



Exploring Environmental Flow Needs and Responses in Arizona:

The Environmental Water Demands Database



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Water for the Environment in Arizona?!

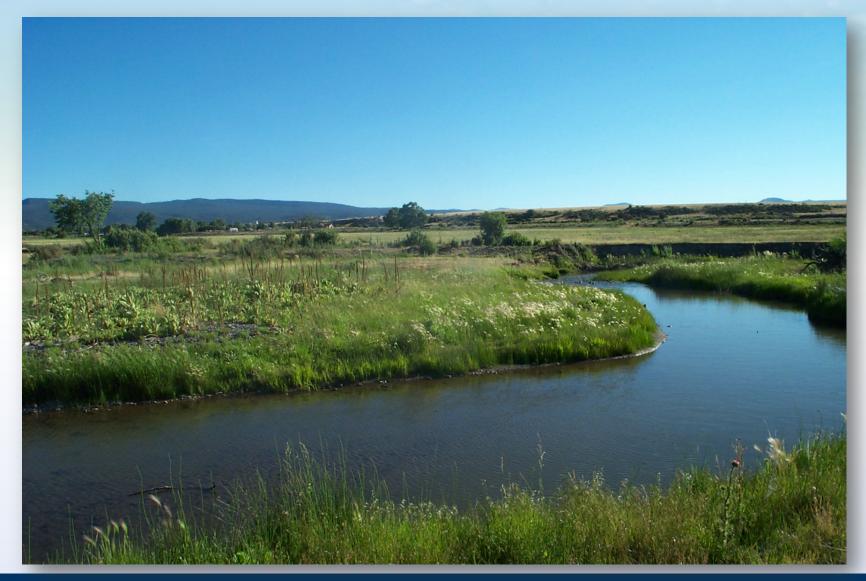
You may think of this....



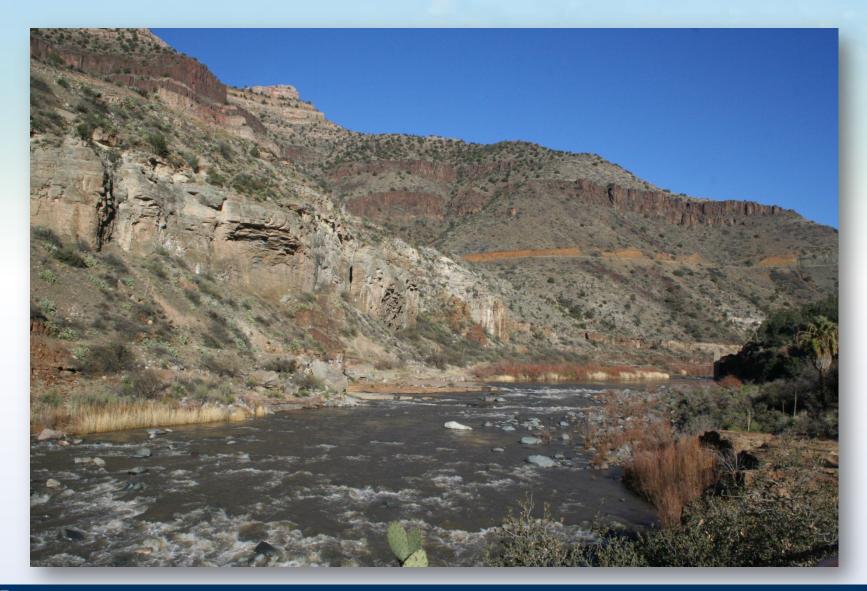
But really we are talking about this....

















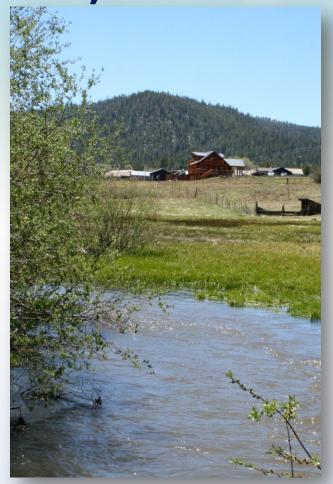




But there isn't much water there...

Connecting the Environment to Arizona Water Planning (EnWaP)

- Provide information on environmental water demands
- 2. Offer technical support to communities for incorporating the environment into their management and planning
- 3. Create a stakeholder driven
 "Roadmap" for considering the
 environment in AZ water planning
 and management



Little Colorado River at Greer Photo Credit: Kelly Mott Lacroix

OK But What *IS*Environmental Water Demand?

Many words...similar ideas

- Ecological flow requirements
- Environmental flow or level needs
- Instream flow requirements
- Environmental water demand



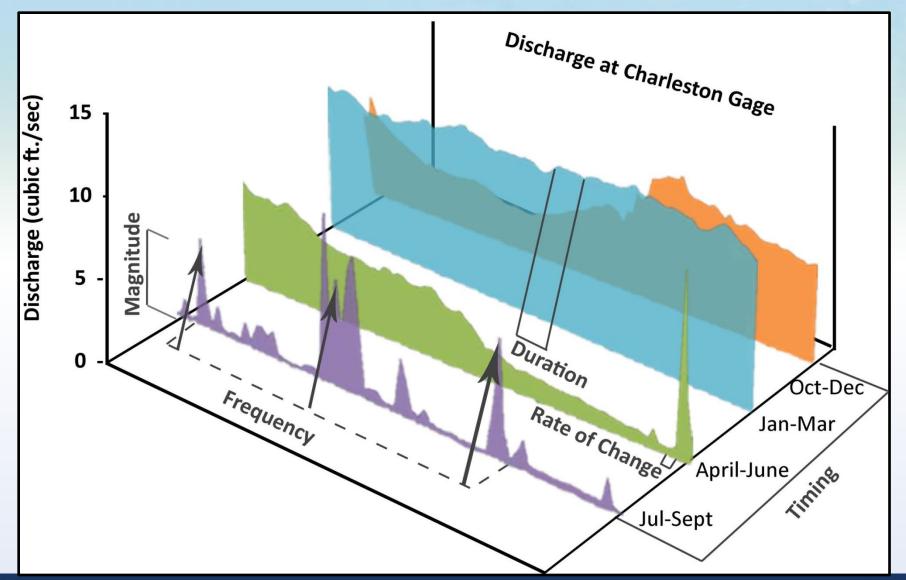
Bill Williams River
Photo Credit: Kelly Mott Lacroix

Environmental Water Demand

The amount of water needed in a watercourse to sustain a healthy ecosystem

- Magnitude (how much)
- Frequency (how often)
- Duration (how long)
- Timing (how predictable)
- Rate of Change (how variable)
- Includes priority setting by the community as well

Environmental Water Demands



Examining Environmental Flows

- Arizona Environmental
 Water Needs Assessment
 - 2010, 92 studies
 - Gray and published literature identified by advisory committee
- Environmental Water
 Demands Database
 - 111 studies in database
 - Updated through July 2013



Environmental Water DemandsDatabase

- Contains information on
 - Author/Year
 - Study location
 - Taxa
 - Species or functional group

- Method(s) used
- Flow needs/flow responses
 - Qualitative data
 - Quantitative data



San Pedro River Valley. Photo Credit: SPRV.org



Biological Element Natural Flow Regime Element

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Ecology

Biological Element Hydrology

Natural Flow Regime Element

- Abundance
- Age structure
- Composition
- Diversity
- Health
- Survivorship
- Reproduction





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Ecology

Biological Element

- Abundance
- Age structure
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- Diversity
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- Reproduction

Hydrology

Natural Flow Regime Element

- Magnitude
- Frequency
- Duration
- Timing
- Rate of Change

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Ecology

Biological Element Relationship

Hydrology

Natural Flow Regime Element

- Abundance
- Age structure
- Composition
- Diversity
- Health
- Survivorship
- Reproduction

