

# Operational Real-time Flood Forecasting under Climate Change Impacts in British Columbia (The COFFEE Model and CLEVER Model)



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May 30, 2018**





## Life of the River Forecast Centre



# COFFEE Model



Changing Rain  
and Snow  
Patterns

Changes in Animal  
Migration and Life Cycles

Less  
Snow and Ice

Higher Temperatures  
and More Heat Waves

More Droughts  
and Wildfires

Stronger  
Storms

Thawing  
Permafrost

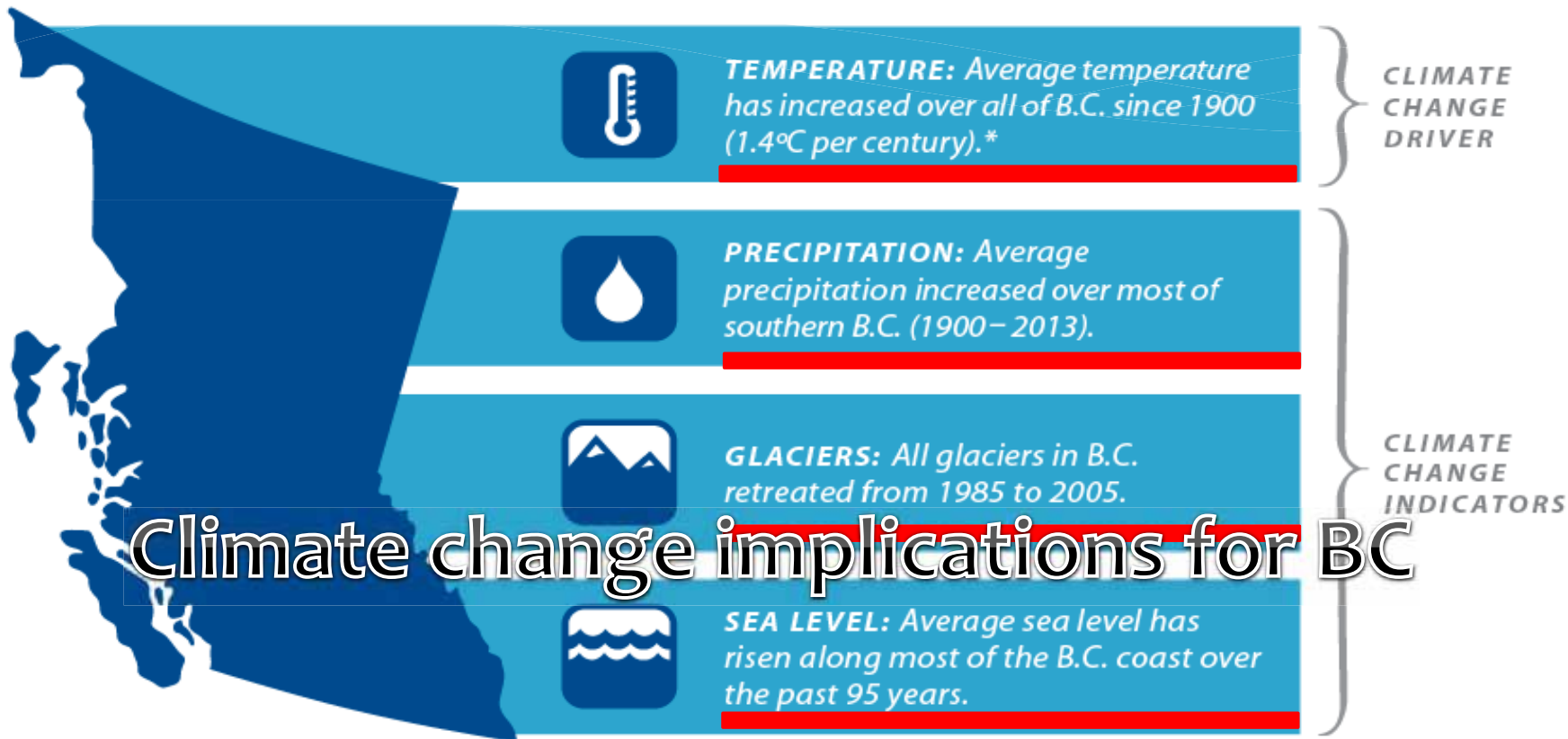
# Climate change implications for the world

Damaged  
Corals

Rising  
Sea Level

Warmer  
Oceans

Changes in  
Plant Life Cycles



# Climate change implications for BC

\* Winter is warmer on average than it was 100 years ago. Higher temperatures drive other climate systems and affect our environment and ecosystems.





# Climate change implications for BC in 2018



Early onset of freshet

More extreme rainfall events

# Climate change implications for real-time flood forecasting in BC

# Modeling Challenges under climate change impacts:

**Accuracy**



**Uncertainty**



**Efficiency**



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# COFFEE Model



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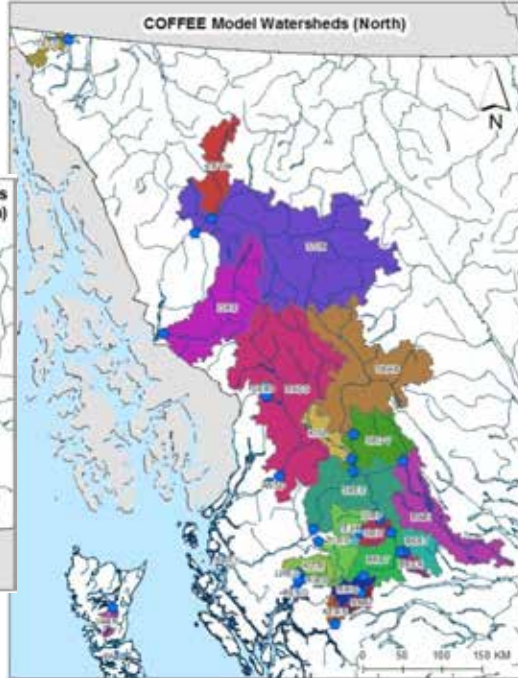
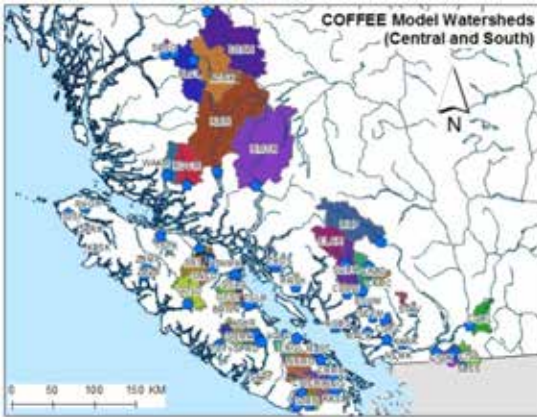
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**COFFEE  
Model**



**Coastal Fall Flood  
Ensemble Estimation  
Model**

# Where is the COFFEE Model developed for?



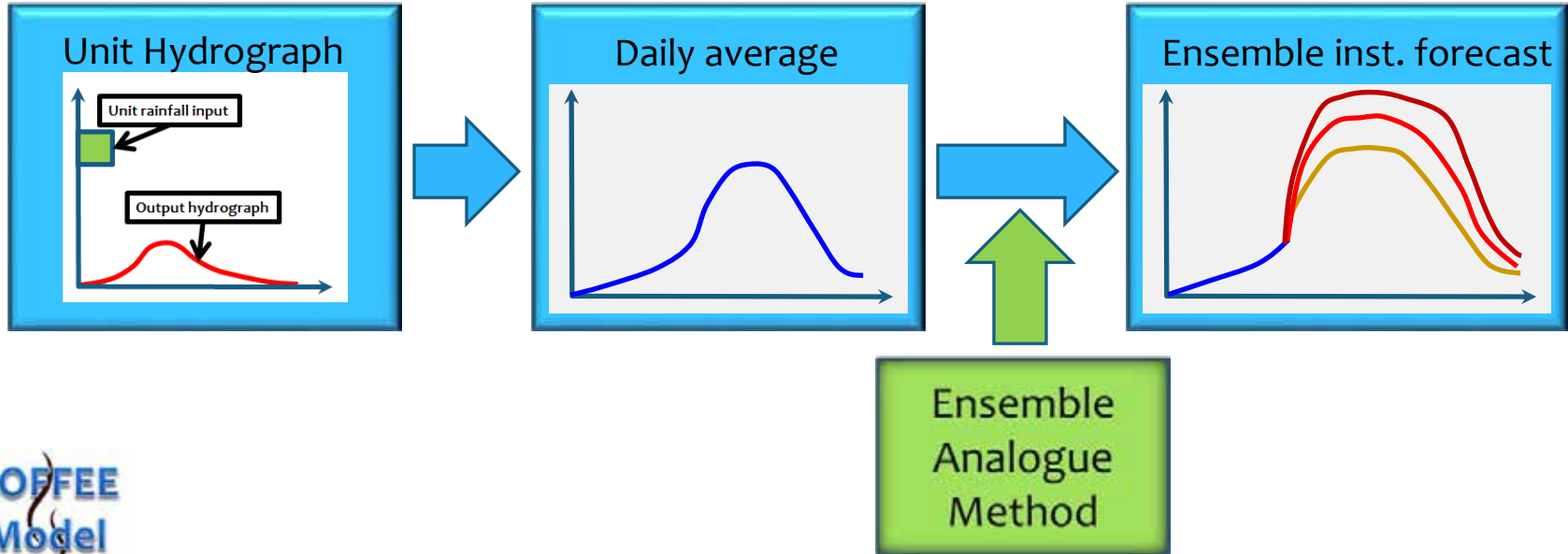
COFFEE  
Model



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# What is the COFFEE Model?

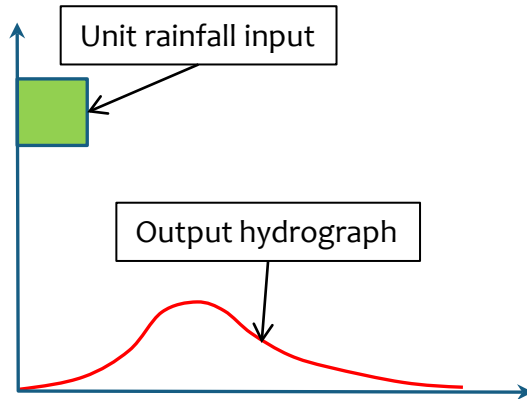


COFFEE  
Model

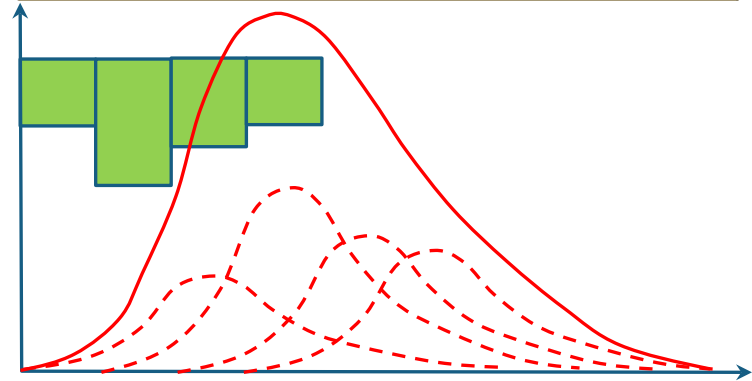


# What is the COFFEE Model?

## Unit Hydrograph



$$Q_n = \sum_{m=1}^{n \leq M} P_m U_{n-m+1}$$



COFFEE  
Model



## Ensemble Analogue Method

Statistical analysis for the historical discharge data to find the ratios of instantaneous peaks to the daily peaks, and the average, max and min of the ratios.

