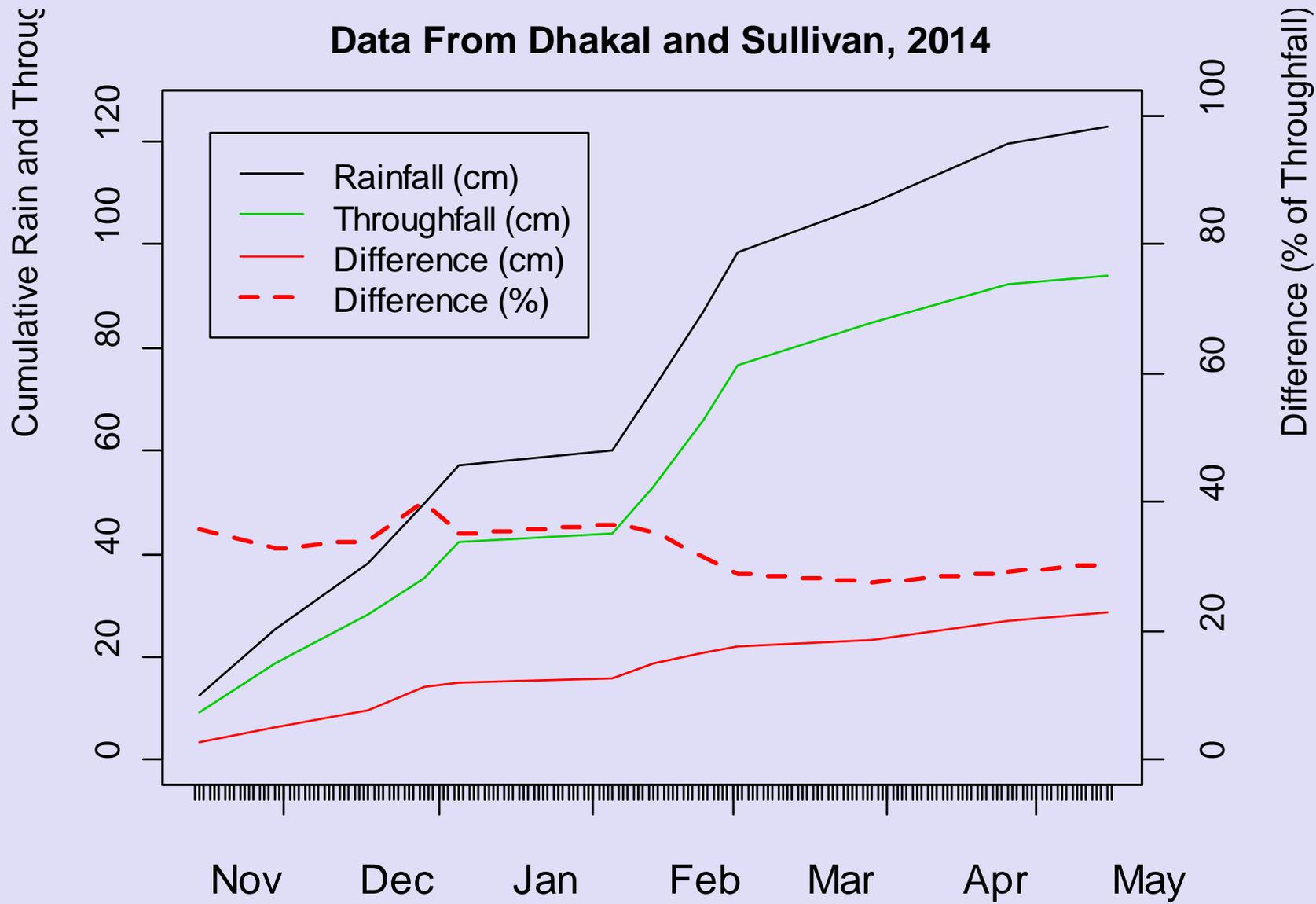
# Correlations of location effect with 10-15 year harvest rate and basin area



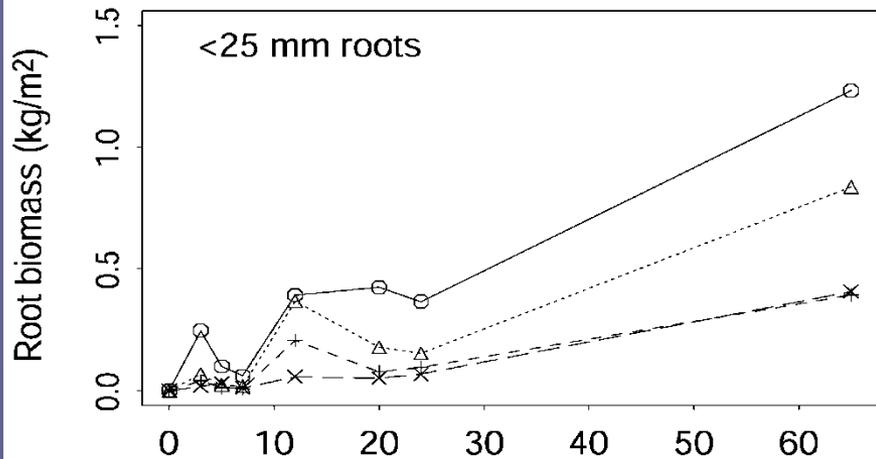
## Effect of 10-15 year harvest rate: 4 years at a time

Years	Coefficient	p-value
2003-2006	11.5	0.0005
2004-2007	9.6	0.0003
2005-2008	7.4	0.0030
2006-2009	6.3	0.0077
2007-2010	6.0	0.0085
2008-2011	5.6	0.0304

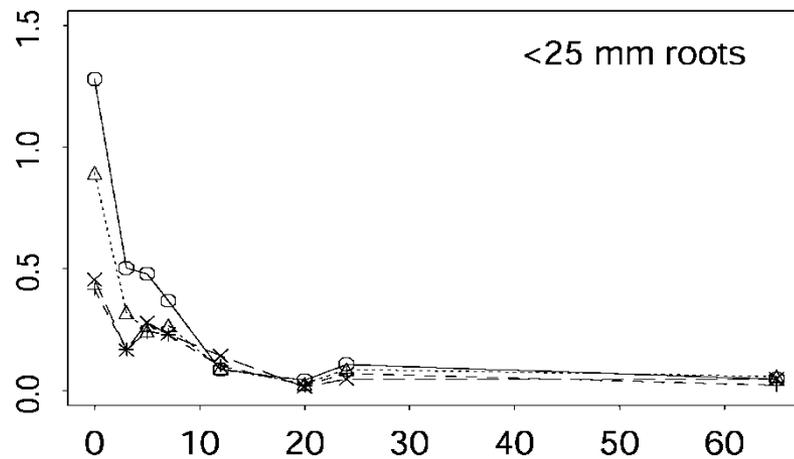
Data From Dhakal and Sullivan, 2014



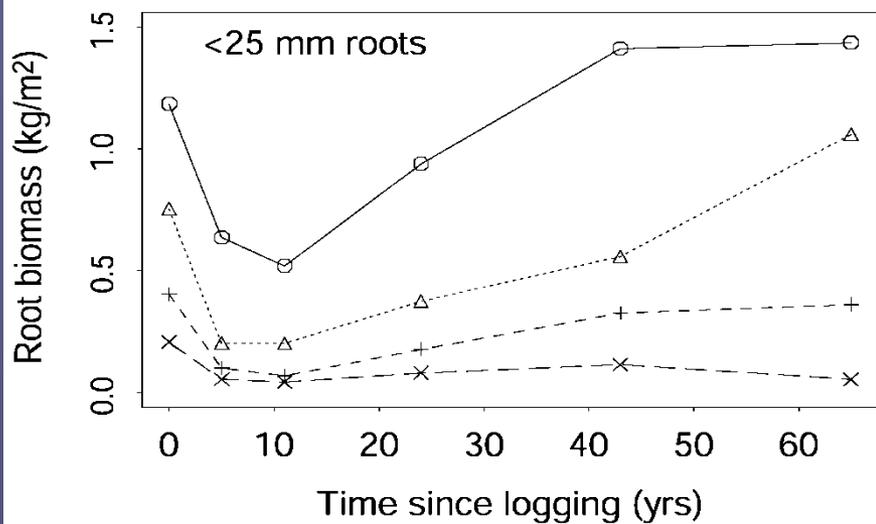
Mixed Conifer Live



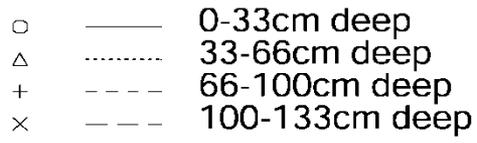
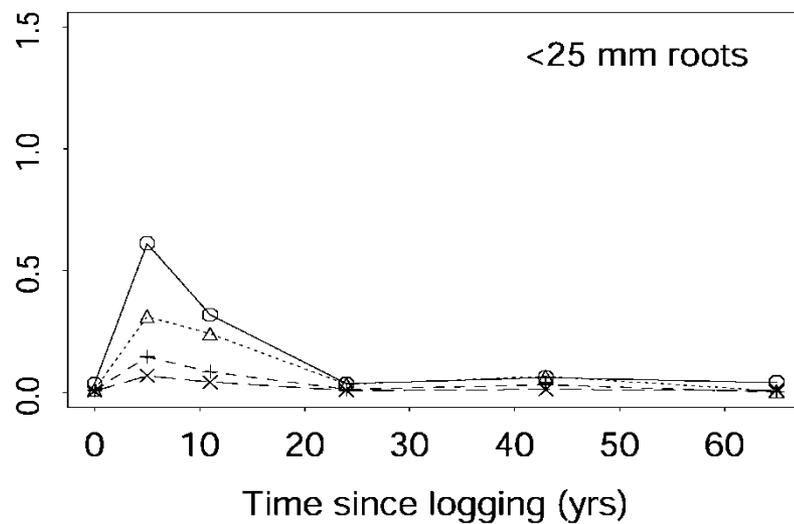
Mixed Conifer Dead



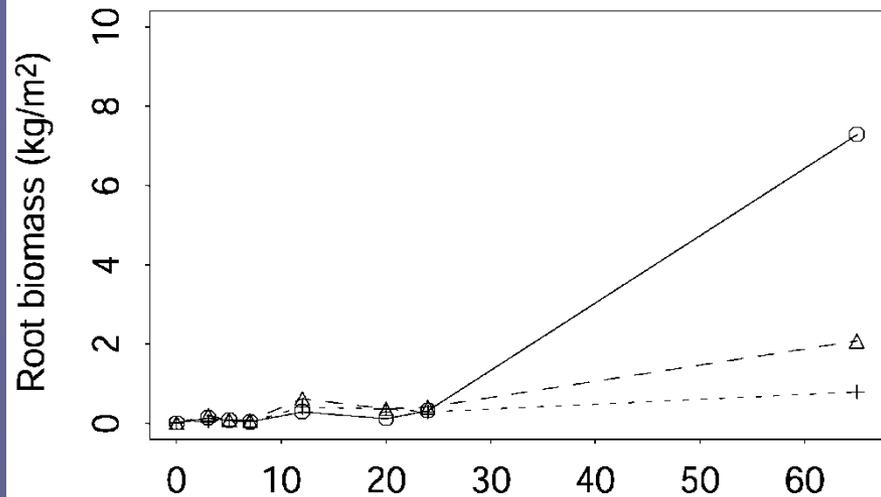
Redwood Live



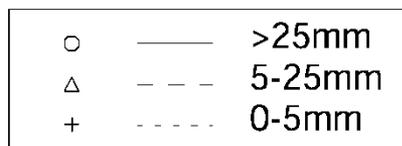
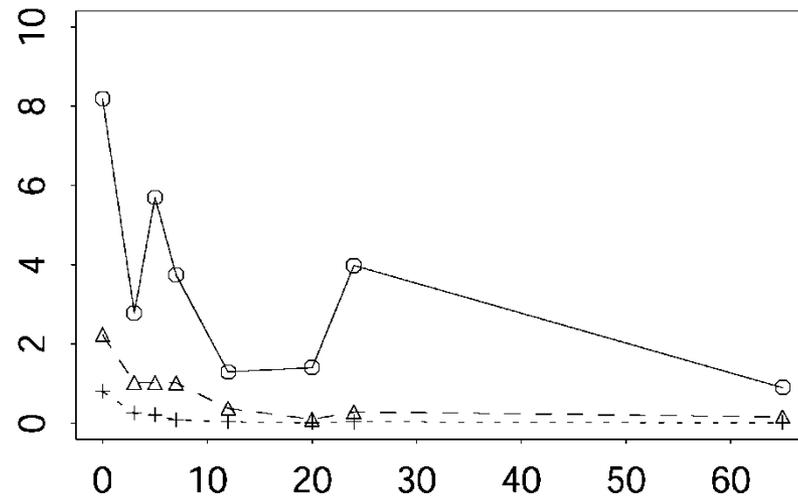
Redwood Dead



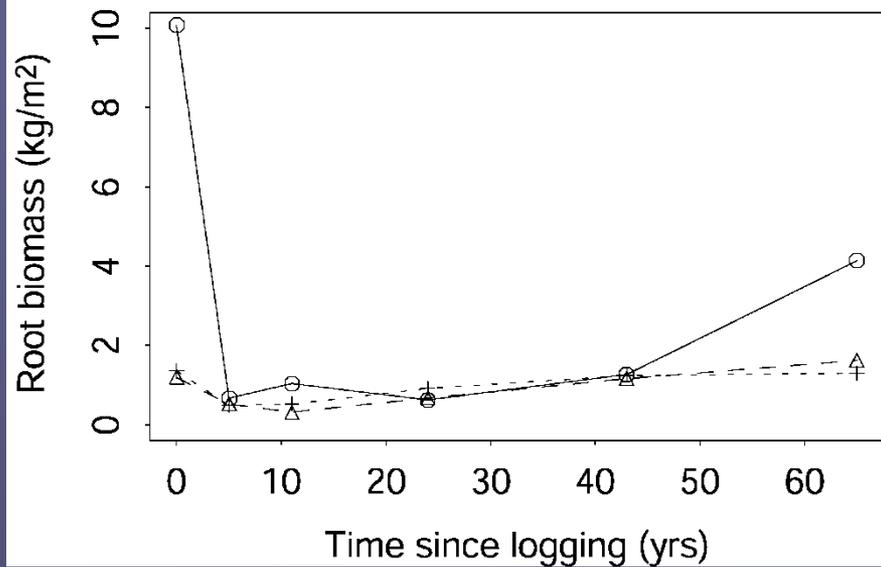
Mixed Conifer Live



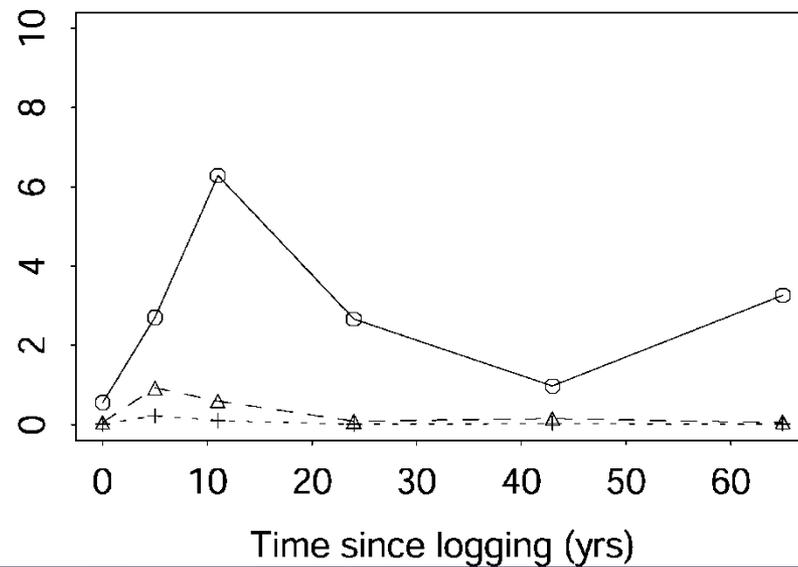
Mixed Conifer Dead

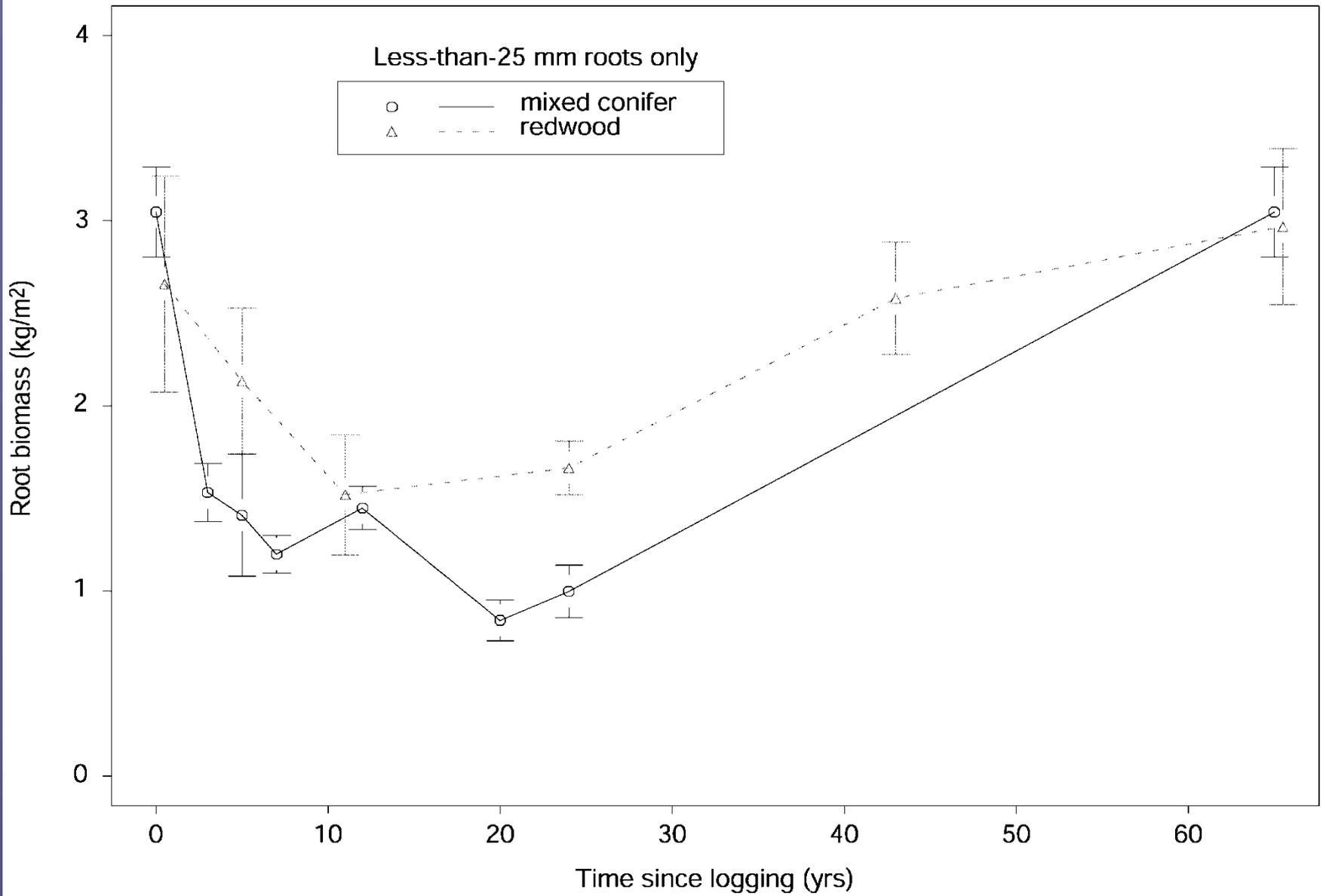


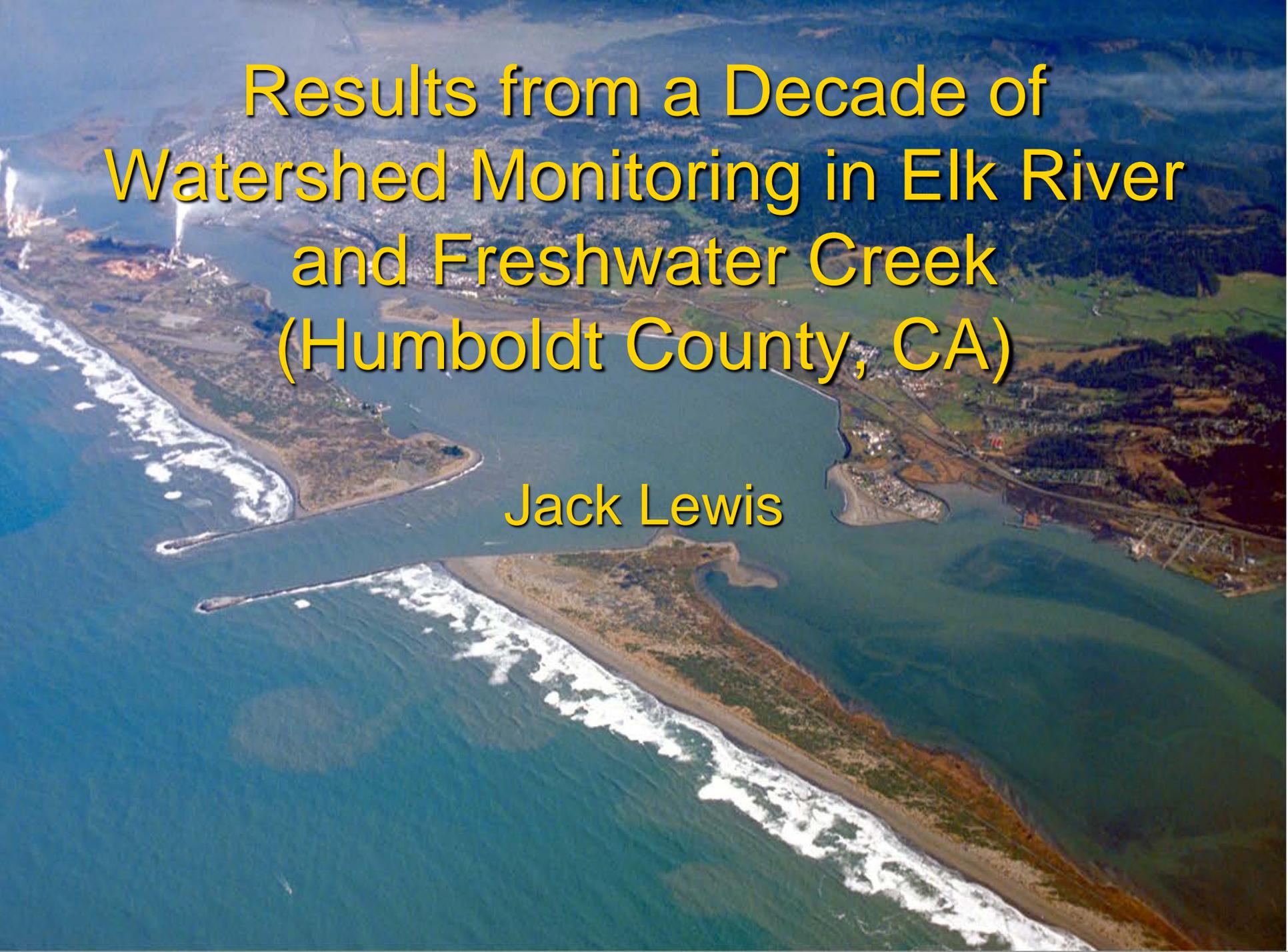
Redwood Live



Redwood Dead





An aerial photograph of a coastal watershed in Humboldt County, California. The image shows a large body of water, likely a bay or estuary, with a prominent spit of land extending into the ocean. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the surrounding land is a mix of green fields, brownish soil, and some buildings. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The text is overlaid on the image in a yellow, bold font.

Results from a Decade of  
Watershed Monitoring in Elk River  
and Freshwater Creek  
(Humboldt County, CA)

Jack Lewis



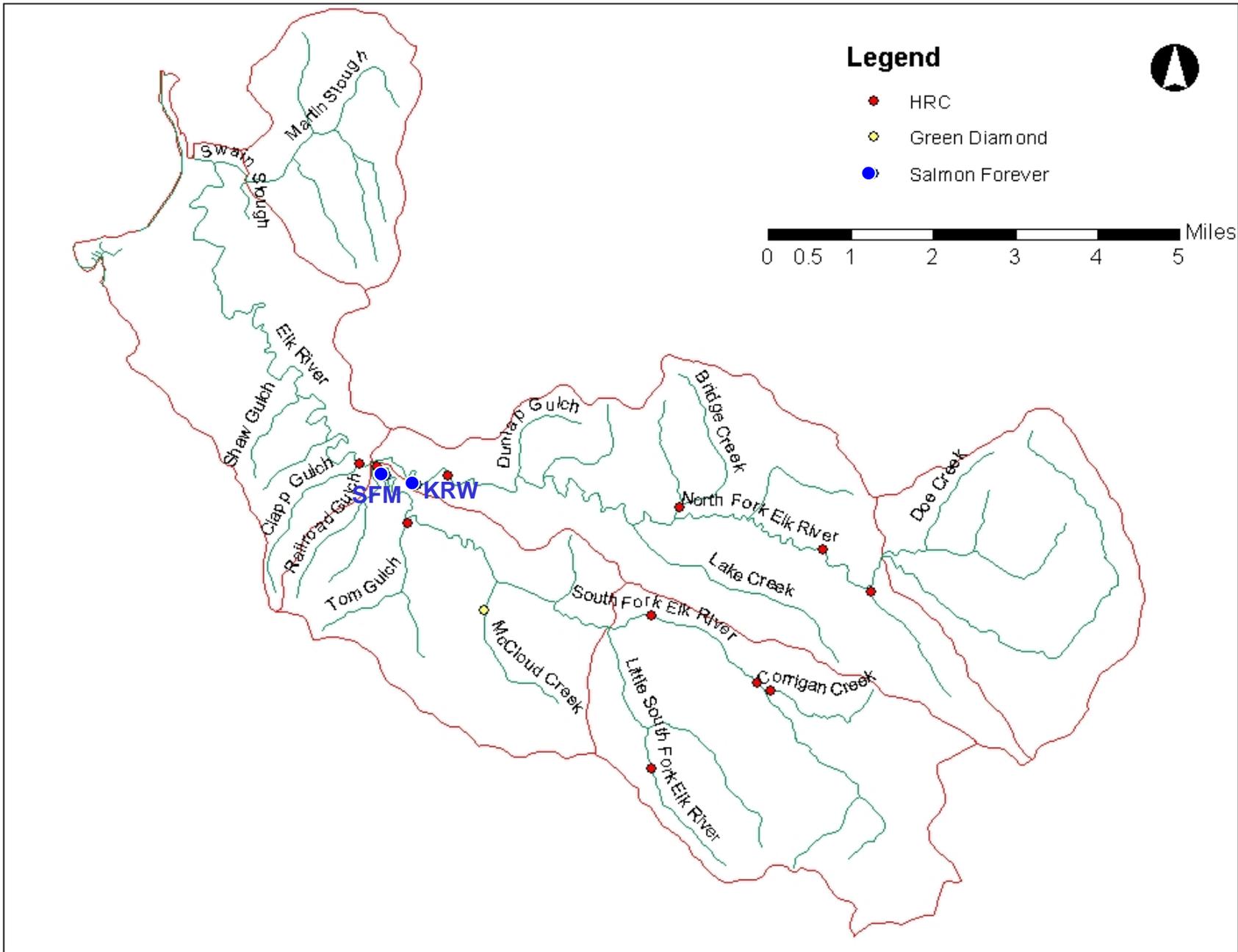
# Salmon-Forever Gaging Stations

## ● Elk River

- SFM – South Fork (50 km<sup>2</sup> = 19 mi<sup>2</sup>)
- KRW – North Fork (57 km<sup>2</sup> = 22 mi<sup>2</sup>)

## ● Freshwater Creek

- FTR – Upper mainstem (34 km<sup>2</sup> = 13 mi<sup>2</sup>)
- HHB – Lower mainstem (72 km<sup>2</sup> = 28 mi<sup>2</sup>)



