

Lake Kinneret

- Latitude: 32°N Longitude: 35°E
- Altitude: -210 m
- Length: 21 km
- Width: 12 km
- Mean depth: 20 m
- Max depth: 42 m
- Area: 170 km²
- Volume: 4300 x 10⁶ m³
- Jordan R annual inflow: 310 x 10⁶ m³
- Watershed area: 2730 km²

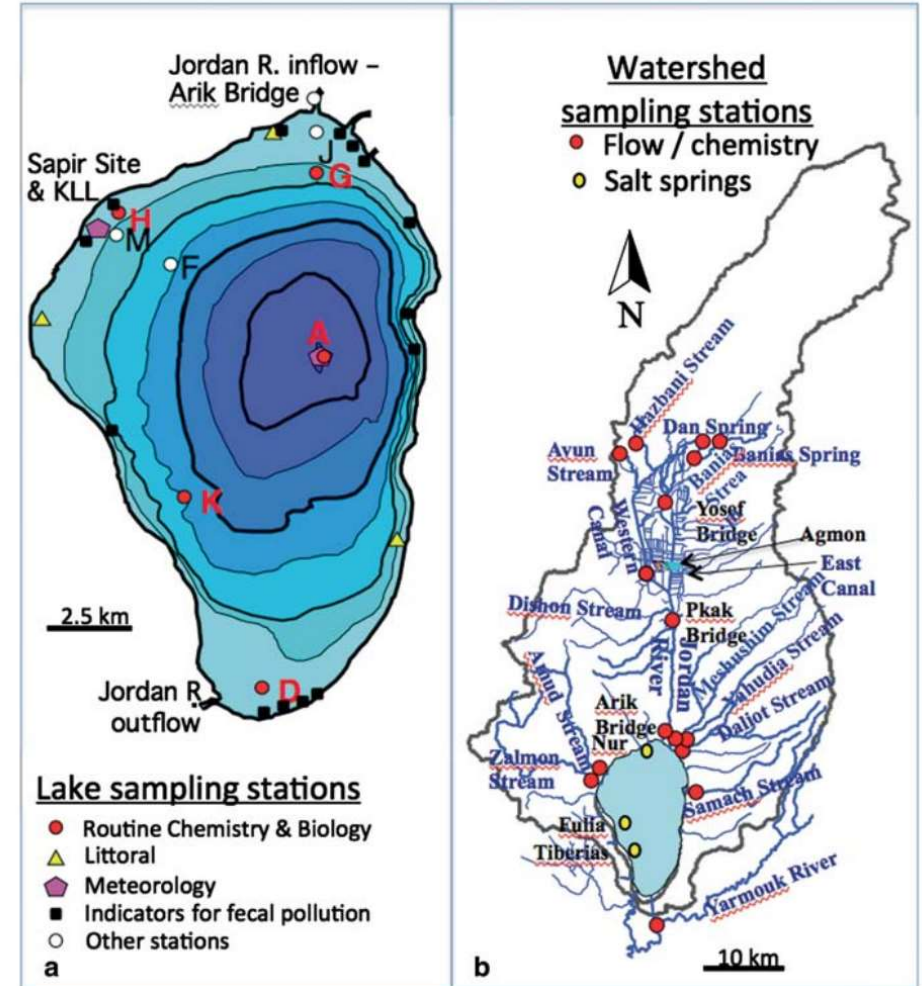
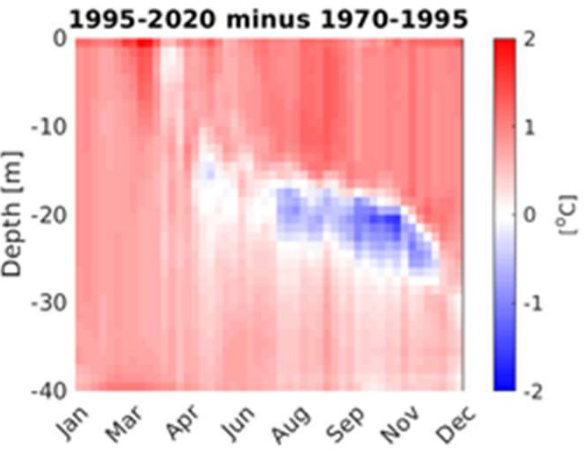
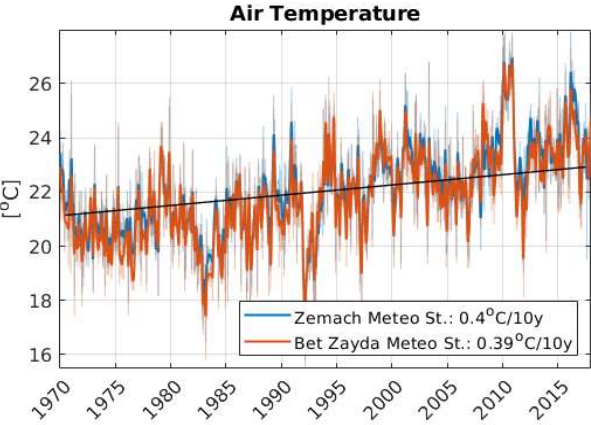
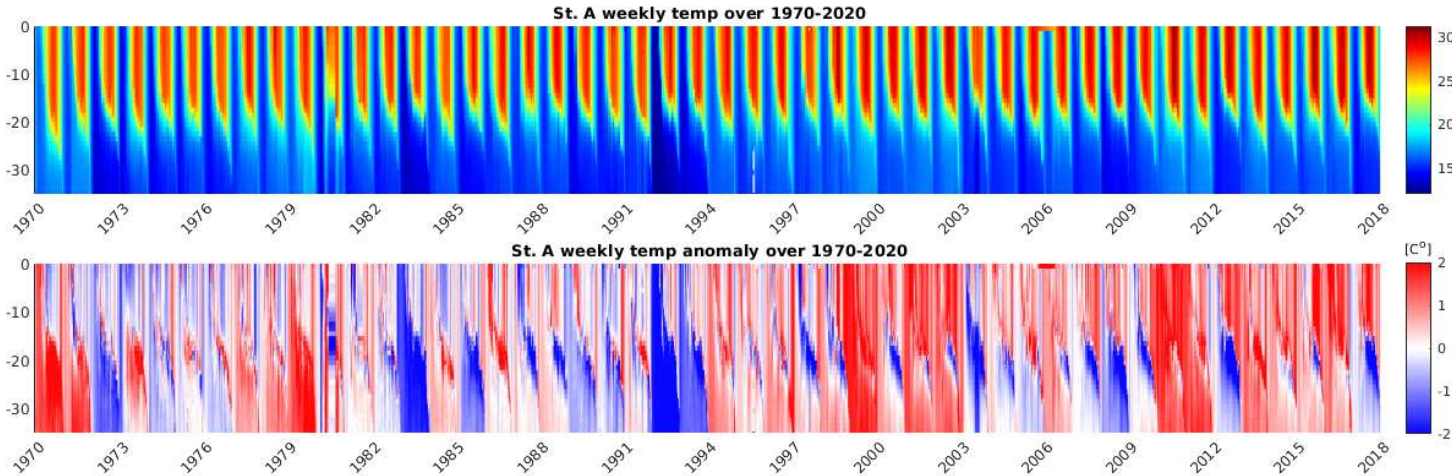


