Urban and Rural Land Management Options for Enhancing Runoff/Recharge

Fern Bromley, University of Arizona Xin Su, Arizona State University

Rural Land Management: Key Questions

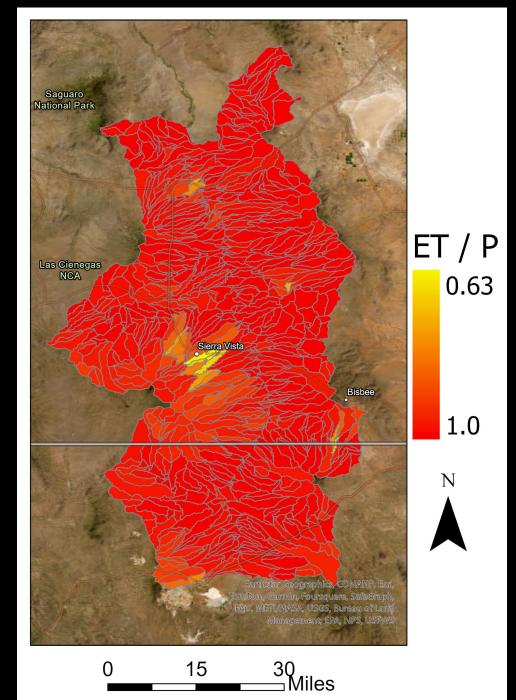
1.How and where can the state of Arizona change management of forests and rangelands to enhance runoff and recharge in the context of climate change?

2.How do different methods of management and disturbances affect evapotranspiration and sublimation in the state?

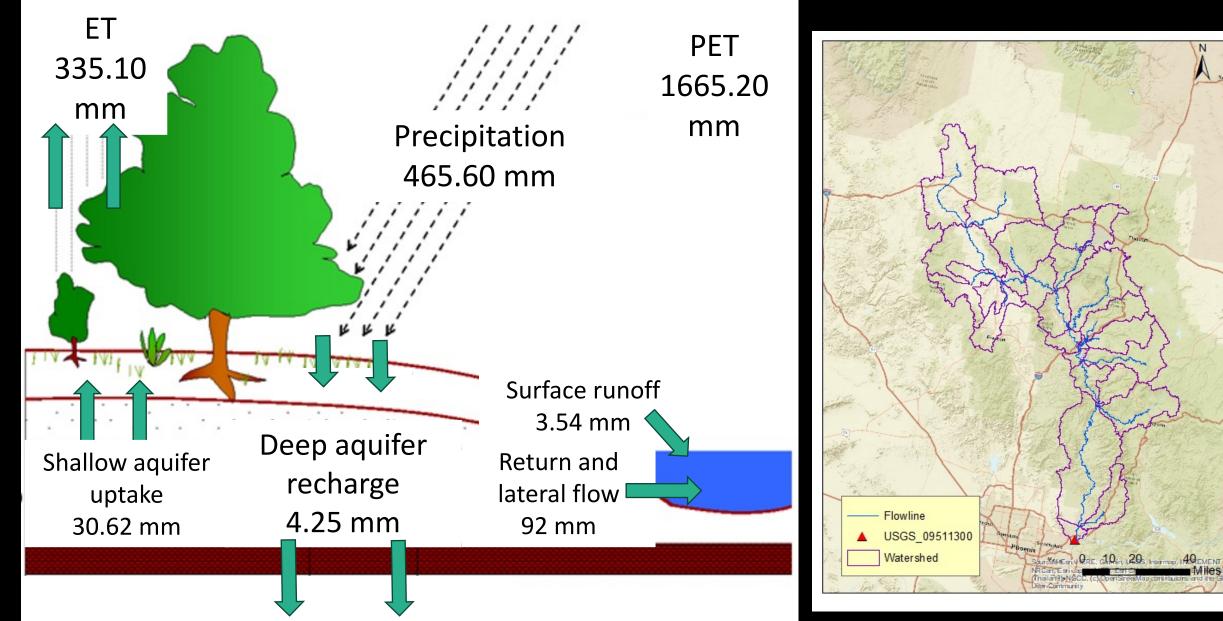
3.Where are the potential source areas (opportunities) for reducing atmospheric water losses and diverting them to recharge areas?