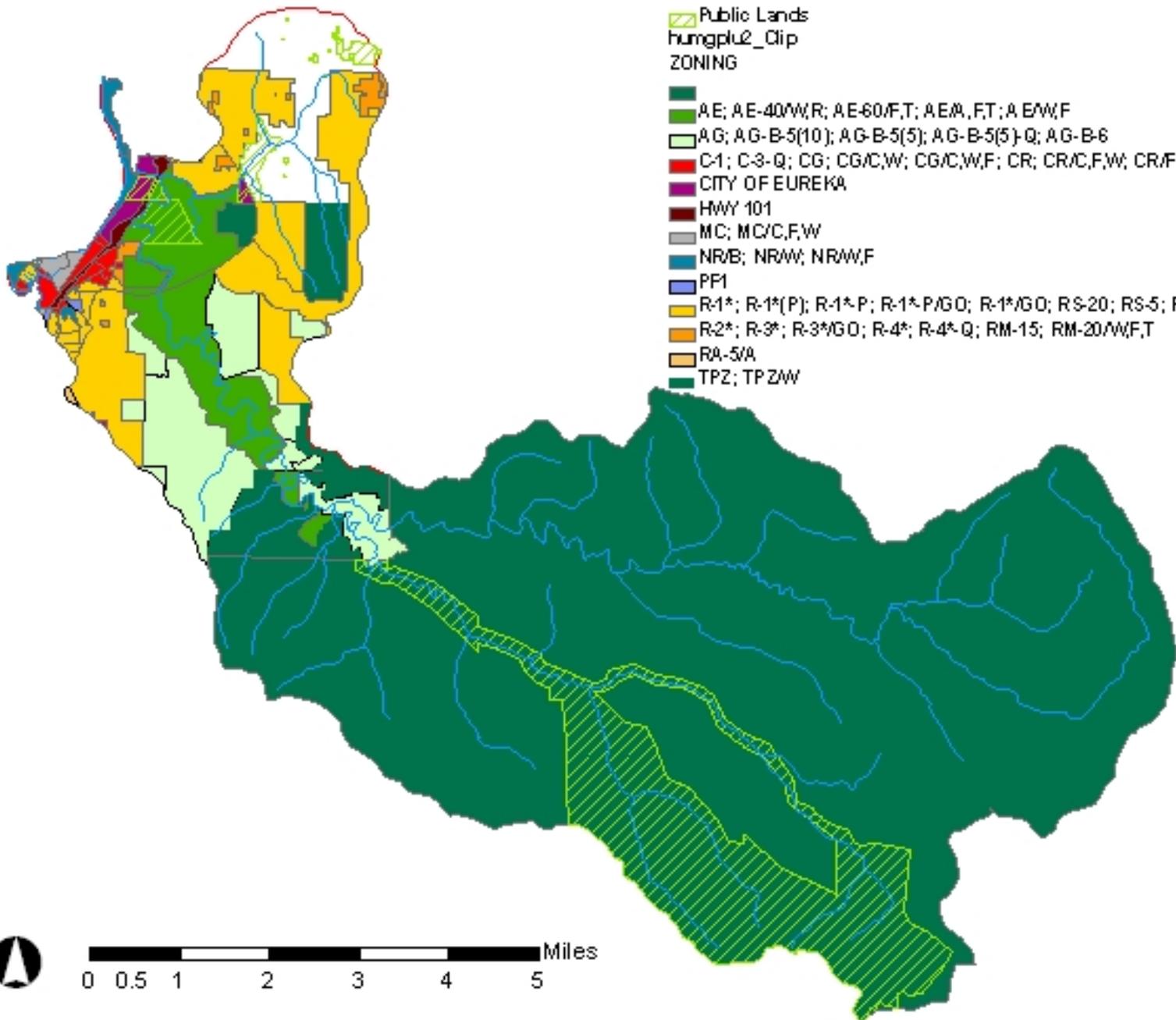
Legend

Public Lands

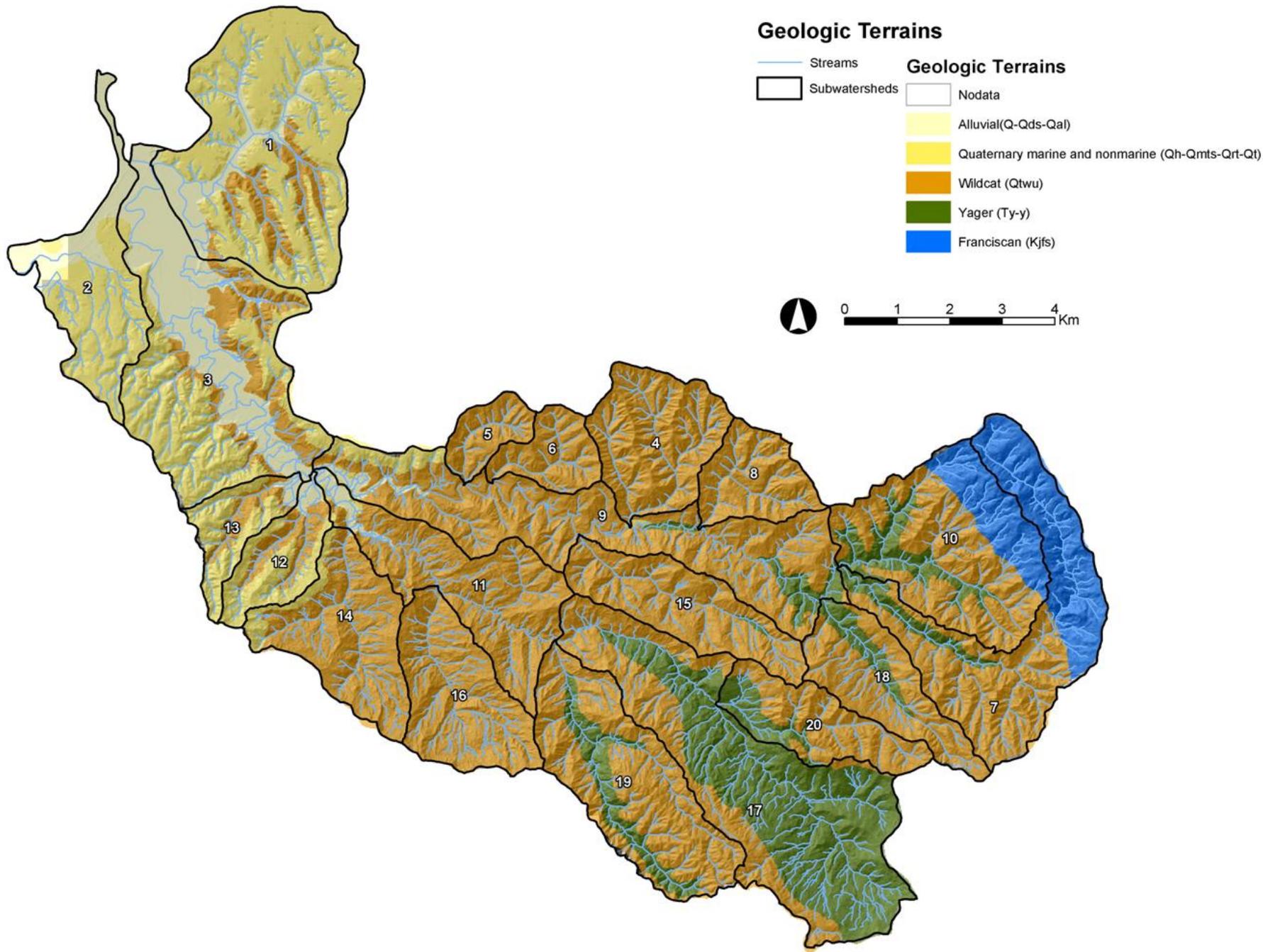
hungplu2\_Clip

ZONING

- AE; AE-40/W/R; AE-60/F/T; AEA, FT; AEW/F
- AG; AG-B-5(10); AG-B-5(5); AG-B-5(5)-Q; AG-B-6
- C-1; C-3-Q; CG; CG/C,W; CG/C,W,F; CR; CR/C,F,W; CR/F; CR/F,W
- CITY OF EUREKA
- HWY 101
- MC; MC/C,F,W
- NR/B; NR/W; NR/W,F
- PP1
- R-1\*; R-1\*(P); R-1\*-P; R-1\*-P/GO; R-1\*/GO; RS-20; RS-5; RS-5A; RS-5/C,W,F; RS-5/F
- R-2\*; R-3\*; R-3\*/GO; R-4\*; R-4\*-Q; RM-15; RM-20/W,F,T
- RA-5/A
- TPZ; TPZ/W



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 5 Miles



● Salmon-Forever  
Gaging Stations

● HHB

●  
FTR

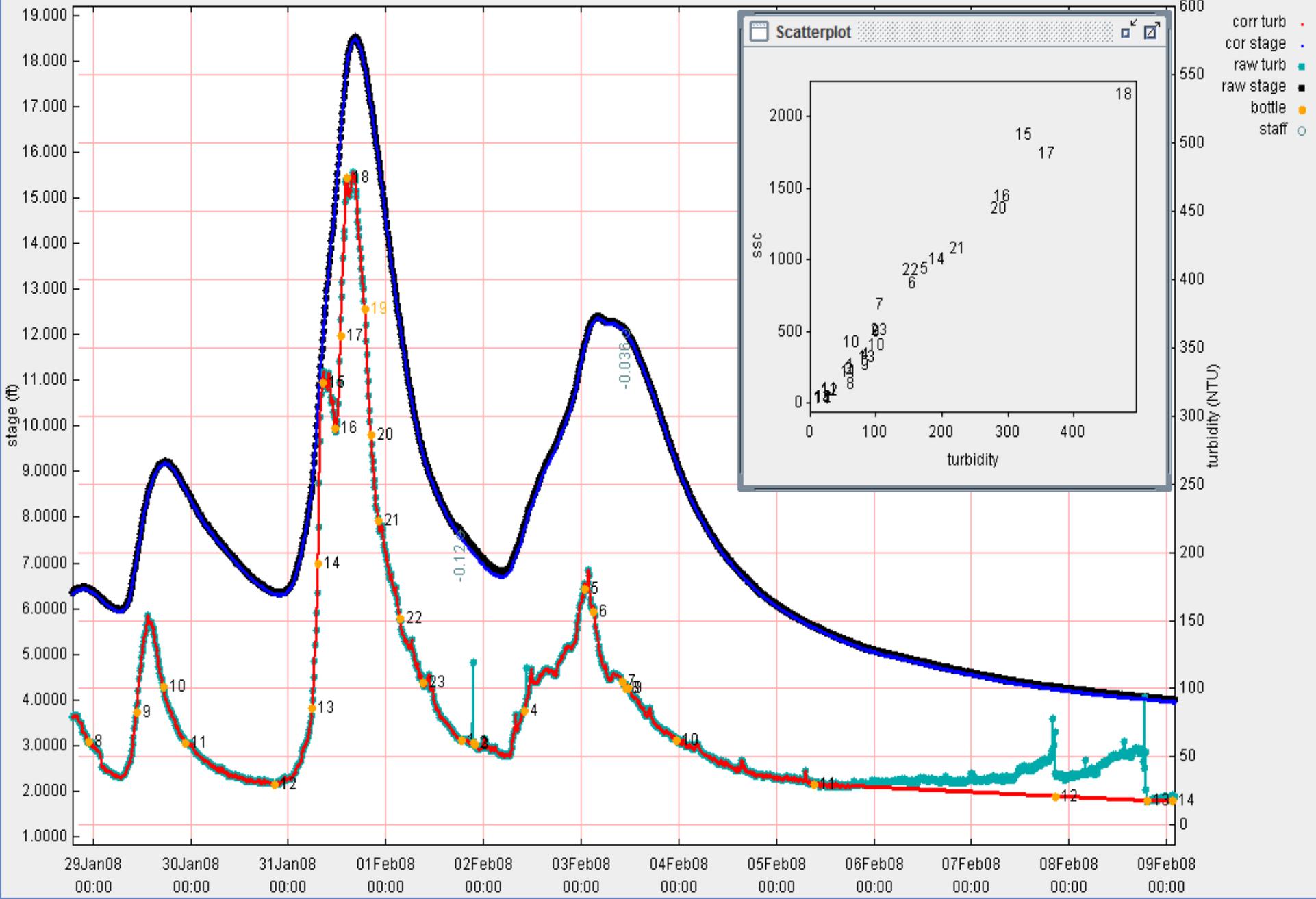




# T-probe deployment at station FTR

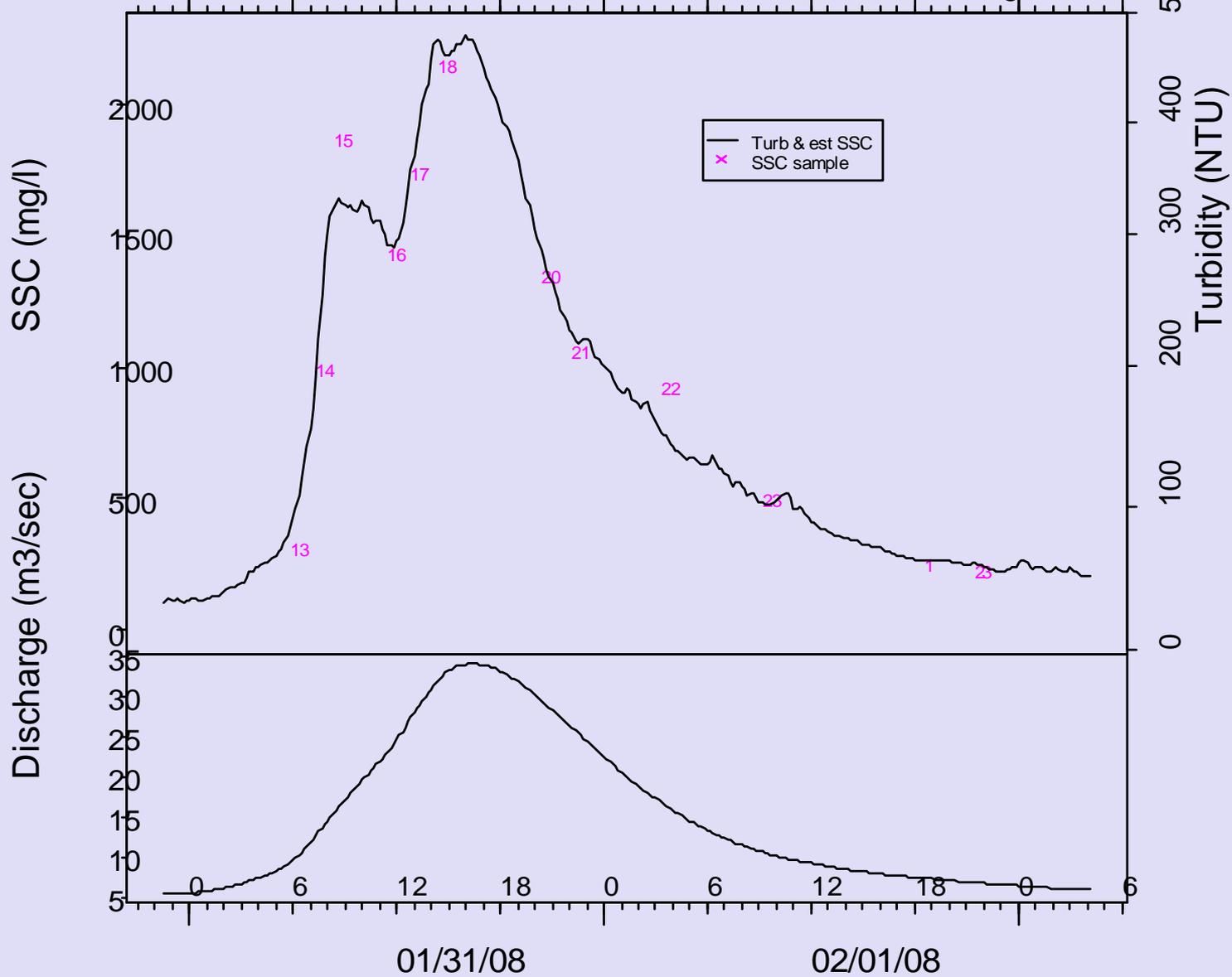


### Station SFM HY08

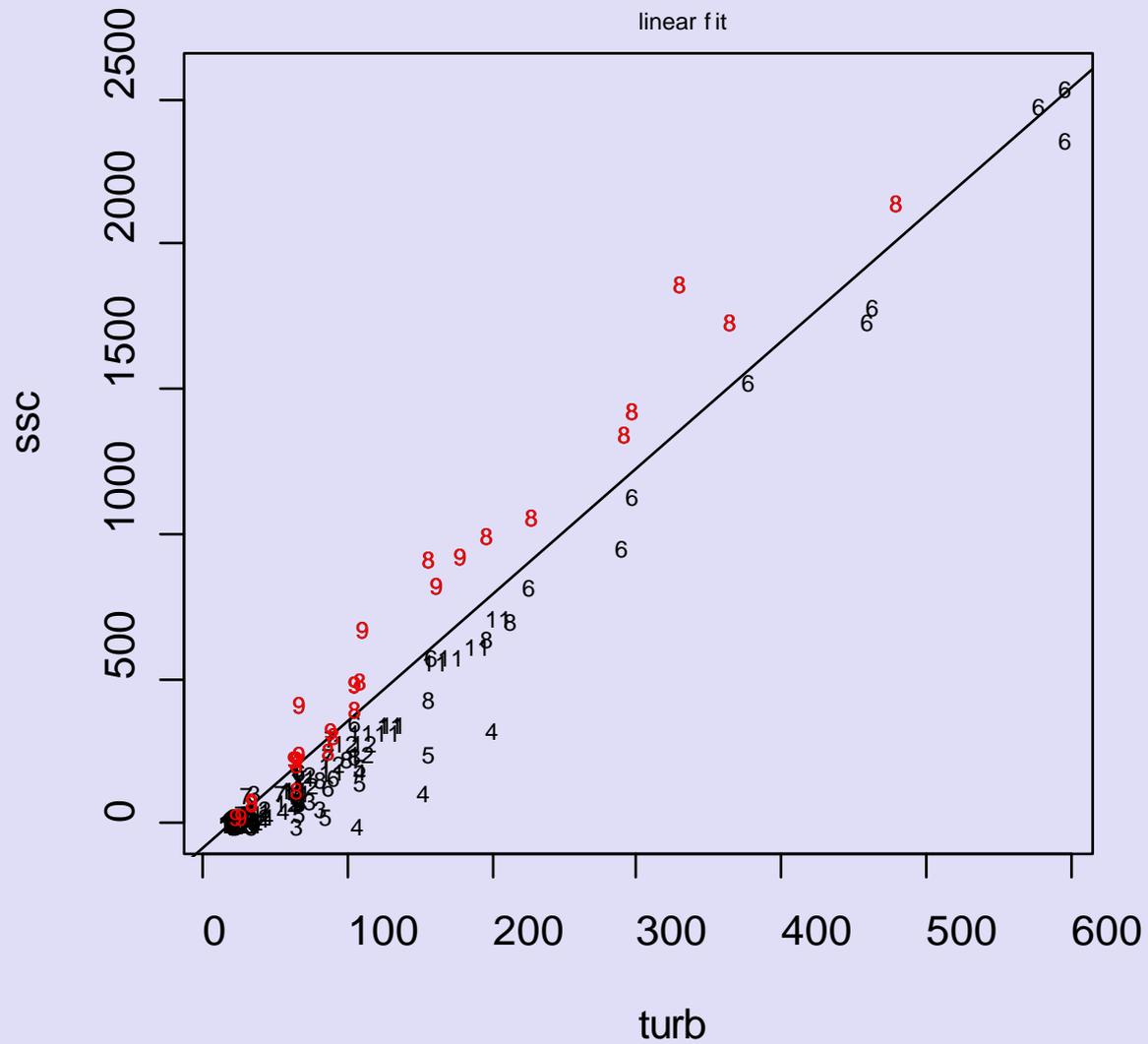


SFM:(01/30/08 22:30:00) - (02/01/08 00:00:00)

Estimated load = 3385106 kg

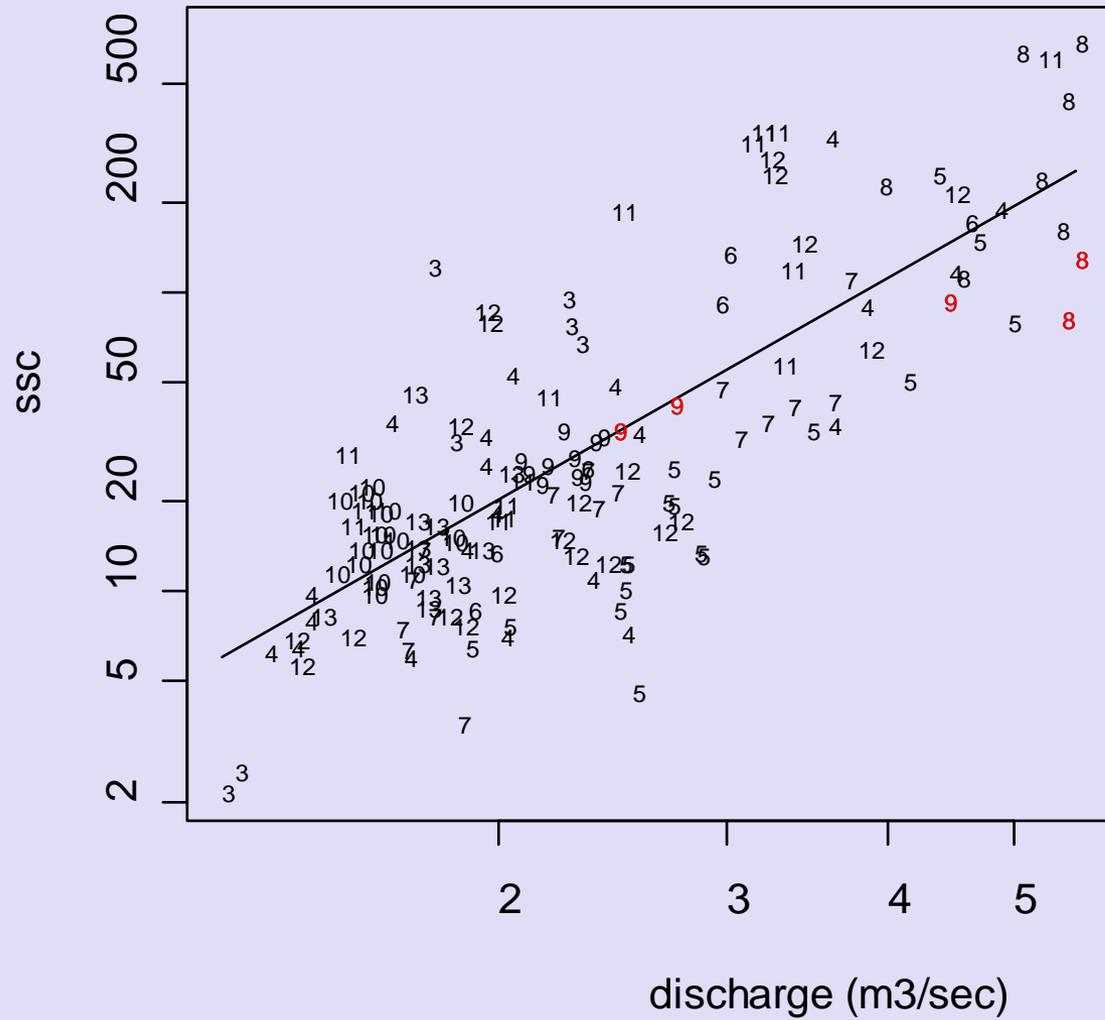


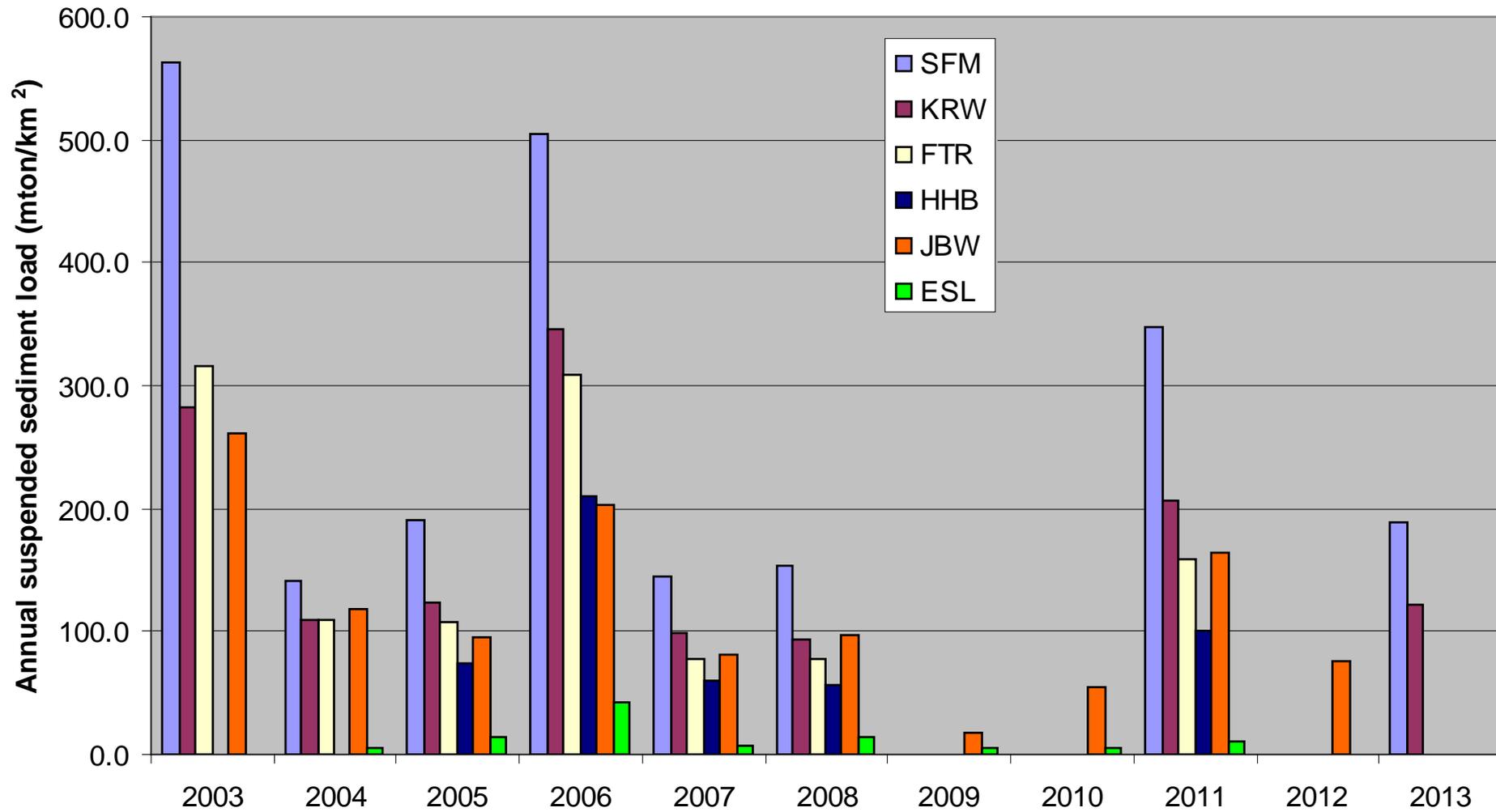
# Station SFM; 070801:0000 -



# Station SFM; 070801:0000 -

log-log fit





# Trend Detection

- Multiple regression and scatterplots
  - Explain as much variation as possible, then evaluate trend
- Responses
  - Storm event peaks
  - Storm event loads
  - Storm event mean SSC = load/flow
  - Instantaneous SSC
- Predictors
  - Same response at another watershed (preferably unmanaged)
  - Another related response at same watershed
  - Rainfall totals and decaying indexes (API)
  - Time: use scatterplots to assess linearity

# Models for Storm Peak Flow

## ● Response

- Logarithm of 6-hr maximum flow

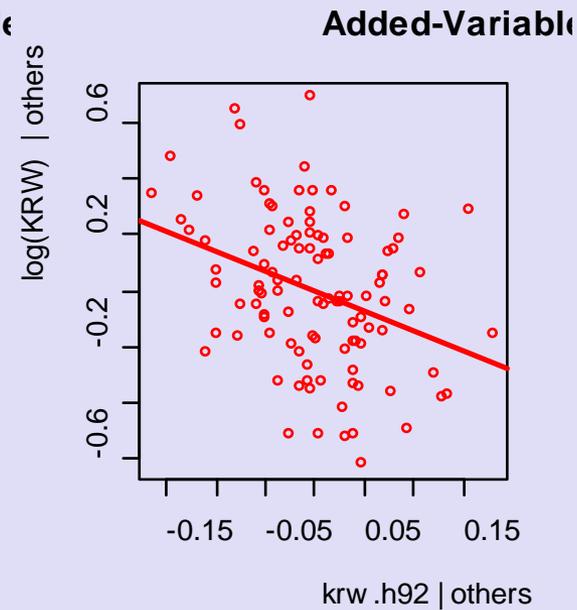
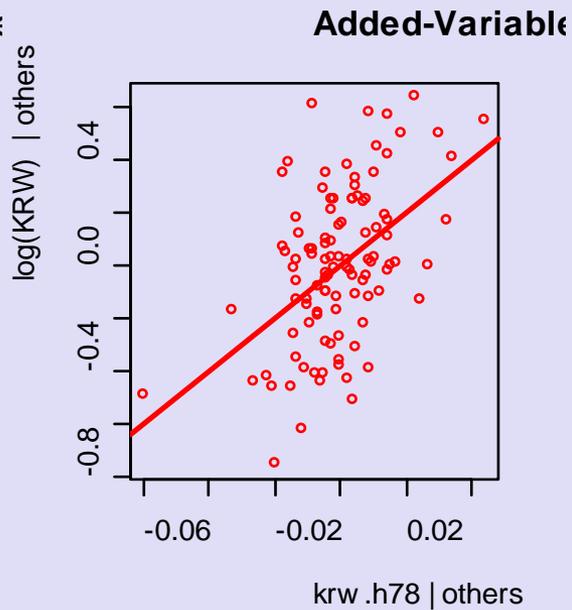
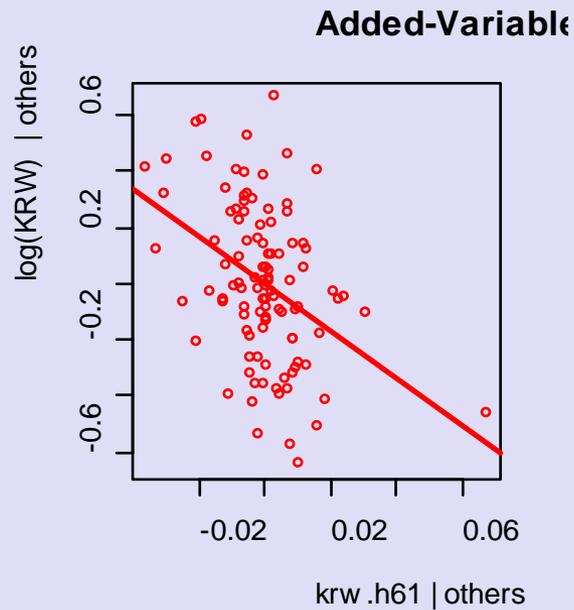
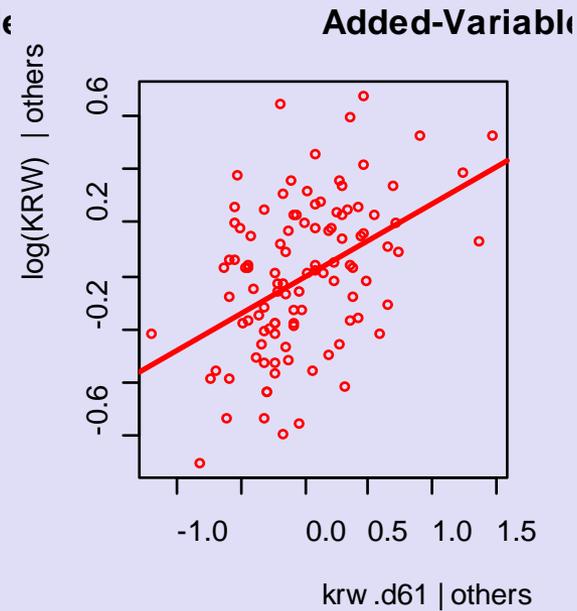
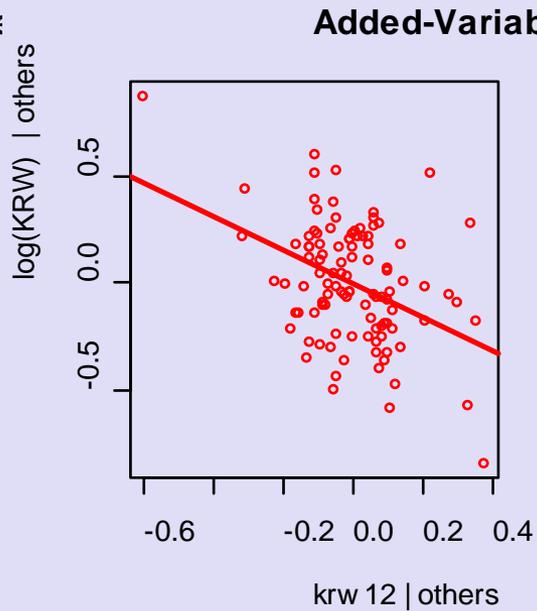
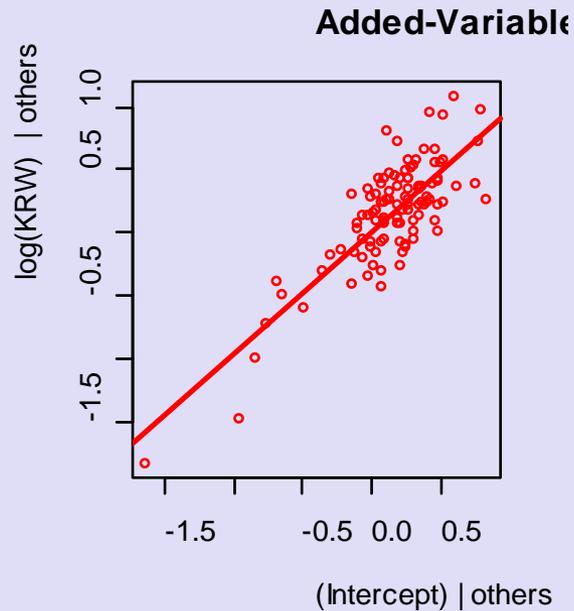
## ● Predictors

- Rainfall in the 6, 12, 18, or 24 hrs before peak
- $API_{k,i} = k API_{k,i-1} + P_i$  : hourly, daily
  - Half-lives from 1.4 hours to 32 days
- Up to 5 predictors from all possible subsets

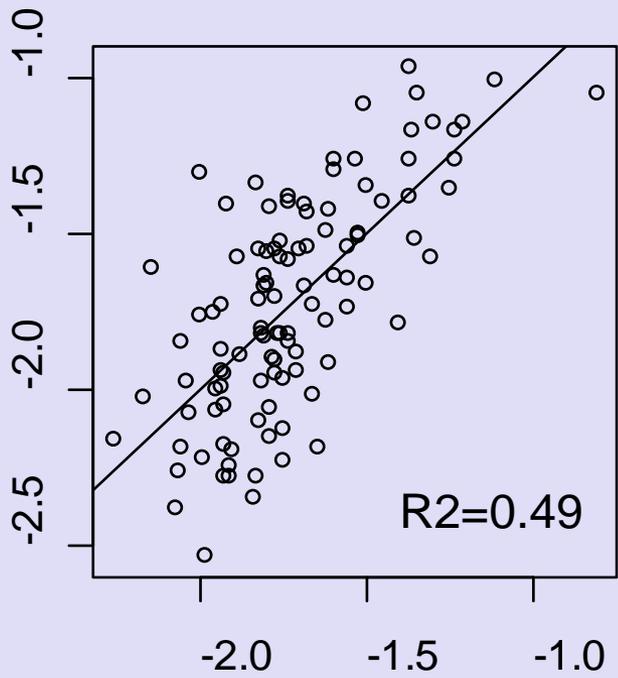
● Variation explained: SFM 51%, KRW 49%

# Daily API variables

Variable	Decay rate	Half-life (days)
D61	0.6125	1.41
D71	0.7071	2.00
D78	0.7827	2.83
D84	0.8409	4.00
D88	0.8847	5.66
D92	0.9170	8.00
D94	0.9406	11.3
D96	0.9576	16.0
D97	0.9698	22.6
D98	0.9786	32.0