Fig. 32.1 Location maps of monitoring stations in Lake Kinneret and its watershed. **a** Lake Kinneret (symbol legend *below* map). **b** Watershed (symbol legend *above* map). Additional explanations: *KLL*—Kinneret Limnological Laboratory. *Other stations*—stations *F*, *M* are used for sedimentation flux measurements, *J* for occasional biological measurements, and *Arik* for pesticides. *Littoral stations*—shallow water stations for occasional biology and chemistry measurements

Observations

Source	Data type	Spatial resolution	Time resolution	Time span
IMS (Israel Meteorological Service)	Air temperature and precipitation	IMS stations	Daily	1950-2024
KLL	Lake Kinneret Temperature, Salinity, Chl, Nutrients, Fluorescence, phytoplankton counts	5 Lake monitoring stations	Weekly	1970-2024
Mekorot & IWA (Israel Water Authority)	Streams temperature, conductivity and chemistry.	Rivers inlets	Weekly	1970-2024
IWA	Stream discharge and Lake level	Rivers inlets	Daily	1970-2024

Monitoring Lake Kinneret for the last 50 years



- Weekly profiles of T, EC, Chl, Oxygen and more
- Anomalies show a warmer and more stratified water column

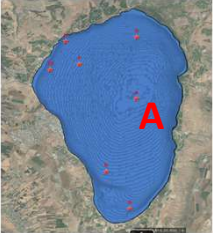
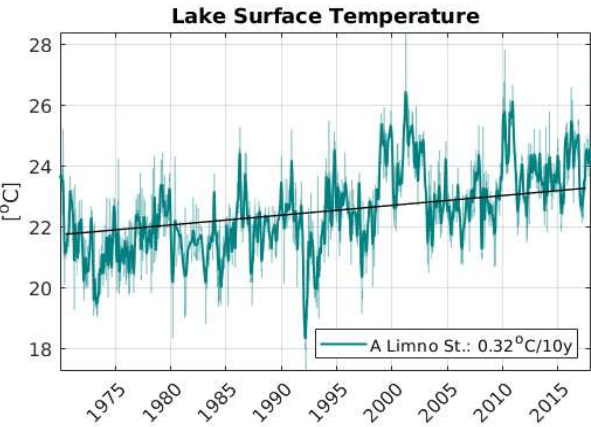
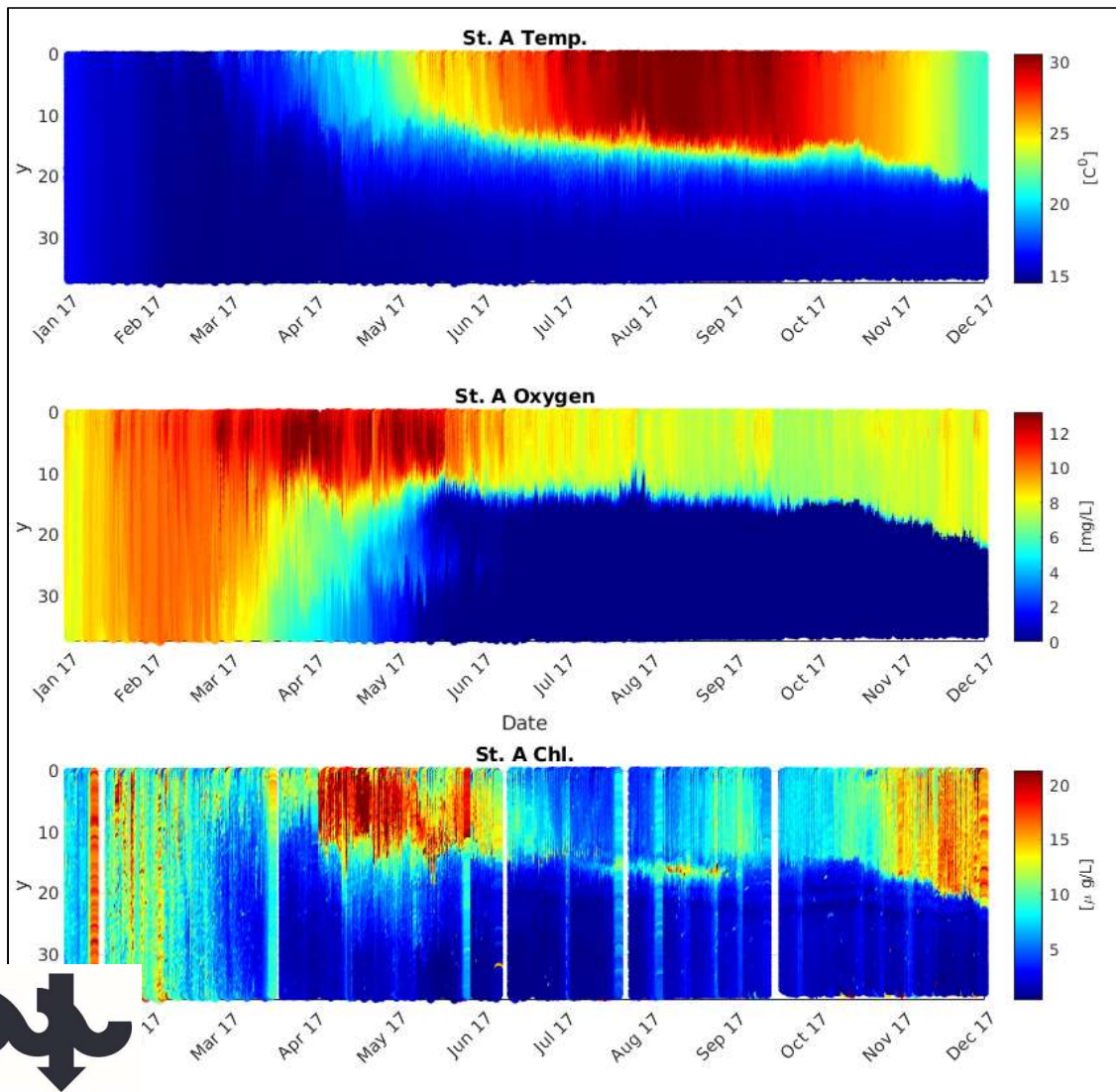


Fig. 2 Temperature anomaly over a year calculated by subtracting 1970-1995 average from 1995-2020 average.



