

# Evapotranspiration from the Southern Boreal Forest 1999 to 2006

A.G. Barr <sup>1</sup>, T.A. Black <sup>2</sup>, J.H. McCaughey <sup>3</sup>,  
G. van der Kamp <sup>1</sup>, and Z. Nestic <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Science and Technology Branch, Environment Canada;

<sup>2</sup> Agroecology, U.B.C.; <sup>3</sup> Geography, Queen's U.



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# Purpose

Introduce BERMS  
data sets

Explore responses to  
2001-2003 drought





# Outline

Introduction

2001-2003 Drought

Evapotranspiration

Water Balance

Summary

# Boreal Ecosystem Research and Monitoring Sites (BERMS)



Eddy-covariance  
flux towers 1994+

Located at southern  
edge of boreal forest

Ecotone controlled  
by water balance,  
sensitive to climate  
change



# BERMS Flux Towers



F89



OBS



OBS



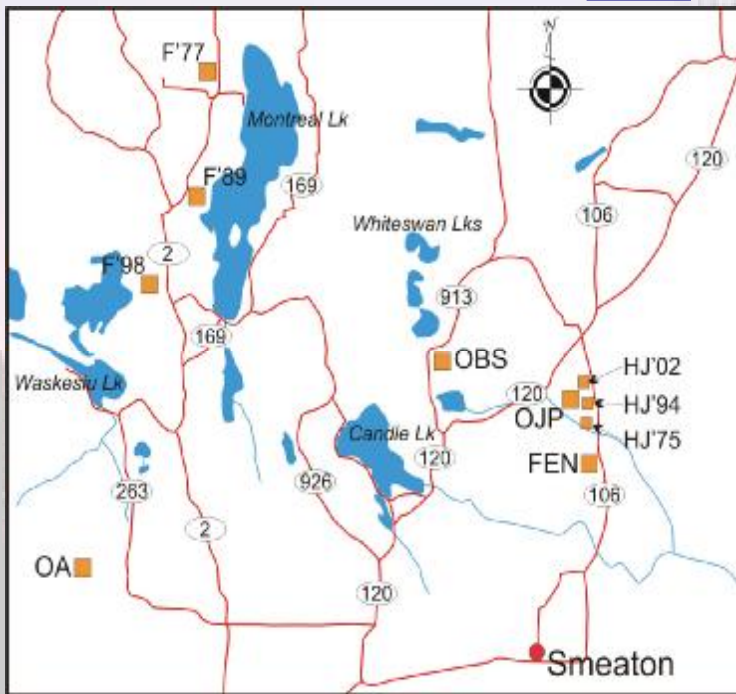
H94



F98



OA



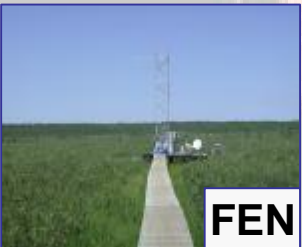
H02



H94



OA



FEN



OJP



H75



F89



OBS



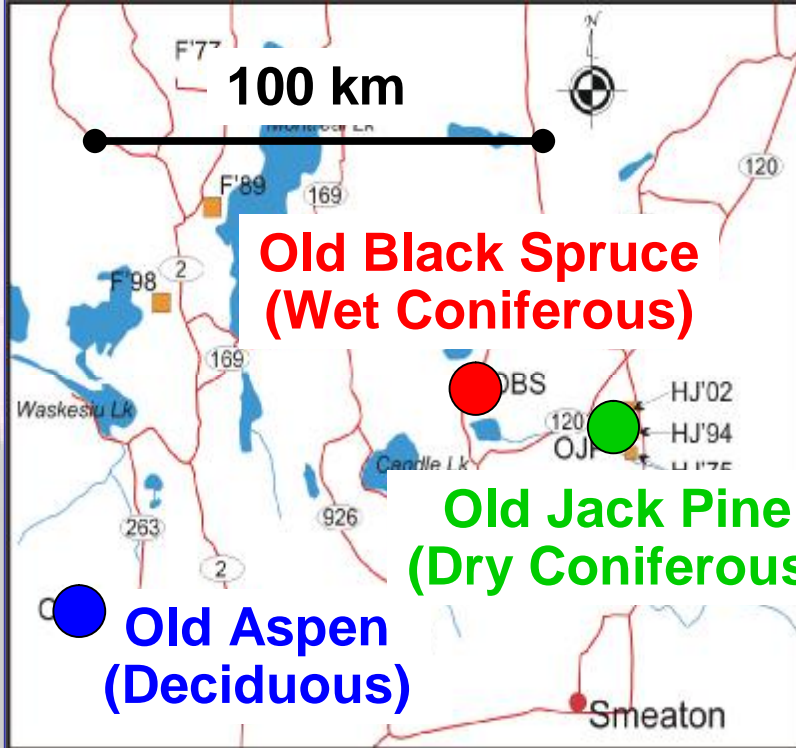
OBS



H94



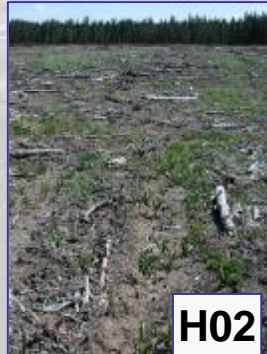
F98



**Old Black Spruce  
(Wet Coniferous)**

**Old Jack Pine  
(Dry Coniferous)**

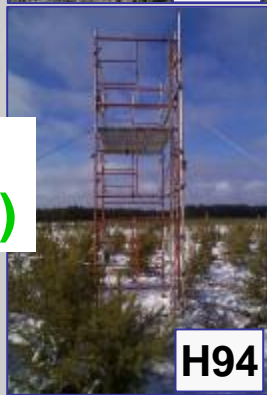
**Old Aspen  
(Deciduous)**



H02



OA



H94



OA



FEN



OJP



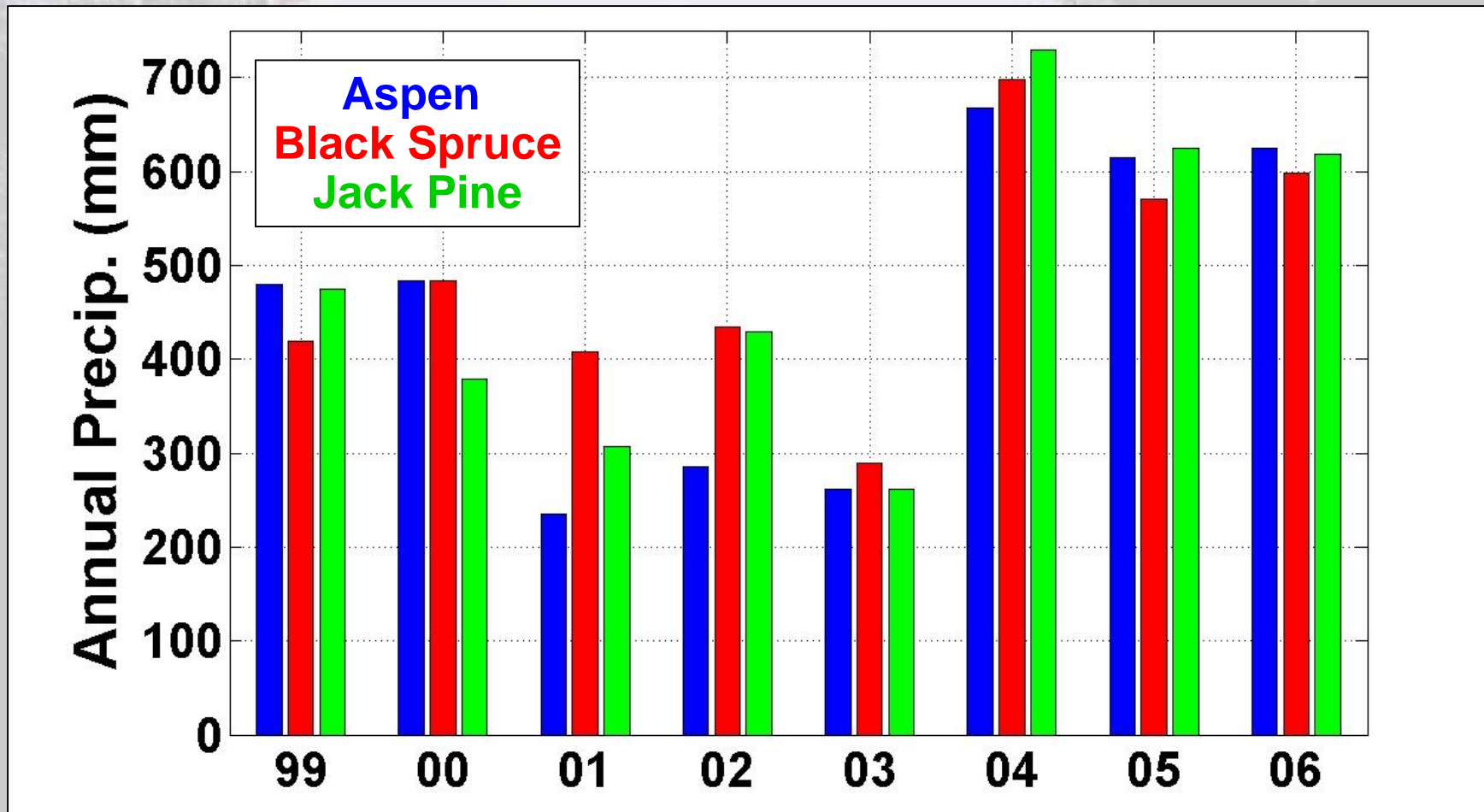
H75





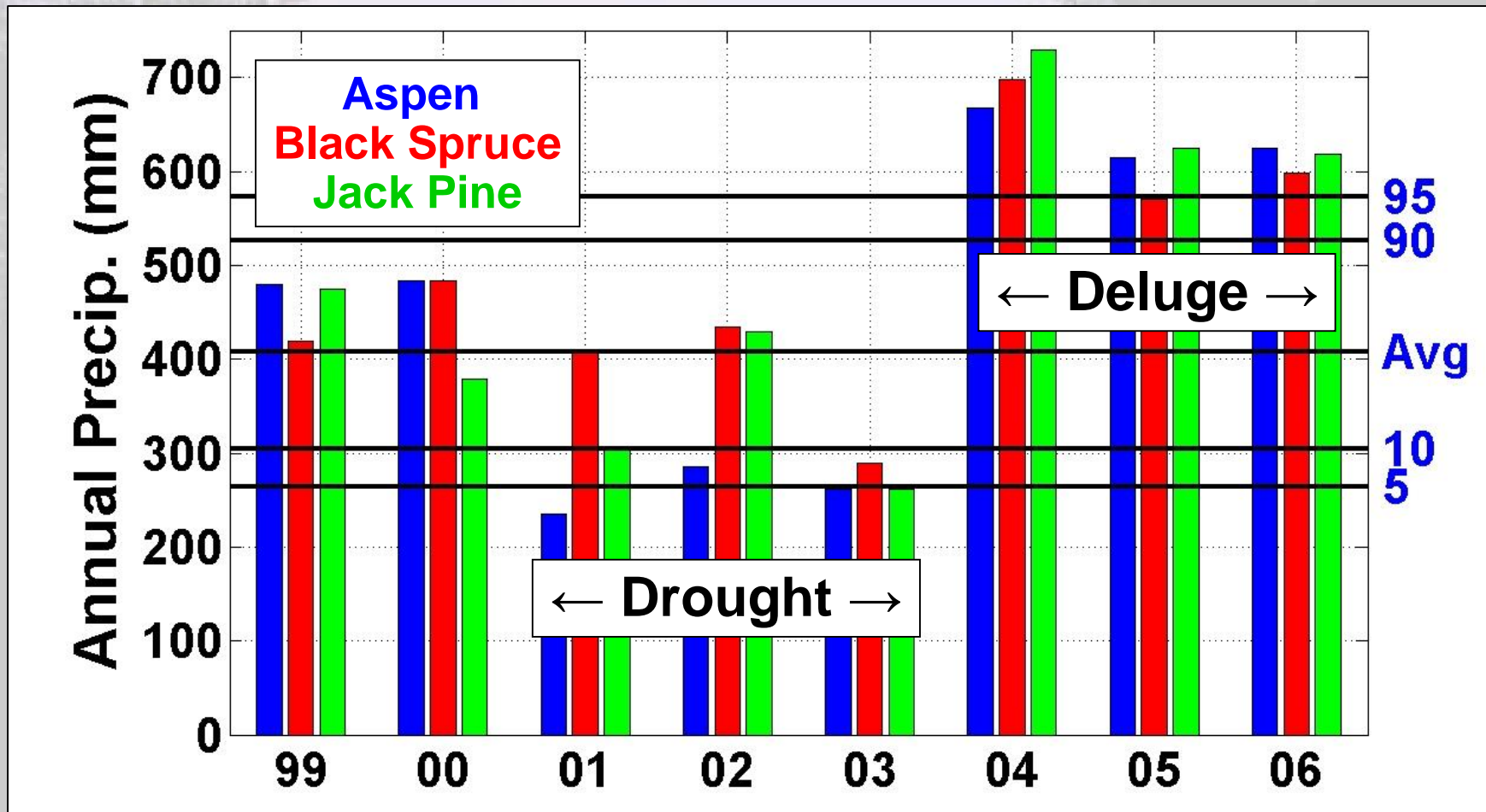
# Annual Precipitation 1999 to 2006

## Mature Forest Sites



# Annual Precipitation 1999 to 2006

(The horizontal lines show percentiles from Prince Albert, 1900-2000)

