

A changing hydrological regime: Trends in magnitude and timing of glacier ice melt and glacier runoff in a high latitude coastal watershed

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Abstract

With a unique biogeophysical signature relative to other freshwater sources, meltwater from glaciers plays a crucial role in the hydrological and ecological regime of high latitude coastal areas. Today, as glaciers worldwide exhibit persistent negative mass balance, glacier runoff is changing in both magnitude and timing, with potential downstream impacts on infrastructure, ecosystems, and ecosystem resources. However, runoff trends may be difficult to detect in coastal systems with large precipitation variability. Here, we use the coupled energy balance and water routing model SnowModel-HydroFlow to examine changes in timing and magnitude of runoff from the western Juneau Icefield in Southeast Alaska between 1980 to 2016. We find that under sustained glacier mass loss (-0.57 ± 0.12 m w.e. a), several hydrological variables related to runoff show increasing trends. This includes annual and spring glacier ice melt volumes (+10% and +16% decade) which, because of high precipitation variability in the area, translate to smaller increases in glacier runoff (+3% and +7% decade) and total watershed runoff (+1.4% and +3% decade). These results suggest that the western Juneau Icefield watersheds are still in an increasing glacier runoff period prior to reaching ‘peak water.’ In terms of timing, we find that maximum glacier ice melt is occurring earlier (2.5 days decade), indicating a change in the source of freshwater being delivered downstream. Our findings highlight that even in climates with large precipitation variability, high latitude coastal watersheds are experiencing hydrological regime change driven by ongoing glacier mass loss.

1 **A changing hydrological regime: Trends in magnitude and**
2 **timing of glacier ice melt and glacier runoff in a high latitude**
3 **coastal watershed**

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13 **Key Points:**

- 14 • Discharge from western drainages of Juneau Icefield is increasing and has yet to
15 pass ‘peak water’ as glaciers lose mass
- 16 • Annual glacier ice melt volumes have increased by 10% per decade, glacier runoff
17 by 3%, and total runoff by 1.4%
- 18 • Peak glacier ice melt volumes are increasing and arriving earlier, with impacts for
19 downstream ecosystem function

Abstract

With a unique biogeophysical signature relative to other freshwater sources, meltwater from glaciers plays a crucial role in the hydrological and ecological regime of high latitude coastal areas. Today, as glaciers worldwide exhibit persistent negative mass balance, glacier runoff is changing in both magnitude and timing, with potential downstream impacts on infrastructure, ecosystems, and ecosystem resources. However, runoff trends may be difficult to detect in coastal systems with large precipitation variability. Here, we use the coupled energy balance and water routing model SnowModel-HydroFlow to examine changes in timing and magnitude of runoff from the western Juneau Icefield in Southeast Alaska between 1980 to 2016. We find that under sustained glacier mass loss (-0.57 ± 0.12 m w.e. a^{-1}), several hydrological variables related to runoff show increasing trends. This includes annual and spring glacier ice melt volumes ($+10\%$ and $+16\%$ decade^{-1}) which, because of high precipitation variability in the area, translate to smaller increases in glacier runoff ($+3\%$ and $+7\%$ decade^{-1}) and total watershed runoff ($+1.4\%$ and $+3\%$ decade^{-1}). These results suggest that the western Juneau Icefield watersheds are still in an increasing glacier runoff period prior to reaching ‘peak water.’ In terms of timing, we find that maximum glacier ice melt is occurring earlier (2.5 days decade^{-1}), indicating a change in the source of freshwater being delivered downstream. Our findings highlight that even in climates with large precipitation variability, high latitude coastal watersheds are experiencing hydrological regime change driven by ongoing glacier mass loss.

1 Introduction

Meltwater from glaciers plays a crucial and varied role in both the hydrological and ecological regimes of high latitude coastal regions around the world. From a hydrological perspective, glaciers act as frozen freshwater reservoirs, with the ability to temporarily store water over diurnal, seasonal, and long-term (decadal to millennial) time scales [Jansson *et al.*, 2003]. Watersheds containing even as little as 5% glacier cover exhibit modified flow patterns compared to their ice-free equivalents, with lower annual and monthly variability, and with a maximum seasonal flow contemporaneous not with spring snowmelt but with peak temperatures in mid-summer [Fountain and Tangborn, 1985]. These differences arise because while runoff from non-glacierized watersheds is dominated by precipitation, glacierized basins are primarily energy balance dominated [Lang, 1986].

Additionally, watersheds downstream of glaciers with persistent negative net mass balance display a distinct long-term streamflow pattern. This pattern is characterized initially by increasing discharge due to higher rates of glacier mass loss up until a maximum (often referred to as ‘peak water’ [Gleick and Palaniappan, 2010]), followed by decreasing discharge due to shrinking glacier area and volume [Jansson *et al.*, 2003]. Whether or not a particular glacierized basin or region has passed peak water is linked to several factors. Huss and Hock [2018] found through a global glacier mass balance modeling study that characteristics such as percent ice cover and absolute glacier size exhibit controls over the timing of peak water in a basin. Similarly, Moore *et al.* [2009] identified geographic variations in runoff trends for Western North American glacierized basins, whereby basins with larger glaciers in the north still show increasing runoff while basins with smaller glaciers further south have already passed the point of peak water. On the other hand, another study by Carnahan *et al.* [2018] identified through glacier flow modeling that glacier dynamics (characterized by glacier response times, linked primarily to climate and slope) and landscape evolution (i.e. vegetation succession after deglaciation) had a roughly equal impact on basin runoff in response to glacier retreat. Together, these findings indicate that peak water is likely to occur at different times in different regions.

Knowing whether an area is pre- or post-peak water is crucial information in glacierized watershed hydrology, due to the implications of increasing or decreasing runoff for downstream concerns such as infrastructure, ecosystems, and ecosystem resources [Moore

71 *et al.*, 2009]. In a study that forecast glacier streamflow to 2100, the large glaciers of the
72 Gulf of Alaska were predicted to experience peak water the latest (between 2060 and
73 2070) of all regions globally [Huss and Hock, 2018]. However, the fate of individual glacier-
74 ized watersheds within this region was less certain due to large intrabasin variability and
75 calibration to regional glacier mass balance observations rather than local runoff measure-
76 ments.

77 Within the Gulf of Alaska region lies the Juneau Icefield, one of the largest icefields
78 in North America. This area experiences extreme amounts of precipitation characteristic
79 of maritime climates [Pelto *et al.*, 2013], and among the highest variability in precipita-
80 tion of any climatic zone in Alaska [Bieniek *et al.*, 2014], both of which may act to ob-
81 scure runoff trend detection. The icefield is directly adjacent to the city of Juneau, Alaska,
82 and is closely connected to both the community's infrastructure (via bridges over glacial
83 rivers and residential areas prone to flooding from glacial outburst floods) as well as to the
84 downstream riverine and nearshore marine environments.

85 From an ecological perspective, freshwater from glaciers – whether from melted
86 glacier ice, melted firn, or terrestrial water that has passed through a glacier system – car-
87 ries a unique biogeochemical signature relative to other freshwater sources. For example,
88 glacier runoff has been found to control fluxes of limiting nutrients crucial for primary
89 productivity in riverine and marine environments. A previous study on streams discharg-
90 ing the Juneau Icefield found that glaciers serve as an important source of phosphorus and
91 nitrogen in those streams [Hood and Scott, 2008], while nearby rivers such as the Copper
92 River have proven a critical source of iron to the Gulf of Alaska [Crusius *et al.*, 2011].
93 Glacier meltwater also serves as a major source of bioavailable organic carbon to both
94 riverine food webs [Fellman *et al.*, 2015] and near-shore marine ecosystems [Hood *et al.*,
95 2009; Lawson *et al.*, 2014]. Moreover, glacier runoff possesses physical properties that are
96 distinct from other terrestrial water sources. In comparing several Juneau Icefield water-
97 sheds, Hood and Berner [2009] show that both summer stream turbidity and water temper-
98 ature can be predicted by the percentage of glacier cover within the basin. These physical
99 conditions are in turn critical for biological productivity at all trophic levels, including for
100 Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) for which stream temperature and clarity are key vari-
101 ables for species distribution in the north Pacific [Welch *et al.*, 1998] as well as spawning
102 ground selection [Lorenz and Filer, 1989].

103 To assess changes in this physical landscape, several studies have evaluated glacier
104 mass balance of the Juneau Icefield in recent decades. These have primarily relied on
105 geodetic approaches (e.g. digital elevation model differencing) that determine bulk volume
106 loss between two known dates. Despite sourcing imagery from different satellite sensors
107 and covering different time spans, all studies calculated negative glacier-wide mass balance
108 rates over the investigated periods between 1962 to 2016 [Larsen *et al.*, 2007; Berthier
109 *et al.*, 2010; Melkonian *et al.*, 2014; Berthier *et al.*, 2018]. A recent study has also mod-
110 eled future glacier mass balance for the icefield under different climate scenarios, project-
111 ing a volume loss of 58 to 68% of the icefield by 2100 [Ziemen *et al.*, 2016]. This esti-
112 mate falls on the upper end of regional projections of a 32 to 58% loss of Gulf of Alaska
113 glaciers as a whole [Hock and Huss, 2015].

114 Given the aforementioned close coupling to surrounding ecosystems and infras-
115 tructure, and its persistent state of negative mass balance, the purpose of this study is to
116 examine whether and how components of runoff from the western Juneau Icefield have
117 changed over the past several decades. In particular, we leverage a distributed, high-resolution
118 model to evaluate: 1) trends in the annual or seasonal volume of total runoff, glacier runoff,
119 and glacier ice melt; 2) shifts in timing of the onset or end of glacier runoff and/or ice
120 melt season; 3) shifts in winter glacier runoff events or volume, and 4) changes in timing
121 or magnitude of total runoff, glacier runoff, and glacier ice melt. This study is the first to
122 examine recent changes in timing and magnitude of different hydrological cycle variables
123 in this region and, in turn, to assess whether trends of increasing or decreasing runoff can

124 be detected in a high latitude maritime environment. These findings provide key informa-
125 tion for socio-ecological systems downstream, and leave us better poised to project future
126 changes in ongoing climate change.

127 2 Study area

128 Bordered by mountain ranges spanning from sea level to >5000 m a.s.l., and with a
129 maritime climate that delivers an average of 2 m w.e. and a peak of 7 m w.e. of precip-
130 itation per year [Daly *et al.*, 2008], the Gulf of Alaska coastline is characterized by both
131 extensive glacier cover and extreme volumes of freshwater runoff. Unlike other major
132 watersheds in North America that are dominated by large rivers, 78% of runoff into the
133 Gulf of Alaska is delivered from the steep topography to the coast via short (~10 km aver-
134 age), small drainages [Neal *et al.*, 2010]. In coastal Alaska, glacier termini often lie below
135 treeline, placing glacier ice directly adjacent to the mixed forest of the northern Pacific
136 temperature rainforest. Together, these qualities set up a tight coupling between ice and
137 snowmelt from alpine terrain and the nearshore marine ecosystems downstream.

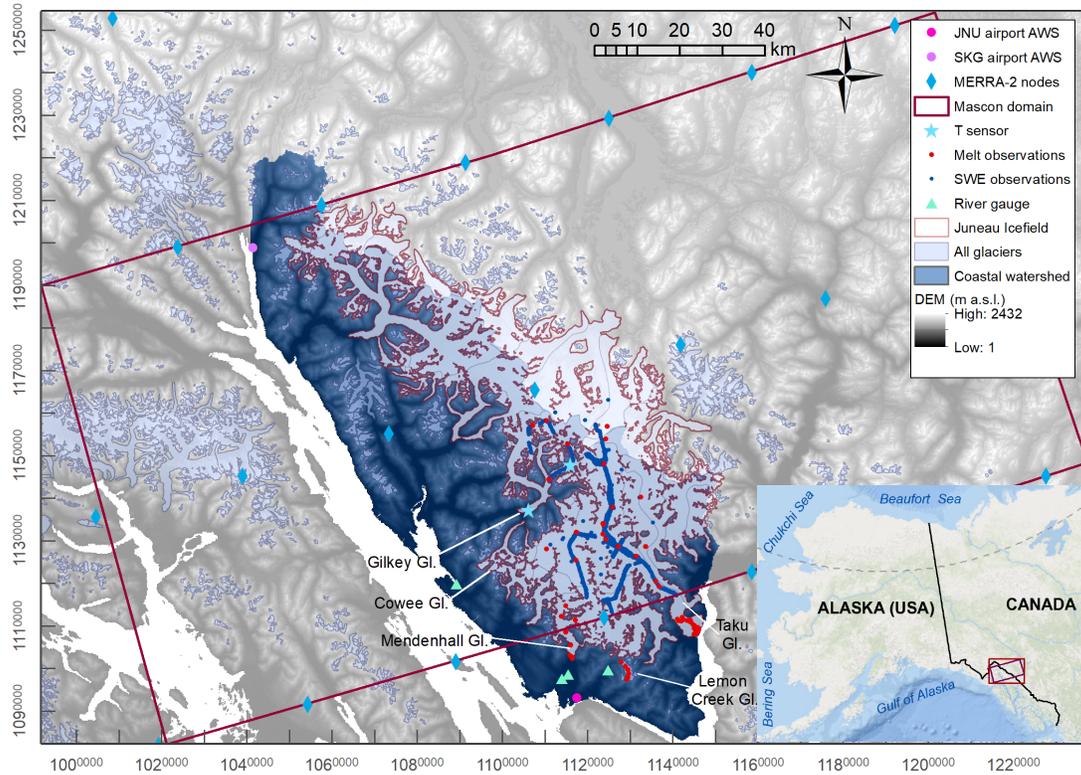
138 The Juneau Icefield (Figure 1), centered at 58.9° N and 134.2° W, spans the coast
139 mountains between Southeast Alaska, USA, and Northwestern British Columbia, Canada.
140 It is the third largest icefield in North America with an area of >3700 km² and elevations
141 ranging from sea level to ~2300 m a.s.l [Kienholz *et al.*, 2015]. All outlet glaciers are cur-
142 rently lake- or land-terminating although, as it finishes a tidewater glacier cycle advance
143 [Truffer *et al.*, 2009], the large (~725 km²) Taku Glacier is ~60% protected by a shoal
144 moraine with the remaining portion of the terminus abutting a proglacial lake and short
145 river.

154 Although the highest elevations receive snowfall throughout the year, C-band synthetic-
155 aperture radar reveals that snow and/or ice melt occurs over the entire icefield during July
156 and August [Ramage *et al.*, 2000]. Moreover, because temperatures frequently hover near
157 the freezing point on the coast, low elevations may see ice melt and rain throughout the
158 year. In addition to typical patterns of increasing precipitation with elevation, the ice-
159 field also experiences a strong decreasing precipitation gradient from southwest to north-
160 east (i.e. with increasing distance from the coast) due to the prevalence of southwesterly
161 weather systems moving inland from the Gulf of Alaska [Royer, 1998; Stabeno *et al.*,
162 2004]. These patterns are evidenced both in measurements [Pelto *et al.*, 2013] and mass
163 balance modeling studies [Ziemen *et al.*, 2016; Roth *et al.*, 2018].

164 The spatial domain in this study comprises all terrain draining the western portion
165 of the Juneau Icefield directly to the coast. Though we calculate glacier mass balance for
166 the entire icefield for purposes of calibration, we focus our calculations and analysis of
167 runoff on those watersheds of the icefield that supply direct runoff to marine ecosystems.
168 This amounts to a spatial domain of 6405 km², of which 2860 km² or 44% is glacier ice
169 covered.

170 3 Data & Methods

171 In remote and rugged settings where the availability of ground observations is scarce
172 and long-term hydro-climatic monitoring stations are few, glacio-hydrological models can
173 help fill knowledge gaps about the hydrological regime at high spatial and temporal res-
174 olution. To estimate glacier mass balance and total runoff at a daily time step for water
175 years 1981 to 2016 for the Juneau Icefield, we use the energy and mass balance model
176 SnowModel [Liston and Elder, 2006a], coupled with the SoilBal routine for calculating
177 evapotranspiration over all ice-free domains [Beamer *et al.*, 2016], and the linear reservoir
178 runoff routing model HydroFlow [Liston and Mernild, 2012]. These model routines, in-
179 cluding sub-modules we used, are described below, as are the data and approaches used
180 for initialization, calibration, and validation.



146 **Figure 1.** Location of the Juneau Icefield within the Coast Mountains spanning southeast Alaska and
 147 northern British Columbia. All glaciers within the rectangular model domain are shown in light blue, and
 148 the contiguous glaciers of the Juneau Icefield as defined in the Randolph Glacier Inventory version 6.0
 149 are outlined in red. Also shown are: locations of automated weather stations at each the Juneau (JNU) and Skag-
 150 way (SKG) airports; MERRA-2 reanalysis climate nodes; the mascon domain showing the area of GRACE
 151 solutions used for model validation; campaign on-ice temperature sensors; observations of melt and snow
 152 water equivalent (SWE); and stream gauge stations. Terrain shown in dark blue indicates the spatial extent of
 153 our coastal watershed domain for this study.

181 3.1 Model description

182 3.1.1 SnowModel

183 SnowModel is a distributed energy and mass balance model for simulating snow
 184 distribution and evolution in terrain where snow and ice are present [Liston and Elder,
 185 2006a]. It uses meteorological, elevation, and surface type data as inputs, and accounts
 186 for all first-order processes involved in snowpack evolution, including: snow accumula-
 187 tion; forest canopy interception, unloading, and sublimation; snow-density evolution; and
 188 snowpack and ice melt. SnowModel is comprised of several sequential sub-routines: 1)
 189 MicroMet, 2) EnBal, and 3) SnowPack.

190 MicroMet is a quasi-physically-based data assimilation and interpolation routine that
 191 distributes coarse-resolution meteorological forcing over high-resolution topography [Lis-
 192 ton and Elder, 2006b]. MicroMet adjusts coarse-resolution climate data in two ways: a)
 193 all available data are spatially interpolated over the domain, and b) physical submodels are
 194 applied to each variable to generate more realistic values at each grid cell and time step.
 195 MicroMet also estimates solar and incoming longwave radiation based on topography and
 196 cloud cover based on relative humidity and temperature.

197 EnBal performs surface energy balance calculations at every grid cell, in response
 198 to atmospheric conditions generated in MicroMet. Energy terms are added at the snow- or
 199 ice-atmosphere interfaces, and any surplus energy is assumed to be available for snowmelt,
 200 or for glacier ice melt once overlying snow has been removed [Mernild *et al.*, 2006].

201 SnowPack simulates snow depth and snow water equivalent evolution within the
 202 snowpack based on precipitation and melt energy. Snow density changes in response to
 203 snow temperature and the weight of overlying snow, as well as by snow melting and rain-
 204 on-snow events, which redistribute water through the snowpack. Further details on both
 205 EnBal and SnowPack are available in Liston and Elder [2006a], and on MicroMet in Lis-
 206 ton and Elder [2006b].

207 SnowModel does not include a glacier flow model to redistribute mass under cli-
 208 mate forcing. To avoid infinite snow accumulation at high elevations over glacier cells
 209 during multi-year simulations, each year's end-of-summer snowpack over glacier cells is
 210 reset to zero under the assumption that residual snow is converted to glacier ice. Snow-
 211 Model also does not account for changes in either glacier extent by retreat or hypsometry
 212 (area-altitude distribution) by thinning or ice flow and instead keeps a constant surface and
 213 extent representing conditions during a reference year/period (Section 3.2.1). See Section
 214 6 for further examination of this limitation. Moreover, while SnowModel includes many
 215 internal processes within the snowpack related to density changes and meltwater perco-
 216 lation, it neglects snow and ice mass loss due to dynamic processes, such as frictional
 217 melting from viscous heating (internal deformation of the ice) or sliding at the glacier bed
 218 [Mernild *et al.*, 2014].

219 SnowModel has been applied in a number of Arctic glaciology investigations at
 220 similar spatial scales as our study, including in Alaska and Greenland [Liston and Sturm,
 221 2002; Mernild *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2010; Liston and Hiemstra, 2011; Mernild *et al.*, 2015,
 222 2017]. Recently, SnowModel has also been applied along with the SoilBal and HydroFlow
 223 routines to model freshwater discharge from 1980 to 2014 for all terrain draining into the
 224 Gulf of Alaska [Beamer *et al.*, 2016], a study which informs several of our model configu-
 225 ration choices.

226 **3.1.2 SoilBal**

227 SoilBal, a soil moisture submodel, was developed by Beamer *et al.* [2016] to for-
 228 mally introduce evapotranspiration (ET) into the SnowModel-HydroFlow process, in order
 229 to allow for full water balance calculations over ice-free landscapes, including vegetation.
 230 SoilBal first calculates potential evapotranspiration (PET) by means of the Priestley-Taylor
 231 equation, which is based on the concept that an air mass moving over a vegetated land-
 232 scape with abundant water will become water saturated [Priestley *et al.*, 1972]. It uses
 233 only daily air temperature and net radiation for the top of the canopy as input data, mak-
 234 ing it more computationally efficient than complex formulations that include aerodynamic
 235 terms. The Priestley-Taylor formulation has been applied to many types of forested land-
 236 scapes (see Komatsu [2005] for a review of studies) and has been found to outperform
 237 more complex formulations for a mixed temperate mountainous forest [Shi *et al.*, 2008].
 238 After PET is calculated, a soil water balance [Hoogeveen *et al.*, 2015] is solved using in-
 239 puts of PET, runoff from SnowModel, and gridded soil water storage. SoilBal ultimately
 240 produces daily grids of actual evapotranspiration, surface, and base flow runoff. The latter
 241 two are summed and used to drive the water routing model HydroFlow.

242 **3.1.3 HydroFlow**

243 Using instantaneous water balance information from SnowModel and SoilBal, the
 244 HydroFlow model simulates the routing of surface runoff from rainfall, snow, and ice
 245 melt to downslope areas and ultimately to basin outlets or surrounding oceans [Liston and

246 *Mernild, 2012; Mernild and Liston, 2012*]. In HydroFlow, each grid cell acts as a linear
 247 reservoir (i.e. a reservoir with discharge linearly proportional to water input) that transfers
 248 water from itself and any upslope cells to the downslope cell, creating a topographically
 249 linked flow network. HydroFlow assumes that within each grid cell there are two transfer
 250 functions with two time scales, each associated with different water routing mechanisms.
 251 Runoff enters first into the slow-response reservoir, which accounts for the time it takes
 252 for water transport through the snow, ice, and soil matrices. The moisture is then routed
 253 through the flow network via the fast-response reservoir, which generally represents some
 254 form of channel flow, such as supra-, en- or subglacial flow, or streamflow. Residence time
 255 coefficients for each reservoir in each grid cell are a function of many elements, including:
 256 surface slope; snow, ice, and soil porosity; snow temperature (cold content); density of
 257 glacier crevasses and moulins; hydrostatic water pressure; and soils and land-cover char-
 258 acteristics. HydroFlow therefore assigns residence time coefficients and velocities for four
 259 dominant surface types that account broadly for these processes: snow-covered ice, snow-
 260 free ice, snow-covered land, and snow-free land. A coupled system of equations solves for
 261 slow- and fast-response flow, yielding a discharge hydrograph for each grid cell. A full
 262 description of HydroFlow is available in *Liston and Mernild [2012]*.

263 **3.2 Model configuration**

264 Our model simulations cover the water years between Oct. 1, 1980 to Sept. 30,
 265 2016 and are run using a daily time step and grid cell size of 200 m x 200 m. The cho-
 266 sen temporal and spatial resolution represent a compromise between the desired level of
 267 detail and computational efficiency, given the large spatial domain.