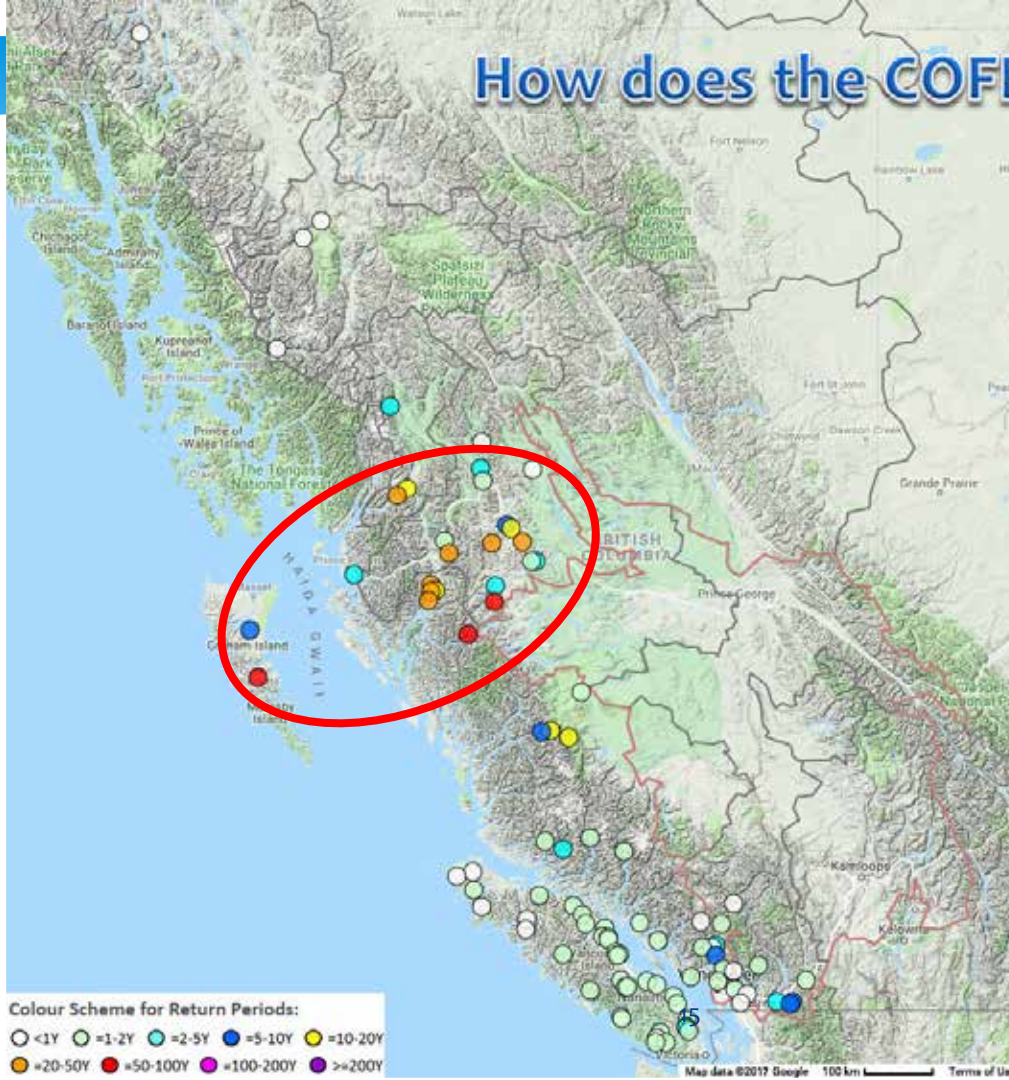
$$R_n = \frac{O_n}{D_n}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_{ave} = \sum_{n=1}^N R_n / N \\ R_{max} = \max(R_n) \\ R_{min} = \min(R_n) \end{array} \right. \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} Q_{ave,n} = R_{ave} Q_n \\ Q_{max,n} = R_{max} Q_n \\ Q_{min,n} = R_{min} Q_n \end{array} \right.$$

COFFEE  
Model



# How does the COFFEE Model work?

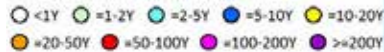


Google map  
output from the  
COFFEE Model,  
October 22, 2017

COFFEE  
Model

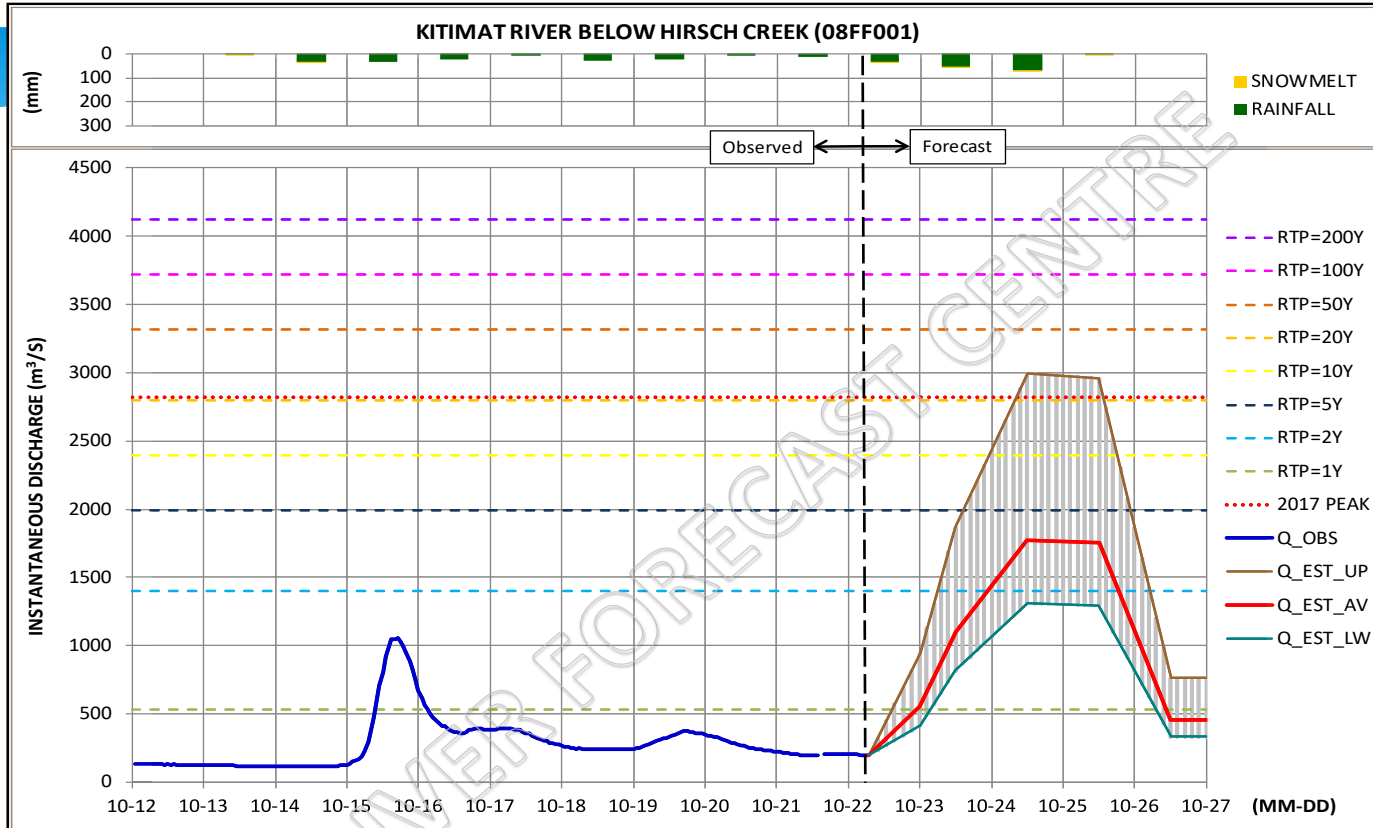


Colour Scheme for Return Periods:



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Sun	COFFEE MODEL	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
2017-10-22	<b>FLOW FORECAST</b>	2017-10-22	2017-10-23	2017-10-24	2017-10-25	2017-10-26
Current Reading	Forec. Rain+melt (mm)	33	58	72	3	0
(m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Forecast Maximum	940.4	1866.0	2992.4	2957.9	763.6
197.0	Discharge Average	556.8	1104.9	1771.9	1751.5	452.2
	(m <sup>3</sup> /s) Minimum	412.2	818.0	1311.7	1296.6	334.8

Color Scheme: 530.6 1403.5 1991.7 2396.0 2793.8 3321.3 3723.2 4126.4 2815.9

Remark: This is a natural station.

[The Coastal Fall Floods Ensemble Estimation \(COFFEE\) Model](#)

**DISCLAIMER:** The model forecast is derived by using observed/forecast climate/hydrometric data from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Province of British Columbia. The model and data have limitations, inaccuracies and errors. The actual discharges/water levels will be different from the forecasts. Users of this data must accept all responsibility for their use and interpretation.