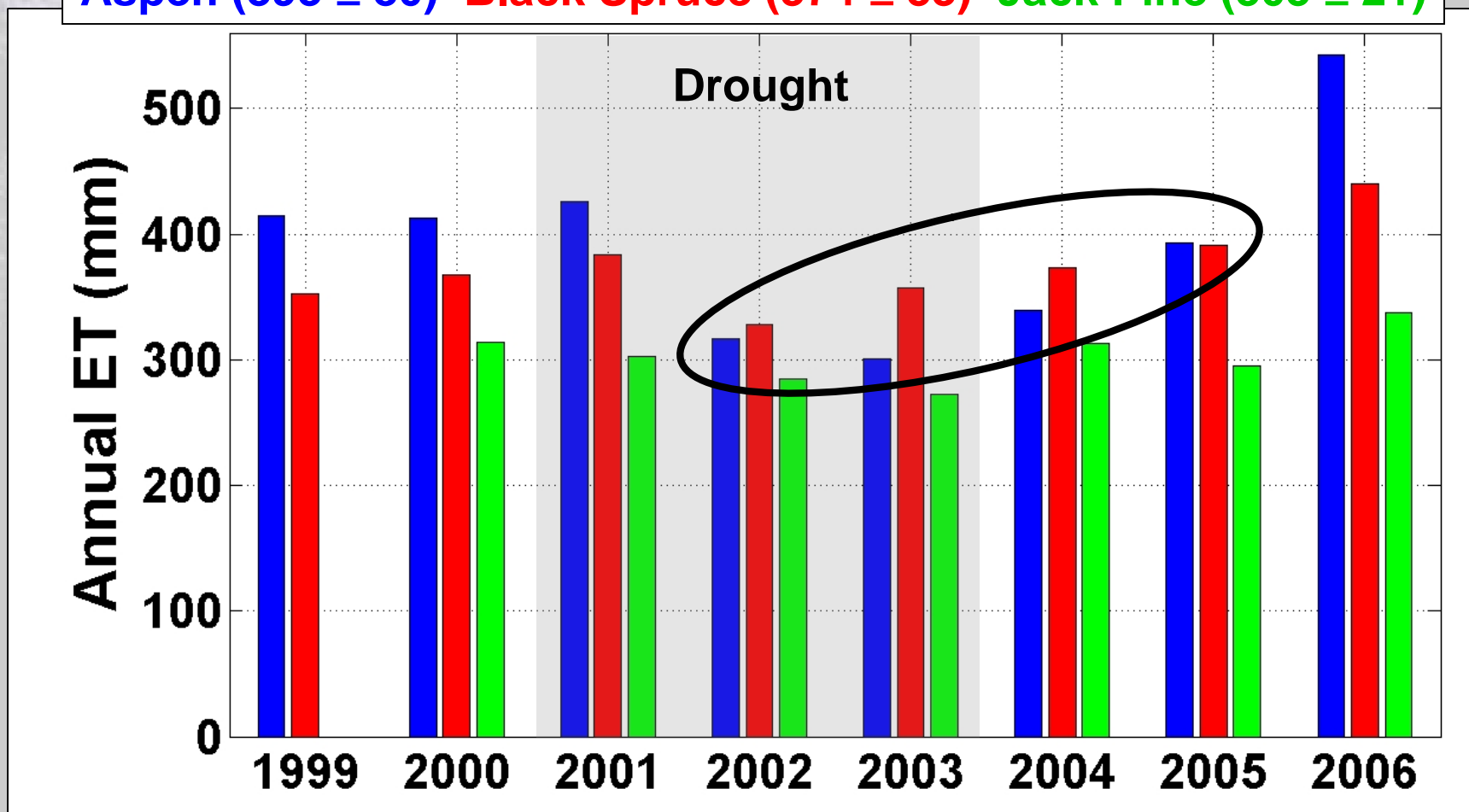




# Annual Evapotranspiration 1999 to 2006

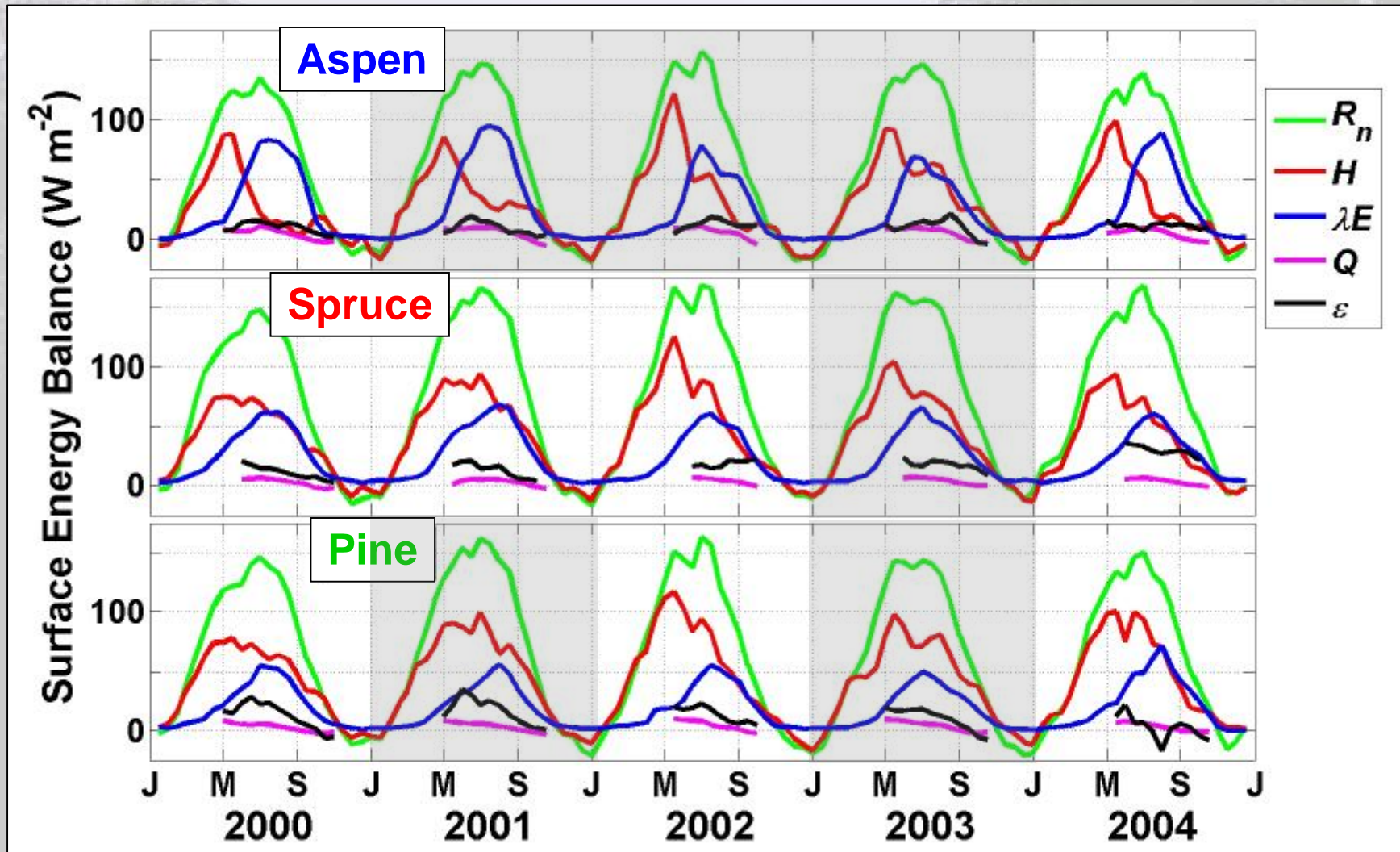
(adjusted by ~ +15% for energy-balance closure)

