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Results From the Matopiba Pilot Project Hydrologic Responses from Land Use and Land Cover Changes

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Main Ideia

- Evaluate the effects of land use and land cover changes (LULCC) on the watershed water balance and on soil erosion in areas undergoing a rapid expansion of the mechanized agriculture in Brazil
- Focus: the MATOPIBA Region (NE Brazil)











Barreiras - BA





flat plateaus (sandstones)



Defining Scenarios



Hydrologic Modeling Land Use Input Conditions



3 Scenarios





LULC Previous Condition (1984) Simulation of water balance and sediment production computed by LULC of 1984.

LULC Current Condition (2016)



Simulation of water balance and sediment production according to the current condition, computed by the LULC map (2016).

A) 100% of agricultural expansion over current arable areas (CAA), regardless of the climate changes
B) 100% of agricultural expansion over current arable areas (CAA) taking into account the climate changes (changes in temperatures and precipitations).

Main Ecosystem Services Studied

- Water supply
- Water flow regulation
- Rainfall pattern regulation
- Soil and sediment retention, especially in drainage basins characterized by a rapid replacement of natural vegetation by croplands and urban areas.

Models Used

- SWAT
- InVEST
- ARIES





Aggressive Development Scenario



LULCC from 1984 to 2016

	AREA							
LULC	198	4	2016	5	Relative Change			
	4 km ²	%	4 km ²	%	%			
Herbaceous Vegetation	58237.97	75.59	40441.22	51.67	-30.56			
Cropland	812.32	1.05	18575.64	23.73	2186.74			
Forest Tree Cover	12345.14	16.02	10199.39	13.03	-17.38			
Forest Mosaic	2956.36	3.84	5269.83	6.73	78.25			
Mosaic of Herbaceous Vegetation	1713.71	2.22	2899.08	3.70	69.17			
Managed Pasture	940.14	1.22	555.86	0.71	-40.87			
Artificial Surface	13.71	0.02	99.92	0.13	628.79			
Water	24.50	0.03	24.72	0.03	0.89			
Eucalyptus	0.00	0.00	204.84	0.26				
Total		100		100				



The results presented in Table 1 attest that in the Grande river basin, during the studied period from 1984 to 2016, it is not the Forest Tree Cover that is being replaced by croplands but, instead, the savannah/shrublands of the Herbaceous Vegetation

Hydrologic Modeling with SWAT: Implementation and Results

Implementing the SWAT model

Streamflow Calibration and Validation

Calibration Procedures

Validation Procedures

Cross-Validation Procedures

Sediment Calibration and Validation

Model Results

Hydrologic Components of Water Flow Regulations

Hydrological Results for 2016

Hydrological Results for 1984

Hydrologic Changes from 1984 to 2016

Sediment Yield (1984 x 2016)

Main Hydrologic Components of the SWAT Models are (all expressed in mm)



- soil water content (SW)
- surface runoff (SURQ)
- lateral flow (LATQ)
- groundwater flow or return flow (GW_Q)
- baseflow
 - SWAT consider baseflow = LATQ + GW_Q
- water yield (WYLD)
 - is the stream discharge at the HRUs and sub-basin scales;
 - WYLD = SURQ + LATQ + GWQ (Eq. 2);
- percolation (PERC)
- groundwater recharge or deep recharge (GW_RCHG)
 - evapotranspiration (ET)
 - streamflow (FLOW_OUT)
 - defined at the watershed scale (the whole drainage basin);
 - represents the stream discharge leaving the catchment outlet (m^3/s) .



 $WYLD = SURQ + LATQ + GW_Q = SURQ + baseflow$

SWAT Model Output for 2016 – Global Annual Values

SWAT Error Checker - Version 1.2.0.10 Released November 6, 2018



SWAT Model Output for 1984 – Global Annual Values



Hydrologic Changes – 1984 x 2016

Hydrologic Components (mm)	1984	2016	Relative Change (%)
Evapotranspiration	618.70	497.70	-19.56
Surface runoff	0.32	87.05	27103.13
Lateral flow	32.10	30.10	-6.23
Groundwater flow	224.80	277.56	23.47
Water yield	257.22	394.71	53.45
Baseflow	256.90	307.66	19.76
Percolation	284.34	326.23	14.73
Deep recharge	16.25	16.31	0.37
Revap	59.21	33.34	-43.69

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Main Results :

- Decrease in EVT

- Huge increase in surface runoff

- Increase in water yield

- Small increase in groundwater flow, baseflow and percolation

Results in Terms of Water Balance Ratios (1984 x 2016)

Water Balance Ratios	1984	2016	Relative Change (%)
ET/Precip	0.66	0.53	-19.70
Streamflow/Precip	0.28	0.42	50.00
Percolation/Precip	0.30	0.35	16.67
Deep Recharge/Precip	0.02	0.02	0.00
Baseflow/Total flow	1.00	0.78	-22.00
Surface runoff/Total flow	0.00	0.22	21900.00

