Appendix C

Maps of Climate and Hydrologic Change for Major Puget Sound Watersheds: Full-resolution projections

This appendix contains maps of historical and projected changes in climate and hydrology. Results are shown at the spatial resolution of the downscaled projections: 0.0625-degree (about 6 km). As a complement to these full-resolution projections, Appendix B includes maps showing the watershed-averages of the climate and hydrologic projections. Results are included for the following two datasets:

- **Integrated Scenarios for the Future Northwest Environment.** The current set of projections, developed by Mote et al. in 2015,1 which stem from the newer 2013 IPCC report,2 and

- **The Pacific Northwest Hydroclimate Scenarios Project.** A previous set of projections, developed by Hamlet et al. in 2010,3 which are based on the climate projections used in the IPCC's 2007 report.4

The global climate model projections that form the basis of these two datasets stem from the current and previous generations of the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project ("CMIP", see Section 1). The previous projections originate from the CMIP3 archive, while the current projections come from the newer CMIP5 archive.5 6 Each CMIP experiment is associated with a different set of greenhouse gas scenarios. A For simplicity, each figure is labeled with the CMIP experiment on which it is based ("CMIP3" or "CMIP5"), as well as the name(s) of the greenhouse gas scenarios that are the basis of the projections shown in each figure (e.g. "Moderate (A1B)", or "Low (RCP 4.5)").

Projections are included for the following climate and hydrologic variables:

- Figures C-1a, b: Average Winter Temperature
- Figures C-2a, b: Average Summer Temperature
- Figures C-3a, b: Growing Degree Days
- Figures C-4a, b: Extreme high daytime temperatures
- Figures C-5a, b: Extreme low nighttime temperatures
- Figures C-6a, b: Total Winter Precipitation
- Figures C-7a, b: Total Summer Precipitation
- Figures C-8a, b: Max 24-hour Precipitation
- Figures C-9a, b: Summer Water Deficit
- Figures C-10a, b: April 1st Snow Water Equivalent (SWE)
- Figures C-11a, b: Annual Maximum Snow Water Equivalent (SWE)

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A Greenhouse gas scenarios were developed by climate modeling centers for use in modeling global and regional climate impacts. These are described in the text as follows: "very low" refers to the RCP 2.6 scenario; "low" refers to RCP 4.5 or SRES B1; "moderate" refers to RCP 6.0 or SRES A1B; and "high" refers to RCP 8.5, SRES A2, or SRES A1FI – descriptors are based on cumulative emissions by 2100 for each scenario. See Section 1 for more details.
Figures C-12a, b: Ratio of max SWE to Oct-Mar Precipitation
Figures C-13a, b: Length of the Snow Season
Figures C-14a, b: Summer Runoff
Figures C-15a, b: Winter Runoff
Figure C-16: Average August Stream Temperature

Other maps and figures, for example showing averages over smaller sub-basins to each watershed, are available upon request.
Figure C-1a. Average Winter Temperature, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected change in average winter (December–February) temperature, in °F. Maps compare historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark blue shading on the historical map indicates areas with the lowest average winter temperature. Projected increases in average winter temperature are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-1b. Average Winter Temperature, newer projections. As in Figure C-1a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-2a. Average Summer Temperature, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected change in average summer (June–August) temperature, in °F. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark red shading on the historical map indicates areas with the highest average summer temperature. Projected increases in average winter temperature are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.3
Figure C-2b. Average Summer Temperature, newer projections. As in Figure C-2a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-3a. Growing Degree Days, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected growing degree days (GDD), a measure of heat accumulation in plants, which measures the cumulative seasonal warming above a base temperature of 50°F. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections, all in units of °F-days. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas with the highest average GDD. Projected increases in growing degree days are depicted by the beige to dark green shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-3b. Growing Degree Days, newer projections. As in Figure C-3a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-4a. Extreme high daytime temperatures, previous projections.
Maps show the historical and projected change in extreme high daytime temperatures, in °F. The “extreme high” temperature is defined as the 95th percentile of daily maximum temperatures occurring in each year. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark red shading on the historical map indicates areas with the warmest extreme high daytime temperatures. Projected increases in extreme high daytime temperatures are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-4b. Extreme high daytime temperatures, newer projections. As in Figure C-4a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-5a. Extreme low nighttime temperatures, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected change in extreme low nighttime temperatures, in °F. The “extreme low” temperature is defined as the 5th percentile of daily minimum temperatures occurring in each year. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark purple shading on the historical map indicates areas with the lowest extreme low nighttime temperatures. Projected increases in extreme low nighttime temperatures are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-5b. Extreme low nighttime temperatures, newer projections. As in Figure C-5a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-6a. Total winter precipitation, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected total winter (October–March) precipitation. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas that have received highest levels of total winter precipitation in Puget Sound. Projected changes are depicted by the light to dark green shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
**Figure C-6b. Total winter precipitation, newer projections.** As in Figure C-6a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). *Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013* report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.²
Figure C-7a. Total summer precipitation, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected total summer (April-September) precipitation. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas that have received highest levels of summer precipitation in Puget Sound. Projected changes are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-7b. Total summer precipitation, newer projections. As in Figure C-7a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013\textsuperscript{2} report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.\textsuperscript{1}
Figure C-8a. Maximum 24-hour precipitation, previous projections. Maps show the maximum daily precipitation for Puget Sound watersheds. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas that have received highest levels of maximum daily precipitation in Puget Sound. Projected changes are depicted by the light to dark green shading. *Less than 80% model agreement*

