

Clean Water For All (CWFA)

A UK+US collaboration



Portland State
UNIVERSITY

bluegreencities.ac.uk



Climate change and flood risk: understanding and communicating risk and uncertainty

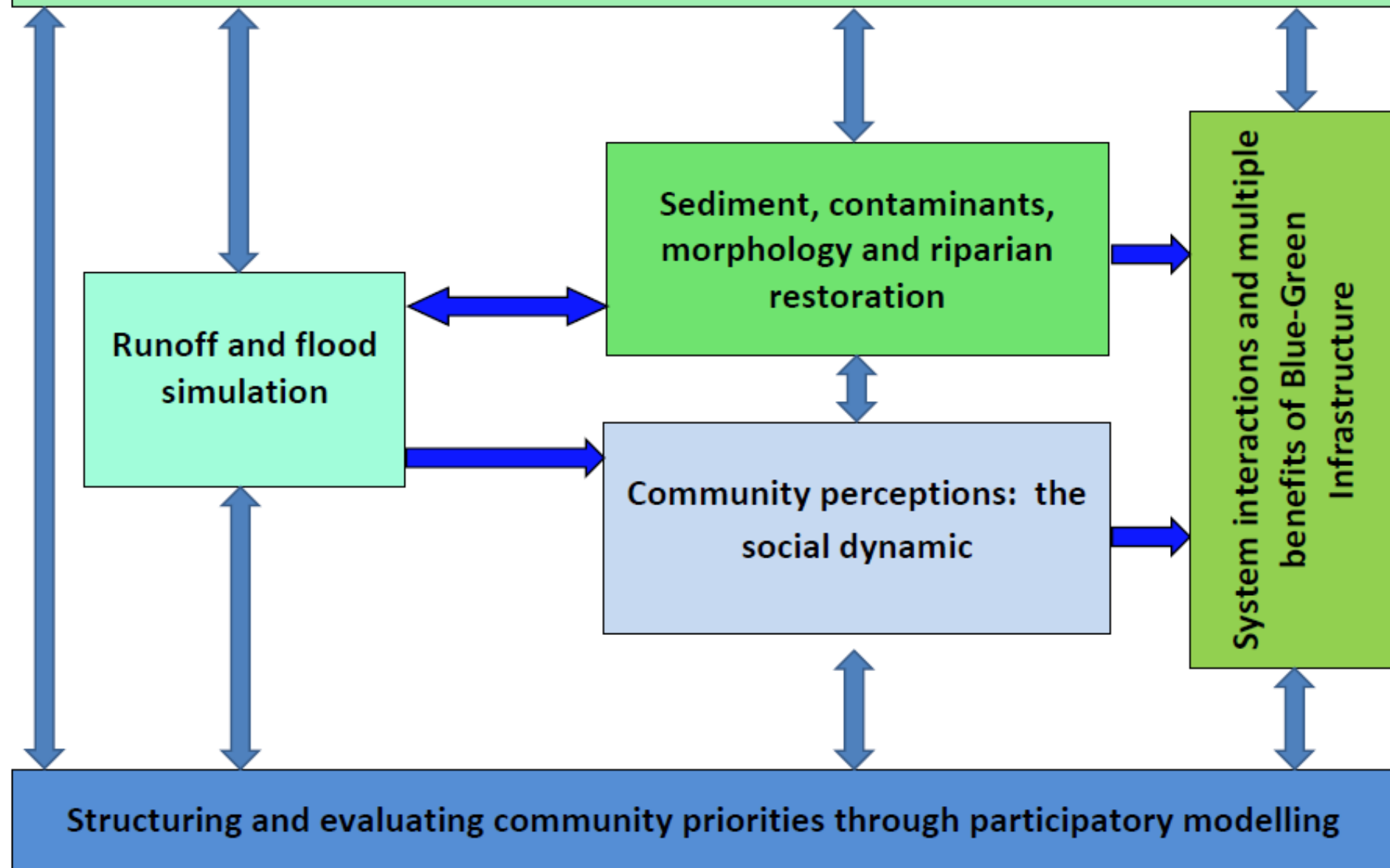
**Runoff and flood
simulation**

**Sediment, contaminants,
morphology and riparian
restoration**

**Community perceptions: the
social dynamic**

