



Supplement of

Median bed-material sediment particle size across rivers in the contiguous US

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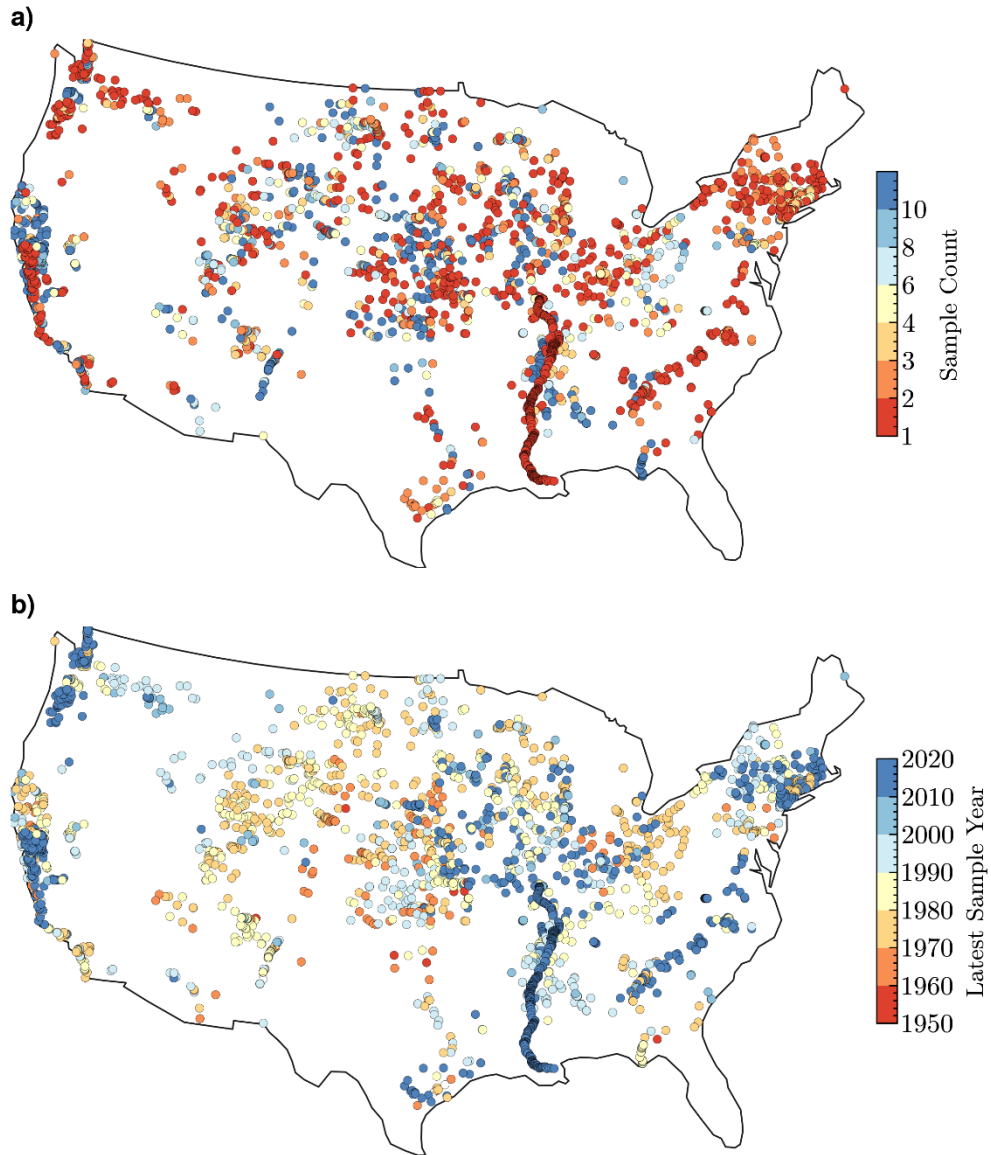


Figure S1: Spatial distribution of sample counts (a) and latest sampling year (b) of the 2577 sampling locations.