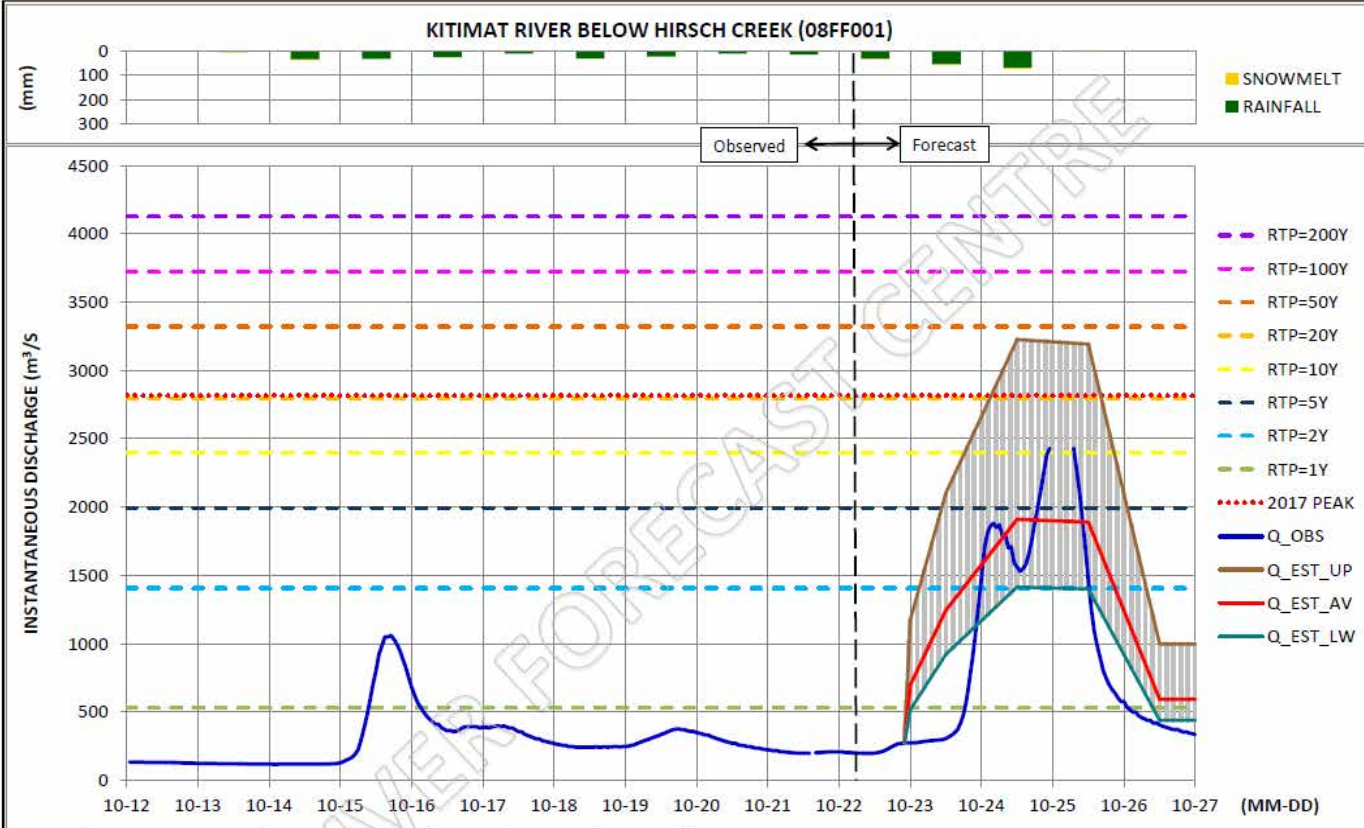
[Link to Water Survey of Canada's real-time data website for this station](#)

**Note:** Refresh browser frequently to view latest forecast.

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Sun	COFFEE MODEL FLOW FORECAST	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
2017-10-22		2017-10-22	2017-10-23	2017-10-24	2017-10-25	2017-10-26
Current Reading	Forec. Rain+melt (mm)	33	58	72	3	0
(m³/s)	Forecast Maximum	1174.0	2099.6	3226.0	3191.5	997.3
	Discharge Average	695.2	1243.3	1910.3	1889.8	590.5
	Minimum	514.6	920.4	1414.2	1399.0	437.2

Color Scheme: RTP=1Y RTP=2Y RTP=5Y RTP=10Y RTP=20Y RTP=50Y RTP=100Y RTP=200Y

Remark: This is a natural station.

The Coastal Fall Floods Ensemble Estimation (COFFEE) Model

DISCLAIMER: The model forecast is derived by using observed/forecast climate/hydrometric data from Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and the Province of British Columbia. The model and data have limitations, inaccuracies and errors. The actual discharges/water levels will be different from the forecasts. Users of this data must accept all responsibility for their use and interpretation.

[Link to Water Survey of Canada's real-time data website for this station](#)

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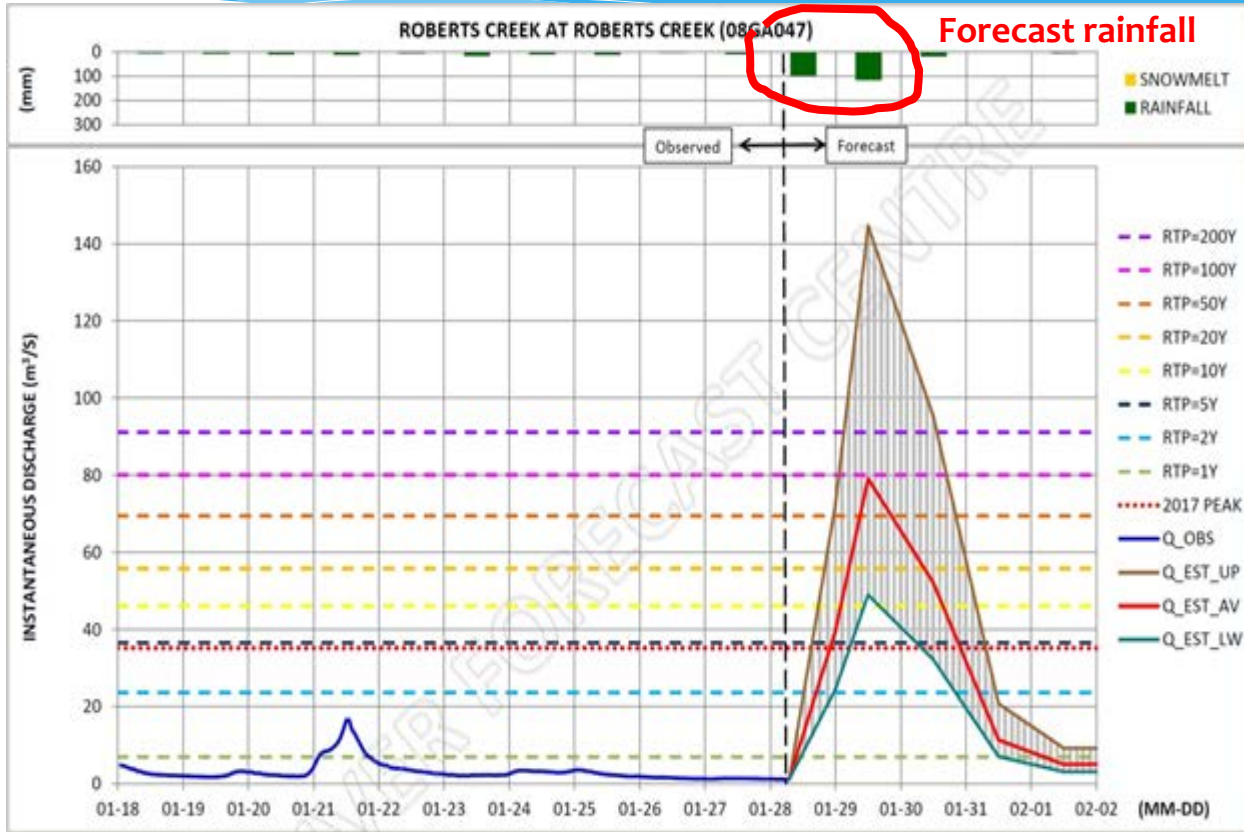