**System interactions and multiple
benefits of Blue-Green
Infrastructure**

Structuring and evaluating community priorities through participatory modelling





Our team



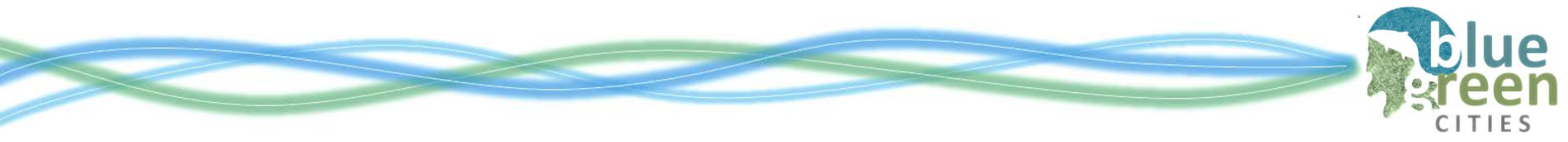
SUDS

Ouseburn River basin north of
Newcastle, UK, March 2014

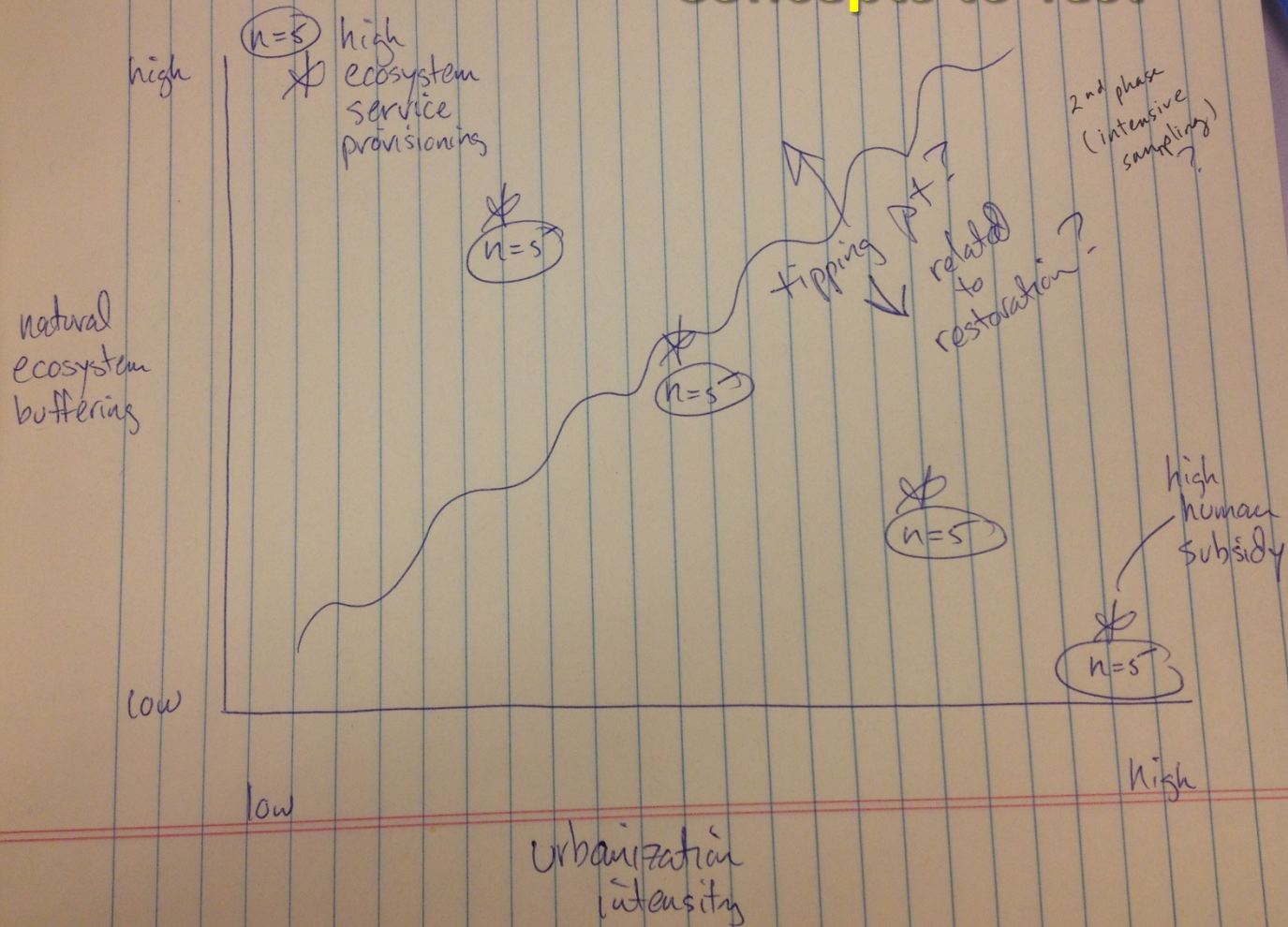
*Learning from other cultures and their challenges
and successes ...*