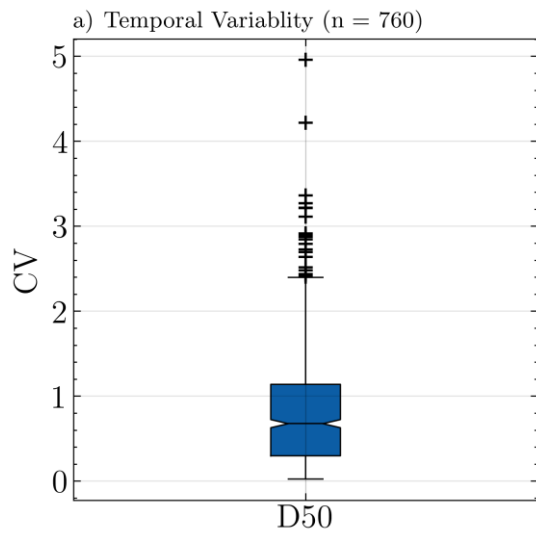


Figure S2: Distribution of the coefficient of variation (CV) for the 760 stations that have at least 5 samples over time.

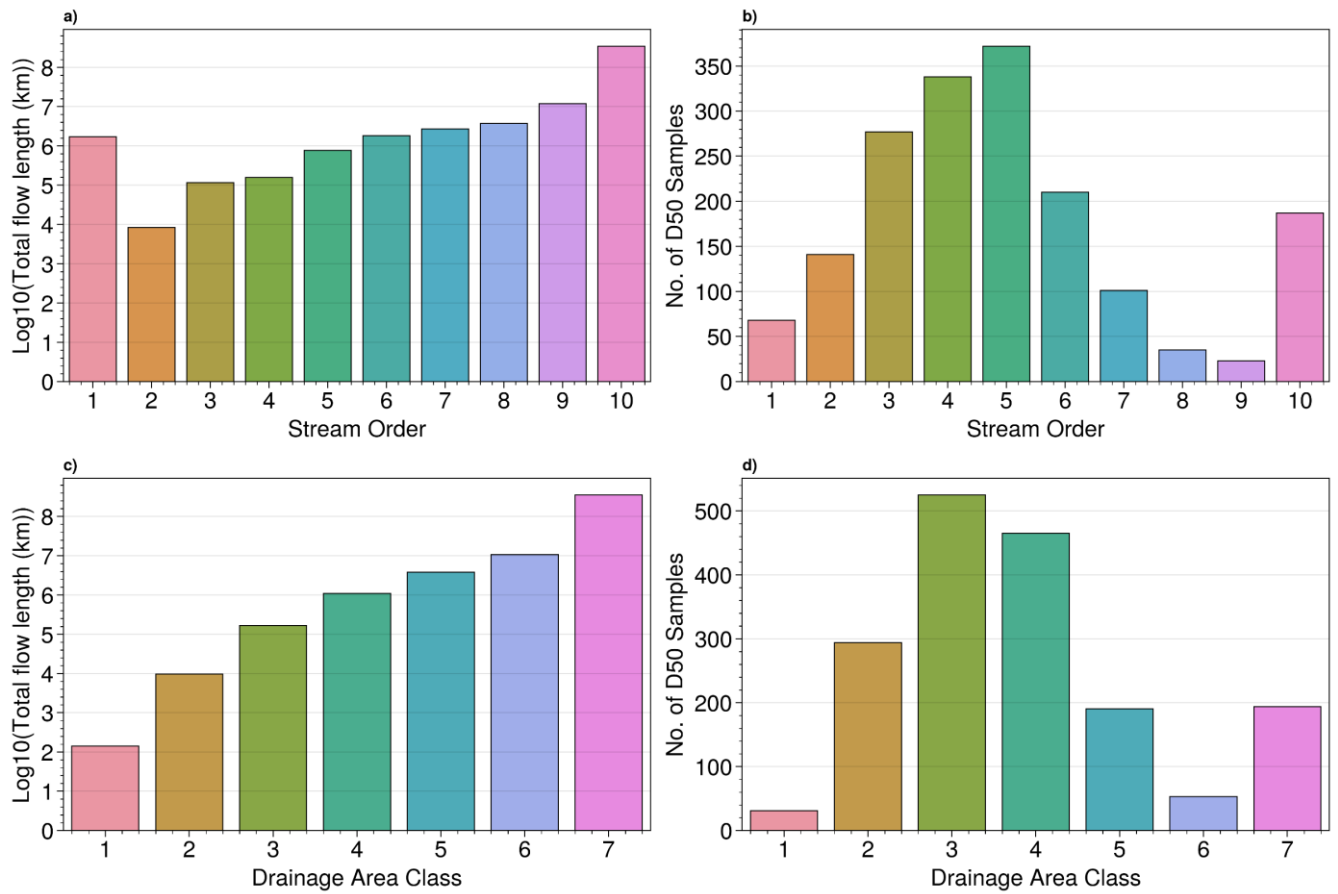


Figure S3: Distributions of total channel length (a,c) and number of D50 samples (b,d) within different classes of stream orders (a,b) and drainage areas (c,d). For Fig. 2 (c), (d), Drainage area class corresponds to categories of streams based on drainage areas, i.e., Class 1, ≤ 10 sqkm; Class 2, $10 \sim 100$ sqkm; Class 3, $100 \sim 1000$ sqkm; Class 4, $1000 \sim 1e+4$ sqkm; Class 5, $1e+4 \sim 1e+5$ sqkm; Class 6, $1e5 \sim 1e+6$ sqkm; Class 7), $> 1e+6$ sqkm.