Flow need

- Depends upon
- Does not depend on
- Uses
- Associated with

Flow response

- Influenced
- Enhanced
- Harmed

- Magnitude
- Frequency
- Duration
- Timing
- Rate of Change

Quantified Flow Needs and Levels Keywords

Biological - Health

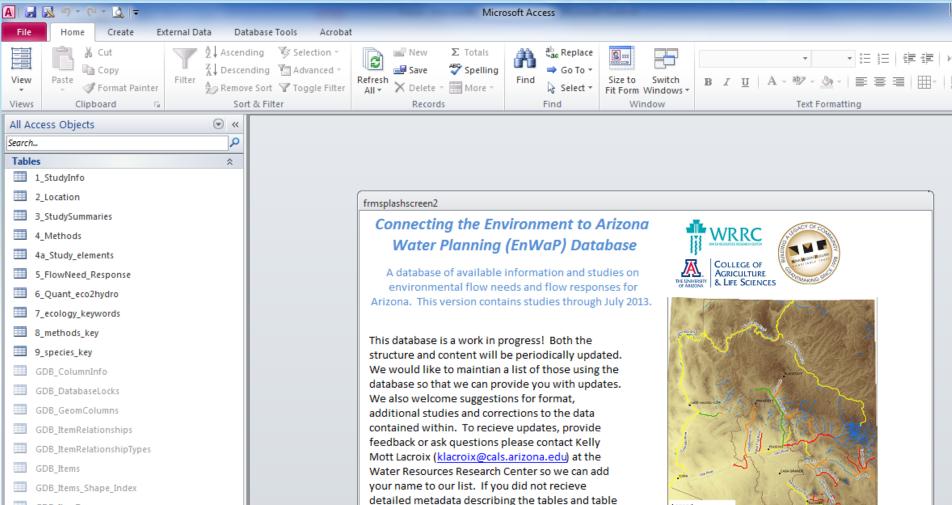
- Biomass
- Growth rate
- Vigor
- Plant growth
- Stem density
- Basal area

Hydrological - Rate of Change

- Rate of groundwater depth decline
- Flood intensity
- Surface flow permanence
- Variability of depth to groundwater



Environmental Water Demands Database Tour...



GDB_ItemTypes GDB_ReplicaLog GDB SpatialRefs

☆

☆

SelectedObjects Selections stream_segments

Simple_Quant_Query

Queries

Forms

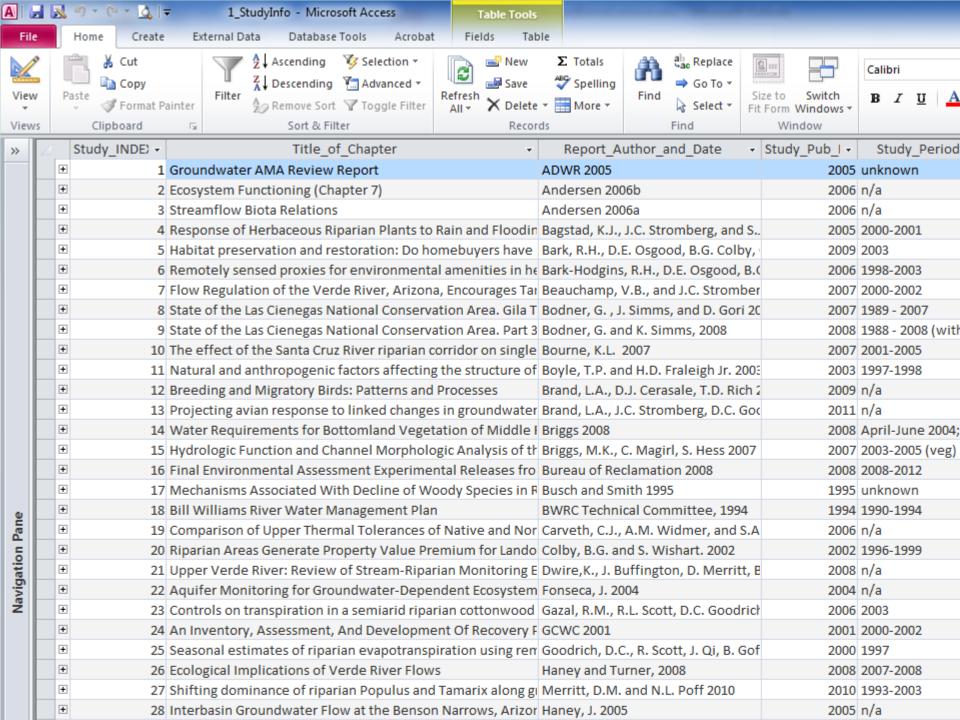
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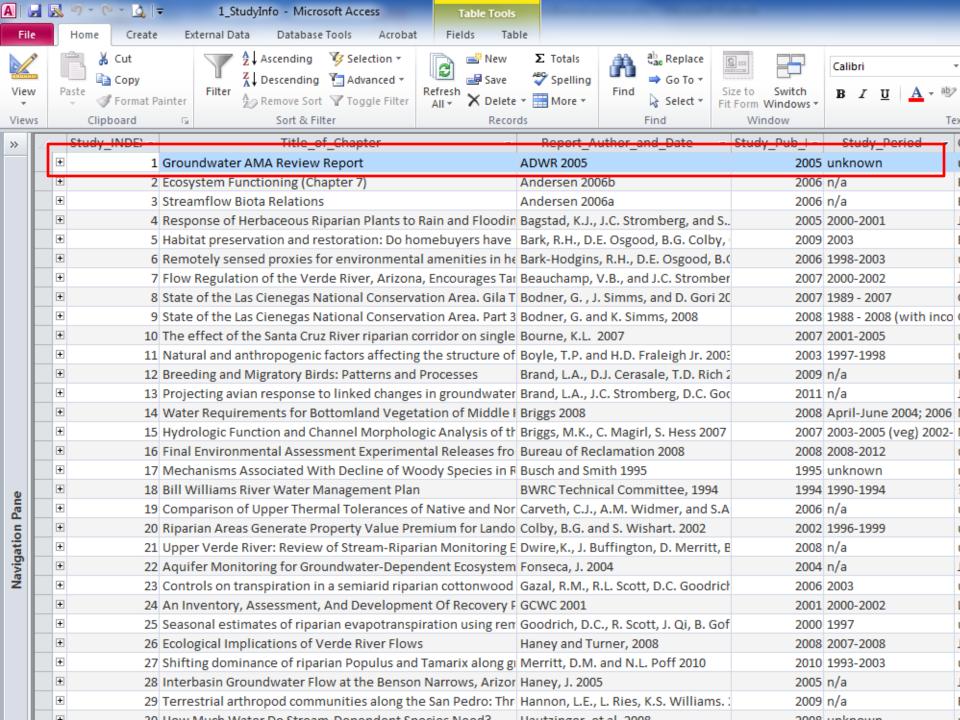
Close

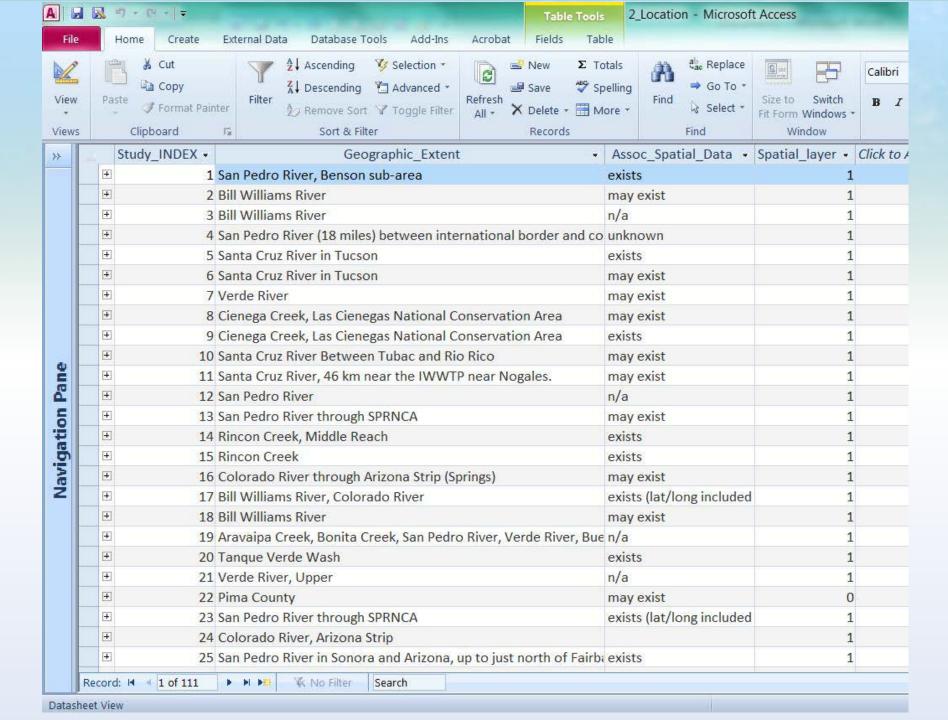
will provide it to you.