268 Figure 1 shows our model spatial domain, which encompasses the full extent of
 269 all observational datasets used for calibration and validation (described below). For this
 270 study's results and interpretation, unless otherwise specified, reported findings on glacier
 271 mass balance include model grid cells within the red outline of the Juneau Icefield, in or-
 272 der to match estimates from both *Berthier et al. [2018]*, used in model calibration, and
 273 *Ziemen et al. [2016]*, which we refer to in our discussion of future changes. However,
 274 when reporting findings on freshwater runoff, we include in our spatial domain all ter-
 275 rain with Juneau Icefield glacier ice in its headwaters that drains directly to the coast. We
 276 do not include terrain that routes freshwater into large interior rivers (Taku River, with a
 277 drainage area of 17,000 km², and the Yukon River, 850,000 km²). We exclude these re-
 278 gions for two reasons. First, the size of these river drainages is sufficiently different than
 279 the short, steep coastal drainages of the western portion of the Icefield (e.g. the basin
 280 drained by the Mendenhall River is the largest at 289 km²) and therefore exemplify dif-
 281 ferent watershed processes. Second, Taku and the Yukon drain primarily continental ter-
 282 rain subject to a different climatological regime, given that they lie in (and well beyond)
 283 the rainshadow of the Coast Mountain range that creates a strong precipitation gradient
 284 from coast to interior [*Roth et al., 2018*]. We focus our analysis and discussion on the
 285 unique hydrological regime of the short and steep coastal drainages, particularly given
 286 their relevance to downstream estuary conditions, and their prevalence throughout high
 287 latitude coastal regions in Alaska (e.g. Glacier Bay, Prince William Sound) and beyond
 288 (e.g. Patagonia, New Zealand, Norway).

289 To evolve the snowpack and route water through the landscape, SnowModel-HydroFlow
 290 requires topographical data, land cover information, and meteorological forcing.

291 **3.2.1 Elevation, land cover, and soil type**

292 For model simulations, we use a digital elevation model (DEM) from the United
 293 States Geological Survey (USGS) National Elevation Dataset (available at
 294 <https://nationalmap.gov/elevation.html>), representing elevations from the early 2010s as
 295 measured by Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar data. Elevation data are available

296 at a resolution of 1 arcsec (~30 m) over ~95% of the domain, and 2 arcsecs (~60 m) over
 297 portions of Canada for which data at a better resolution are not available. The DEM is hy-
 298 drologically corrected (i.e. depressionless) and we resample to 200 m resolution using a
 299 nearest-neighbor sampling technique. Note that we do not modify glacier surface eleva-
 300 tions or extents through the 1980 to 2016 model period given that earlier DEMs for the
 301 full icefield are not available.

302 Land cover classes are obtained from the 2011 North American Land Change Mon-
 303 itoring System (NALCMS), which distinguishes vegetation class, bare land, and urbanized
 304 area for North America at a 30 m resolution [Homer *et al.*, 2015]. We resample to 200 m
 305 and align the grid with our DEM and reclassify to the vegetation classes defined in *Liston*
 306 *and Elder* [2006a]. To delineate glacierized terrain, we modify the NALCMS grid using
 307 higher precision glacier outlines derived from the mid-2000s from the Randolph Glacier
 308 Inventory (RGI) v6.0, available at https://www.glims.org/RGI/rgi60_dl.html [Pfeffer *et al.*,
 309 2014; Kienholz *et al.*, 2015]. Note that over our model period, we do not update surface
 310 type information related to e.g. vegetation succession after deglaciation, due to a lack of
 311 information on glacier and vegetated area extent dating back to the 1980s.

312 To classify soil types, we use the gridded Harmonized World Soil dataset version
 313 1.2 (available at <http://www.fao.org/soils-portal/soil-survey/soil-maps-and-databases/harmonized->
 314 [world-soil-database-v12/en/](http://www.fao.org/soils-portal/soil-survey/soil-maps-and-databases/harmonized-world-soil-database-v12/en/)) [Fischer *et al.*, 2008], which we resample from its native 1
 315 km resolution to 200 m using a nearest-neighbor technique.

316 For the SoilBal soil moisture module, we use a Priestley-Taylor coefficient of 1.26,
 317 a value found by *Beamer et al.* [2016] to reproduce modeled ET for the Gulf of Alaska
 318 that most closely matches independent estimates from the Moderate Resolution Imaging
 319 Spectroradiometer (MODIS) satellite product as found in *Hill et al.* [2015].

320 **3.2.2 Meteorological data**

321 For meteorological forcing, SnowModel requires daily temperature, relative humid-
 322 ity, wind speed and direction, and precipitation. We use reanalysis data from NASA's
 323 Modern-Era Retrospective Analysis for Research and Applications, Version 2 (MERRA-2)
 324 [Gelaro *et al.*, 2017], available at <http://gmao.gsfc.nasa.gov/reanalysis/MERRA-2/>. One of
 325 our principal motivators in choosing this product is that in their modeling study on fresh-
 326 water runoff to the Gulf of Alaska, *Beamer et al.* [2016] found that Version 1 of MERRA
 327 [Rienecker *et al.*, 2011] performed best in reproducing measurements of point glacier mass
 328 balance and local domain streamflow, compared to the Climate Forecast System Reanal-
 329 ysis *Saha et al.* [2010] and North American Regional Reanalysis [Mesinger *et al.*, 2006].
 330 Version 1 of MERRA was also among the top products for consistency with observations
 331 of 2 m air temperature and precipitation [Lindsay *et al.*, 2014], and compared best to ob-
 332 served extreme precipitation days at the Juneau airport [Lader *et al.*, 2016], in two studies
 333 that compared different climate products for the Arctic and Alaska, respectively. Moreover,
 334 MERRA-2 has been found to perform better in North America than the earlier MERRA
 335 version for precipitation, and snow amounts in particular have been found to have a lower
 336 bias and better correlation to reference data in neighboring parts of Canada [Reichle *et al.*,
 337 2017]. Altogether, these findings encouraged our choice of this product as model forcing.

338 We compare the product to observational meteorological records within our domain
 339 and discuss the outcomes in Section 4.

340 **3.3 Model calibration datasets**

341 To help constrain our estimates of glacier mass change and freshwater runoff for the
 342 Juneau icefield, we use multiple calibration datasets including: a geodetic glacier mass
 343 balance estimate, streamflow measurements, snow water equivalent observations, and abla-
 344 tion observations.

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Table 1. Characteristics of gauged watersheds included in calibration routine.

River	Area (km ²)	Glacier cover (%)	Elevation range (m a.s.l.)	Distance between glacier outflow and gauge	Gauge data availability
Mendenhall River	223	56	20 to 1980	5 km with large lake	1980 to 1994; 1996 to 2016
Lemon Creek	31	46	280 to 1620	4 km	2002 to 2016
Montana Creek	36	2	20 to 1480	12 km	1980 to 1987; 2000 to 2012
Cowee Creek	111	11	0 to 1700	15 km with small lake	2013 to 2016

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3.3.1 Geodetic glacier mass balance

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Several studies have derived geodetic bulk volume loss estimates for the Juneau Icefield, including *Larsen et al.* [2007] who estimated -0.62 m w.e. a^{-1} for 1962 to 2000, *Berthier et al.* [2010] who found -0.53 ± 0.15 m w.e. a^{-1} for 1962 to 2006, *Melkonian et al.* [2014] who found -0.13 ± 0.12 m w.e. a^{-1} for 2000 to 2009/2013, and *Berthier et al.* [2018] who estimated -0.68 ± 0.15 m w.e. a^{-1} for 2000 to 2016. Though the *Melkonian et al.* [2014] study initially suggested a slowdown in mass loss, *Berthier et al.* [2018] points to issues in *Melkonian et al.* [2014] related to unknown penetration depths into firn and snow by the Shuttle Radar Topography Mission DEMs used in their calculations. The mass balance result from *Berthier et al.* [2018], calculated from Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer (ASTER) imagery, agrees closely with laser altimetry approaches and is therefore the value we take as the current best estimate overlapping with our study interval.

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In our calibration process, we aim to reproduce the mean annual glacier-wide mass balance rate from *Berthier et al.* [2018] for the same spatial domain (i.e. the glacier outline for the Juneau Icefield, which the authors also obtained from the Randolph Glacier Inventory v6.0). Because the early and late ASTER scenes used in *Berthier et al.* [2018] represent mosaics of different acquisition dates, the authors listed their geodetic estimate as generally spanning 2000 to 2016, without citing specific start or end dates. For comparison to the model, we select start and end dates as the beginning and end of the associated water years, i.e. Oct. 1, 2000 and Sept. 30, 2016.

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3.3.2 Streamflow measurements

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Semi-continuous time series of discharge data are available for four stream gauges in the Juneau area, including three streams instrumented by the USGS (Mendenhall River, Lemon Creek, and Montana Creek; data available at <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/rt>) and one (Cowee Creek) monitored by researchers at the University of Alaska Southeast (Figure 1). Data are available for different time periods for each. The four instrumented basins represent a range of size above the gauge locations, percent glacier cover, elevation range, and distance between glacier outflow and gauge (Table 1). This range of characteristics increases our ability to test model performance across different flow regimes. In our calibration process, we aim to reproduce discharge (Q) from all upstream terrain as routed to the gauge locations.

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3.3.3 Snow water equivalent

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Point observations of snow water equivalent (SWE) used to drive SnowAssim (Figure 1) are obtained from several published and unpublished sources. All values are converted to SWE following standard glaciological protocols [*Østrem and Brugman*, 1991].

We glean observations for Taku Glacier and Lemon Creek Glacier from *Criscitello et al.* [2010], and for Mendenhall Glacier from *Motyka et al.* [2002] and *Boyce et al.* [2007]. Additional observations are also available for Taku [*McNeil et al.*, 2019] and Lemon Creek glaciers [*McNeil and O'Neil*, 2019], Taku Glacier (University of Alaska Southeast, Jason Amundsen, unpublished data), and Mendenhall Glacier (University of Alaska Southeast, Mike Hekkers, unpublished data).

During several field campaigns in late April of each 2013, 2014, and 2015, our team also carried out SWE observations at six locations along the Gilkey Glacier centerline between 300 to 1900 m a.s.l., as a means to fill in spatial gaps over the icefield. SWE values were derived using measured density profiles obtained from snow core samples, representing stratigraphic balances. Data are available at *Young* [2019].

Finally, we also incorporate helicopter-borne ground-penetrating radar (GPR) observations collected by USGS along the Taku Glacier and Gilkey Glacier centerlines in spring 2014 and 2015, in collaboration with our field campaigns. Raw GPR data were sourced from *O'Neil et al.* [2018], and were processed by USGS and converted to snow depths using the methods described in *McGrath et al.* [2015]. Density data were sourced from six contemporaneous snow cores measured along each corresponding flight path, where densities were linearly interpolated between locations by the increment $1/n$, where n is the number of \sim equally-spaced observations between core sites. By multiplying depths by densities, this dataset is equivalent to \sim 121,000 and \sim 39,000 SWE point observations in 2014 and 2015, that we averaged to single annual values within each model grid cell.

3.3.4 Ablation observations

For our calibration routine, we also make use of point snow and ice ablation observations at stake sites from the published and unpublished datasets described in Section 3.3.3. We also leverage melt data from our own field campaigns in 2013 to 2015, available at *Young* [2019]. Snowmelt values were calculated by subtracting the SWE equivalent values between snowpacks at known start and end dates. Ice melt values used exposed stake height changes multiplied by an assumed glacier ice density of 900 kg m^{-3} . All ablation observations are compared to model output extracted for the same location and covering the same time span.

3.4 Calibration approach

To correctly characterize glacier mass change and freshwater discharge, we adopt a two-stage calibration approach. The first stage is automated within SnowModel, and leverages the built-in data assimilation sub-routine SnowAssim. SnowAssim is used to compile and interpolate all available ground-based and remotely sensed snow water equivalent data [*Liston and Hiemstra*, 2008]. SnowAssim is run prior to regular SnowModel simulations using a scheme that optimizes interpolation by calculating the differences between observed and modeled snow values and retroactively applies multiplicative corrections to melt factors or precipitation values to create improved fields prior to the assimilated observations. SnowModel is then run again using the new precipitation fields as input. This early, automated form of calibration improves simulations of snow distribution throughout the season rather than only at the time of observation, generating more accurate spatial distribution of snow depth and SWE.

For the second calibration stage, we adopt a traditional grid search approach to tuning model parameters, beginning with a broad search across the parameter space then focusing in on narrower ranges with a finer grid. For this, we identify which of the SnowModel-HydroFlow parameters to treat as tuning parameters and which can be prescribed. SnowModel-HydroFlow has an extensive suite of parameters, many of which have been determined from field measurements or from modeling experiments. Based on a review of other SnowModel-

431 HydroFlow studies and focusing on importance to localized meteorological and hydro-
 432 logical conditions in glacierized mountain terrain, we initially select seven parameters:
 433 glacier albedo, fresh snow albedo, melting (non-forested) snow albedo, monthly precip-
 434 itation lapse rates, monthly temperature lapse rates, and factors for modifying each the
 435 slow and fast reservoir velocities in the HydroFlow routing module (acting to increase or
 436 decrease fluid residence time). Preliminary simulations indicate that model results are rel-
 437 atively insensitive to values of fresh snow albedo and the factor for slow reservoir veloci-
 438 ties. We therefore focus our calibration efforts on the remaining five parameters. We iden-
 439 tify a range of physically realistic values to test for each, as guided by the literature and
 440 other SnowModel studies (Table 2). All other SnowModel parameters are set to default
 441 SnowModel values, a select list of which is also shown in Table 2.

442 We next establish calibration datasets and appropriate metrics to evaluate model per-
 443 formance. We first prioritize achieving a match between our estimated SnowModel glacier
 444 mass change and the long-term geodetic estimate from *Berthier et al.* [2018]. We aim
 445 to minimize the difference between our model results and that derived by *Berthier et al.*
 446 [2018] over the same time period. To do this we define \dot{B}_{diff} as $|\dot{B}_{\text{mod}} - \dot{B}_{\text{geo}}|$ where \dot{B}_{mod}
 447 is the annually-averaged glacier-wide mass change rate from the model and \dot{B}_{geo} is $-0.68 \pm$
 448 $0.15 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$. We next compare HydroFlow output of discharge (Q) to streamflow data
 449 for the four local drainages, aiming to obtain Nash-Sutcliffe Efficiency (NSE) [*Nash and*
 450 *Sutcliffe*, 1970] nearest to 1. We generate separate statistics for each instrumented basin,
 451 but prioritize matching those with the highest percent glacier cover (Mendenhall River,
 452 56%, and Lemon Creek, 46%). Finally, we also compare output to point observations of
 453 snow and ice melt from the field, aiming to minimize RMSE and maximize r^2 values.
 454 However, after the initial automated calibration step (SnowAssim) that uses SWE obser-
 455 vations to determine melt factors, modeled point melt values are relatively insensitive to
 456 parameter value change, indicating that the melt factors derived from SnowAssim produce
 457 an optimized modeled to observed match.

458 In summary, we prioritize our performance metrics in the following order: 1) \dot{B}_{diff}
 459 $= |\dot{B}_{\text{mod}} - \dot{B}_{\text{geo}}|$ nearest to 0 for glacier-wide mass balance rates; 2) NSE nearest to 1 for
 460 streamflow discharge, prioritizing the statistics for more glacierized basins first; 3) mini-
 461 mizing RMSE and maximizing r^2 statistics for point melt observations. While this focus
 462 ensures that we reproduce the glacier component of the overall water balance well, we
 463 find that it means sacrificing goodness-of-fit to stream gauge measurements in basins with
 464 less glacier cover (Montana Creek, 2%, and Cowee Creek, 11%). We accept this a cost
 465 of striving to correctly characterize glacier volume change and glacier runoff production,
 466 which are the focus of our study.

467 For our final time series analysis, we identify out of our 215 simulations all those
 468 that generate glacier mass balance estimates for the full icefield that fall within the error
 469 bounds of the \dot{B}_{geo} goal value for Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2016. This yields an ensemble
 470 among which is a midpoint ensemble member that most closely matches the goal value,
 471 i.e. with $\dot{B}_{\text{diff}} = 0$, as well as two ensemble end members whose mass balance rates cor-
 472 respond to the upper and lower limit of the *Berthier et al.* [2018] estimate error bars. We
 473 use these end members as upper and lower estimates of uncertainty for our midpoint simu-
 474 lation, which we focus on for the bulk of our analyses.

477 3.5 Model validation

478 To independently validate our model results, we utilize a time series of terrestrial
 479 water changes for the Juneau Icefield area derived from the independent data source GRACE.

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Table 2. Calibration parameters for SnowModel-HydroFlow simulations. Note that we also list a selection of prescribed parameters that are not varied.

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Parameter	Description and units	Range of values tested	Basis in the literature for tested range	Final value ensemble range and (best)
α_i	Glacier ice albedo	0.05 to 0.65	0.3 to 0.65 recommended in <i>Cuffey and Paterson</i> [2010] for clean to blue ice based on literature; lower limit also extended	0.30 to 0.40 (0.30)
α_{smc}	Melting non-forested (clearing) snow albedo	0.15 to 0.70	Although the recommended range for old wet snow is 0.3 to 0.7 in <i>Cuffey and Paterson</i> [2010]; we extend the lower limit to account for dust, black carbon [<i>Nagorski et al.</i> , 2019] and snow algae [<i>Ganey et al.</i> , 2017])	0.40 to 0.50 (0.50)
α_{smf}	Melting forested snow albedo	–	Default SnowModel value, and same as <i>Beamer et al.</i> [2016], which found model results for the Gulf of Alaska to be relatively insensitive to this value	0.45
α_{sf}	Fresh snow albedo	–	Model results insensitive on initial tests	0.75
$\Gamma_{Jan}, \Gamma_{Feb} \dots$	Monthly varying temperature lapse rates (showing Jan/June in $^{\circ}\text{C km}^{-1}$)	2.4/6.2 to 6.4/10.2	We test the SnowModel default seasonal pattern and modify in $\pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C km}^{-1}$ steps	2.4/6.2 to 4.4/8.2 (3.9/7.7)
$\chi_{Jan}, \chi_{Feb} \dots$	Monthly varying precipitation lapse rates (showing Jan/June in km^{-1})	0.20/0.05 to 0.50/0.35	We test the SnowModel default seasonal pattern and modify in $\pm 0.5 \text{ km}^{-1}$ steps	0.20/0.05 to 0.35/0.20 (0.20/0.05)
f_f	Factor for fast response time; channel flow	0.05 to 2.0	Recommended range in HydroFlow	0.25 (0.25)
f_s	Factor for slow response time; matrix flow	–	Model results insensitive on initial tests; value same as <i>Beamer et al.</i> [2016]	0.05
T_{rain}, T_{snow}	Threshold rain/snow temperatures ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	–	Default SnowModel values, common in modeling studies, e.g. <i>Young et al.</i> [2018], <i>Beamer et al.</i> [2016]; <i>Rohrer</i> [1989]	0/2

3.5.1 GRACE gravimetry data

On account of their substantial magnitudes, both long-term and seasonal terrestrial mass variations from glacier ice loss and snow loading along the Gulf of Alaska are large enough to alter local gravity fields. The GRACE satellites, whose mission lasted from 2003 to 2016, were tandem satellites that used a microwave K-band inter-satellite ranging system to measure gravity changes of all Earth system components. GRACE processing involves forward-modeling of gravity signals from glacial isostatic adjustments, Earth tides, ocean tides, and atmospheric loading (i.e. clouds) in order to isolate the remaining signal of interest [Wouters *et al.*, 2014].

To independently validate our model results, we choose GRACE data from NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Geodesy Laboratory’s high resolution v2.4 mass concentration (mascon, i.e. grid cell) solution, which provides mass change estimates at ~30-day intervals and $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ (~12,390 km²) resolution [Luthcke *et al.*, 2013]. Data are available at <https://earth.gsfc.nasa.gov/geo/data/grace-mascons>. This solution represents the full terrestrial water budget – i.e. snowfall, rain, and runoff from nonglacierized and glacierized terrain, including glacier ice melt – and is therefore optimized for terrestrial hydrology. We focus on the two GRACE mascons containing the Juneau Icefield (Figure 1). We choose this GRACE product because it is one of few that explicitly corrects for local mass increases from post-Little Ice Age disintegration of the Glacier Bay icefield [Larsen *et al.*, 2005], as estimated using the ICE-5G glacial isostatic adjustment model [Peltier, 2004]. This GRACE product also compares well with regional-scale mass balance model simulations for the Gulf of Alaska [Hill *et al.*, 2015; Beamer *et al.*, 2016] and to mass loss estimates from NASA’s Ice, Cloud, and Land Elevation Satellite (ICESat) [Arendt *et al.*, 2013]. Moreover, this solution is among the first to provide information for constructing 95% confidence intervals on mass changes for individual mascons based on estimates of noise and leakage, as detailed in Loomis *et al.* [2019].

The primary benefit of using GRACE data is the high temporal resolution which provides water balance information at sub-annual timescales. Additionally, GRACE provides a direct measurement of mass changes; that is, no density assumptions are required to estimate snow and ice mass loss, which are a large source of uncertainty in other water and glacier mass balance methods. The disadvantage of GRACE is that the fundamental spatial resolution of the v2.4 processing approach is a 300 km Gaussian smoothing filter [Luthcke *et al.*, 2013], resulting in a) coarse resolution, and b) the possibility of signal leakage across mascon boundaries, a processing artifact.

For comparison of our model results to the GRACE time series, our model spatial domain includes all terrain within the two GRACE mascons surrounding the icefield. We extract this spatial domain and select mass change estimates at dates corresponding with the mid-points of the GRACE time series monthly averages. We calculate the long-term mass loss trend by fitting an annual sinusoid to data using a least-squares approximation. Individual annual amplitudes are calculated by subtracting annual minima from maxima, an approach deemed appropriate for the Gulf of Alaska region due to its clean seasonal signal relative to noise [Luthcke *et al.*, 2013].

3.6 Water balance, glacier mass balance, and runoff calculations

Using SnowModel-Hydroflow as described above, the water balance for our domain is calculated by:

$$\dot{S} = \dot{P} - \dot{R} - ET - \dot{S}U \quad (1)$$

where S is the volume of water stored within the seasonal snowpack, glacier ice, or top 1 m of soil; P is precipitation input (rain or snow); R is runoff (defined as the water immediately available for routing to downslope areas); ET is evapotranspiration; and SU is sublimation at the snow surface. Dot notation indicates that all quantities are taken to be rates

(time derivatives). Note that because none of the glaciers within the domain are ocean-terminating, we do not include marine iceberg calving or submarine melt within equation (1). Although several glaciers are lake-terminating, previous studies on the Mendenhall Glacier (historically land-terminating but now ending in a proglacial lake) revealed that iceberg calving represents only 4 to 6% the amount of ice lost through surface melt [Boyce *et al.*, 2007; Motyka *et al.*, 2002]. Similar to Ziemer *et al.* [2016], we therefore consider ice discharge into lakes to be a small component of Juneau Icefield glacier mass balance, and an even smaller part of water balance of the coastal watershed.

In SnowModel, runoff R is water that is immediately available to be routed downstream, and is the sum of glacier ice melt, snowmelt that does not refreeze or fill pore space within the snowpack, rain on bare surfaces (i.e. rain that does not fall onto snow or soil substrates), or rain on already-saturated snow or soil. We note that the term ‘glacier runoff’ is used ambiguously within the literature and often represents different physical quantities [O’Neel *et al.*, 2014; Radić and Hock, 2014]. For our purposes, we define glacier runoff as all runoff produced over glacierized cells. This formulation is identical to two studies that modeled runoff for the Gulf of Alaska [Beamer *et al.*, 2016; Neal *et al.*, 2010] as well as to the quantity defined conceptually in O’Neel *et al.* [2014] as total runoff from the glacier surface (concept 5). We use the term ‘glacier ice melt’ separately, to denote meltwater from the glacier surface only after snow cover has been removed (i.e. it is one component of glacier runoff). We calculate both quantities throughout the study.

We calculate the area-averaged glacier mass balance using equation (1) over glacierized grid cells only (noting that evapotranspiration (ET) goes to zero over glacier surfaces). Glacier mass balance therefore represents a portion of the full spatial domain’s water storage S . The contribution of non-glacierized cells makes up the remaining portion.

All comparisons of model output to stream gauge instruments are comparisons to:

$$Q = \dot{R} - \dot{ET} \quad (2)$$

i.e. discharge Q (a flux) is all runoff that has been routed to a known gauge location, after evapotranspiration ET has been taken into account.

Finally, comparisons of model output to GRACE data are to water storage S , given that the GRACE satellites measure all changes in water mass distribution over Earth’s surface.