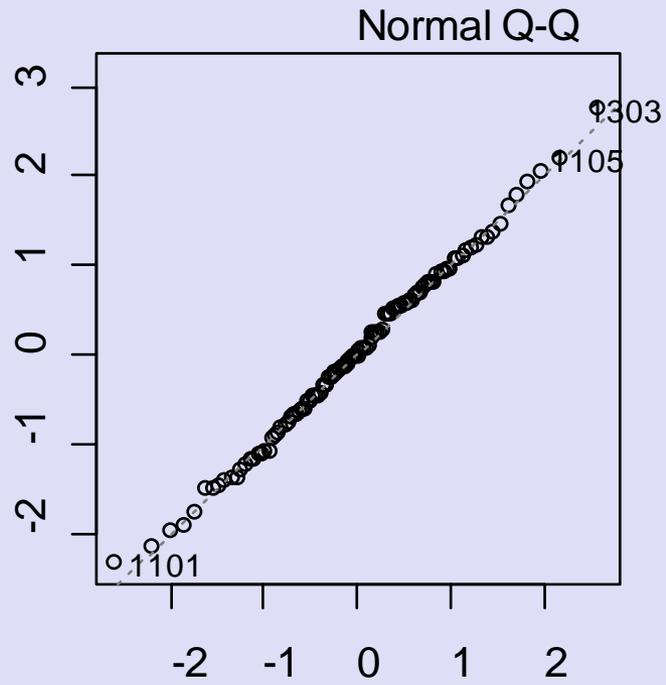


Observed Peak at KRW



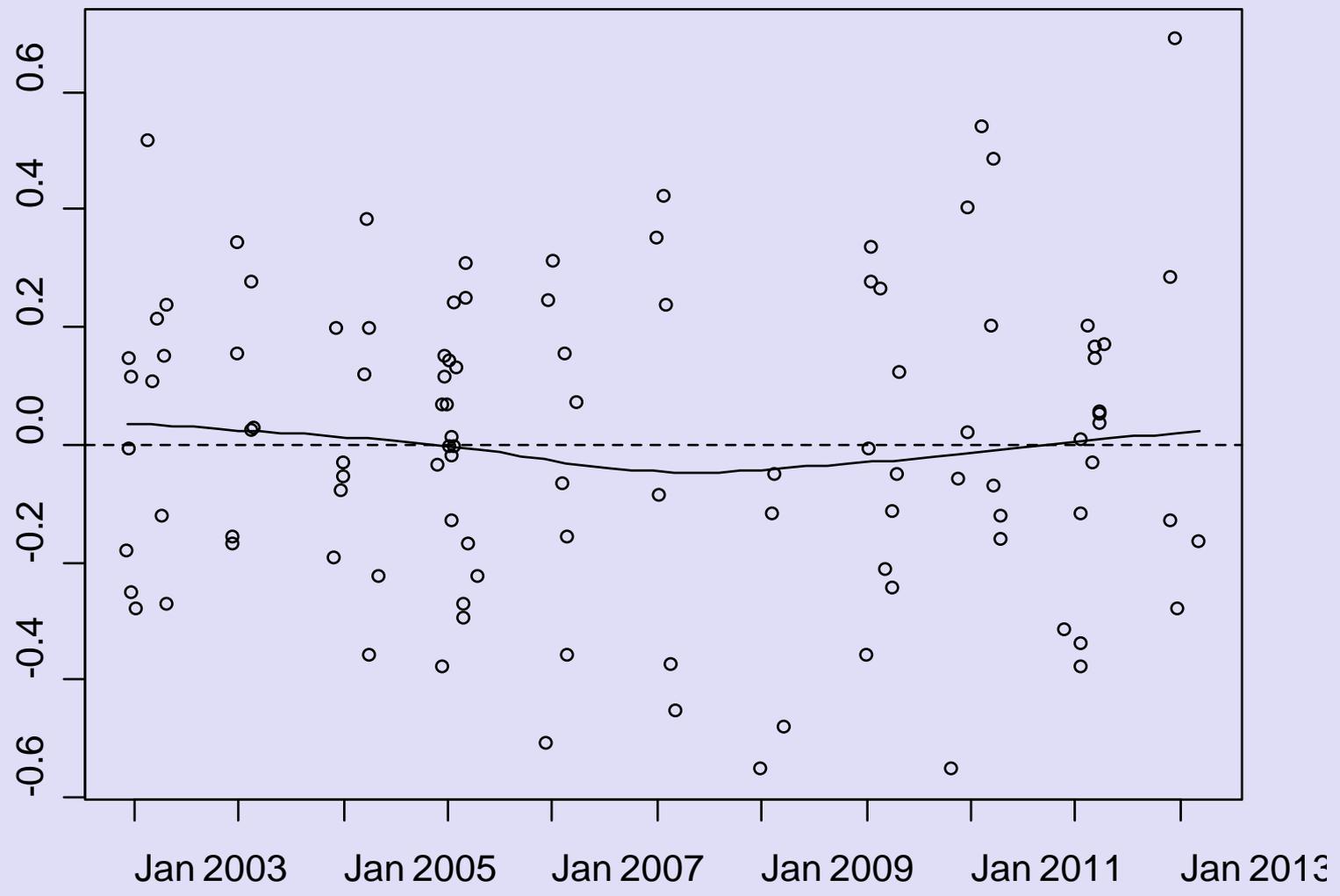
Predicted Peak at  $k$

Standardized residuals

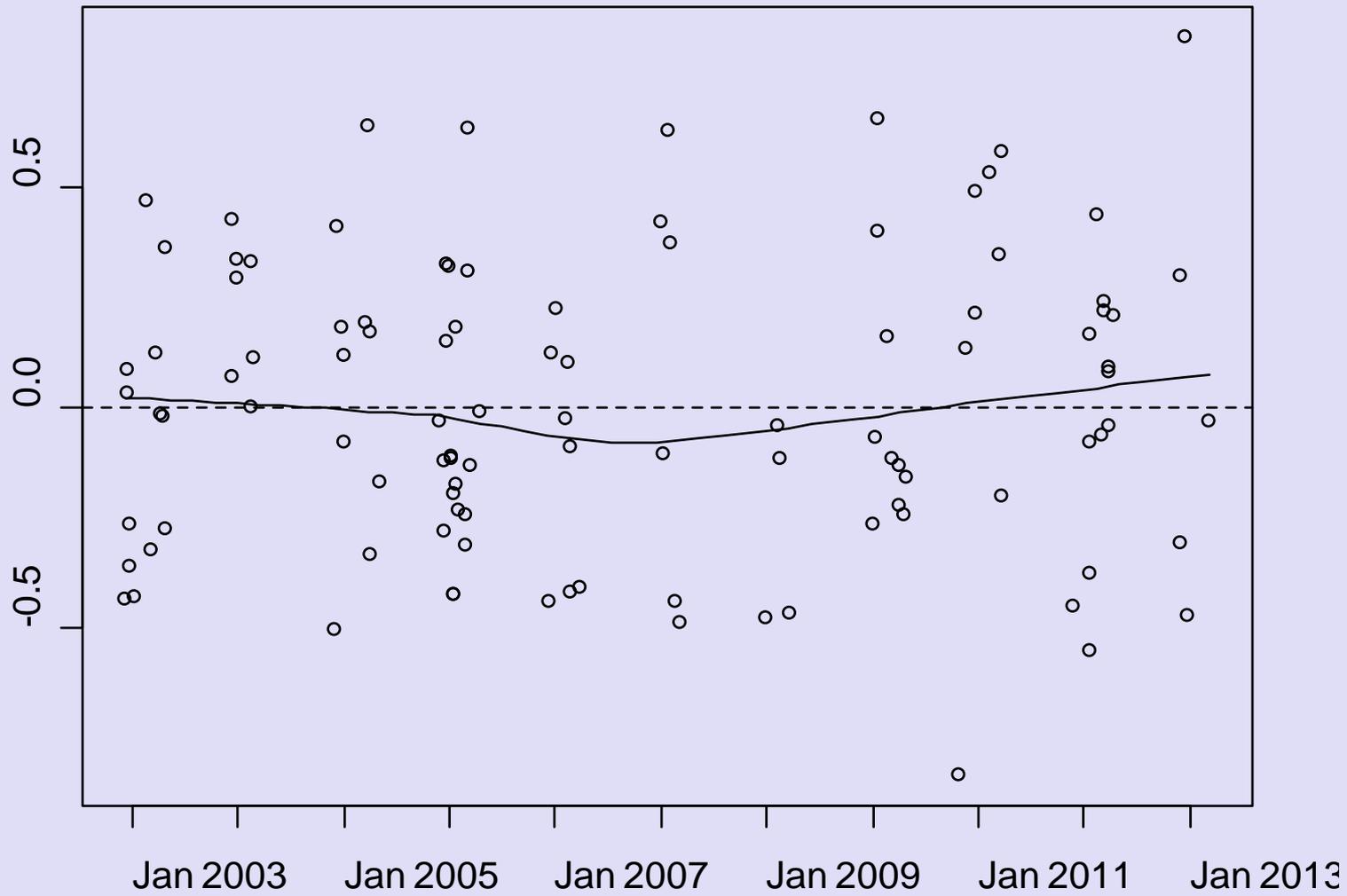


Theoretical Quantile

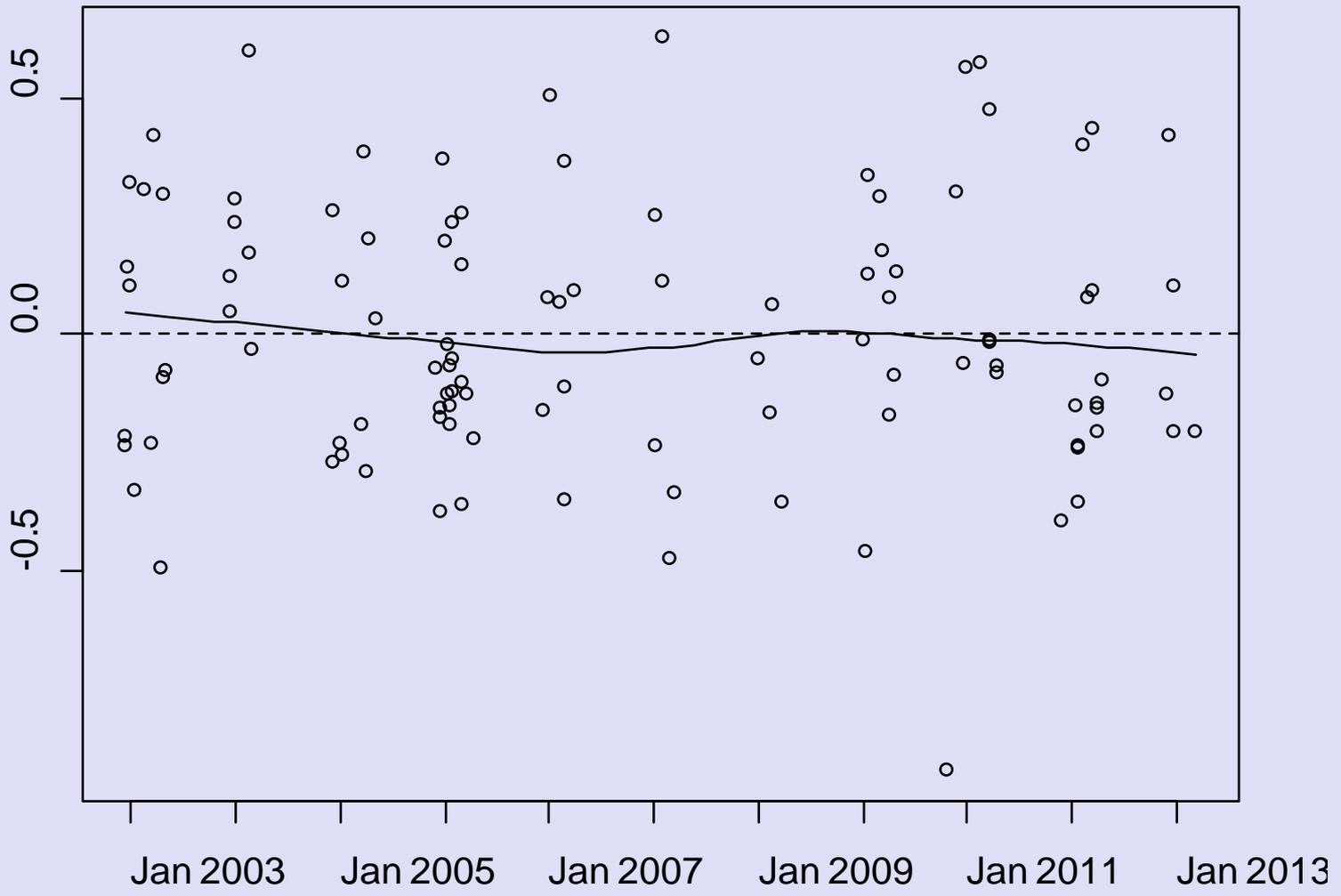
KRW peak model residual



SFM peak model residual



FTR peak model residual





# Regression Models for Storm Event Load

## ● Response

- Logarithm of storm event load

## ● Predictors

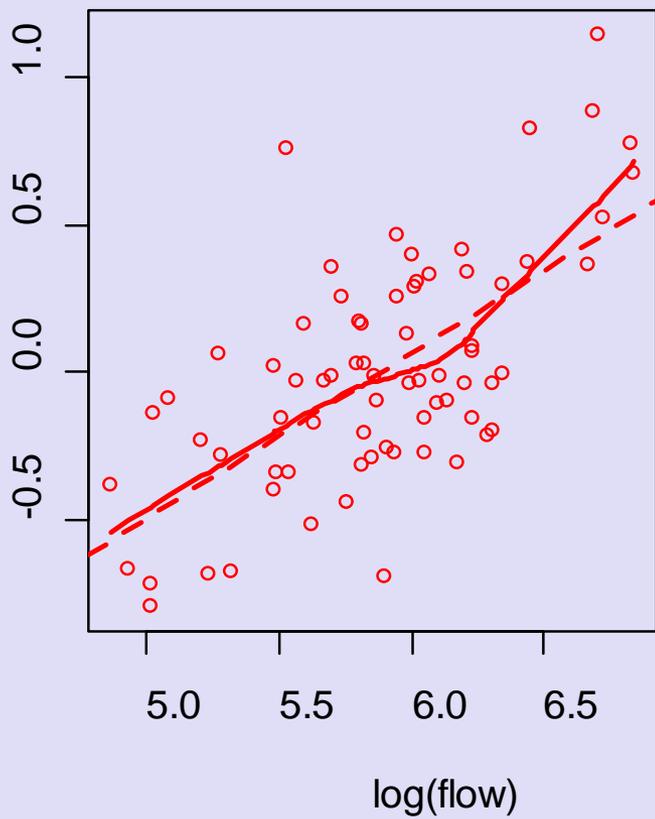
- Storm event flow volume (log or sqrt)
- Storm event peak flow (log or sqrt)

## ● Residuals are not quite independent

- Serial autocorrelation must be modeled

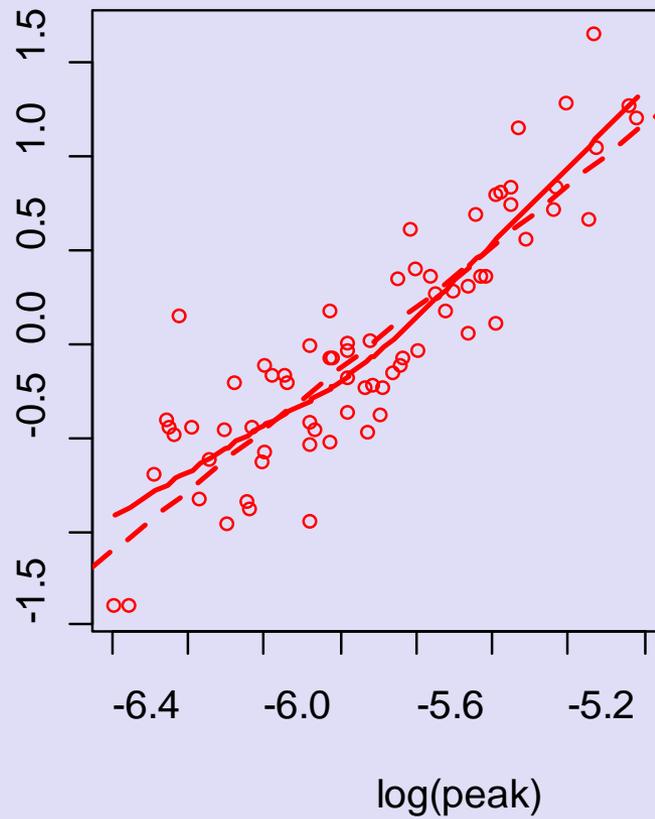
Component+Residual(log(Ic)

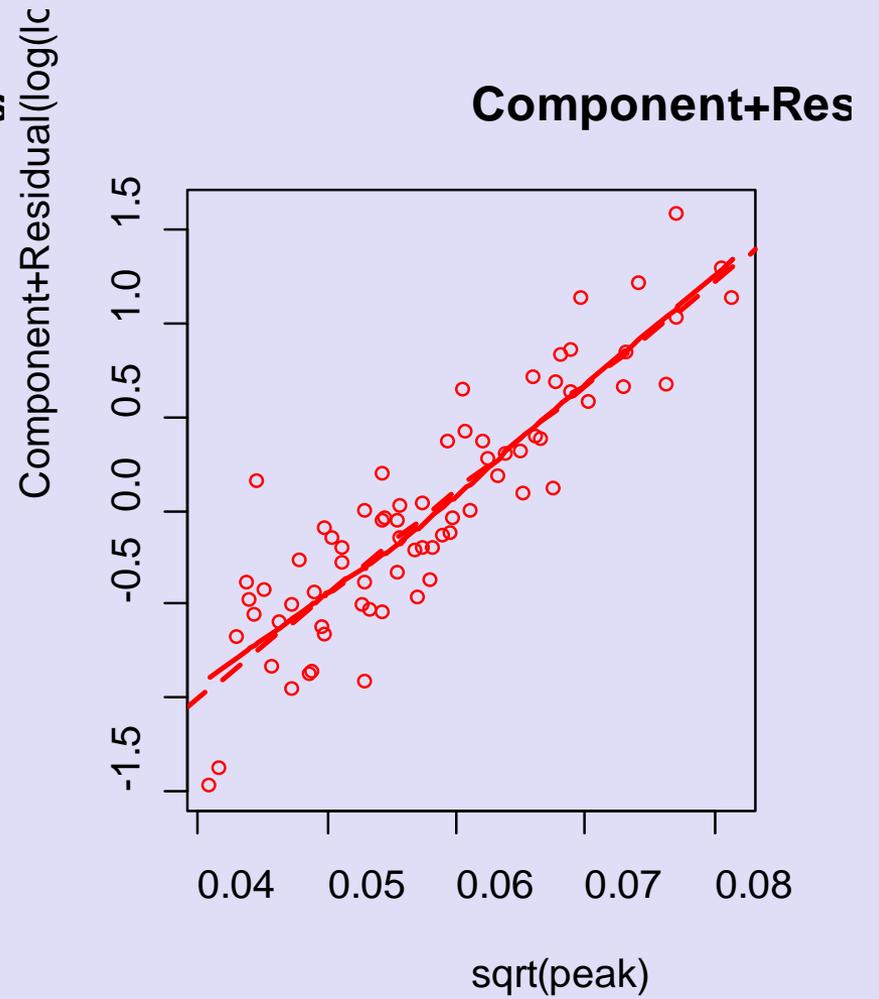
**Component+Res**



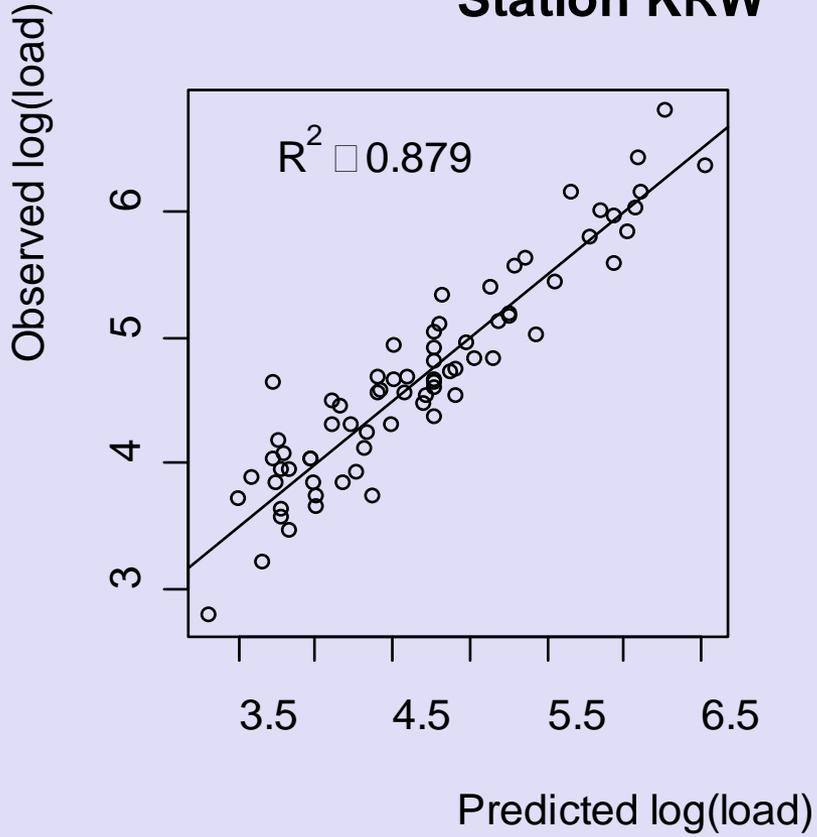
Component+Residual(log(Ic)

**Component+Res**

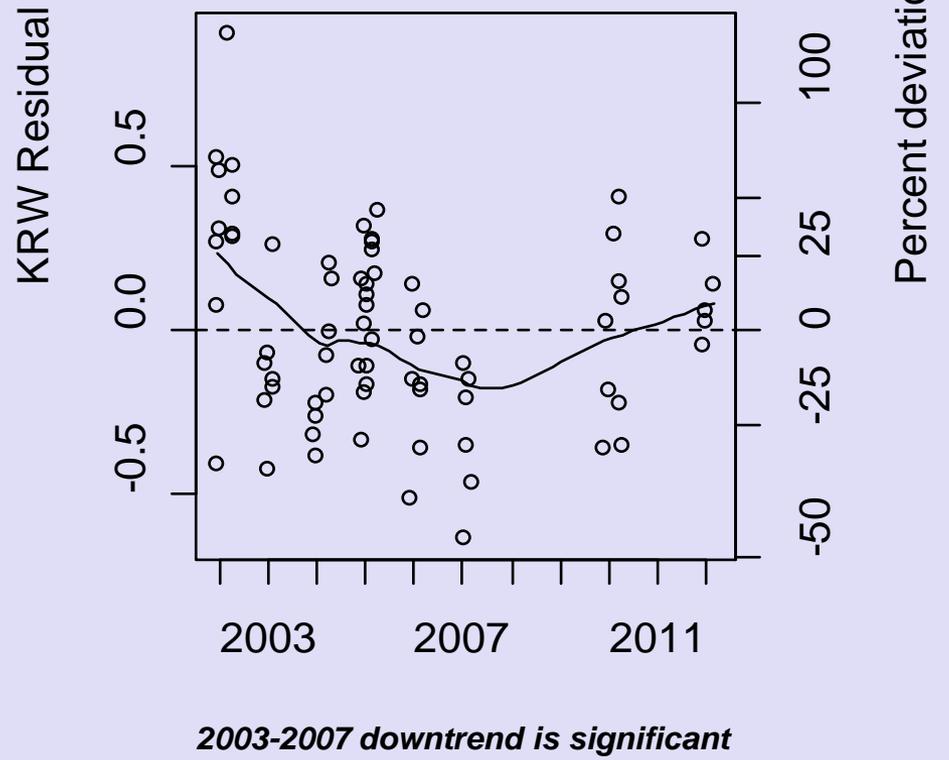


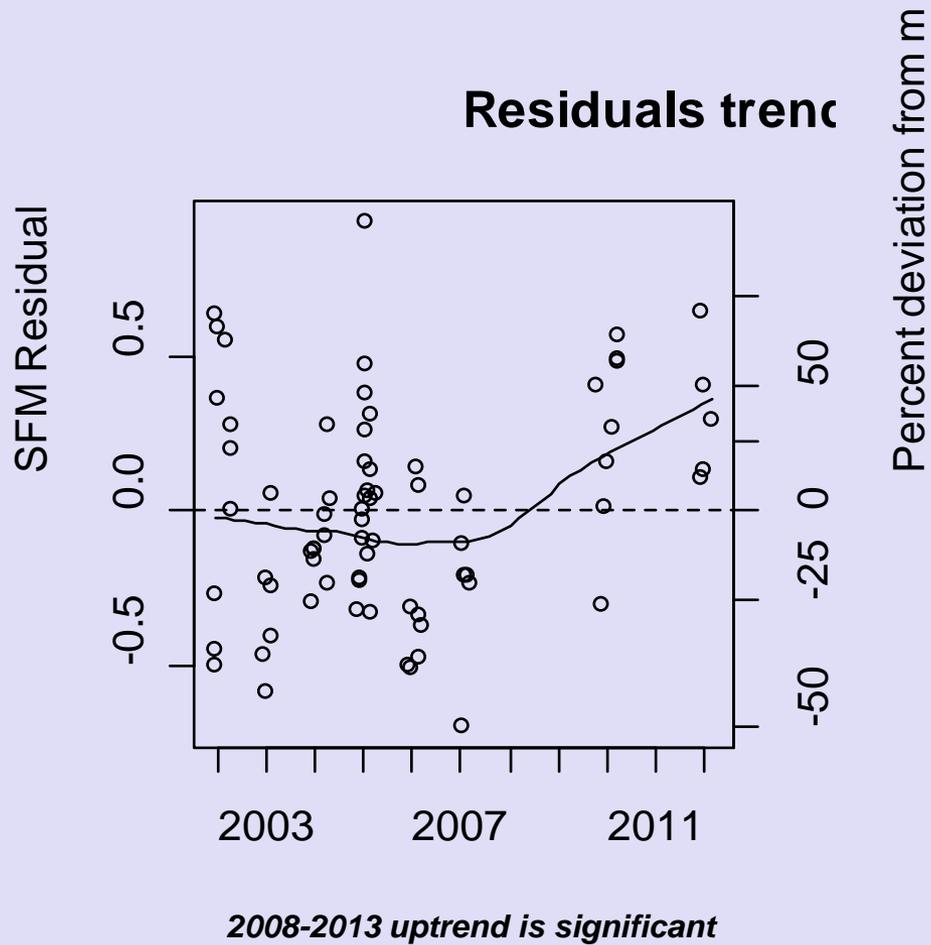
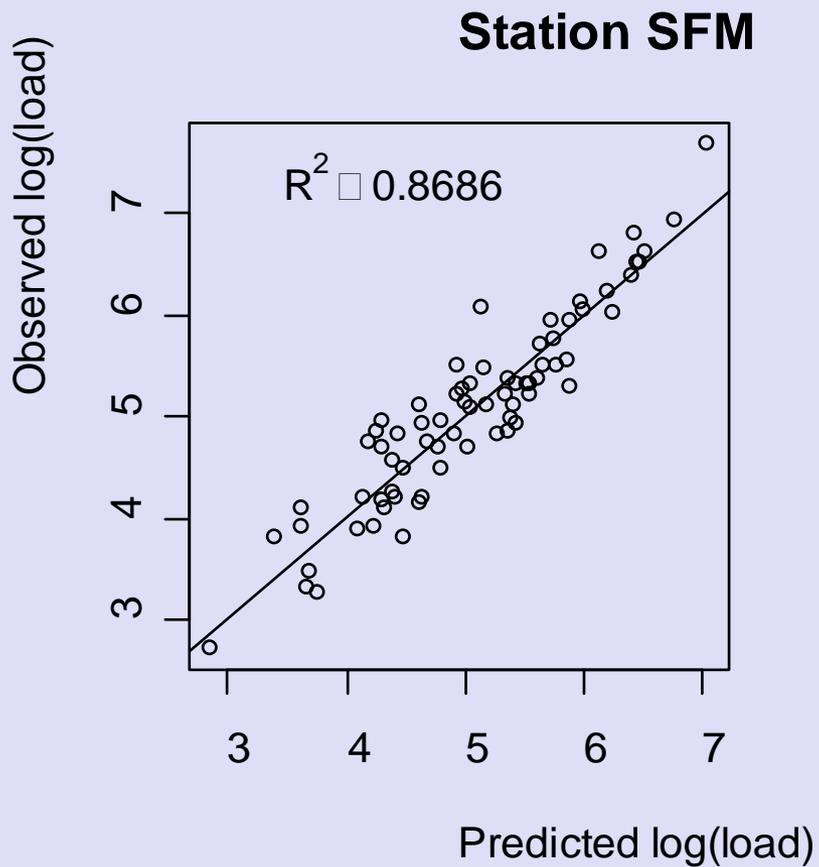