Main Results :

- Decrease in EVT

- Increase in streamflow (water yield)

- Decrease in the contribution of baseflow to the total flow (although baseflow has increased in absolute values – see previous table)

- Huge increase in the contribution of surface runoff to the total flow

The basin was divided in 3 main hydrologic regions

(used for calibration/validation and check the spatial distribution of the hydrologic changes)



Hydrologic components measured at each one of the three hydrologic regions

(1984 x 2016)

Northern Upstream (blue)

Southern Upstream (green)

Lowlands (pink)



Scenario	252 	1984	<i>0</i>	89 15	2016		Variação Relativa (%)		
Component (total sum)/ Section	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)
Evapotranspiration (mm)	8445.94	7455.95	8325.45	7867.01	5949.24	4778.66	-6.85	-20.21	-42.60
Percolation (mm)	3432.93	3747.50	3179.43	3806.85	4131.77	6123.32	10.89	10.25	92.59
Runoff (mm)	0.94	10.49	3.04	1052.83	1111.26	607.64	112142.32	10495.53	19907.84
Groundwater (mm)	3210.48	3463.38	1248.94	3200.78	3543.13	5335.08	-0.30	2.30	327.17
Water Yield (mm)	4175.31	4469.24	1893.83	5058.93	5647.72	6649.53	21.16	26.37	251.11
Lateral flow (mm)	865.31	815.24	371.90	614.20	782.28	399.48	-29.02	-4.04	7.42
Sediment Yield (ton/ha)	0.11	0.20	0.42	52.64	9.00	2.53	48642.59	4468.02	505.98

Diminuição da evapotranpiração

Aumento da percolação

Aumento enorme do runoff

Aumento de GW

Aumento de Water Yield

Diminuição do Lateral Flow (que no SWAT é contribuinte do baseflow – na realidade é

contribuinte para o water yield)

Relative changes in evapotranspiration inside the Grande river basin during the period 1984-2016.



Relative changes in surface runoff inside the Grande river basin during the period 1984-2016.



Relative changes in water yield inside the Grande river basin during the period 1984-2016.



Relative changes in groundwater flow inside the Grande river basin during the period 1984-2016.



Water flow regulation



Maximum Flows (peak flows) x Minimum Flows (baseflow) Southern Upstream (green)



Water flow regulation



Maximum Flows (peak flows) x Minimum Flows (baseflow) Downstream Region (pink)



Observa-se (visualmente) que a resposta da descarga fluvial na bacia ficou mais rápida (flashy) 1984 (blue) x 2016 (red)



vazões máximas (peak flows) aumentam
 vazões mínimas (baseflows) diminuem

Quantificação dessa mudança na resposta hidrológica "The R-B Flashiness Index"

A metric to quantify the frequency and rapidity of short term changes in stream flow (ex. due to LULCC) in response to storm events (for both peak and baseflow)



Figure 5. Time series plot showing the trend in flashiness for an urbanizing watershed in the state of Washington (DeGasperi et. al., 2009). The R-B Index had the highest Mann-Kendall tau value of any hydrologic metrics evaluated, suggesting it was a sensitive indicator of change.



Figure 1. Dry Creek annual Richards-Baker Flashiness Index. Each data point represents the annual flashiness of Dry Creek, measured at the Vernon St. gauge in Roseville. Between 2000 and 2011, there was no consistent trend in flashiness in the watershed.

Applying the Flashiness Index to the Grande River Basin (1984-2014 Period)



Sediment Yield – SWAT Model

Scenario	1984 (tons)			2016 (tons)			Relative Change (%)		
Component (total sum)/ Section	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)	North Upper Stream (8)	South Upper Stream (23)	Lowlands (14)
Sediment Yield (ton)	1.86E+04	3.91E+05	1.15E+06	2.80E+07	3.11E+07	5.77E+07	1.50E+05	7.84E+03	4.93E+03
Sediment Yield (ton/ha)	0.11	0.20	0.42	52.64	4 9.00	2.53	48642.59	4468.02	505.98

Main Conclusions

- The Grande river basin presented important hydrologic changes from 1984 to 2016
 - Decrease in EVT
 - Huge increase in surface runoff
 - Increase in water yield
 - Decrease in the contribution of baseflow to the total flow (although baseflow has increased in absolute values – see previous table)
- The hydrologic response became more flashy in the upper portions (where LULCC took place)
 - Increase in peak flow
 - Decrease in baseflow
- Major increase in sediment yield in the upper portions (where LULCC took place)
 - Relative changes are more important here than absolute values (calibration for sediments was impossible)

Team 2020-2021

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