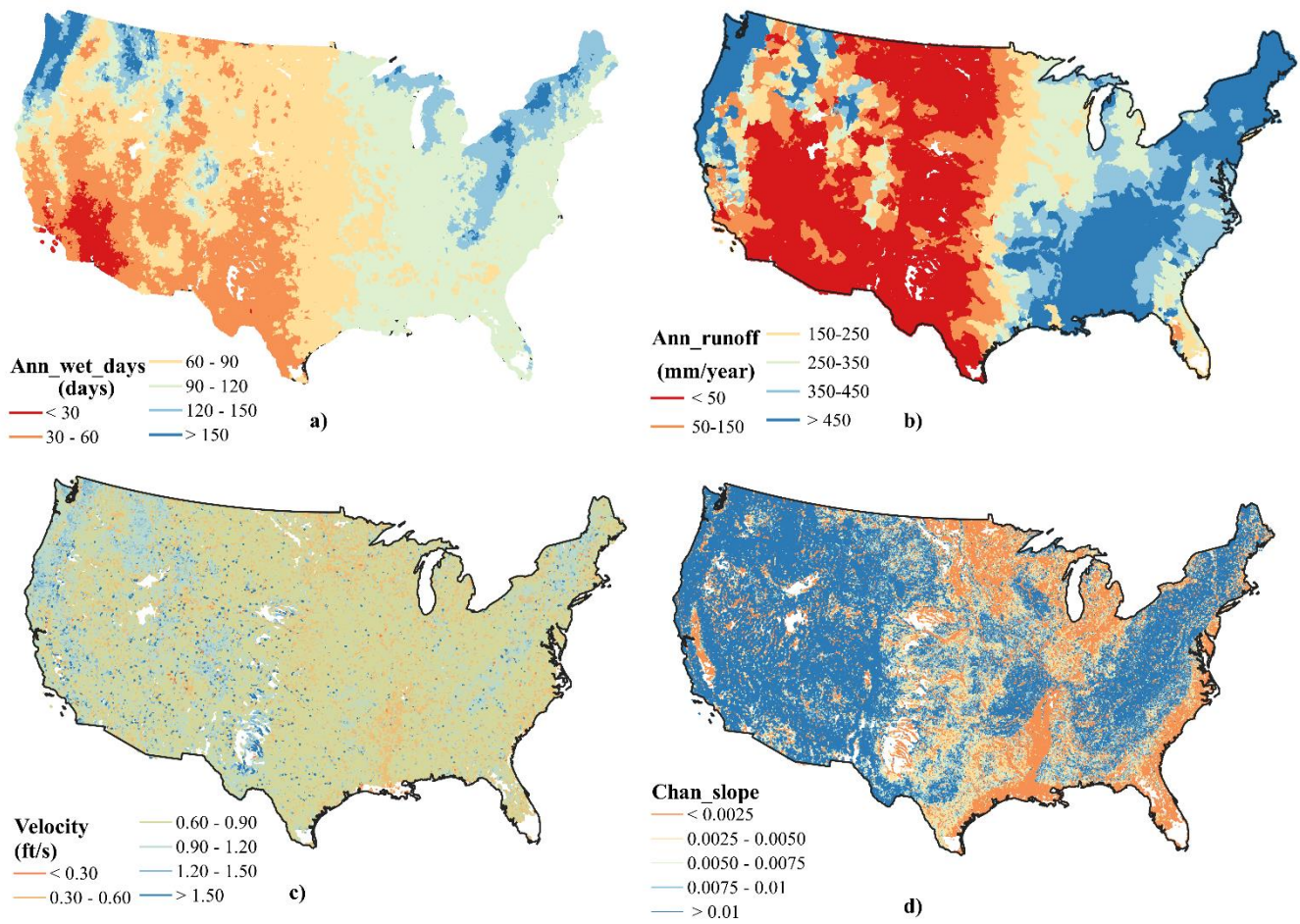


Figure S4: Spatial maps of predictive variables from NHDPlus. a. Annual average number of wet days (Ann_wet_days); b. Mean annual runoff (Ann_runoff); c. Mean annual flow velocity (Velocity); d. Slope of the flowline (Chan_slope).