3.7 Trend analyses

We evaluate trends in magnitude and timing of hydrological variables (total runoff, glacier runoff, glacier ice melt, and water balance), integrated over the full spatial domain draining west to the coast. For trends in magnitude, we examine spatially and temporally integrated quantities including annual volumes of total runoff, precipitation, glacier runoff (the sum of ice melt, snowmelt, and rain on the glacier surface), glacier ice melt (i.e. melt at the glacier surface after snow has been removed), and water balance. We also identify maximum and minimum daily values for each year for total runoff, glacier runoff, glacier ice melt, and water balance. Further, we examine volumes of glacier runoff and ice melt for spring and summer seasons, where each season’s start and end dates are defined by the maximum, minimum, and inflection points of the domain- and temporally-averaged annual air temperature climatology derived from the MicroMet-interpolated climate input data. Here, ‘winter’ falls between December 24 to April 6, ‘spring’ is April 7 to July 17, ‘summer’ is July 18 to October 11, and ‘fall’ is October 12 to Dec 23. Finally, we assess cold season volumes of glacier runoff and glacier ice melt. Here, the cold season is defined as the period between late-fall termination and spring onset of glacier runoff and ice melt, which correspond to the latest and earliest dates that respectively follow or precede a period of at least two weeks of glacier runoff/ice melt below a near-zero threshold. This

579 two-week criteria was chosen out of several algorithms for best reproducing manually-
580 selected dates.

581 For trends in timing, we use the raw complete time series to test for trends in: day
582 of year of minimum daily volumes of total runoff and water balance; day of year of glacier
583 runoff and glacier ice melt onset and end, as well as the length of the season in between;
584 and number of non-zero days of cold season glacier runoff and ice melt. For trends in the
585 timing of peak flows (i.e. maximum daily volumes of total runoff, water balance, glacier
586 runoff, and glacier ice melt) in particular, we test for day of year trends in a time series
587 smoothed with a 14-day running mean in order to capture the overall shape of the hydro-
588 graph and minimize the effect of extremes.

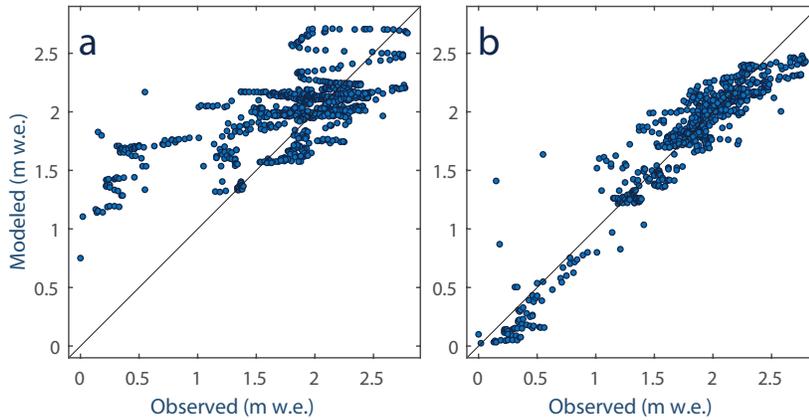
589 Trends are detected using the Mann-Kendall test for significance, a non-parametric
590 test (i.e. data do not have to meet the assumption of normality). Trends are calculated us-
591 ing the Theil-Sen estimator, a non-parametric approach that fits a trend by determining
592 the median of the slopes of lines through each pair of points in a sample. This approach
593 is more robust against outliers than simple linear regression, making it well-suited to, and
594 commonly used in, hydrological applications [*Helsel and Hirsch, 2002*]. To identify the
595 statistical significance of each trend, we report a harmonic mean p-value, a formulation
596 for combining p-values from tests that cannot be guaranteed to be independent [*Wilson,*
597 *2019*], e.g. model simulations with the same input data and physics but variation in pa-
598 rameter values. We calculate a harmonic mean p-value for every trend by equally weigh-
599 ing our midpoint and two end member simulation p-values.

600 In reporting our findings, we take an approach that extends beyond the traditional
601 method of judging results as meaningful solely by the $p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$ criteria. This has
602 been challenged in recent years, citing limitations such as variation in p-value statistics
603 across replicate studies [*Halsey et al., 2015*] and difficulty in interpreting results when the
604 p-value is high and the null hypothesis cannot be rejected [*Cohen, 2016*]. We turn instead
605 to recommendations from *Halsey [2019]* and *Tomczak and Tomczak [2014]* to include in
606 our analysis a measure of effect size (which in our case is the trend itself) as well as 95%
607 confidence intervals surrounding that trend, in order to provide additional insight into the
608 range of possibilities that are reasonably likely. We also heed advice from *Amrhein et al.*
609 [*2019*] that including factors such as background evidence, data quality, and understand-
610 ing of underlying mechanisms can contribute to meaningful interpretation of statistical
611 results. As such, we include as an interpretive tool for the reader a qualitative assessment
612 of our confidence that a positive trend should be detected, in the context of our full suite
613 of results and a priori current knowledge from the literature for each climatological and
614 hydrological variable.

615 **4 Model initialization and calibration**

616 In this section, we describe outcomes from the initialization and calibration process,
617 from which we are better able to understand the strengths and limitations of our model
618 results.

619 To assess the performance of the MicroMet meteorological interpolation module,
620 we compare daily MicroMet-interpolated MERRA-2 air temperature fields to observations
621 from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) airport weather stations
622 at Juneau and Skagway (Figure 1), and find strong correlation ($r^2 = 0.92$ and 0.88 , respec-
623 tively). However, we find systematic biases between modeled and observed temperatures,
624 when averaged monthly, with lower than observed temperatures in winter months (as large
625 as of -2.1 °C in Juneau and -5.5 °C in Skagway) and higher than observed temperatures in
626 summer months (as large as 2.0 °C in Juneau and 2.8 °C in Skagway). In terms of daily
627 precipitation, modeled and observed volumes were weakly correlated in both Juneau ($r^2 =$
628 0.52) and Skagway ($r^2 = 0.40$). Mean monthly modeled fields also overproduced precip-

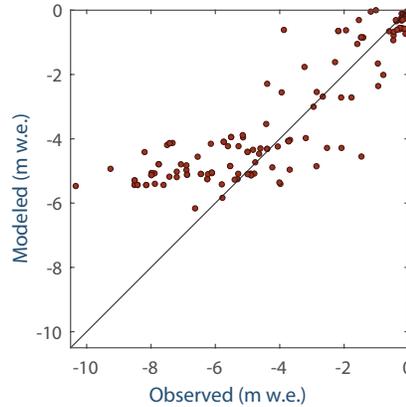


650 **Figure 2.** Comparison of observed versus modeled snow water equivalent (SWE) values at on-glacier lo-
 651 cations both a) before, and b) after the application of the SnowAssim initial calibration routine. Results are
 652 shown for the ensemble member driven with the best fit parameters; other ensemble members are similar.

629 itation, particularly in fall and early winter months, with biases between 1.3 and 4.7 mm
 630 w.e. d^{-1} for Juneau and 0.8 to 2.3 mm w.e. d^{-1} for Skagway. Note that we did not ap-
 631 ply a monthly bias correction to the model fields for temperature or precipitation because
 632 both weather stations used for comparison are biased to low elevations, and we have no
 633 additional information for spatially distributing a correction across the large distance and
 634 complex topography between the airports. We assume, therefore, that these biases are ac-
 635 commodated for by adjustment to the tuning parameter suite.

636 We evaluate the impact of our initial calibration routine SnowAssim by comparing
 637 SnowModel on-glacier point SWE estimates to observations from glacier mass balance
 638 field and airborne campaigns (Figure 2). We observe that model reproduction improved
 639 markedly from $r^2 = 0.45$ to $r^2 = 0.90$ and $RMSE = 0.45$ m w.e. to $RMSE = 0.18$ m w.e
 640 (Figure 2). This highlights that the SnowAssim routine produces more realistic SWE fields
 641 irrespective of location or duration between observations. The model also reproduces in-
 642 dependent point melt (i.e. snow/ice ablation) observations, with $r^2 = 0.79$ and $RMSE =$
 643 1.63 m w.e (Figure 3). The larger RMSE values are not unexpected given the predomi-
 644 nance of ablation measurements at lower elevations in the ablation area (60% of the obser-
 645 vations are at < 800 m a.s.l.), which on large glaciers with undulating surface topography
 646 often display substantial local variability that may not be well-captured by the model (e.g.
 647 *Young et al.* [2018]). However, we note that the model appears to underpredict melt for
 648 more negative point mass balances, which may be due to the above-mentioned lower-than-
 649 observed temperatures in the summer months.

655 In the second calibration phase, we succeed in tuning parameters to reproduce the
 656 geodetic mass balance rate from *Berthier et al.* [2018], -0.68 ± 0.15 m w.e. a^{-1} for 2000
 657 to 2016. From the ensemble of all simulations that meet this criteria, we focus our pri-
 658 mary analysis on the midpoint simulation with a mass balance rate of exactly -0.68 m
 659 w.e. a^{-1} , and consider the ensemble end members – whose mass balance rates are near-
 660 est the upper and lower error bounds from *Berthier et al.* [2018] – to be the limits of our
 661 uncertainty. Best-fit parameter values are shown in Table 2. This step of calibrating to a
 662 long-term mass balance rate is crucial for correctly characterizing glacio-hydrological sys-
 663 tems. Had we not undertaken this step, our initial simulations using SnowModel default
 664 parameter values would have yielded a mass balance rate of $+0.08$ m w.e. a^{-1} .



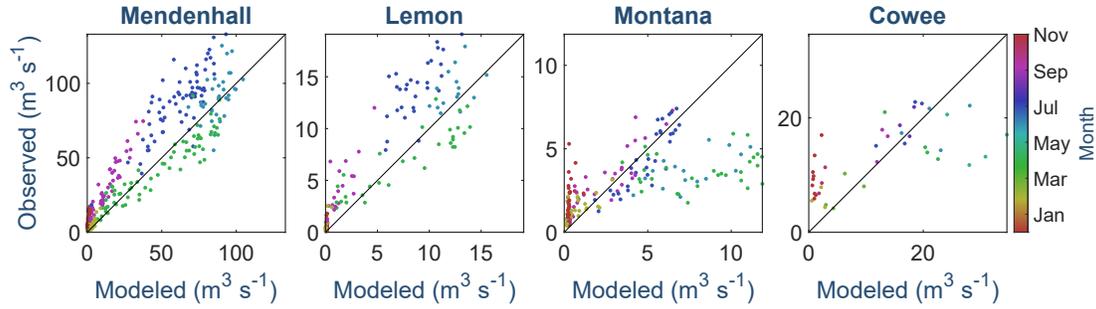
653 **Figure 3.** Comparison of observed versus modeled point snow/ice ablation values at on-glacier locations,
 654 as driven with the best fit parameters.

665 Our ability to reproduce observations from stream gauge records on the four instru-
 666 mented basins varies by the amount of glacier cover (see Figure 4). For the two glacier-
 667 ized basins with the largest percent cover, comparison of modeled to observed monthly
 668 discharge yields stronger agreement: for Mendenhall River (56% glacier cover), we ob-
 669 tain $NSE = 0.84$ and $r^2 = 0.88$, and for Lemon Creek (46% glacier cover), we find $NSE =$
 670 0.76 and $r^2 = 0.82$. The model, however, is unable to reproduce many of the large peaks
 671 in the daily Mendenhall discharge record, several of which are associated with recent
 672 (2011 and on) glacier lake outburst floods from an upstream tributary basin. The model
 673 does not include a mechanism to generate these impulsive events. For the two basins
 674 that are predominantly forested, modeled to observed agreement is weaker: for Montana
 675 Creek (2% glacier cover), we find $NSE = -1.37$ and $r^2 = 0.45$, and for Cowee Creek (11%
 676 glacier cover), we obtain $NSE = -0.81$ and $r^2 = 0.47$. We also note that the Mendenhall
 677 River and Lemon Creek watersheds show evidence of seasonal biases between modeled
 678 and observed quantities, with the model generally over-producing runoff in summer and
 679 under-producing in fall. We discuss this, and provide possible reasons for the modeled-to-
 680 observed discrepancy in less-glacierized basins, in Section 6.1. Altogether, weighing all
 681 four basins according to both above-gauge basin area as well as length of observational
 682 record, we calculate a weighted $NSE = 0.21$ and weighted $r^2 = 0.73$. We believe this per-
 683 formance to be acceptable given that, rather than any one process in isolation, streamflow
 684 represents an integration of all glacio-hydrological processes in the watershed, and thereby
 685 has the potential to integrate any sources of error with input data as well as model physics
 686 into a single metric. Because our model performs well in reproducing other calibration
 687 datasets, particularly in glacierized watersheds (e.g. our estimate for the 2000 to 2016
 688 mass balance rate for the Mendenhall Glacier alone is $-0.73 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$, which matches
 689 the estimate of $-0.73 \pm 0.13 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ from *Berthier et al. [2018]*), we are confident in
 690 the calibrated model performance.

693 5 Results

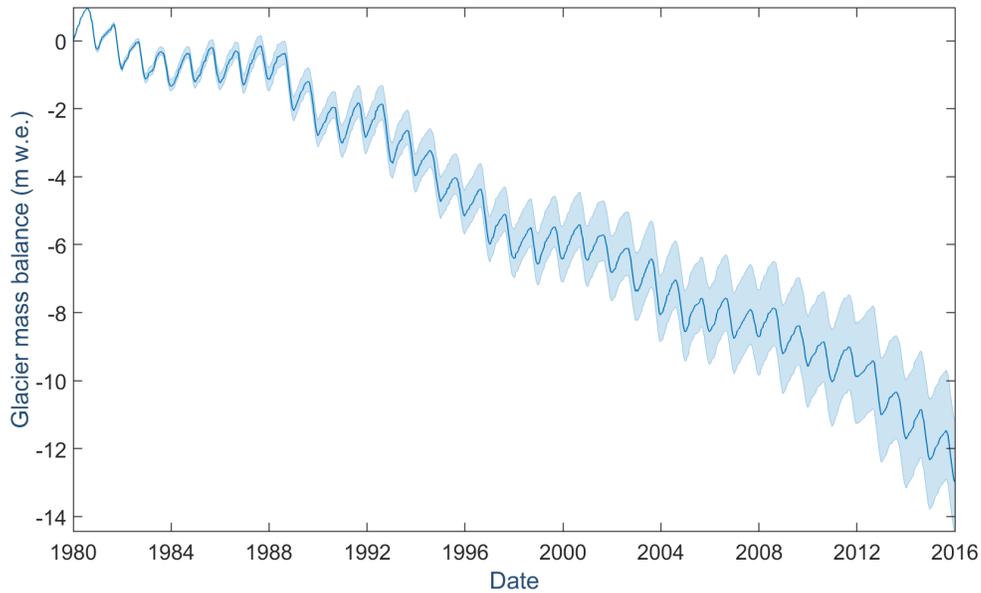
694 5.1 Glacier mass balance

695 Our modeled, tuned annual glacier-wide mass balance rate for the Juneau Icefield
 696 is $-0.68 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ for 2000 to 2016, with lower and upper uncertainty bounds of -0.57
 697 and $-0.83 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ corresponding to our simulation ensemble end members. Extending
 698 to the full model period of Oct. 1, 1980 to Sept. 30, 2016, we calculate a rate of -0.57
 699 $[-0.11, +0.12] \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ for the icefield, suggesting an acceleration in recent decades. Fi-



691 **Figure 4.** Mean monthly discharge Q from observations versus model results for four instrumented water-
 692 sheds in cubic meters per second, as driven with the best fit parameters. Note the differing axis scales.

700 nally, for all ice contained within the domain draining to the coast, our model estimates
 701 a mass balance rate of -0.81 $[-0.08, +0.11]$ m w.e. a^{-1} for 1980 to 2016, suggesting that
 702 the ice nearest the coast (i.e. to the west of the topographic divide) experiences greater
 703 rates of mass loss than the more interior glaciers. Cumulative glacier-wide specific mass
 704 balance for the full model period is shown in Figure 5. Annual glacier mass balance over
 705 this time period and domain is comprised of, on average, 3.07 ± 0.01 m w.e. a^{-1} of pre-
 706 cipitation, 3.85 $[-0.08, +0.10]$ m w.e. a^{-1} of glacier runoff, and 0.03 ± 0.01 m w.e. a^{-1}
 707 of sublimation from the snow surface.



708 **Figure 5.** Modeled cumulative glacier-wide specific mass balance for the full model period of Oct. 1,
 709 1980 to Sept. 30, 2016 for all coastal ice of the Juneau Icefield. The upper and lower limits of uncertainty
 710 correspond to the model ensemble end members, whose trends correspond to the upper and lower limits of
 711 uncertainty of the calibrating geodetic mass balance estimate for 2000 to 2016 from [Berthier et al., 2018].

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5.2 Freshwater runoff

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For the watershed encompassing all Juneau Icefield glacier ice draining to the coast, we estimate mean annual freshwater runoff of $20.0 [+0.5, -0.4] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ for 1980 to 2016. Of this, $11.0 \pm 0.3 \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ (or $55 \pm 1\%$) is glacier runoff (i.e. runoff sourced from the glacier surface). The water balance volume we calculate is, on average, $-2.1 [+0.4, -0.3] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$, though as we discuss below in Section 6.1 this is believed to be an underestimate of the long-term water storage loss. For ice-only cells, we calculate water storage losses (i.e. glacier volume loss) of $2.4 [-0.3, +0.2] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ for the same time period, which means that glacier volume loss (the percentage of runoff due to the persistent negative mass balance trend, rather than seasonal magnitudes of glacier runoff) comprises $12 \pm 1\%$ of total runoff in the domain and $22 [+1.0, -1.4] \%$ of glacier runoff. Precipitation over the full domain delivers an average of $18.3 \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$, while evapotranspiration and sublimation from the snow surface are small, at $0.17 [-0.07, +0.02] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$ and $0.17 [-0.07, +0.02] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$. Mean monthly values of each of these variables are shown in Figure 6, though evapotranspiration and sublimation are not visible at this scale.

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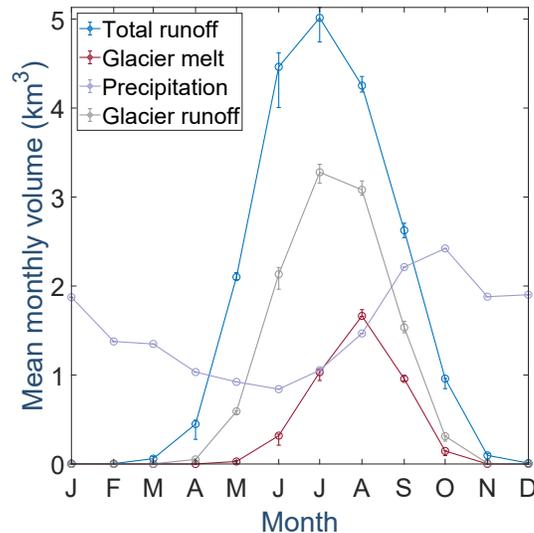
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To better understand the linkages between individual water balance components, we assess the correlation between different modeled quantities. We find that annual volumes of glacier runoff and total runoff for the domain are highly correlated ($r^2 = 0.90$, $p < 0.001$), while glacier runoff and glacier ice melt are less so ($r^2 = 0.68$, $p < 0.001$). Glacier ice melt is also weakly correlated with total runoff ($r^2 = 0.45$, $p < 0.001$).



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Figure 6. Mean monthly volumes of total runoff, glacier runoff, glacier ice melt, and precipitation for the full 1980 to 2016 period. Note that evapotranspiration and sublimation, though included within our model calculations, are very small and not shown.

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5.3 Water balance and comparison with GRACE

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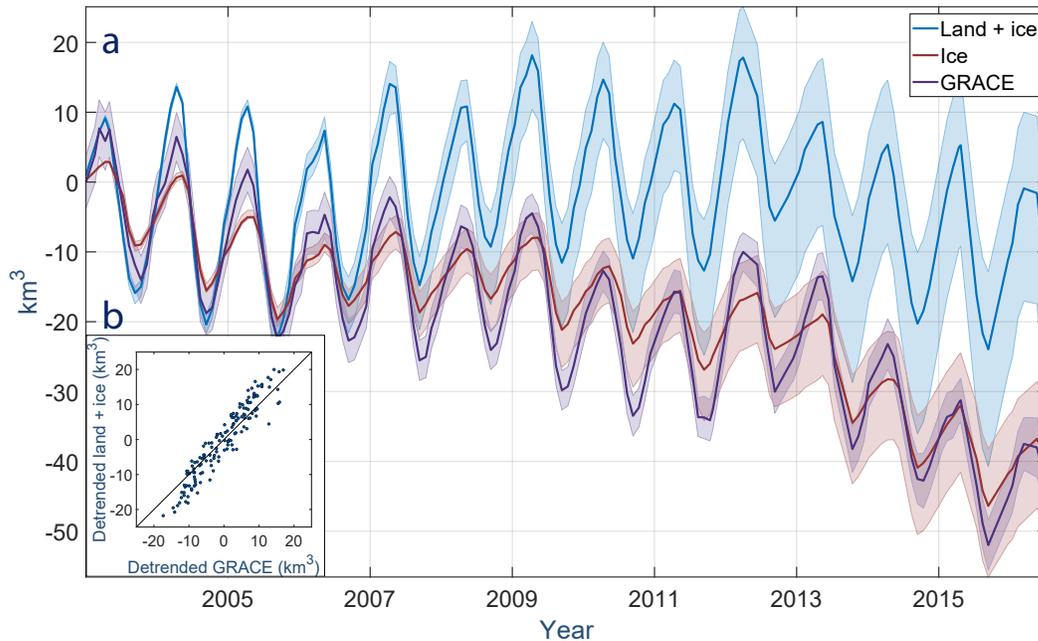
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For the 2003 to 2016 period overlapping with GRACE data availability, we calculate a glacier-wide mass balance rate for all ice in the GRACE two-mascon domain of $-0.51 [-0.18, +0.13] \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ (or $-2.5 [-0.9, +0.6] \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$), in close agreement with the GRACE-derived negative trend estimate of $-0.55 \text{ m w.e. a}^{-1}$ ($-2.7 \text{ km}^3 \text{ a}^{-1}$), as shown in Figure 7a. Correlation between these two time series is robust, with $r^2 = 0.91$ and $p < 0.001$ (Figure 7b). These results showcase the model's ability to reproduce the climatic

742 conditions over the ice-covered portions of the domain that are driving sub- and interan-
 743 nual water storage changes.

744 However, in comparing GRACE to modeled results for ice and land cells together,
 745 we observe that correlation is less strong ($r^2 = 0.36$, $p < 0.001$). This discrepancy can be
 746 seen in the SnowModel land+ice time series in Figure 7a primarily as a lack of agreement
 747 in the overall trend, which is not sufficiently negative at -0.002 m.w.e. a^{-1} . We discuss
 748 this further in Section 6.1. Nonetheless, our full SnowModel land+ice water balance
 749 produces seasonal amplitudes (mean annual accumulation = 25.8 $km^3 a^{-1}$, ablation = -26.6
 750 $km^3 a^{-1}$) that are more in line with those from GRACE (18.1 and -21.5 $km^3 a^{-1}$) than
 751 those from ice cells alone (9.0 and -12.1 $km^3 a^{-1}$). This result is encouraging as, again,
 752 the GRACE solution we use measures all components of the terrestrial water balance.



753 **Figure 7.** a) Water balance time series comparing the GRACE two-mascon domain for 2003 to 2016 (pur-
 754 ple) with that derived from SnowModel with land+ice cells together (blue) and ice cells only (red). b) Scatter
 755 plot comparison of detrended modeled land+ice water balance values versus equivalent from GRACE.

756 5.4 Trends in magnitude and timing

757 We next assess trends in the timing and magnitude of different hydrological vari-
 758 ables, and summarize results of trend detection tests in Table 3. In the spirit of reports
 759 from the International Panel on Climate Change (e.g. *Masson-Delmotte et al.* [2018]), we
 760 also include as an interpretive guide a column with a qualitative assessment of our confi-
 761 dence that a positive trend should indeed be present in each specific variable, given the
 762 trend result in context with our full suite of results as well as a priori information.

763 To help interpret our model output results, we first assess trends in the principal in-
 764 put variables of precipitation and mean air temperature. We find no reliable trend in an-
 765 nual precipitation volume, but do find an increase in mean air temperature (0.1 $^{\circ}C$ per
 766 decade), which is consistent with recent analyses of air temperature trends in Alaska, in-
 767 cluding *Bieniek et al.* [2014] who found a 0.2 $^{\circ}C$ increase in the northern portion of the
 768 Juneau Icefield between 1980 to 2012.