# How does the COFFEE Model work?



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COFFEE  
Model

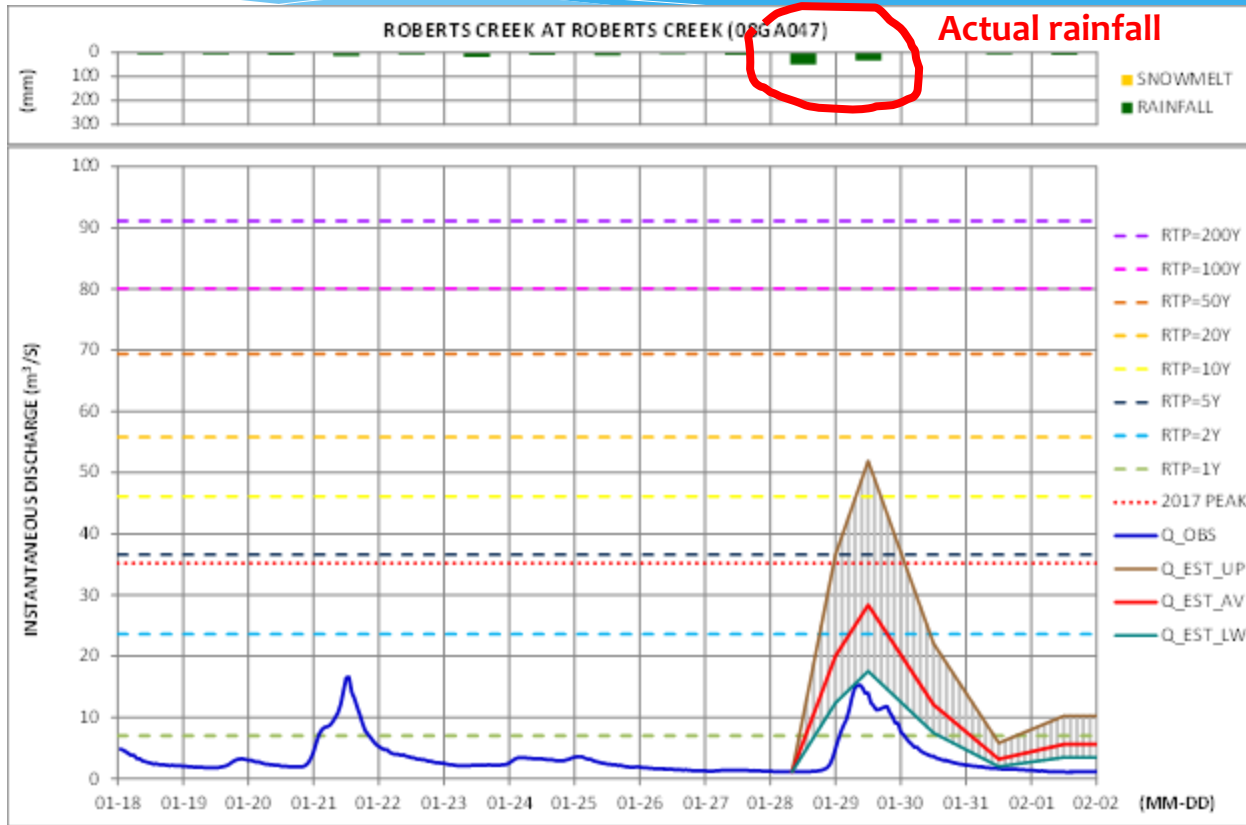


# How does the COFFEE Model work?



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COFFEE  
Model



# How does the COFFEE Model work?

## COFFEE Model



COFFEE Model



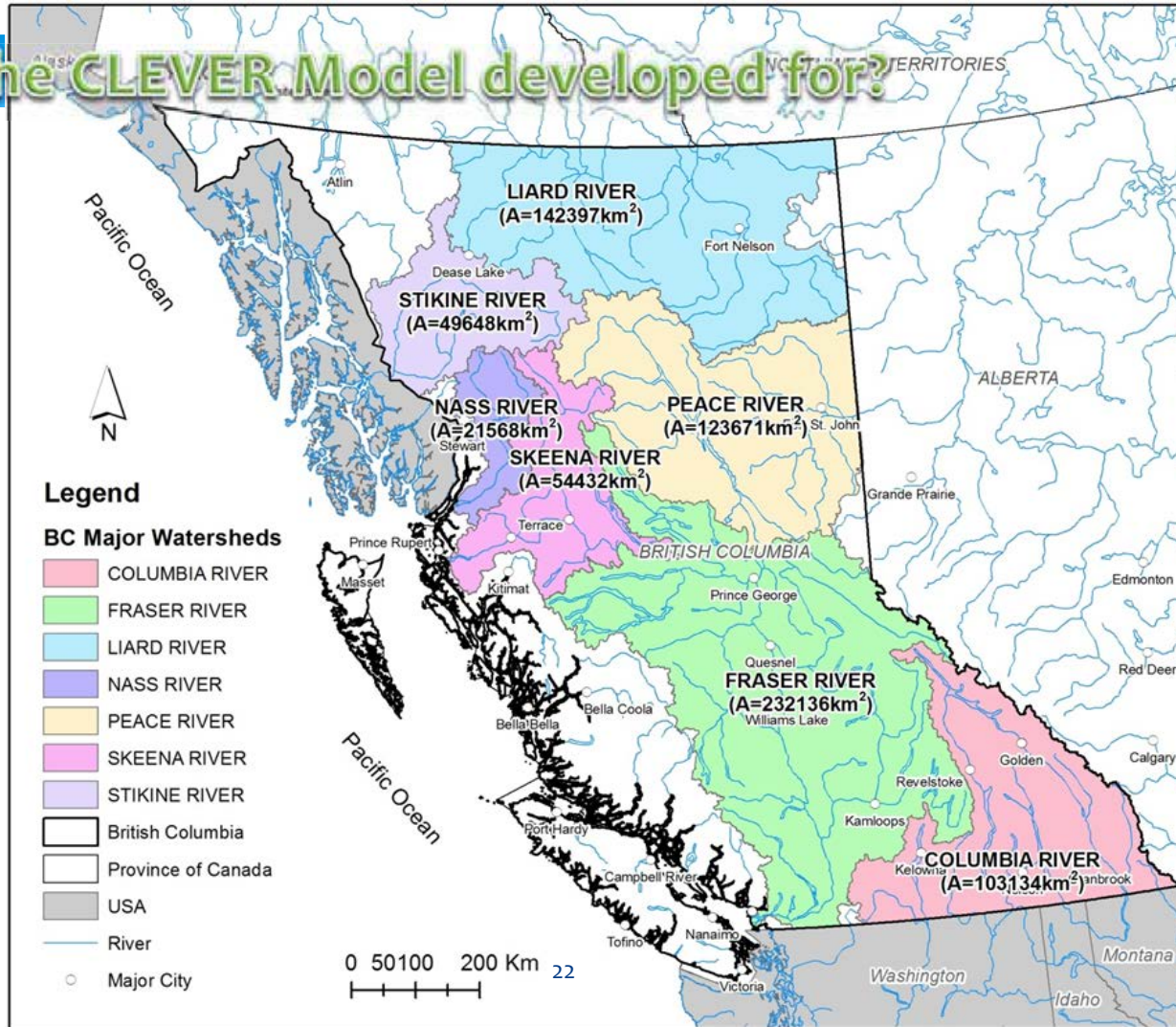


Channel Links  
Evolution  
Efficient Routing  
Model



# Where is the CLEVER Model developed for?

Snowmelt-dominated huge-scale watersheds in BC



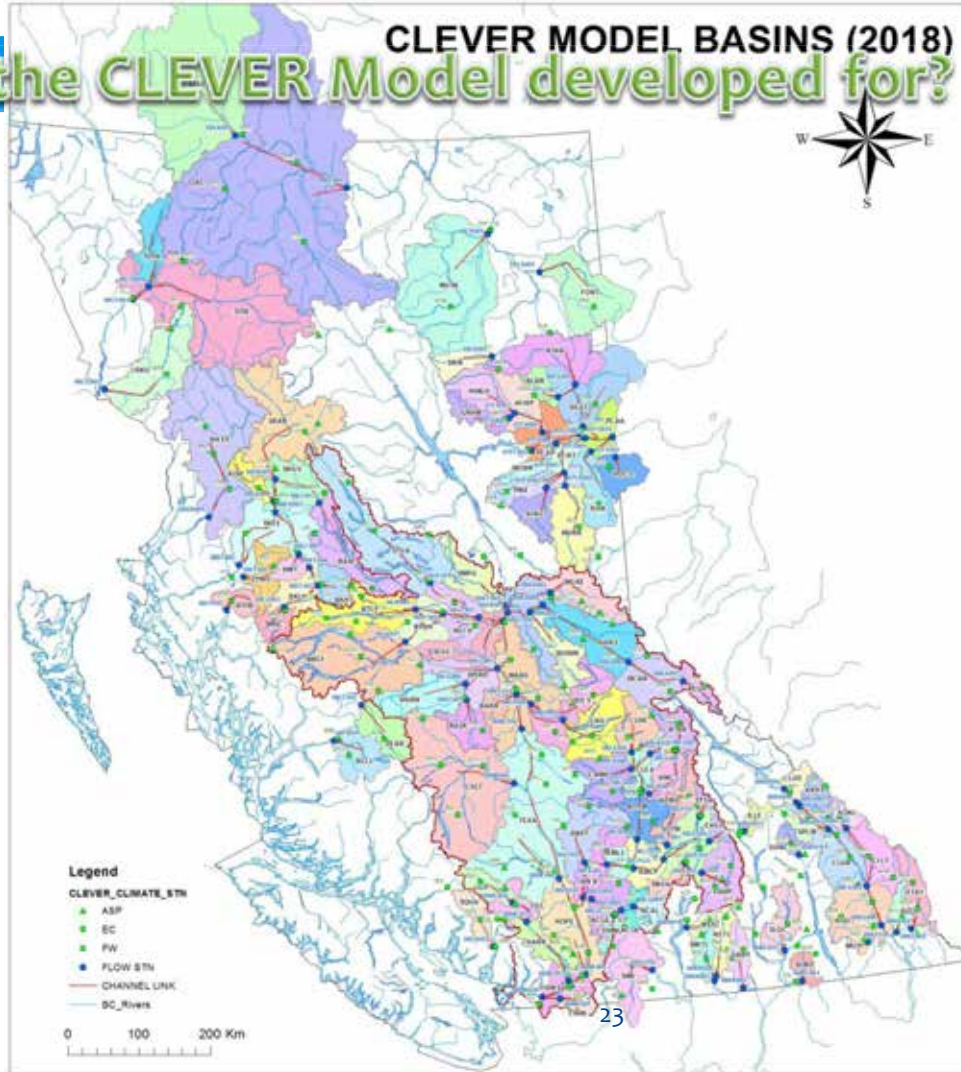
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# Where is the CLEVER Model developed for?

CLEVER MODEL BASINS (2018)



108 watersheds  
and sub-basins in  
the model for 2018



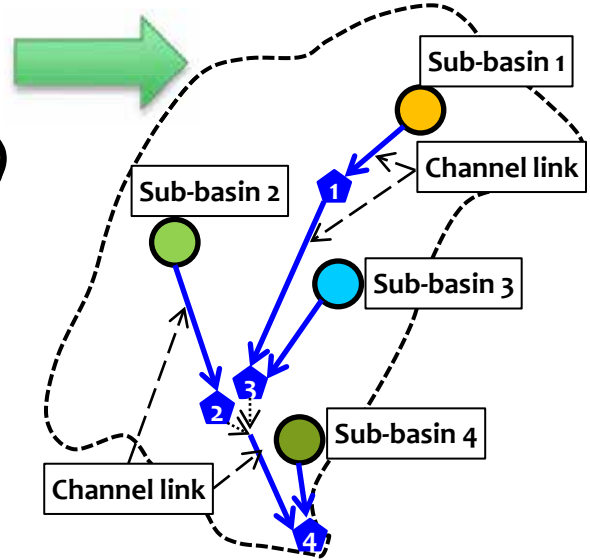
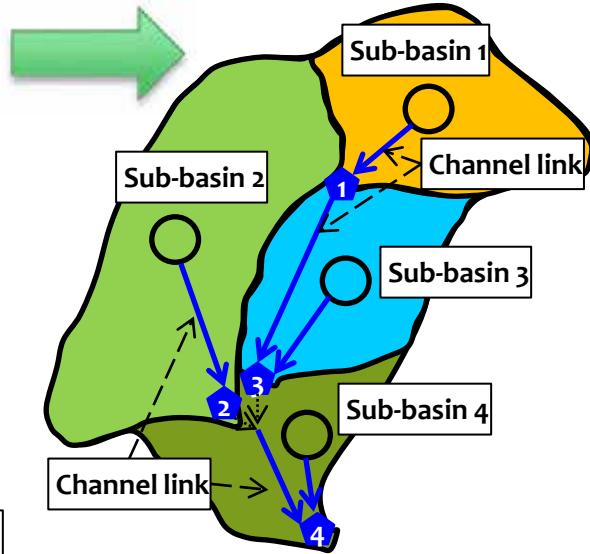
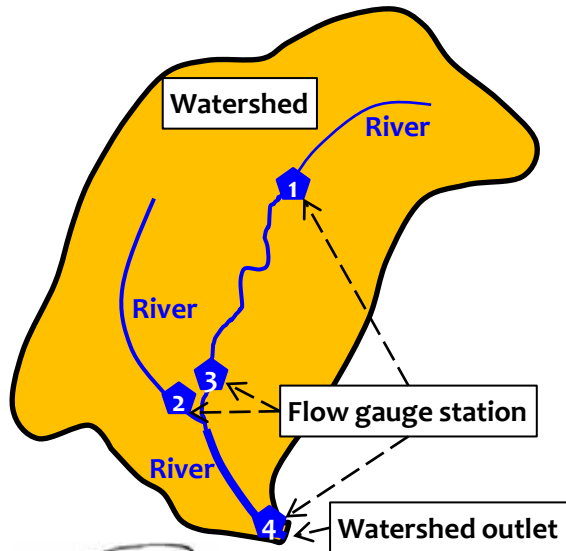
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# What is the CLEVER Model?