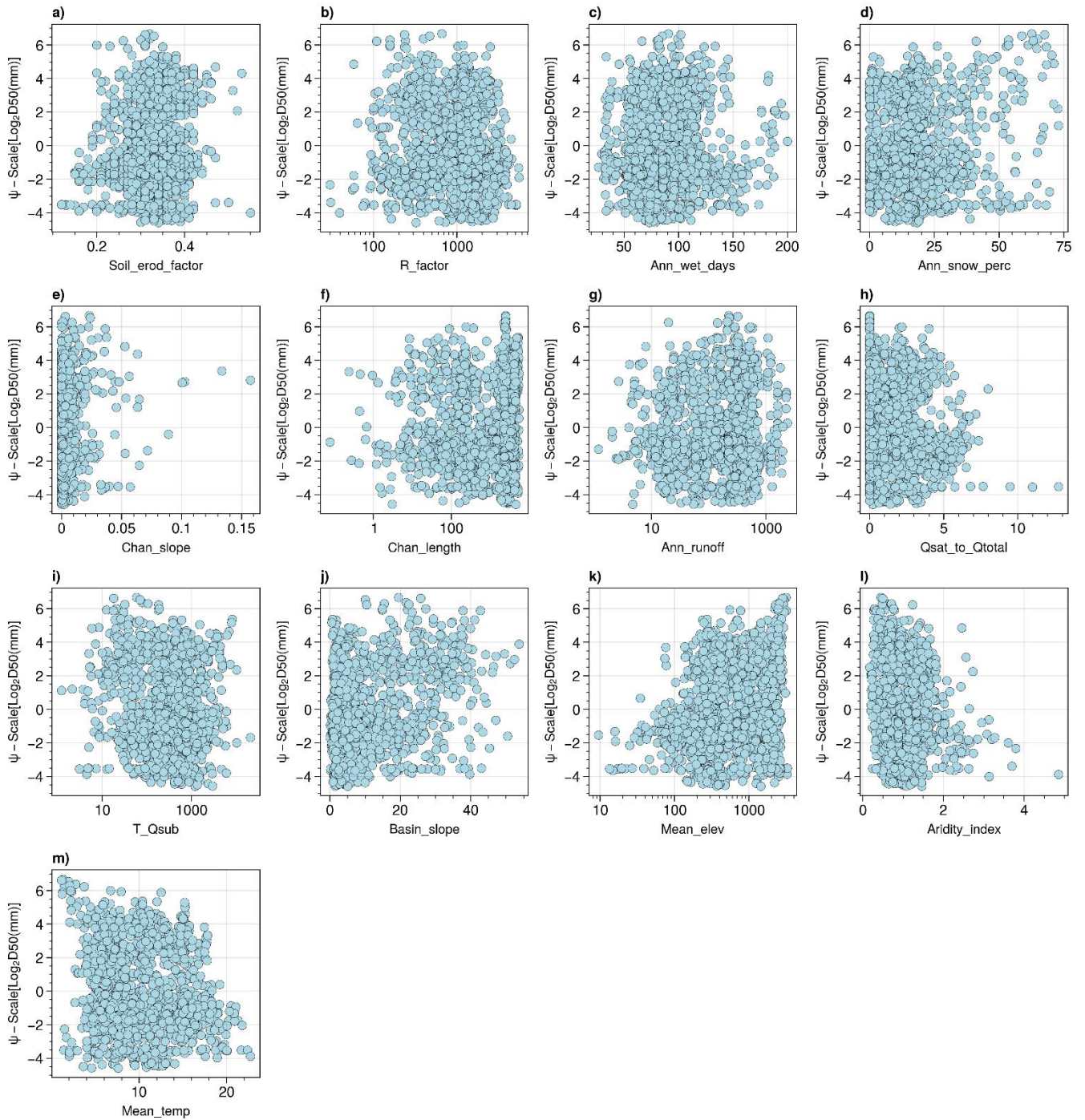


Figure S5. Scatter plots between D50 and the selected 13 features

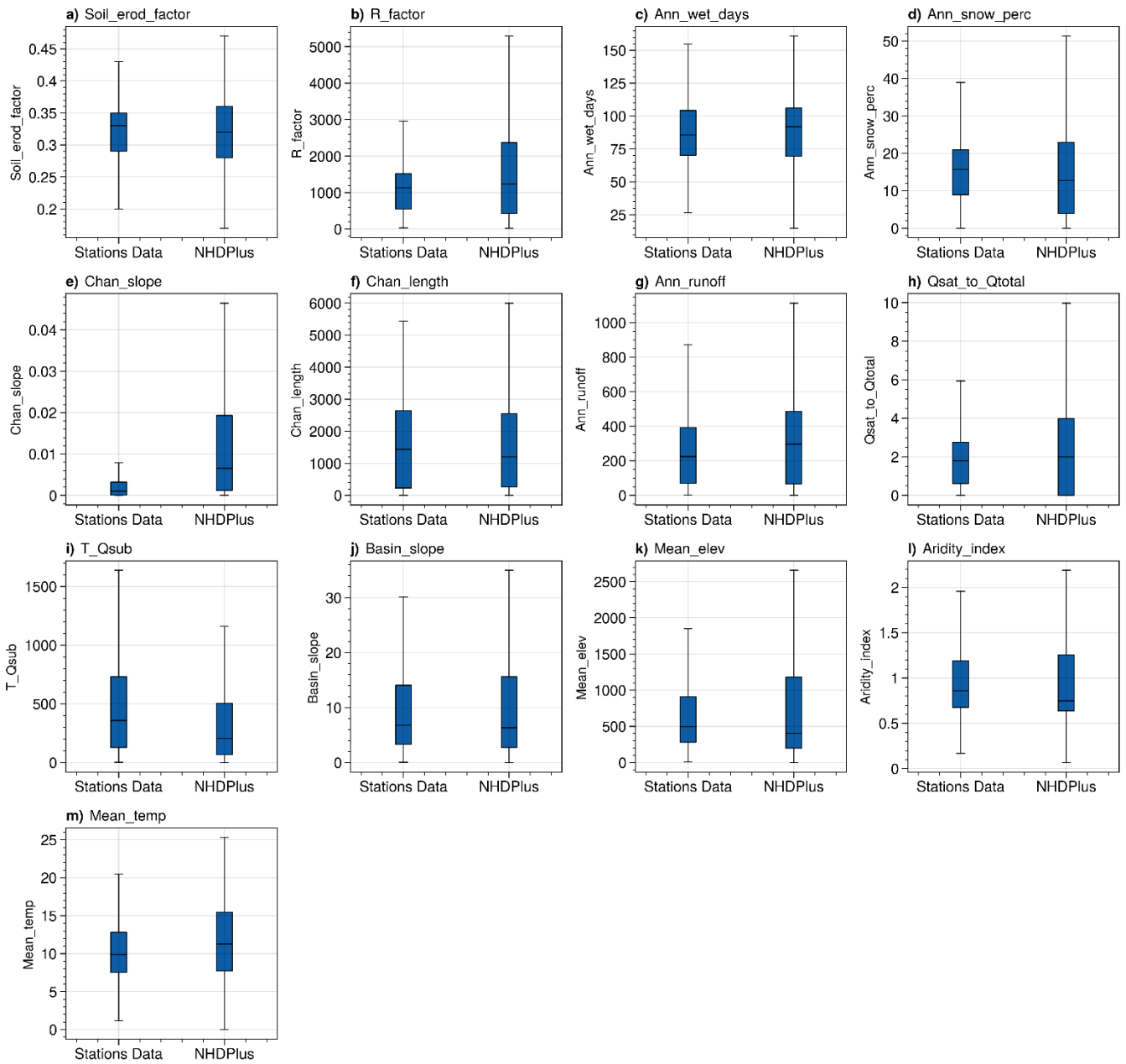


Figure S6: Box plots for the comparison of the ranges of 13 parameters between stations with measured D50 data and all flowlines (i.e., NHDPlus).