Stiffkey Stream in Norfolk



Concepts to Test



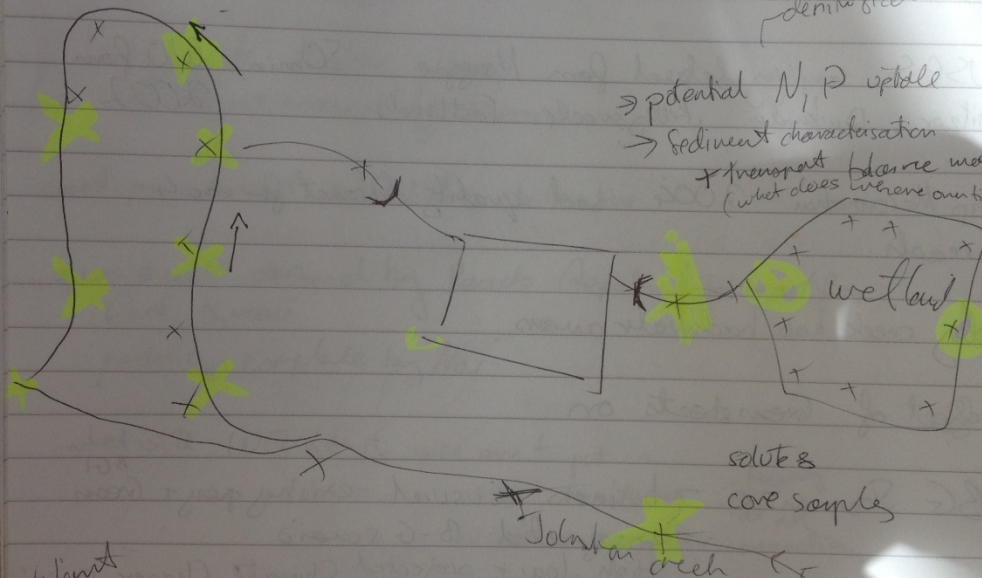
Methods Sketches

Clean water services dataset of channeling removal

- US + DS of PCB source
- US + DS of outfall.

habitat mapping
denitrification

→ potential N, P uptake
→ sediment characterisation
+ transport balance model
(what does it mean on time)



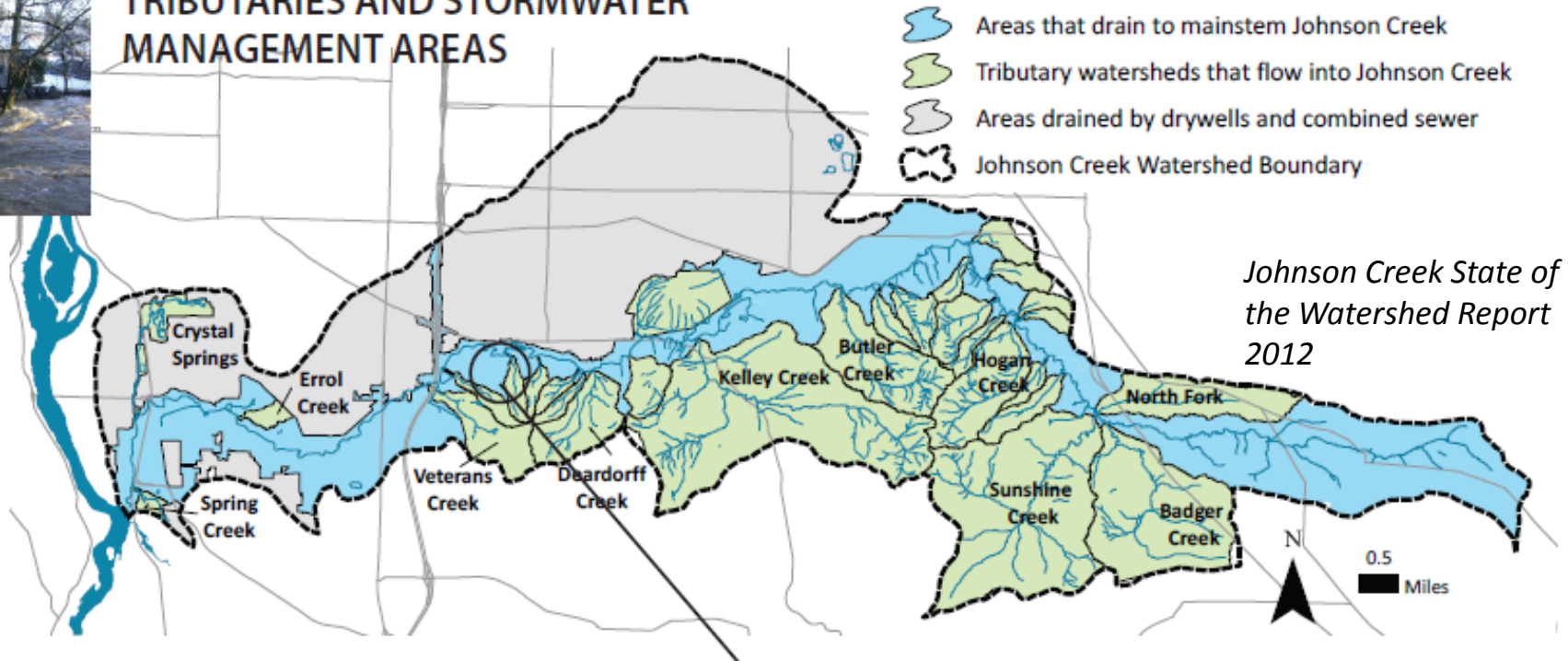
Went
- CO_2 - microbial health.
- habitat link