Aspen ( $393 \pm 80$ ) Black Spruce ( $374 \pm 33$ ) Jack Pine ( $303 \pm 21$ )

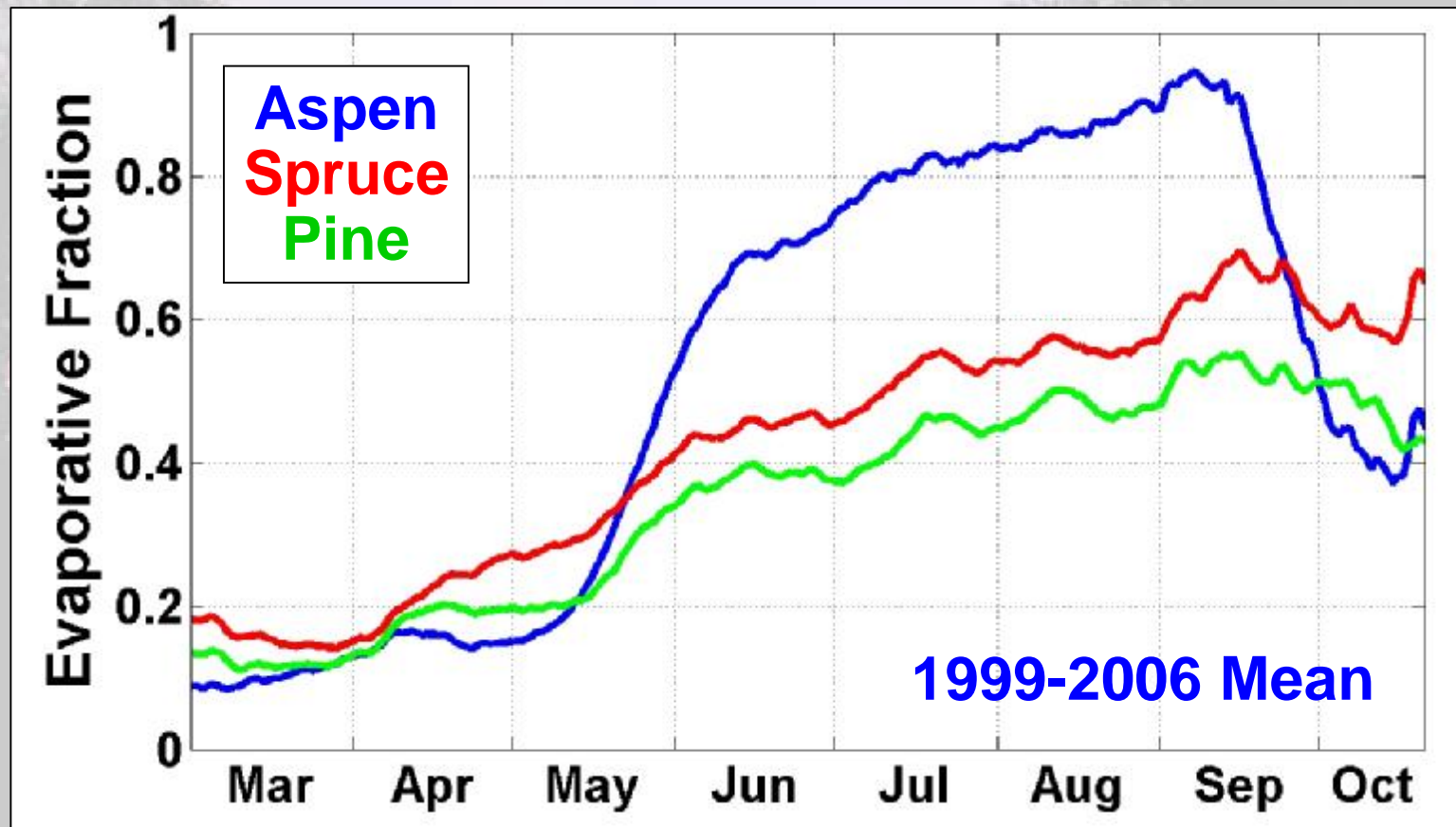


# Surface Energy Balance 2000 to 2004

(14-day means,  $R_n - Q = H + \lambda E + \varepsilon$ )

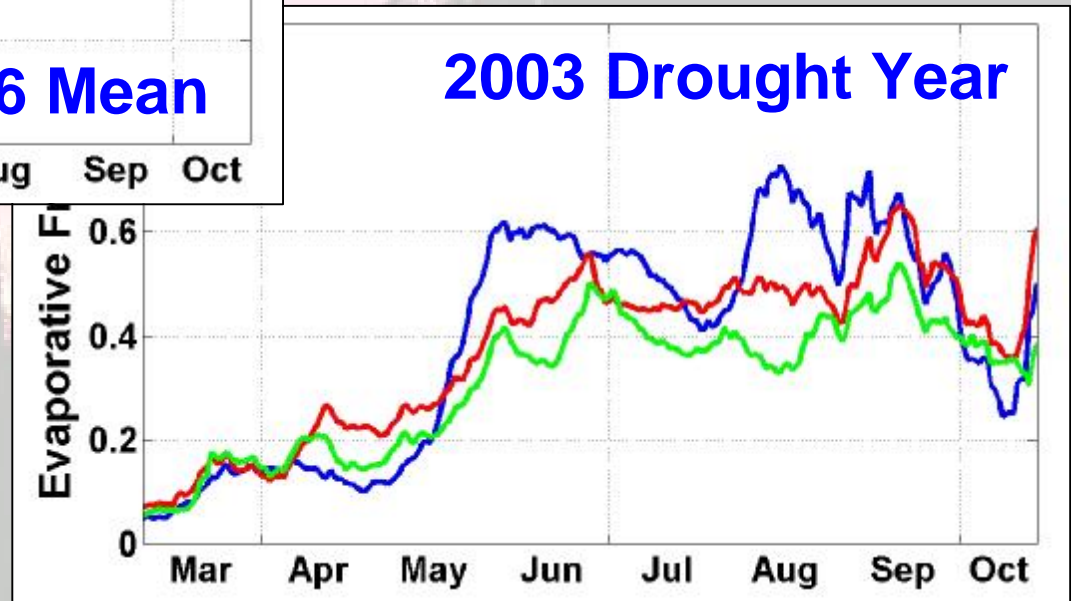
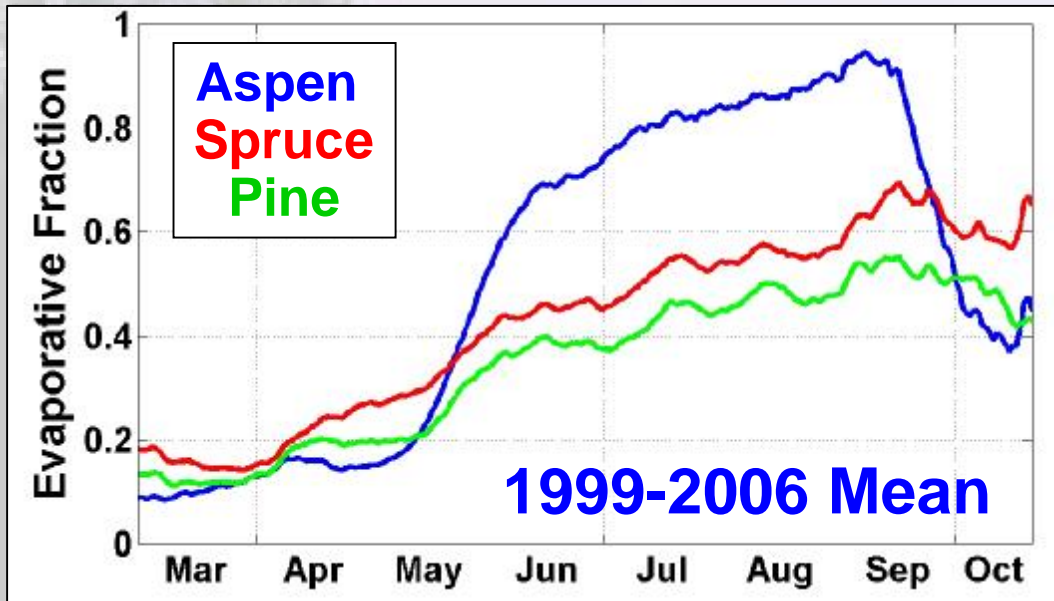