769 Of all variables tested, the most statistically robust ($p \leq 0.05$) trends are related to
 770 shifts in timing of the peaks of the 14-day smoothed glacier ice melt curve (occurring
 771 2.5 days earlier per decade) and glacier runoff curve (occurring 4.4 days later per decade)
 772 (Figure 8). The day of year of the water balance minimum is also found to be occurring
 773 3.5 days earlier per decade.

774 From a seasonal perspective, the most statistically robust trends with the largest ef-
 775 fect sizes occur in our hydrological variables in the spring season (Figure 9). We also ob-
 776 serve an increase in glacier ice melt in summer.

777 Among the different hydrological variables examined, the most robust trends are
 778 related to glacier ice melt. These include the volume of spring glacier ice melt (increas-
 779 ing by 16.5% per decade) and, with slightly less statistical strength, the annual volume
 780 of glacier ice melt (9.6% per decade), both of which are visible in Figure 10. Our results
 781 also suggest an increase in the magnitude of the maximum daily volume of glacier ice
 782 melt (10.2% per decade).

783 The large degree of interannual variability in precipitation in this domain increas-
 784 ingly acts to obscure trend detection as the proportion of non-glacier ice grid cells grows
 785 in a particular hydrological variable (Figure 10). In other words, when examining vol-
 786 umes, we observe the pattern that trends for glacier ice melt, glacier runoff, and total
 787 runoff exhibit respectively smaller proportion change with less robust statistical signifi-
 788 cance. For example, in spring months, we calculate p-values of 0.05, 0.11, and 0.25, and
 789 respective trends of 16.5, 6.8, and 2.7% per decade for those three variables. This pattern
 790 holds true for each spring, summer (not shown in table), and annual periods, and disap-
 791 pears during fall and winter months when glacier ice melt ceases almost entirely.

792 Finally, our results also suggest trends for variables associated with colder months,
 793 including an increase in the number of days of non-zero glacier runoff during the cold
 794 season (2.4 days per decade), but a decrease in the volume of glacier runoff during winter
 795 months (-5.8% per decade).

796 To visualize some of these changes spatially, Figure 11 shows both the mean annual
 797 spatial distributions of freshwater variables for 1980 to 2016 throughout the coastal do-
 798 main, as well as anomalies from these mean values for the years 1980 to 1990 and 2010
 799 to 2016. These panels demonstrate a significant shift in spatially distributed volumes of
 800 freshwater from the beginning and end periods of our model interval.

801 Of the remaining variables tested, none show trends we believe to be reliable ac-
 802 cording to our methods, although some may prove to be significant in future years. Of
 803 these, fall season volumes show the lowest p-values of any season for all hydrological
 804 variables, followed by the winter season. Maximum and minimum daily volumes do not
 805 exhibit changes in either volume or timing. Volumes of cold season glacier ice melt and
 806 glacier runoff do not appear to have changed substantially over the period of study, nor
 807 does the frequency of cold season glacier ice melt events. Finally, we do not detect reli-
 808 able trends in the onset and end of glacier ice melt or glacier runoff, nor in the length of
 809 the melt season in between, although future analyses may reveal changes to these.

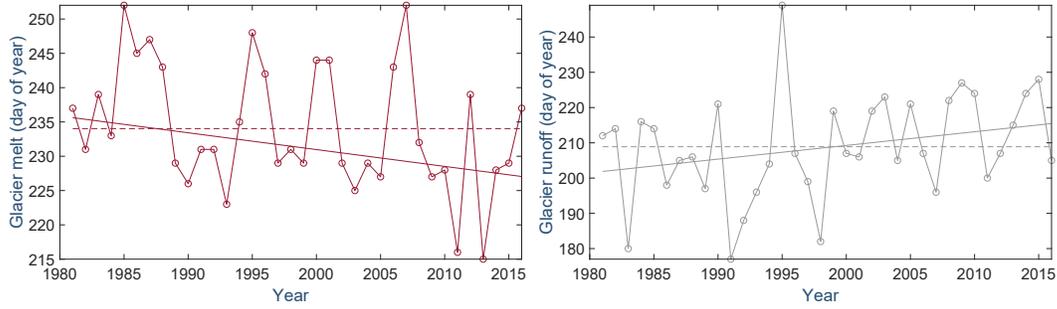
832 **6 Discussion**

833 **6.1 Model performance**

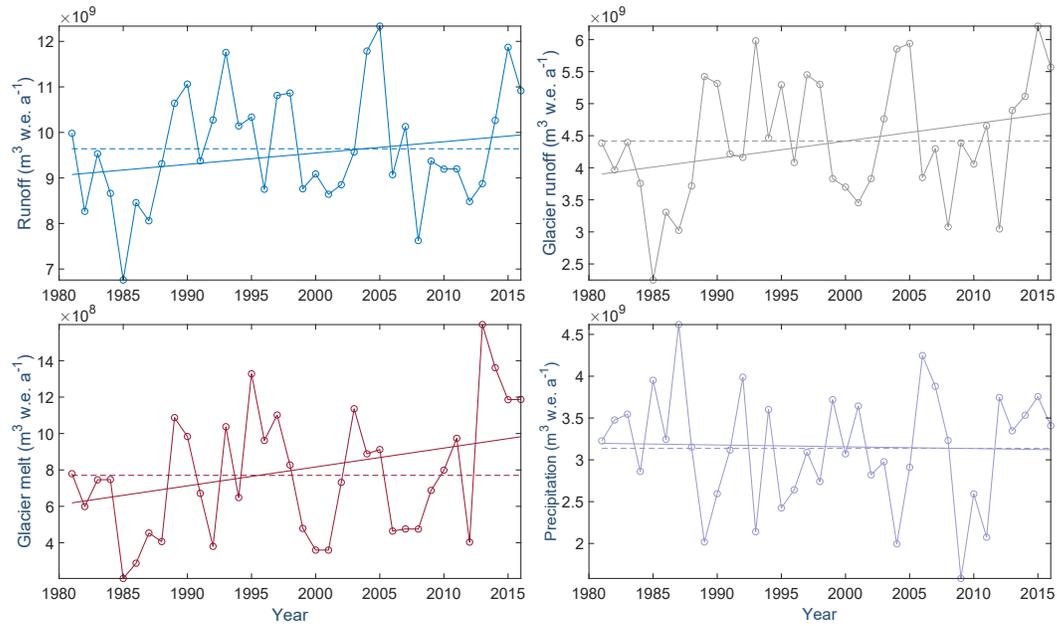
834 Overall, our model calibration approach achieves robust agreement with calibrating
 835 datasets of snow water equivalent point mass balance, long-term geodetic glacier-wide
 836 mass balance, snow and ice melt point mass balance, and discharge in highly glacier-
 837 ized basins. These results highlight our ability to effectively combine the suite of different

822 **Table 3.** Results of trend detection tests for select hydrological variables for all terrain draining west from
 823 the Juneau Icefield to the coast. Here all variables are defined as positive (e.g. glacier ice melt is positive even
 824 though it represents a loss), such that positive/negative trends correspond to increasing/decreasing quantities
 825 in all cases. p-values are given by the harmonic mean of individual Mann-Kendall tests for the midpoint,
 826 upper, and lower end member simulations, and **bold** indicates the trends that are statistically strongest. Trends
 827 are given by the Theil-Sen slope and a 95% confidence interval is provided for each. The percent change per
 828 decade is indicated for the mean trend (column 3) relative to the 1980 to 1989 period. Finally, the last col-
 829 umn shows our qualitative assessment of confidence that a positive trend should be present, given our results
 830 and in context with the literature (VC = very confident, C = confident, SC = somewhat confident, NC = not
 831 confident).

Variable	p-value	Trend and units (a ⁻¹)	95% confidence interval	% change (decade) ⁻¹	Trend confidence
Input variables:					
Mean annual air temperature	0.27	0.01 °C	[0.00, 0.06]	–	VC
Annual precipitation volume	0.75	-1.7e7 m ³	[-1.2e8, 5.5e7]	-0.9	NC
Mean spring air temperature	0.19	0.03 °C	[0.02, 0.09]	–	VC
Spring precipitation volume	0.87	-2.2e6 m ³	[-2.9e7, 1.9e7]	-0.7	NC
Winter precipitation volume	0.10	-3.3e7 m ³	[-2.1e7, 1.9e7]	-1.3	NC
Model output:					
Annual runoff volume	0.48	2.8e7 m ³	[-2.0e7, 1.4e8]	1.4	SC
Annual glacier runoff volume	0.23	3.1e7 m ³	[8.1e6, 1.3e8]	3.0	C
Annual glacier ice melt volume	0.14	3.6e7 m ³	[2.0e7, 1.2e8]	9.6	VC
Spring runoff volume	0.25	2.5e7 m ³	[4.6e6, 8.8e7]	2.7	C
Spring glacier runoff volume	0.11	2.7e7 m ³	[1.8e7, 8.8e7]	6.8	VC
Spring glacier ice melt volume	0.05	1.0e7 m ³	[1.0e7, 3.2e7]	16.5	VC
Summer glacier ice melt volume	0.18	2.5e7 m ³	[8.2e6, 8.3e7]	1.8	C
Winter glacier runoff volume	0.16	-4.9e4 m ³	[-2.0e5, -4.8e4]	-5.8	SC
Max daily glacier ice melt	0.12	2.0e3 m ³	[1.6e3, 6.7e3]	10.2	C
DOY of min water balance	0.09	-0.35 days	[-1.2, -0.26]	–	VC
No. of cold season glacier runoff days	0.19	0.24 days	[0.20, 0.86]	25.8	C
DOY of smoothed glacier runoff peak	0.05	0.44 days	[0.39, 1.29]	–	C
DOY of smoothed glacier ice melt peak	0.04	-0.25 days	[-0.78, -0.25]	–	VC



810 **Figure 8.** Timing of smoothed annual peak of glacier ice melt and glacier runoff in coastal domain. Each
 811 panel shows the time series (circles), mean (dotted line), and trend (solid line).

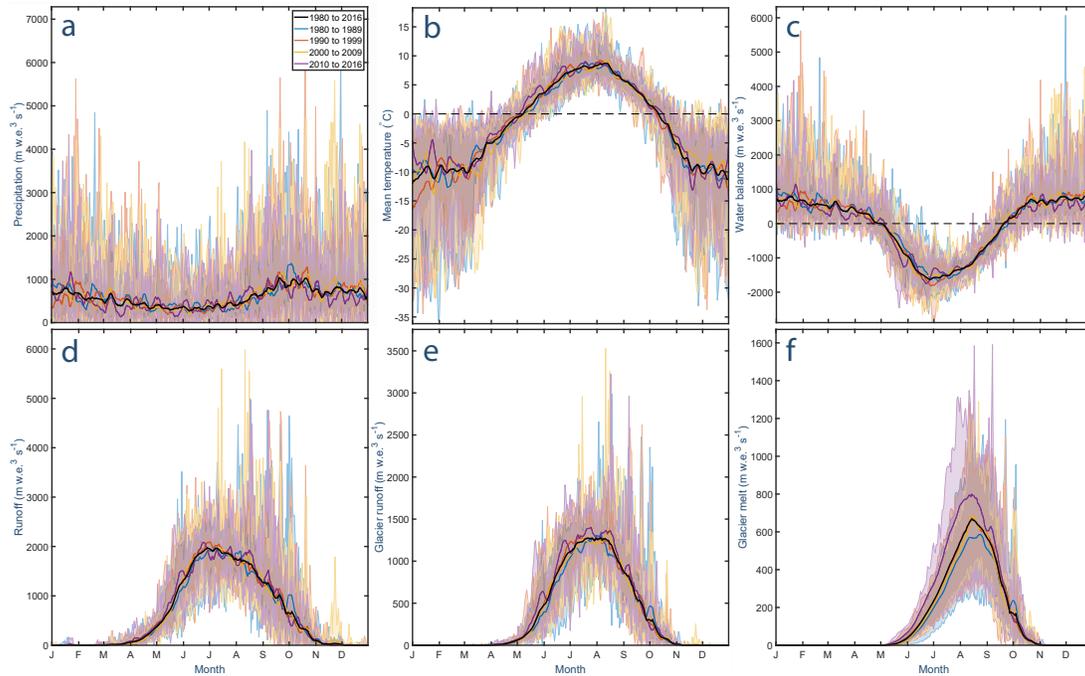


812 **Figure 9.** Total runoff, glacier runoff, water balance, and glacier ice melt volumes for spring season in the
 813 coastal domain. Each panel shows the time series (circles), mean (dotted line), and trend (solid line).

838 physically-based sub-models needed to reproduce accumulation, ablation, and hydrological
 839 processes in these complex, glacierized basins.

840 **6.1.1 Parameter tuning – system dominated by ice and snow albedo**

841 Glacier ice albedo and melting snow albedo in clearings (i.e. non-forested areas, in-
 842 cluding over glaciers) prove to be the most important parameters for correctly reproducing
 843 glacier mass balance rates on par with those from *Berthier et al.* [2018]. We tune both
 844 parameters to values on the low end of typical ranges seen in the literature (i.e. 0.30 to
 845 0.40 for glacier ice albedo and 0.40 to 0.50 for melting snow albedo in clearings). The
 846 lower values may be explained by the presence of both snow algae (documented on an-
 847 other coastal icefield in Alaska in *Ganey et al.* [2017], and observed by the first author in
 848 the field) as well as dust and black carbon [*Nagorski et al., 2019*]. Both of these light ab-
 849 sorbing impurities contribute to an amplifying feedback process by lowering albedo and
 850 increasing melt rates, which in turn consolidates material on the snow surface and fur-



814 **Figure 10.** Stacked graphs of modeled output of a) precipitation, b) air temperature, c) water balance, d)
 815 total runoff, e) glacier runoff, and f) glacier ice melt for the coastal domain. Solid colored lines represent the
 816 daily mean output for each decade, while shaded regions in matching colors represent the corresponding daily
 817 range for all years within the given decade. The solid black line shows the 1980 to 2016 mean.

851 ther increases melt rates. *Nagorski et al.* [2019] confirm through measurement that dust
 852 and black carbon density at the surface increases later in the melt season, suggesting that
 853 snowpack ‘aging’ should be taken into consideration in future melt modeling efforts. In-
 854 corporating this process by allowing for monthly-varying albedo values would likely im-
 855 prove our SnowModel-HydroFlow simulations of late-summer freshwater discharge by
 856 increasing glacier ice melt and snowmelt during those months. Modeled glacier mass bal-
 857 ance rates were insensitive to the value of fresh/dry snow albedo, consistent with the fact
 858 that the coastal Juneau Icefield is dominated by aged or wet snow during the runoff sea-
 859 son.

860 We find that within the tested range of precipitation lapse rates, those that were the
 861 smallest performed best. This may be explained physically at the scale of the full icefield
 862 by any increase in precipitation with elevation being largely canceled out by decreasing
 863 precipitation with distance from the coast. This is consistent with findings in *Roth et al.*
 864 [2018] who, on examining a cross-sectional path across the icefield along the dominant
 865 wind direction, found that precipitation increases strongly over the first ~ 15 km of the
 866 transect in tandem with steep topographical gains, followed by a gradual decrease over
 867 the remaining ~ 85 km. As SnowModel only applies a single lapse rate over the entire do-
 868 main, we effectively combine these two effects into a small value. This pattern in precipi-
 869 tation lapse rates may be equally important in other coastal regions with extreme topogra-
 870 phy rising steeply from sea level and lying along a strong coastal-to-continental gradient.
 871 We also find that normal to shallow temperature lapse rates perform the best overall, in
 872 agreement with well-established findings that glaciers can impose a dampening effect on
 873 local atmospheric lapse rates [*Gardner et al.*, 2009].

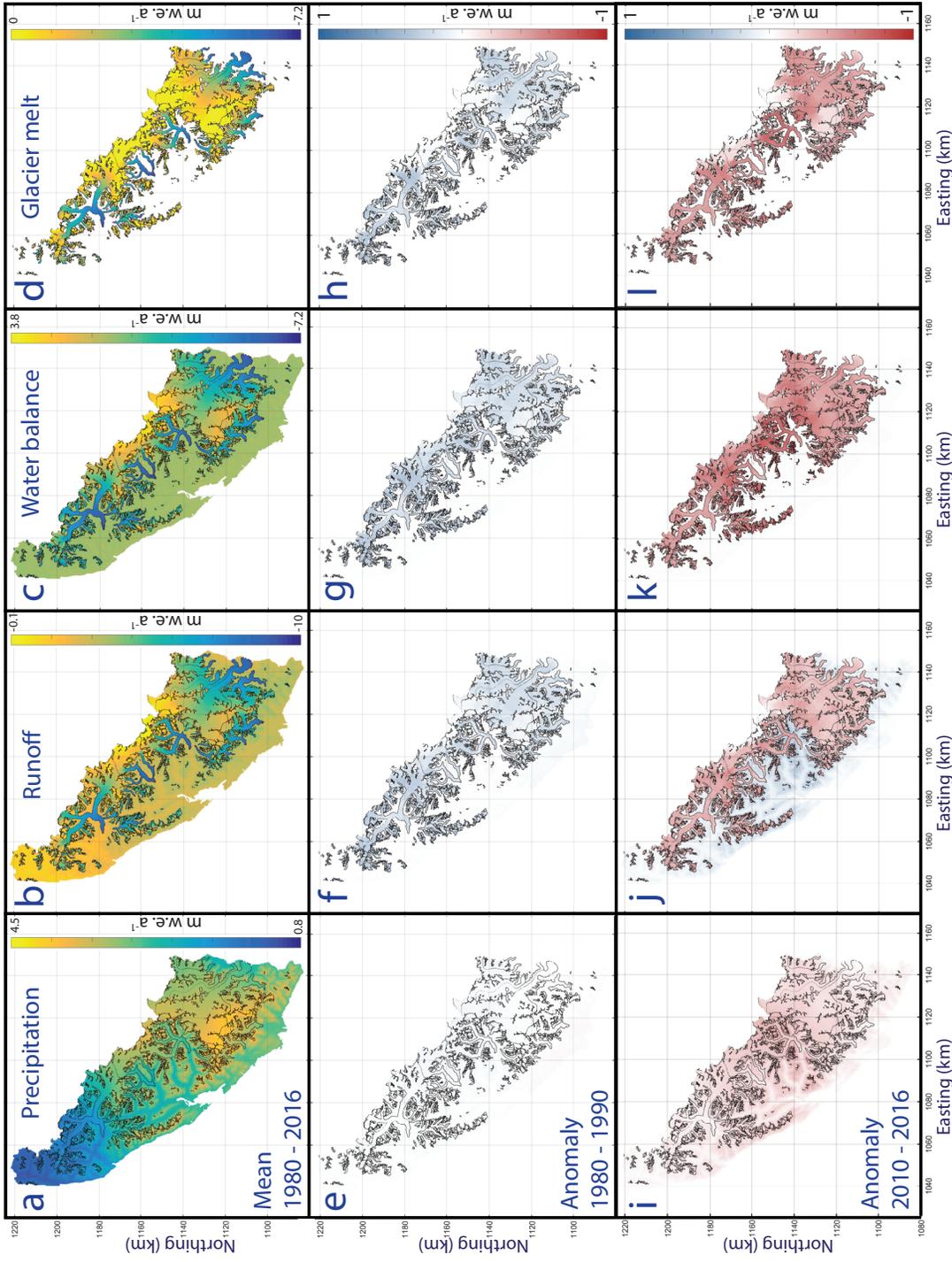


Figure 11. Spatially distributed plots of mean annual rates of precipitation (first column; a, e, and i), total runoff (second column; b, f, and j), water balance (third column; c, g, and k), and glacier ice melt (fourth column; d, h, and l). Figures a-d (first row) display 1980 to 2016 means; note that the scale bars are different for each quantity. Figures e-h (second row) show mean annual anomalies from the 1980 to 2016 mean for the decade 1980 to 1990, while Figures i-l (third row) show anomalies for 2010 to 2016. Figures e-l are displayed using the same color scale. Note that total runoff and glacier ice melt are displayed such that red shading indicates a greater (i.e. more negative) volume than the 1980 to 2016 mean.

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874 Our hydrological simulations reveal that model discharge results are relatively in-
 875 sensitive to the slow reservoir velocity parameter, indicating that most runoff is routed
 876 through creeks and streams or over fast-flow terrain such as glacier ice and bare rock.
 877 This is supported by the shallow soil reference depth cited in the Harmonized World Soil
 878 Dataset [Fischer *et al.*, 2008], and by the modest fraction of forest coverage within the
 879 model domain (17% forest, 14% shrubland/grasses/meadows).

880 **6.1.2 Challenges with reproducing stream gauge records**

881 While our model adequately reproduces gauge observations in the two basins with
 882 high percent glacier cover ($\geq 45\%$), gauge-matching results in the two lesser glacierized
 883 basins ($\leq 15\%$) are weaker. This mismatch is evident as an overproduction of discharge in
 884 spring, an underproduction in summer, and an underproduction in winter (see Figure 4).
 885 These patterns are similar in the more glacierized basins, but to a lesser extent. Spring
 886 and summer discharge discrepancies may be explained by our finding that MicroMet-
 887 interpolated MERRA-2 air temperature fields are generally higher in spring and lower in
 888 summer compared to observations, and may therefore generate too much early snowmelt
 889 in spring, and too little glacier ice melt in summer. We note that this is consistent with a
 890 comparative study of reanalysis products for hydrological applications by *Wrzesien et al.*
 891 [2019]. These authors find that in North America, MERRA-2 does not maintain snow in
 892 mountainous terrain for long enough into spring, which they hypothesized may be due to
 893 precipitation biases and warm temperatures. We speculate that these effects may appear
 894 stronger in the less glacierized basins given the dominance of snowmelt in spring, with
 895 little glacier ice melt contribution in spring or summer.

896 During winter months, modeled discharge in the less-glacierized basins is near-zero,
 897 in contrast to observations that show sporadic discharge. However, modeled precipitation
 898 volumes in fall and early winter exceed station observations. A possible explanation for
 899 the winter month discharge discrepancy is that because our modeled temperatures are
 900 lower than observed during winter months, precipitation events arrive as snow instead of
 901 rain, thus adding to the snowpack rather than to discharge. Interestingly, this finding is in
 902 contrast to *Wrzesien et al.* [2019], who found that MERRA-2 underestimates mountainous
 903 snow. However, their spatial domain encompassed large continental watersheds rather than
 904 maritime climates. As few other hydrological studies to date have utilized the MERRA-2
 905 product, we hope our findings may increase understanding of its limitations and utility in
 906 maritime climates. We note that MERRA-2 relies partly on assimilated station data and
 907 partly on model physics to produce precipitation fields for latitudes up to 62.5° [*Bosilovich*
 908 *et al.*, 2015], and that station data are scarce in this region, particularly at elevation. We
 909 underscore the critical need for continuous high-elevation stations in the mountainous re-
 910 gions of Alaska for improving both climatological and hydrological models.

911 In addition to potential MERRA-2 issues, there are also limitations to downscaling
 912 coarse-scale meteorological forcing over complex mountain terrain. For example, the Mi-
 913 croMet module does not account for orographic effects (i.e. decreased precipitation on lee-
 914 ward slopes), relying instead on a simple elevation-dependent precipitation adjustment fac-
 915 tor. Altogether, there is much room for improvement in the characterization of precipita-
 916 tion and particularly snow in complex mountain terrain with sparse observation networks.
 917 In the meantime, our model's limited ability to reproduce discharge in less-glacierized
 918 basins may lead to increased uncertainty in the magnitudes of spring and winter runoff
 919 in those basins in particular. Given our principal goal of examining changes for a 44%
 920 glacier covered domain, with an emphasis on glacier changes, we accept this cost.

6.1.3 Agreement with GRACE highlights reproduction of large-scale climate processes

The robust agreement between the model and GRACE (Figure 7), in terms of both long-term trends and time series correlation, emphasizes the model's ability to reproduce meso- and synoptic scale climatic processes driving sub- and interannual water balance changes over glacierized terrain. We note that the mass balance rate we derive for the larger GRACE domain (-0.51 [-0.18, +0.13] m w.e. a⁻¹) is less negative than that for only the Juneau Icefield for the same time period (-0.71 m w.e. a⁻¹). We attribute this to inclusion in the GRACE domain of many smaller, higher-elevation glaciers with less negative mass balance rates even at their termini (~-2 m w.e. a⁻¹) relative to the large, low-elevation valley glaciers that dominate the icefield (~-8 m w.e. a⁻¹).