Evaluating Ecosystem Water

 Estimate when or where recharge is occurring and/or can be enhanced through management

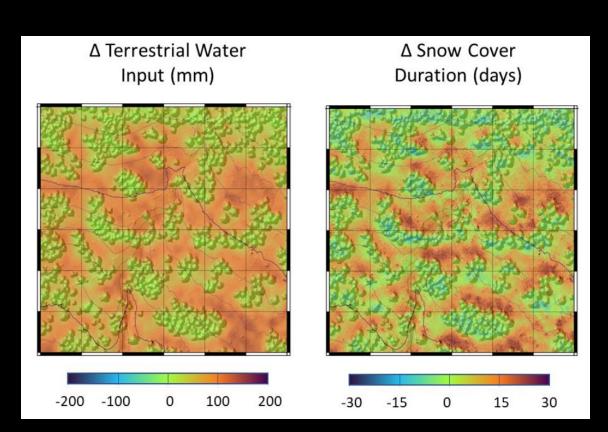


Verde Basin: modeled annual averages, 1985-2021

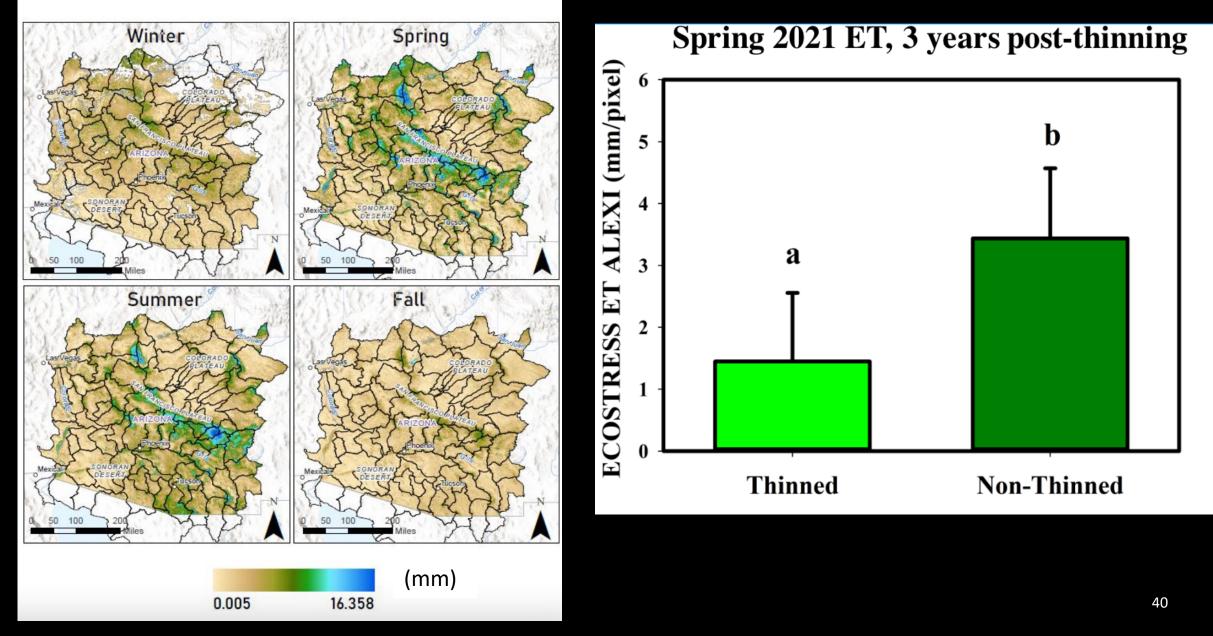


Evaluating Ecosystem Water

- Effects of land management and cover change
- Forest thinning leads to more snow on the ground for longer



ECOSTRESS Daily Evapotranspiration of Arizona HUC8 Watersheds 2019



Management Opportunities



Left images: Laura Norman, Western Geographic Science Center Right image: Fern Bromley

The Strategy – Green Stormwater Infrastructure

Benefits of GSI:

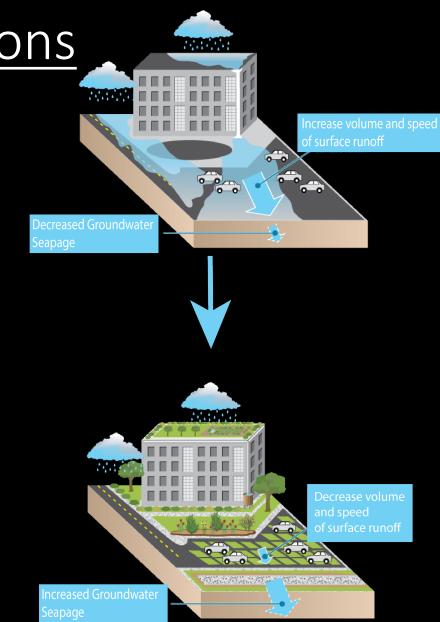
- •Water quality and quantity
- •Air Quality
- •Climate Resiliency
- •Habitat and wildlife