## How to model a big watershed - Model Structure





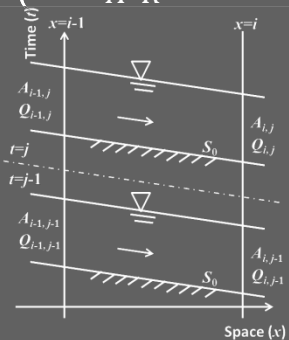
# What is the CLEVER Model?

Methodology: kinematic wave & Temp. Index + inst. UH

Channel link routing sub-model:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial A}{\partial t} = 0 \\ S_0 = \frac{n^2 Q^2}{A^2 R^{4/3}} \end{cases} \quad \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left[ \frac{Q_{i,j} + Q_{i,j-1}}{2} - \frac{Q_{i-1,j} + Q_{i-1,j-1}}{2} \right] + \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left[ \frac{A_{i,j} + A_{i-1,j}}{2} - \frac{A_{i,j-1} + A_{i-1,j-1}}{2} \right] = 0$$

$$Q_{i,j} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{S_0} R_{i,j}^{2/3} A_{i,j} \quad V_{i,j} = \frac{1}{n} \sqrt{S_0} R_{i,j}^{2/3} \quad Q_{i,j} = V_{i,j} A_{i,j}$$



$$A_{i,j} = \frac{\Delta t(Q_{i-1,j} + Q_{i-1,j-1} - Q_{i,j-1}) + \Delta x(A_{i,j-1} + A_{i-1,j-1} - A_{i-1,j})}{\Delta t V_{i,j} + \Delta x}$$

$$(A_{i,j})^{(k)} = \frac{\Delta t(Q_{i-1,j} + Q_{i-1,j-1} - Q_{i,j-1}) + \Delta x(A_{i,j-1} + A_{i-1,j-1} - A_{i-1,j})}{\Delta t(V_{i,j})^{(k-1)} + \Delta x}$$

$$(A_{i,j})^{(k)} = \frac{\Delta t Q_{i-1,j} + \Delta x A_{i,j-1}}{\Delta t(V_{i,j})^{(k-1)} + \Delta x} + \varphi(r_{ij}) \frac{\Delta t(Q_{i-1,j-1} - Q_{i,j-1}) + \Delta x(A_{i-1,j-1} - A_{i-1,j})}{\Delta t(V_{i,j})^{(k-1)} + \Delta x}$$

Watershed routing sub-model:

$$W = R + M + G - E - I$$

$$M = c_a c_d M_f (T_i - T_b)^\beta$$

$$u(\tau) = \frac{t^{N-1} e^{-\tau/k}}{k^N (N-1)!}$$

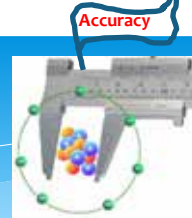
$$Q_l(t) = c_q W_l A u(t - t_{l0})$$

$$Q(t) = \sum_{l=1}^L Q_l(t)$$



**CLEVER**  
Model

# How dose the CLEVER Model work?



Model calibration and verification:

$$C_e = 1 - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{obs}^j - Q_{sim}^j)^2}{\sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{obs}^j - \overline{Q_{obs}})^2}$$

where  $\overline{Q_{obs}}$  is the mean of the observed flow and is given by:

$$\overline{Q_{obs}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m Q_{obs}^j$$

$C_d$  can be written as:

$$\begin{cases} C_d = 1 - \frac{\sum_{j=1}^m [Q_{obs}^j - (a \cdot Q_{sim}^j + b)]^2}{\sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{obs}^j - \overline{Q_{obs}})^2} \\ a = (\overline{P} - \overline{Q_{obs}} \cdot \overline{Q_{sim}}) / (\overline{Q_{sim}^2} - \overline{Q_{sim}}^2) \\ b = \overline{Q_{obs}} - a \cdot \overline{Q_{sim}} \end{cases}$$

And the percentage volume difference ( $dV$ ) is calculated by:

$$dV = 100 \times (\overline{Q_{sim}} - \overline{Q_{obs}}) / \overline{Q_{obs}}$$

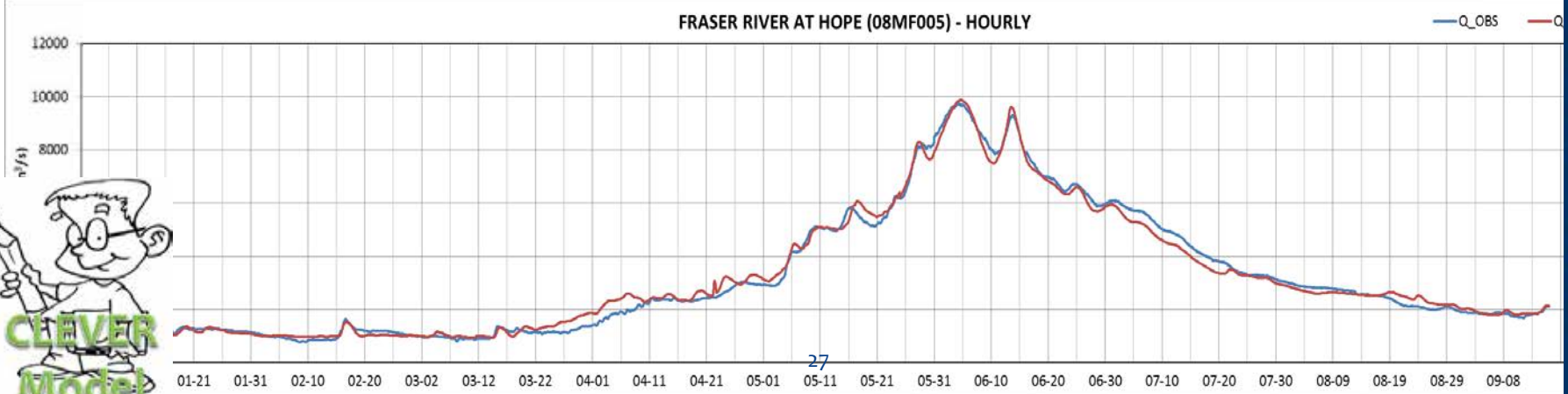
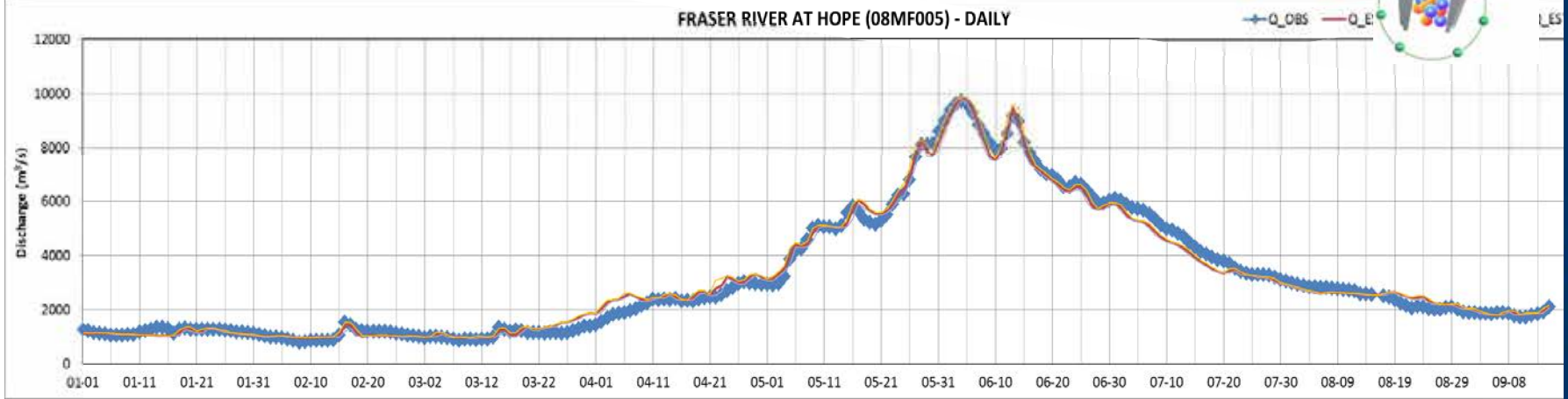
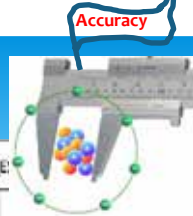
$$E_{ra} = 100 \times \left( \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m |Q_{sim}^j - Q_{obs}^j| \right) / \overline{Q_{obs}} \quad (33)$$

$$r^2 = \frac{[\sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{obs}^j - \overline{Q_{obs}})(Q_{sim}^j - \overline{Q_{sim}})]^2}{\sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{obs}^j - \overline{Q_{obs}})^2 \sum_{j=1}^m (Q_{sim}^j - \overline{Q_{sim}})^2}$$



