



Floodwater depth estimation models

CSIRO Ecosystem Functions project - Science symposium

Presenter: Jin Teng | 16 November 2022

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Australia's National Science Agency





Outline

- Background
- Models assessed
- Findings
 - Accuracy evaluation
 - Influence of
 - Increasing floodwater depth
 - Magnitude of flood events
 - Geomorphology
- Product
- The way we are doing the research

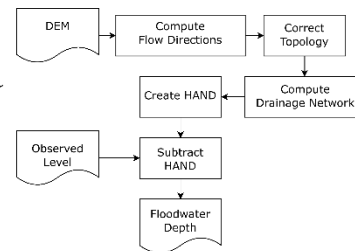
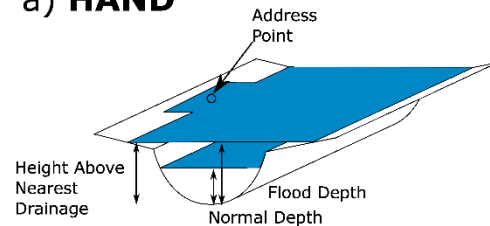


Background

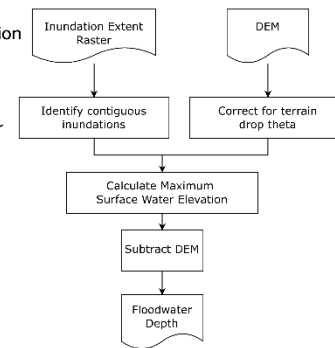
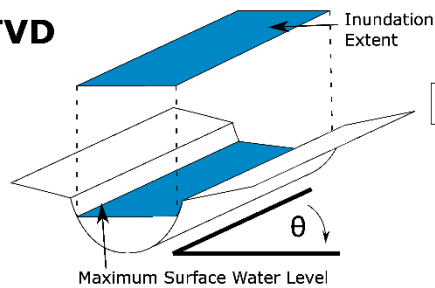
- Floodwater depth estimation is important
- Hydrodynamic models are prohibitively expensive to run for large scale studies
- Advances in remote sensing
- Three models were assessed:
 - Height Above Nearest Drainage (HAND; Nobre et al., 2011)
 - Teng Vaze Dutta (TVD; Teng et al., 2013)
 - Floodwater Depth Estimation Tool (FwDET; Cohen et al., 2018)

Models assessed

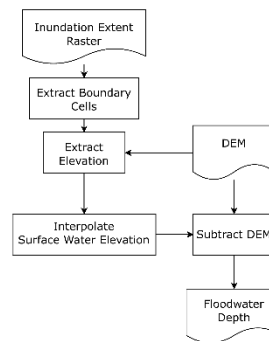
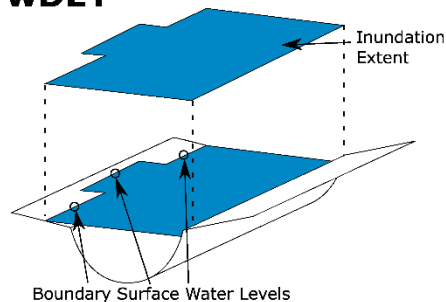
a) HAND