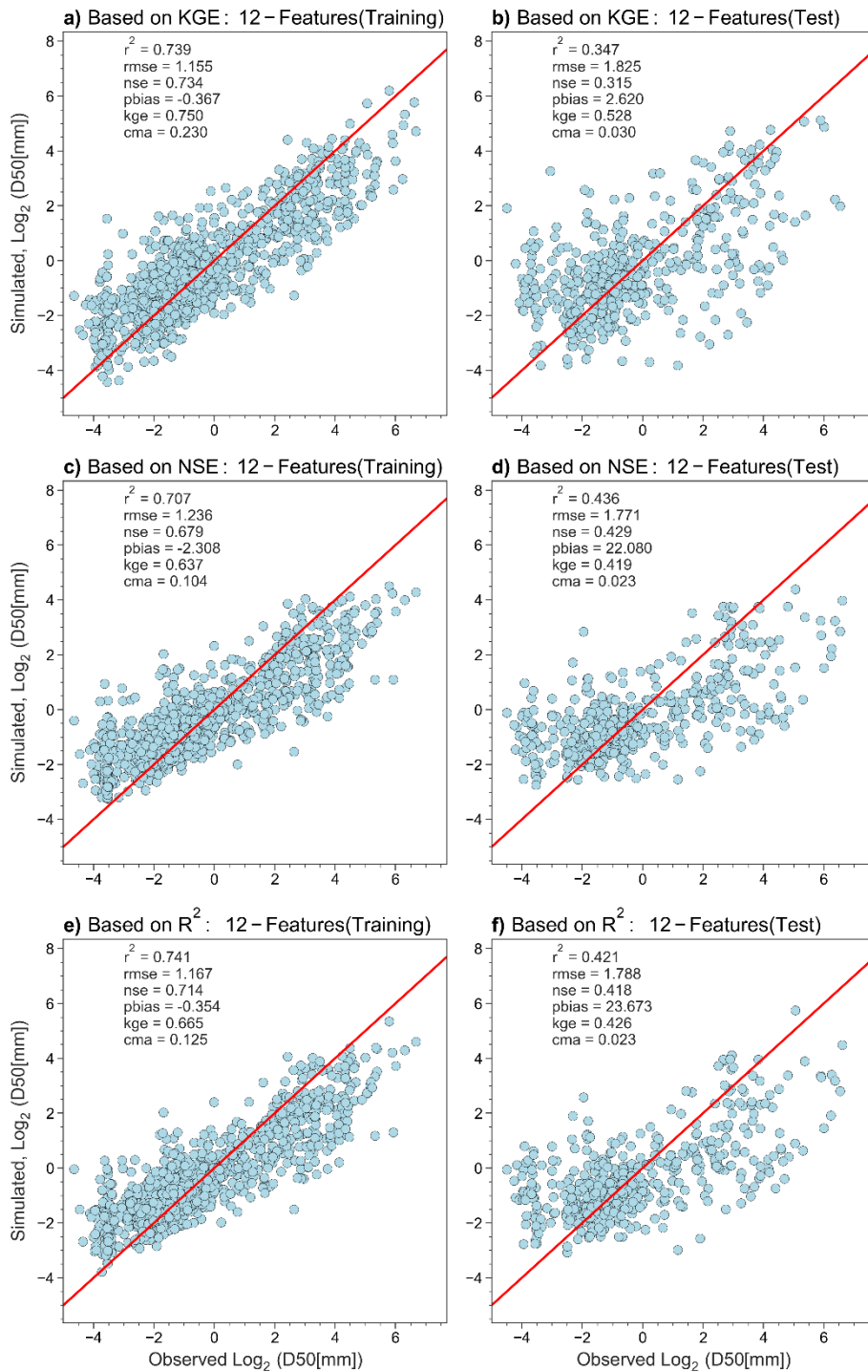


Figure S7: ML modeling using different objective functions

Table S1: List of the 76 predictive variables

| Group | Acronym | Description |
|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| Soil | | |
| 1 | TOT_SILTAVE | Accumulated average percent of silt in soil based on total upstream routing |
| 2 | TOT_CLAYAVE | Accumulated average percent of clay in soil based on total upstream routing |
| 3 | TOT_SANDAVE | Average percent of sand in soil based on total upstream routing |
| 4 | TOT_KFACT | Accumulated average value for all upstream catchments for KFactor based on total upstream routing |
| 5 | TOT_KFACT_UP | Average value for KFactor in the upper soil horizon based on total upstream routing |
| 6 | TOT_NO10AVE | Accumulated average percent by weight of soil material less than 3 inches in size that passes through a No. 10 sieve (2 millimeters) based on total upstream routing |
| 7 | TOT_NO200AVE | Accumulated average percent by weight of soil material less than 3 inches in size that passes through a No. 200 sieve (.074 millimeters) based on total upstream routing |
| 8 | TOT_NO4AVE | Average percent by weight of soil material less than 3 inches in size that passes through a No. 4 sieve (5 millimeters) based on total upstream routing |
| Lithology and Geology | | |
| 1 | TOT_OLSON_K | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological potassium oxide (K ₂ O) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 2 | TOT_OLSON_CAO | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological calcium oxide (CaO) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 3 | TOT_OLSON_FE | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological ferric oxide (Fe ₂ O ₃) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |

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| 4 | TOT_OLSON_MGO | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of catchment that contains by the Olson geology of type rock type, Carbonate-rock aquifers. |
| 5 | TOT_OLSON_P | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of catchment that contains lithological phosphorus pentoxide (P2O5) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 6 | TOT_OLSON_S | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological sulfur (S) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 7 | TOT_OLSON_SI | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological silicon dioxide (SiO2) content in surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 8 | TOT_OLSON_UCS | Estimated mean accumulated lithological compressive strength, measured as uniaxial compressive strength (in megaPascals, MPa) of surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 9 | TOT_OLSON_PERM | Estimated mean accumulated percentage of lithological hydraulic conductivity (in micrometers per second) of surface or near surface geology of all upstream NHDPlusV2 catchments |
