

Supplemental material for

Declining suspended sediment in US rivers and streams: Linking sediment trends to changes in land use/cover, hydrology and climate
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Categorization scheme for determining predominate land use of each site’s contributing watershed

| Land-use category | Rules for classification |
|-------------------|--|
| Undeveloped | Undeveloped: $(lu_11 + lu_12 + lu_46 + lu_50 + lu_60) > 75\%$ |
| Urban | Urban: $lu_43 < 25\%$ AND $(lu_43 + lu_44) < 50\%$, plus satisfying at least one of the “high”, “med” or “low” urbanization rules below |
| | High urbanization: $(lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_24 + lu_25 + lu_26 + lu_27) > 50\%$ OR $lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_25) > 25\%$ |
| | Medium urbanization: $(lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_24 + lu_25 + lu_26 + lu_27) > 25\%$ |
| | Low urbanization: $(lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_24 + lu_25 + lu_26 + lu_27) > 12.5\%$ AND $(lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_24 + lu_25 + lu_26 + lu_27 + lu_31 + lu_32 + lu_33) > 25\%$ |
| Ag | Agricultural: $(lu_21 + lu_22 + lu_23 + lu_24 + lu_25 + lu_26 + lu_27) < 10\%$, plus satisfying at least one of the “high”, “med” or “low” ag rules below. |
| | High ag: $lu_43 > 50\%$ OR $(lu_43 + lu_44) > 75\%$ |
| | Medium ag: $lu_43 > 25\%$ OR $(lu_43 + lu_44) > 50\%$ |
| | Low ag: $lu_43 > 12.5\%$ AND $(lu_43 + lu_44) > 25\%$ |
| Mixed High | Does not meet criteria for Undeveloped, Urban, or Ag |

Land-use categorization is based on the scheme used in Falcone (2015). The specific land uses associated with the “lu_XX” codes can be found in the Falcone (2015) report and related dataset.

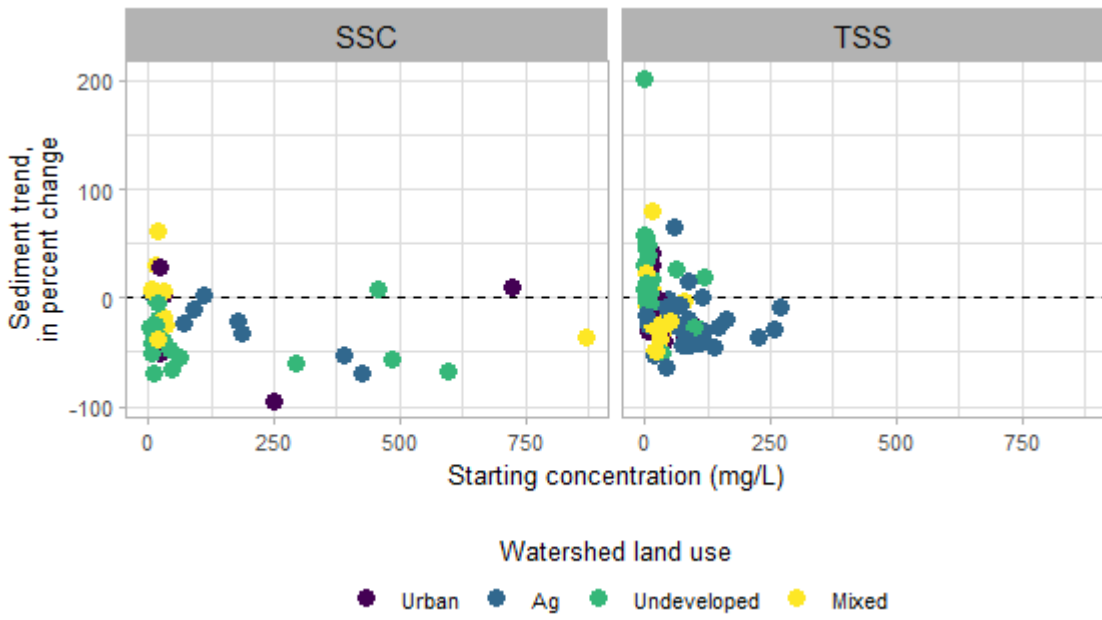


Figure SM-1. Sediment trend (1992-2012) in percent change versus starting concentration (1992), by sediment parameter and land-use category.