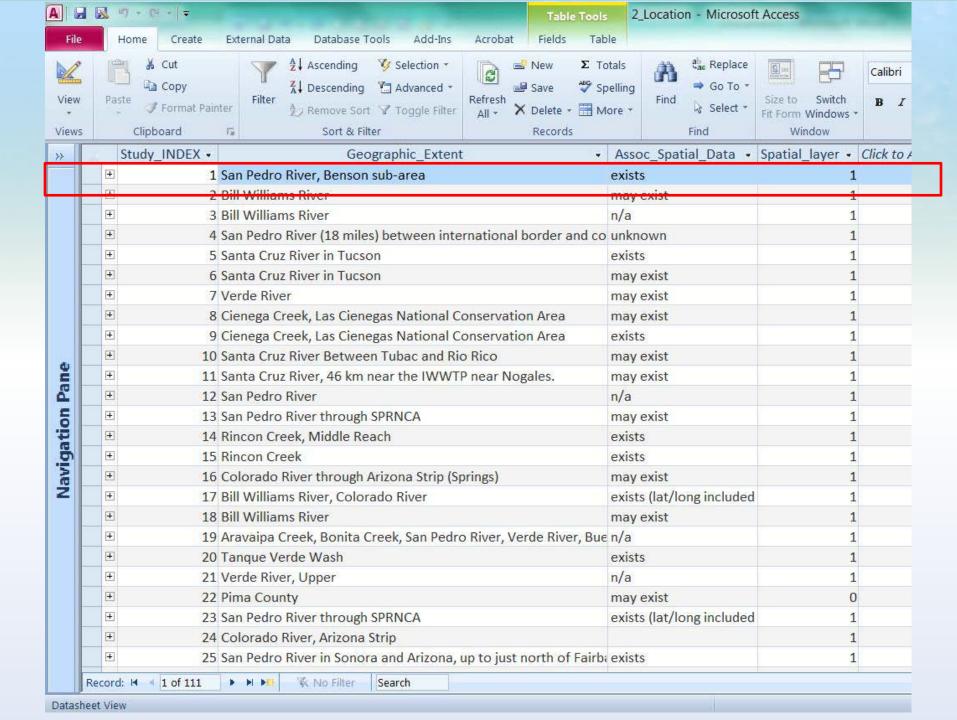
content with this database contact Kelly and she