- Micros oxide exp - denitrification
- heavy metals analysis

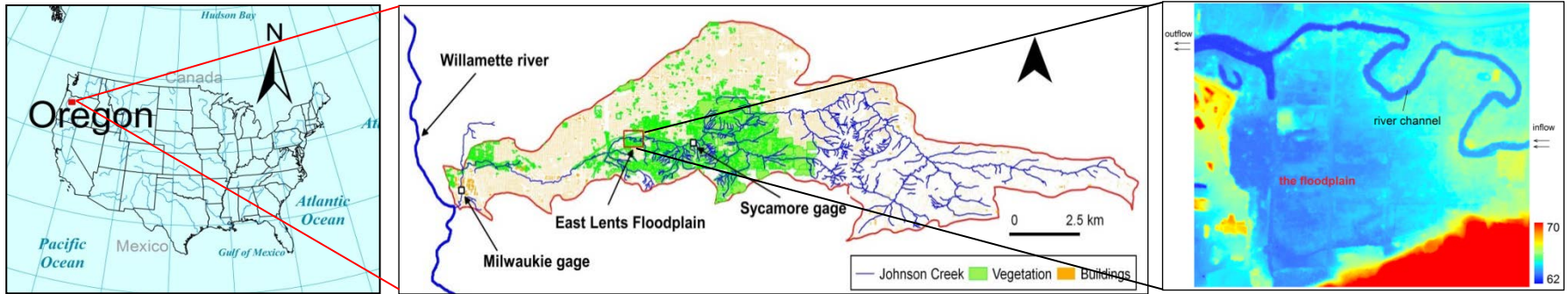
Case Study: Johnson Creek, Portland, OR



TRIBUTARIES AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT AREAS



Sediment transport modelling in the East Lents floodplain restoration project, Portland, Oregon

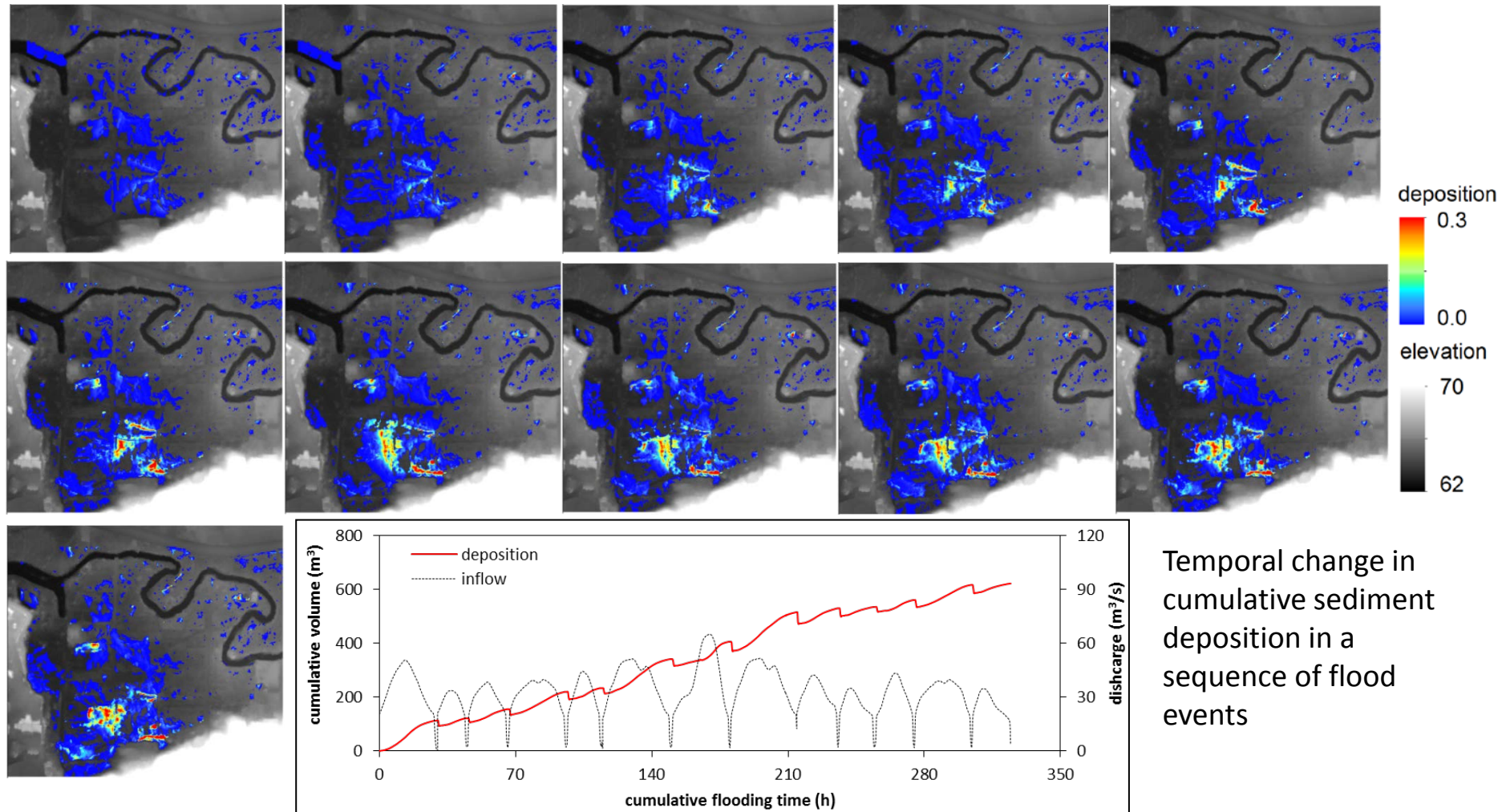


- East Lents floodplain (~28 ha), downstream Johnson Creek
- Flow data sets at Sycamore (USGS – 14211500) gage were used
- Sediment mode: suspended load and washload
- Input SSC was estimated using the derived equation by the (USGS)

$$\log_{10} \text{SSC} = 1.024 \log_{10} T + 0.143 \log_{10} Q - 0.419 \quad \log_{10} T = 0.455 \log_{10} Q + 0.947$$