# Seasonal Cycle of Evaporative Fraction (ratio of $\lambda E$ to available energy, $\lambda E / (R_n - Q)$ ) (14-day means)



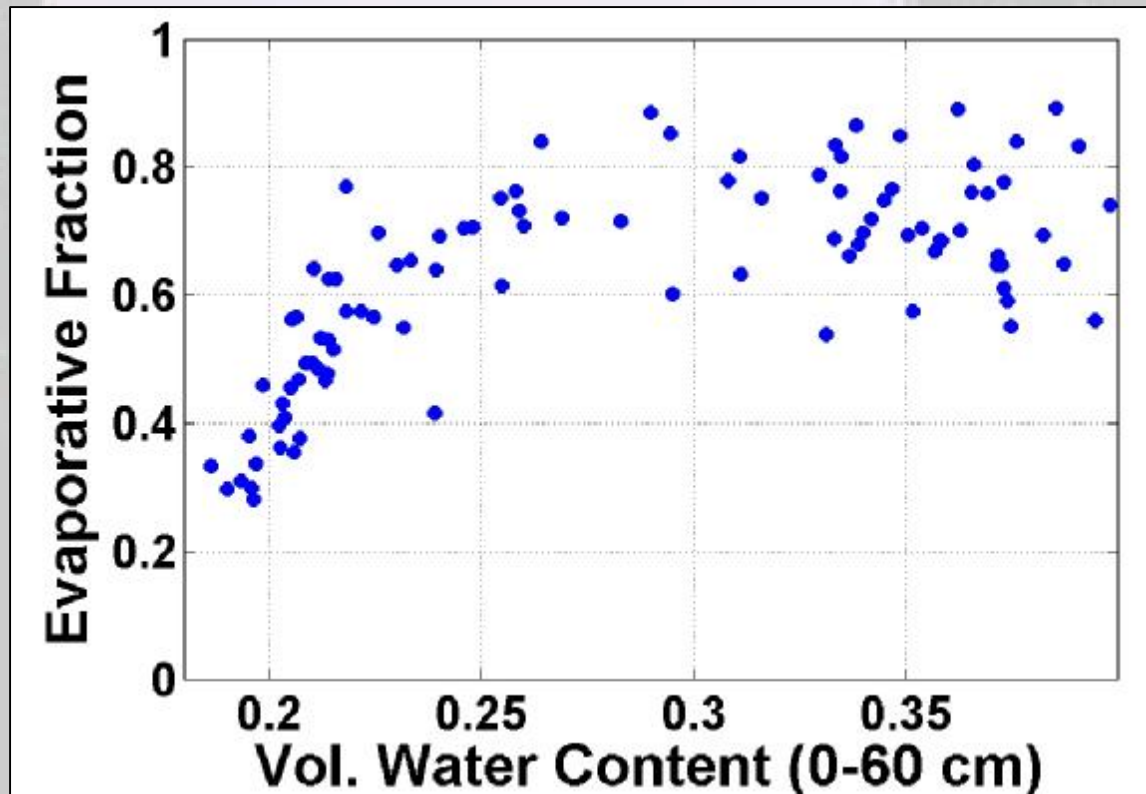


# Seasonal Cycle of Evaporative Fraction (ratio of ET to available energy, $\lambda E / (R_n - Q)$ ) (14-day means)



# Influence of Soil Water on Evaporative Fraction

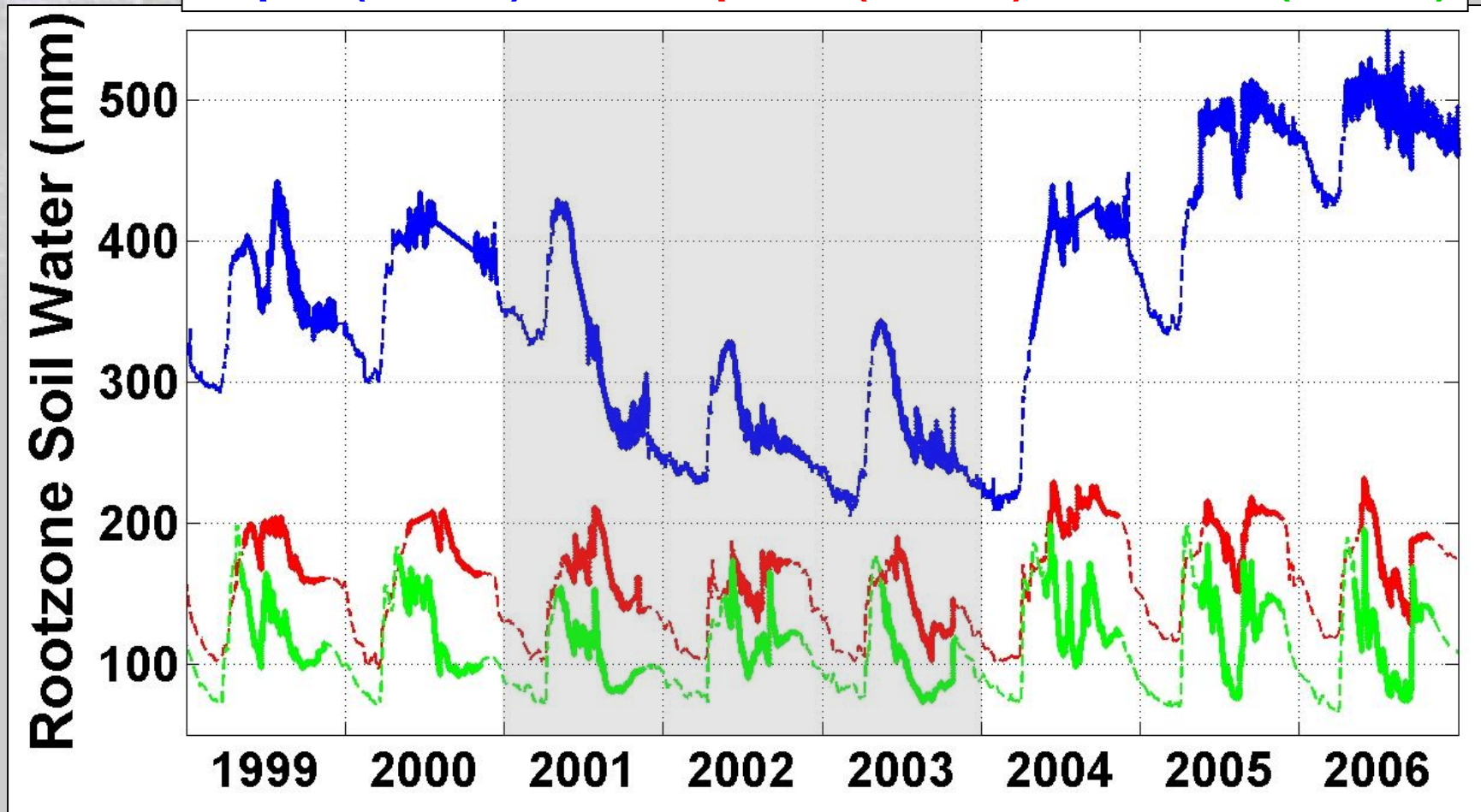
## BERMS Aspen Site, Fully-Leafed Period