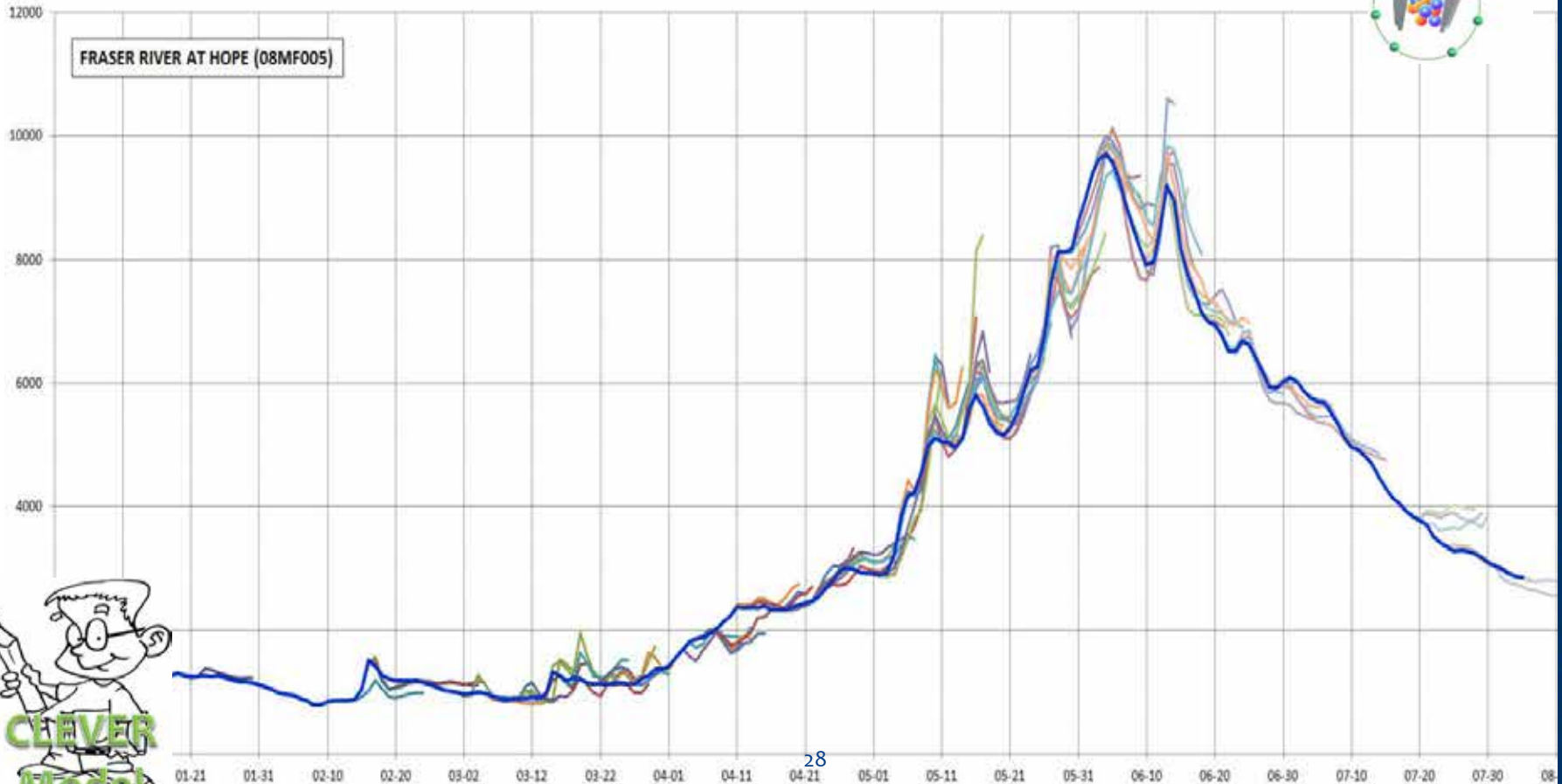
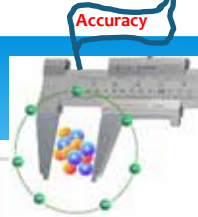
# How dose the CLEVER Model work?

Operational runs in 2017



# How dose the CLEVER Model work?

Operational runs in 2017

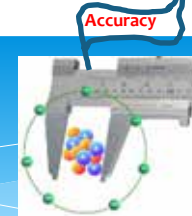


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# How does the CLEVER Model work?

Operational runs in 2017

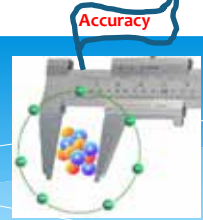


	CE_HOURLY	CD_HOURLY	DV_HR (%)	CE_DAILY	CD_DAILY	DV_DL (%)
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.95</b>	<b>&gt;=0.95</b>	<b>&lt;=1%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.95</b>	<b>&gt;=0.95</b>	<b>&lt;=1%</b>
No of STN	31	36	21	31	36	24
% of STN	33	38	22	33	38	25
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.90</b>	<b>&gt;=0.90</b>	<b>&lt;=5%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.90</b>	<b>&gt;=0.90</b>	<b>&lt;=5%</b>
No of STN	50	60	63	56	66	63
% of STN	53	63	66	59	69	66
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.85</b>	<b>&gt;=0.85</b>	<b>&lt;=10%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.85</b>	<b>&gt;=0.85</b>	<b>&lt;=10%</b>
No of STN	72	76	79	78	81	79
% of STN	76	80	83	82	85	83
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.80</b>	<b>&gt;=0.80</b>	<b>&lt;=15%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.80</b>	<b>&gt;=0.80</b>	<b>&lt;=15%</b>
No of STN	79	83	90	81	84	90
% of STN	83	87	95	85	88	95
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.70</b>	<b>&gt;=0.70</b>	<b>&lt;=20%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.70</b>	<b>&gt;=0.70</b>	<b>&lt;=20%</b>
No of STN	86	89	93	88	92	92
% of STN	91	94	98	93	97	97
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.60</b>	<b>&gt;=0.60</b>	<b>&lt;=25%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.60</b>	<b>&gt;=0.60</b>	<b>&lt;=25%</b>
No of STN	88	91	93	90	92	93
% of STN	93	96	98	95	97	98
<b>Threshold</b>	<b>&gt;=0.50</b>	<b>&gt;=0.50</b>	<b>&lt;=30%</b>	<b>&gt;=0.50</b>	<b>&gt;=0.50</b>	<b>&lt;=30%</b>
No of STN	91	93	93	92	93	93
% of STN	96	98	98	97	98	98



# How dose the CLEVER Model work?

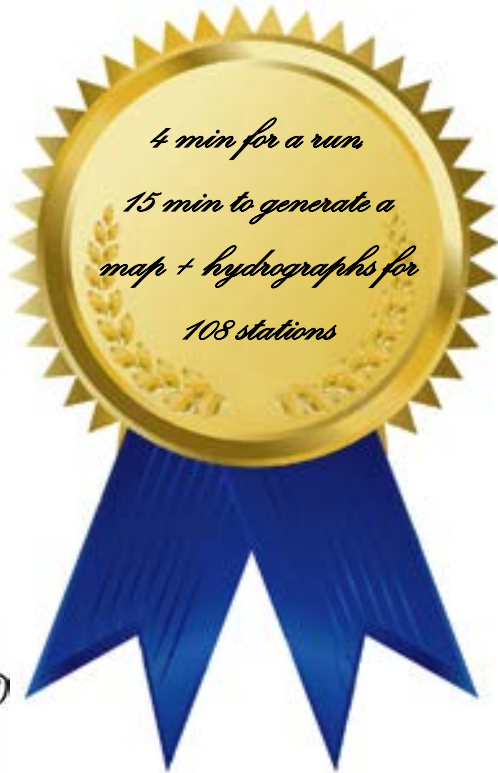
Operational runs in 2017



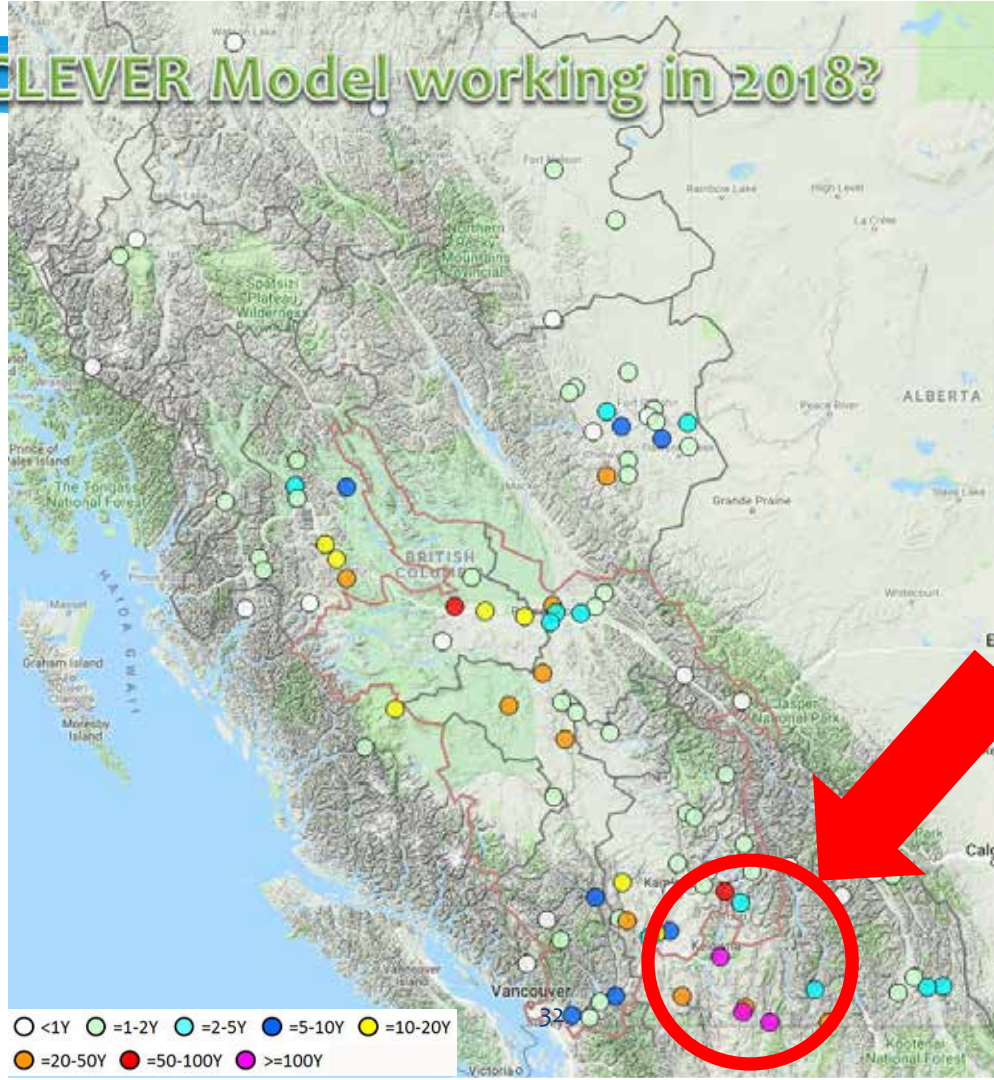
Basin	Station	Average Absolute Forecast Error (%)									
		D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	D7	D8	D9	D10
Fraser	MCGREGOR RIVER AT LOWER CANYON (08KB003)	6	13	16	22	23	24	26	29	25	28
	FRASER RIVER AT HANSARD (08KA004)	2	7	10	13	14	15	18	20	19	19
	FRASER RIVER AT SHELLEY (08KB001)	2	6	9	9	12	13	15	17	19	15
	FRASER RIVER NEAR MARGUERITE (08MC018)	1	4	6	7	9	10	10	12	14	14
	FRASER RIVER AT HOPE (08MF005)	1	3	4	5	5	6	6	6	8	9
	NECHAKO RIVER AT ISLE PIERRE (08JC002)	1	2	4	7	6	6	6	8	9	9
	QUESNEL RIVER NEAR QUESNEL (08KH006)	7	7	6	8	14	16	17	16	14	14
	LILLOOET RIVER NEAR PEMBERTON (08MG005)	6	11	17	20	21	23	24	28	32	35
Thomp- son	NORTH THOMPSON RIVER AT MCLURE (08LB064)	1	5	8	10	13	13	15	18	20	20
	SOUTH THOMPSON RIVER AT CHASE (08LE031)	0	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9
	NICOLA RIVER NEAR SPENCES BRIDGE (08LG006)	6	15	20	20	20	23	29	34	42	47
	THOMPSON RIVER NEAR SPENCES BRIDGE (08LF051)	1	3	4	5	6	6	7	7	9	10
Skeena- Nass	NASS RIVER ABOVE SHUMAL CREEK (08DB001)	2	8	15	19	19	20	20	23	25	24
	BULKLEY RIVER AT QUICK (08EE004)	3	10	13	12	12	13	15	15	17	20
	SKEENA RIVER AT USK (08EF001)	2	7	11	12	13	15	16	18	19	20