*Source: CMIP3 Moderate (A1B)*

*Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report.*

*Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.*
Figure C-8b. Maximum 24-hour precipitation, newer projections. As in Figure C-8a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.¹
Figure C-9a. Summer Water Deficit, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected summer (July-September) water deficit, based on the amount of soil moisture available relative to atmospheric demand for water via evaporation, either from water bodies or vegetation. Maps compare historical conditions (1970-1999) with the projected change for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for grid cells for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. Teal shading indicates areas where water availability exceeds water demand. Light to dark brown shading indicates areas where a positive water deficit occurs, that is, regions where water demands exceed soil water availability. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Fig. C-9b. Summer Water Deficit, newer projections. As in Fig. C-9a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Appendix C

Figure C-10a. April 1st Snow Water Equivalent, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected April 1st snow water equivalent (SWE), a measure of the total amount of water contained in the snowpack. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for watersheds with an average historical April 1st SWE of at least 0.4 inch. White to dark blue shading on the historical map indicates areas which received highest levels of April 1st snow water equivalent in Puget Sound. Projected decreases in snow water equivalent are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-10b. *April 1st Snow Water Equivalent, newer projections.* As in Figure C-10a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). *Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report.* Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-11a. Annual Maximum Snow Water Equivalent, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected annual maximum snow water equivalent (SWE), a measure of the total amount of water contained in the snowpack. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for watersheds with an average historical April 1st SWE of at least 0.4 inch, and for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. White to dark blue shading on the historical map indicates areas which received highest levels of April 1st snow water equivalent in Puget Sound. Projected decreases in snow water equivalent are depicted by the yellow to red shading. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-11b. Annual Maximum Snow Water Equivalent, newer projections. As in Figure C-11a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-12a. Percentage of Winter Precipitation Captured in Peak Snowpack, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected percentage of winter (October-March) precipitation that is retained in the annual maximum snow water equivalent (SWE). The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999) to the conditions projected by the average of ten global models. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Green shading in the maps indicates warm (“rain-dominant”) watersheds, which retain less than 10% of winter precipitation as snow. Blue indicates cold (“snow-dominant”) watersheds, that is, cold basins that retain more than 40% of their winter precipitation as snow. The most sensitive basins to warming are the watersheds that are near the current snowline (“mixed rain and snow”), shown in red. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-12b. Percentage of Winter Precipitation Captured in Peak Snowpack, newer projections. As in Figure C-12a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013\textsuperscript{2} report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.\textsuperscript{1}
**Figure C-13a. Length of the Snow Season, previous projections.** Maps show the historical and projected change in the length of the snow season, defined as the number of days between the date of 10% accumulation and 90% melt, relative to annual maximum snow water equivalent (see Figures 11a and 11b). The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Results are only shown for watersheds with an average historical April 1st SWE of at least 0.4 inch, and for which at least 8 out of the 10 models agree on the direction of change. White to dark blue shading on the historical map indicates areas which received highest levels of April 1st snow water equivalent in Puget Sound. Projected decreases in snow water equivalent are depicted by the yellow to red shading. *Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.*
Figure C-13b. Length of the Snow Season, newer projections. As in Figure C-13a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-14a. Winter runoff, previous projections. Maps show the historical and projected total summer (December-February) runoff. This includes any overland water flows in addition to subsurface runoff in shallow groundwater. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas that have received highest levels of total winter precipitation in Puget Sound. Projected changes are depicted by the light to dark green shading.

Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.
Figure C-14b. Winter runoff, newer projections. As in Figure C-14a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.¹
**Figure C-15a. Summer runoff, previous projections.** Maps show the historical and projected total summer (July-September) runoff. This includes any overland water flows in addition to subsurface runoff in shallow groundwater. The figure compares historical conditions (1970-1999, in inches) with the projected change (in percent) for ten global models, based on a 0.0625-degree (about 3 by 4.5 miles) resolution set of gridded projections. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Dark green shading on the historical map indicates areas that have received highest streamflow in Puget Sound. Projected changes are depicted by the yellow to red shading. *Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Hamlet et al. 2013.*
Figure C-15b. Summer runoff, newer projections. As in Figure C-15a, except showing results from the current generation of climate model projections. Instead of the 2040s, mid-century projections are shown for the 2050s (2040-2069), and projections are included for two greenhouse gas scenarios: one low (RCP 4.5) and one high (RCP 8.5). Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP5 projections used in the IPCC 2013 report. Data source: Mote et al. 2015.
Figure C-16. Average August Stream Temperature. Maps show the historical and projected stream temperatures (in °C), for each 1-km (~0.6 mile) stream segment in the Puget Sound basin. The figure compares results for historical conditions (1970-1999) to projected future conditions for an average of ten global models. Two time periods are considered: the 2040s (2030-2059) and the 2080s (2070-2099), based on a moderate greenhouse gas scenario (A1B). Color-coding is based on temperature thresholds that are commonly used to assess habitat suitability for salmon. Figure created by Jonathan Picchi-Wilson, Western Washington University, based on the CMIP3 projections used in the IPCC 2007 report. Data source: Isaak et al. 2011.