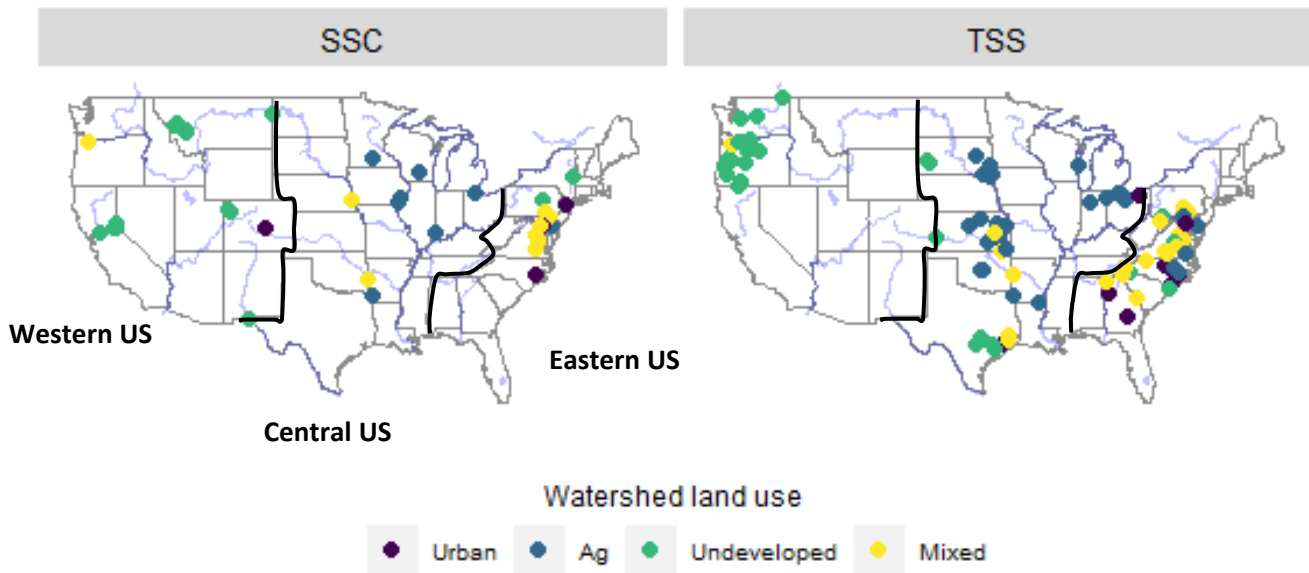
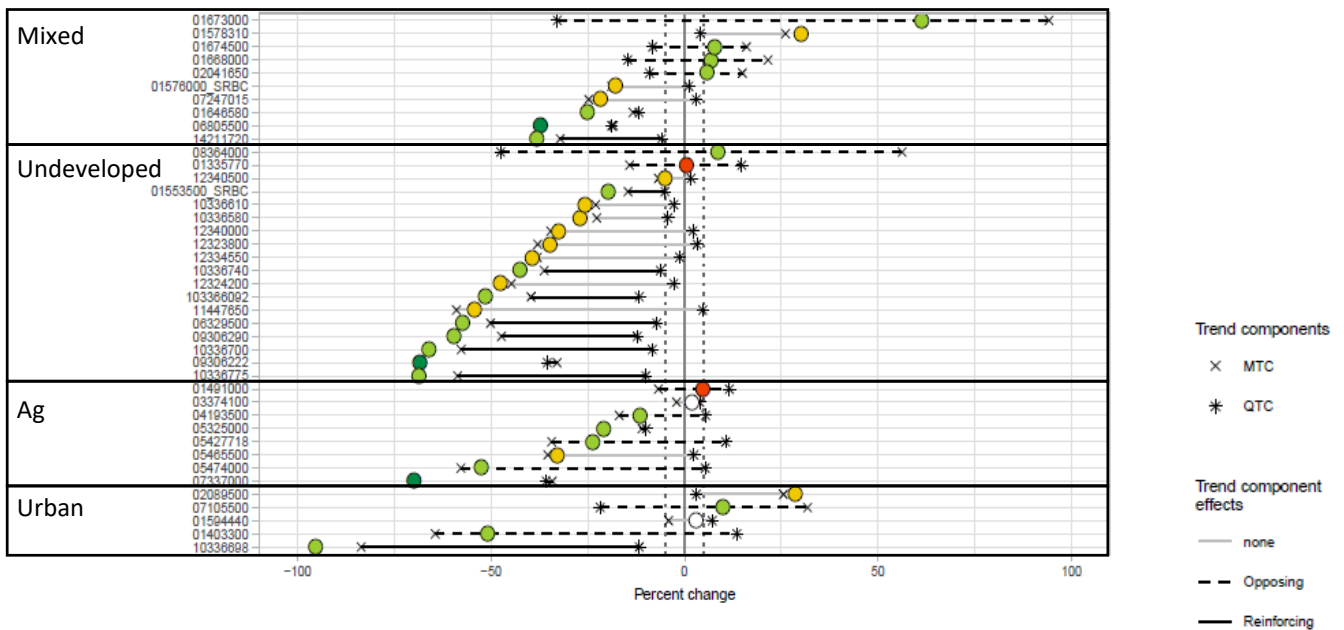