Stratification and the ecological system



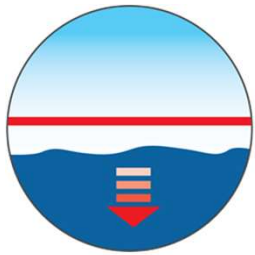
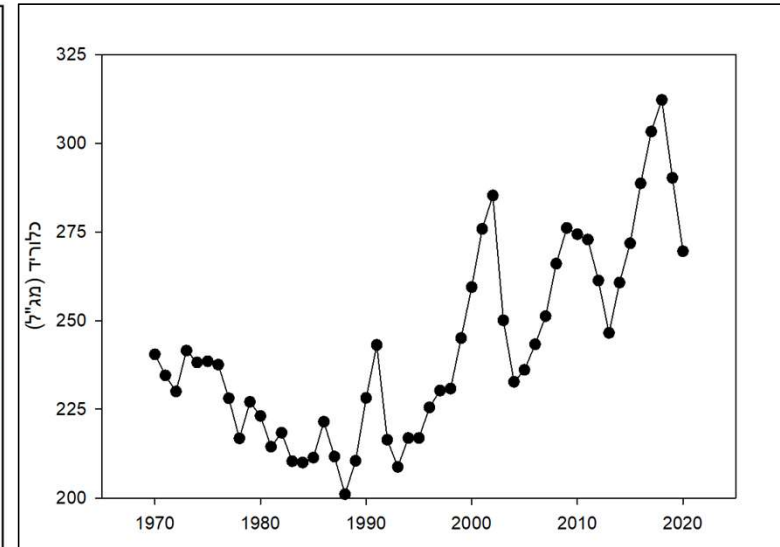
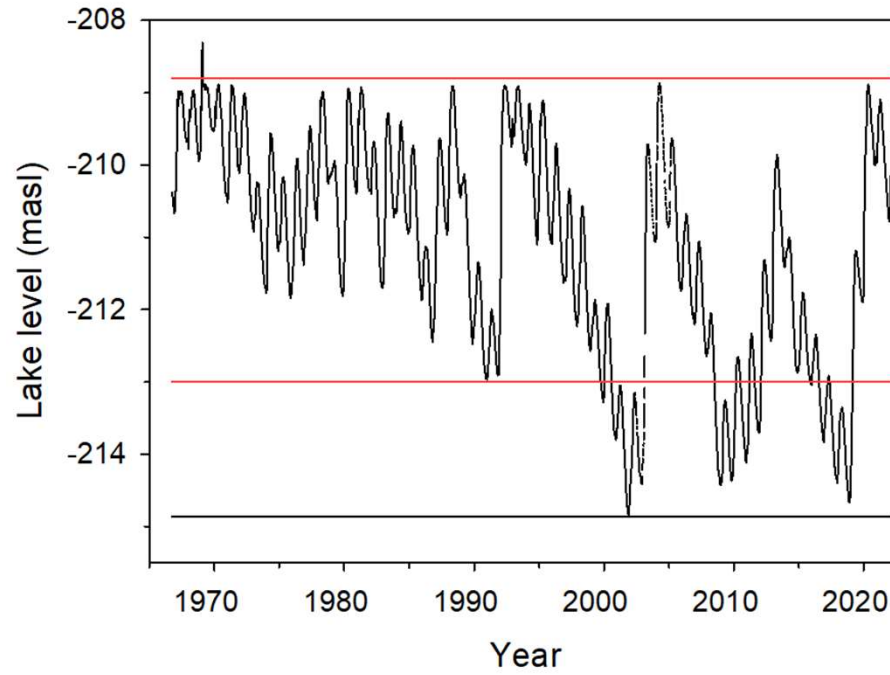
3 profiles/day:

- Temperature
- Conductivity
- pH
- Dissolved oxygen
- Chlorophyll
- Turbidity
-
- Met station
- Dust samplers

**“Ecoraft”
At Sta. A**



Lake level



Continued decline in lake level



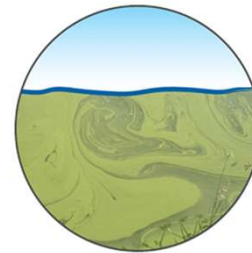
Continued reduction in inflows



Extreme residence times



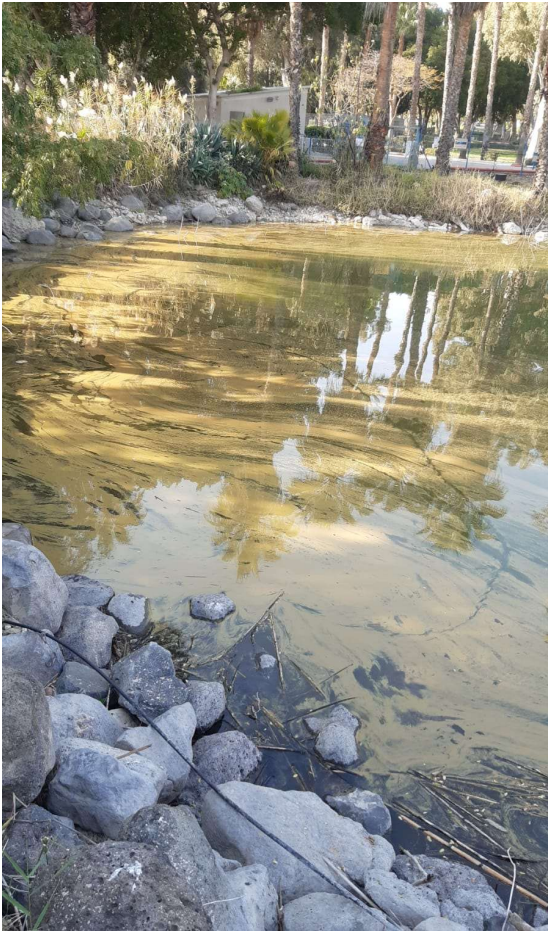
Increasing salinity



Large Cyanobacteria blooms

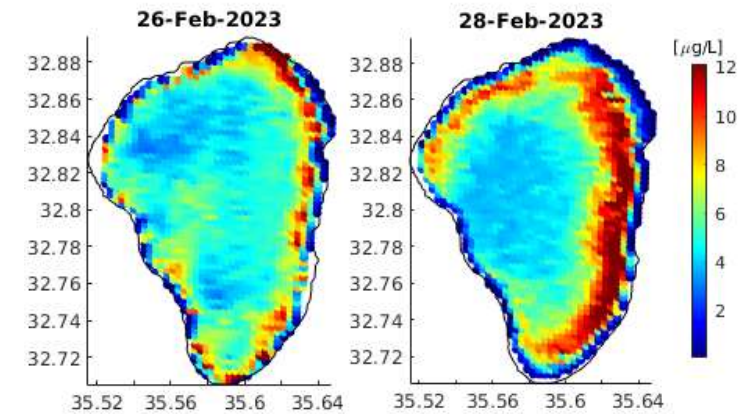


Microcystis cyanobacteria- Harmful Algal Bloom – February 2023



When Harmful Algal Bloom is seen in the lake it is usually also seen from space

Using an operational physical model, its spread can be predicted



Experimental setup 1D

Baseline – no change relative to period 1990-2020

G2.5 – 2.5°C gradual air temperature increase over 50 years

Weather Generator



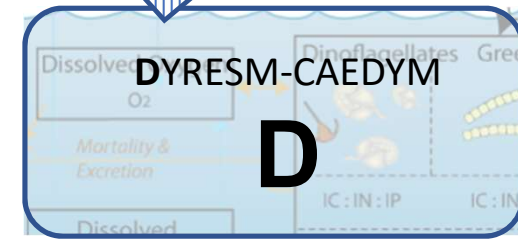
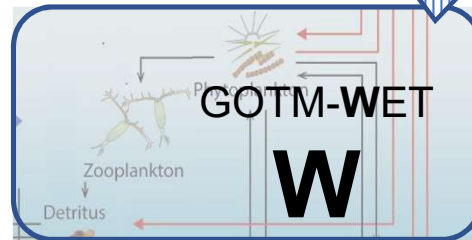
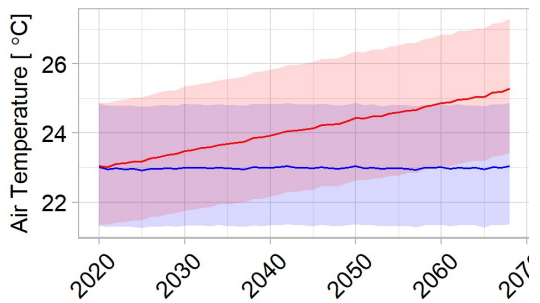
1000 realizations of meteorological conditions