Urban Management: Key Questions

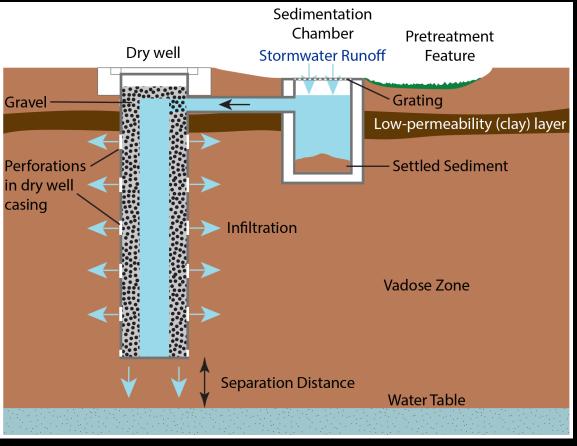
- What are the Green Stormwater Infrastructures (GSI) we have ?
- How much do GSI enhance the local groundwater recharge potential?
- Which is playing the major role in enhancing groundwater recharge in urban aquifer, future climate, or urban development?



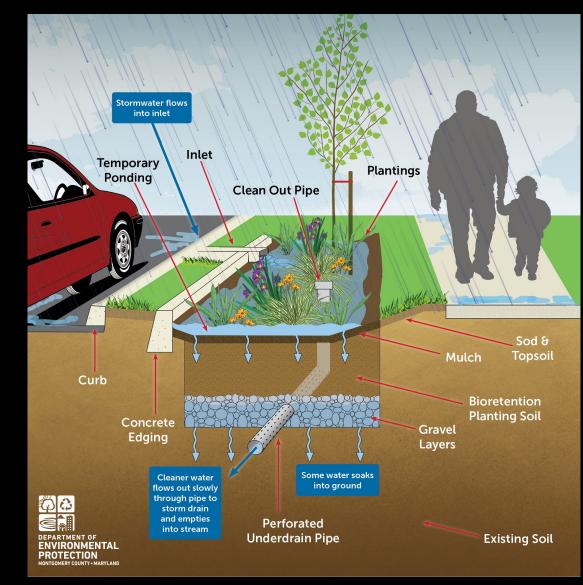
Source: Diagram courtesy of the Integration and Application Network, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (ian.umces.edu).

