Interactive comment on “Seasonal watershed-scale influences on nitrogen concentrations across the Upper Mississippi River Basin” by Michael L. Wine et al.

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We have further investigated the possibility that point sources contributed substantially to observed [TN] dynamics by looking at the relationship between the Spearman correlation coefficient between concentration and discharge and impervious areas that may indicate the presence of point sources associated with urban areas (Fig. 1). This investigation indicates that three watersheds (less than four percent of sites) exhibit substantial (>10%) impervious/urban area, with the associated potential for point source discharge. Given our focus on non-point sources, these three sites will be excluded from the manuscript.

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Fig. 1. In three cases substantial impervious areas are observed in association with inverse concentration-discharge relationships.