# Integrated Root-Zone Soil Water

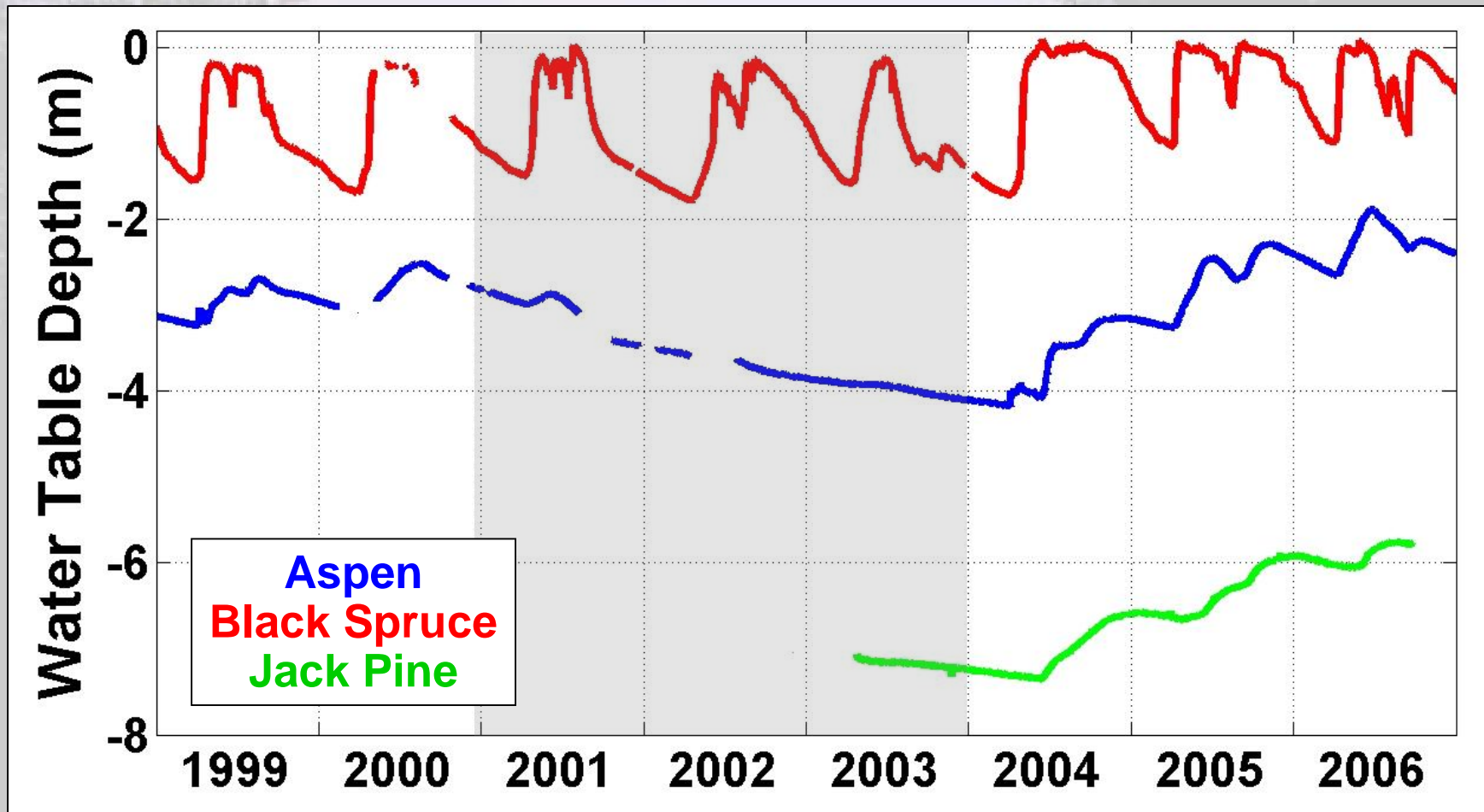
(dashed lines indicate frozen soil)

Aspen (0-1.2m) Black Spruce (0-0.3m) Jack Pine (0-1.5m)