Retention-Detention Ponds

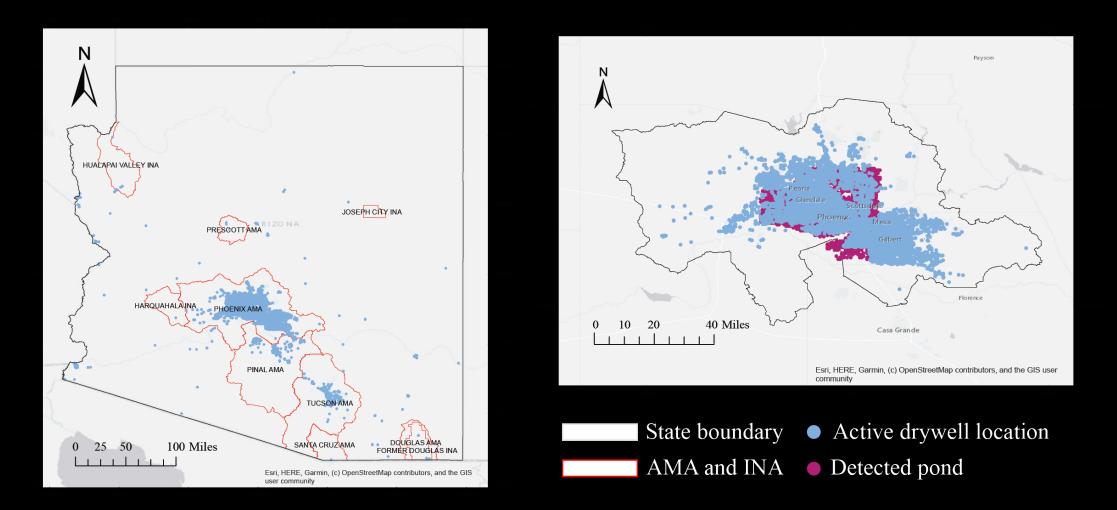
Drywells Design



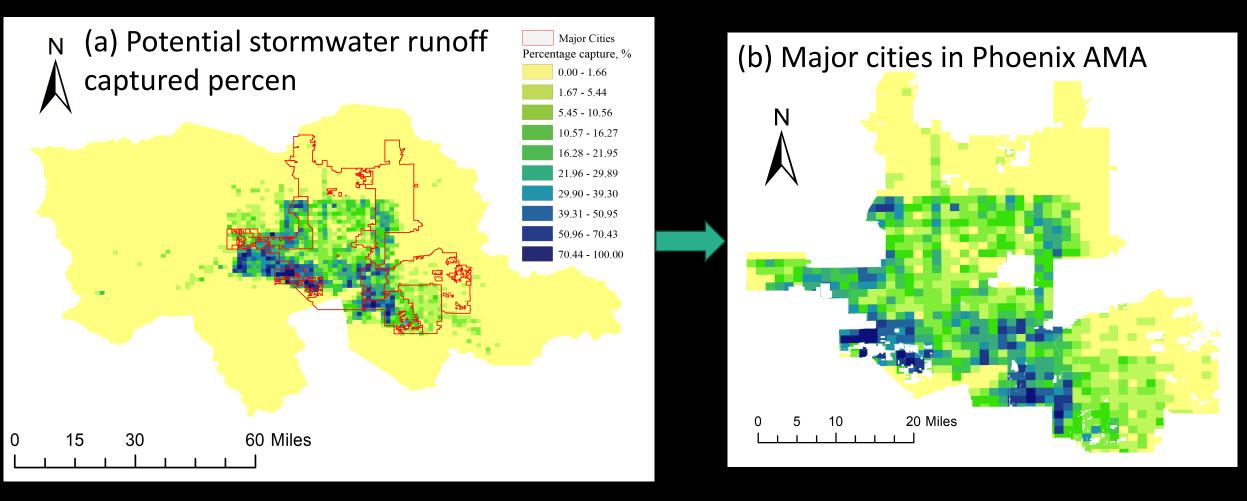
Source: What Is A Dry Well System And How To Build It? Michael Bowen February 11, 2024



Drywells and Detected Ponds in Phoenix AMA

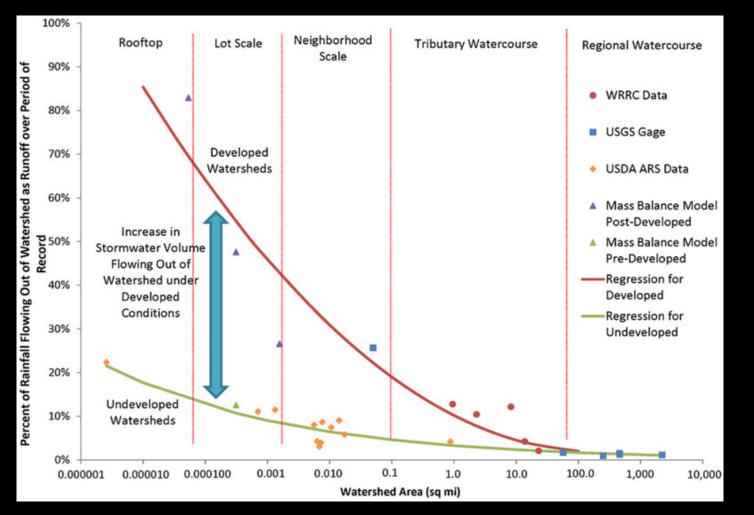


Drywell and Detected Pond Potential



Based on infrastructure capacity and design code, the drainage area for each one is ranging from 0.37-187.23 acres, 2019 total captured runoff at 264,635.66 AF.

Urban Development Impacts



- Population growth
- GDP growth
- Technology innovation
- Energy sector
- Resource management

Source: Harvestable rainwater at different watershed scales (<u>City of Tucson Pima Country, 2009</u>). Figure created by Dr. Evan Canfield (used with permission).