# How dose the CLEVER Model work?



# How is the CLEVER Model working in 2018?



On May 09, 2018, the CLEVER Model forecasts about 200 year return period floods for the south interior for the next day, May 10, 2018



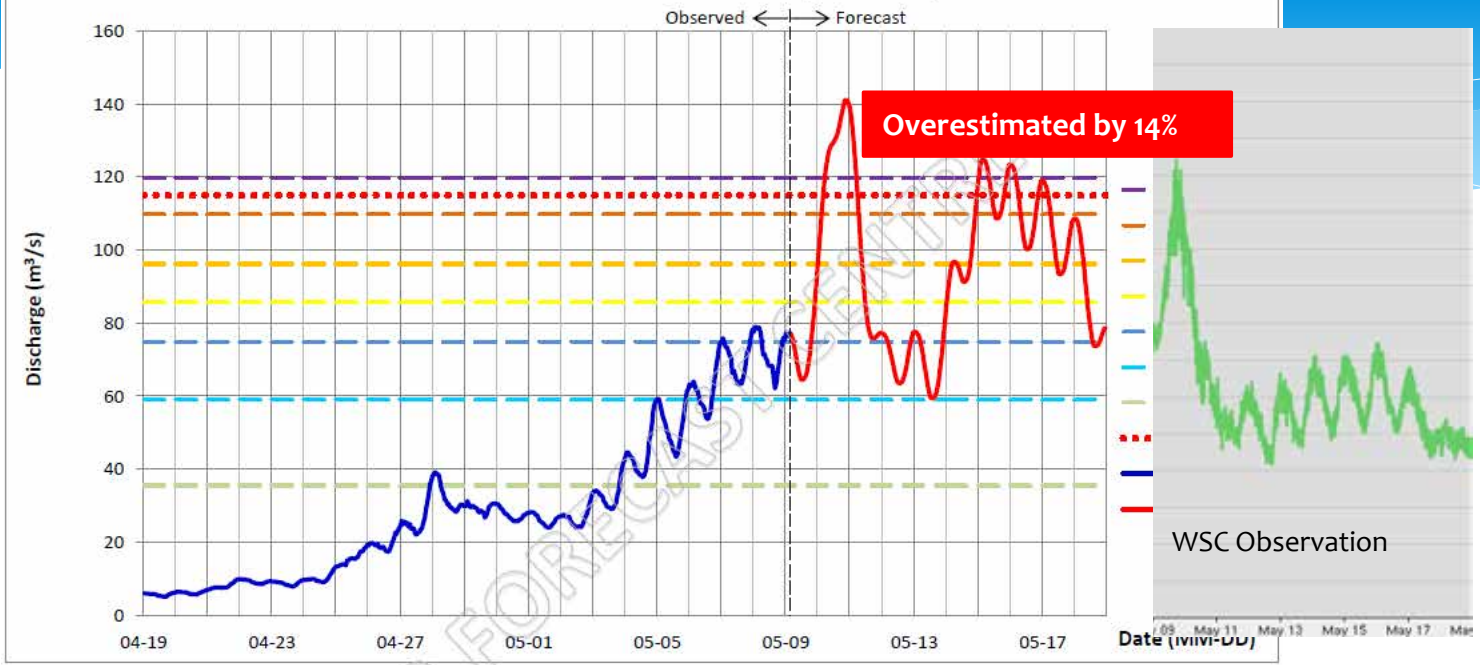
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# MISSION CREEK NEAR EAST KELOWNA (08NM116)



Reading at 07 AM (m <sup>3</sup> /s)	Forecast Daily Discharge (m <sup>3</sup> /s): AVERAGE									
	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2018-05-09	2018-05-09	2018-05-10	2018-05-11	2018-05-12	2018-05-13	2018-05-14	2018-05-15	2018-05-16	2018-05-17	2018-05-18
	91.8	141.2	138.6	77.3	80.8	116.0	124.9	123.5	119.1	108.7
76.9	72.3	126.9	96.0	70.3	68.7	96.4	117.3	111.0	104.3	86.8
	64.5	96.7	75.9	63.6	59.5	84.7	108.6	100.2	93.4	73.7
			RTP=1Y	RTP=2Y	RTP=5Y	RTP=10Y	RTP=20Y	RTP=50Y	RTP=100Y	2013 Peak
			35.5	59.0	74.8	85.7	96.2	109.8	119.7	115.0
										(m <sup>3</sup> /s)











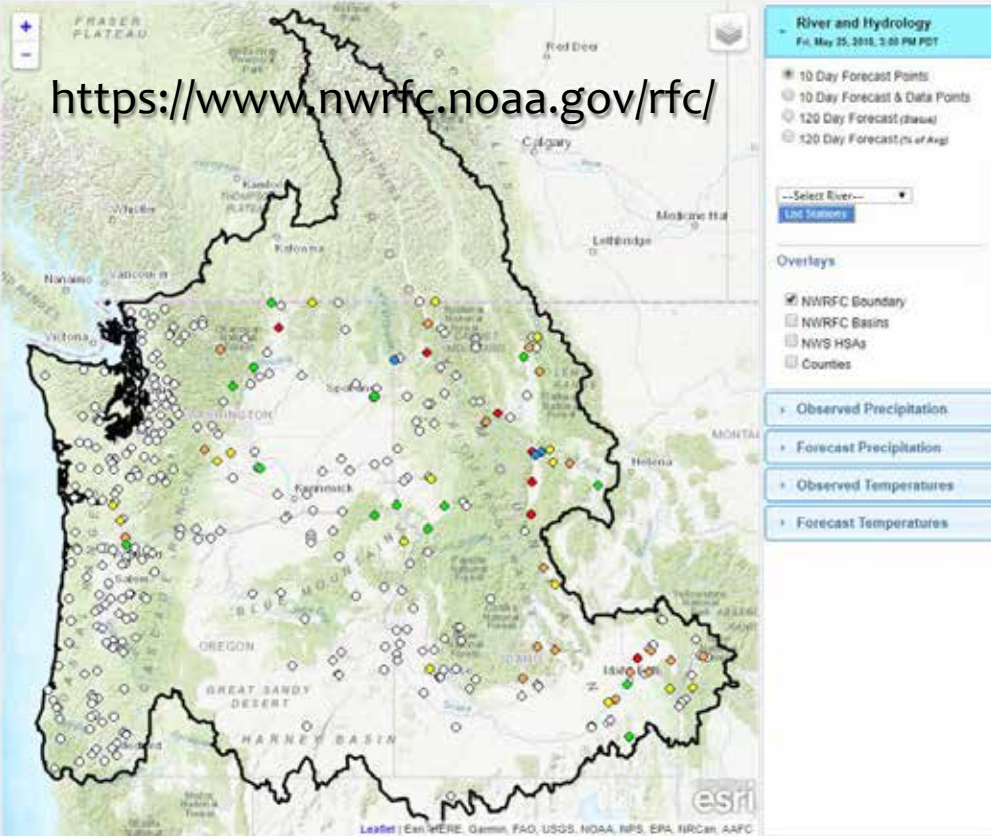
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Search by NWS ID:      Last Refresh: 2018-05-25 15:11:58 PDT  15:12:24 PDT

<https://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/rfc/>



**River and Hydrology**  
Fri, May 25, 2018, 3:00 PM PDT

- 10 Day Forecast Points
- 10 Day Forecast & Data Points
- 120 Day Forecast (base)
- 120 Day Forecast (% of Avg)

--Select River--

Overlays

- NWRFC Boundary
- NWRFC Basins
- NWS HSA's
- Counties

- 
- 
- 
- 



Stations Displayed  
**346**



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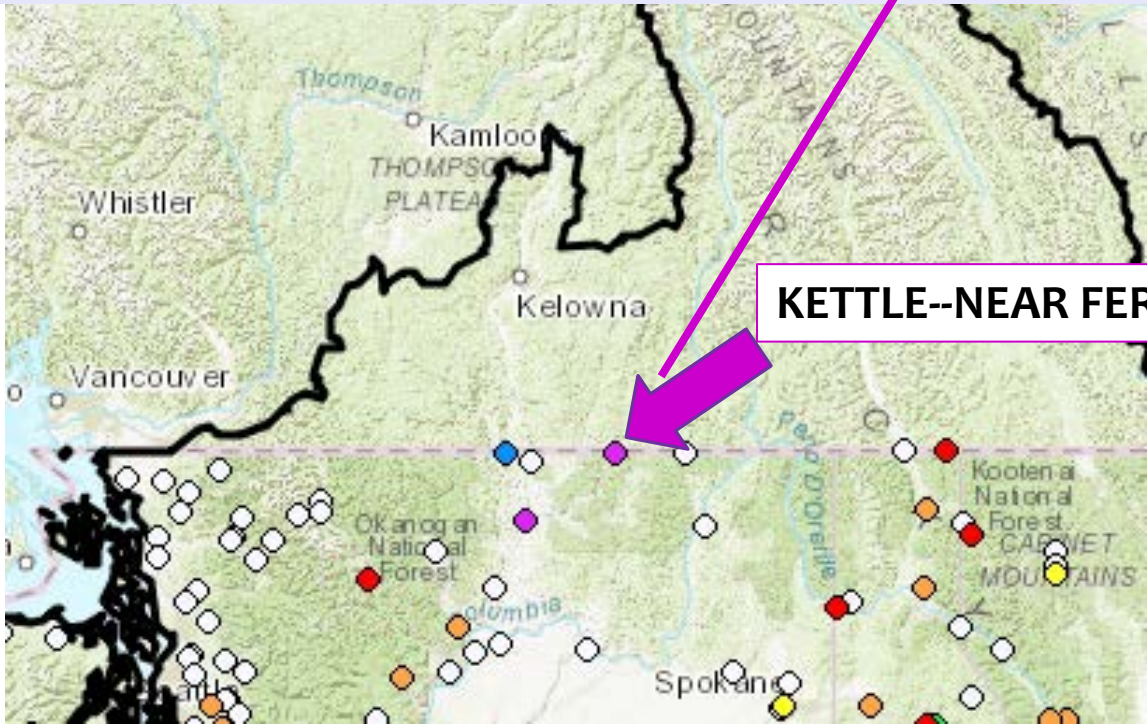
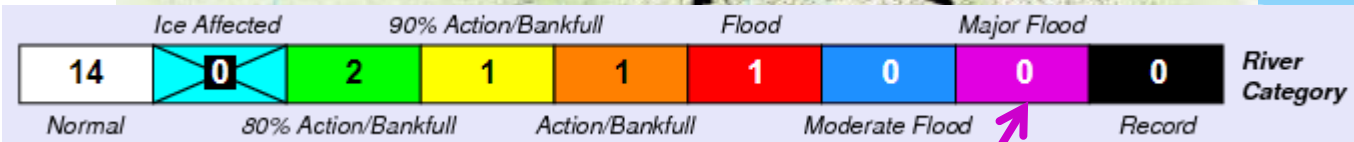
River Forecast Centre