Rain-runoff model



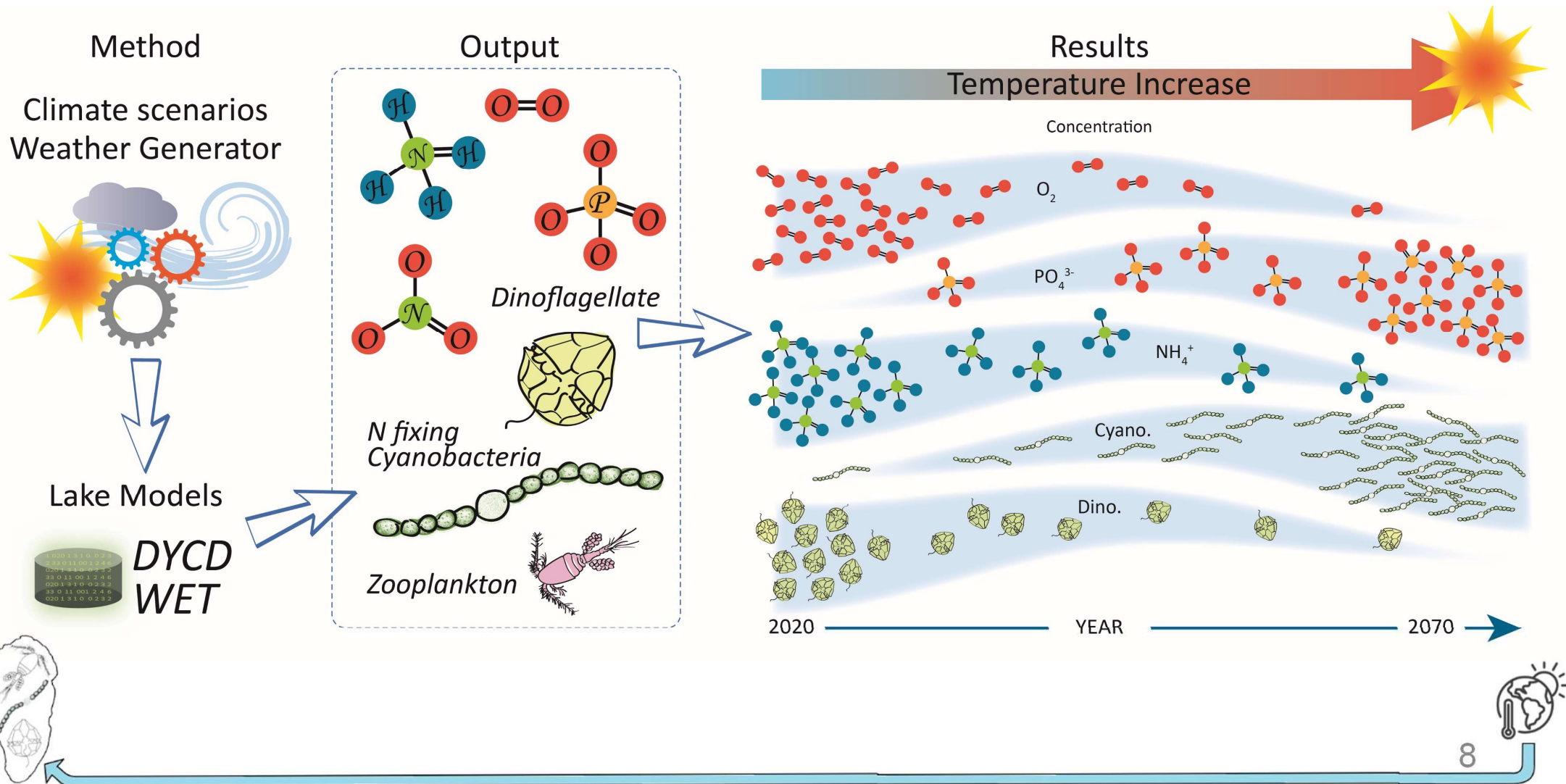
rain

Jordan river flows



Output:

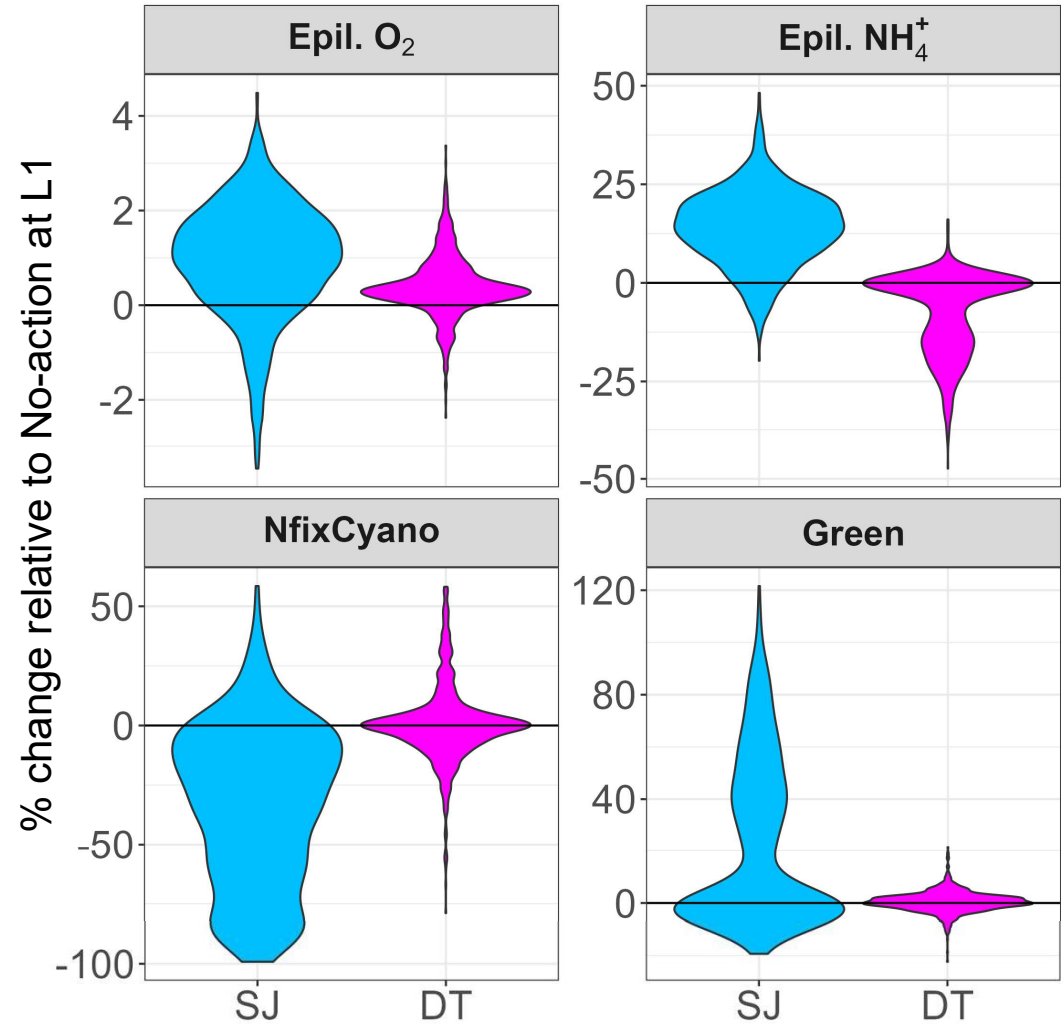
Summary of climate change impact





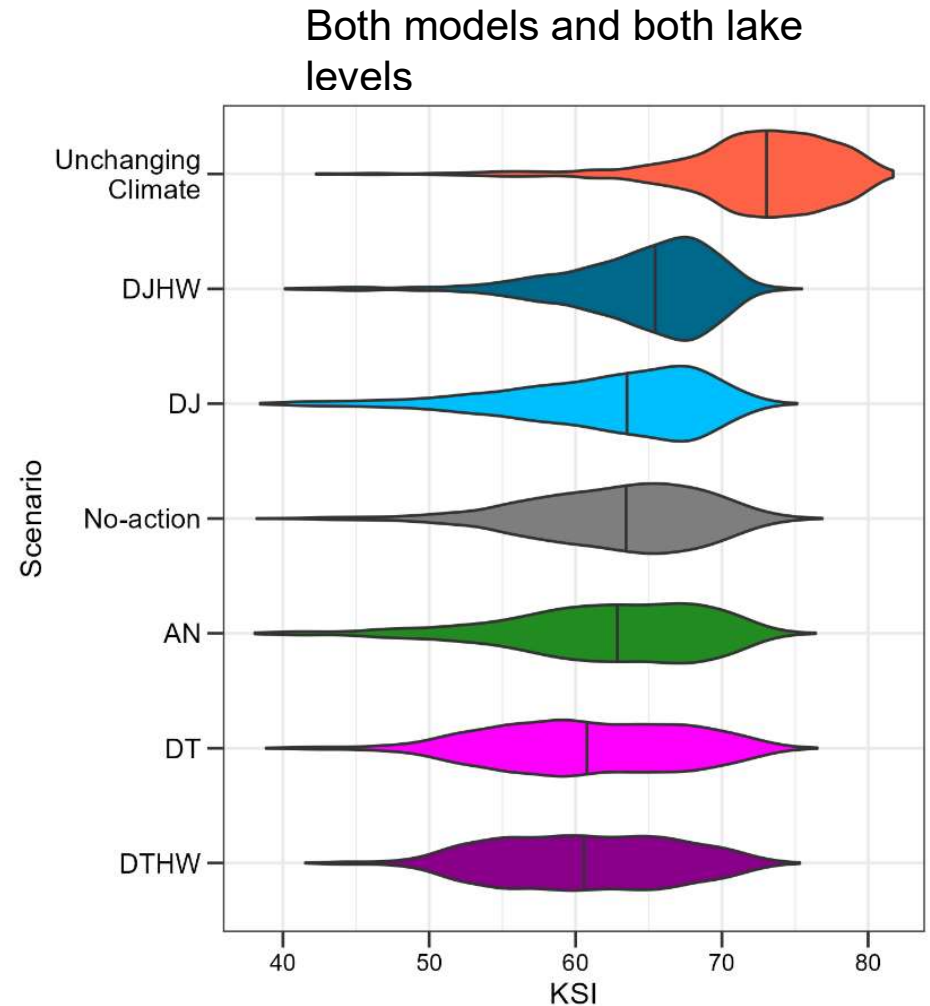
SJ
VS.
DT

SJ scenario
counteract climate
change effects on
the lake ecosystem



Results: KSI

- Non of the scenarios can fully mitigate climate change