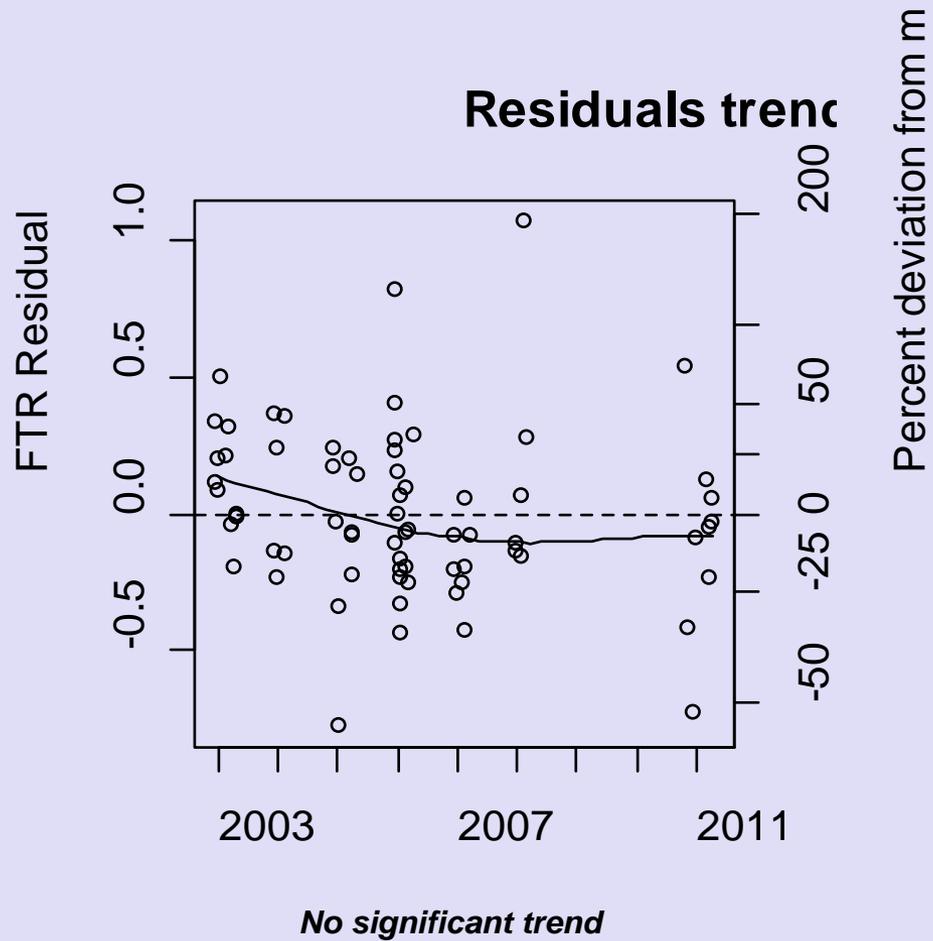
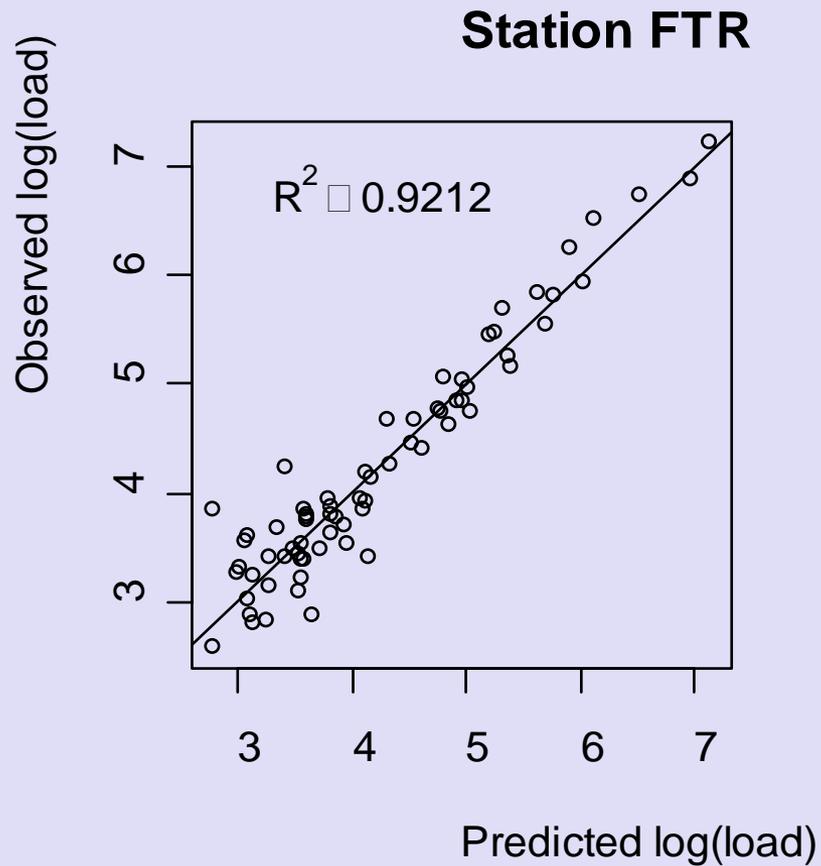
### Station KRW

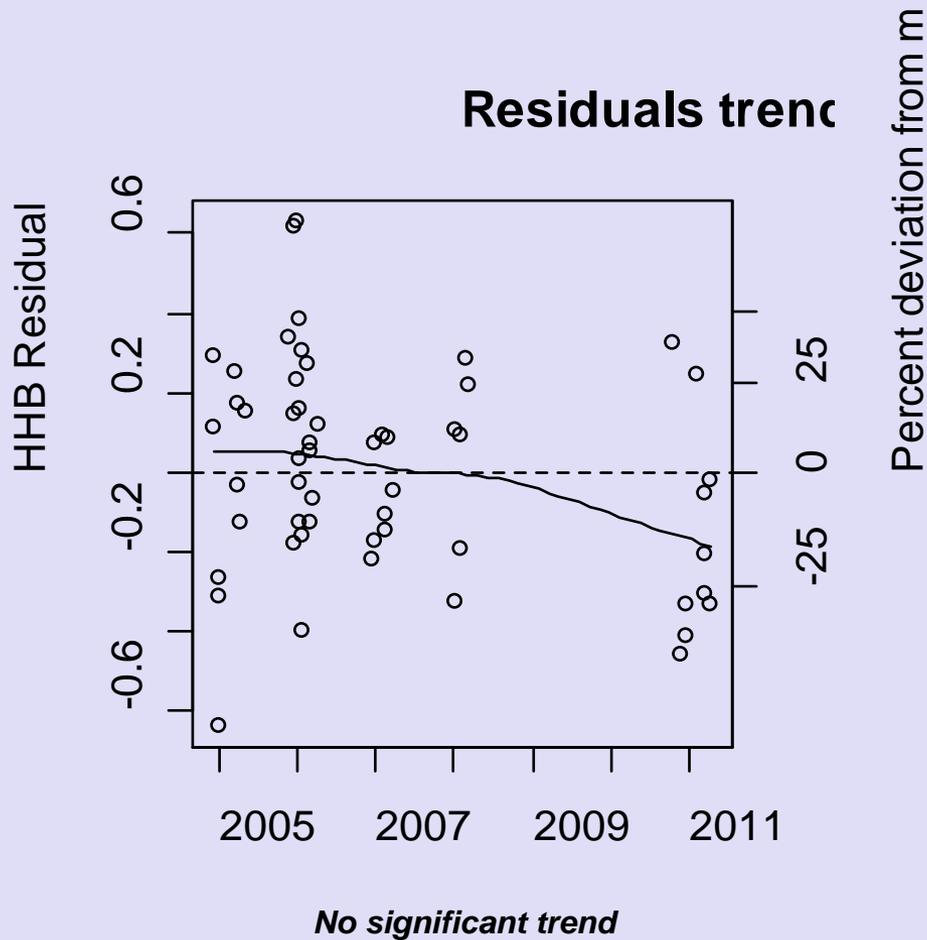
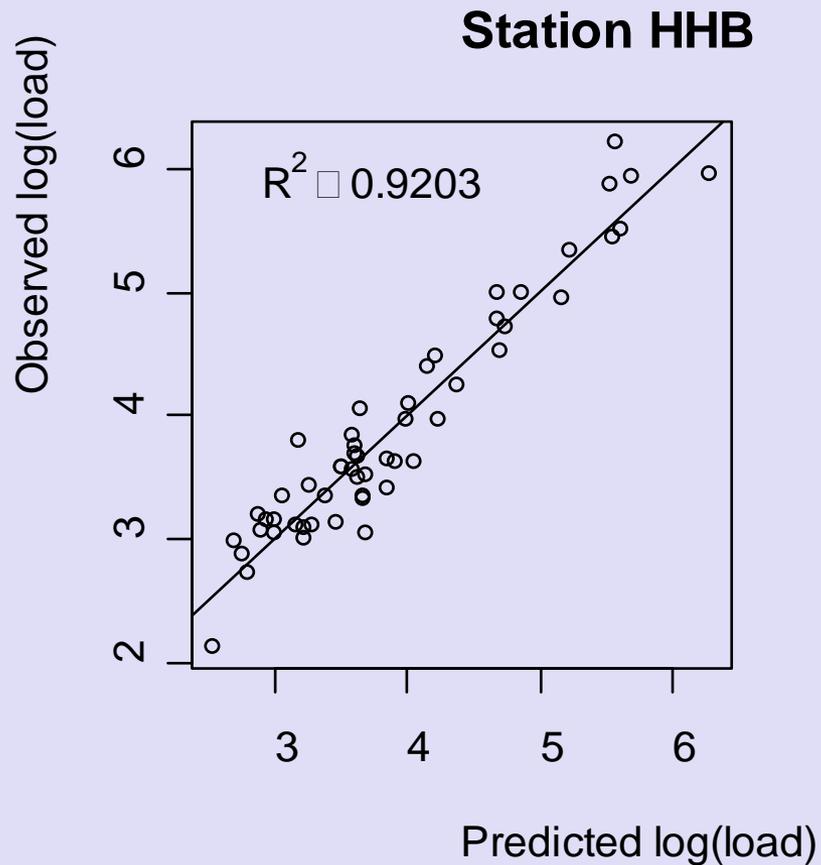


### Residuals trend









# Significance tests for trend in storm event load

Station	Years	Flow variable	Peak variable	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	Error model	Trend p-value
SFM	2003-2013	Log(flow)	Log(peak)	0.869	AR(2)	0.2045
	2006-2008	Log(flow)	Log(peak)	0.884	CAR(1)	0.3569
	2008-2013	Log(flow)	Log(peak)	0.881	IID	0.0027++
KRW	2003-2013	flow <sup>0.5</sup>	peak <sup>0.5</sup>	0.877	AR(3)	0.6798
	2006-2008	flow <sup>0.5</sup>	peak <sup>0.5</sup>	0.958	IID	0.0004--
	2008-2013	flow <sup>0.5</sup>	peak <sup>0.5</sup>	0.920	IID	0.0071+
FTR	2003-2011	Log(flow)	Log(peak)	0.923	AR(1)	0.3154
	2003-2007	Log(flow)	Log(peak)	0.942	IID	0.0390-
HHB	2005-2011	flow <sup>0.5</sup>	peak <sup>0.5</sup>	0.921	IID	0.0602
	2006-2011	flow <sup>0.5</sup>	peak <sup>0.5</sup>	0.935	IID	0.0086-

# Models for Instantaneous SSC

## ● Response

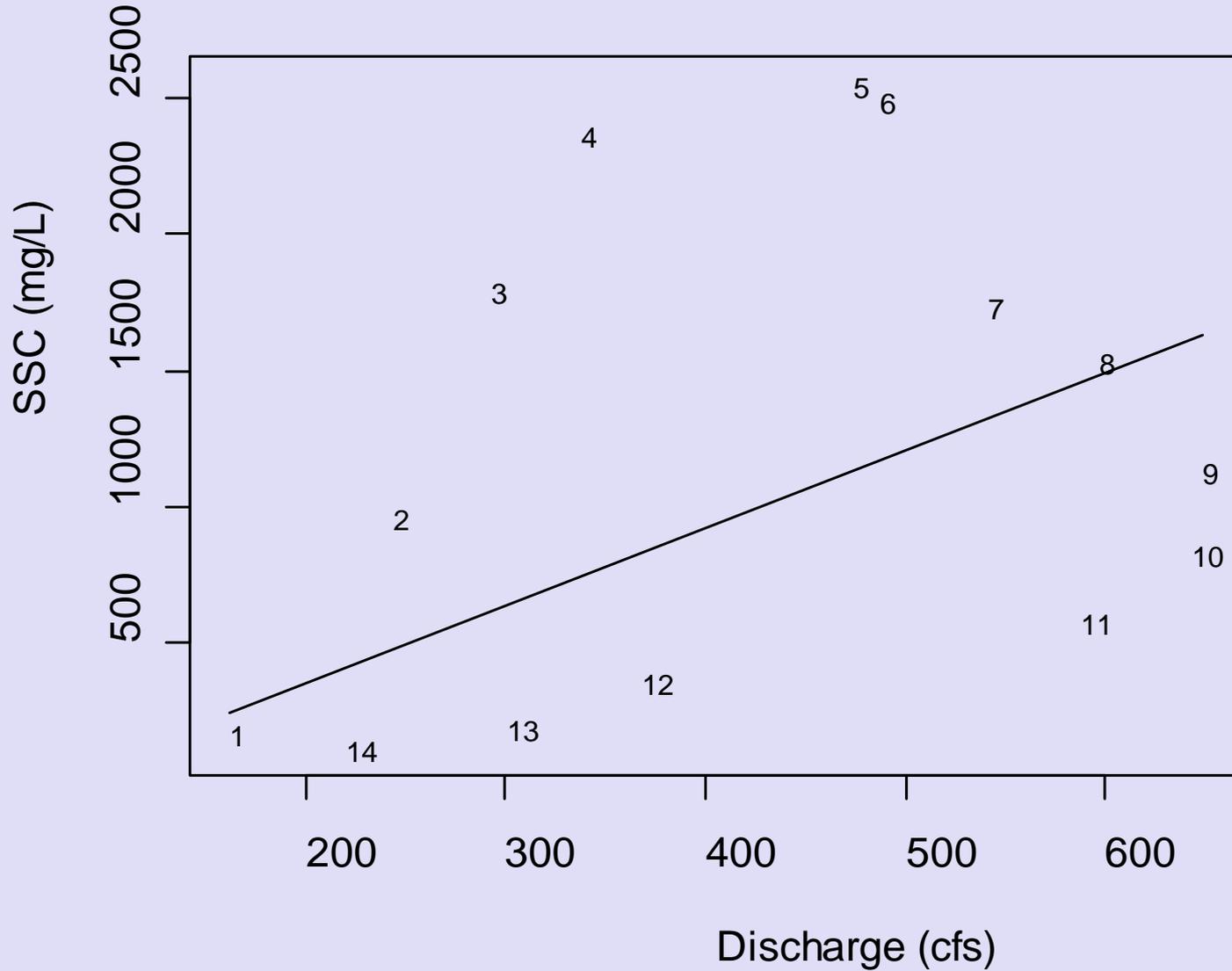
- Logarithm of SSC

## ● Predictors

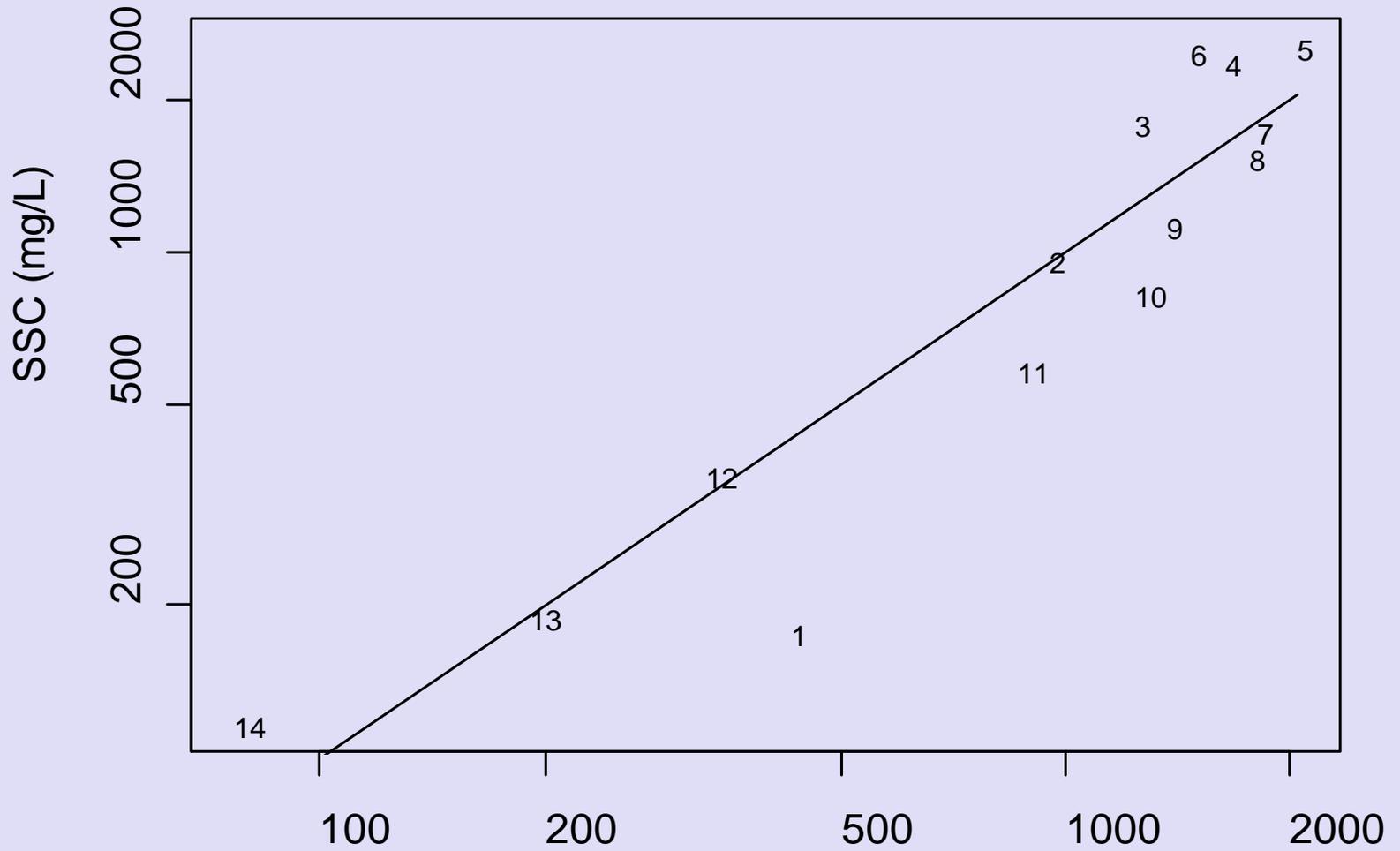
- Logarithm of simultaneous discharge
- Hourly API, half-life 3-4 hrs
- Two predictors only

## ● Serial autocorrelation important

# Station SFM: Jan 4-6, 2001

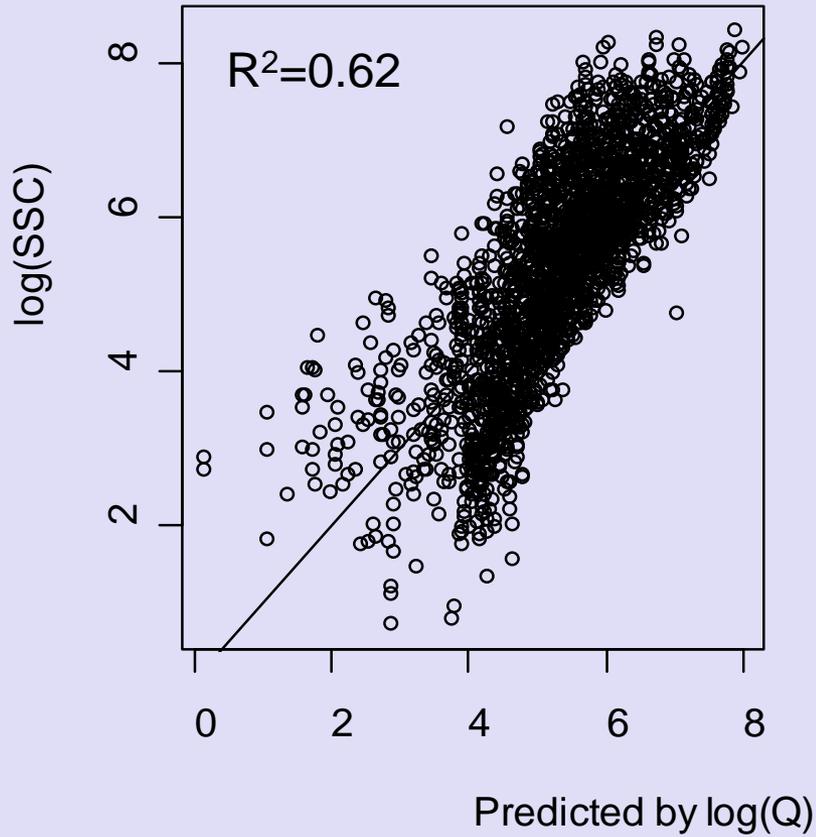


# Station SFM: Jan 4-6, 2008

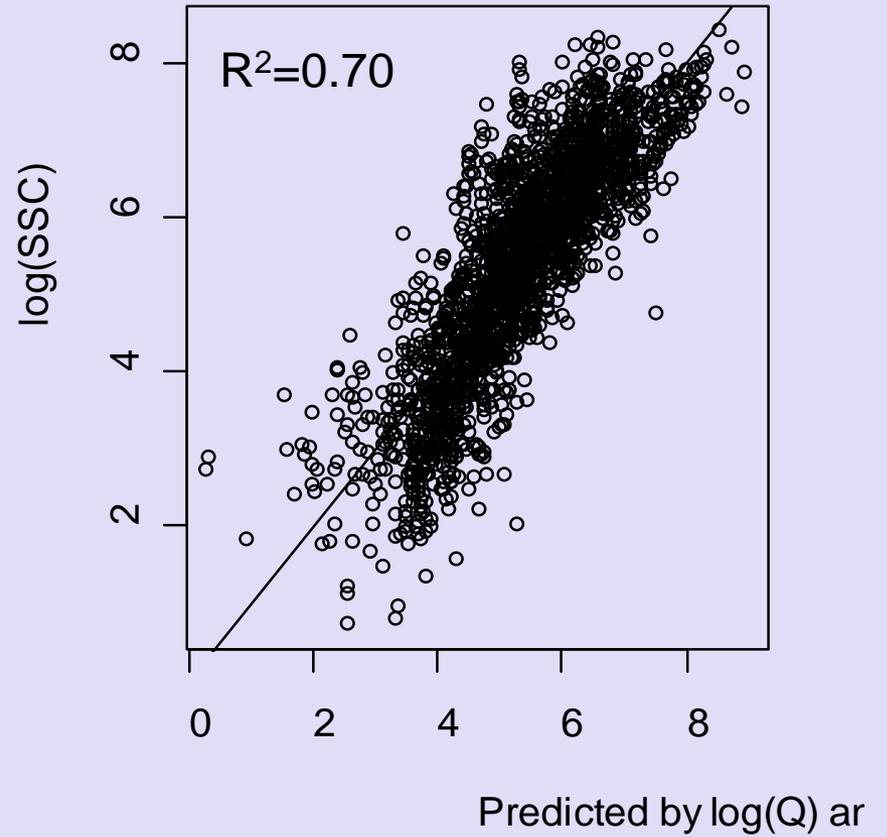


Predicted SSC from bivariate rating

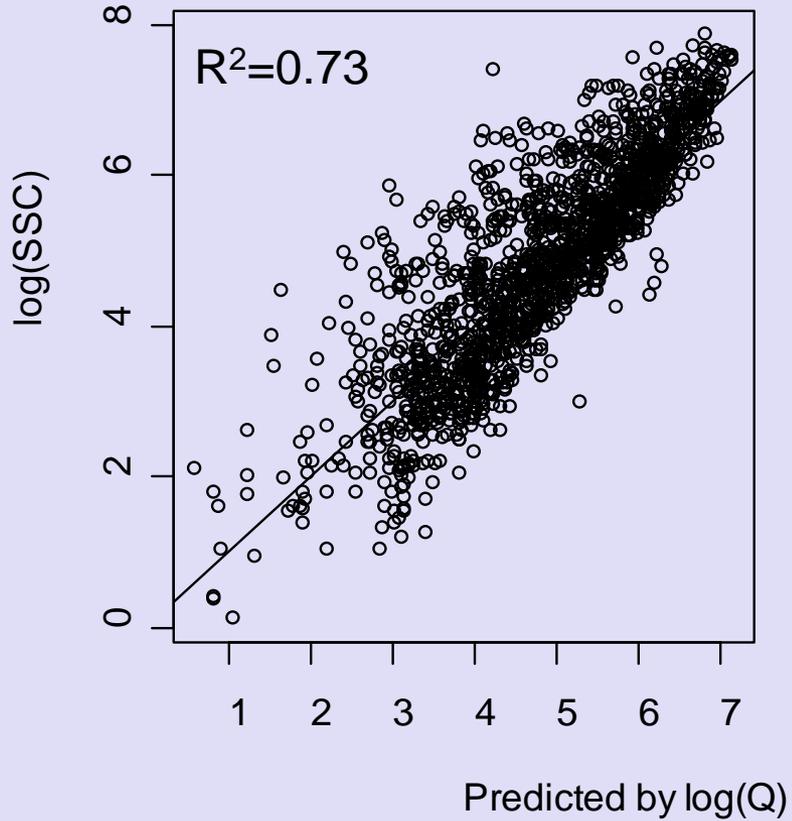
**SFM 2003-2013**



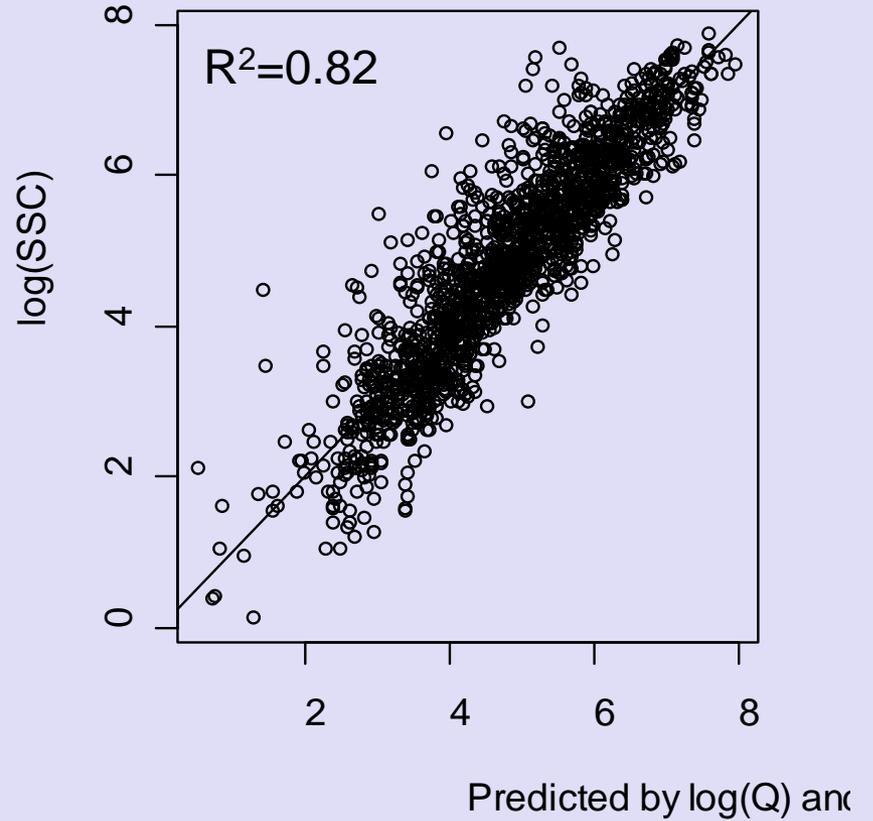
**SFM 2003-2013**



**KRW 2003-2013**

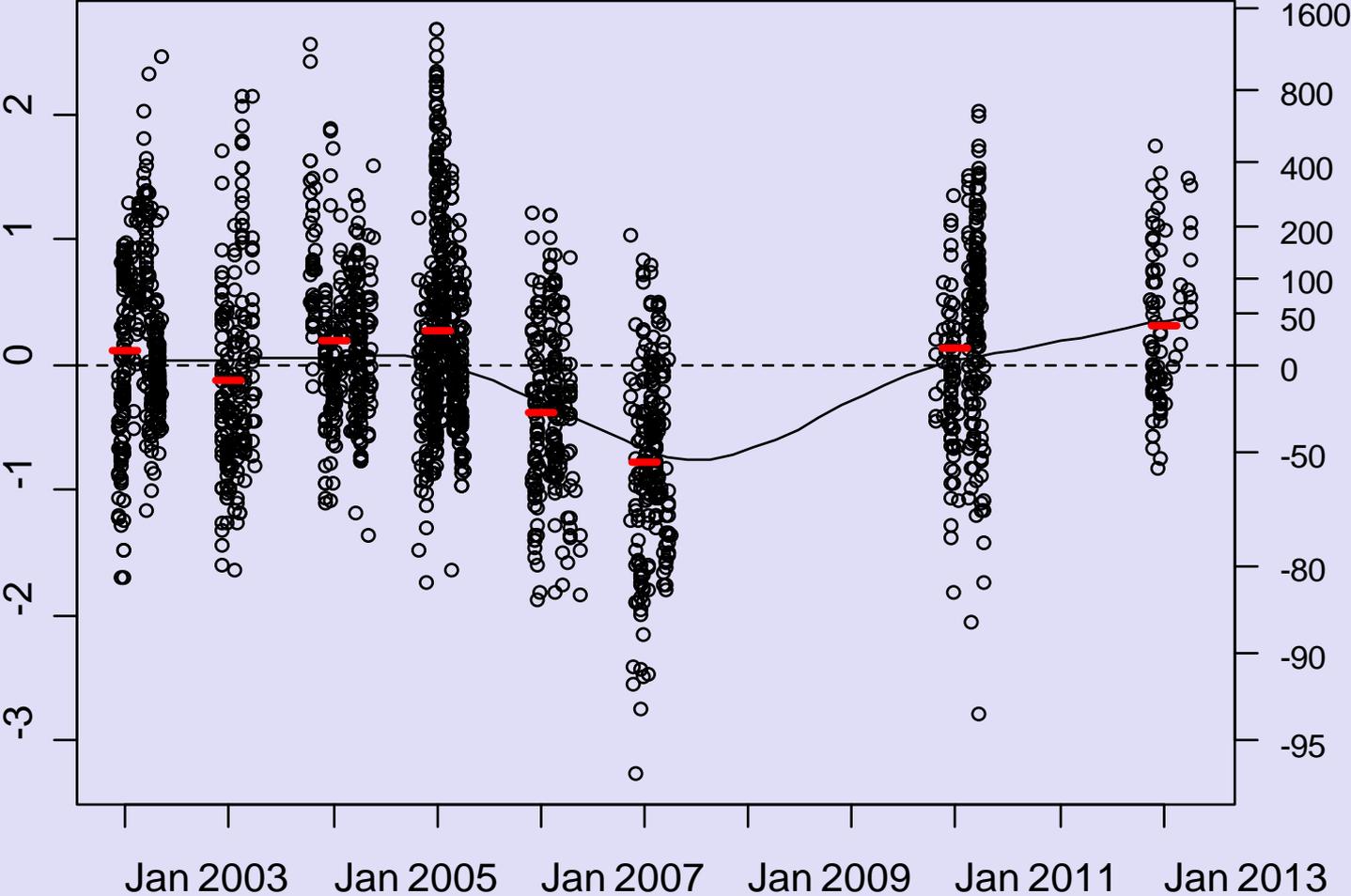


**KRW 2003-2013**



# Station SFM: 2003-2013

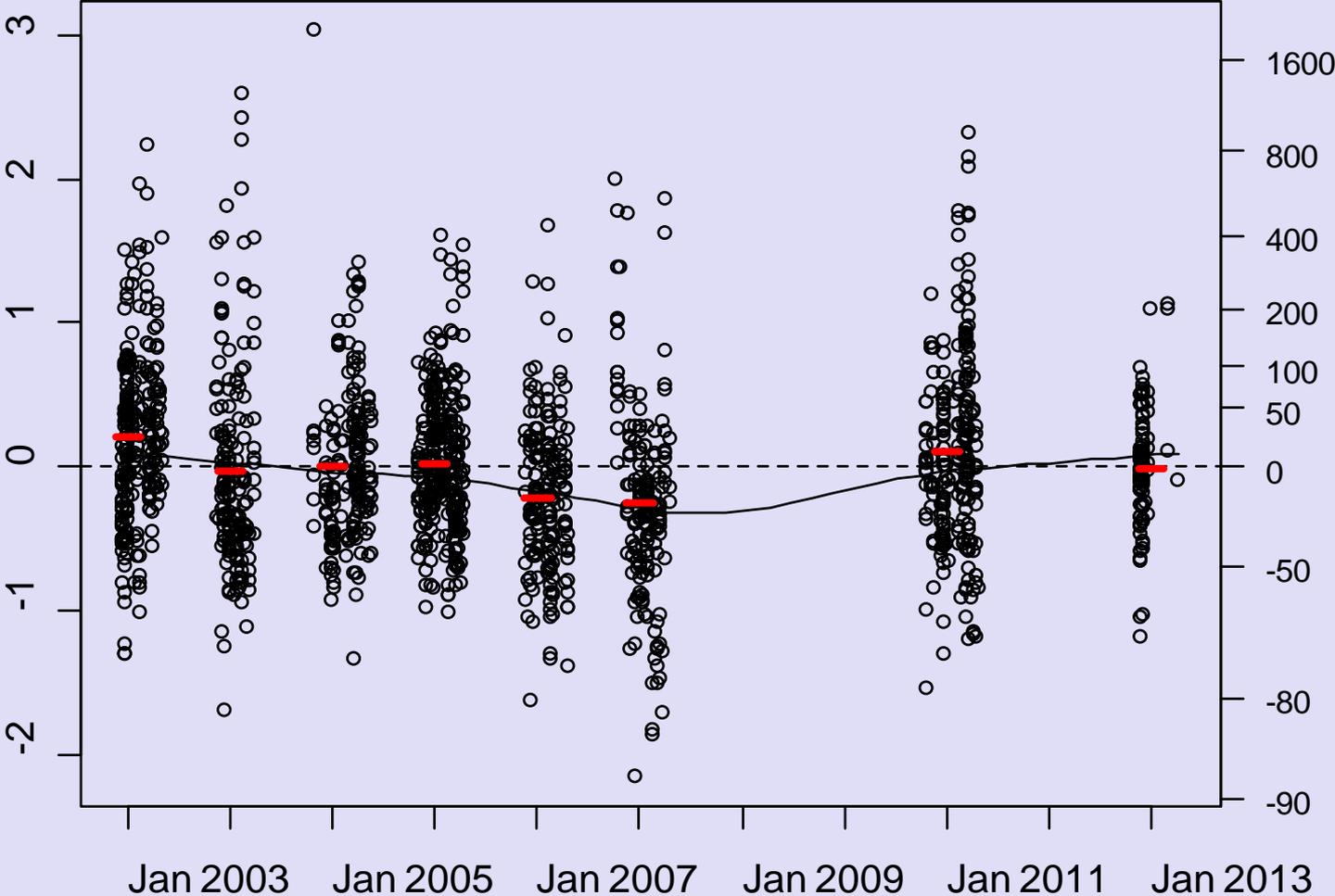
Residual log(SSC) not explained  
by discharge and API