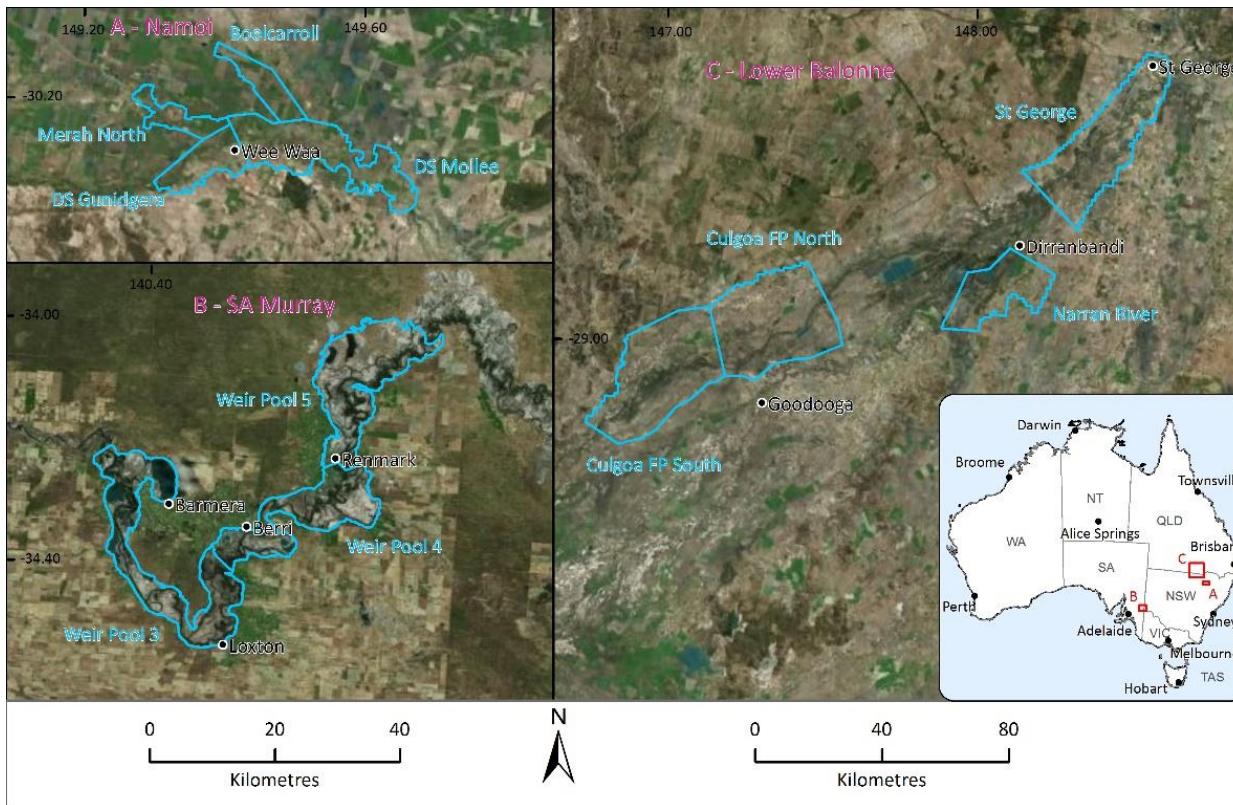
b) TVD



c) FwDET



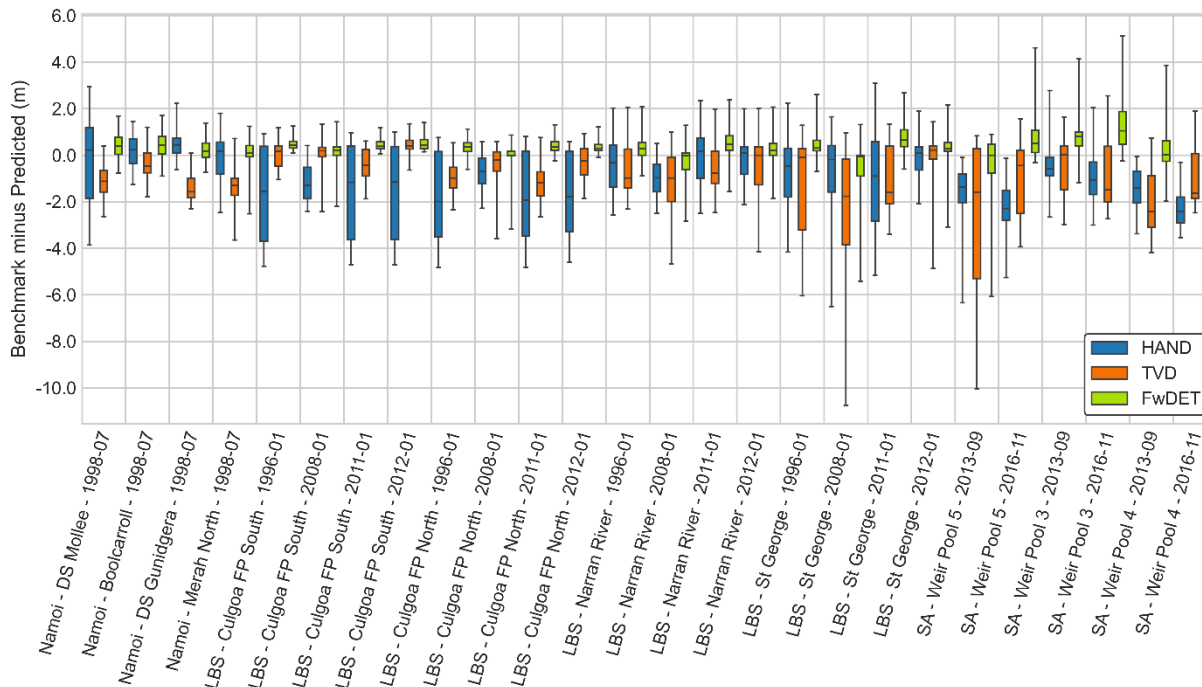
Validation sites





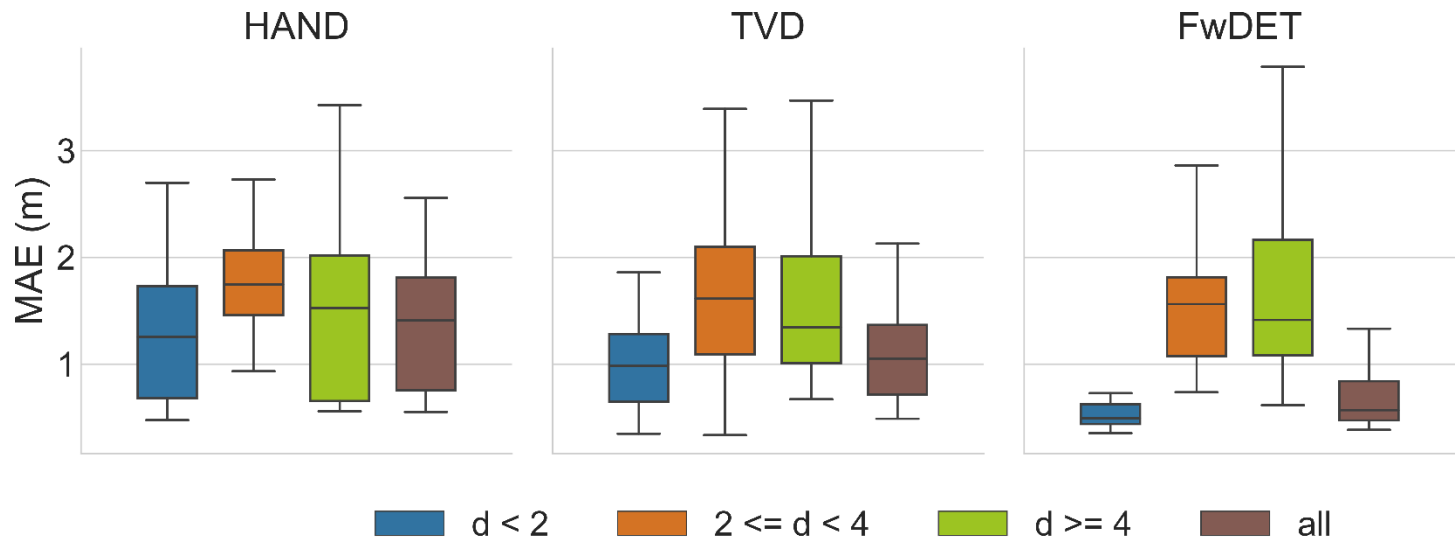
Model accuracy by flood scene

Models accuracy



	RMSE (m)	MAE (m)	25 th Perc (m)	50 th Perc (m)	75 th Perc (m)	Range (25 th to 75 th perc) (m)
HAND	1.75 (1.21, 2.26)	1.38 (0.96, 1.68)	-1.41 (-1.93, -1.16)	-0.97 (-1.29, -0.46)	-0.01 (-0.61, 0.18)	1.49 (1.02, 2.00)
TVD	1.39 (1.22, 1.52)	1.04 (0.94, 1.21)	-1.49 (-1.61, -1.09)	-0.98 (-1.17, -0.36)	-0.17 (-0.45, 0.14)	1.43 (1.04, 1.73)
FwDET	0.78 (0.73, 1.07)	0.57 (0.50, 0.64)	0.18 (0.00, 0.27)	0.32 (0.24, 0.40)	0.43 (0.37, 0.61)	0.23 (0.15, 0.42)

Model accuracy by depth





Other influencers of model performance

Magnitude of flood events:

- All three models exhibited slight improvement in model performance when return interval increased.