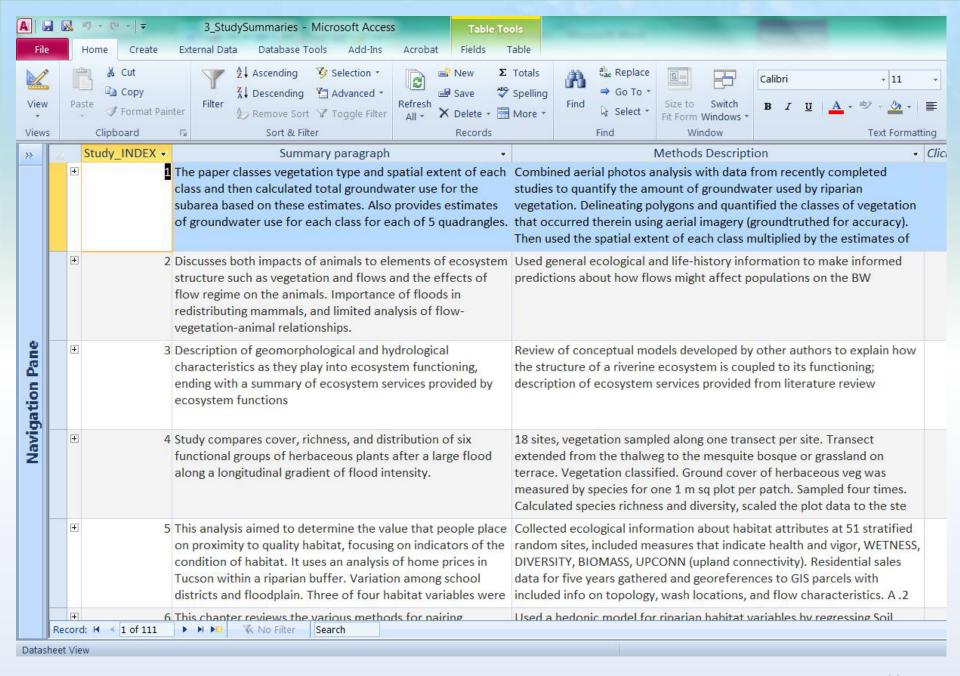


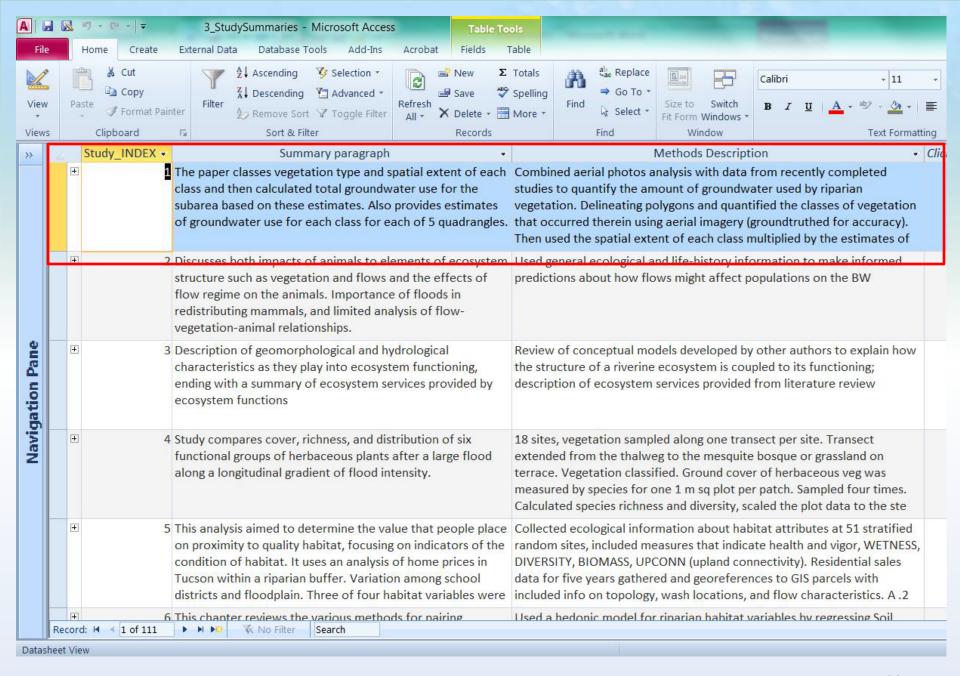


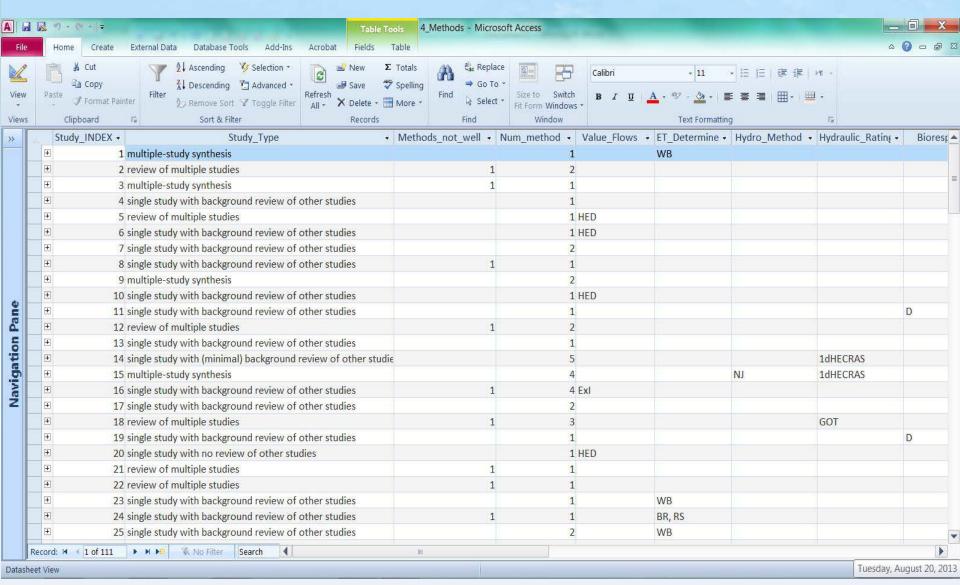


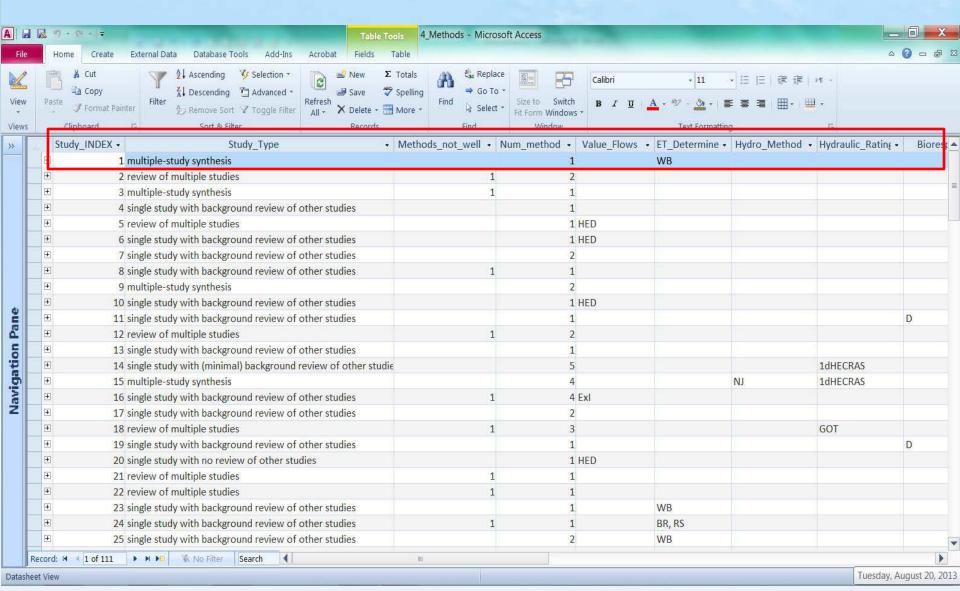


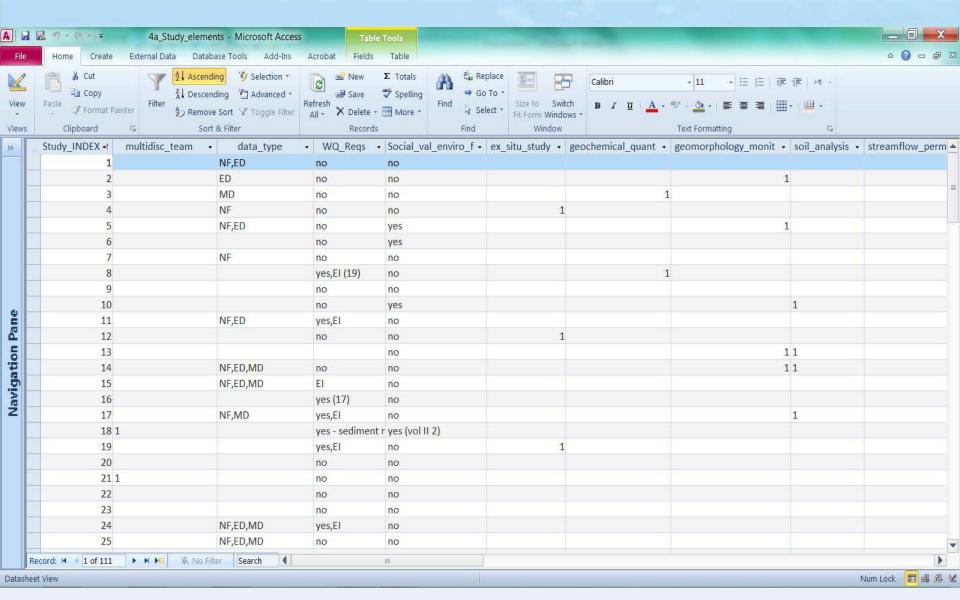


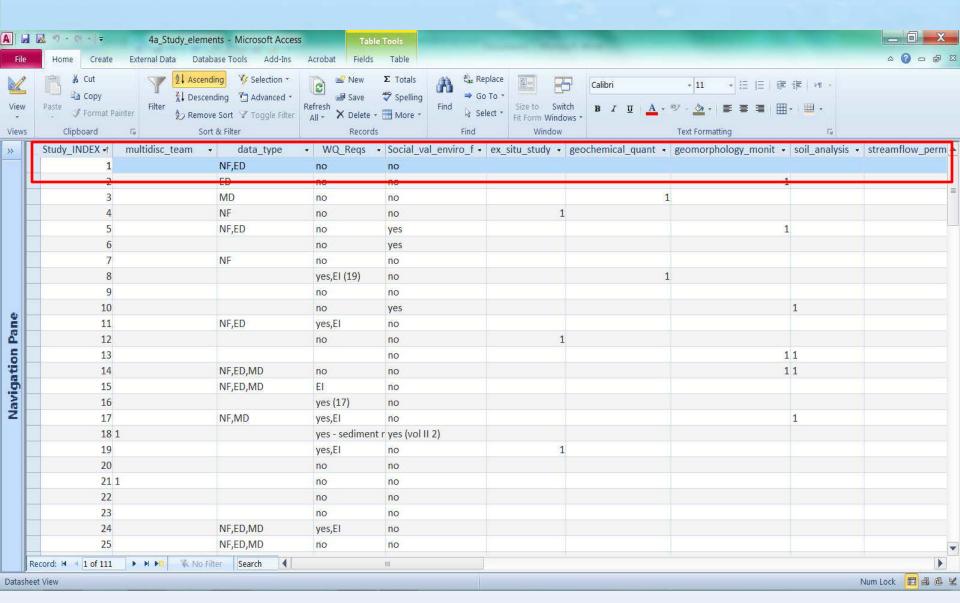