Percent deviation from mean

# Station KRW: 2003-2013

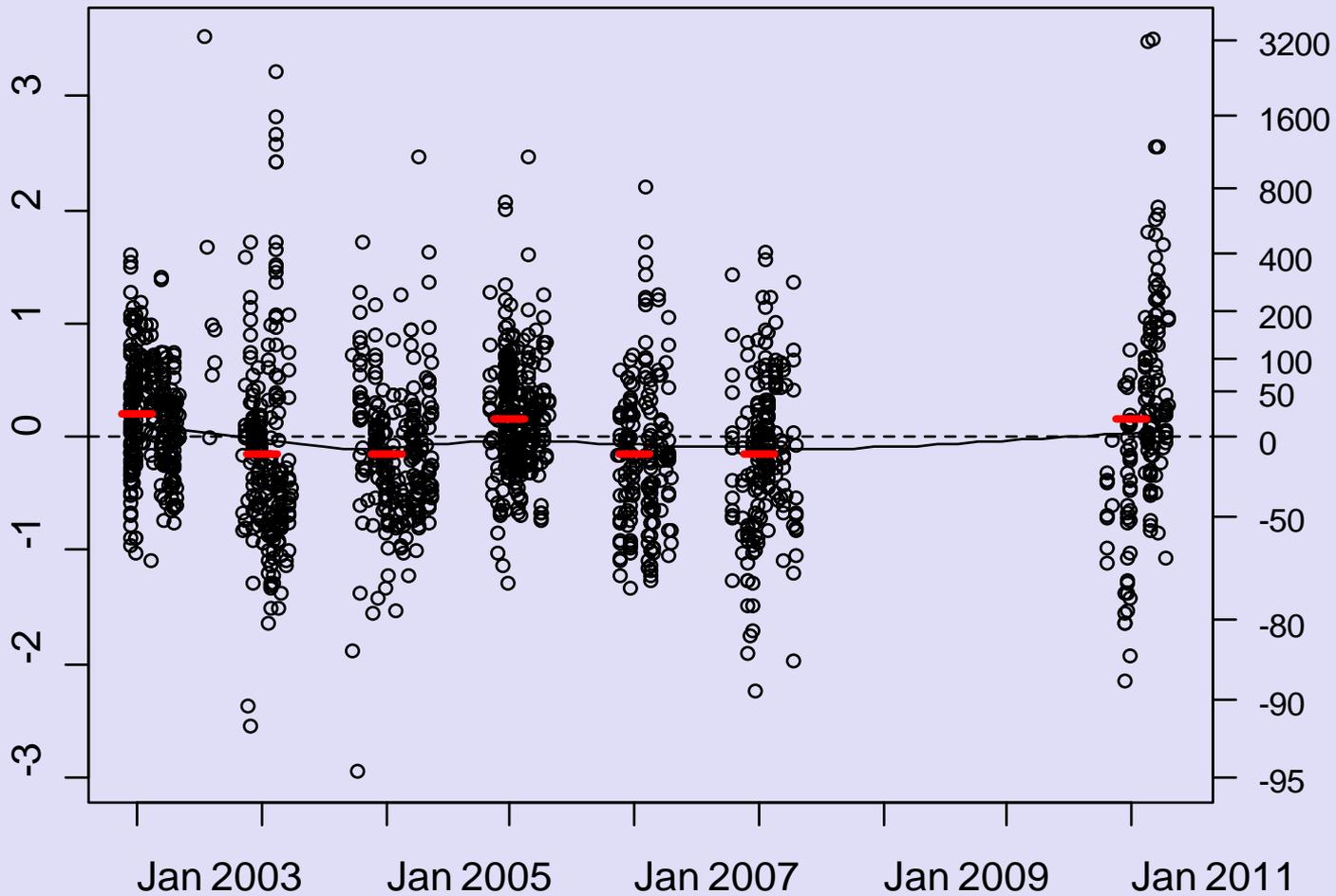
Residual log(SSC) not explained  
by flow and rainfall history



Percent deviation from mean

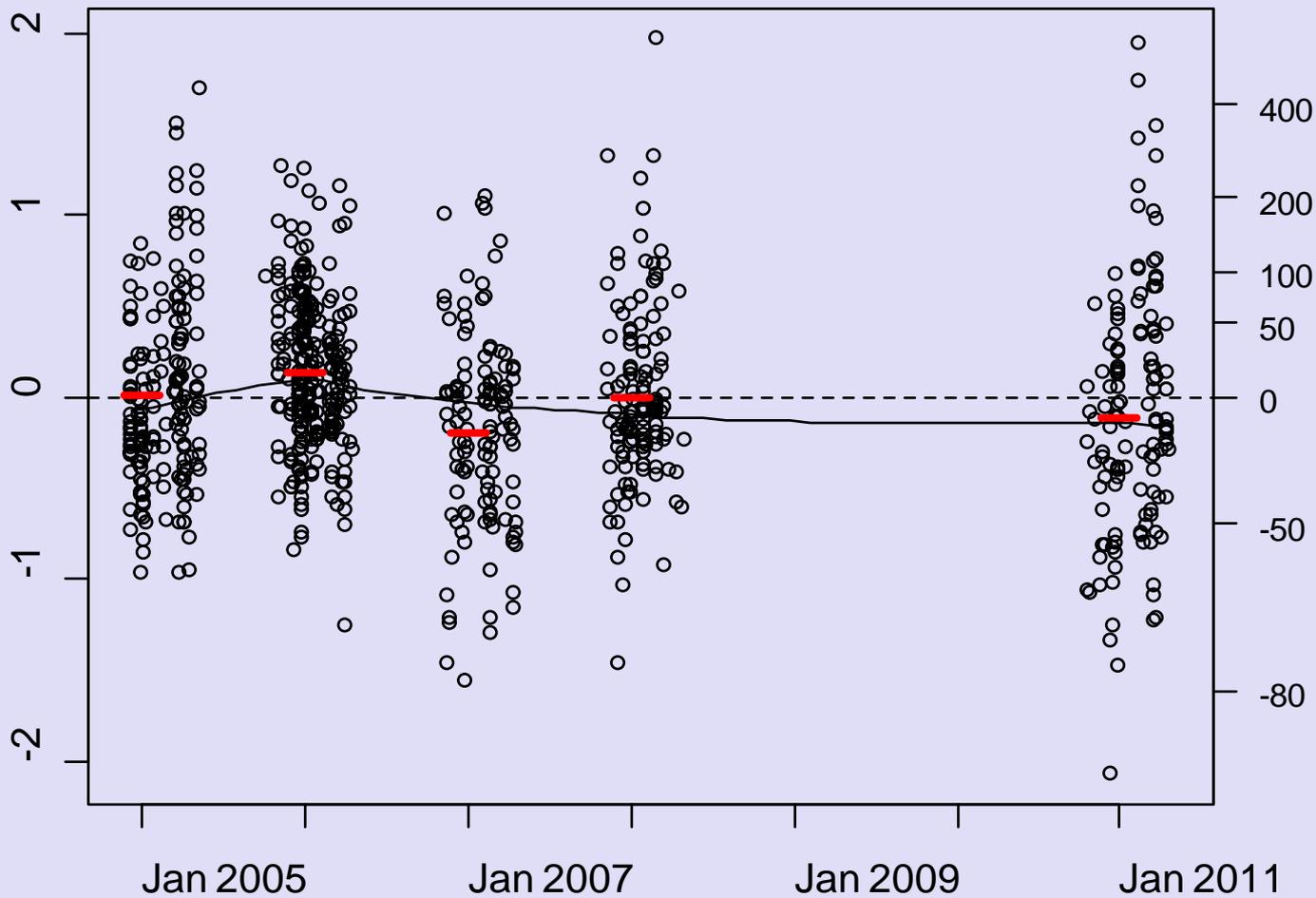
Residual log(SSC) not explained  
by flow and rainfall history

### Station FTR: 2003-2011



Residual log(SSC) not explained  
by flow and rainfall history

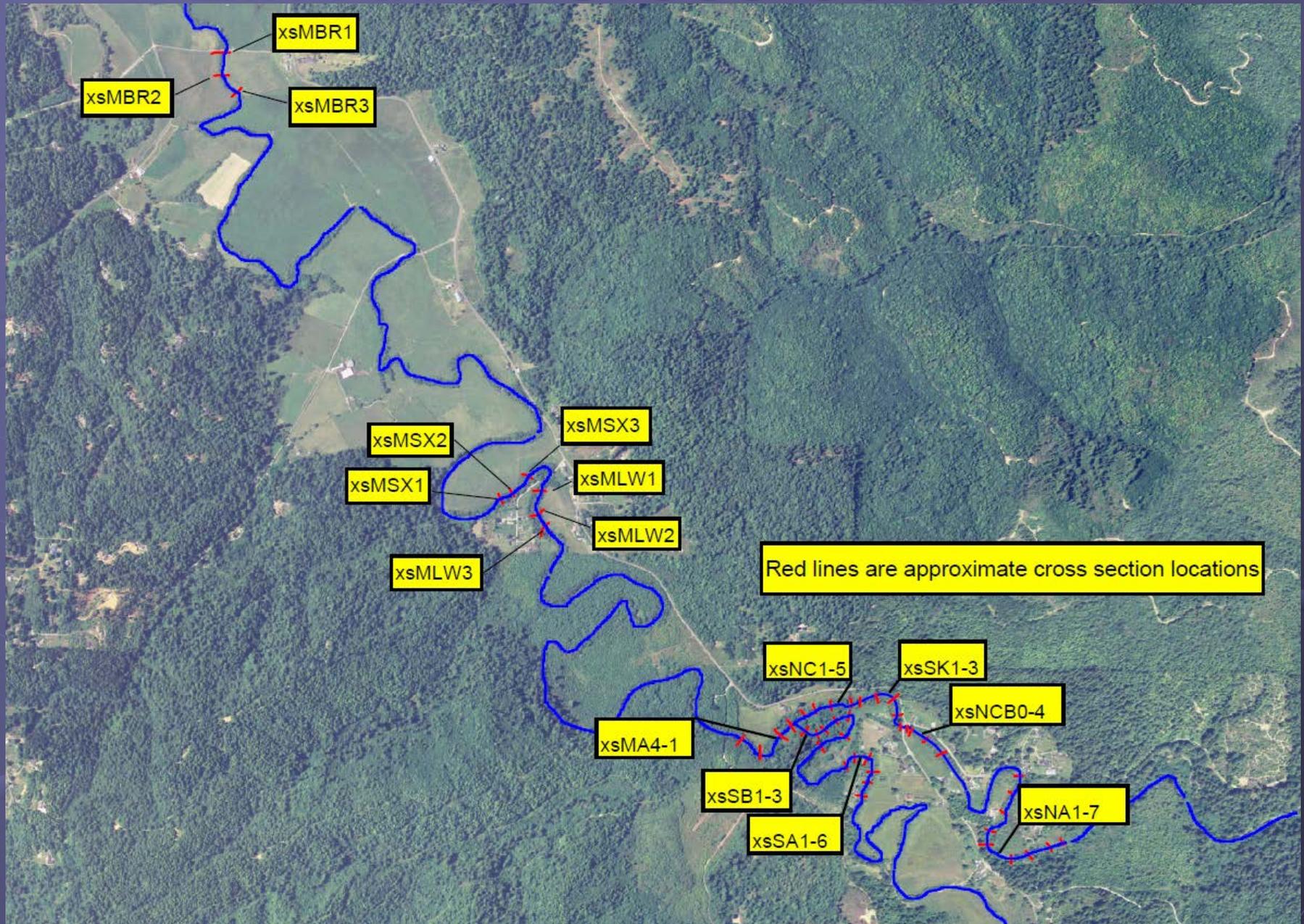
### Station HHB: 2005-2011



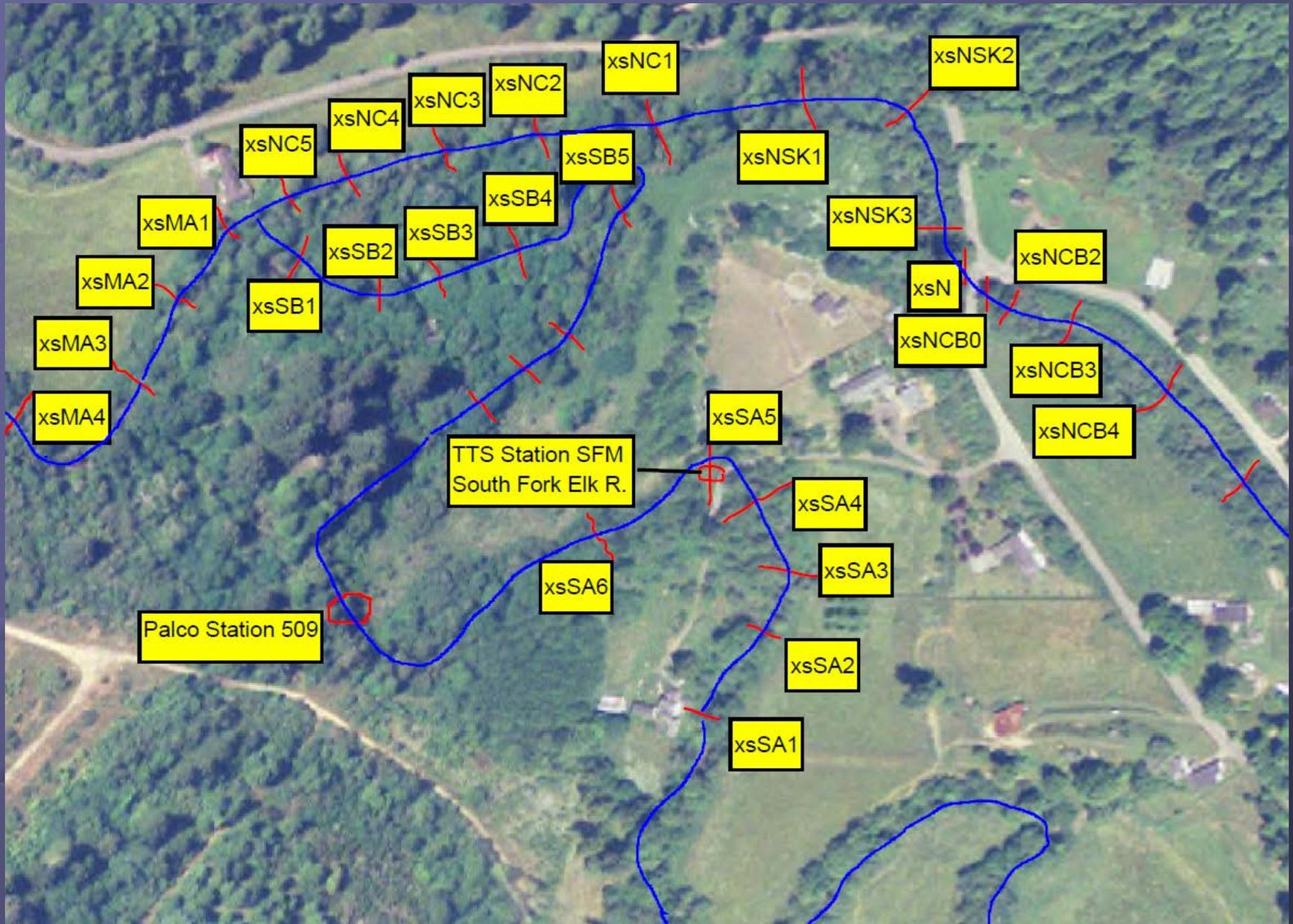
# Significance tests for trend in instantaneous SSC

Station	Years	Flow variable	API variable	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	Error model	Trend p-value
SFM	2003-2013	Log(Q)	H82 <sup>0.5</sup>	0.696	AR(4)	0.8960
	2006-2008	Log(Q)	H84 <sup>0.23</sup>	0.764	AR(2)	0.0003--
	2008-2013	Log(Q)	H80	0.834	AR(2)	0.0000++
KRW	2003-2013	Log(Q)	H84 <sup>0.5</sup>	0.817	AR(2)	0.5703
	2006-2008	Log(Q)	H90 <sup>0.5</sup>	0.856	AR(2)	0.0050--
	2008-2013	Log(Q)	H88 <sup>0.66</sup>	0.781	AR(2)	0.2676
FTR	2003-2011	Q <sup>0.35</sup>	H88 <sup>0.7</sup>	0.808	AR(3)	0.8013
HHB	2005-2011	Q <sup>0.2</sup>	H85 <sup>0.67</sup>	0.830	AR(1)	0.0813

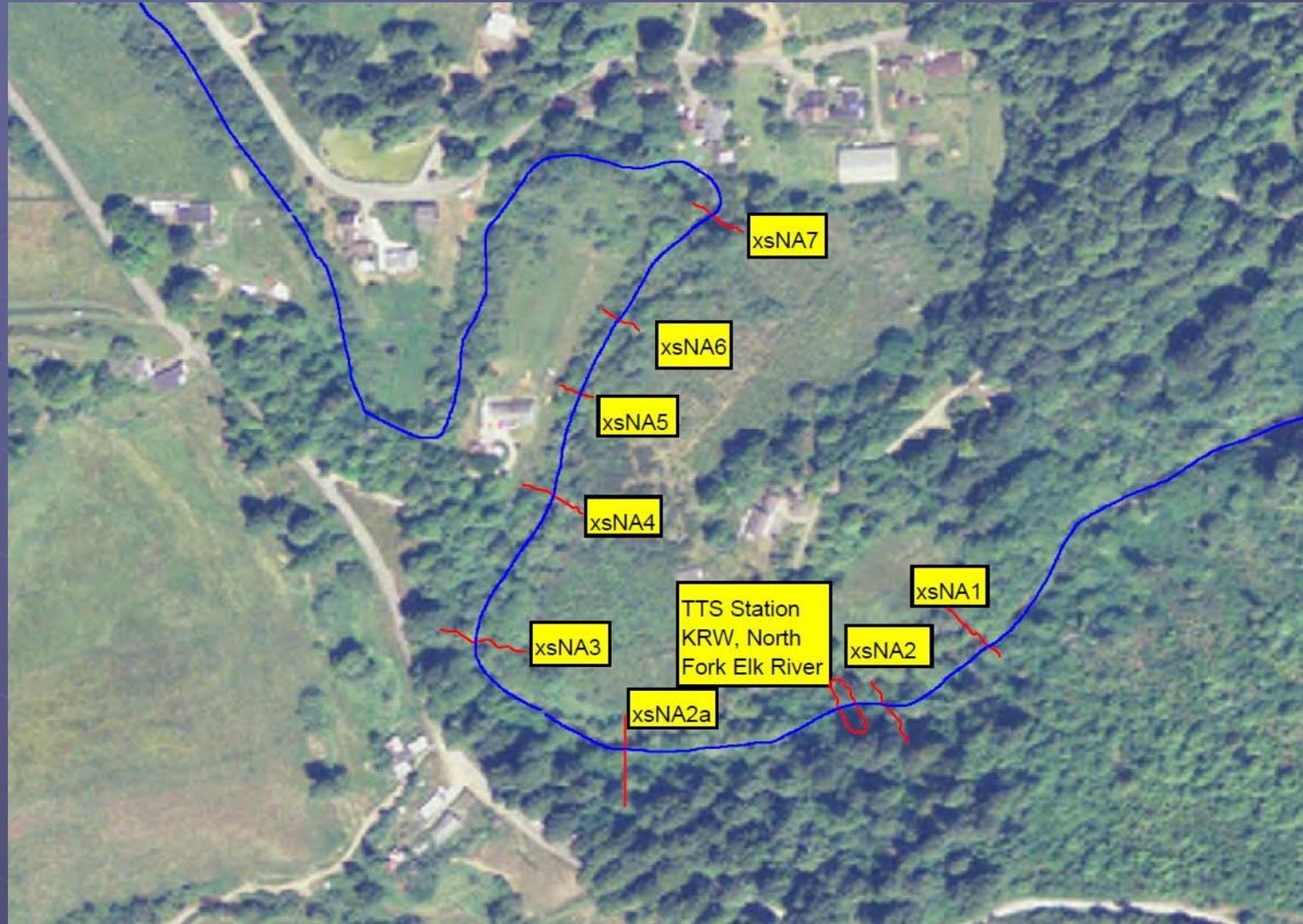
# Elk River Cross-sections



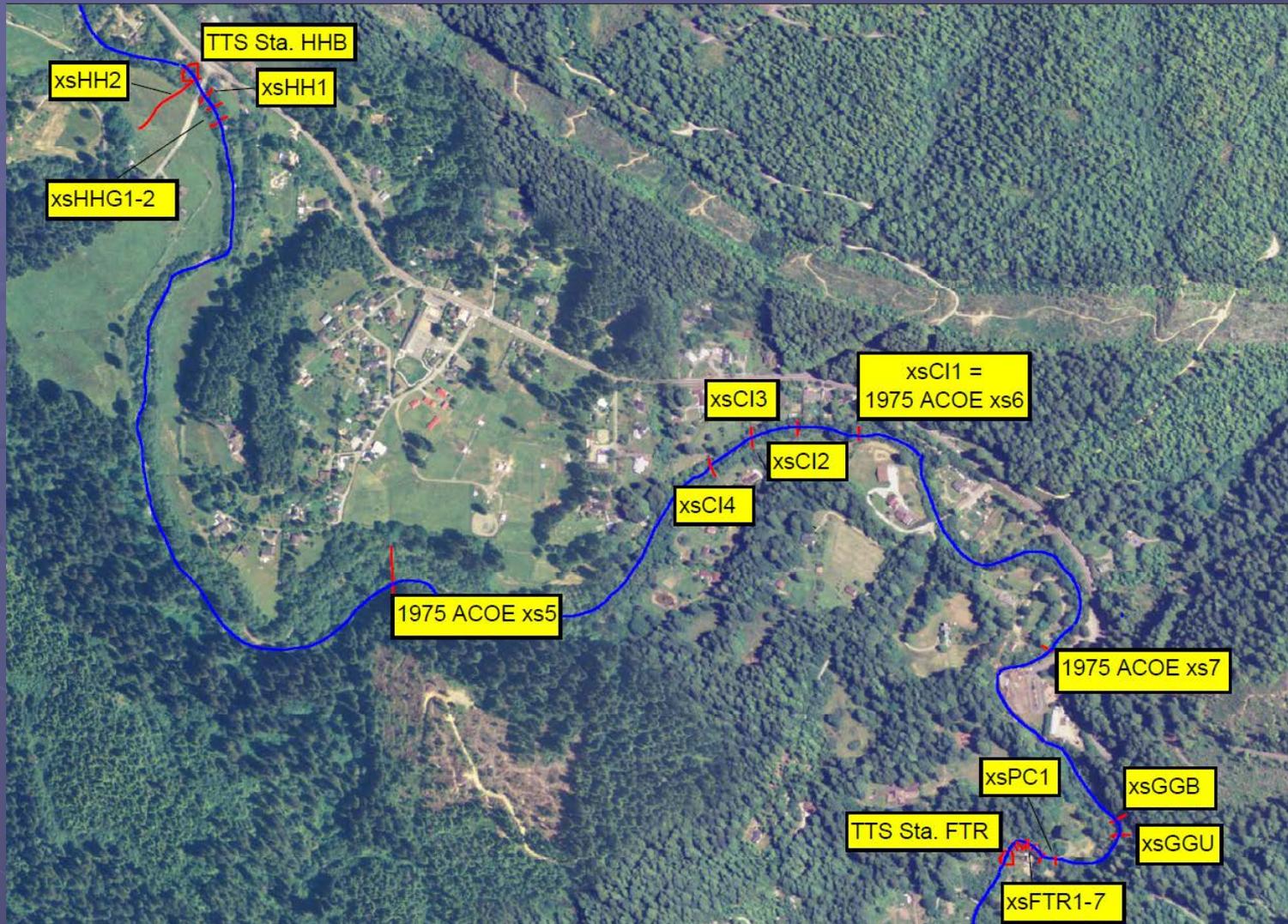
# Cross-sections: Elk R. confluence



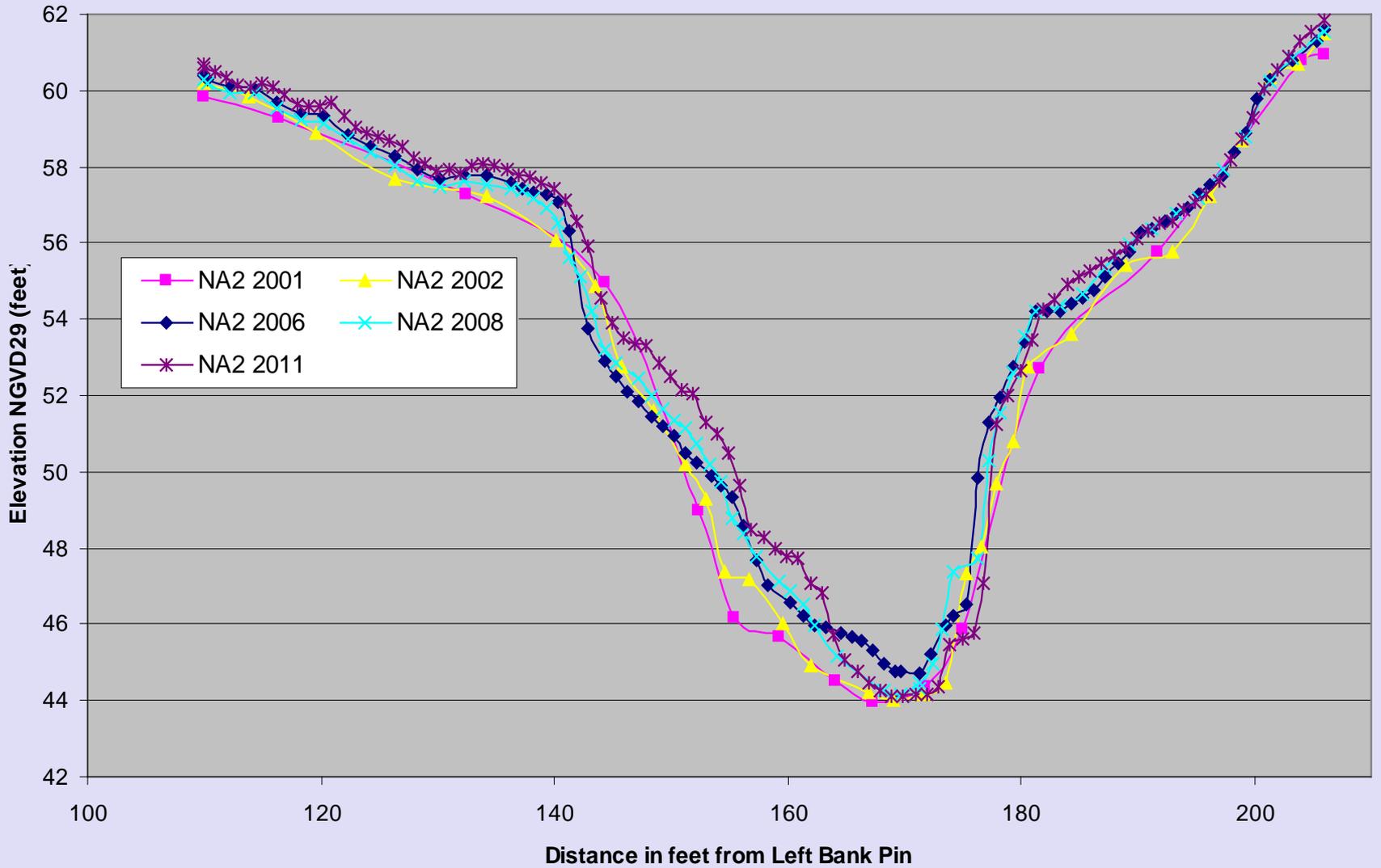
# Cross-sections near KRW station



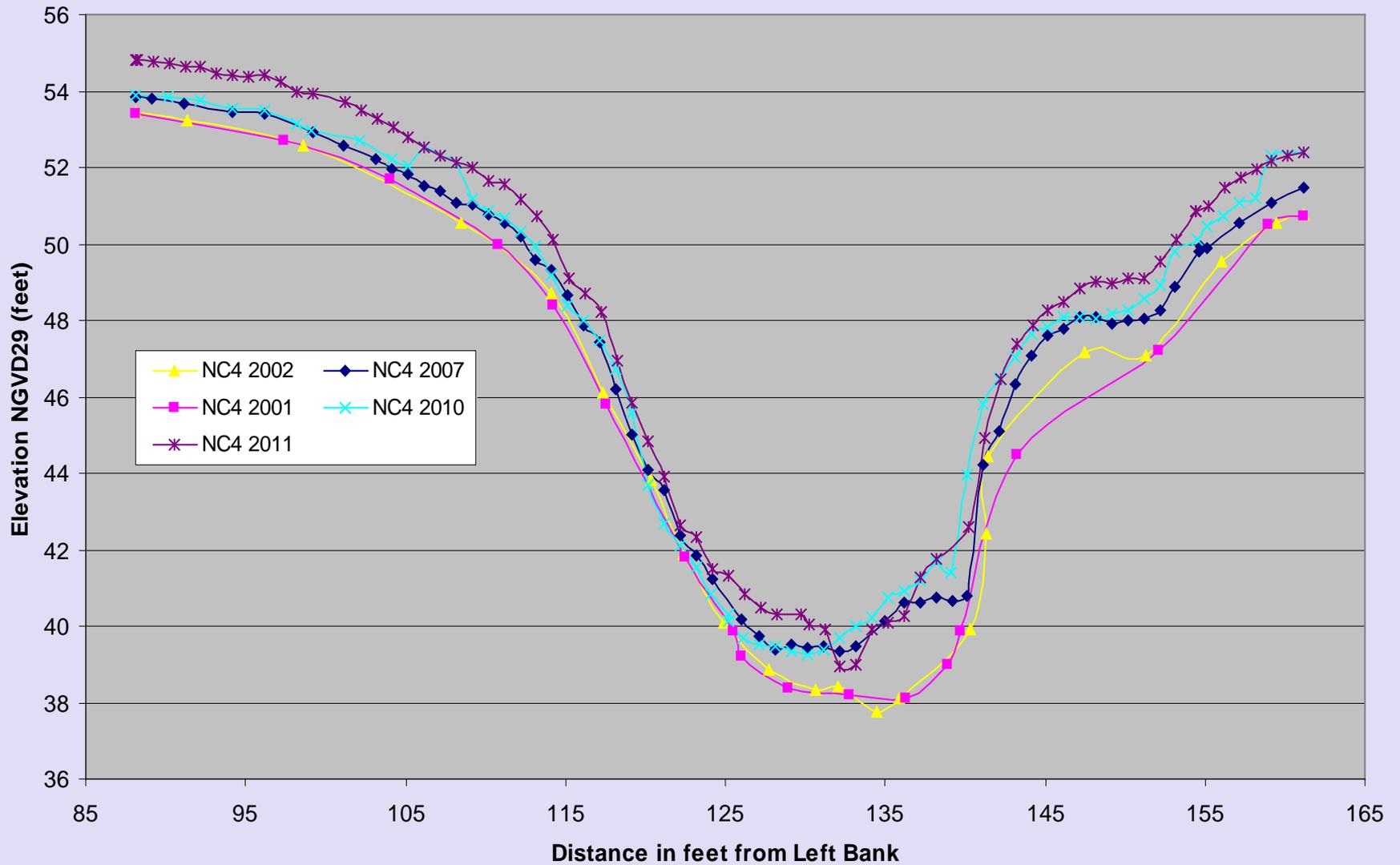
# Freshwater cross-sections



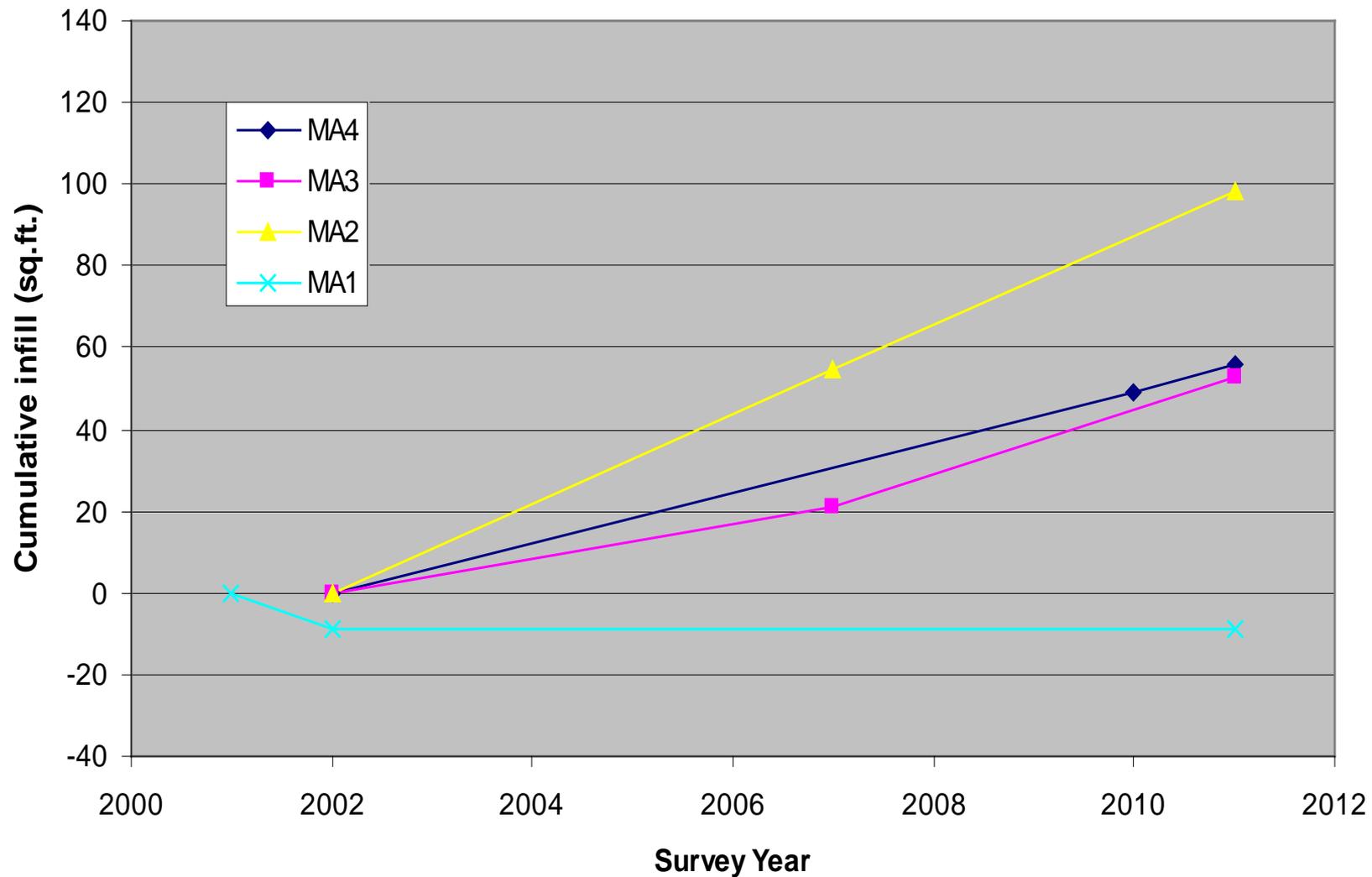
# NA2: North Fork Elk River Comparison Common Channel