Reach geomorphology:

- It is difficult to select a more suitable model based on the characteristics of the reach/floodplain due to the low correlation.
- It is more difficult to estimate depth in wider rivers (irrespective of the magnitude of flood being modelled).

Different DEM inputs:

- FwDET has the least drop in performance when using a global or national DEM.
- HAND works best with hydrologically conditioned DEM.

[More details can be found in:](#)

Teng, J., Penton, D. J., Ticehurst, C., Sengupta, A., Freebairn, A., Marvanek, S., et al. (2022). A comprehensive assessment of floodwater depth estimation models in semiarid regions. *Water Resources Research*, 58(11), e2022WR032031. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2022WR032031>

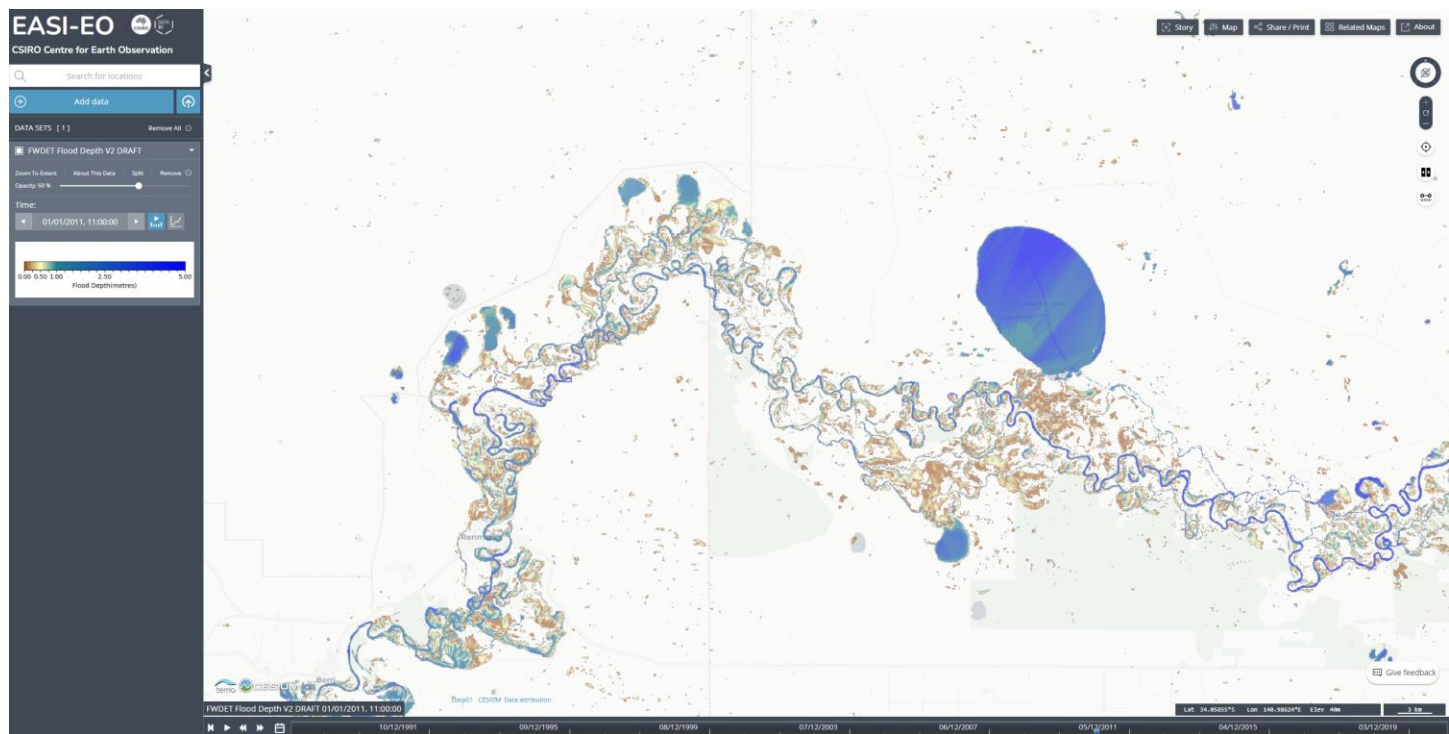


Conclusions

- The results of the study emphasizes the importance of using the appropriate model for the intended application.
- FwDET is the most suitable model for this region and this application.
- HAND is the most useful model when water extent is not available.
- TVD works best for floodplain with consistent slope and a single incised river channel.