Our finding that modeled seasonal amplitudes for the full land+ice domain are a closer match to those from GRACE than those from the ice-only terrain is consistent with findings for the Gulf of Alaska in *Beamer et al.* [2016] and the Canadian Arctic Archipelago in *Lenaerts et al.* [2013]. In both studies, seasonal amplitudes from GRACE solutions could only be reproduced by summing together model-generated mass changes over both glacierized and ice-free regions of their modeling domains. In earlier generations of GRACE products, GFSC attempted to isolate from the GRACE solution not the full terrestrial water balance but rather the glacier mass change signal alone, with non-ice terrestrial water storage (TWS) changes removed. However, those land-based variations were sourced from a coarse resolution product from the Global Land Data Assimilation System (GLDAS)/Noah dataset of land surface states and fluxes, available at 0.25 x 0.25° [Rodell et al., 2004], and in which variations are set to zero over glaciers. This coarse spatial resolution means that TWS variations from GLDAS/Noah for heavily glacierized regions like the Gulf of Alaska are minimal, and that earlier GRACE solutions for the region therefore inherently contained both glacier and TWS signals. Our simulations confirm this, given that the seasonal amplitudes of the GRACE solution are only achieved by summing together water mass changes over both glacierized and ice-free areas (Figure 7). This result emphasizes the potential for regional scale hydrological modeling to inform our understanding of GRACE.

In terms of long-term trends for the full water balance, our model results show a less negative trend than is estimated using GRACE. This discrepancy is also evident in results using MERRA-1 in *Beamer et al.* [2016], who applied SnowModel at coarser (1 km) resolution over the full Gulf of Alaska region. However, using their best-performing climate product (Climate Forecast System Reanalysis), those authors found favorable agreement between trends. This is a result they believe shows that what has to date been interpreted within GRACE as the long-term ice loss trend is correctly attributed (i.e. that none or little of the trend is attributable to TWS). This interpretation is also consistent with a study by *Reager et al.* [2016], which used reconciled glacier mass balance estimates to isolate global TWS changes from GRACE, and found little in the way of a TWS trend along the Gulf of Alaska. These two regional studies suggest that the increasing trend we see over ice-free land in our model results is likely incorrect, particularly because the model does not account for real storage-enhancing processes (e.g. aquifer recharge, uptake into vegetation in newly deglaciated terrain) that would counteract the expected decreasing water balance from glacier ice loss. One possible explanation for the increase may be due to biases within our MicroMet-interpolated MERRA-2 input data, which may produce more precipitation over cells in our domain that is not contributing to runoff. In particular, the model is likely generating excess, perennial snow over high elevation land cells that are not part of the glacier, when in reality these cells should not have remaining snow by the end of the melt season. This then results in a positive water balance over those areas. This overproduction of snow can be linked to both a) the overall positive (i.e. too large) precipitation biases, and b) the cold biases we observe in air temperature fields versus those at the nearest NOAA weather stations in Juneau and Skagway (see Section 3.2.2).

974 This finding highlights the challenge of reproducing precipitation in mountain topography,
 975 particularly in high latitude ocean-modulated areas where air temperatures are often near
 976 the rain-snow threshold, and snow can occur at all months at elevation, conditions that set
 977 up great sensitivity within the system due to an ever-changing snowline elevation. Future
 978 glacio-hydrological modeling work in coastal areas may benefit from incorporating snow-
 979 line datasets into their calibration processes.

980 **6.1.4 Model limitations**

981 There are several sources of uncertainty within our model results. The SnowModel-
 982 HydroFlow routine focuses largely on internal processes within the snowpack, but ne-
 983 glects several elements that may be important to glacier mass balance. In terms of pro-
 984 cesses that may contribute to additional ice melt, these include geothermal fluxes at the
 985 glacier ice/bed interface, as well as dynamical processes such as frictional melting from
 986 viscous heating (internal deformation of the ice) or sliding at the glacier bed [Mernild
 987 *et al.*, 2014]. Including these processes would require incorporating geothermal flux and
 988 ice dynamics components into the model, which is beyond the scope of this study on sur-
 989 face processes.

990 SnowModel also does not account for changes in glacier geometry resulting from
 991 climate forcing, either in terms of reduced area with glacier retreat, or lowered surface
 992 elevations with ice thinning. Rather, our simulations use a reference glacier surface rep-
 993 resenting conditions in the early 2010s, during which the highest-quality imagery was
 994 collected and incorporated into the National Elevation Dataset (our DEM), and used to
 995 delineate the most accurate glacier outlines to date [Pfeffer *et al.*, 2014]. However, as this
 996 time period lies towards the end of our model period, it is likely that our icefield geometry
 997 is too low in elevation and too small in extent for the initial years of our simulation. The
 998 former would likely cause an overproduction of glacier ice melt and runoff due to higher
 999 temperatures at lower elevations, while the latter would cause an underproduction due to
 1000 insufficient glacial extent. Quantifying each of these would require accurate DEMs for our
 1001 full model domain from the 1980s, which unfortunately do not exist. The use of a fixed
 1002 glacier surface may therefore contribute to uncertainties in our cumulative long-term bal-
 1003 ance for the full model period, particularly during the initial years of our simulation.

1004 From an energy balance standpoint, SnowModel also does not allow for the inclu-
 1005 sion of debris cover, i.e. rocks and dust on glacier ice that can impact melt rates. Thin
 1006 debris layers can enhance melting by lowering the albedo, while thicker debris layers can
 1007 reduce melting by insulation [Østrem, 1959]. However, we do not have any information
 1008 on debris thickness throughout our coastal domain, and we note that the amount of debris
 1009 cover accounts for only 4% of the total ice area (and is even smaller at 2.9% for the full
 1010 Juneau Icefield) [Kienholz *et al.*, 2015], so we consider the effect small. Finally, additional
 1011 errors may result given that MicroMet does not react to conditions at the surface that may
 1012 differ from what the MERRA-2 reanalysis initially prescribes. That is, climate conditions
 1013 are assigned at each grid cell and time step whether or not snow or ice properties have
 1014 changed [Mernild *et al.*, 2014], although the presence and condition of snow and ice sur-
 1015 faces has the ability to modify local climatic conditions [e.g. Oerlemans, 2010].

1016 **6.2 Glacier mass balance**

1017 **6.2.1 Glacier change present and future**

1018 Our model estimates a glacier-wide mass balance rate for 1980 to 2016 of -0.81 [-
 1019 0.08, +0.11] m w.e. a^{-1} for all ice contained within the domain draining to the coast. To
 1020 put this estimate in a longer-term context, we compare to future projections from a dy-
 1021 namical (ice flow) study for the Juneau Icefield by Ziemen *et al.* [2016] that modeled pos-
 1022 sible future mass loss scenarios. In their study, the authors initialized their simulations

1023 with a calibrated spin-up for the period 1971 to 2010, followed by projections to 2100.
 1024 Their model was forced with input climate data downscaled to 20 km from the Coupled
 1025 Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) simulations by the Community Cli-
 1026 mate System Model 4 [Gent *et al.*, 2011] for 1971 to 2005, and projections to 2100 were
 1027 forced with the greenhouse gas emissions scenario Representative Concentration Pathway
 1028 (RCP) 6.0, representing a middle-of-the-road scenario. For the period 1980 to 2016, we
 1029 find our mass balance rate estimate of -0.81 [-0.08 , $+0.11$] m w.e. a^{-1} to be more neg-
 1030 ative than the value from Ziemer *et al.* [2016], at -0.46 m w.e. a^{-1} . While their spin-up
 1031 estimate was generally tuned to fall between reported values from Melkonian *et al.* [2014]
 1032 to Larsen *et al.* [2007] rather than being something the model independently discovers,
 1033 we can nonetheless leverage their results in order to gain understanding of potential fu-
 1034 ture changes beyond our period of study. In their projections, they estimated mass bal-
 1035 ance rates of -1.59 m w.e. a^{-1} for 2016 to 2050 and -2.53 m w.e. a^{-1} from 2050 to 2099,
 1036 pointing to a more than five-fold mass loss rate increase over their period of study. The
 1037 only possibility of stabilization they found was in a constant-climate scenario that main-
 1038 tained the climate at 1971 to 2010 levels, wherein the icefield stabilized at 86% of its
 1039 2010 volume.

1040 Literature on current and future climate variables pertaining to glacier mass balance,
 1041 however, suggests that such a constant-climate scenario is highly unlikely. Several stud-
 1042 ies on Alaska glaciers have for example linked increasing glacier mass loss rates primar-
 1043 ily to increases in summer air temperatures [Arendt *et al.*, 2009; Criscitello *et al.*, 2010;
 1044 O'Neel *et al.*, 2014; Young *et al.*, 2018], and indeed summer air temperatures are expected
 1045 to increase as much as 5°C over northern high latitudes by 2100 [Koenigk *et al.*, 2013].
 1046 Maritime glaciers in particular are also highly sensitive to precipitation variations, and es-
 1047 pecially to decreasing amounts of snow serving to deflect solar radiation (e.g. De Woul
 1048 and Hock [2005]). A recent SnowModel study on snow precipitation trends throughout
 1049 the Arctic region from 1979 to 2009 found evidence of decreasing trends of annual snow
 1050 precipitation volumes as well as peak snow water equivalent, with trends along the south-
 1051 east coast generally among the most negative in Alaska [Liston and Hiemstra, 2011]. This
 1052 trend appears to extend into the future given a climate modeling study for the northern
 1053 coastal temperate rainforest that projects to 2100 a decrease in snow, despite an increase in
 1054 total precipitation [Shanley *et al.*, 2015]. Analysis of a downscaled gridded climate prod-
 1055 uct has also found that Alaska is experiencing shifts in the rain-snow fraction towards
 1056 rain [McAfee *et al.*, 2014], a phenomenon to which coastal glaciers have been found to
 1057 be especially sensitive [Moore *et al.*, 2009], and which can exert a strong influence in our
 1058 domain given the steep topography and resulting sensitivity to changing snowline eleva-
 1059 tion. Furthermore, a modeling investigation on maritime Arctic glaciers shows that a 1°C
 1060 increase in air temperature can only be offset by a 50% increase in snow [De Woul and
 1061 Hock, 2005], an unlikely occurrence given all the mounting evidence for decreased snow
 1062 and increased rain.

1063 Taken together, we see little evidence that a constant-climate scenario will occur in
 1064 this region, given current and future trends in increasing air temperature and decreasing
 1065 snow. As such, there is little indication that glacier mass loss acceleration in the western
 1066 Juneau Icefield area will decrease or reverse. In fact, our 1980 to 2016 mass loss rate,
 1067 being more negative than Ziemer *et al.* [2016] to begin with, may point to even stronger
 1068 accelerations to 2100 than their anticipated five-fold mass loss rate increase. This could
 1069 result in an even greater reduction in size than their estimated 63% volume loss and 62%
 1070 area loss by 2100, an outcome that would substantially alter downstream hydrology.

1071 **6.2.2 Glaciological linkage to total runoff**

1072 We find that mean annual total runoff from our coastal watershed domain is 20.0
 1073 $\text{km}^3 a^{-1}$ for 1980 to 2016. On a seasonal basis, total runoff ranges from a minimum of
 1074 0.004 km^3 in February to a maximum of 5.0 km^3 in July (Figure 6). We observe a single

1075 peak in runoff in summer associated with glacier contributions and no secondary peak as-
 1076 sociated with spring snowmelt. This is consistent with *Hill et al.* [2015] who observed in
 1077 a modeling study of 1960 to 2010 freshwater discharge a single peak in the hydrograph
 1078 of the southern Gulf of Alaska region versus a dual peak in the north. Of the total runoff,
 1079 55% is sourced from glacier surfaces, a higher value than previous regional estimates for
 1080 the Gulf of Alaska at 38 to 47% [*Neal et al.*, 2010; *Beamer et al.*, 2016]. The contribu-
 1081 tion of glacier volume loss to total runoff in our coastal domain is 12% for 1980 to 2016,
 1082 as compared to regional Gulf of Alaska estimates of 7 to 10% [*Neal et al.*, 2010; *Hill*
 1083 *et al.*, 2015; *Beamer et al.*, 2016]. The larger glacier contributions here are likely due to
 1084 the greater extent of ice cover in our domain (44%) relative to the larger Gulf of Alaska
 1085 domain (~17%).

1086 Our results indicate that total annual runoff over the 36 year period of study is not
 1087 correlated with annual glacier mass balance values. This shows that, in coastal environ-
 1088 ments, even large glaciers or icefields experiencing mass loss may not exert a strong con-
 1089 trol on total runoff given an overwhelming precipitation signal. This emphasizes the im-
 1090 portance of not using annual mass balance values as a proxy for streamflow, and is sup-
 1091 ported by similar findings for another maritime Alaska glacier basin in *O'Neel et al.* [2014].

1092 We also find that glacier runoff volumes are more strongly correlated with total
 1093 runoff ($r^2 = 0.90$) than with glacier ice melt ($r^2 = 0.68$), suggesting that glacier runoff is
 1094 more strongly controlled by overall precipitation events than glacier ice melt. This decou-
 1095 pling between glacier ice melt and runoff is likely to be further enhanced in the future,
 1096 given the projected change in rain/snow fraction towards rain [*McAfee et al.*, 2014; *Shan-*
 1097 *ley et al.*, 2015], which is likely to contribute proportionally more to glacier runoff than to
 1098 glacier ice melt.

1099 **6.3 Freshwater runoff**

1100 **6.3.1 Glacier ice melt and glacier runoff trends present and future**

1101 Examining the annual volume of glacier ice melt over our study period, our re-
 1102 sults suggest a strongly increasing trend of nearly 10% per decade. Further evidence of
 1103 increasing glacier ice melt rates is seen in the increasing amplitudes in Figure 10f in re-
 1104 cent decades, as well as in the increasing anomalies towards the end of the study period
 1105 in Figure 11. This finding indicates that in this high latitude maritime glacierized domain,
 1106 the annual volume of glacier ice melt has not yet reached its maximum and will continue
 1107 to increase to a yet unknown peak before it begins to decrease. This increasing signal is
 1108 more difficult to detect (both in terms of magnitude as well as statistical metrics) in an-
 1109 nual volumes of glacier runoff (+3% increase) and in total runoff (+1.4% increase). We
 1110 expect this given increasing contributions from precipitation, which is prone to high vari-
 1111 ability in this area, as seen in Figure 10 and found in *Bieniek et al.* [2014]. Nonetheless
 1112 our findings of an increase in total runoff are consistent with an analysis of stream gauge
 1113 records from the Wolverine Glacier, another maritime glacier watershed in Alaska that ex-
 1114 perience a 23% increase in summer streamflow (i.e. a measure of total runoff) between
 1115 1966 to 2011 [*O'Neel et al.*, 2014]. While that study was based on gauge measurements
 1116 and therefore lacked the ability to partition hydrological components, our modeling ap-
 1117 proach allows us to identify that glacier ice melt is most responsible for the increase in
 1118 total runoff in our coastal glacierized domain.

1119 As well as contributing new information on current freshwater discharge changes
 1120 at the local scale in Alaska, our results can be placed in context with other local and re-
 1121 gional studies that project future changes as well. First, our finding that glacier ice melt
 1122 is the principal driver of the total runoff increase is supported by modeling results to
 1123 2100 from *Valentin et al.* [2018] for the nearby Copper River watershed in Southcentral
 1124 Alaska. Those authors projected under the moderate and high emissions scenarios RCP4.5
 1125 and RCP8.5 an increase in total runoff of 17 to 48%, respectively, driven primarily by a

1126 glacier ice melt increase of 13 to 53%. While that study did not examine the timing of
 1127 peak water in the watershed, a different study that modeled global glacier runoff changes
 1128 to 2100 under RCP4.5 found that the Gulf of Alaska is the region projected to reach peak
 1129 water the latest (between 2060 to 2070) of all regions globally [Huss and Hock, 2018]. Al-
 1130 though the authors used a calibration approach that leveraged regional rather than local
 1131 observations of mass balance and did not include comparison to local stream gauge data,
 1132 their results nonetheless represent a moderate scenario for the region as a whole.

1133 Altogether, our findings and these studies, along with projections for strong and
 1134 continued warming at high latitudes [Koenigk *et al.*, 2013], lead us to expect that glacier
 1135 runoff in the western Juneau Icefield will continue to increase before such time as the
 1136 glaciers lose enough volume to reverse this trend. Although accurately predicting when
 1137 this will occur would require coupling a hydrological routing model to glacier mass bal-
 1138 ance modeling projections such as those in Ziemer *et al.* [2016], which is beyond the
 1139 scope of this hindcasting study, we speculate that given regional projections for the Gulf
 1140 of Alaska of a peak water period near 2060 to 2070 [Huss and Hock, 2018], it will be sev-
 1141 eral decades before the phenomenon occurs in our domain.

1142 **6.3.2 A changing hydrological regime**

1143 Even with a strong increasing trend in annual glacier ice melt volumes, total runoff
 1144 in this coastal glacierized area shows evidence of only a slightly increasing trend. Our
 1145 findings instead reveal that the most prominent signs of hydrological regime change in this
 1146 region are with respect to the timing and biogeochemical characteristics of the water being
 1147 delivered downstream.

1148 One indicator of these water quality changes is an increase in the magnitude of the
 1149 maximum daily volume of glacier ice melt at a rate of 10% per decade. This increase has
 1150 the potential, on those maximum flow days, to substantially modify freshwater conditions
 1151 downstream as the proportion of glacier ice melt input grows relative to other freshwa-
 1152 ter sources. Additionally, although we do not detect robust trends in the onset, end, or
 1153 subsequent length of the glacier ice melt season, our results suggest a marked increase in
 1154 glacier ice melt delivery during the spring months, which in essence serves to shift peri-
 1155 ods of high glacier ice melt earlier into the year (Table 3, Figure 10). This earlier arrival
 1156 signals a shift towards a hydrograph more closely resembling that of snowmelt-dominated
 1157 basins. This finding is supported by regional analyses of temperature records in western
 1158 North America over the past 50 years that show an asymmetry in warming of spring ver-
 1159 sus fall, which can be explained by seasonal differences in atmospheric circulation regimes
 1160 [Abatzoglou and Redmond, 2007]. However, in projections to 2100, Koenigk *et al.* [2013]
 1161 found the most pronounced increases in air temperature in Alaska are likely to occur in
 1162 winter and fall. We suggest, therefore, that there is potential for future increases in glacier
 1163 ice melt and glacier runoff volumes in the fall season as well.

1164 Several downstream impacts have occurred since the 1980s with a 16% increase
 1165 per decade in springtime glacier ice melt and a corresponding 7% increase in glacier
 1166 runoff. Given the tight relationship between stream temperature and glacier cover in this
 1167 area [Fellman *et al.*, 2014], our results suggest that stream temperatures during the spring
 1168 months have likely become lower on account of the higher proportion of glacier ice melt
 1169 input. In addition, we speculate there has been an increase in turbidity stemming from the
 1170 influx of glacially-eroded sediment along with increased glacier melt [Milner *et al.*, 2017].
 1171 Minerals and limiting nutrients contained therein are in turn likely delivered earlier and at
 1172 larger magnitudes, including phosphorous, nitrogen, iron, and bioavailable organic carbon
 1173 to riverine and estuarine food webs [O'Neel *et al.*, 2015].

1174 In addition to altering stream conditions, the biogeophysical signature of glacier
 1175 runoff also extends kilometers into Gulf of Alaska fjords, by setting up a stratified wa-
 1176 ter column with fresh, cold, turbid, and generally nutrient-rich water at the ocean surface

1177 [Arimitsu *et al.*, 2016]. Therefore, changes in the timing of arrival of large volumes of
1178 glacier runoff will influence both estuary and stream conditions. In the estuary, glacially-
1179 influenced environmental gradients explain much of the distribution and abundance of
1180 phytoplankton, which in turn drives higher trophic level food web structure for copepods,
1181 fish, and sea birds [Arimitsu *et al.*, 2016]. In rivers and streams, both temperature and wa-
1182 ter clarity are key variables for Pacific salmon spawning ground habitat selection [Lorenz
1183 and Filer, 1989], particularly given the sharp thermal limits of these species [Welch *et al.*,
1184 1998; Richter and Kolmes, 2005]. Indeed, evidence is already mounting that populations
1185 among several Pacific salmon species are migrating to freshwater up to 0.5 days earlier
1186 per year than they did historically [Kovach *et al.*, 2015]. Although the mechanisms for the
1187 earlier timing remain complex, freshwater conditions in the riverine environment may
1188 contribute, given freshwater conditions that may support migration earlier in the year.
1189 For other populations, however, there is some concern that eventual decreased summer
1190 flows may lead to higher water temperatures and in turn lead to reduced salmonid func-
1191 tion [Richter and Kolmes, 2005] as well as a reduction in spawning habitat [Wobus *et al.*,
1192 2015]. These latter concerns may come to pass after the period of peak water has passed
1193 in this domain.

1194 Given our findings that peak glacier ice melt volumes are arriving earlier and that
1195 annual and spring volumes of freshwater (glacier ice melt, glacier runoff, and total runoff)
1196 are increasing, changes to freshwater thermal regimes and riverine nutrient export have
1197 likely already taken place in this high latitude coastal ecosystem. Moreover, under con-
1198 tinued warming and a decrease in precipitation as snow, projections continue to call for
1199 substantial and varied change to these and other hydroecological variables into the future
1200 [Shanley *et al.*, 2015].

1201 **7 Conclusions**

1202 This study applied the coupled glacio-hydrological model SnowModel-HydroFlow
1203 to estimate daily freshwater runoff from 1980 to 2016 for the coastal watershed draining
1204 the western Juneau Icefield in Southeast Alaska, an area of 6405 km² with 44% glacier
1205 cover. We find a strongly increasing trend in annual glacier ice melt production (9.6% per
1206 decade), with especially pronounced increases during spring months (16.5% per decade).
1207 This increase can also be detected in both glacier runoff (3.0% for annual volumes, 6.8%
1208 for spring volumes) and total runoff (1.4%, 2.7%). Together, these results suggest that this
1209 particular region has not yet passed the period of peak water associated with a persistent
1210 negative mass balance, likely on account of the extensive glacier coverage.

1211 Unlike studies based on stream gauge data, our model results afford the opportunity
1212 to identify that glacier ice melt is the likely hydrological driver behind increases in total
1213 runoff seen over the past several decades. Moreover, our study contributes new and affir-
1214 mative knowledge towards the question of whether glacier runoff trends can be detected in
1215 maritime climates with high precipitation variability.

1216 Overall in this domain, glacier runoff contributes 55% of total runoff, including 12%
1217 from non-renewable glacier volume loss. Total runoff in the domain is found not to be
1218 correlated to annual glacier mass balance, supporting the paradigm that advises against
1219 using annual balances as a proxy for glacier runoff volumes. Given projection studies that
1220 predict increasing glacier volume loss for the Juneau Icefield through 2100, we anticipate
1221 ongoing glacier ice melt increases decades into the future, until such point as peak water
1222 is passed and the contribution of glacier ice melt and glacier runoff to the domain begins
1223 to change once more.

1224 We find that changes in runoff timing and biogeochemical properties are the aspects
1225 of the hydrological regime undergoing the greatest changes in this coastal glacierized en-
1226 vironment, with substantial impacts for downstream ecosystems. In particular, the earlier

1227 arrival of large volumes of glacier ice melt in spring is likely exerting an influence on
 1228 stream temperature and clarity, a point of concern for downstream species such as salmon
 1229 that have evolved to survive in particular freshwater conditions.

1230 Ultimately, our results emphasize that even in maritime climates with high precip-
 1231 itation variability, high latitude glacierized watersheds are experiencing perceptible and
 1232 ongoing hydrological regime change given persistent glacier volume loss.

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1245 All previously published data used in this study are available from the sources men-
 1246 tioned within the Data section of this article. Model code for SnowModel-HydroFlow can
 1247 be found at ftp://ftp.cira.colostate.edu/ftp/Liston/JCYoung_WRR_2020/model_code/, and
 1248 for the SoilBal module at <https://doi.org/10.4211/hs.8e12deb926c4299acc782f9407512f5>.