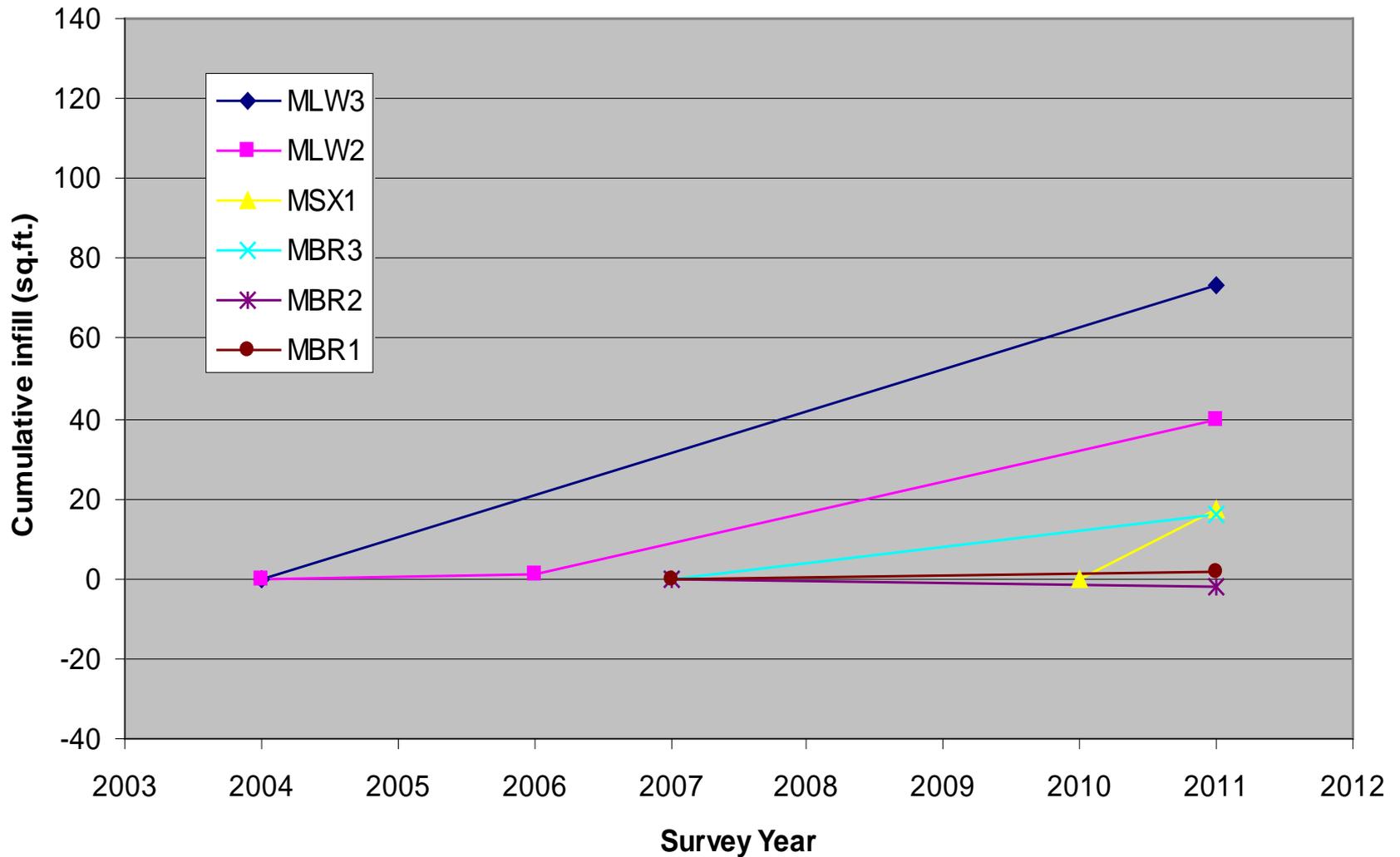
# NC4: North Fork Elk River Comparison Common Channel



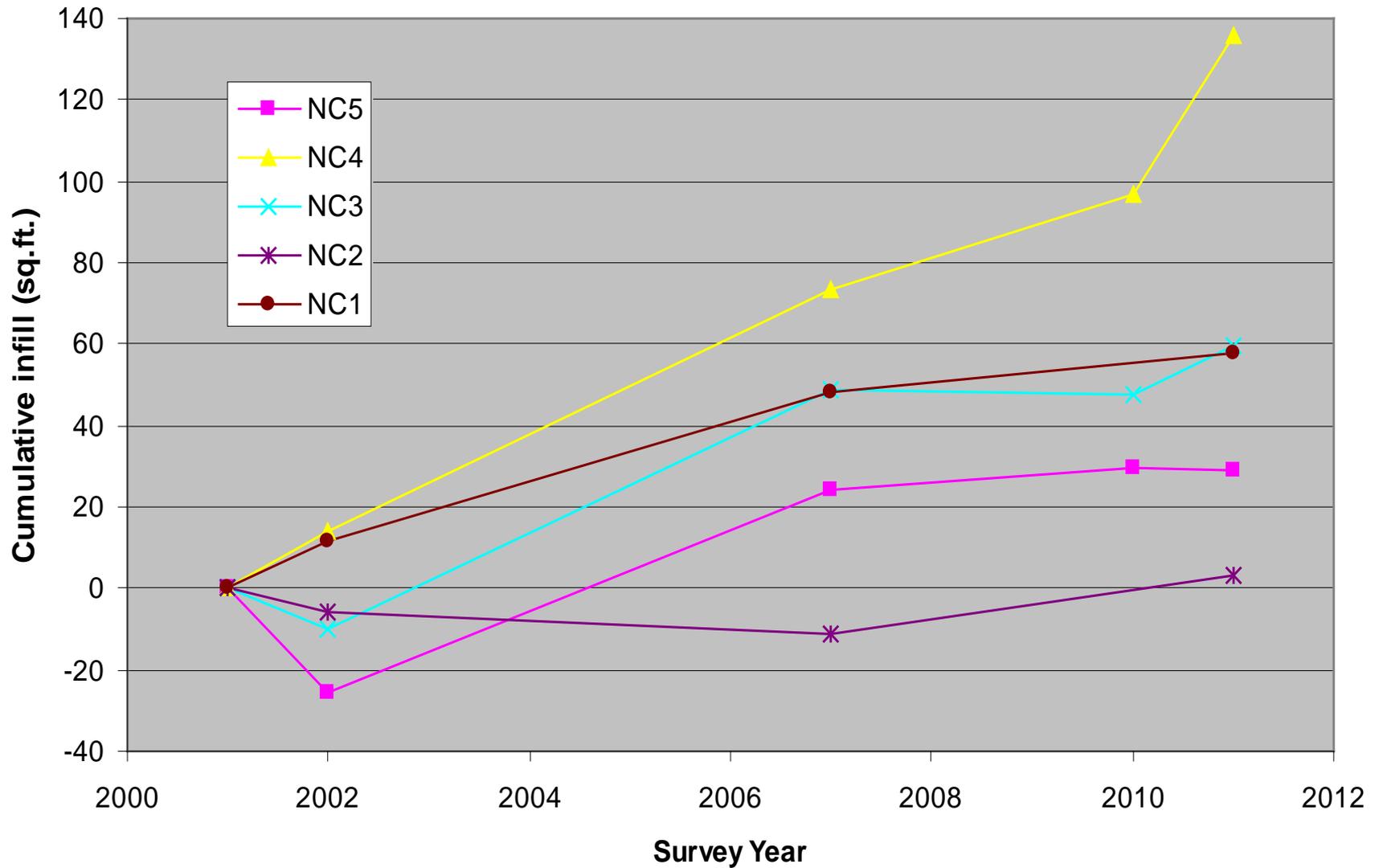
# Mainstem below confluence



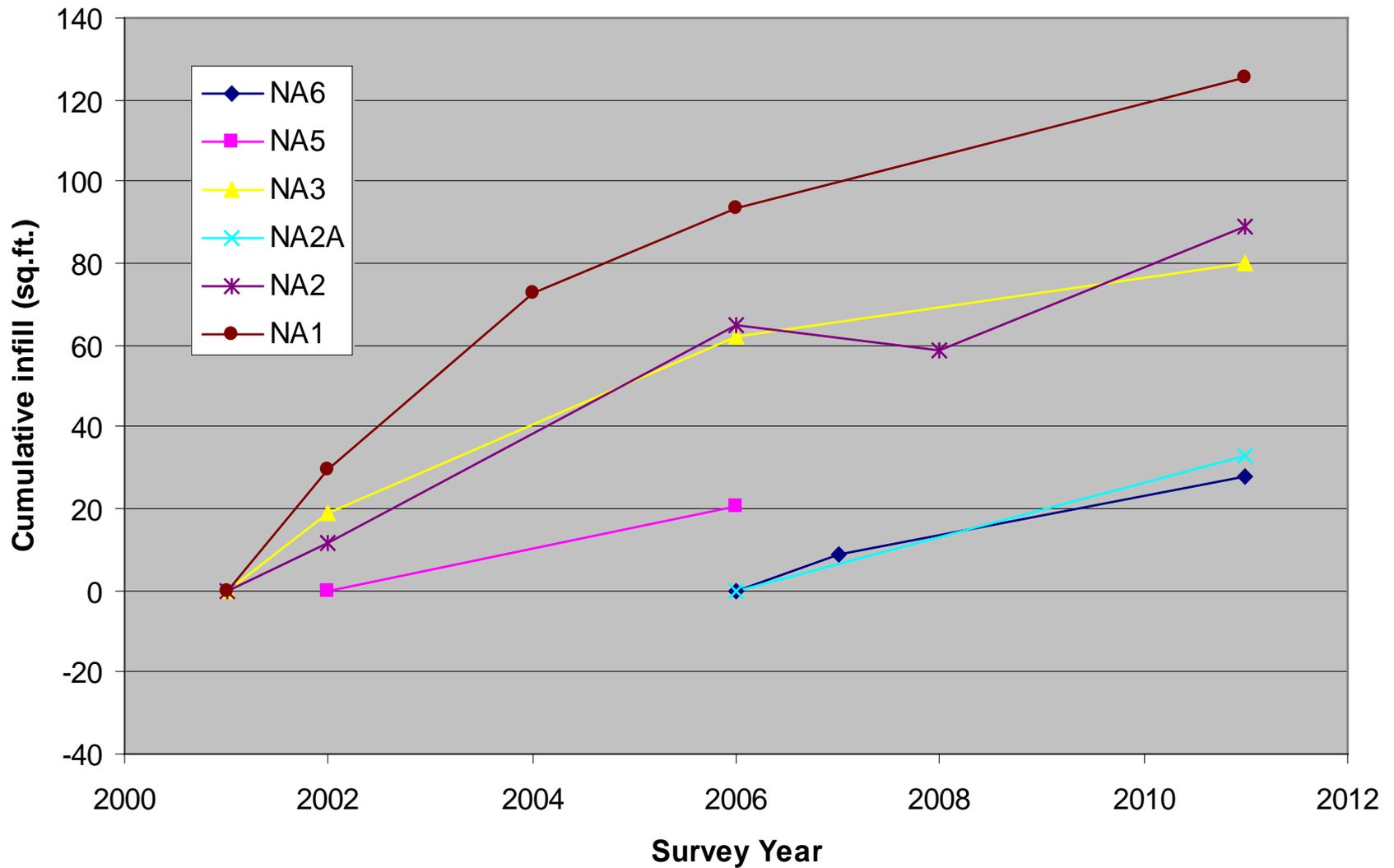
# Larry Ward to Berta Road



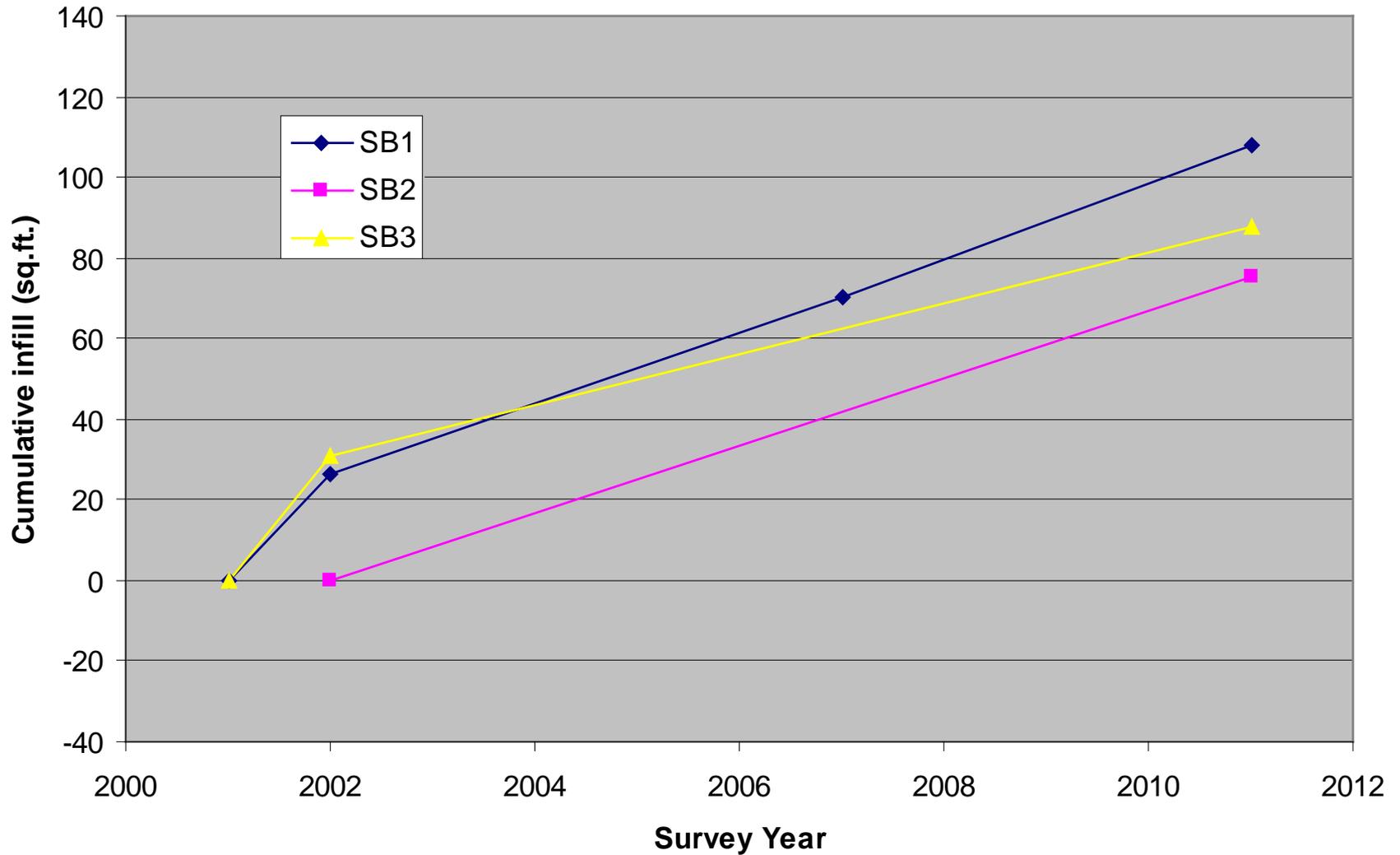
# North Fork above confluence



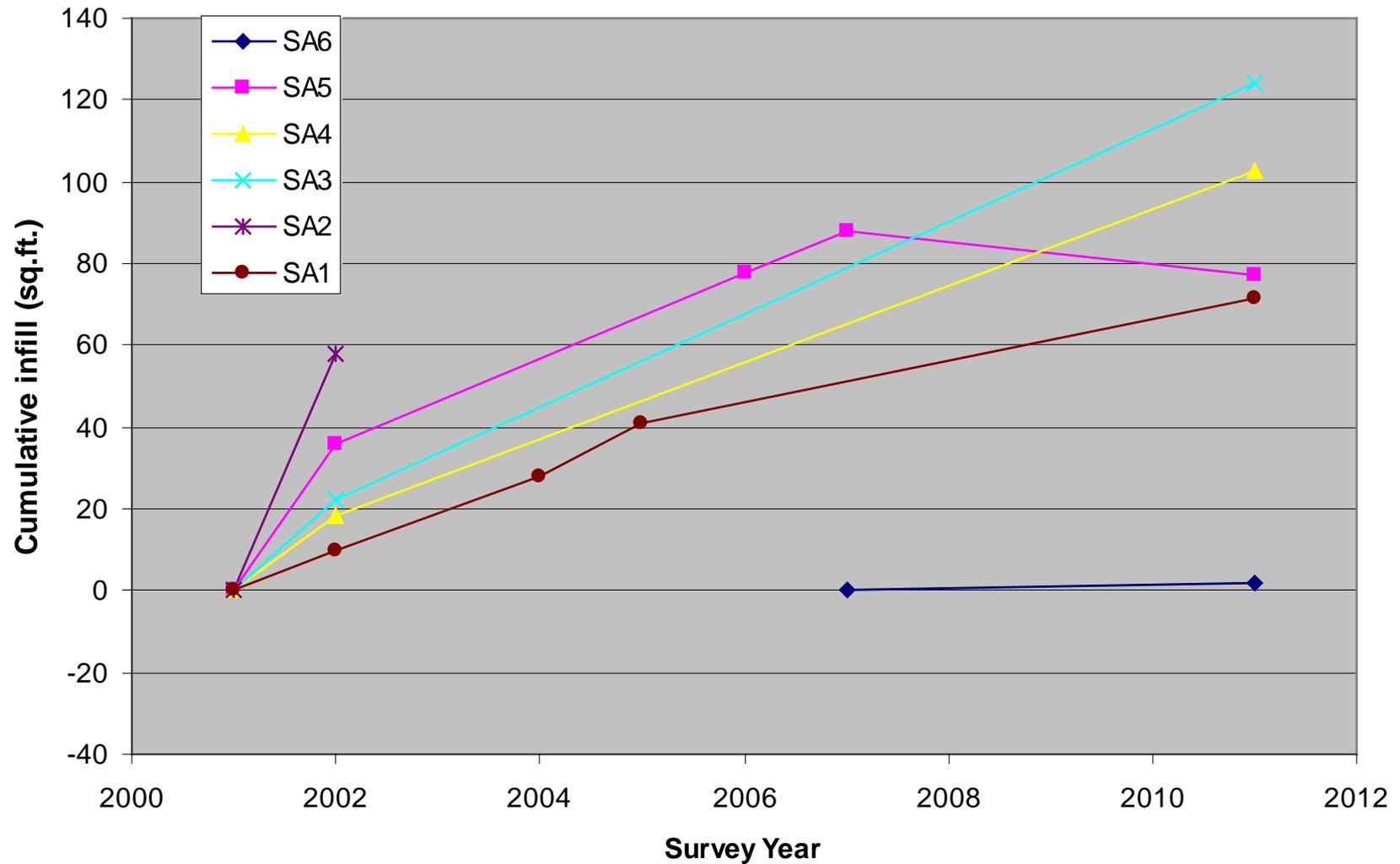
# North Fork near KRW station



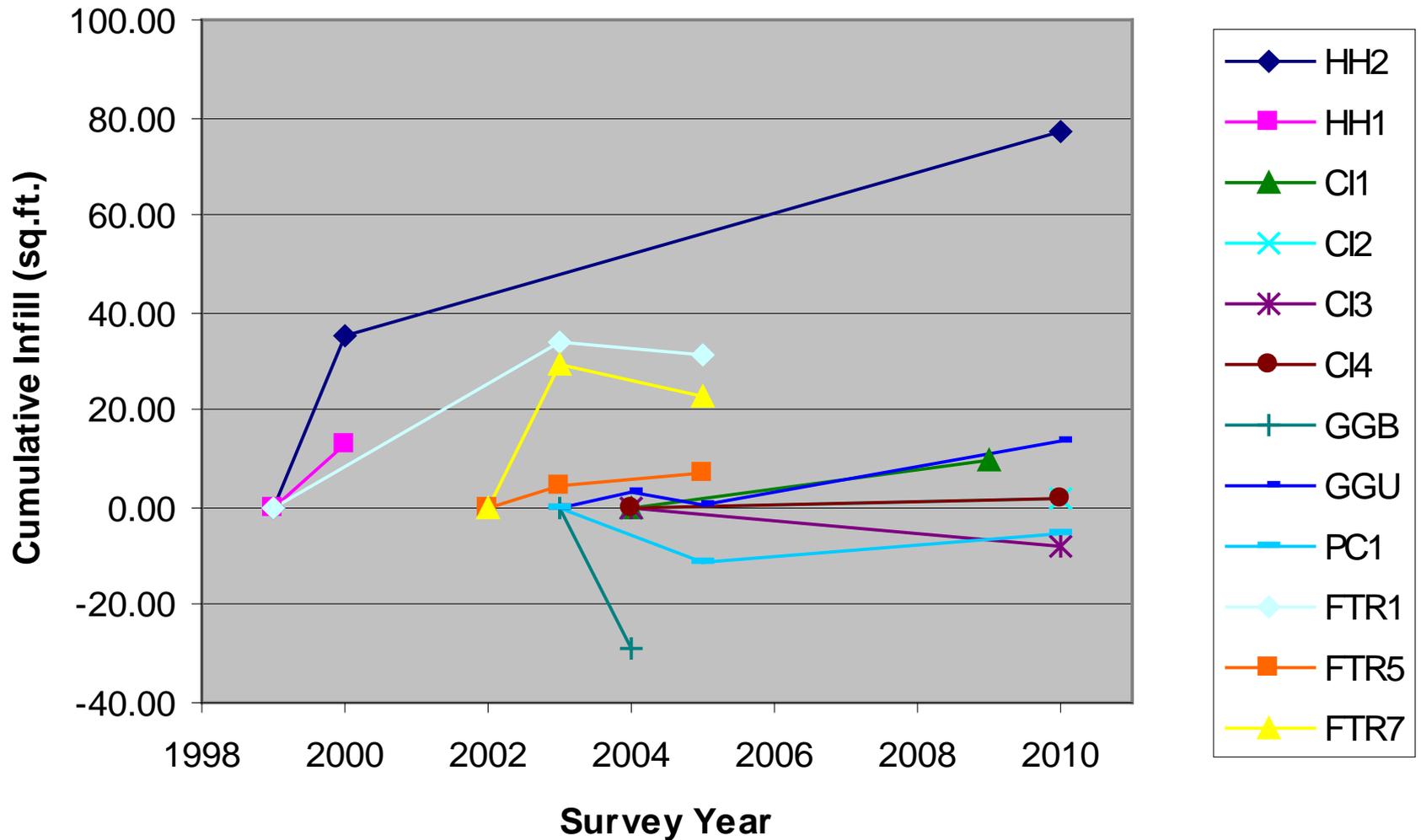
# South Fork near confluence



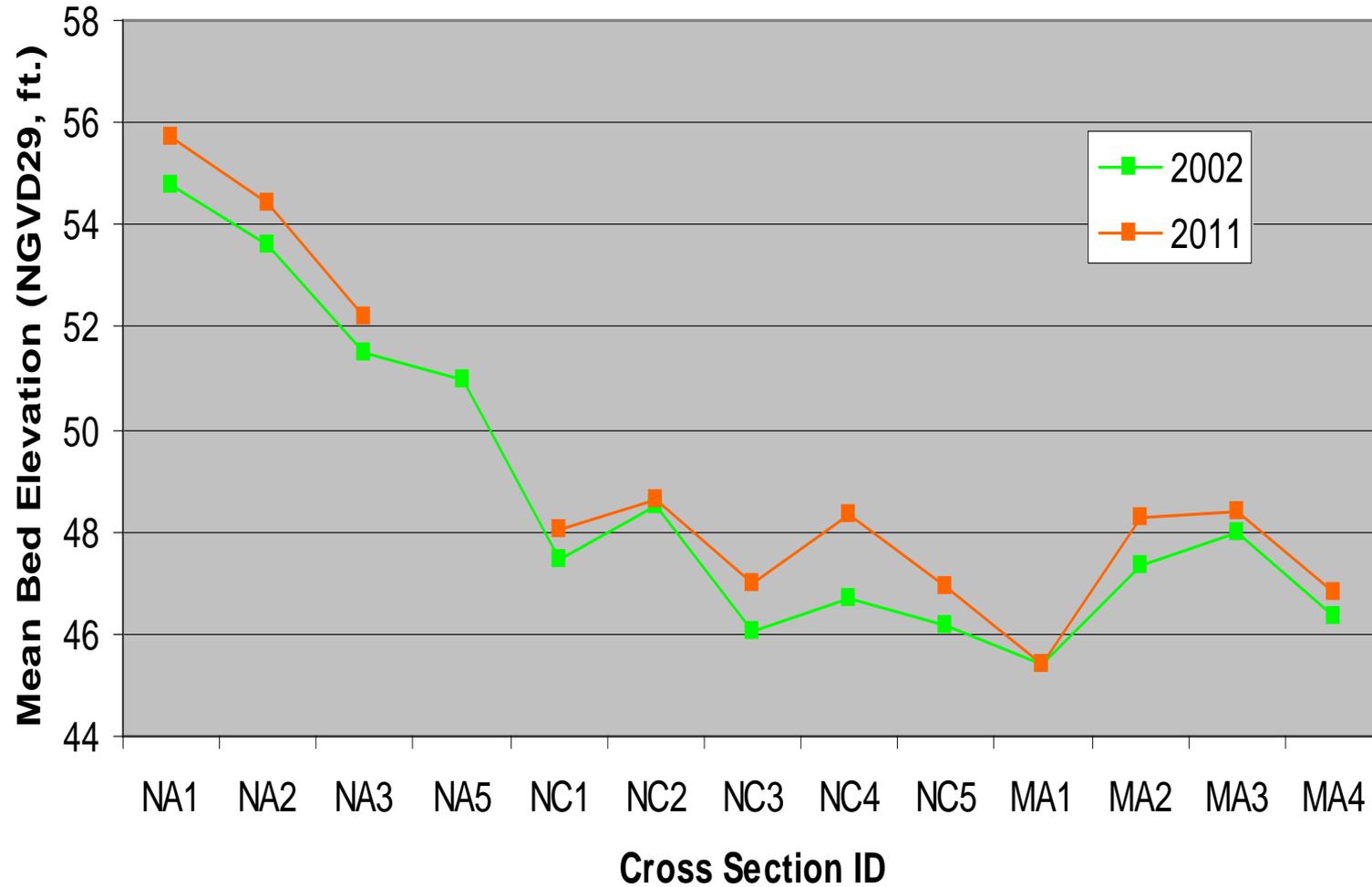
# South Fork above SFM station



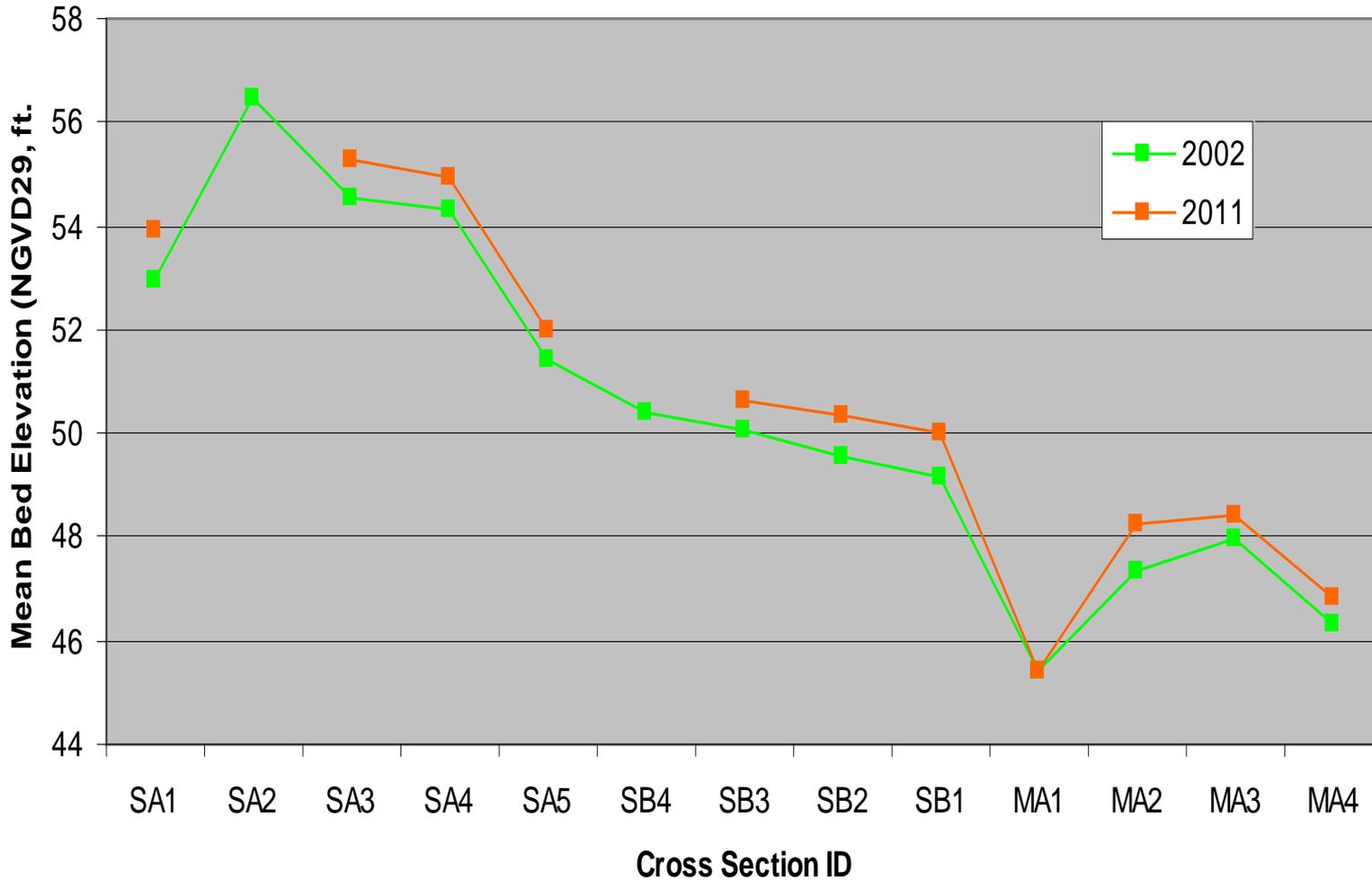
# Freshwater Creek, all



# Lower North Fork and Main Stem Elk River Common Surveyed Areas



## Lower South Fork and Main Stem Elk River Common Surveyed Areas



# Elk River Findings

- SFM has consistently the highest loads of streams monitored in the Humboldt Bay region. In most years, KRW is a distant second.
- Aggradation continues at most cross-sections in lower Elk River, often exceeding 1 ft or 100 ft<sup>2</sup> for the decade: SF > NF > main
- No trends in peak flows detected at either gaging station
  - Class 3 streams are certainly a different story; no data here
- Both Elk stations saw a decline in storm event loads and SSC prior to 2008, followed by a bounce in 2011. In 2013 SFM increased to 35-37% above the mean.

