

Climate Change Impacts on Snow, Glaciers and Water Resources in the Pacific Northwest: Connections Throughout the Watershed

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Traditional perspectives in mountain geography have tended to divide the landscape into highlands and lowlands. However, as hydrologists, we understand that water knows no such boundaries. This presentation discusses connections across various aspects of watersheds including both natural and human elements. Examples of climate change impacts on Pacific Northwest seasonal snow, glaciers and water resources are presented in the context of geologic and ecosystem connections and water management. Lastly, a new eco-hydrologic paradigm for characterizing watershed-scale processes is introduced that includes climate and human forcings and feedbacks.