Two-monthly maximum water extent and depth maps revealing the inundation history in the MDB (V1-3)



<https://map.easi-eo.solutions/#share=s-5gDCU9gh91CmSurBN2uK5gKCCzt>



Acknowledgements

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Thank you

CSIRO Land and Water

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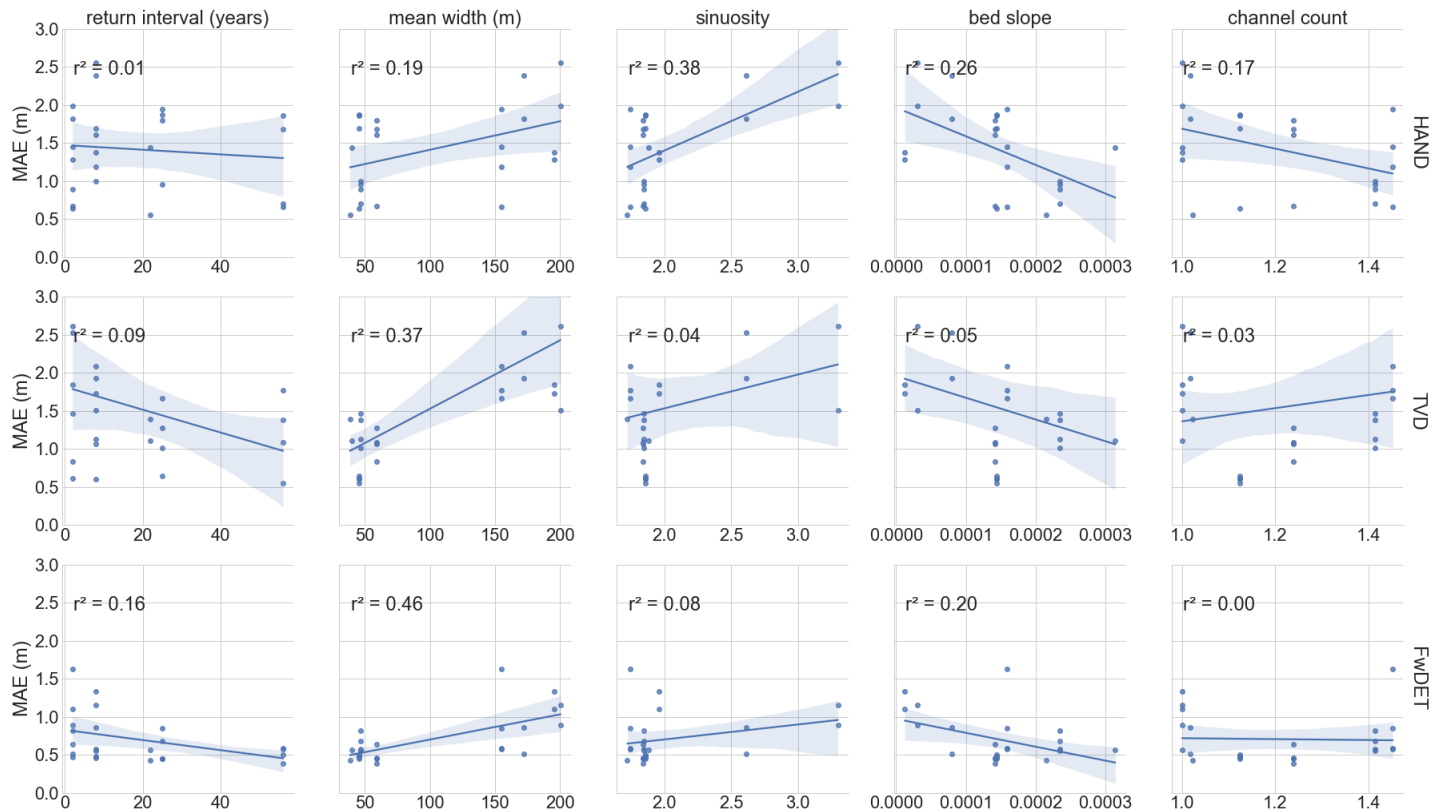
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Model accuracy by magnitude to flood and geomorphology