| 10 | CARB | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Carbonate rocks such as limestone and dolostone |
| 11 | CLAST_C | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Clastic sediments/rocks primarily made of sands, gravels, cobbles, or larger clasts. |
| 12 | CLAST_F | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Clastic sediments/rocks primarily made of fine-grained materials such as shale, siltstone, claystone, mudstone. |
| 13 | CLAST_U | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Clastic sediments/rocks of unknown or highly variable clast sizes |
| 14 | EVAP | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Evaporites or playas. |

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|------------|------------------------|---|
| 15 | META | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Metamorphic rocks. |
| 16 | PLUT_OTH | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Igneous, generally mafic, other less quartz-rich plutonic rocks, such as monzonite or gabbro. |
| 17 | PLUT_QTZ | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Igneous, generally felsic, quartz-rich plutonic rocks such as granitoids, granite, granodacite. |
| 18 | VOLC_OTH | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Igneous, generally mafic, volcanic rocks, such as basalt that are mineralogically equivalent to the less quartz-rich plutonic rocks |
| 19 | VOLC_QTZ | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Igneous, generally felsic, volcanic rocks such as rhyolite and dacite that are mineralogically equivalent to the quartz-rich plutonic rocks |
| 20 | WATER | Estimated percent of the catchment covered by Water or ice. |
| Topography | | |
| 1 | BANKFULL_WIDTH | Estimated bankfull width of flowline reach calculated using Bieger 's regression equation (Bieger et al, 2015) |
| 2 | BANKFULL_DEPTH | Estimated bankfull depth of flowline reach calculated using Bieger 's regression equation (Bieger et al, 2015) |
| 3 | BANKFULL_XSEC_AR EA | Estimated bankfull cross sectional area of flowline reach calculated using Bieger 's regression equation (Bieger et al, 2015) |
| 4 | sinuosity | Flowline reach sinuosity at the flowline reach scale only |
| 5 | TOT_BASIN_SLOPE | Average slope in percent of all upstream flowline catchments |
| 6 | TOT_ELEV_MEAN | Mean elevation in meters of all upstream flowline catchments |
| 7 | TOT_STREAM_SLOPE | Average slope in percent flowlines |
| 8 | TOT_STREAM_LEN GTH | Total length of all upstream flowlines in kilometers |
| Climate | | |
| 1 | TOT_RF7100 | Accumulated estimated watershed mean annual average for the Rainfall and Runoff factor ("R factor" of Universal Soil Loss Equation) for the period 1971-2000 in hundreds of foot-ton force-inch/acre-hour per year for the period 1971-2000 |