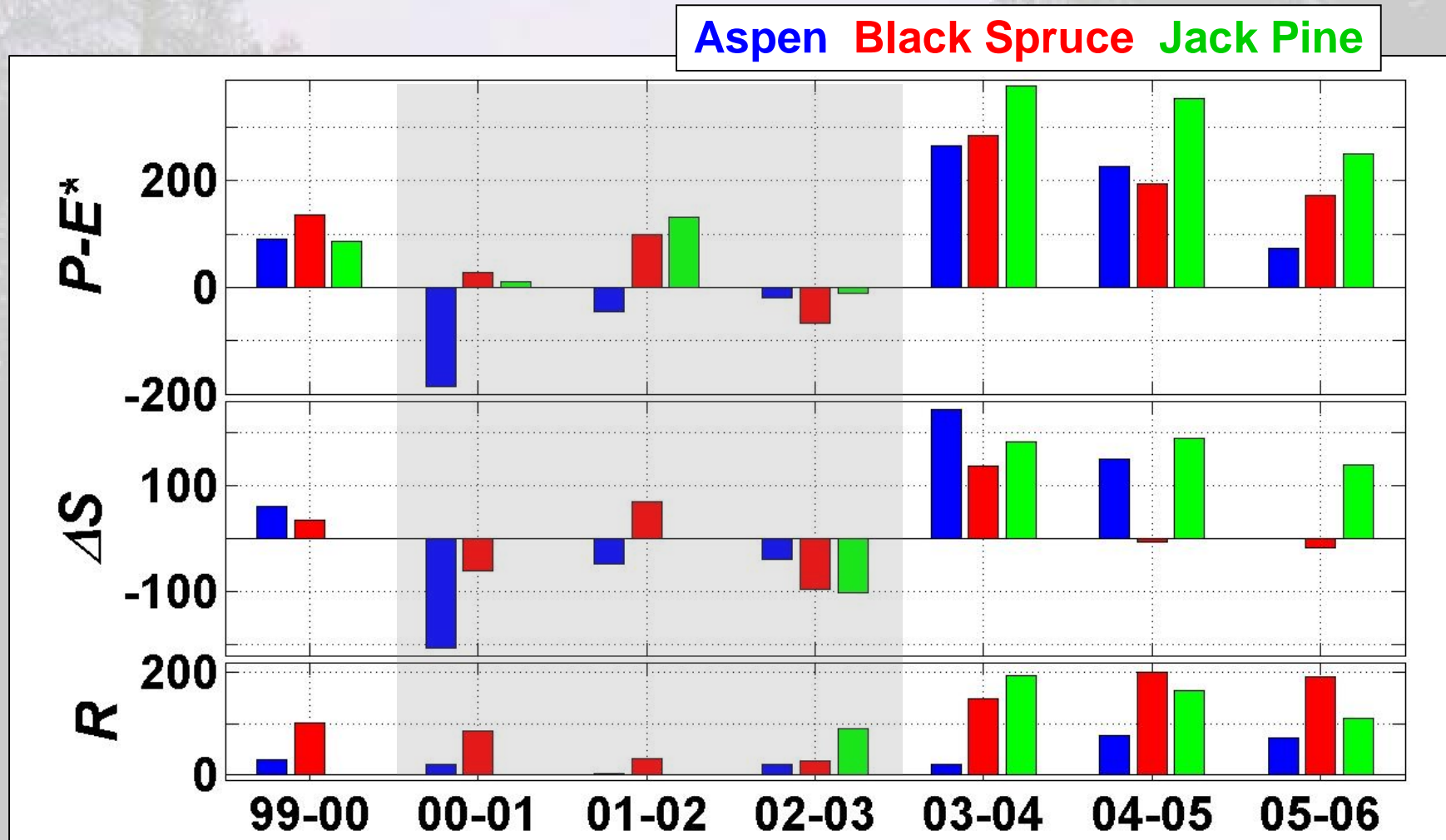


# Water Table Depth



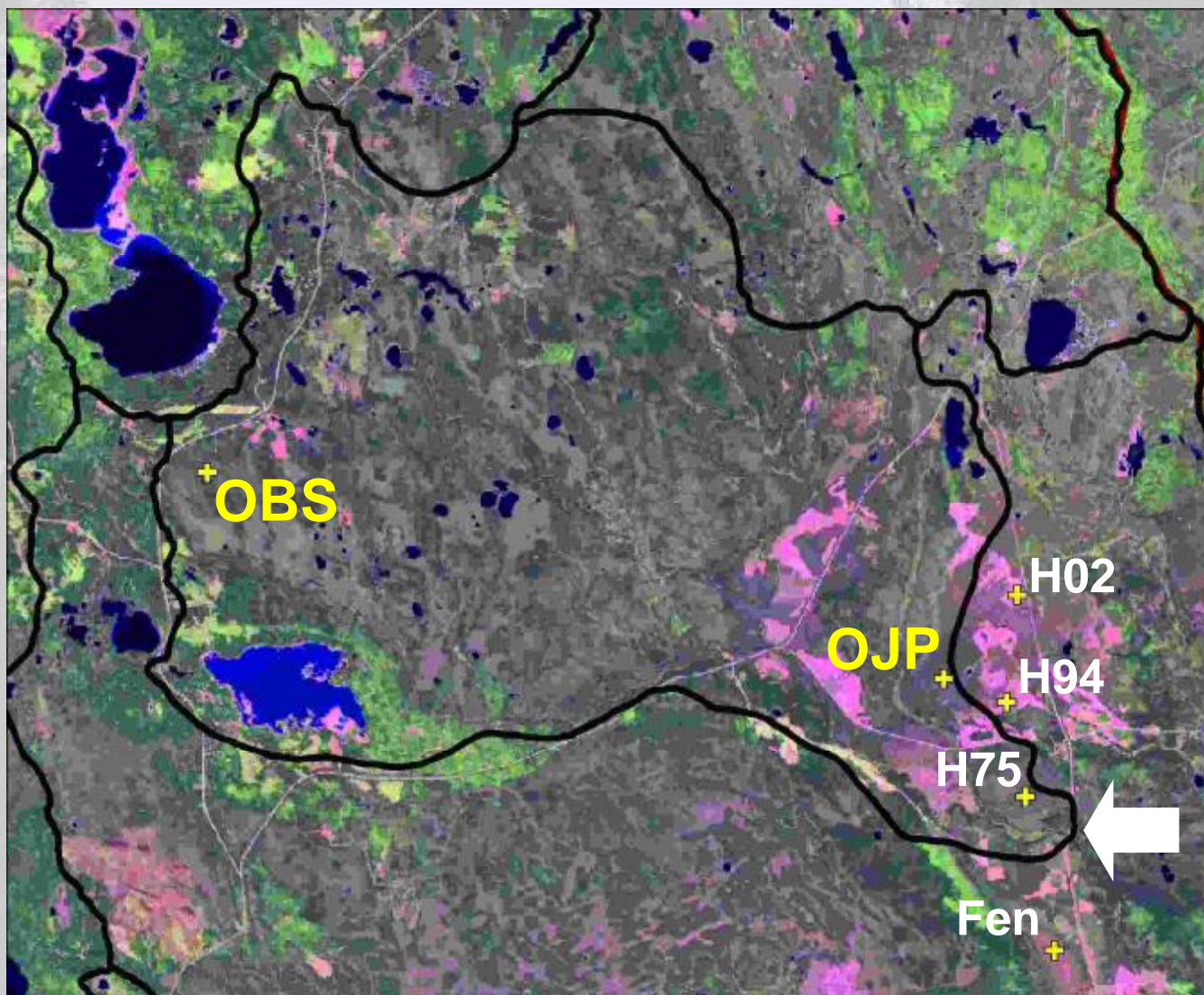
# Annual Water Balance ( $R = P - E^* - \Delta S$ )

(Oct-Sept water years)