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Figure 1.

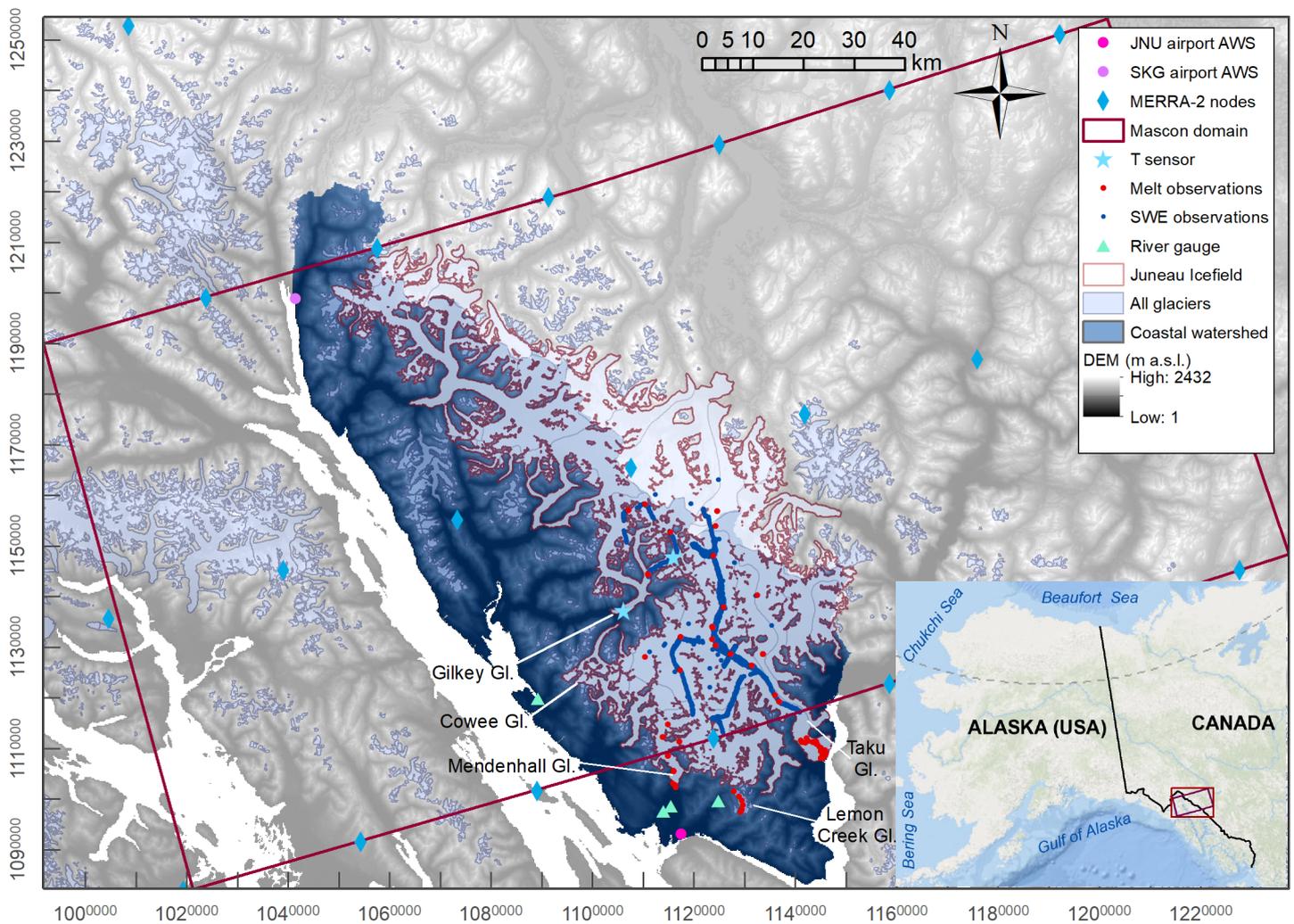


Figure 2.

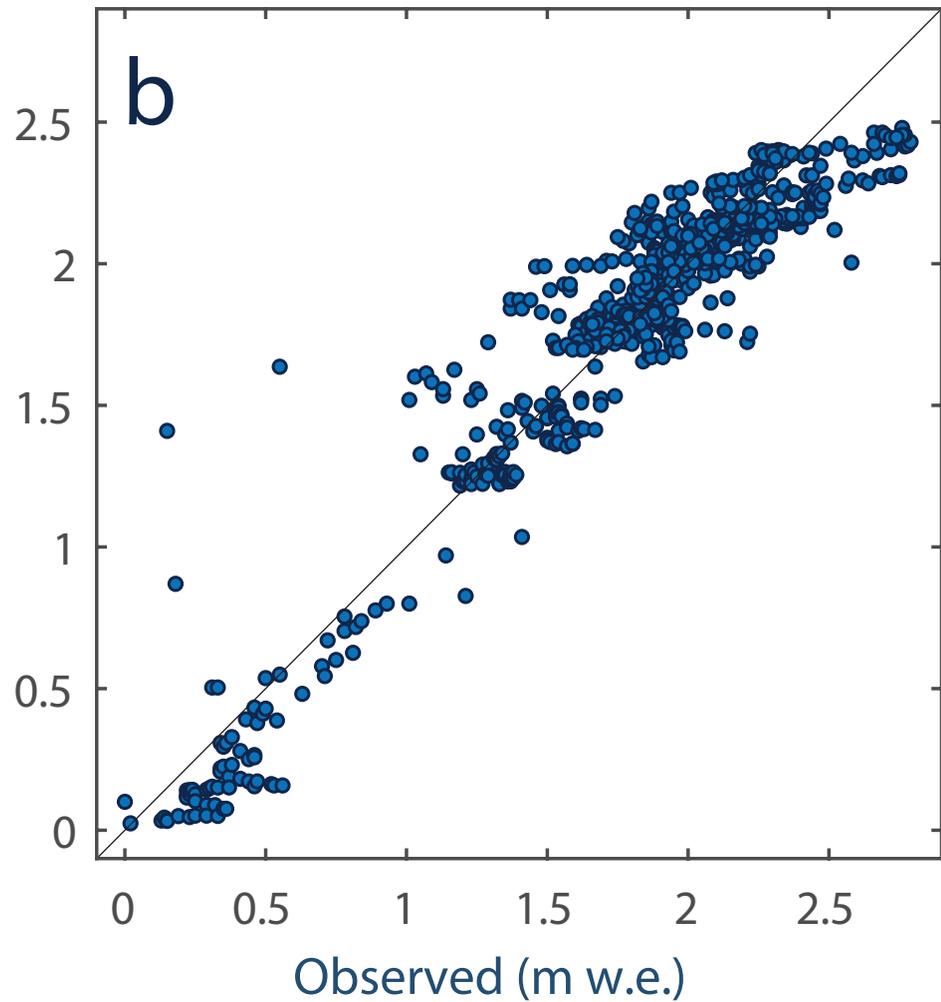
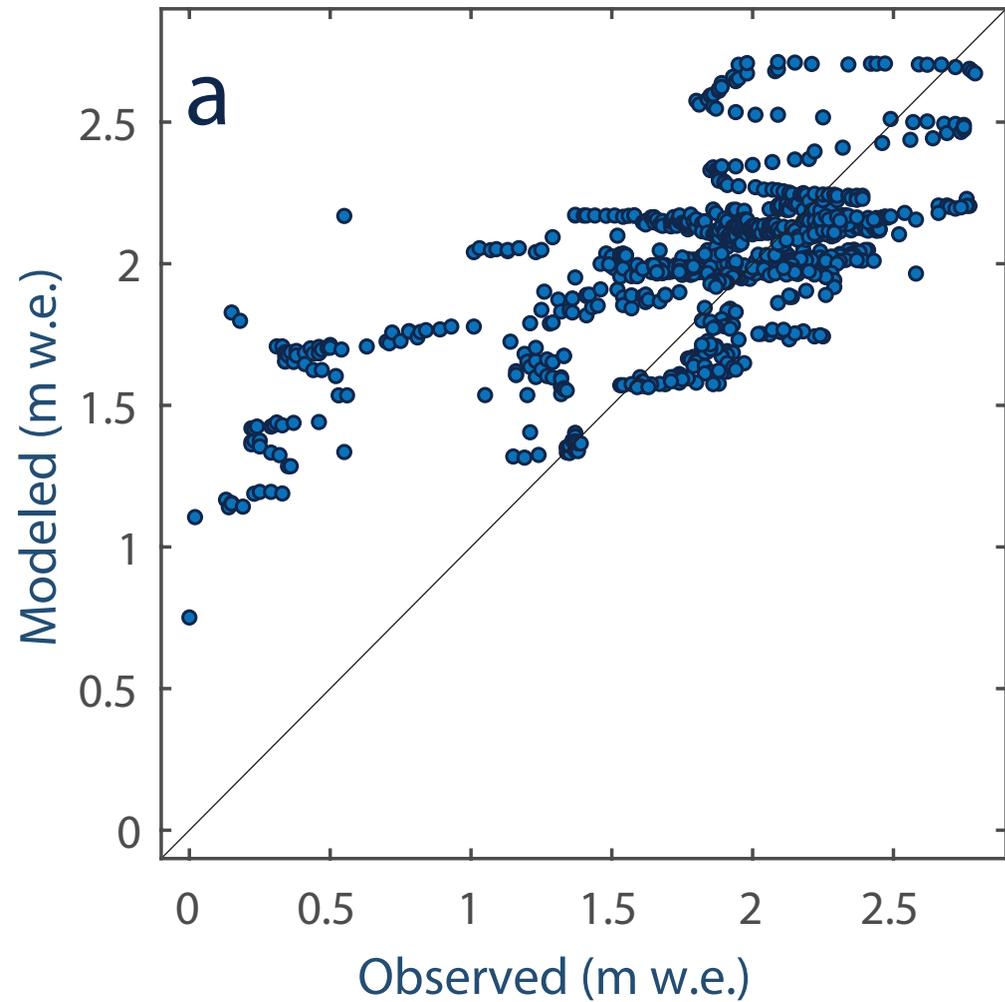


Figure 3.

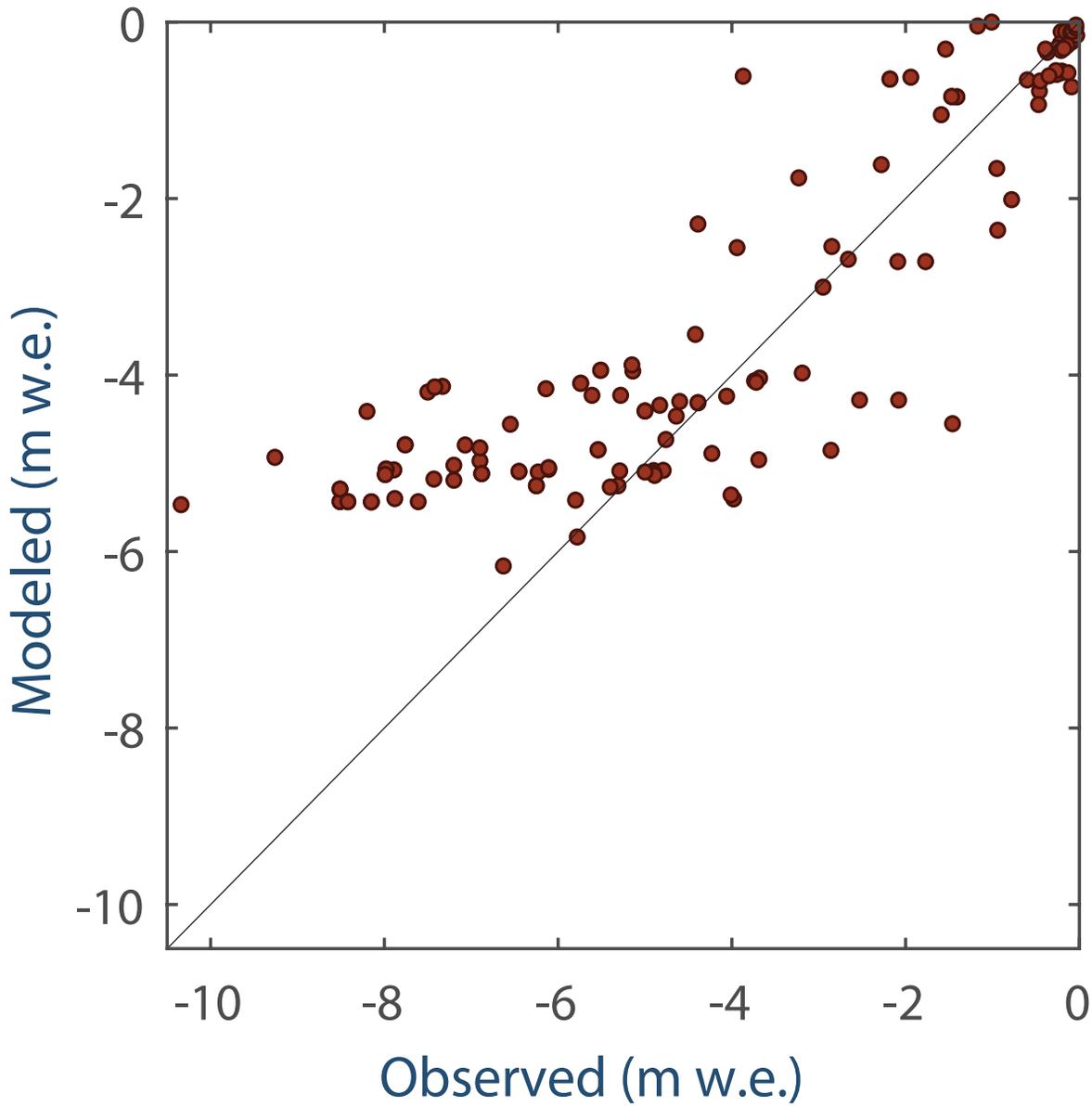


Figure 4.

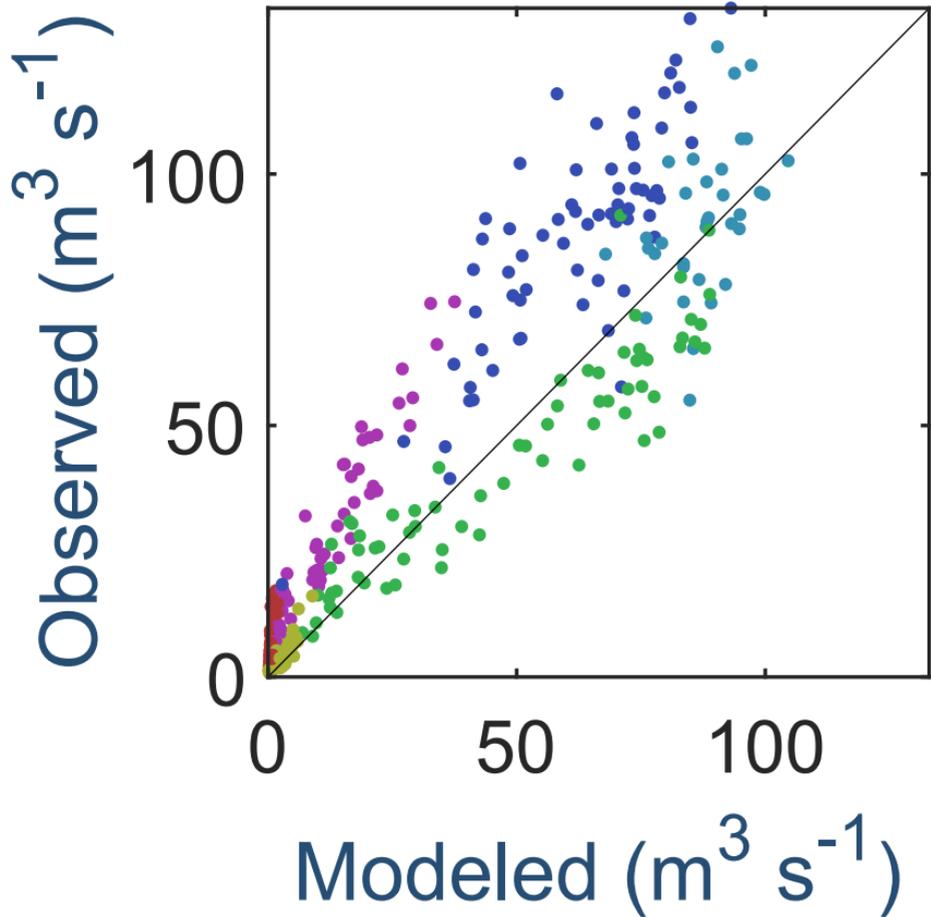
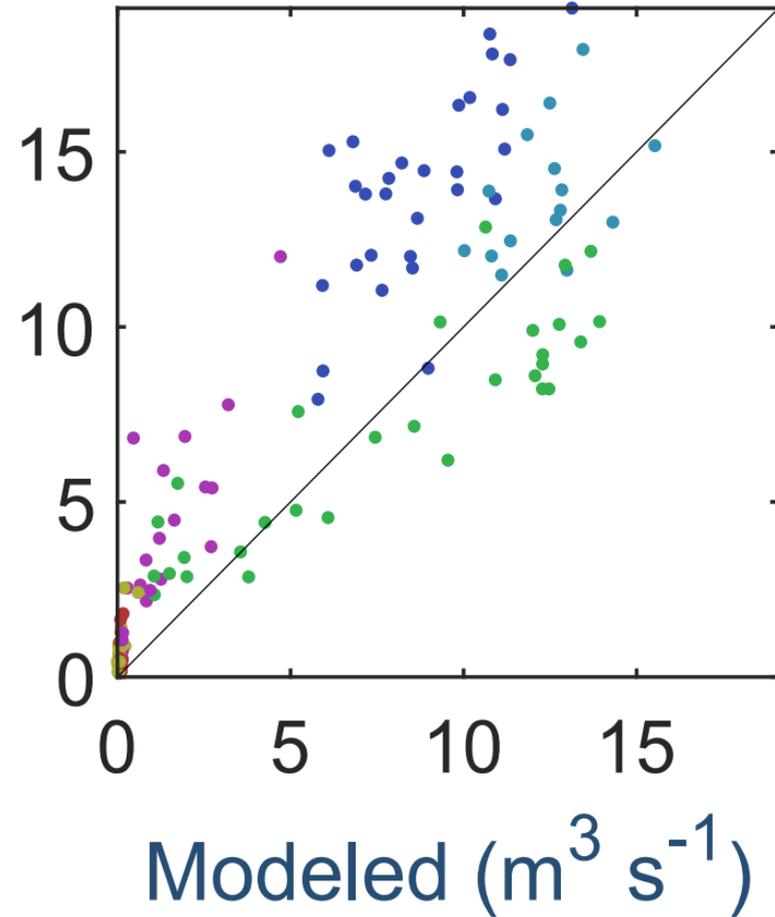
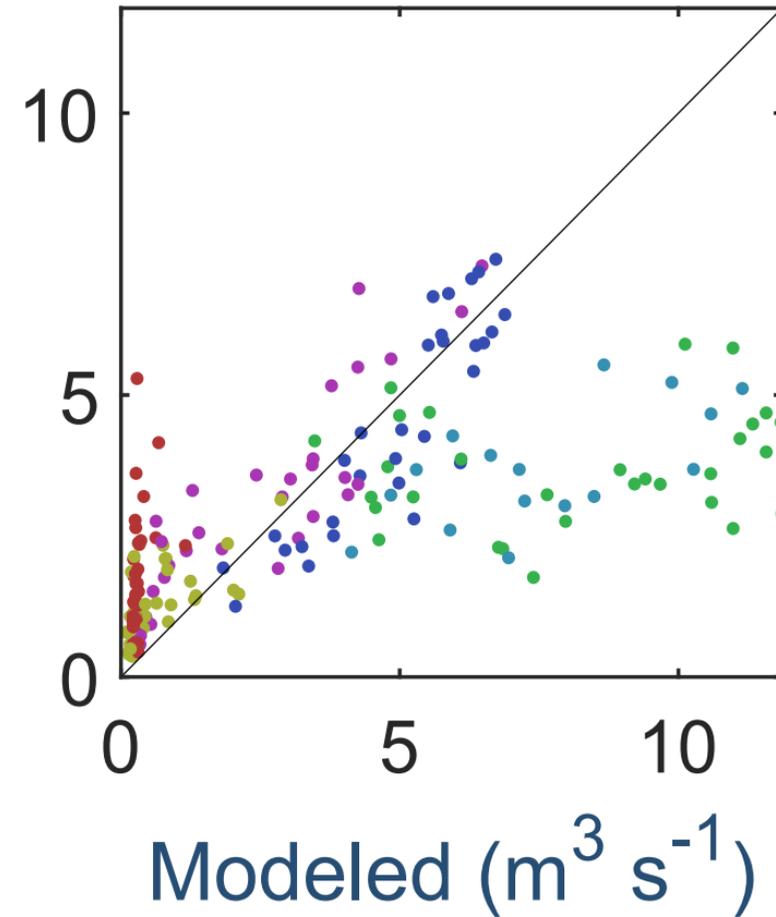
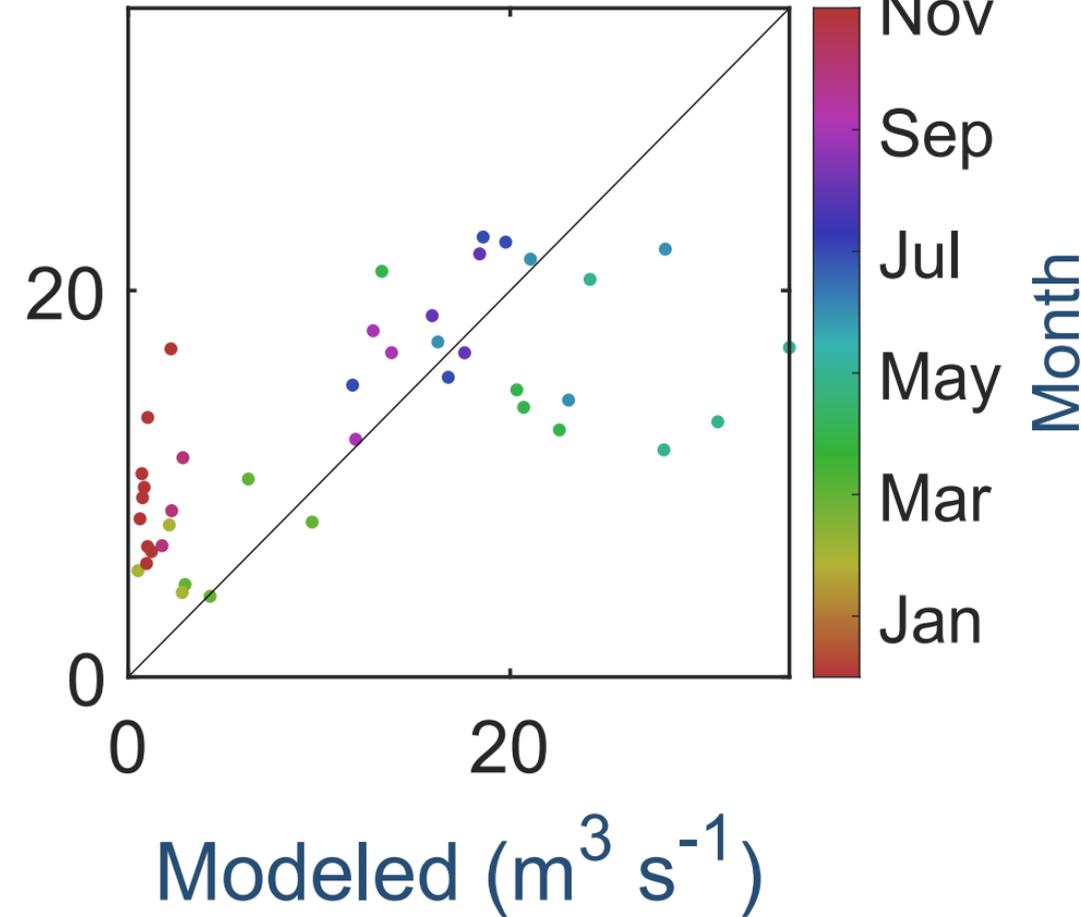
Mendenhall**Lemon****Montana****Cowee**

Figure 5.

Glacier mass balance (m w.e.)