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| 2 | TOT_WDANN | Accumulated value for all upstream catchments for the annual 30 year average (1961-1990) number of days of measurable precipitation |
| 3 | TOT_PRSNOW | Accumulated estimated mean annual snow as a percent of total precipitation, 1905-2002 |
| 4 | AI | Aridity Index |
| 5 | TOT_Temperature | Accumulated annual value of temperature |
| 6 | TOT_RFACT | R factor of Universal Soil Loss Equation |
| NHDPlus | | |
| 1 | lengthkm | Flowline length in kilometers |
| 2 | streamorde | stream order |
| 3 | totdasqkm | Drainage area in square kilometers |
| 4 | maxelevsmo | maximum elevation of flowline |
| 5 | minelevsmo | minmum elevation of flowline |
| 6 | slope | Flowline slope |
| 7 | ve_ma | flow velocity |
| 8 | pathlength | Flowline distance from the basin outlet(termnial outlet) |
| Hydrology | | |
| 1 | TOT_RUN7100 | Accumulated estimated 30-year (1971-2000) average annual runoff, mm/year based on total upstream accumulation |
| 2 | TOT_STRM_DENS | Density of streams defined as stream length (meters) divided by catchment(s) area (square meters). |
| 3 | TOT_HLR_1 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains subhumid plains with permeable soils and bedrock |
| 4 | TOT_HLR_2 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid plains with permeable soils and bedrock |
| 5 | TOT_HLR_3 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains subhumid plains with impermeable soils and permeable bedrock |
| 6 | TOT_HLR_4 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid plains with permeable soils and bedrock |
| 7 | TOT_HLR_5 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains arid plains with permeable soils and bedrock |

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| 8 | TOT_HLR_6 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains subhumid plains with impermeable soils and bedrock |
| 9 | TOT_HLR_7 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid plains with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 10 | TOT_HLR_8 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid plains with impermeable soils and bedrock |
| 11 | TOT_HLR_9 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid plateaus with impermeable soils and permeable bedrock |
| 12 | TOT_HLR_10 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains arid plateaus with impermeable soils and permeable bedrock |
| 13 | TOT_HLR_11 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid plateaus with impermeable soils and bedrock |
| 14 | TOT_HLR_12 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid plateaus with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 15 | TOT_HLR_13 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid plateaus with impermeable soils and bedrock |
| 16 | TOT_HLR_14 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains arid playas with permeable soils and bedrock |
| 17 | TOT_HLR_15 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid mountains with impermeable soils and permeable bedrock |
| 18 | TOT_HLR_16 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid mountains with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 19 | TOT_HLR_17 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid mountains with impermeable soils and bedrock |
| 20 | TOT_HLR_18 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains semi arid mountains with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 21 | TOT_HLR_19 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains very humid mountains with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 22 | TOT_HLR_20 | Accumulated estimated percent of catchment that contains humid mountains with permeable soils and impermeable bedrock |
| 23 | TOT_SATOF | Accumulated mean saturation overland flow as a percent of streamflow based on total upstream accumulation |

| | | |
|----|-------------|--|
| 24 | TOT_IEOF | Accumulated mean infiltration-excess overland flow as a percent of streamflow based on total upstream accumulation |
| 25 | TOT_TWI | Accumulated average topographic wetness index based on total upstream accumulation |
| 26 | TOT_CONTACT | Accumulated contact time, the length of time it takes for water to drain along subsurface flow paths to the stream, based on total upstream accumulation |