# Freshwater Creek Findings

- Freshwater Creek loads are less than those in Elk River; At FTR the unit area loads are 30-60% higher than downstream at HHB.
- There is less information but apparently less aggradation than in Elk River. We know decadal change only at Howard Heights Bridge where infill has been 80 ft<sup>2</sup> or 9 inches in 11 years.
- No trends in peak flows detected at either Freshwater Creek gaging station
- No significant trends in SSC or loads for the whole period, but HHB loads may have declined after 2005.



**Humboldt Redwood**  
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Scotia, CA 95565  
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www.HRCLLC.com

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**Trends in Sediment-Related  
Water Quality After a Decade of Forest  
Management Implementing an  
Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan**

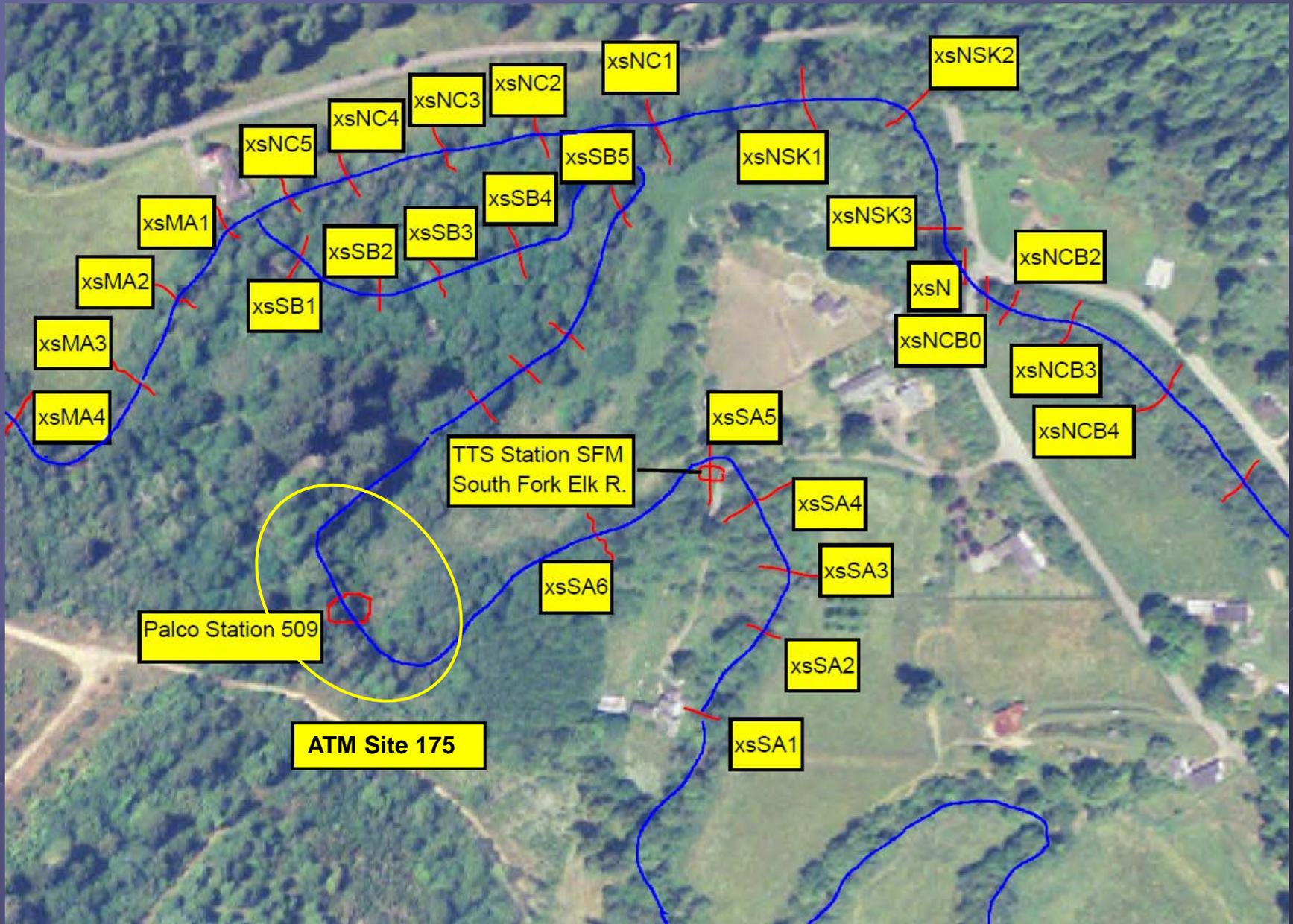
Sullivan et al, 2012



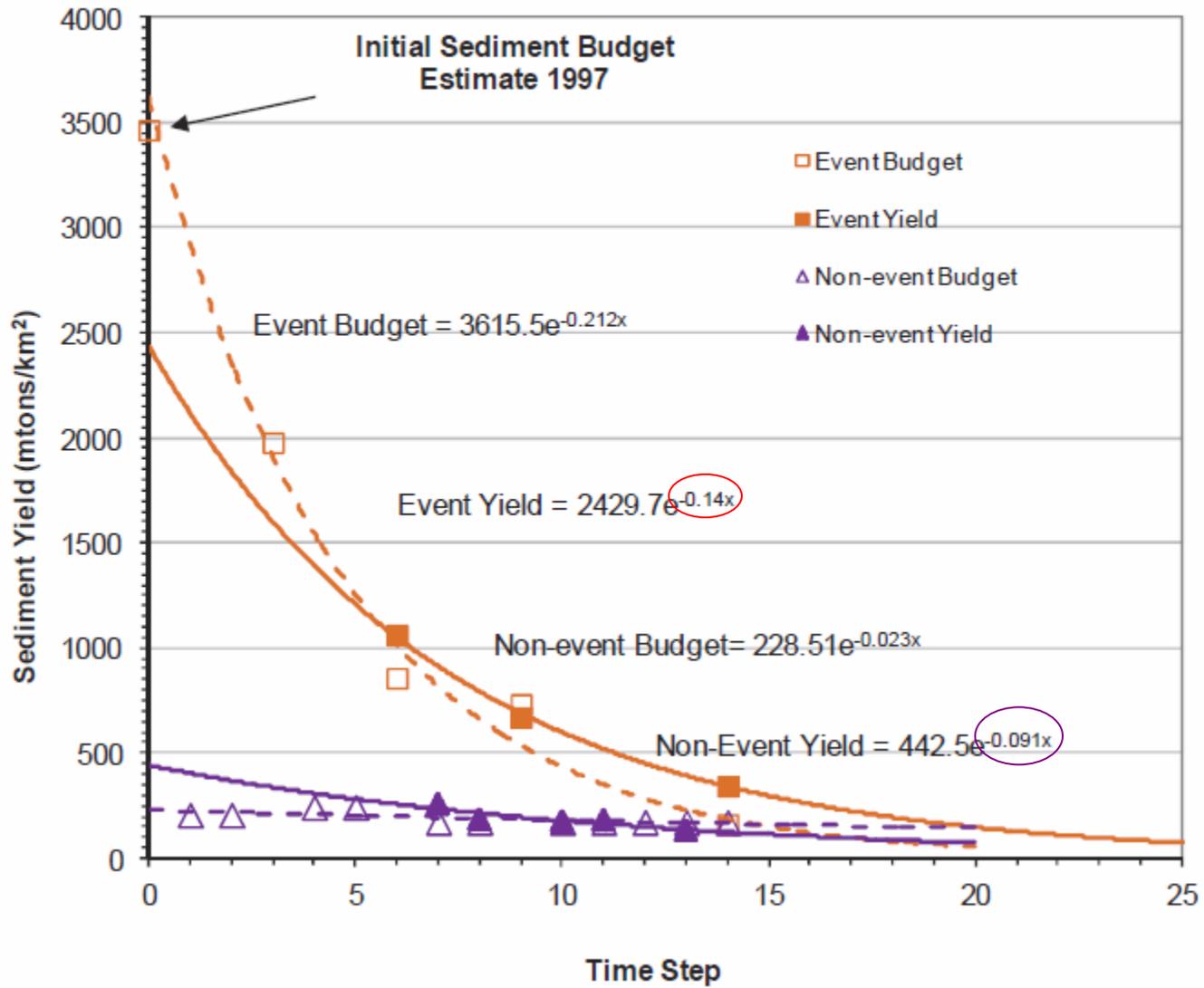
# From the HRC report

- “There has been no deposition within the lower reach of the South Fork Elk River since 2000.”
- “The majority of sites in both watersheds have declined [sediment yields] in time more than can be accounted for by the weather”
- “Within the weather-driven pattern, there was a small but statistically significant decreasing trend in sediment parameters during the measurement period from 2003 to 2011 at nearly all of the hydrology monitoring stations.”
- “Correlation analysis also showed that the relationship between sediment yield and time was strongly negative at most of the individual stations, while strongly positive at three.”

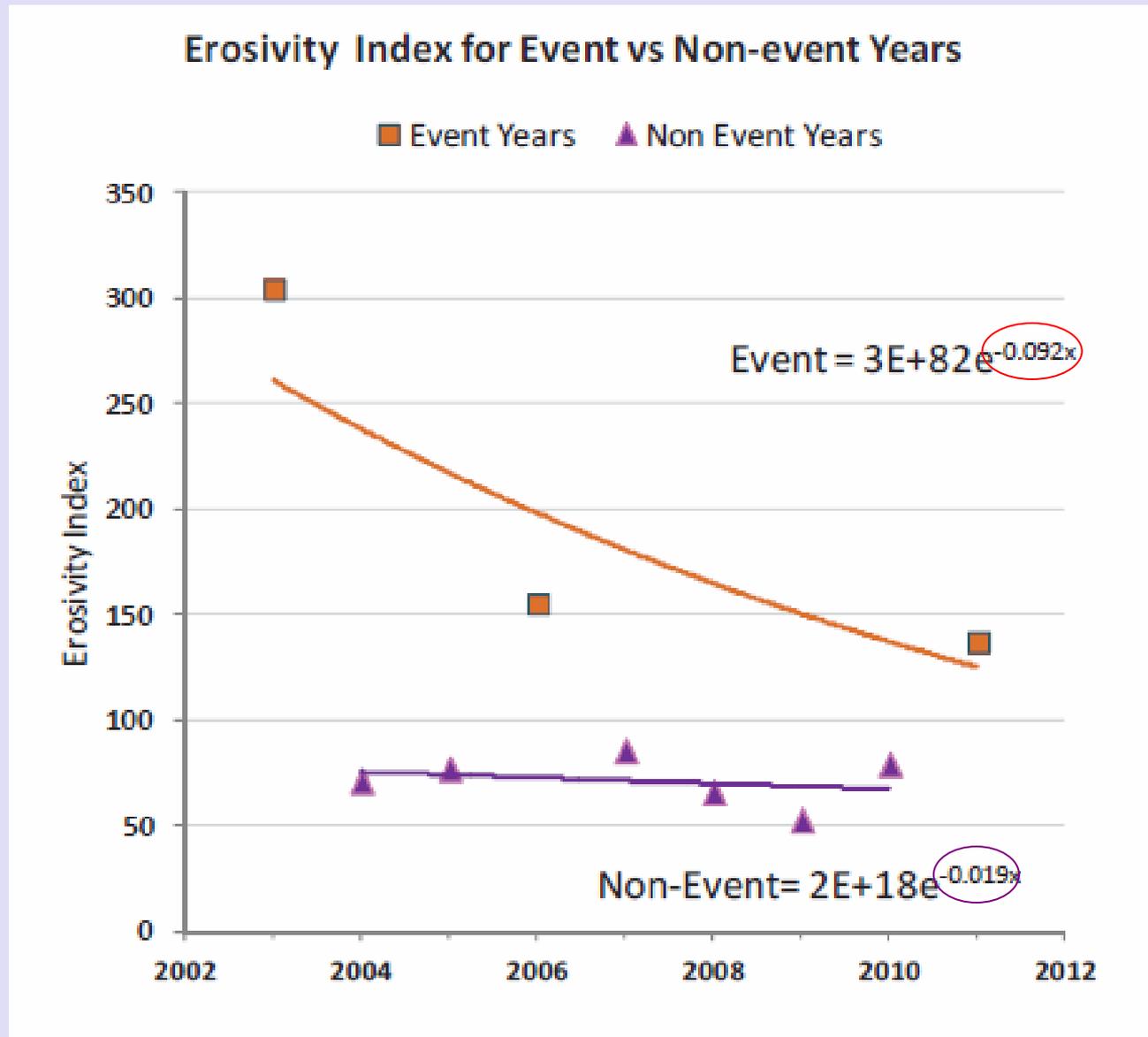
# Cross-sections: Elk R. confluence

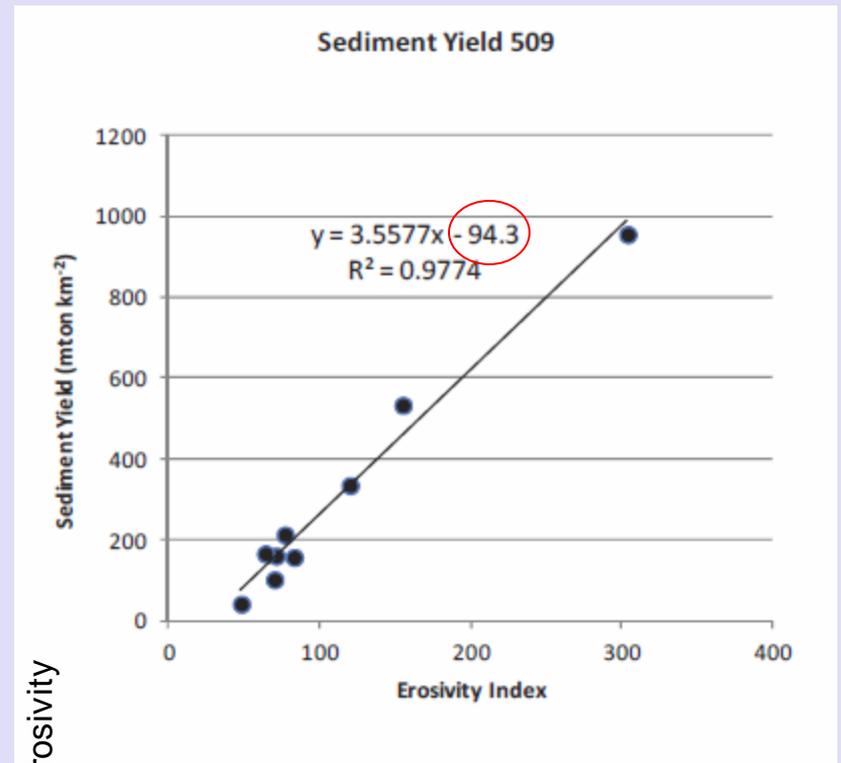
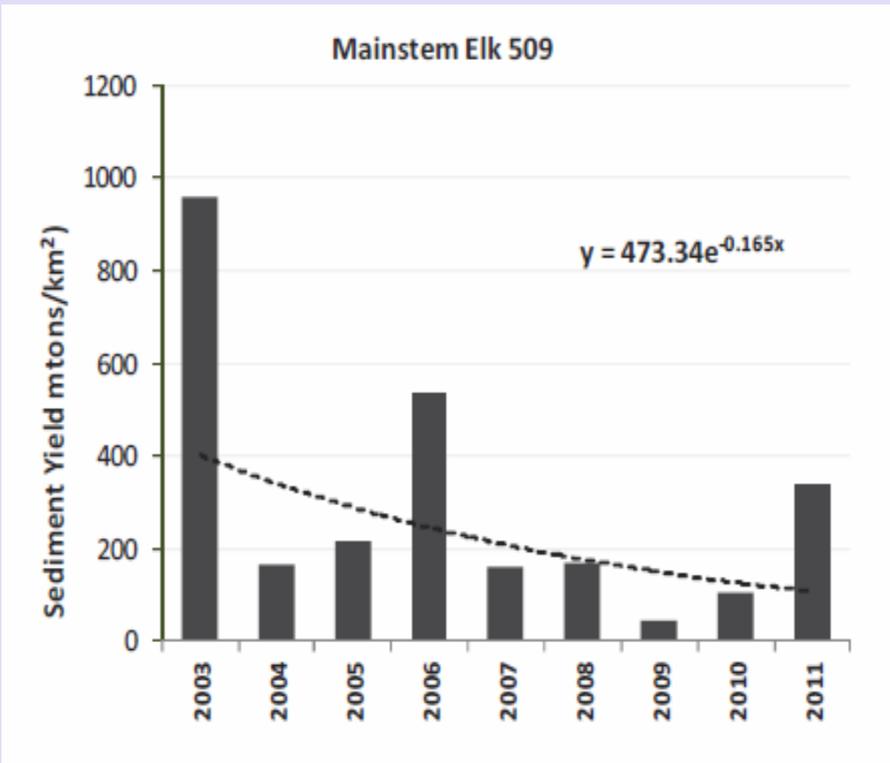


# S. Fork Elk River--Site 510



Erosivity Index = Annual Rainfall (in.) x Maximum Daily Rainfall (in.)





$$SY = 473 \exp(-0.165t) \text{ [asymptote=0]}$$

$$SY = 3.56 EI - 94.3$$

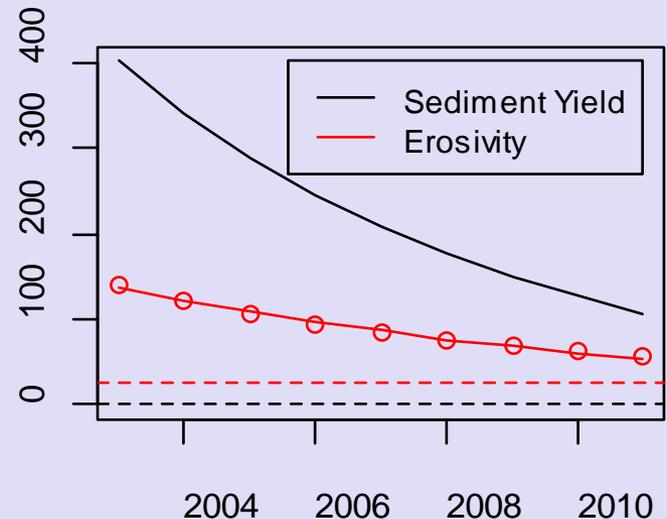
$$3.56 EI - 94.3 = 473 \exp(-0.165t)$$

$$EI = (473 \exp(-0.165t) + 94.3)/3.56$$

$$= 178 \exp(-0.165t) + 25.2 \text{ [wrong form]}$$

$$EI \sim 154 \exp(-0.116t) \text{ [best fit]}$$

Sediment and Erosivity



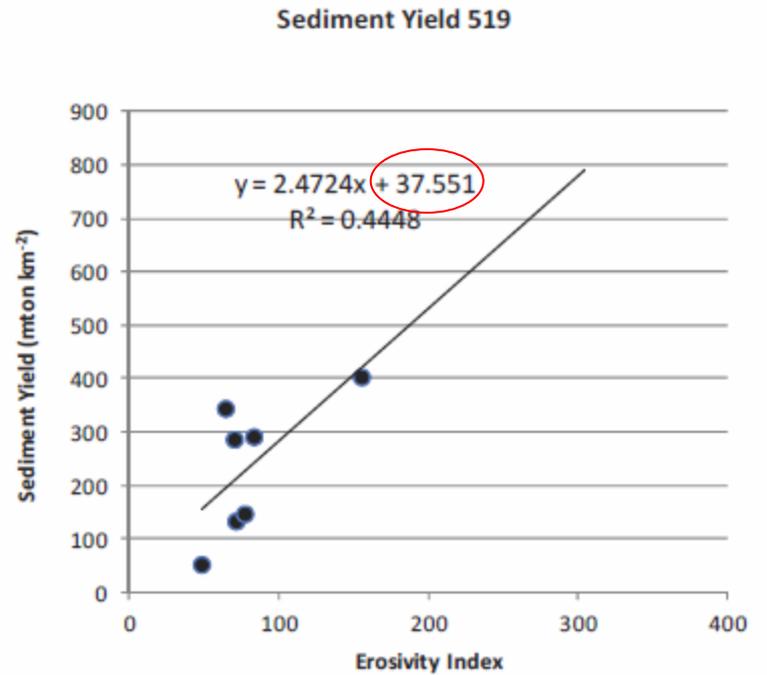
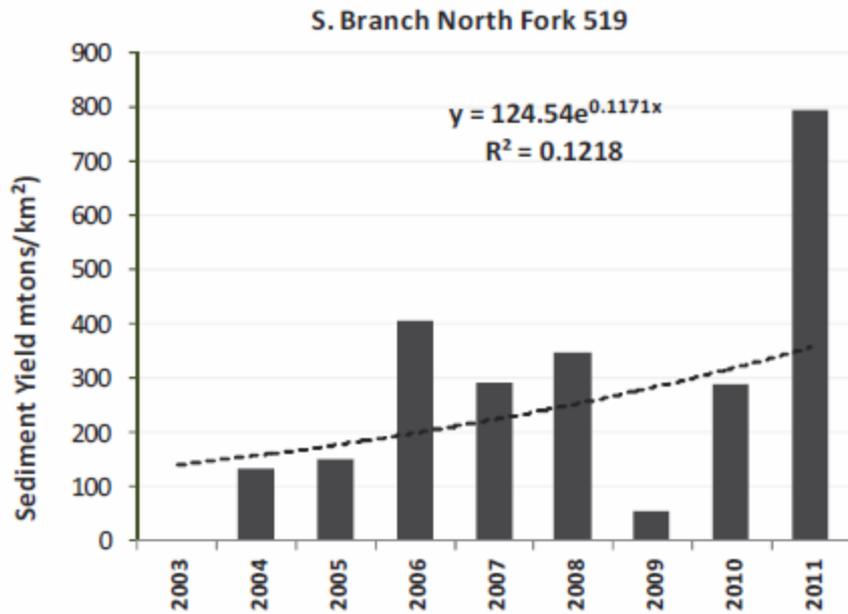


Table 10. Multivariate regression fixed effects model statistics for model evaluating sediment yield and turbidity 10% exceedance considering weather and time.

Parameter		Data Points	Regression Statistics					
Sediment Yield	Event Years	55	<b>Standard</b>					
			Effect	Estimate	Error	DF	t Value	Pr >  t
			Intercept	5.459	0.3713	20	14.70	<.0001
			<b>Year</b>	<b>-0.125</b>	<b>0.0143</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>-8.74</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>
	Unit_Peak_Q	0.679	0.1643	32	4.13	.0002		
	Non-Event Years	120	<b>Standard</b>					
Effect	Estimate	Error	DF	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	3.564	0.2952	20	12.07	<.0001			
<b>Year</b>	<b>-0.107</b>	<b>0.0201</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-5.32</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>			
<b>Unit_Peak_Q</b>	<b>1.580</b>	<b>0.1426</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>11.09</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>			
Turbidity 10% Exceedance	Event Years	54	<b>Standard</b>					
			Effect	Estimate	Error	DF	t Value	Pr >  t
			Intercept	4.841	0.2989	20	16.20	<.0001
			<b>Year</b>	<b>-0.059</b>	<b>0.0113</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>-5.21</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>
	Unit Peak Q	-0.137	0.1291	31	-1.06	0.2953		
	Non-event Years	120	<b>Standard</b>					
Effect	Estimate	Error	DF	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	3.737	0.1513	20	24.70	<.0001			
<b>Year</b>	<b>-0.058</b>	<b>0.0079</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-7.32</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>			
<b>Unit_Peak_Q</b>	<b>0.324</b>	<b>0.0559</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>5.79</b>	<b>&lt;.0001</b>			

# Interaction effects

- A significant interaction between site or watershed and time would mean the trends vary by location
- That none was detected may be related to:
  - sample size was reduced by splitting the data set
  - rejection level was lowered to  $p=0.0125$  since 4 tests were done
- Failure to detect an effect  $\neq$  no effect

**Table 11. Regression statistics evaluating the interaction effects by watershed and site for predictors of sediment characteristics in event and non-event years. (SAS vs 9.2)**

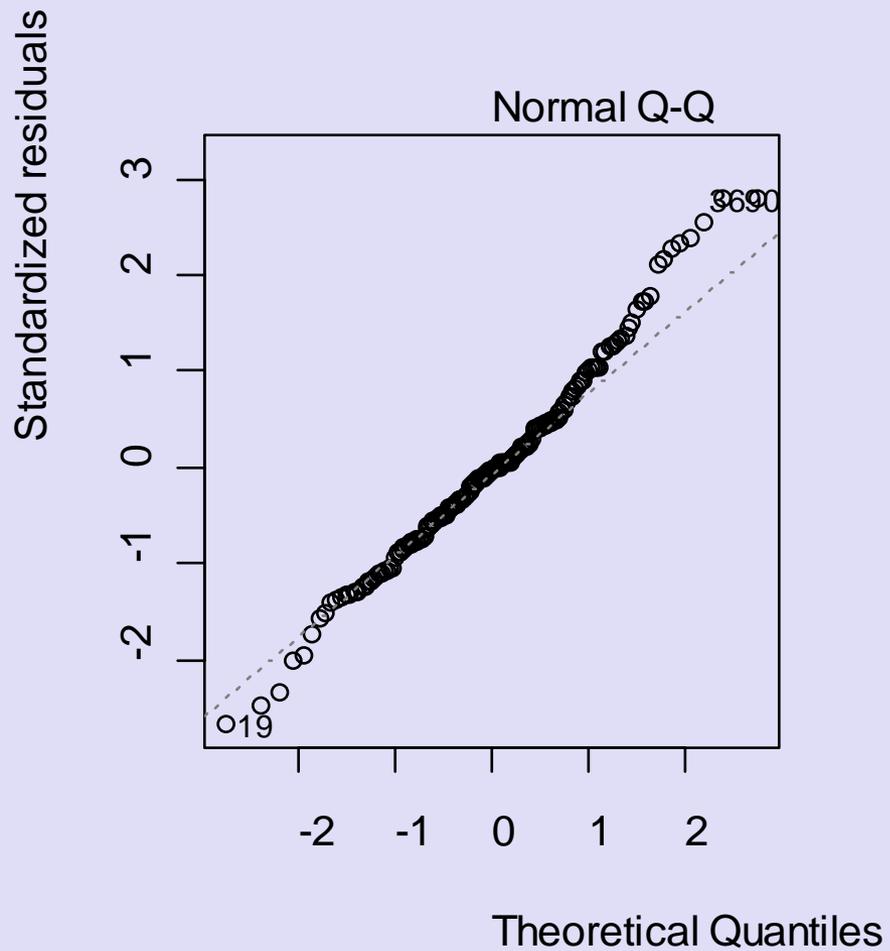
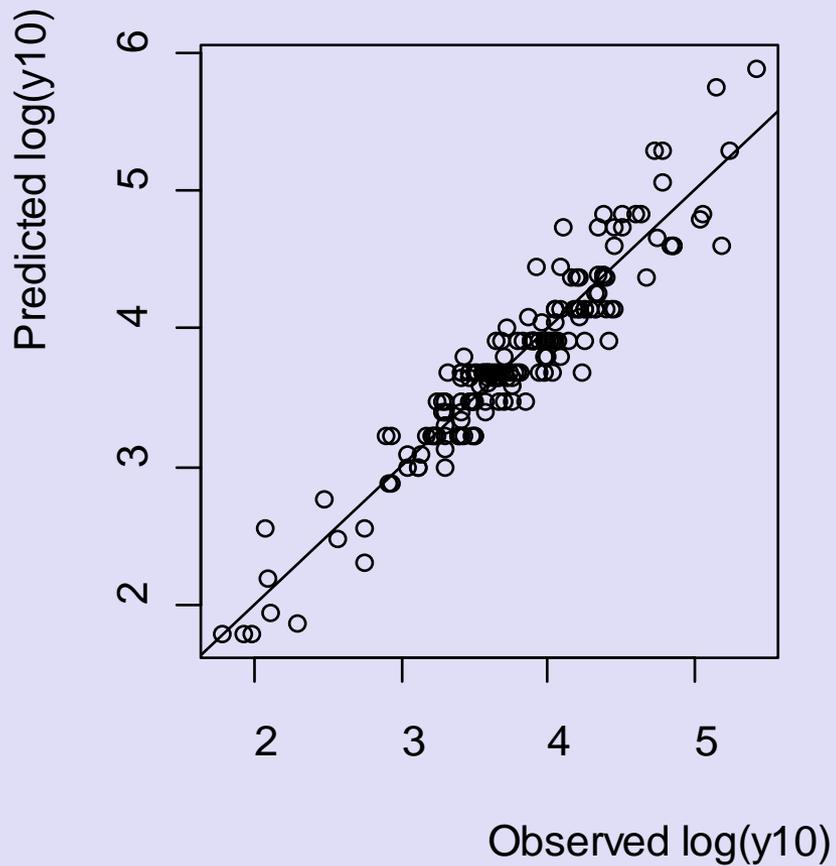
		P Values pr > F (significant Bonferroni Adj P =0.0125)	
		Event	Non-Event
<b>Fixed Effects Tests</b>	<b>Parameter</b>		
<b>Watershed Effects</b> watershed x year interaction	Sediment Yield	.277	.318
	Turbidity 10% Exceedance	.041	.279
<b>Site Effects</b> site x year interaction	Sediment Yield	.031	.518
	Turbidity 10% Exceedance	.521	.058

# Conclusions from HRC Trend Analysis

- Regression analysis with all sites combined showed significant negative trends for both sediment yield and 10% turbidity
- The interaction of time and location was not statistically significant
  - Does that mean all sites and watersheds have the same trend?
- No further regressions were done, but partial correlation analysis detected NO significant time relationships for Elk or Freshwater as a whole or any individual sites except 528 (Little FW)
- What would you conclude?
- What did the HRC report conclude?
  - “Within the weather-driven pattern, there was a small but statistically significant decreasing trend in sediment parameters during the measurement period from 2003 to 2011 at nearly all of the hydrology monitoring stations.”
  - “Correlation analysis also showed that the relationship between sediment yield and time was strongly negative at most of the individual stations, while strongly positive at three.”