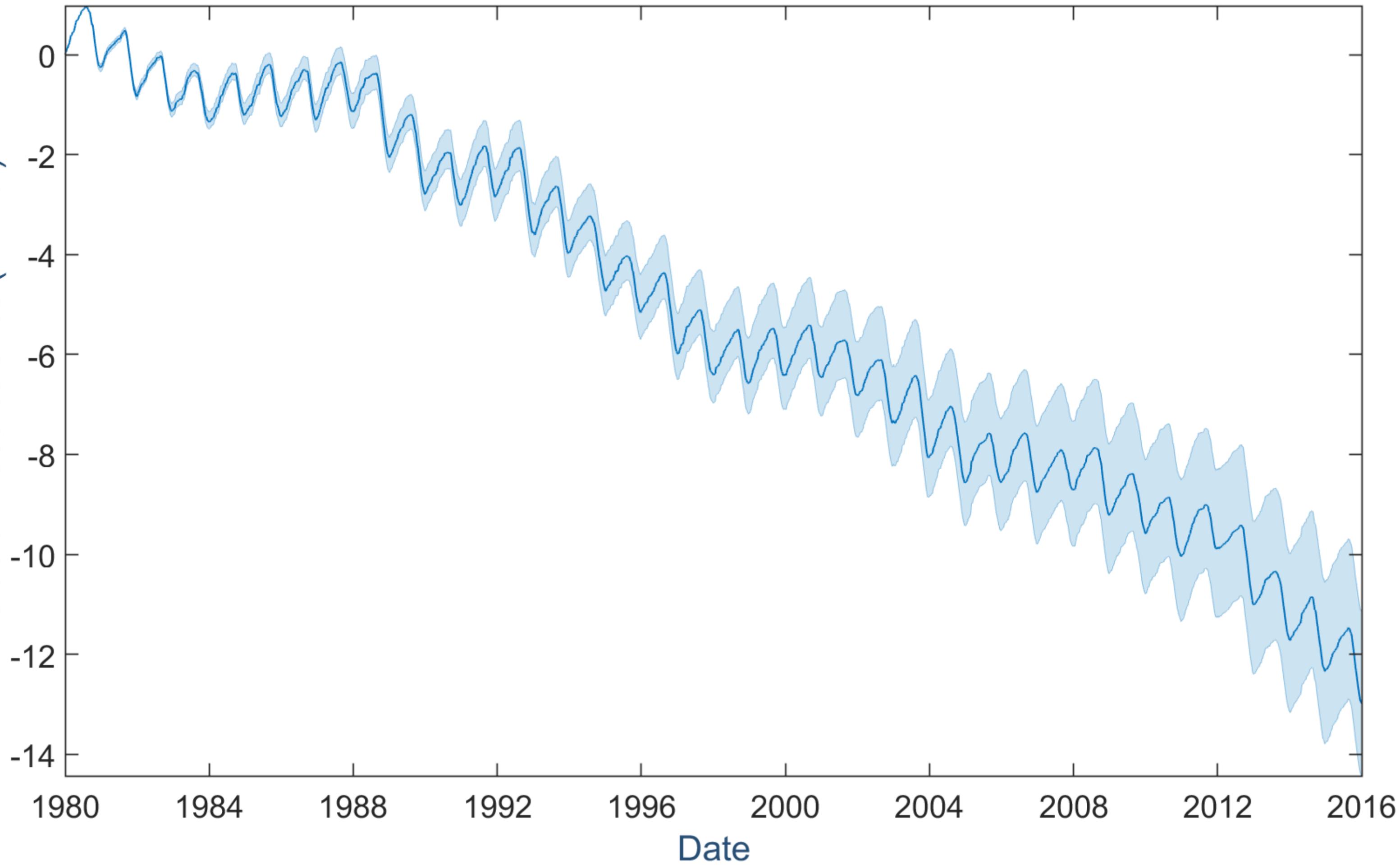


Figure 6.

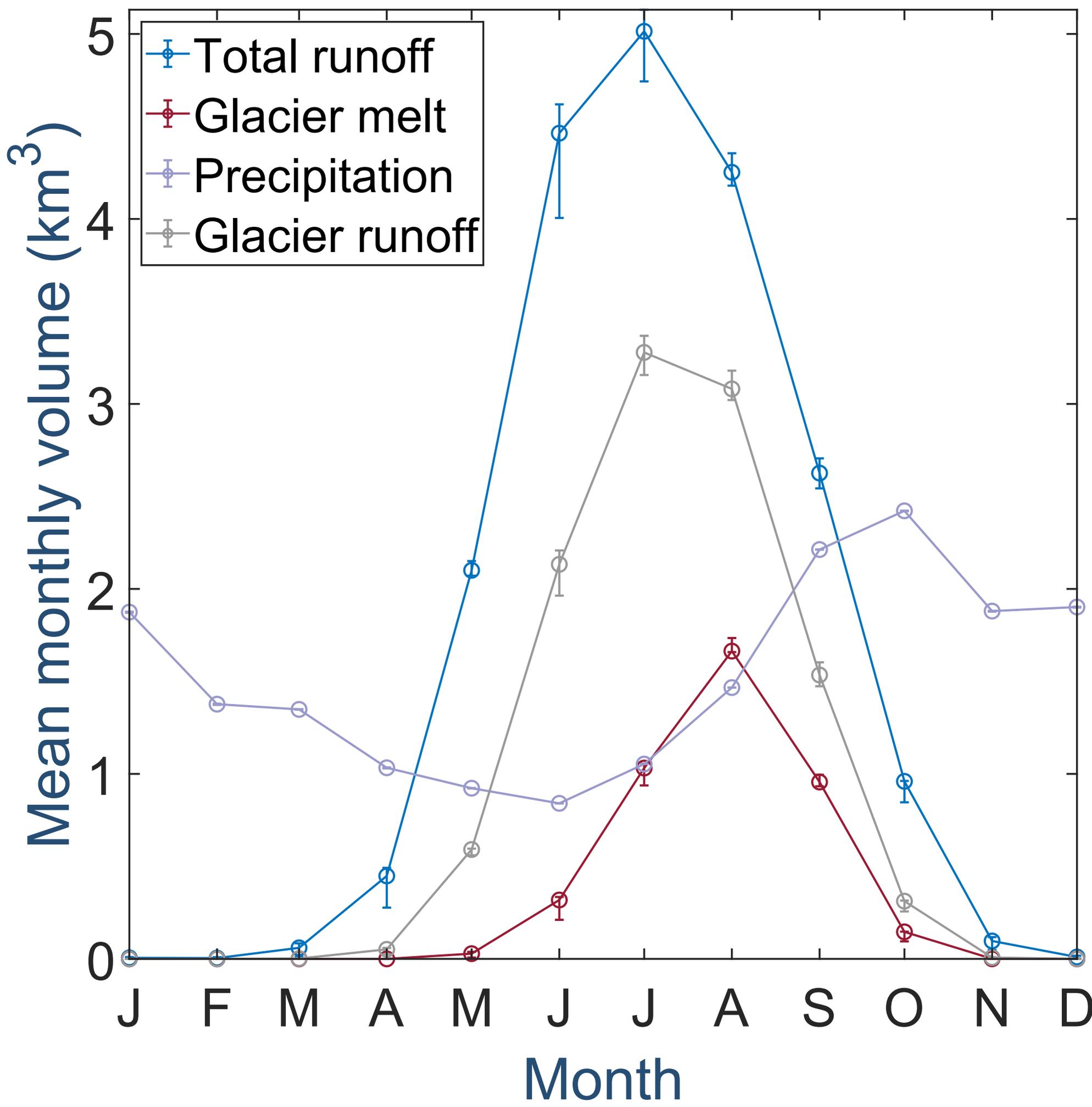


Figure 7.

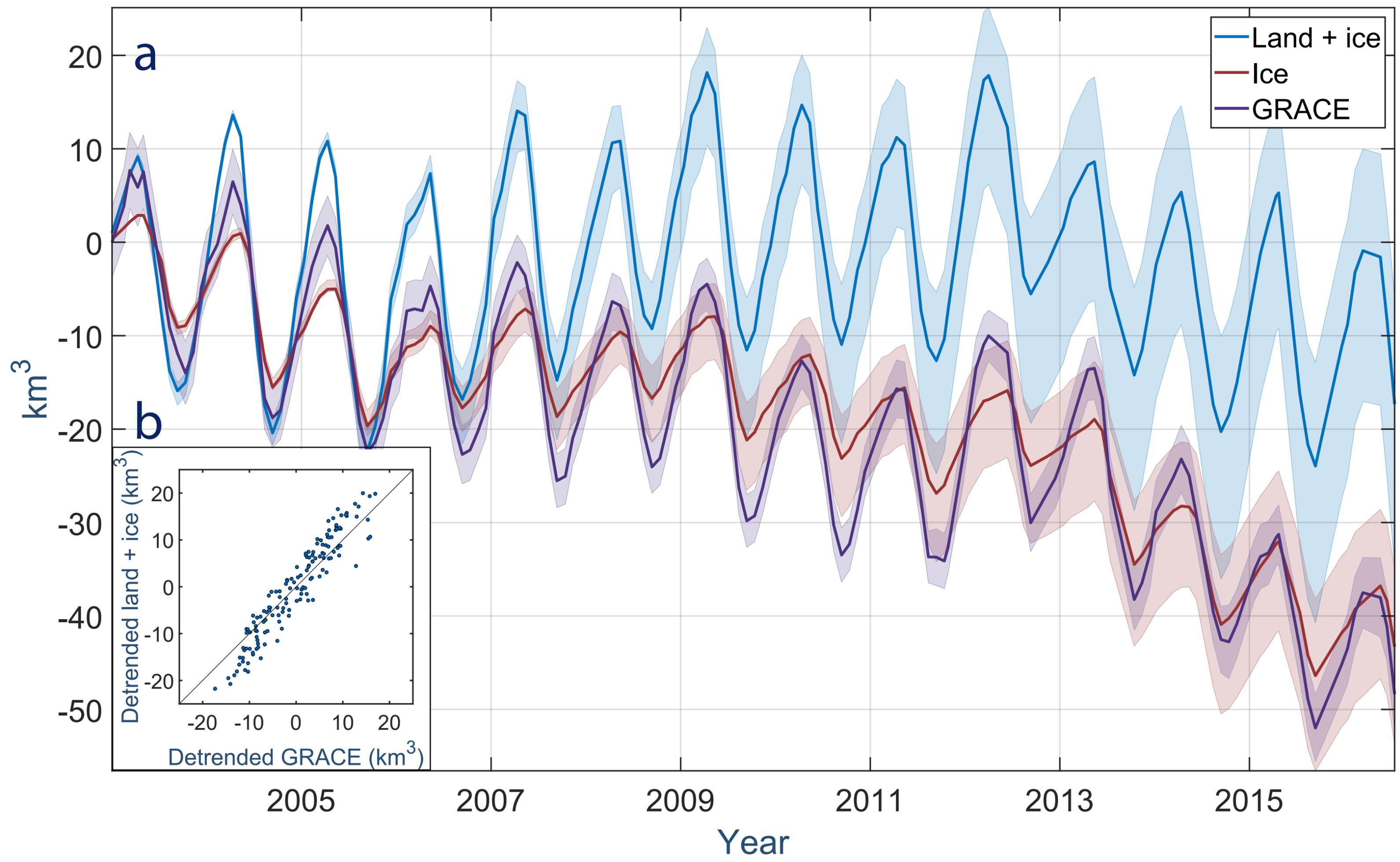


Figure 8.

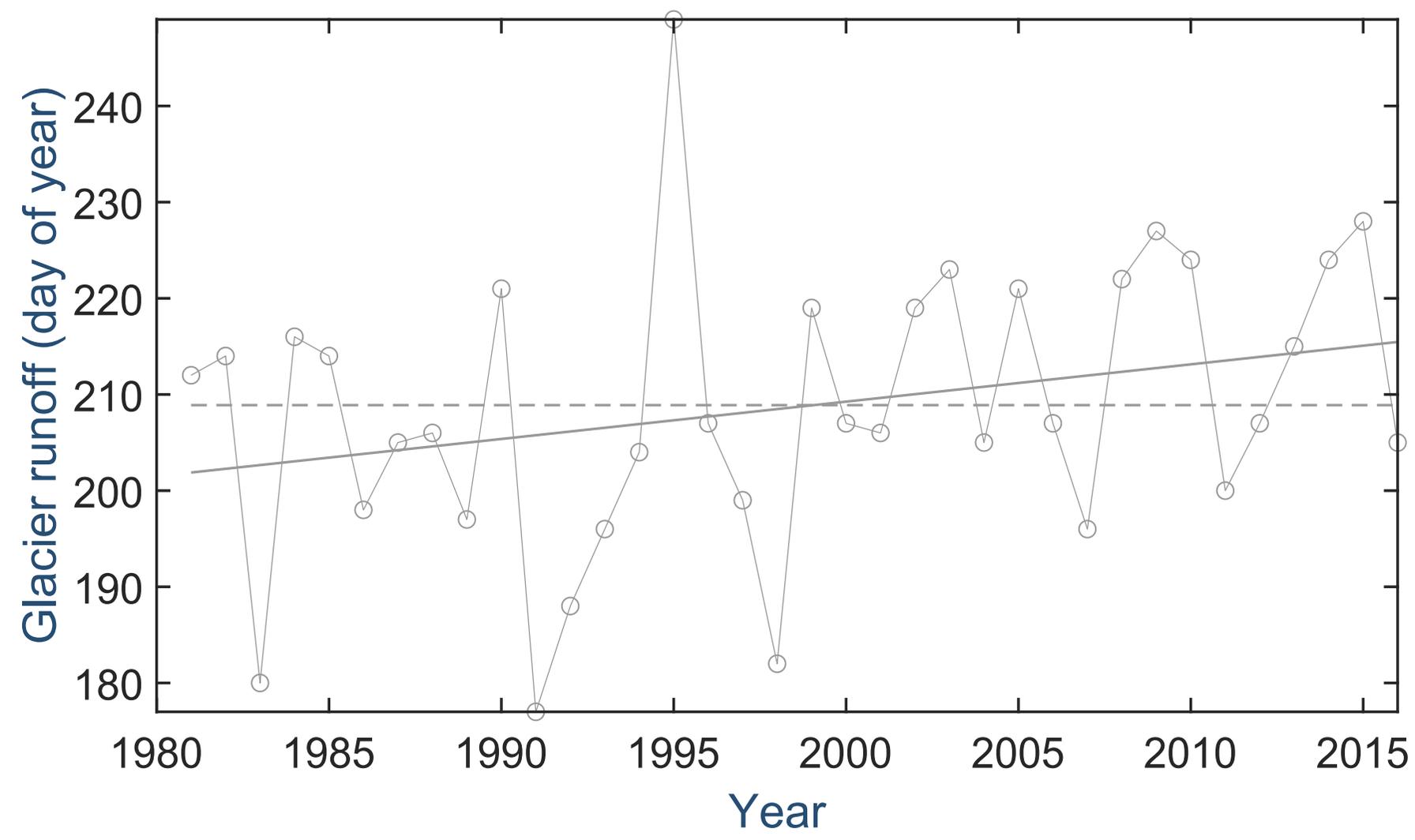
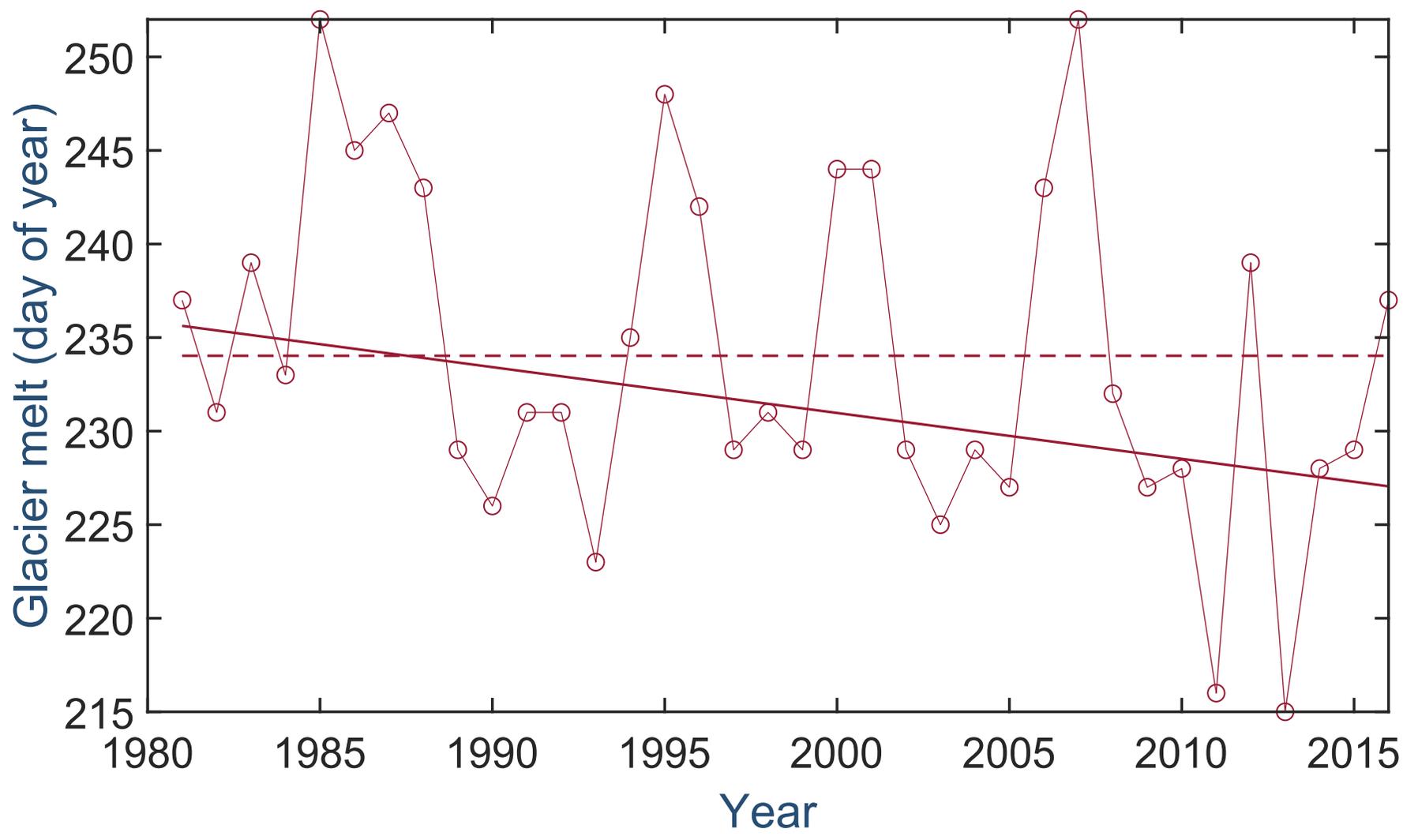


Figure 9.