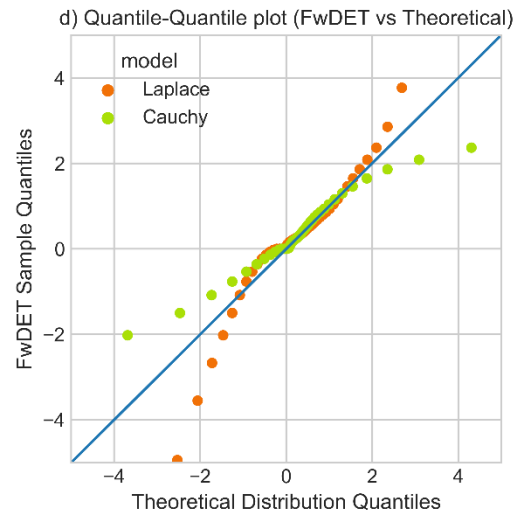
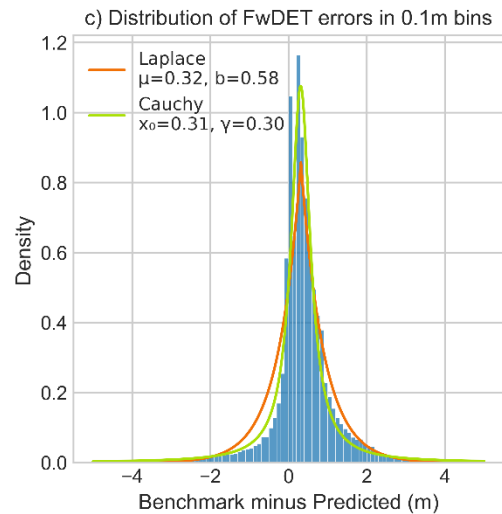
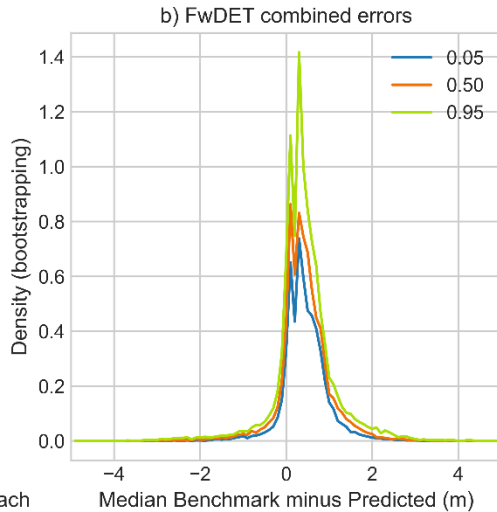
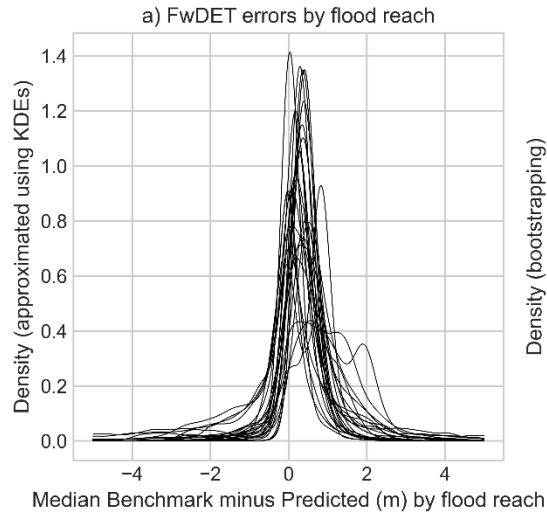