RASER  
LATEAU

Wells Gray  
Provincial  
Park

National  
Park

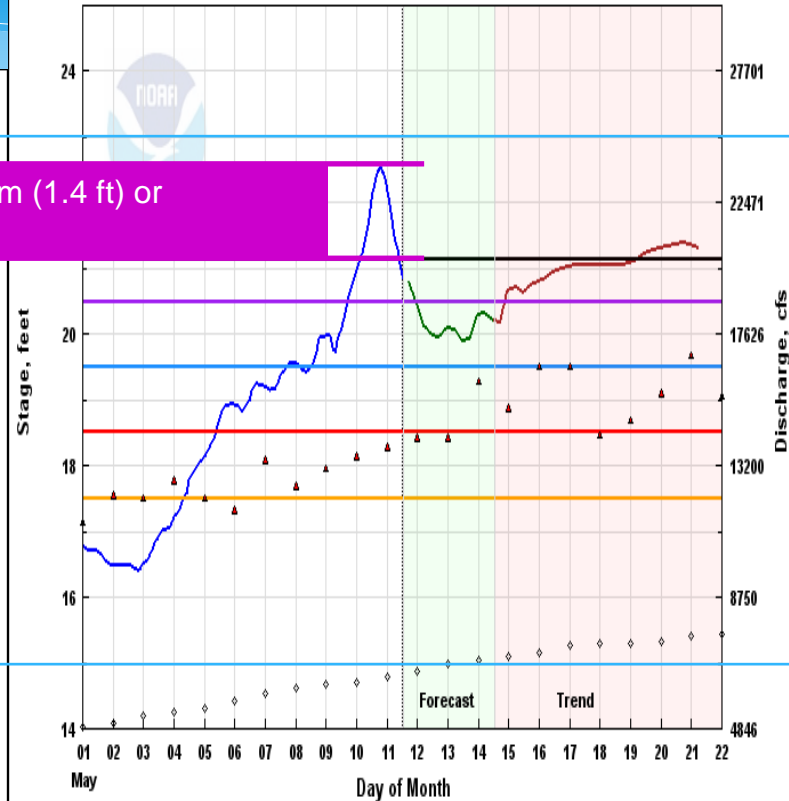


**KETTLE--NEAR FERRY (FRYW1)**



# KETTLE - NEAR FERRY (FRYW1)

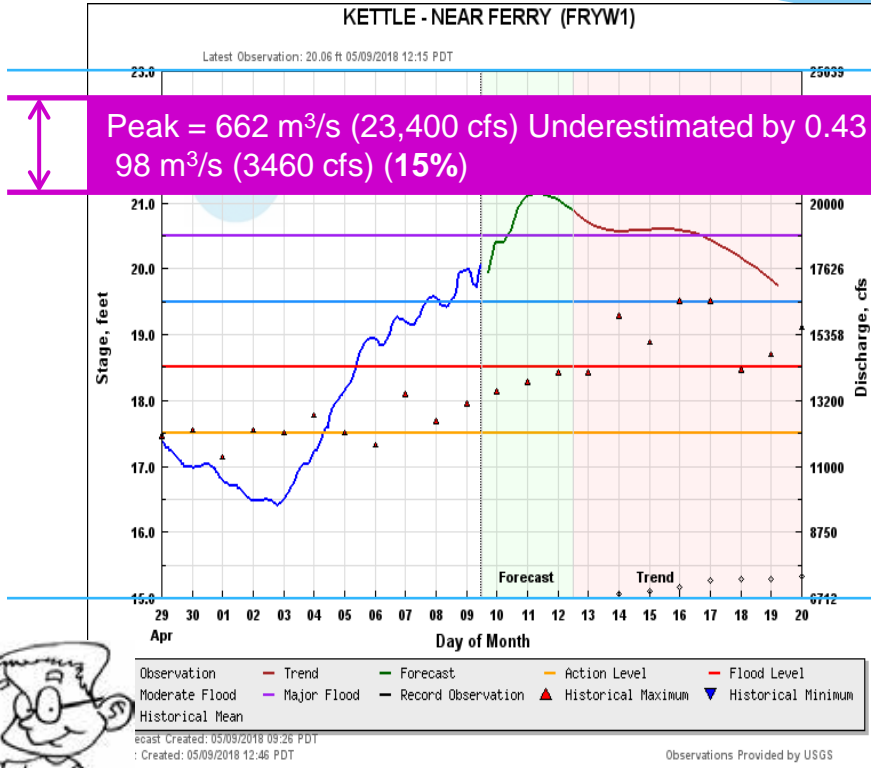
Latest Observation: 20.85 ft 05/11/2018 13:15 PDT



# KETTLE - NEAR FERRY (FRYW1)

Latest Observation: 20.06 ft 05/09/2018 12:15 PDT

Peak = 662 m<sup>3</sup>/s (23,400 cfs) Underestimated by 0.43 m (1.4 ft) or 98 m<sup>3</sup>/s (3460 cfs) (15%)



Forecast Created: 05/09/2018 09:26 PDT  
Plot Created: 05/09/2018 12:46 PDT

Observations Provided by USGS

Forecast Created: 05/11/2018 12:17 PDT  
Plot Created: 05/11/2018 13:30 PDT

Observations Provided by USGS



# Is the CLEVER Model useful?

Tue 2018-05-15 11:12 AM

“Although I’m just across the floor today and not at PECC/PREOC ..., just want to thank you again ... on behalf of everyone from the ‘receiving end’ of the valuable information, for this super-human work you’re doing. ”

“There is so much value in getting this information before noon everyday because then, and only then, the real planning can start across the province. When I was at the PECC I was like a kid waiting anxiously for my gift, and everyday around this time I keep hitting refresh button waiting for the forecast to appear! That’s how critical this information...”

-- Rudy Sung, M.A.Sc., P.Eng.  
Senior Flood Safety Engineer  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development





# Is the CLEVER Model useful?

Global BC News & Radio Programs  
Newscasts, Radio, and Videos

World Canada Local Politics Smart Living Money Entertainment Health Commentary Trending

## B.C. FLOODING 2018

News

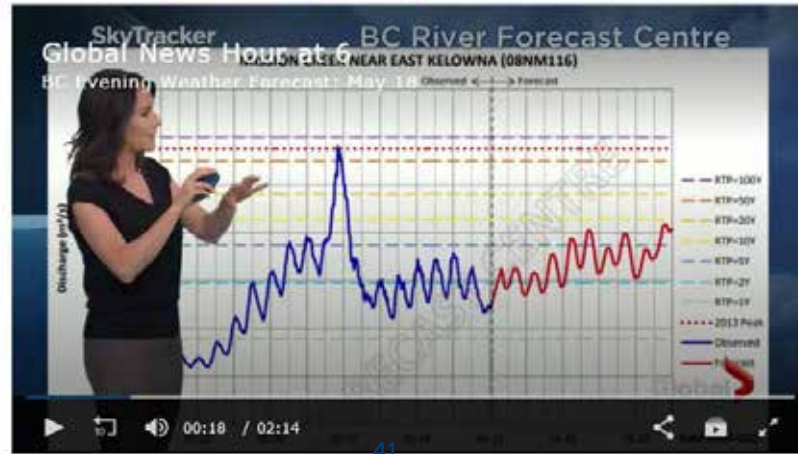
CLEVER Model in  
Local TV news

WEATHER May 18, 2018 7:56 pm

### B.C.'s flood forecast is looking better, but we're still not out of the woods

By Kristi Gordon  
Senior Meteorologist Global News

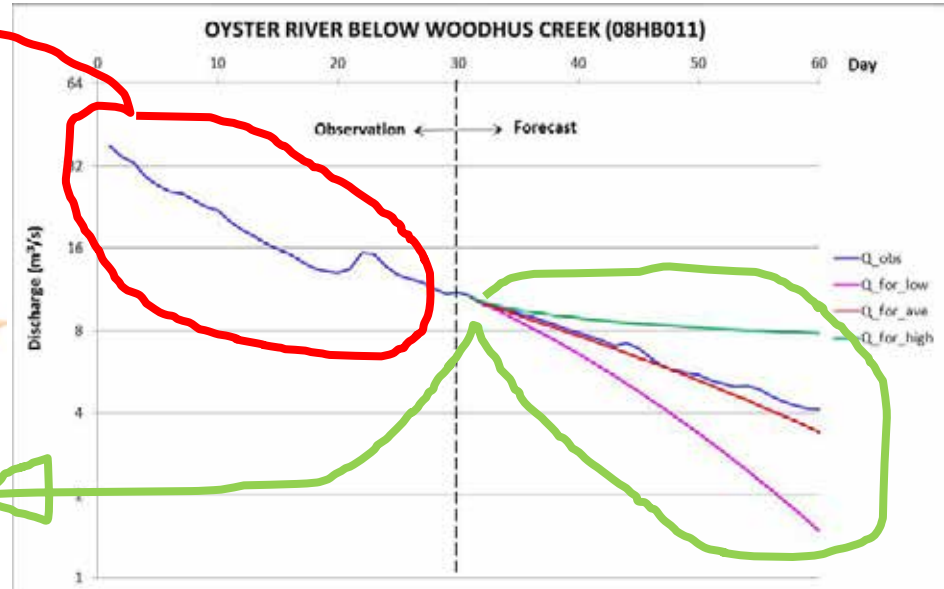
Comments 1 Facebook 79 Twitter Email Print



The Friday, May 18, 2018 evening weather forecast for Vancouver, British Columbia and the surrounding area.



# What's next?



## The ELF Model For Drought forecast

# Thank you!

# Questions?

**Charles Luo, Ph.D., P.Eng.**

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