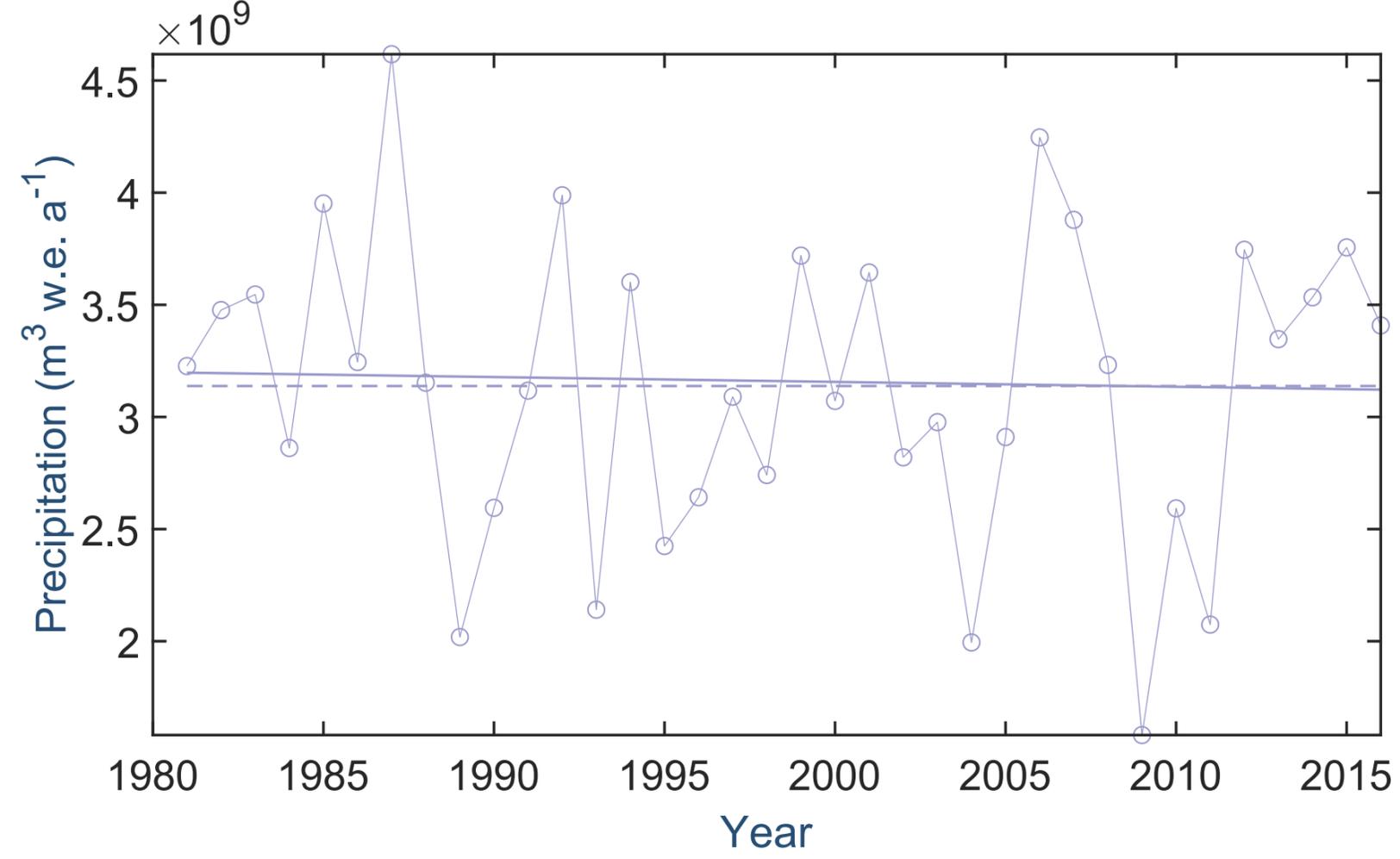
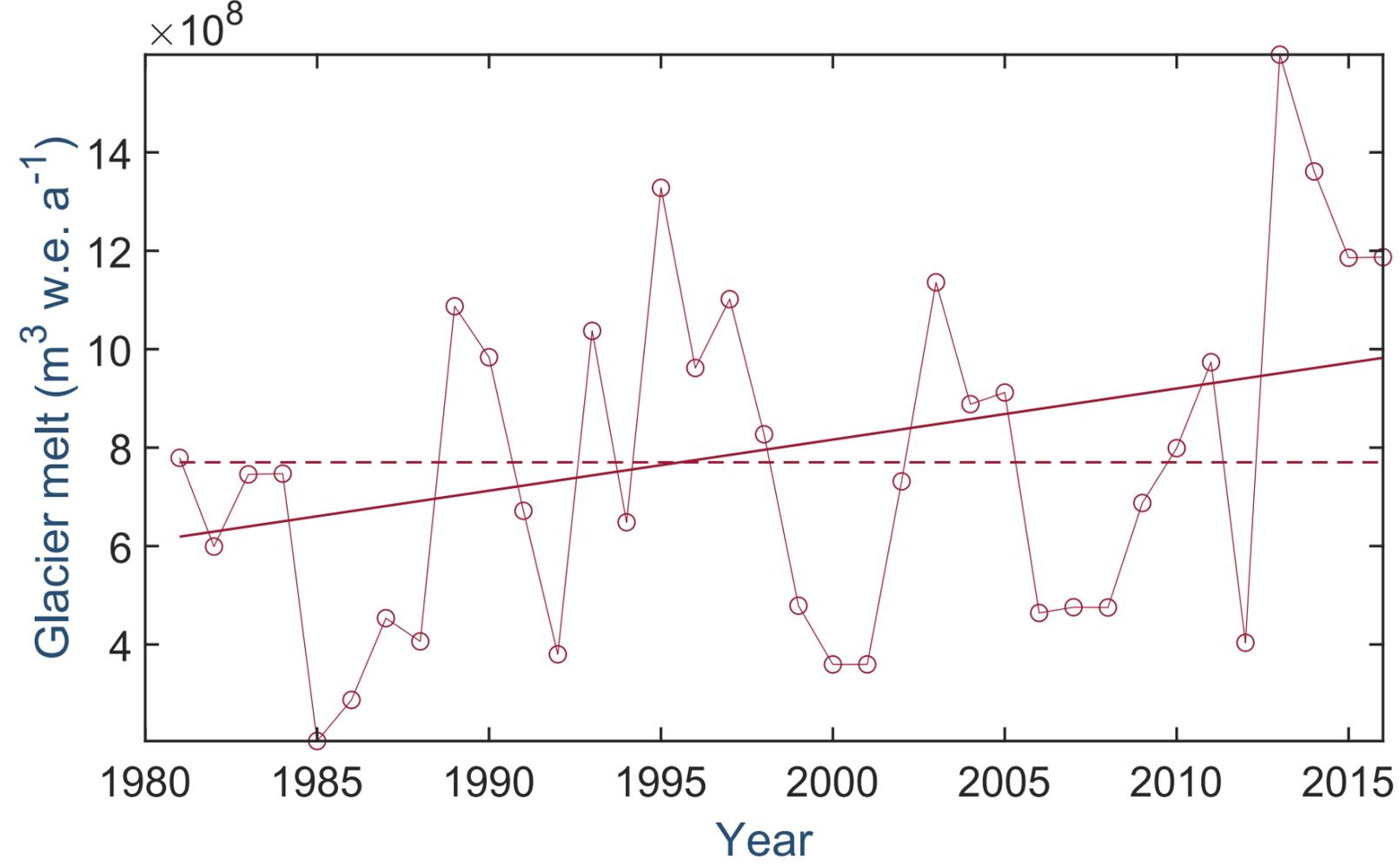
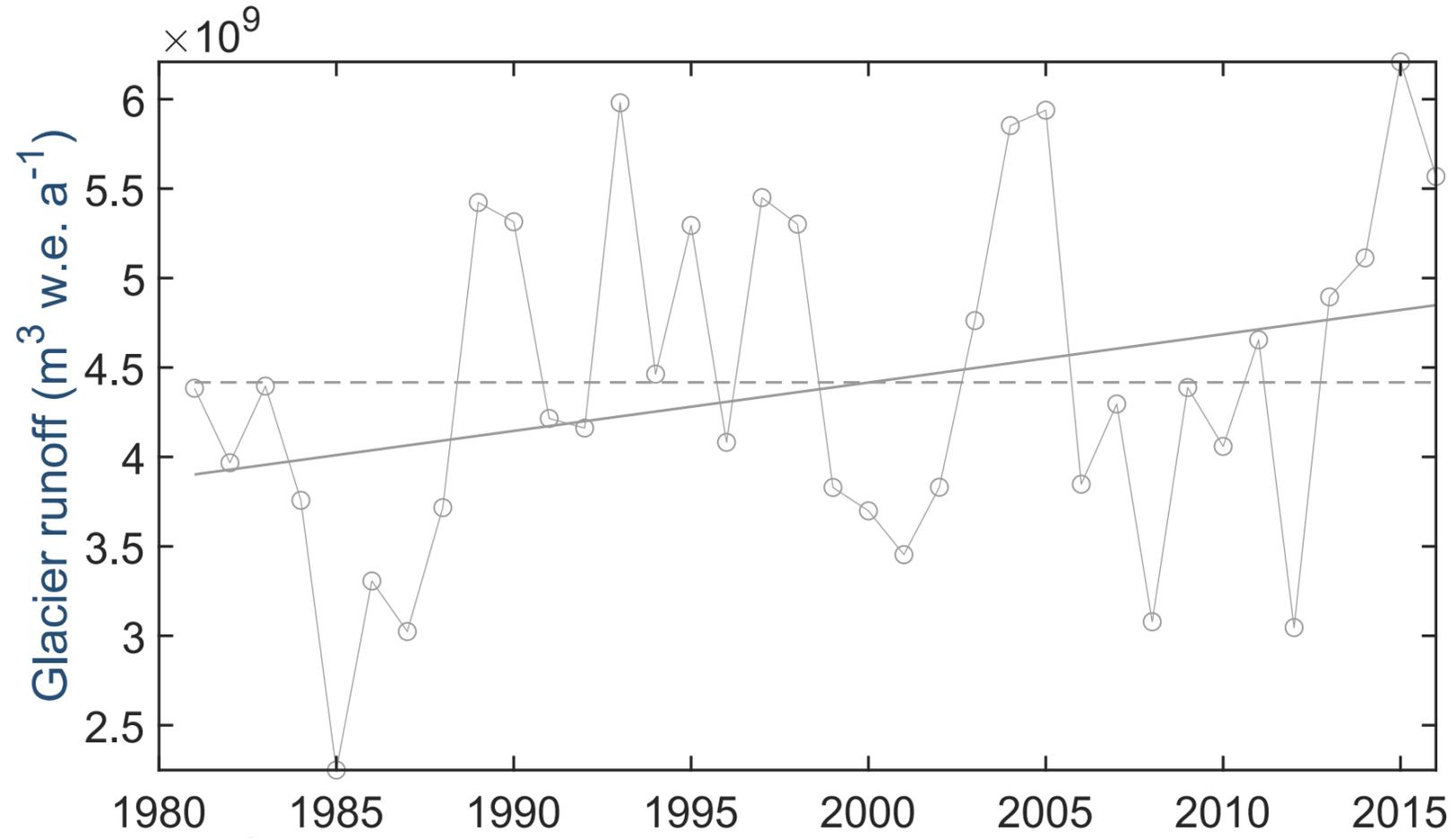
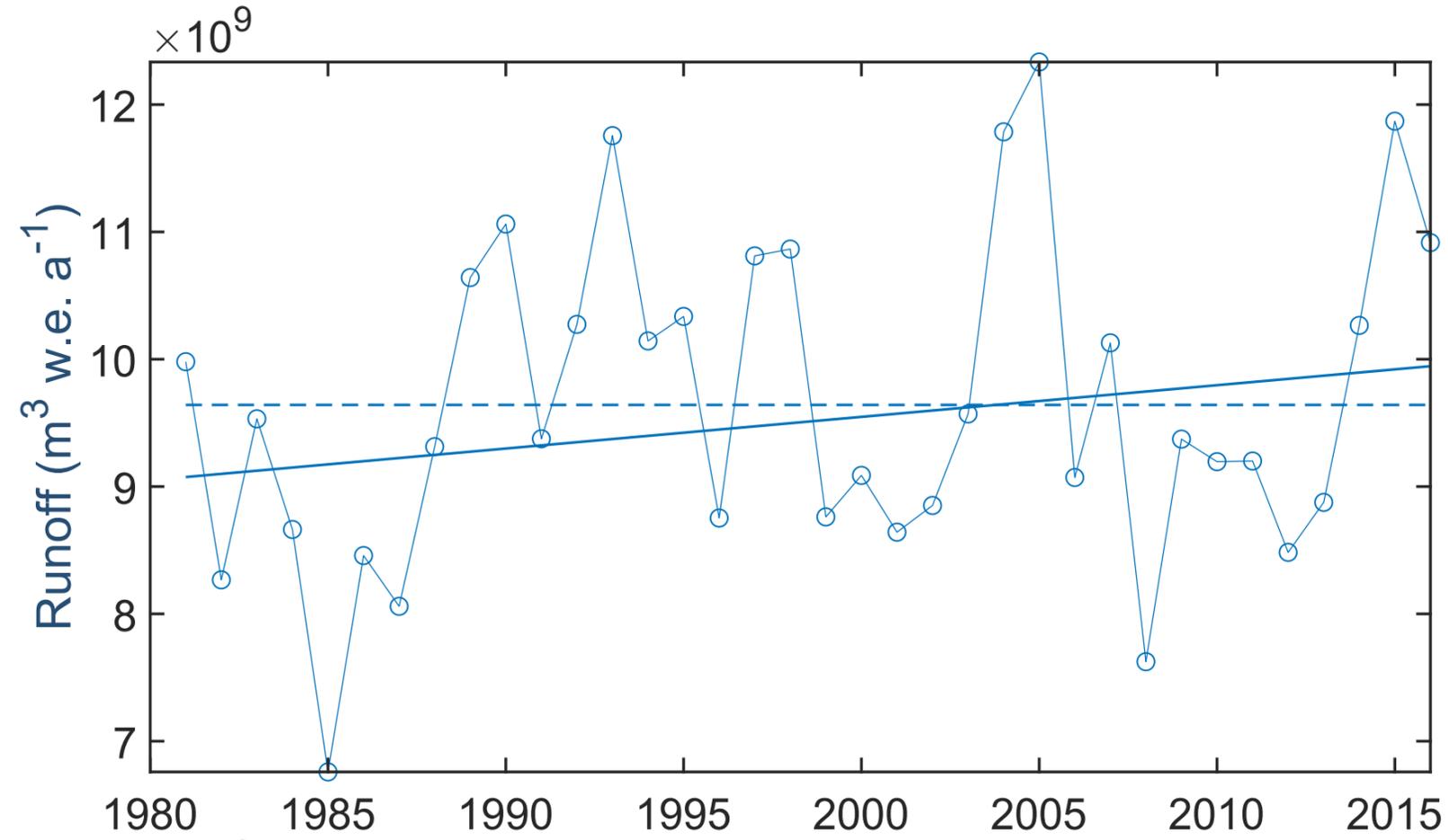


Figure 10.

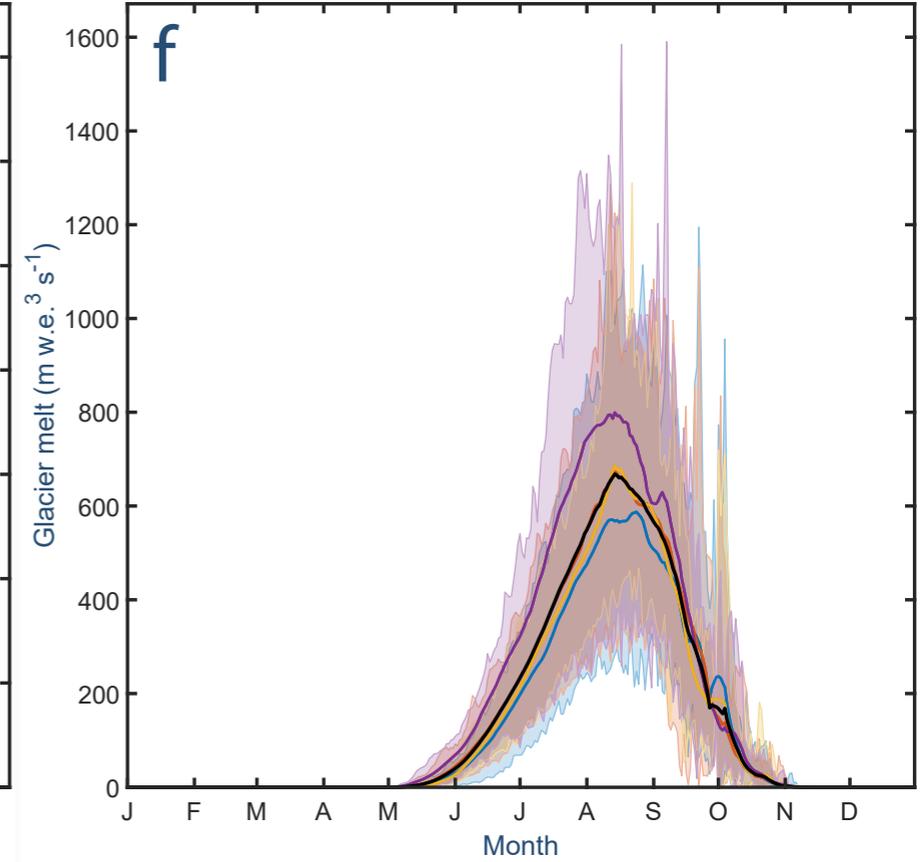
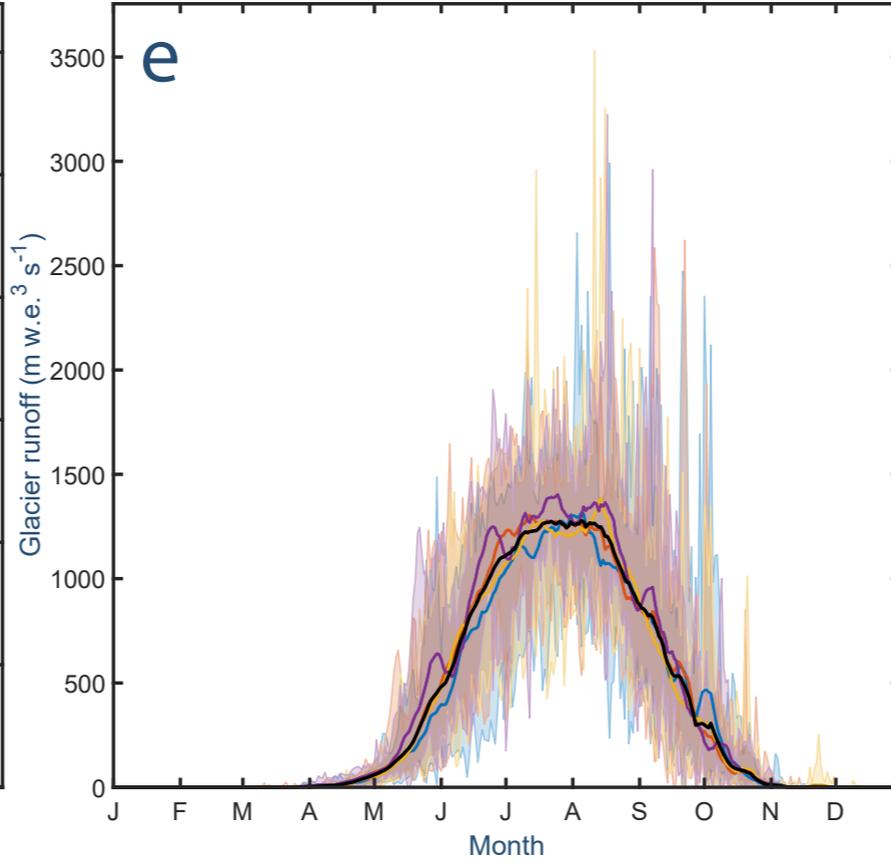
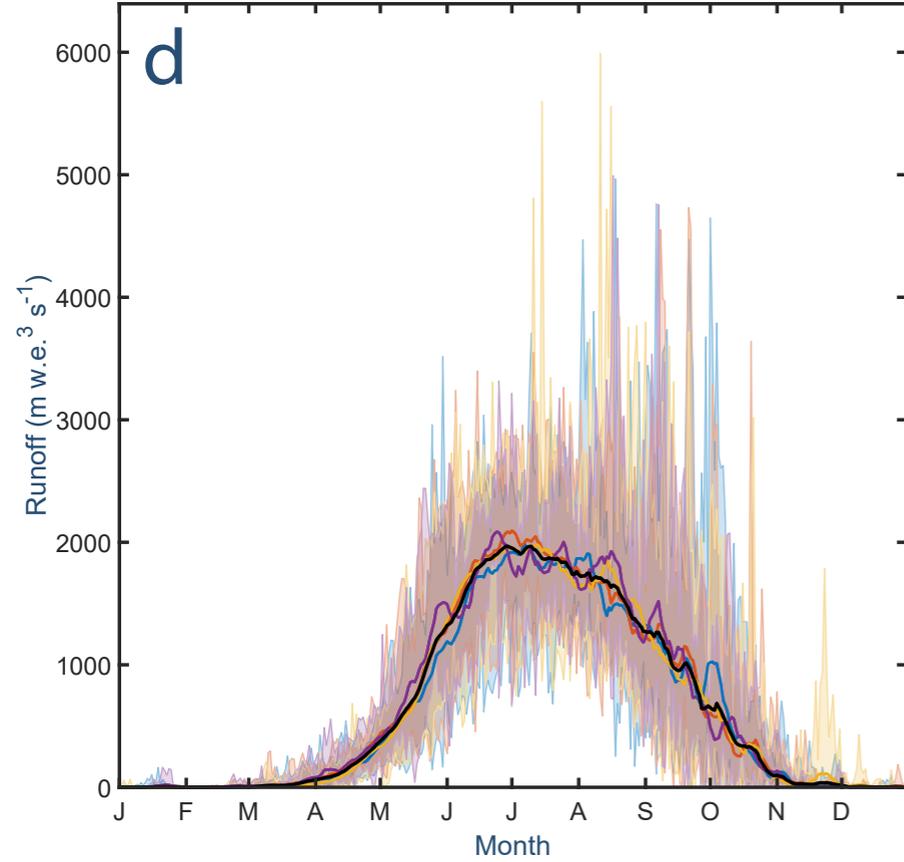
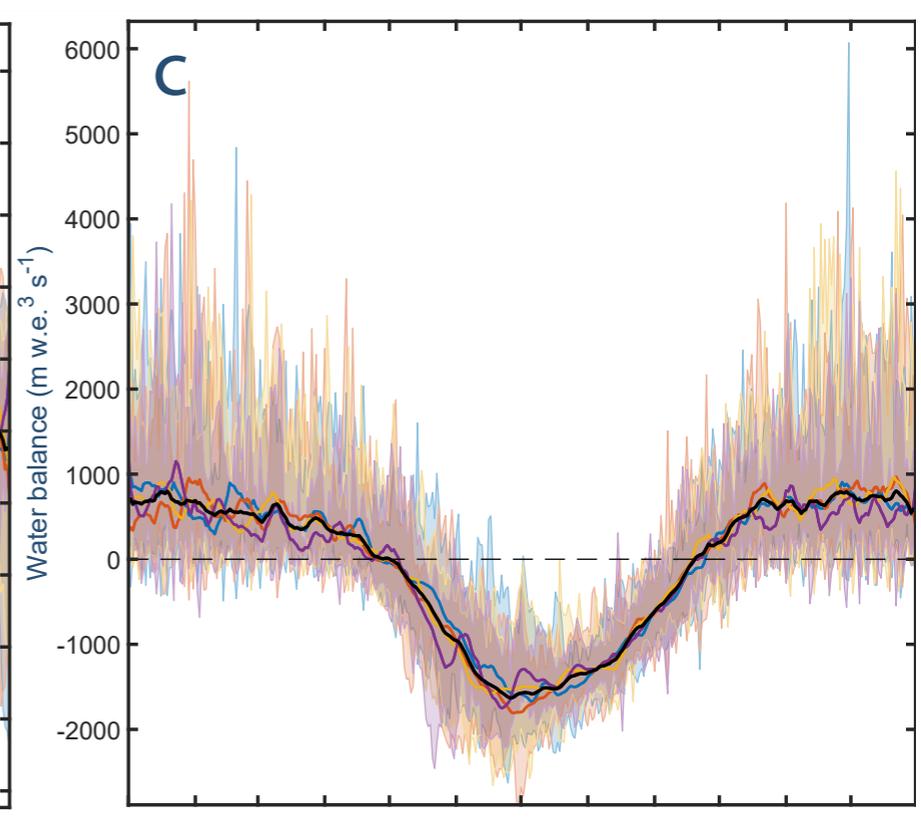
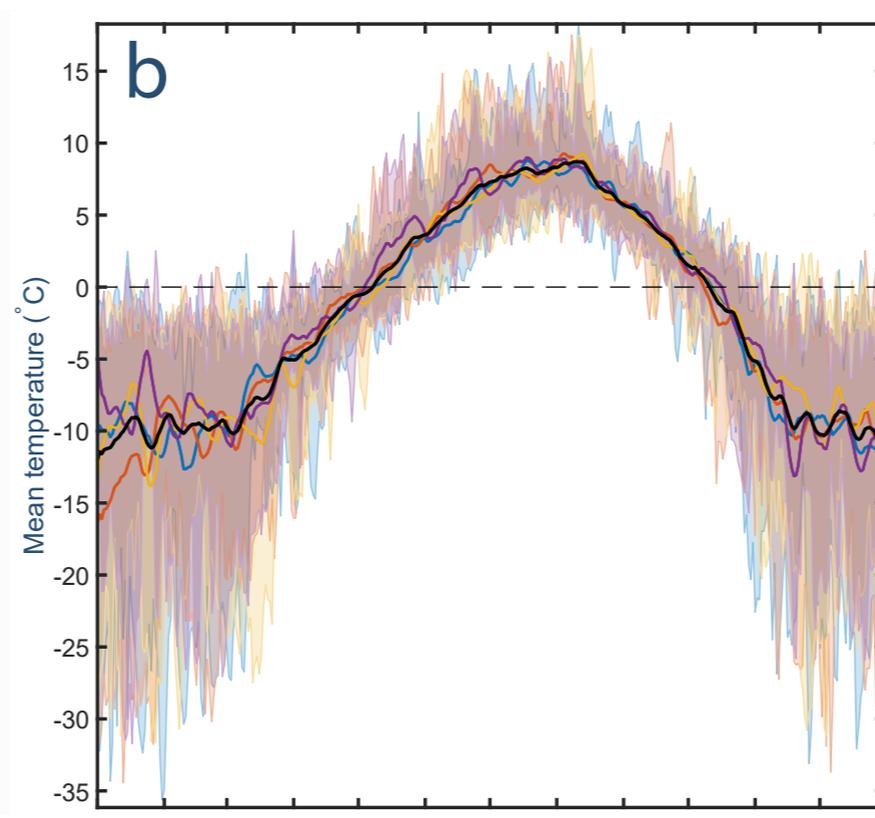
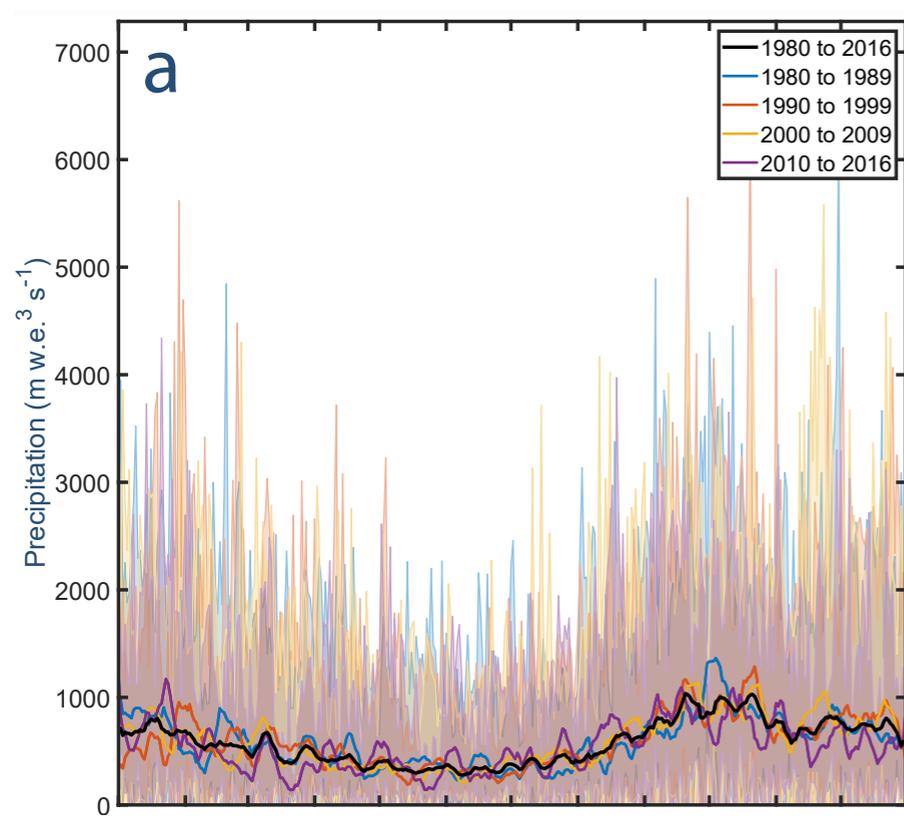


Figure 11.