Model accuracy by using different DEMs

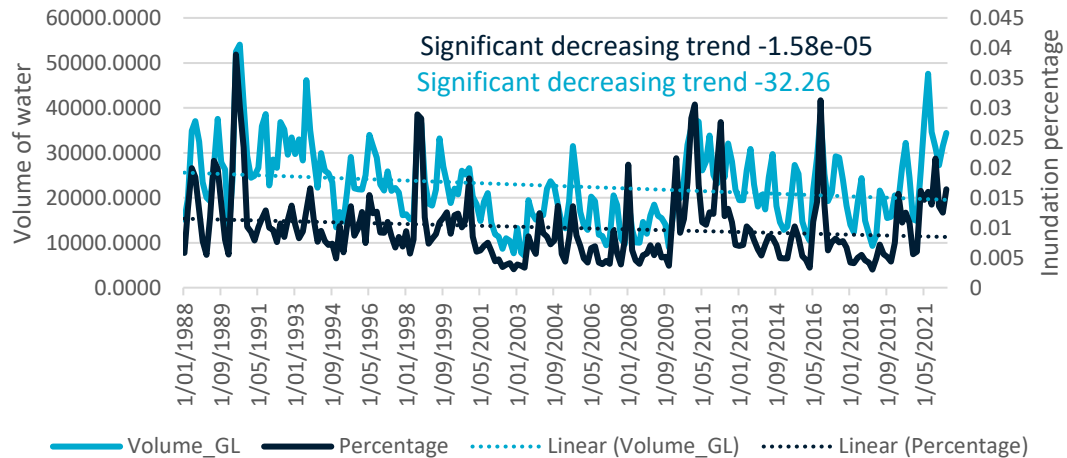
		Median MAE (m)		
DEM inputs	Resolution (m)	HAND	TVD	FwDET
LiDAR DEM	5	1.41	1.05	0.57
FABDEM (Hawker et al., 2022)	~30	2.85	1.12	0.65
DEM-H (Gallant et al., 2011)	~30	1.94	1.67	0.71
MERIT (Yamazaki et al., 2019)	~90	3.02	1.53	0.72