Aim: to predict sediment deposition in a floodplain during short-term and long-term flood events using a recently updated 2D hydro-morphodynamic model

Sediment deposition in the floodplain during continuous flooding



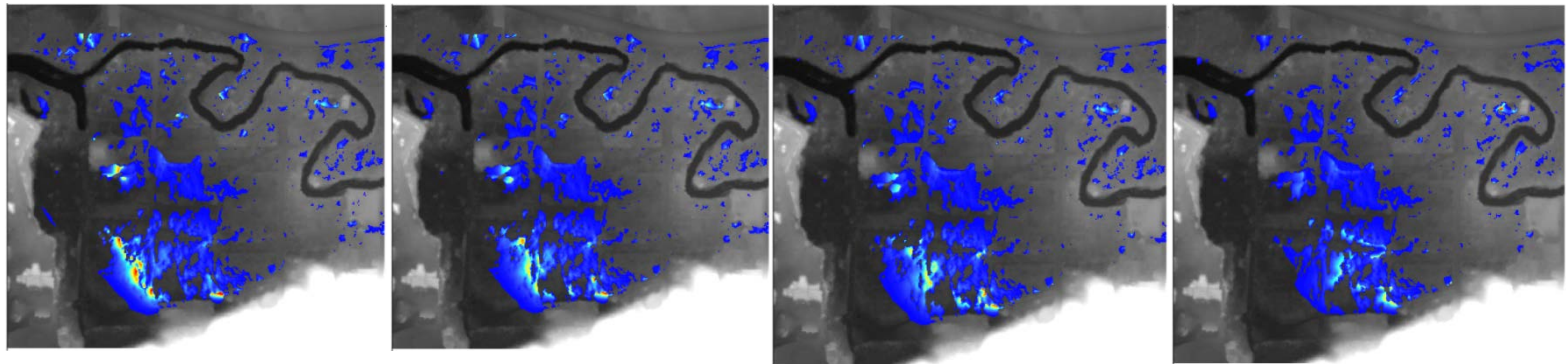
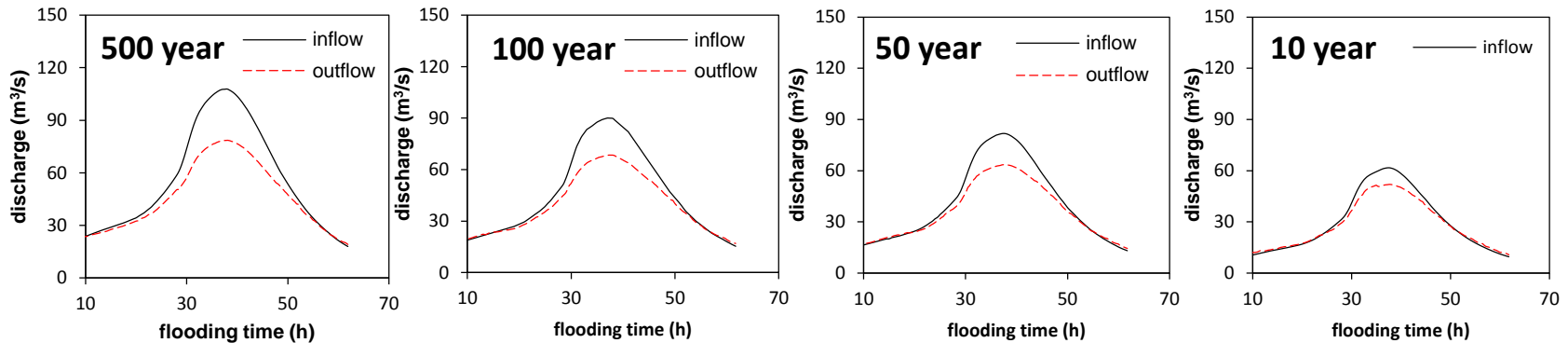
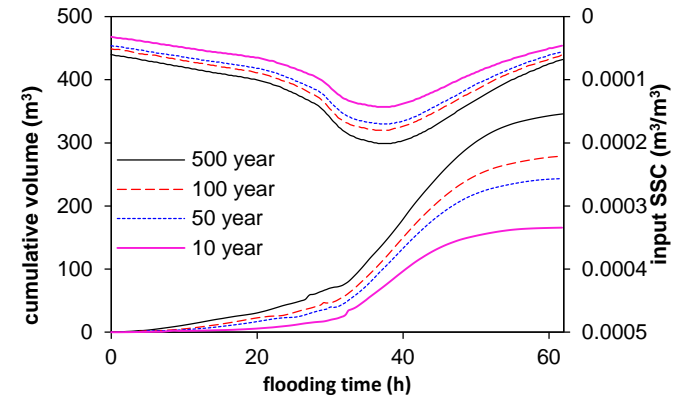
Temporal change in cumulative sediment deposition in a sequence of flood events

- Sediment deposition (volume, depth and cumulative volume) gradually increase as flooding increases
- Deposited sediments are partially re-suspended at the beginning of the next flood in the sequence
- The focus of the deposition moved downstream with the flooding