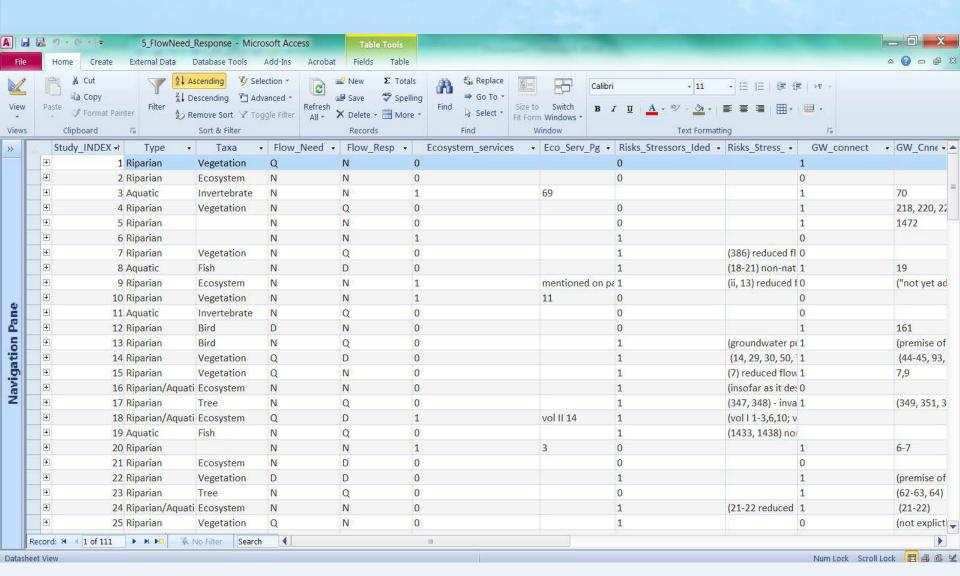


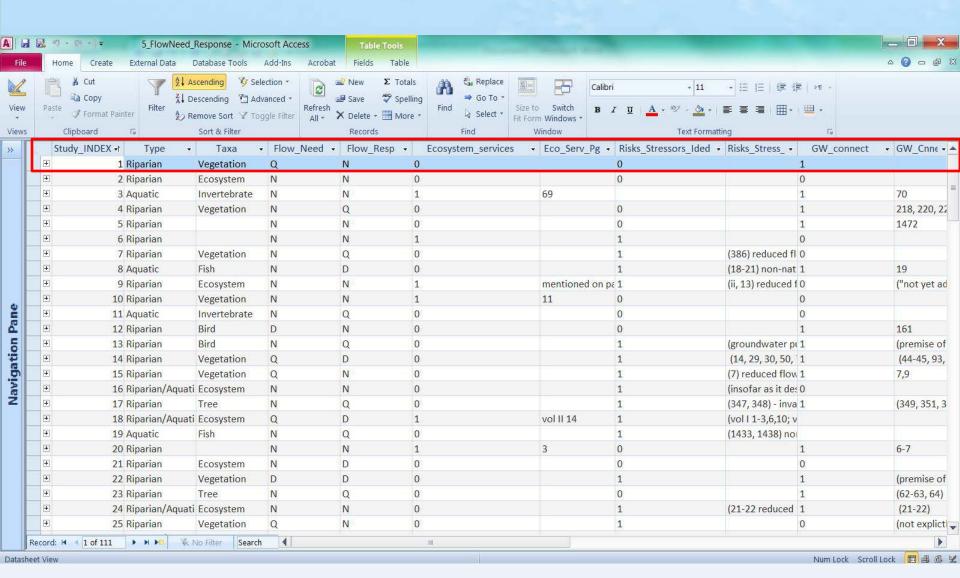


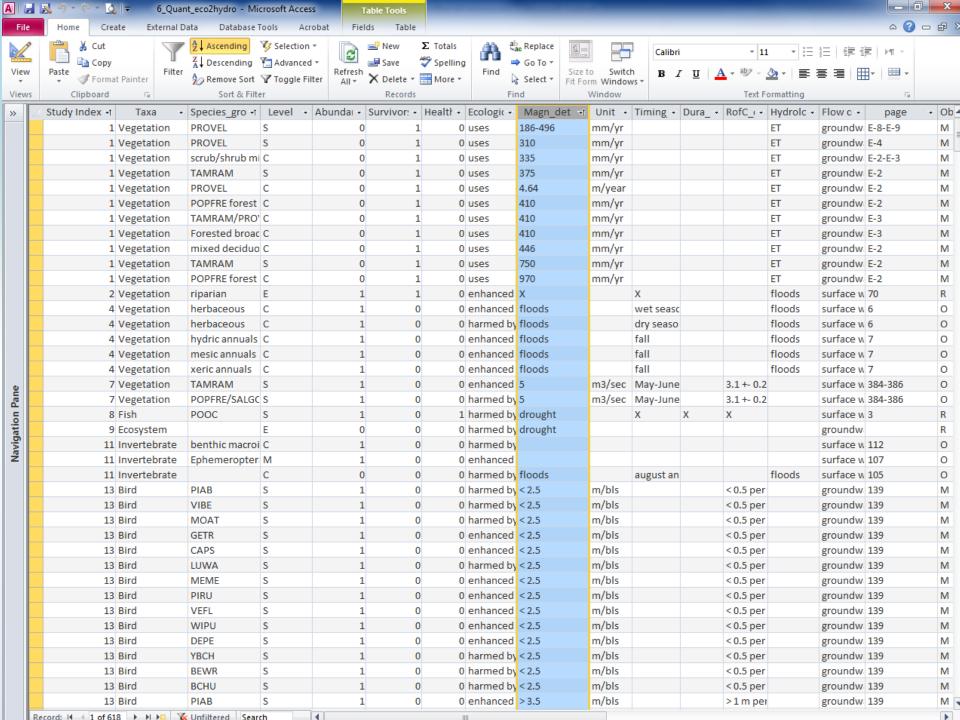


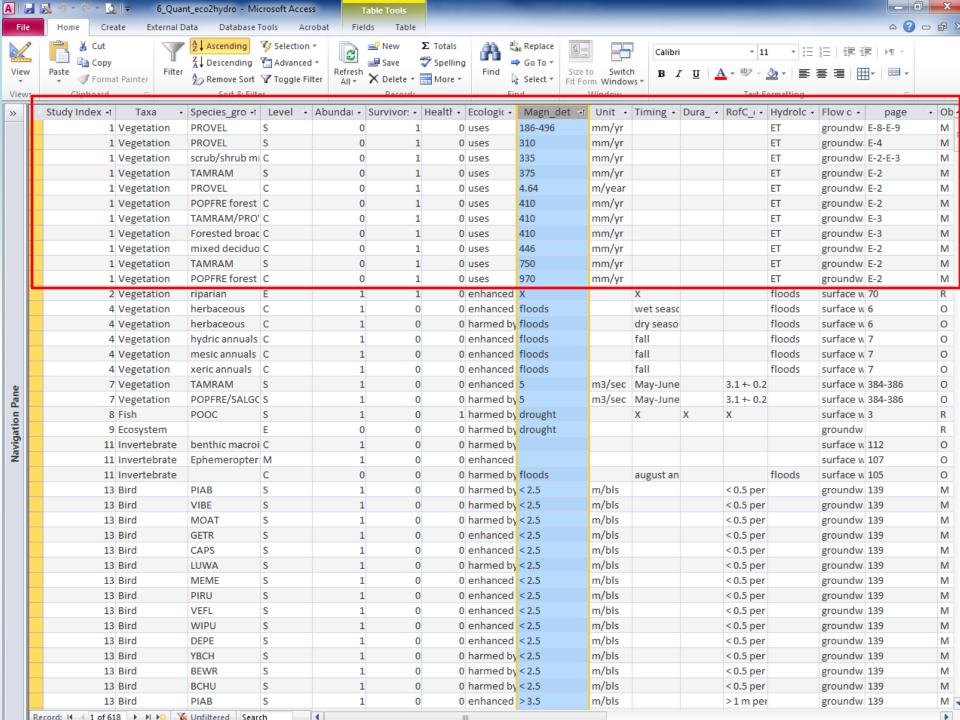


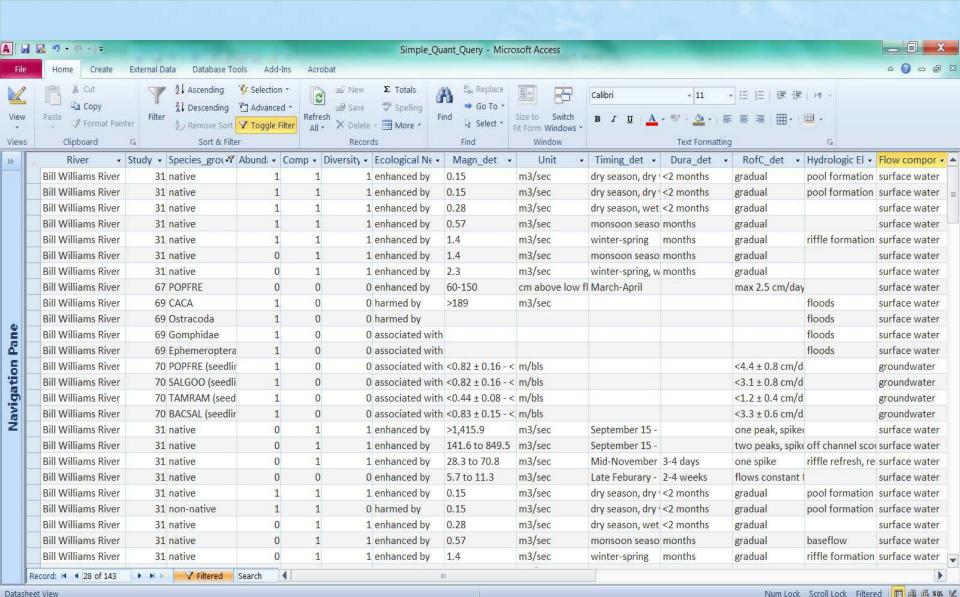








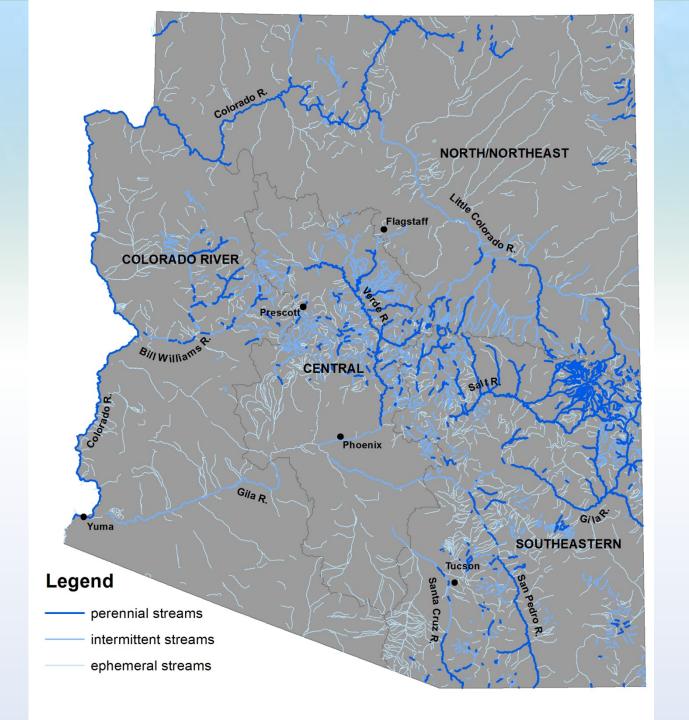


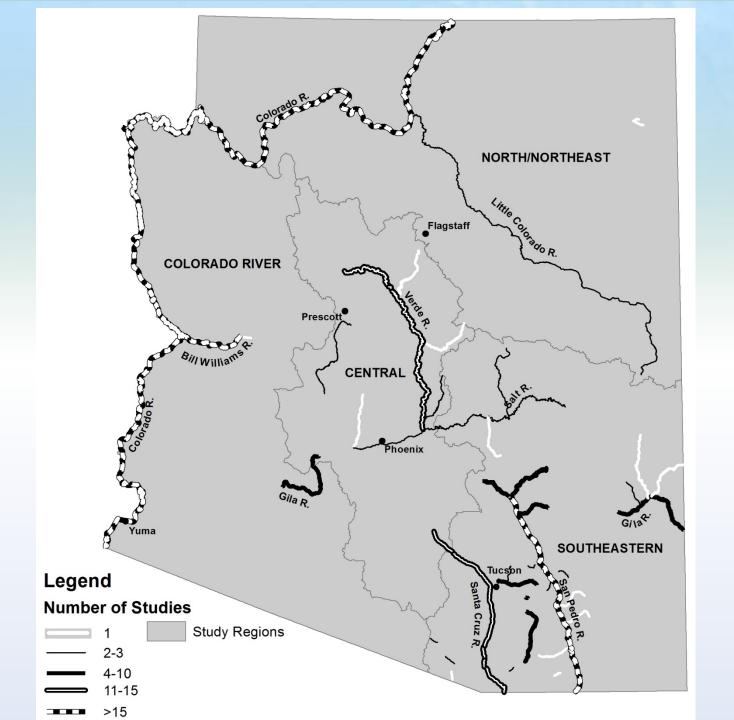