Model errors

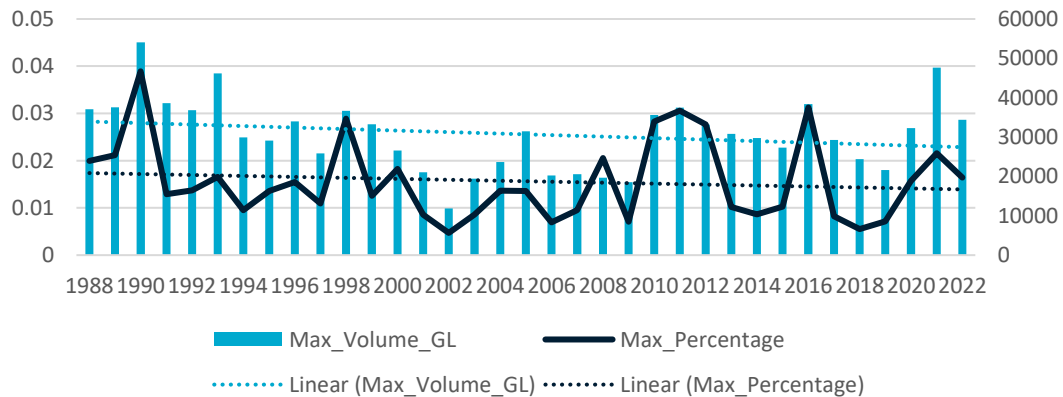




MDB

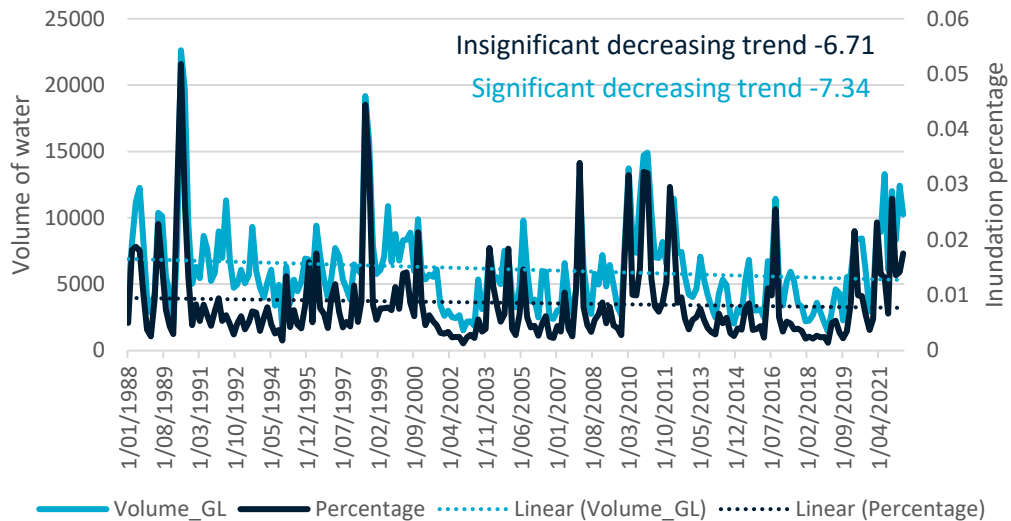


Annual

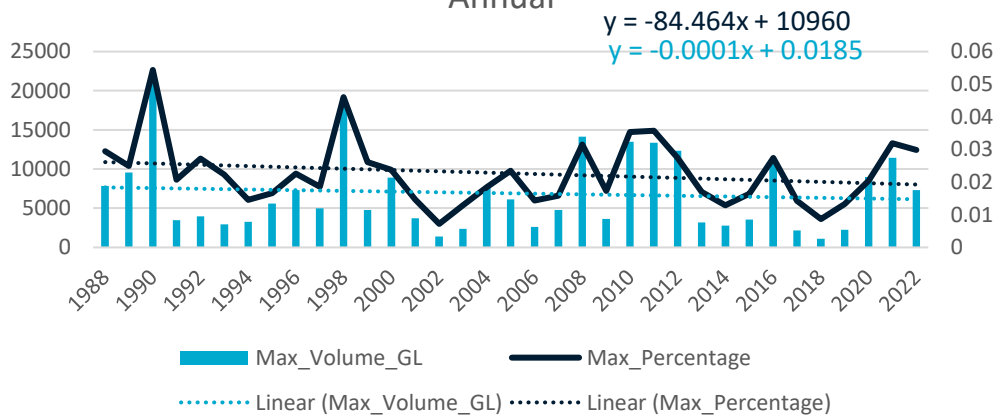




Northern Basin

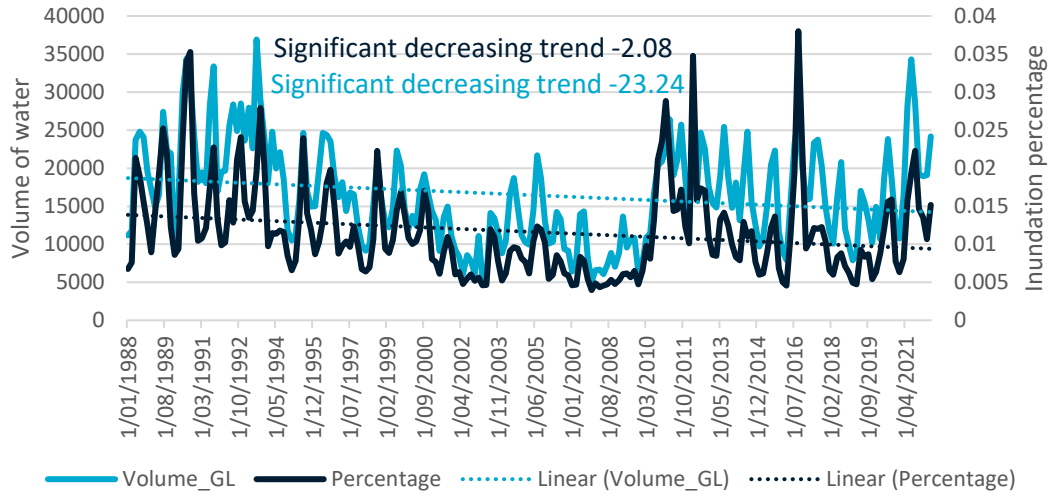


Annual





Southern Basin



Annual