Event-scale deposition in the floodplain

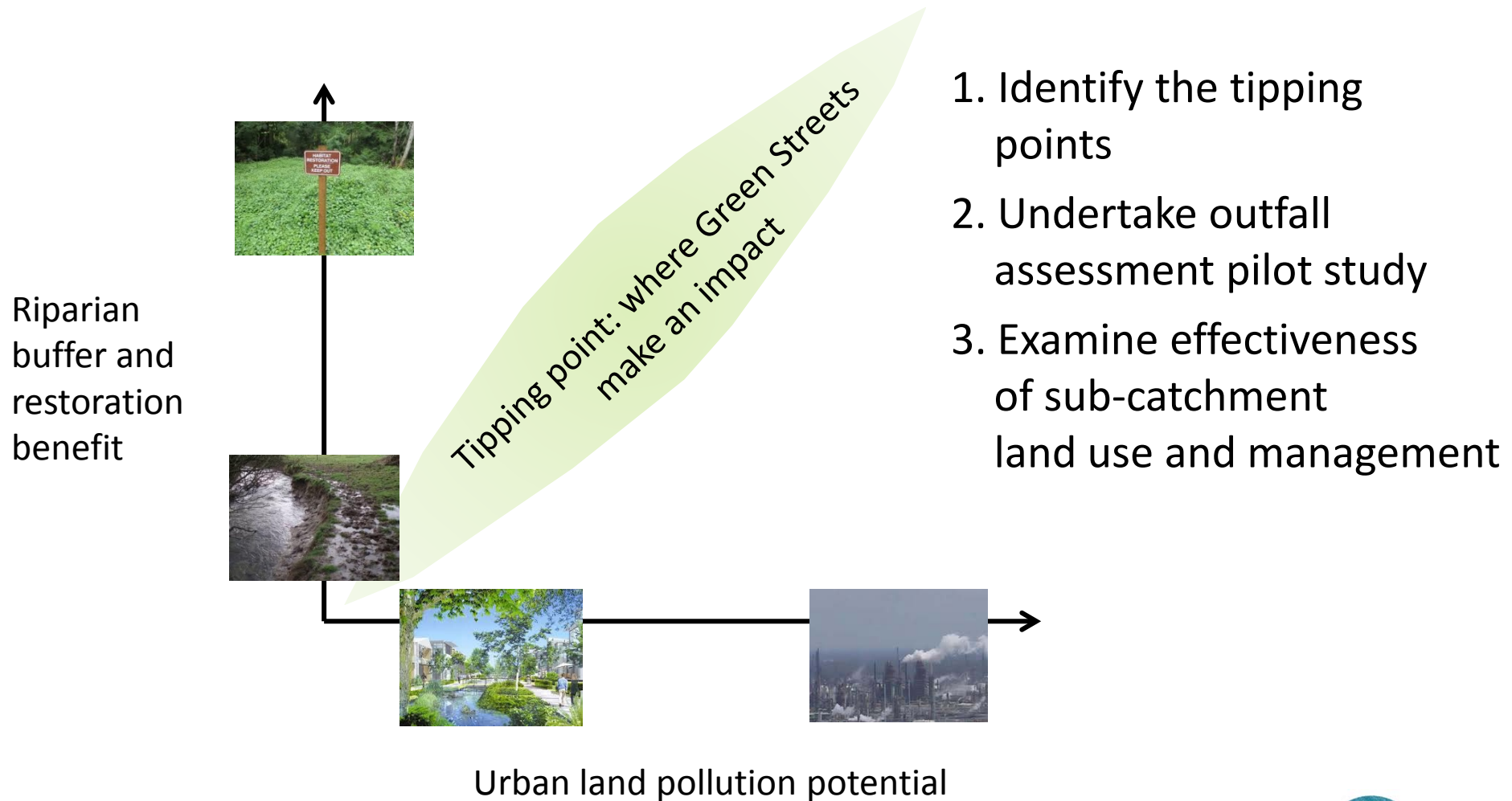
- The reduction of the flood peak is more significant for a bigger flood
- 20% - 25% of the total input sediments is deposited in the floodplain
- More deposition occurs during the recession climb of the hydrograph