# White Gull Basin (629 km<sup>2</sup>)

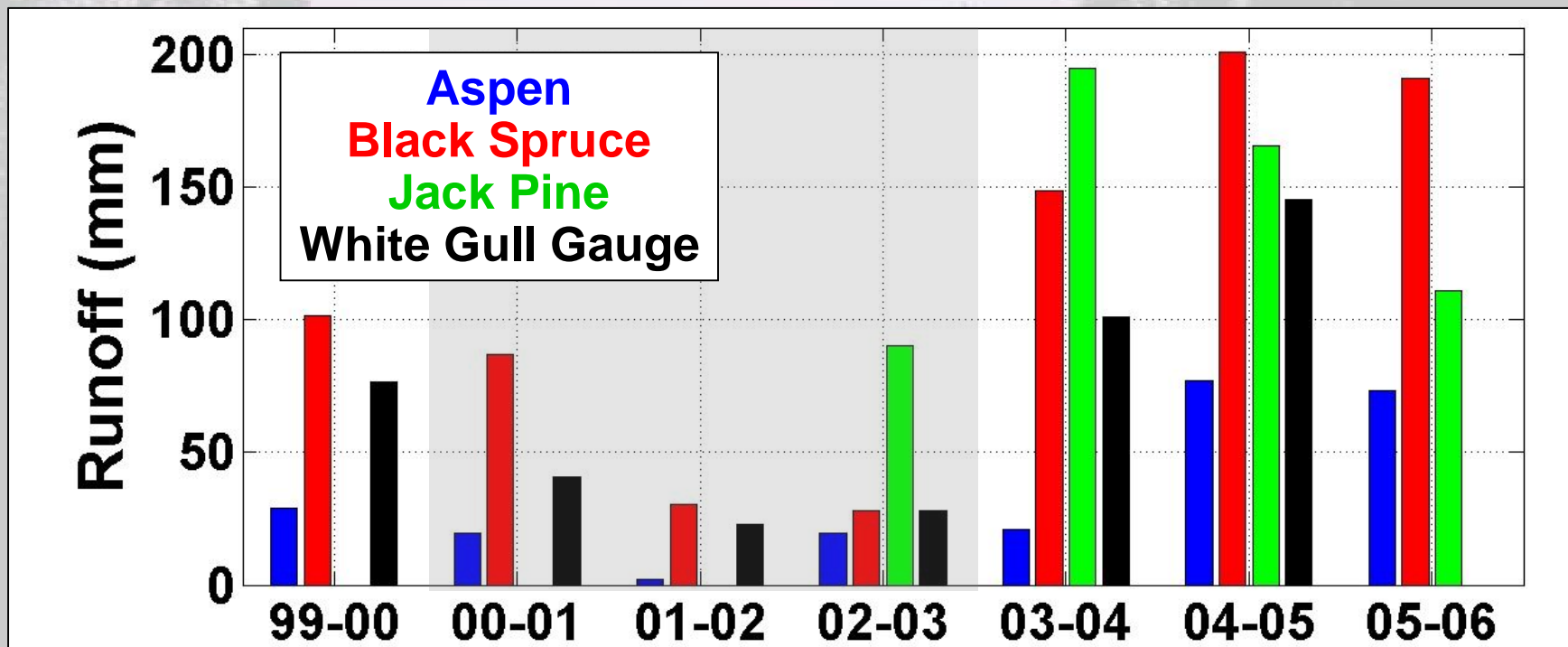
(Green - mixed wood; dark grey - conifers; light grey - wetlands; pink - disturbed)



Stream gauge



# Annual Runoff ( $P - E^* - \Delta S$ ) at Flux Towers vis-à-vis Gauged White Gull Streamflow (Oct-Sept water years)



# Opportunities

Use of flux-tower network data for evaluation of atmospheric models

Hydrologic modelling, modelling studies of the coupled carbon and water cycles



# Summary

Severe 2001-2003 drought followed by extreme wet years of 2004-2006

Variable drought intensity within BERMS study area

Large drought impact on  $E$ ,  $DS$  and  $R$ , ecosystem differences in  $E$  diminished by drought

Deep  $DS$  partially sustained  $E$  through drought, especially at aspen site

Realistic closure of water balance at flux towers but only after +15% energy closure adjustment to  $E$



# Acknowledgements

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- Norm Stolle, Murray Peterson, Dave Wieder, Parks Canada



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Ressources naturelles  
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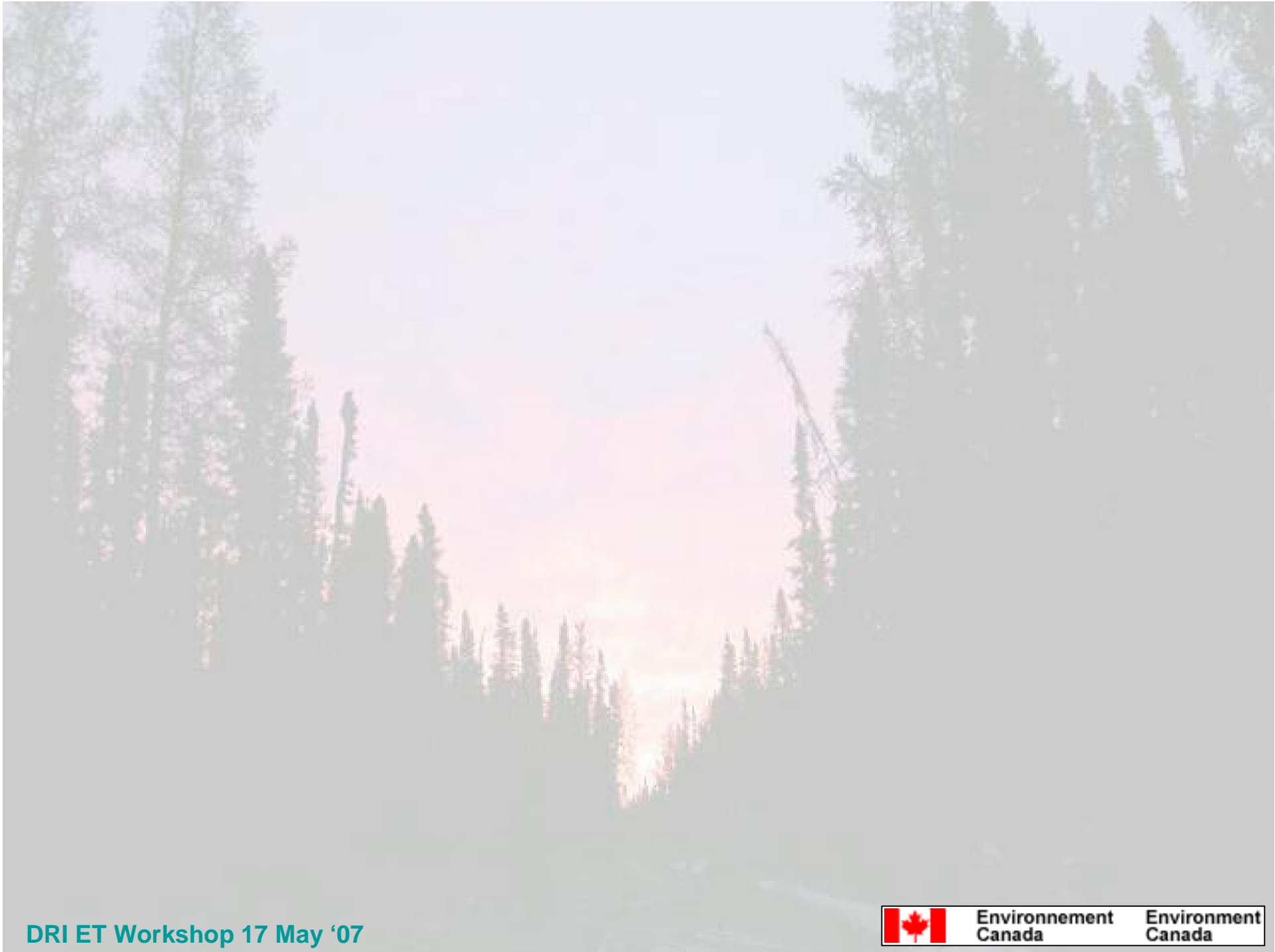
Parks Canada  
Parcs Canada



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DRI ET Workshop 17 May '07



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# Gauged Streamflow White Gull Basin