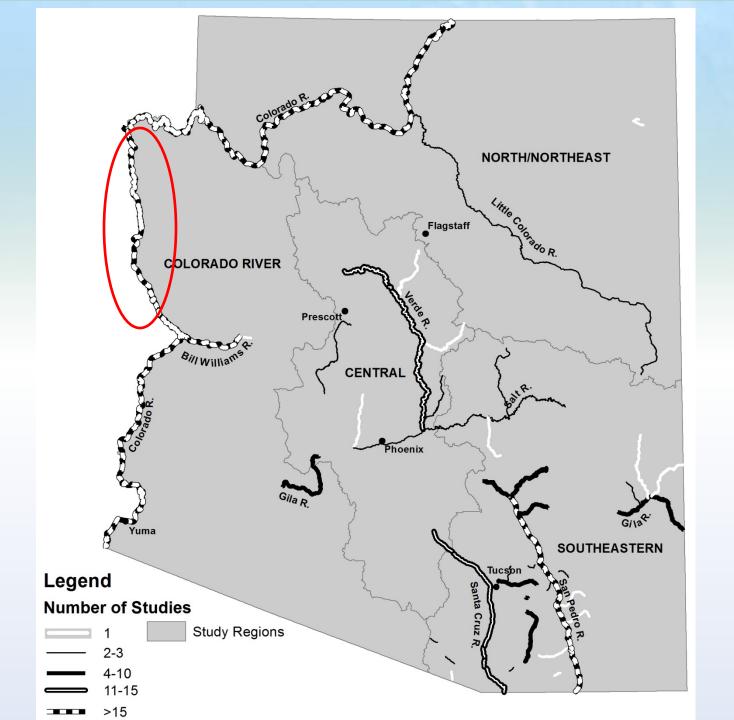
Findings

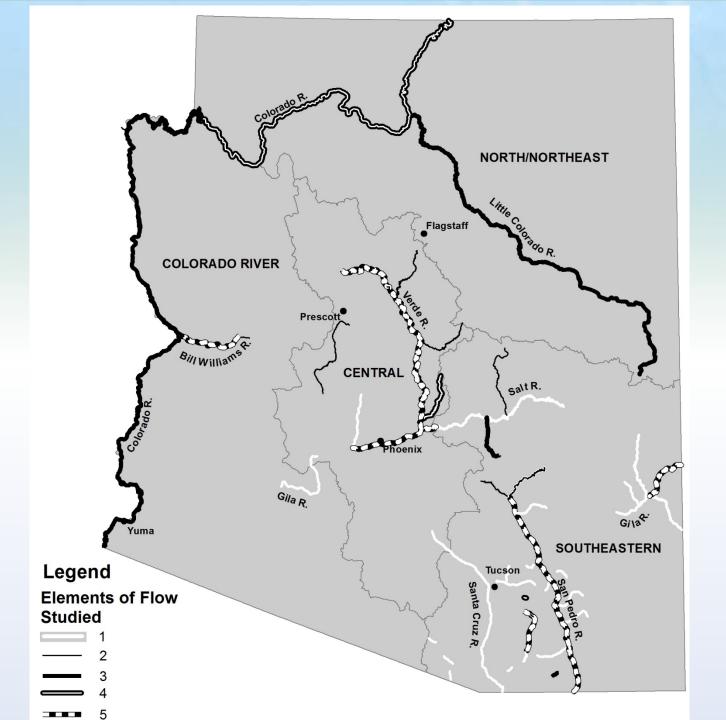
- 22% of river miles in Arizona Studied
 - 40% of perennial river miles
 - 11% of intermittent river miles
- 135 species
 - 25% studied >1
 - 11% studied > 2