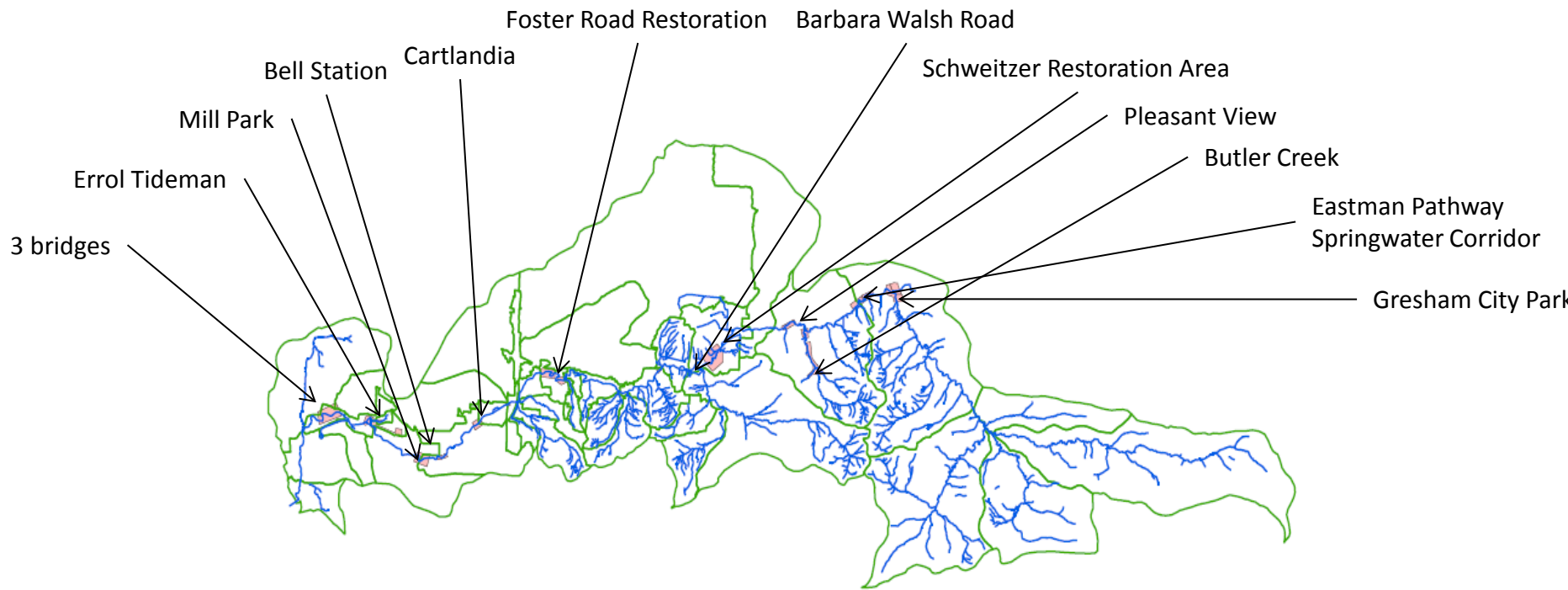
Temporal cumulative deposition in the floodplain



Flow discharge at the inlet and outlet of the river (*row above*), Final cumulative sediment deposition in the floodplain for the floods of 500 year, 100 year, 50 year, and 10 year (*row below*)

Examining the influence of land use and riparian restoration on stream health and water quality





1. Laboratory analysis

- Reach modification and habitat scoring
- 17 heavy metal analyses
- CO₂ respiration analysis
- Denitrification potential
- Phosphorus conc.
- Organic matter content

2. Analysis

- Trend and correlation of heavy metals, microbial respiration, habitat value and modification
- PCA of habitats and heavy metals
- Spatial analysis of habitats, heavy metals, CO₂ and denitrification potential

18 Reaches
181 Samples
45 Outfalls

Blue-Green infrastructure for water quality improvements

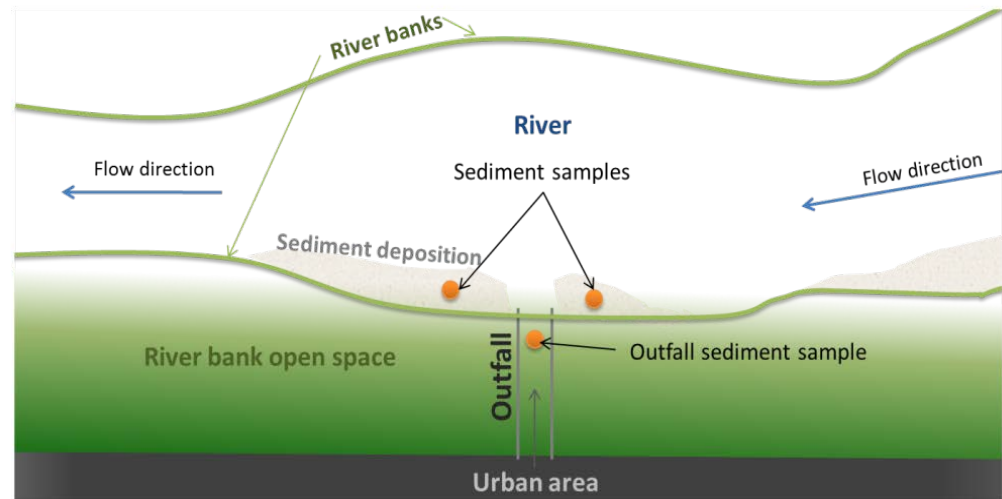
Catchment composition influence on the urban heavy metal pollution of urban waterways

- There is a link between land use, catchment composition and stormwater outfall pollutant concentration
- Empirical description of catchment composition drivers of sediment pollutant concentration



Setback stormwater outfall functionality as a SuDS asset

- Setbacks improve Ni, Ca, Mg, Na, Zn, Cu, K and P urban sediment concentration
- They function as a water treatment measure – SuDS
- Strong relationship between river reach pollutant concentration and setback