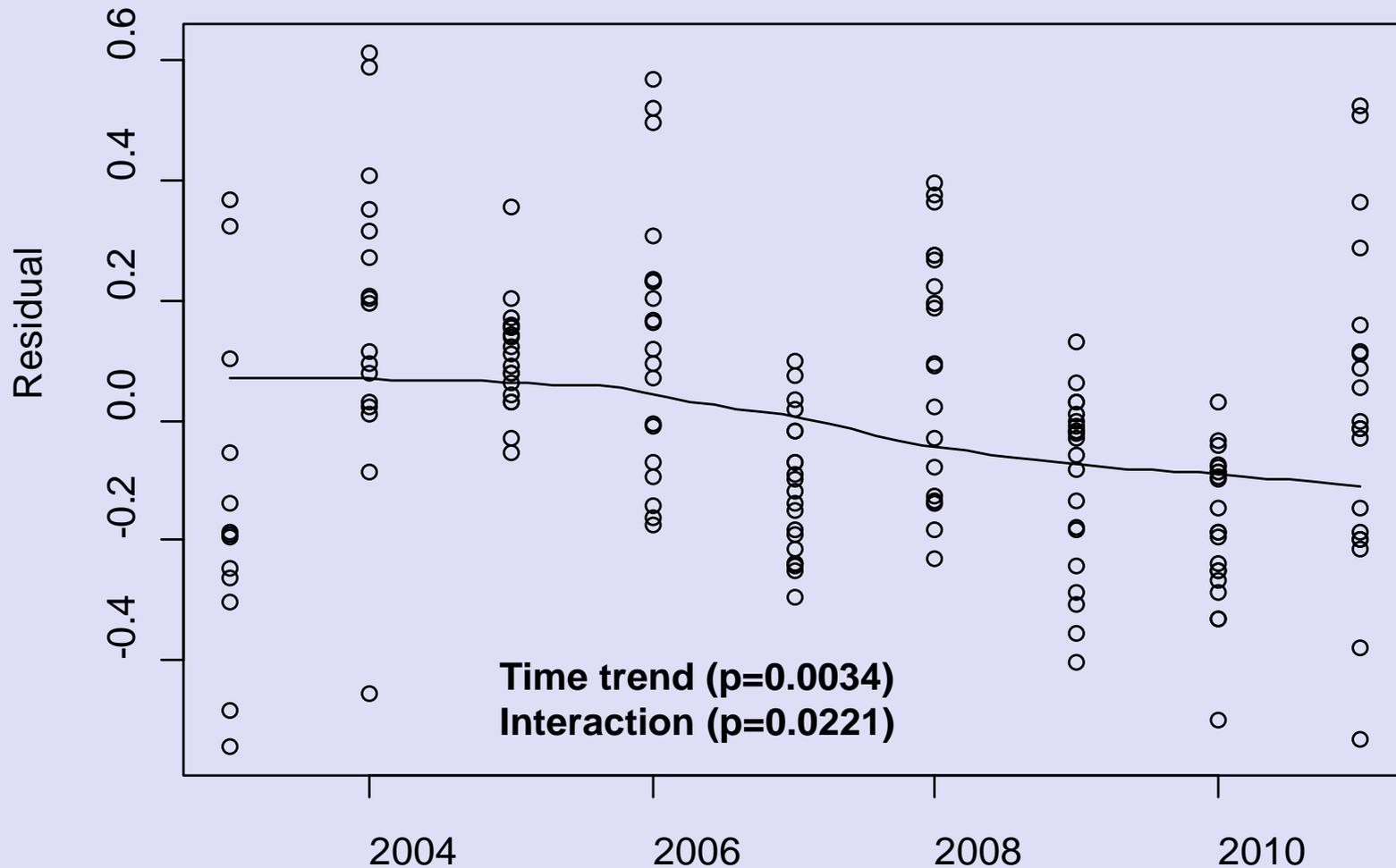
# A better analysis?

- Do not divide data set between “Event” and “Non-event” years
- Use Erosivity Index as a covariate when it explains more variability than Annual Flow Peak
- Plot the data to see what is going on
- Analyze Freshwater Creek and Elk River separately rather than relying on a borderline significant interaction to decide whether they are the same.



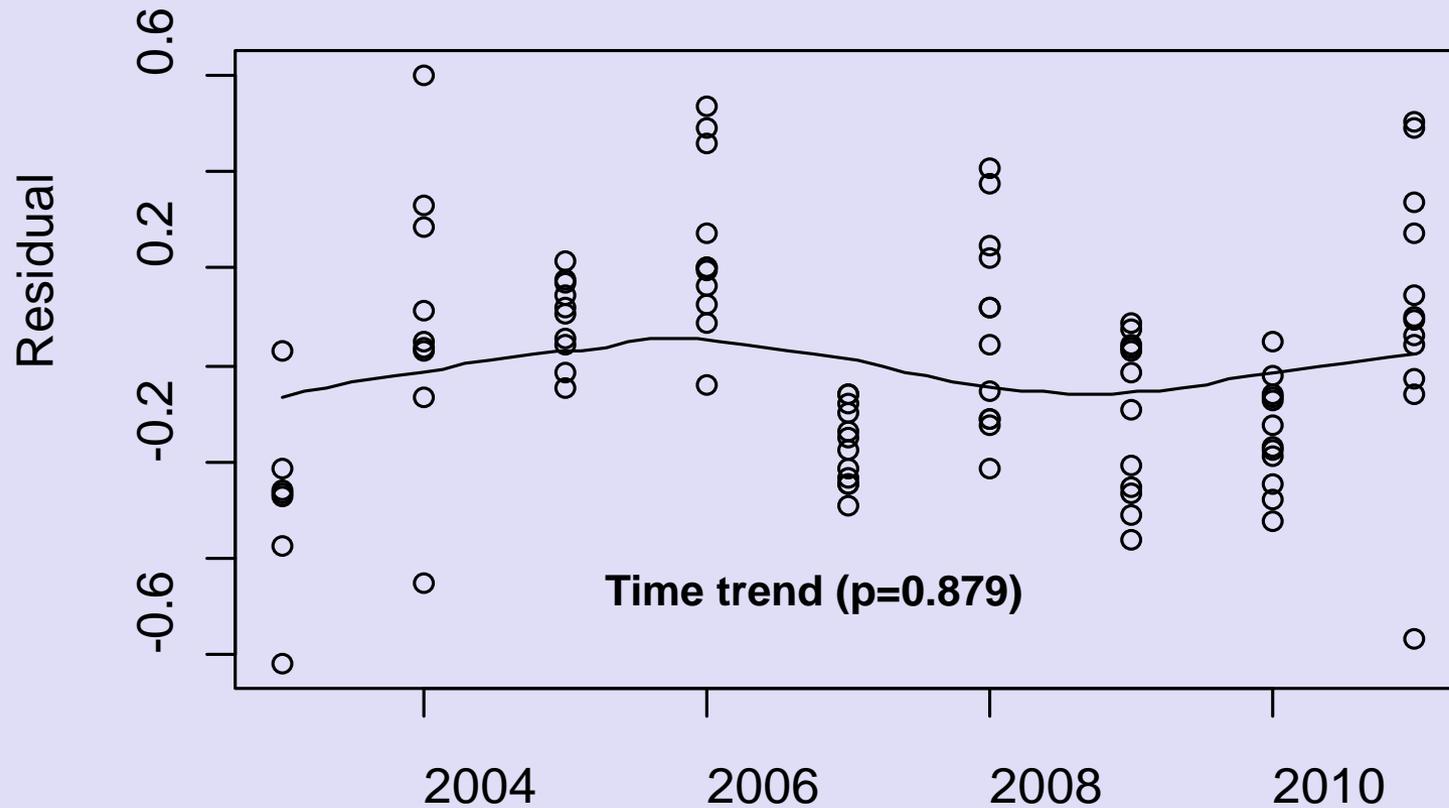
$$\log(T10) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(EI) + \beta_2 t + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

# Overall Trend in 10% Exceeden



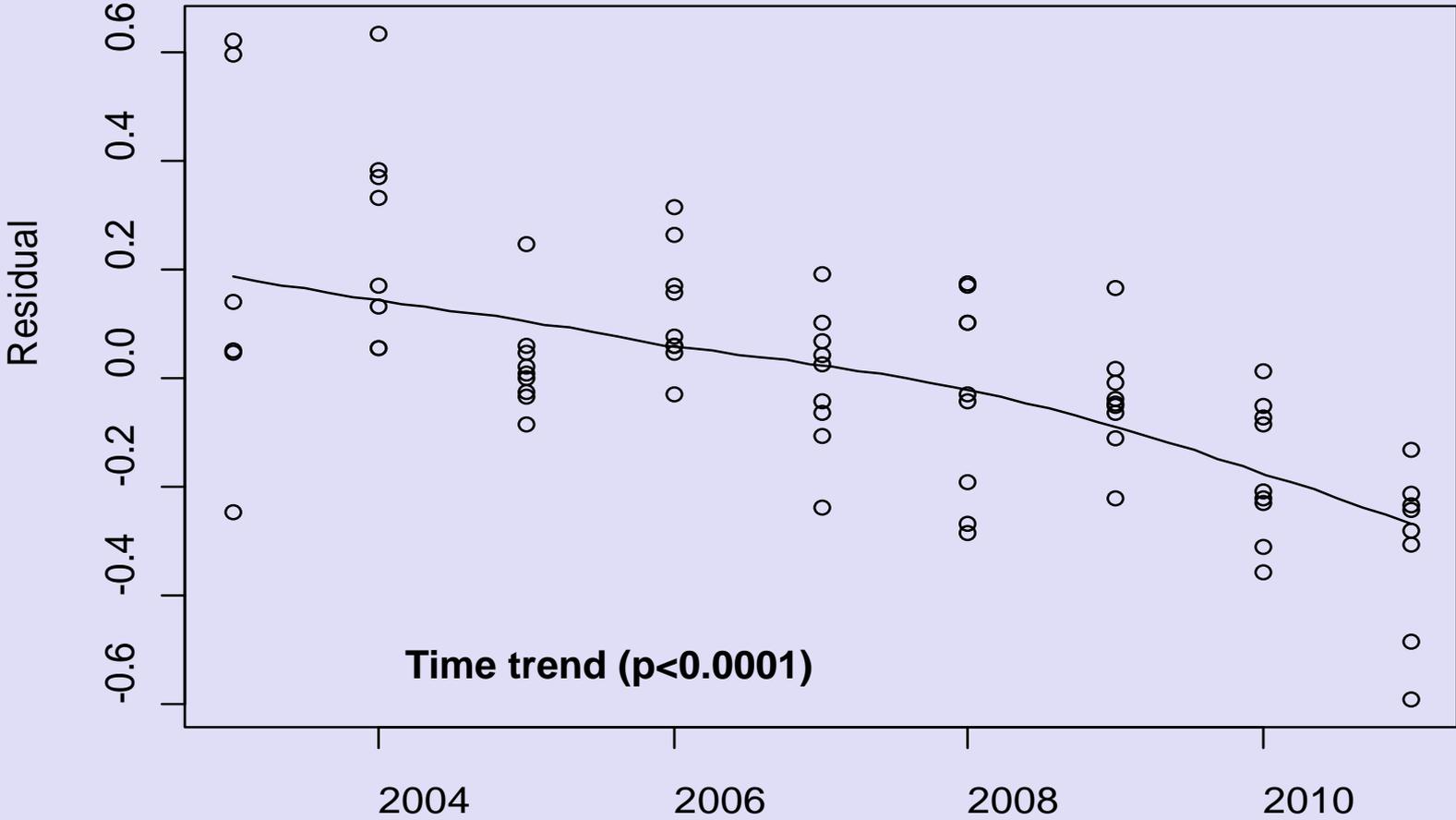
$$\log(T10) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(EI) + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

# Elk River Trend in 10% Ex



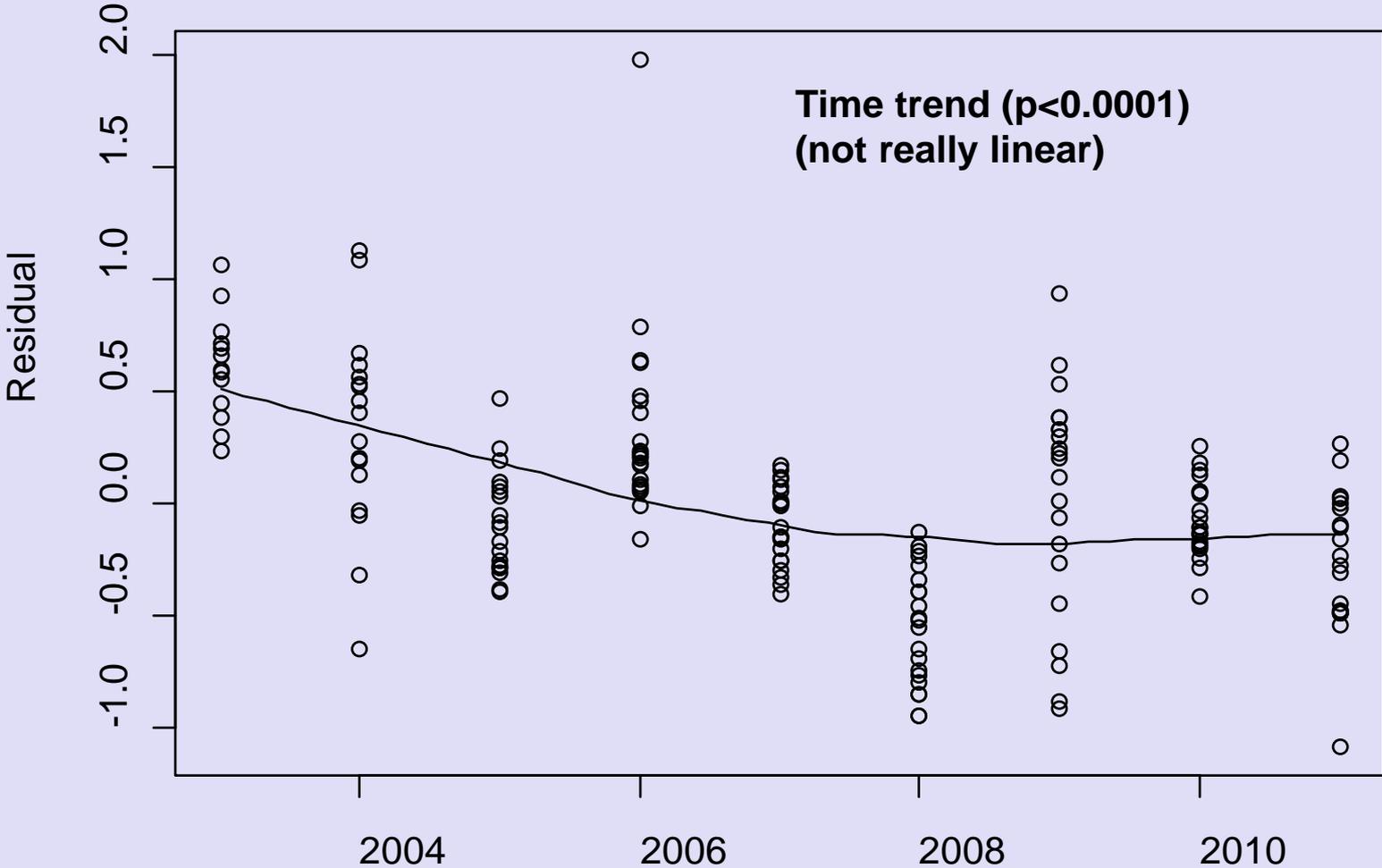
$$\log(T10) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(EI) + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

# Freshwater Trend in 10% Exceed



$$\log(T10) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(Q) + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

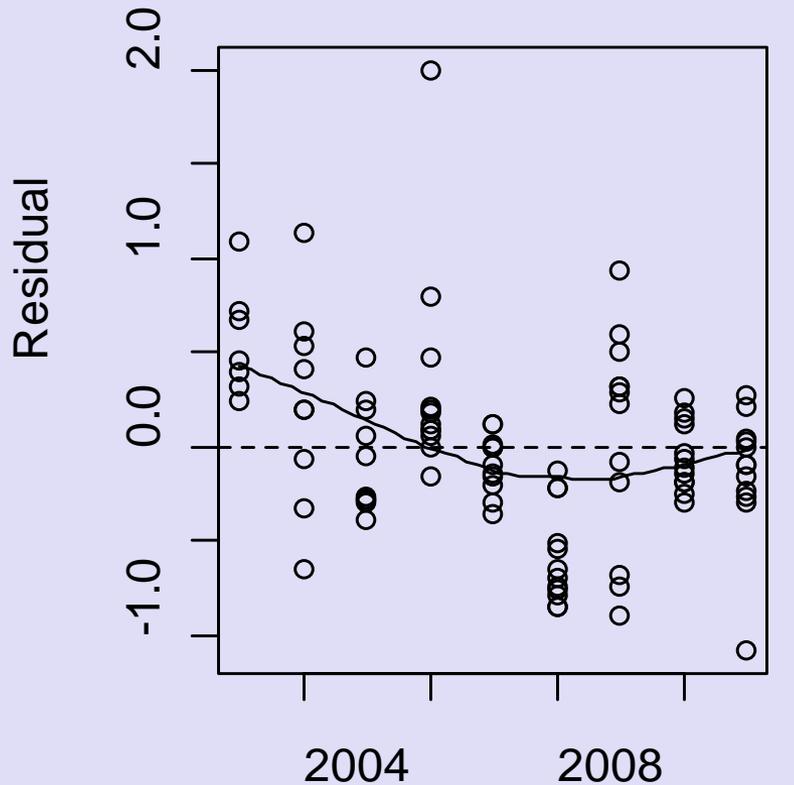
# Overall Trend in Sediment Yield



$$\log(\text{SY}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(Q) + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

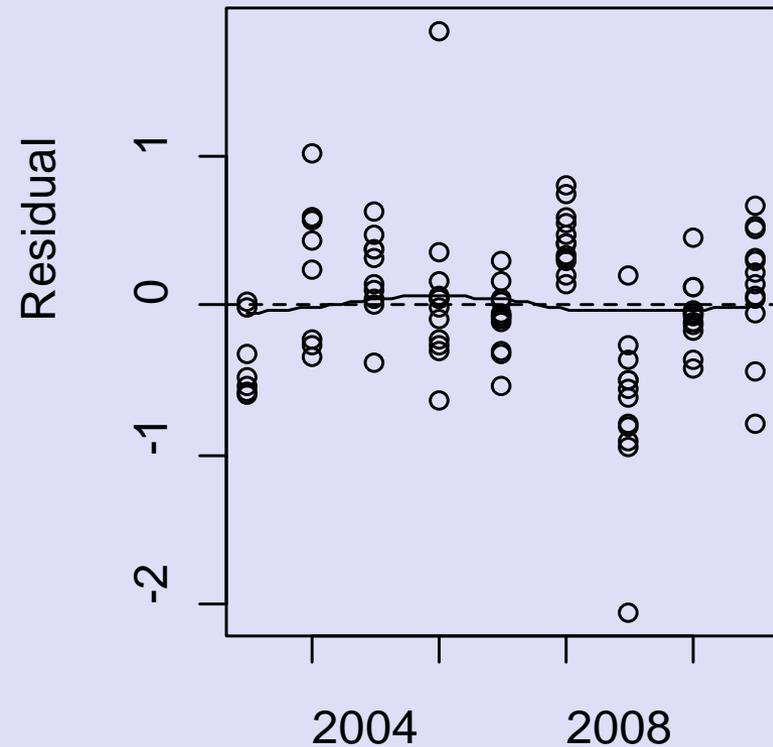
# Elk River Trend in Sediment Yield

## log(Q) model



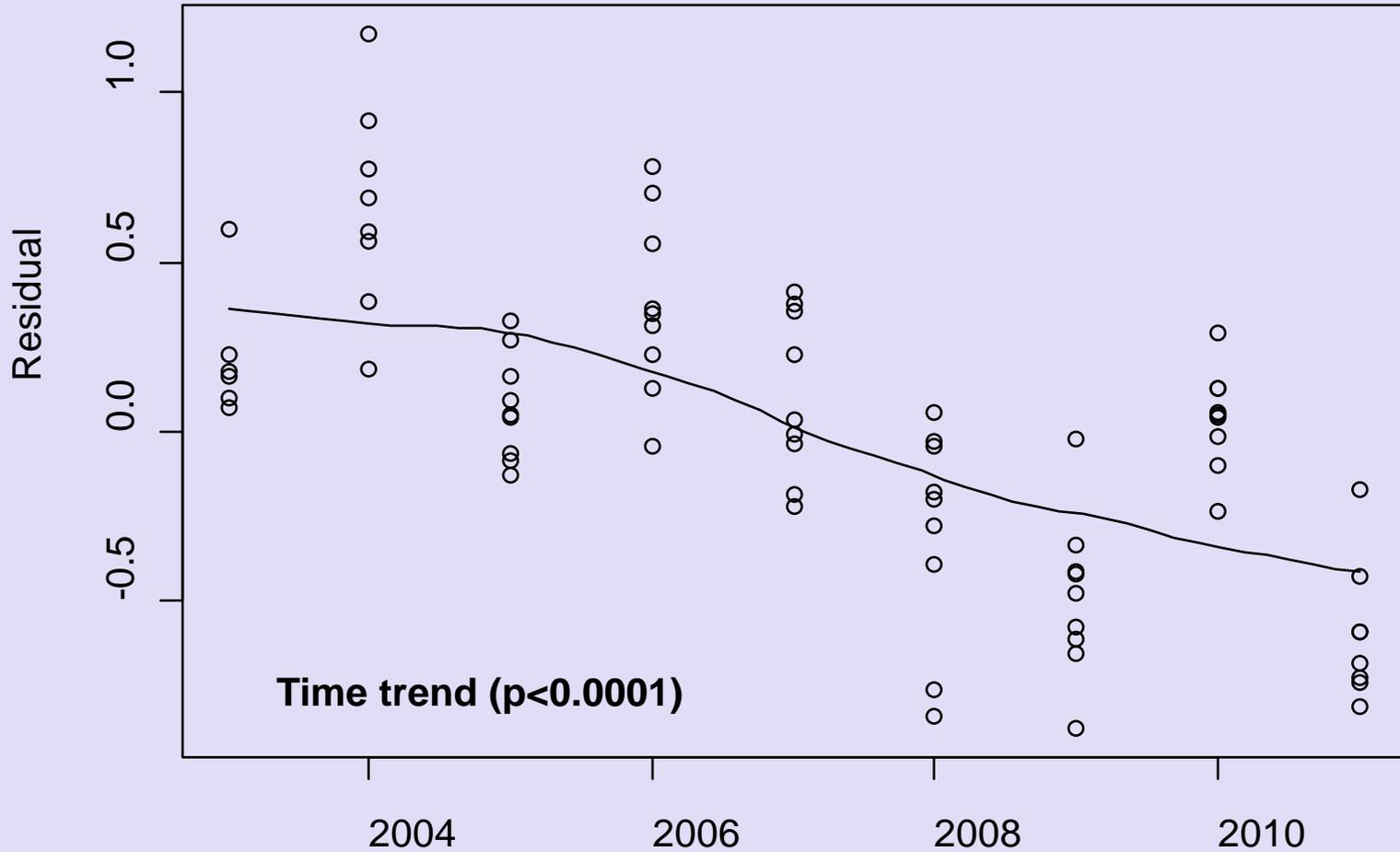
**Time trend ( $p < 0.0001$ )  
significance depends on 2003**

## log(EI) model



**Time trend ( $p = 0.365$ )  
accounts for 6.7% on 12/27/12**

# Freshwater Trend in Sediment \



$$\log(\text{SY}) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \log(\text{Q}) + b_i \quad (\text{site } i)$$

# Monitoring Recommendations

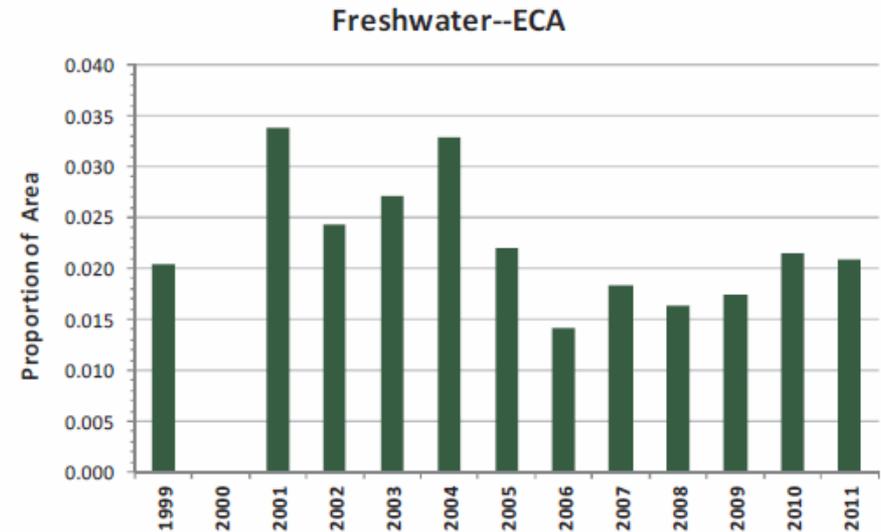
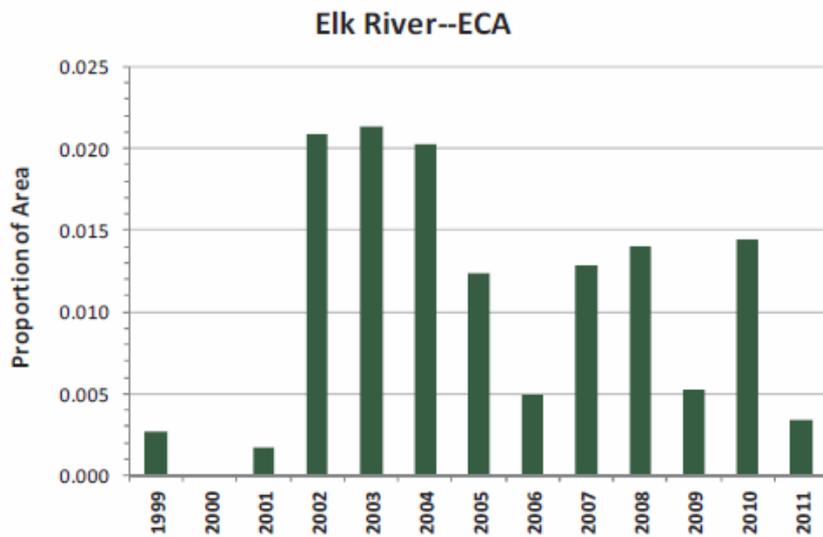
- We have a long enough record to begin to identify trends in watershed responses but it will take longer before trends may be attributed to recent mgmt changes
- Fund Salmon-Forever to bring their analyses up-to-date; continue x-sections and stream gaging
- Share and pool data with HRC and GDRC
- Improve access and continue monitoring Little South Fork Elk (Headwaters), or
- Establish a more accessible control watershed where logging will not occur. It need not be pristine or large, as long as its responses are well-correlated with other watersheds in the basin.

# What Does This Tell Us About Management?

- By itself not a great deal; Salmon-Forever is monitoring outcomes only
- Hypotheses
  - Management is now benign and the monitoring reflects it; maybe in Freshwater, not in Elk River
  - Management is now benign but it will take more time for the monitoring to reflect it; plausible
  - Management has not improved enough or is still being applied over too much area; may depend on how harvest rates are calculated and reported

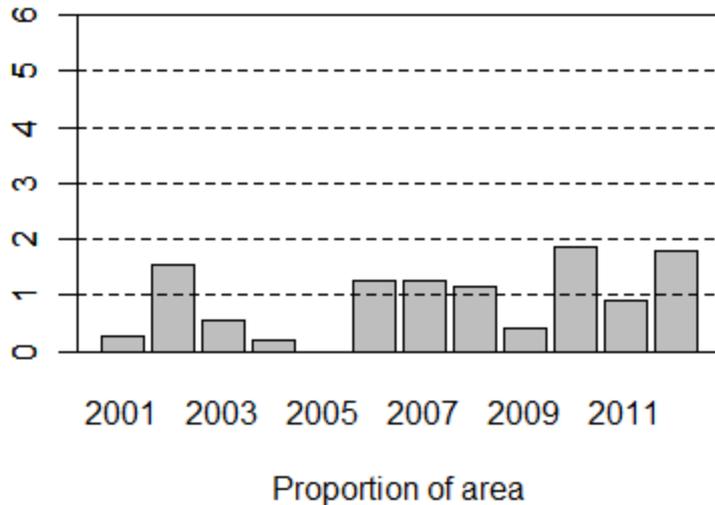
# Harvest History from HRC Report

Figure 19. Harvest history expressed as proportion of watershed in equivalent clearcut area (ECA) for the HCP management period from 1999 to 2011.

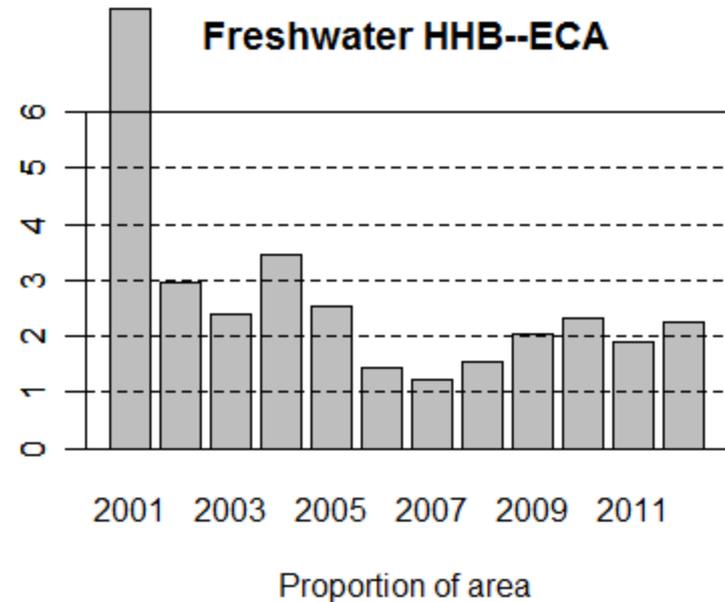


# Alternative Harvest History

**Elk NF and SF--ECA**



**Freshwater HHB--ECA**



- HHB 2001-2005 data are from Randy Klein
- 2012 data are projected from Adona White
- Remaining data from Adona White

# Management Recommendations

- Be cautious until improvements are measurable in Elk River
  - Keep out when roads and soils are wet
  - Limit canopy removal and keep openings small
  - Avoid the most unstable areas
  - Minimize ground disturbance, esp near stream channels, and maintain soil cover
  - Reduce the frequency of reentry
  - Be selective/smart when fixing legacy issues