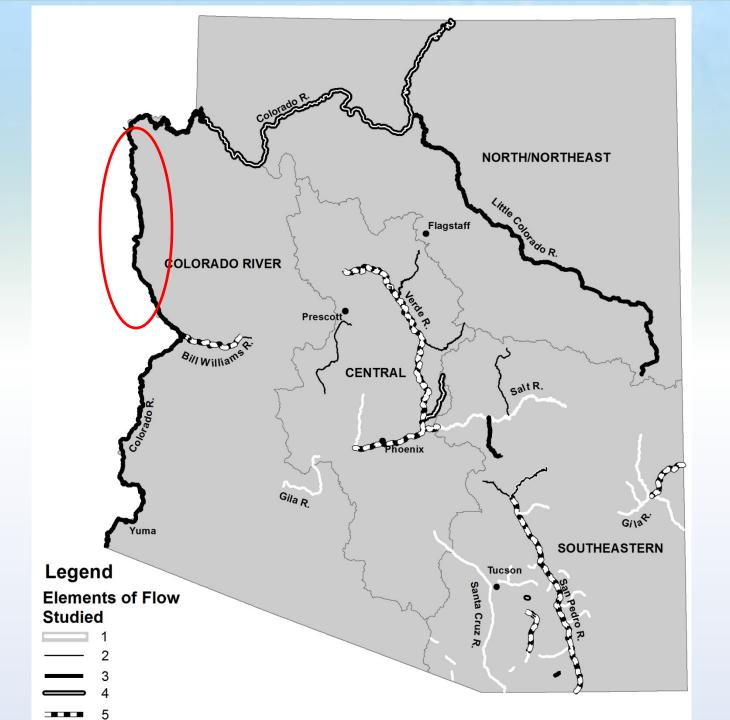
Study Subject	Таха	Number of Studies
Populous fremonti	Veg	27
Salix gooddingii	Veg	15
Tamarix ramosissima	Veg	14
Prosopis velutina	Veg	13
Cottonwood/Willow	Veg	
Forest		7
Native flora/fauna	NA	5
Tamarix chinensis	Veg	5
Rhinichthys osculus	Fish	5
Baccharis salicifolia	Veg	5
Gila robusta	Fish	5
Sporobolus wrightii	Veg	5
Herbaceous plants	Veg	4
Typha	Veg	4
Platanus wrightii	Veg	3
Xyrauchen texanus	Fish	3
Gila cypha	Fish	3
Castor canadensis	Mammal	3
Agosia chrysogaster	Fish	3
Atriplex	Veg	3

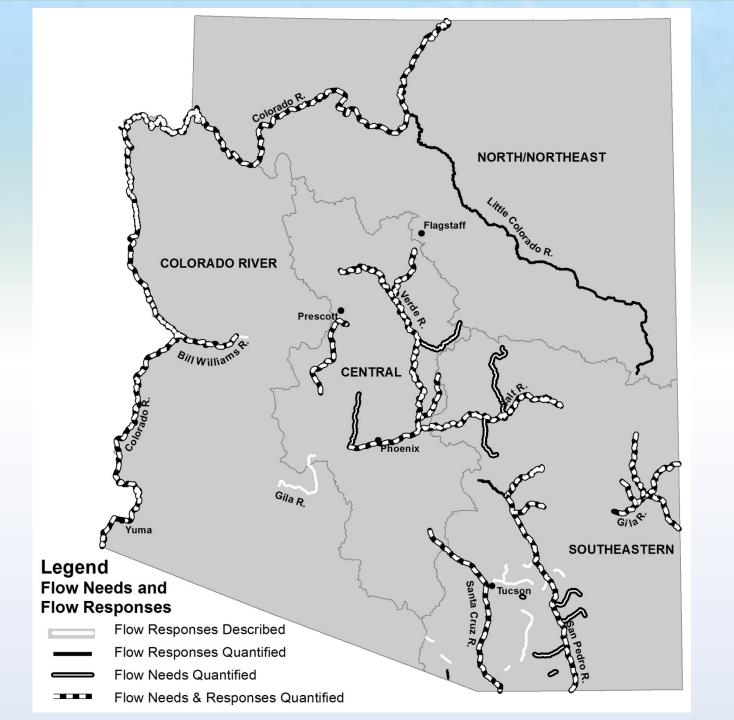


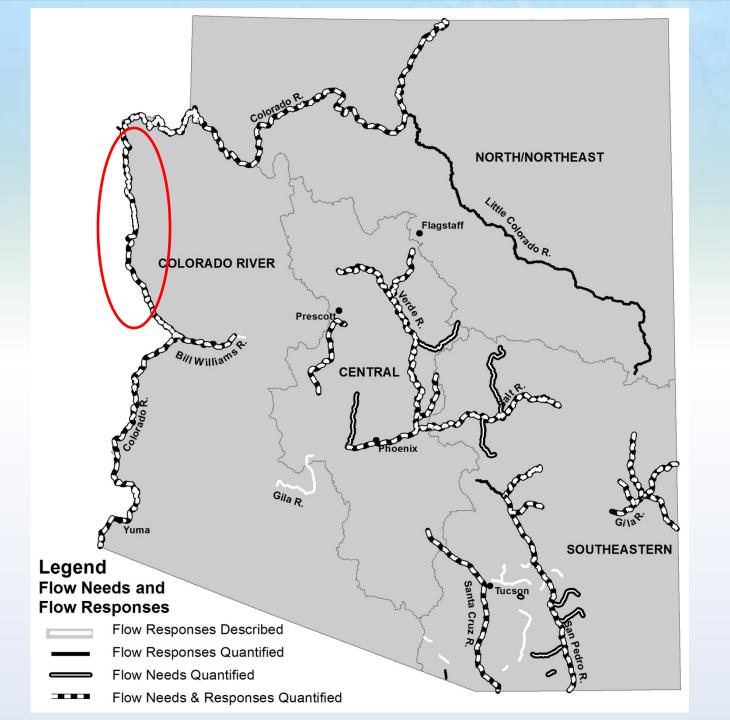


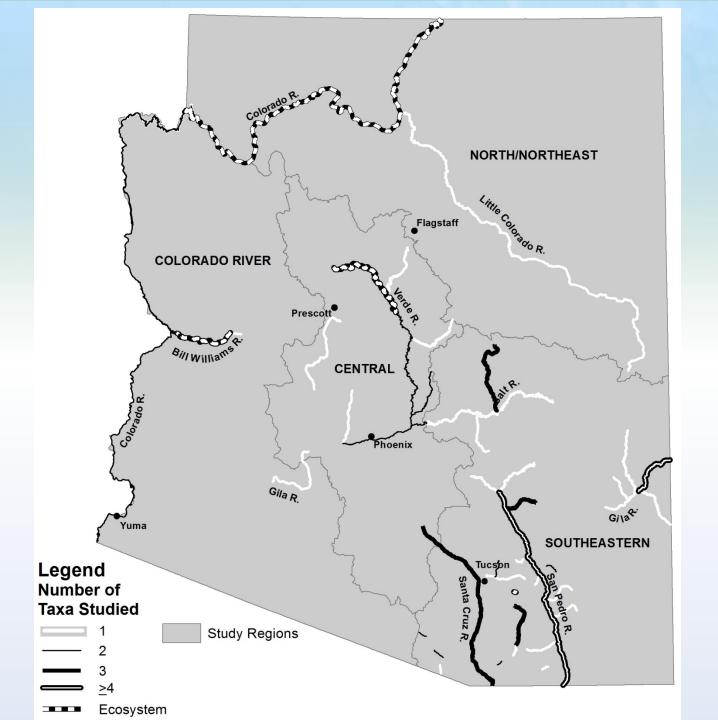


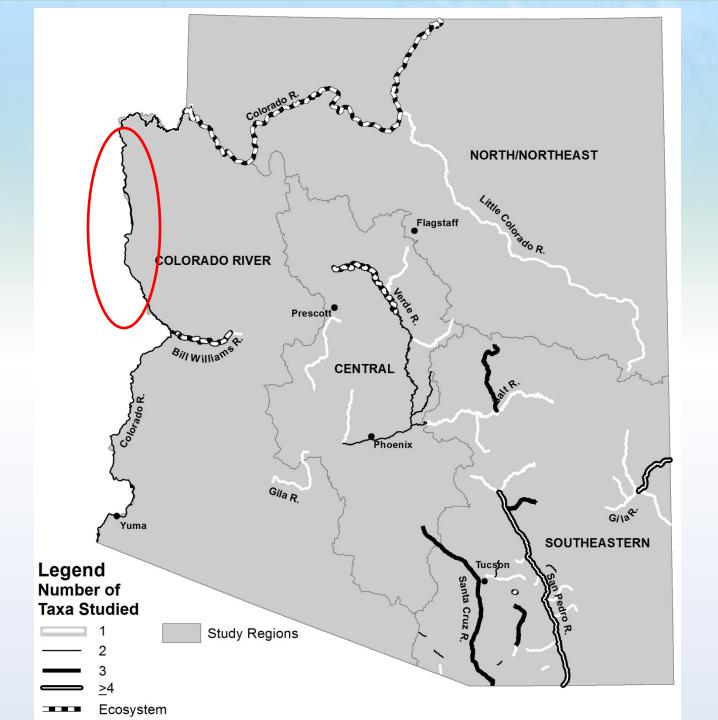












Database Example: What quantitative information is available on the ecological flow needs or responses of cottonwoods?