Delivering green streets: an exploration of perceptions and behaviours over time

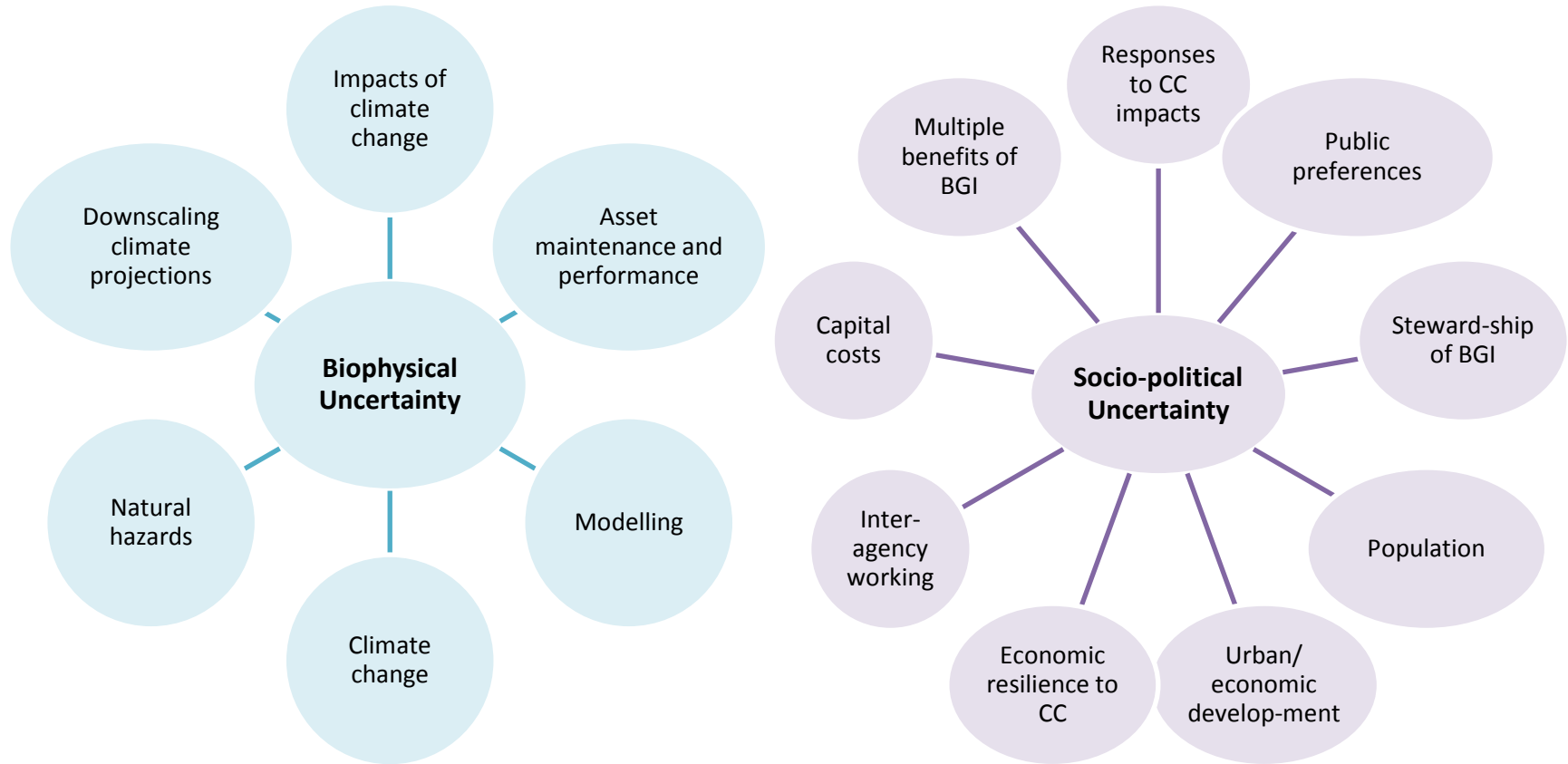
Aim: To explore the multiple perceived benefits (and costs) of adopting a 'blue-green' approach to flood risk management and whether perceptions change over time (resident interviews)

Key findings:

- Discontent over paying for green streets
- Loss of parking perceived as significant disadvantage by some
- Increased green space and traffic calming appreciated by many residents
- Low awareness and understanding of purpose and function of green streets (and maintenance requirements, beyond not littering)
- Some dissatisfaction with plant choice in green streets
 - Partly due to misunderstanding function, but also aesthetics and safety factors
- No observable opinion change over time
- Portland would benefit from public consultation on what public wanted *before* installation (e.g. trees), and from more public engagement and consultation re. awareness-raising and adjustments. This should be on-going due to changes in occupancy.



Understanding and overcoming **uncertainty** and **lack of confidence** as **barriers** to wide adoption of blue-green infrastructure for urban flood risk management



➤ ***Socio-political uncertainties***, notably public preferences, stewardship and equitable delivery of blue-green infrastructure assets, ***appear to have a greater impact*** on decision making in Portland than the biophysical uncertainties

CWFA outputs; dissemination event in Ningbo, China, 15-18th June 2015



Portland, Oregon

Blue-Green Cities are working with:



Portland State
UNIVERSITY



Johnson Creek
Watershed Council



REED COLLEGE



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND

Ningbo, China

Blue-Green Cities are working with Ningbo academics
James Griffiths, David Higgitt, Faith Chan and Odette Paramor





Put a cork in it my feathered friend 😊