Figure SM-2. Land-use categorization of each site in 2012, shown by parameter.

SSC trends: 1992–2012



TSS trends: 1992–2012

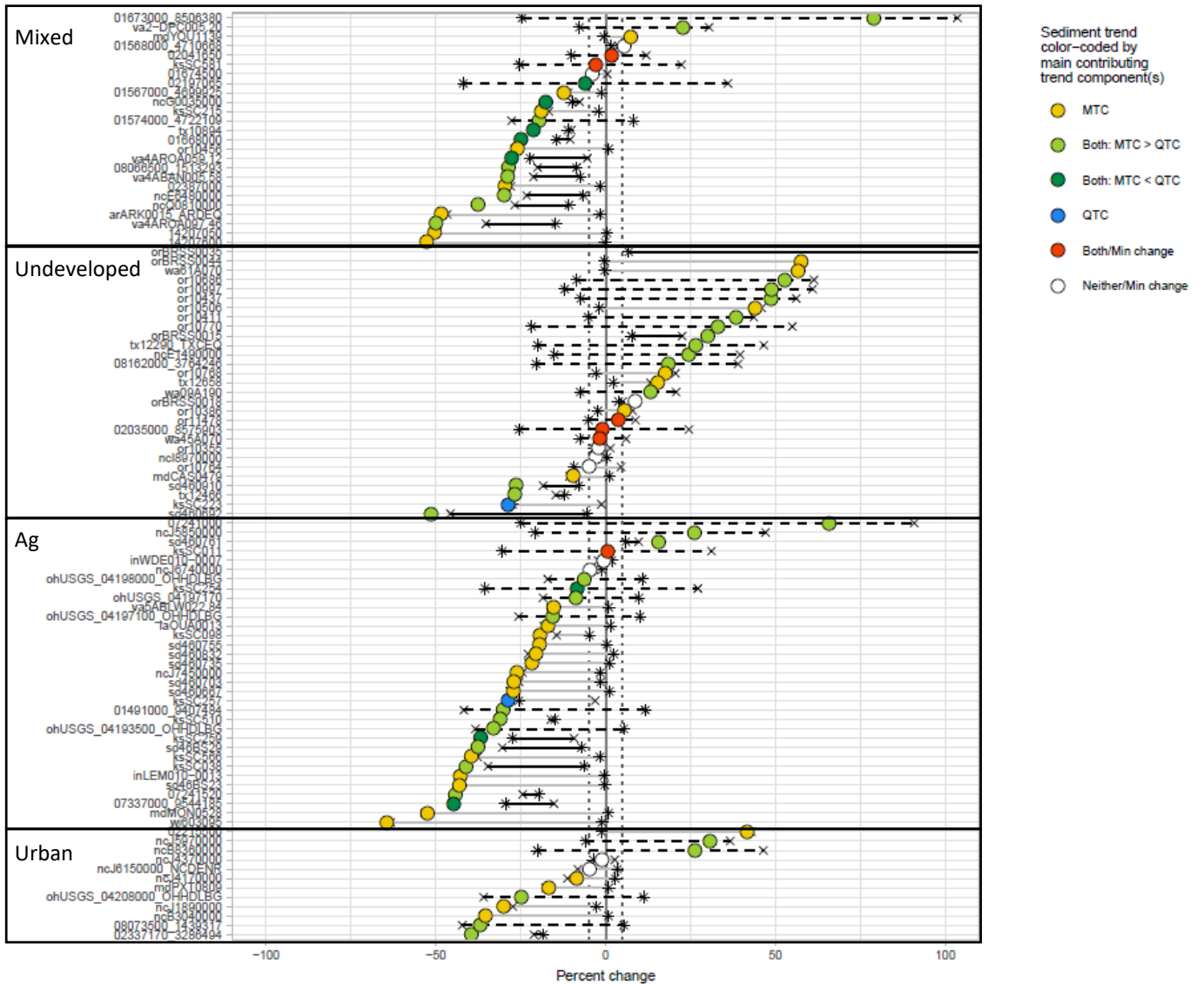


Figure SM-3. Percent change in 1992–2012 sediment trends and trend components (MTC and QTC), grouped by 2012 land-use category and ordered by increasing magnitudes of change within each category. Dashed horizontal lines are $\pm 5\%$, an arbitrary threshold for differentiating between negligible and nonnegligible influences from the MTC and QTC, equates to rough 0.25% change per year. Recall sediment trend = MTC + QTC. Also, TSS trend and MTC estimate for site orBRSS0035 are 202% and 195%, respectively, and not shown on plot. Red and white symbols indicate sites where the sediment trend is $< 5\%$ and the MTC and QTC are also $> 5\%$ (“Both/Min change”) or $< 5\%$ (“Neither/Min change”)

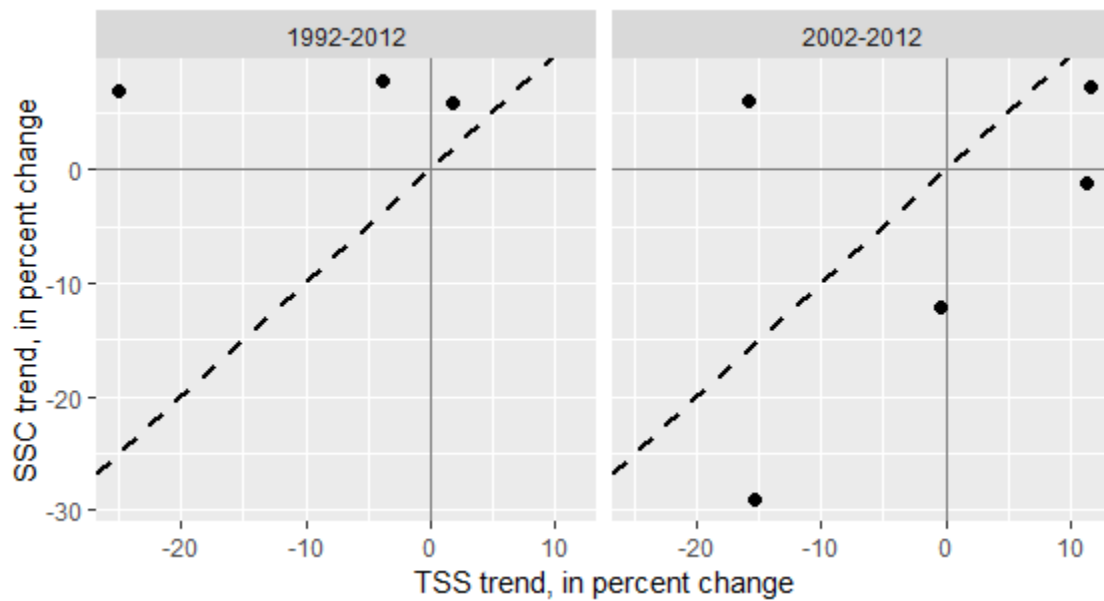


Figure SM-4. SSC trends versus TSS trends at sites where both sediment parameters were collected (3 sites for 1992-2012 trends and 2002-2012 trends). Dashed line is a 1:1 line (SSC trend = TSS trend) and solid, gray vertical and horizontal lines are $x=0$ and $y=0$, respectively.