Populus fremontii Photo Credit: cals.arizona.edu



Age	Ecology	Relationship	Hydrology						Church
			Water	Magnitude	Timing	Frequency	Duration	Rate of Change	Study Types
				Cottor	wood (Populo	us Fremonti	;)		-
	Flow or Level Needs								
seed	А	assoc. with	GW	<0.82 ± 0.16 - <1.58 ± 0.14				<4.4 ± 0.8 cm/day	0
seed	S	assoc. with	GW	<1 m/bls				~2 cm/ day	0
juv.	A, S	assoc. with	GW	0.2 to 2 m/bls					0
	А, С	assoc. with	GW	1 to 3 m/bls			Year Round	<1 m yr flux	0
	A, S, H	assoc. with	GW	0.1 to 5.1 m/bls			Year Round		0
	Н	depends upon	SW	0.28 to 2.8 m3/s		baseflow			R
	R	assoc. with	SW	0.06 -0.15 m above low flow	March-April			max 2.5 cm/day	R
	R	depends upon	SW	198.2 m3/s	winter- spring, wet yr	1:10 yrs			R
	R	depends upon	SW	56.6 m3/s	winter- spring, dry yr	every 2-3 yrs			R
A= Abundance, C = Composition, H = Health, R = Reproduction, S = Survival									

Beauchamp 2006 Hautzinger et al. 2006 Hautzinger et al.

Citations

Shafroth et al

Stromberg et al.

Pima County 2009;

Stromberg et al

Leenhouts et al. 2005; NPS 2008; Pima County 2009; Stromberg et al.

1998

1996

1996

2009

2006

2006

Horton et al. 2001; Stromberg

et al. 1996

Shafroth &

Hautzinger et al.

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Citations

So WHAT?

How can we use this information?

- Inform water management and planning decisions
 - initial thresholds
 - flow requirements
 - priority areas for future management actions
- Identify studies needed to address
 - key geographic information gaps
 - key species or taxa information gaps
 - inconsistent information



Lake Pleasant Shoreline, Phoenix, AZ Photo Credit Arizona Game & Fish





Where are we going with this?

EnWaP Roadmap

- Building first-ever roadmap for considering the environment in AZ water planning
 - What are the opportunities for considering the environment in water decision making?
 - What is the decision space or common ground for considering

the environment?

- Guided by Steering Committee
- Focus group meetings fall 2013
 - Contact us to participate



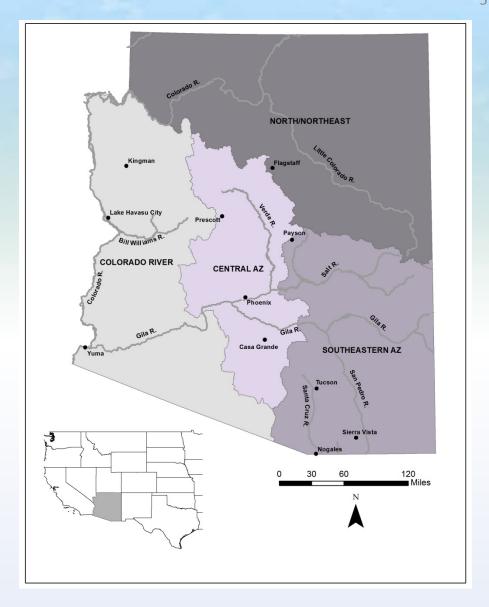
Colorado River at Black Canyon. Source: ADWR, 2010



If and when should environmental water demands be considered in water management and planning.

For more information...

 Statewide and Regional Bulletins



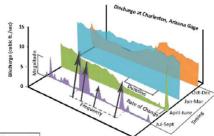
For more information...

 Statewide and Regional Bulletins



Environmental Flows and Water Demands: Central Arizona Region

ater is an increasingly scarce resource and is essential for Arizona's future. With Arizona's population growth and continued drought, citizens and water managers have been taking a closer look at water supplies in the state. Municipal, industrial, and agricultural water users are well-represented demand sectors, but water supplies and management to benefit the environment are not often considered. This bulletin explains the water demands of the environment in the Central Arizona Region, an area that includes the Verde River, Agua Fria and Upper Hassayampa groundwater basins, as well as the Prescott Phoenix, and Pinal Active Management Areas (AMAs).



Data Source: USGS stream gage data
Figure 1. Elements of Environmental Flow

Occurring in Seasonal Hydrographs

This Central Arizona Region bulletin also introduces information essential for considering environmental water demands in discussions about water management. Environmental water demands (or environmental flow) refers to how much water a freshwater ecosystem needs to sustain itself. Arizona's native animals and plants are dependent on dynamic flows, which are commonly described according to five elements: magnitude, duration, frequency, timing and rate of change. For example, seasonal flood events (e.g. timing) and constant flows (e.g. duration) cue important biological events, like reproduction. The five elements of environmental flows are displayed in Figure 1 through a hydrograph of the San Pedro River's flows over the course of a

To consider the environment alongside other water sectors, we must first study the water demands of ecosystems. In Figure 2 the streams where we have quantified the current amount of streamflow that supports the environment (gray lines) and environmental water demands (black lines) are displayed in relation to key surface water resources. This region contains perennial (those that flow year-round) and intermittent (those that flow only part of the year) streams, riparian areas, and many major springs.

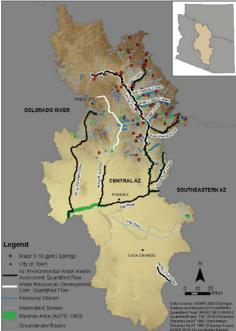


Figure 2. Streams with Quantified Flows/Demands and Surface Water Resources in the Central Arizona Region

Revised 07/26/2012

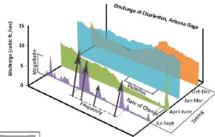
For more information...

- Statewide and Regional Bulletins
- White Paper
- Quarterly
 Environmental Water
 Program Newsletter
- Website: wrrc.arizona.edu/Water-forthe-Environment



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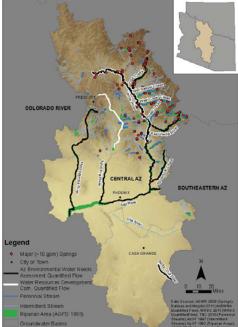
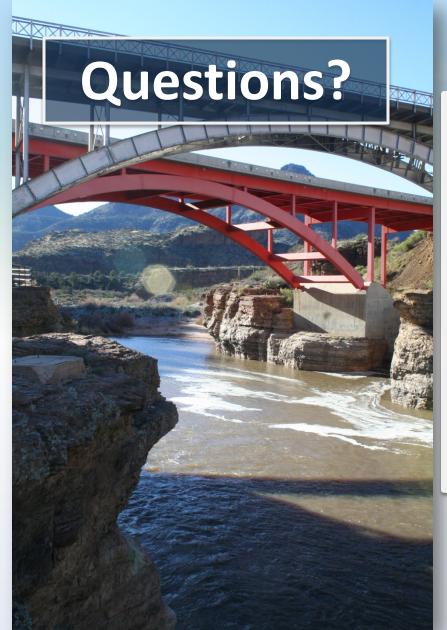


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Salt River. Photo Credit: Kelly Mott Lacroix