- Relative to taking no action – Scenario SJHW has the best chance of maintaining the ecosystem close to its current state.
- Uncertainty is very high



Kinneret Watershed Model

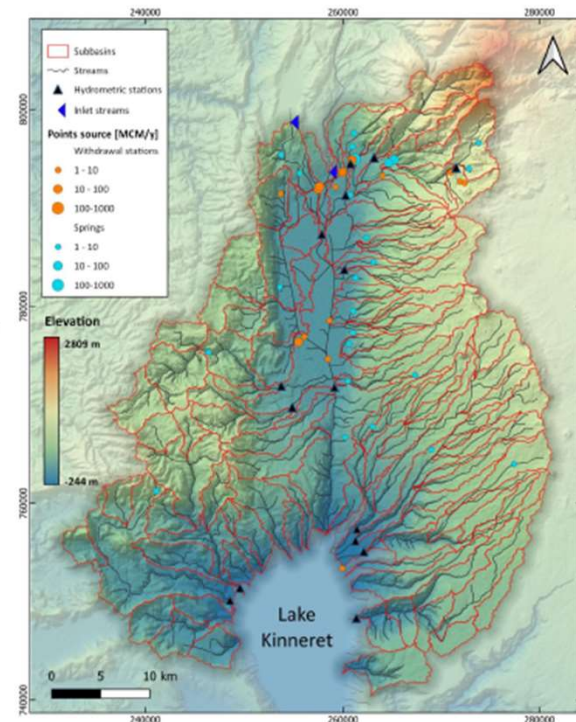
Soil Water Assessment Tool (SWAT)

C. Me

A physical, semi-distributed, and continuous watershed-scale model.

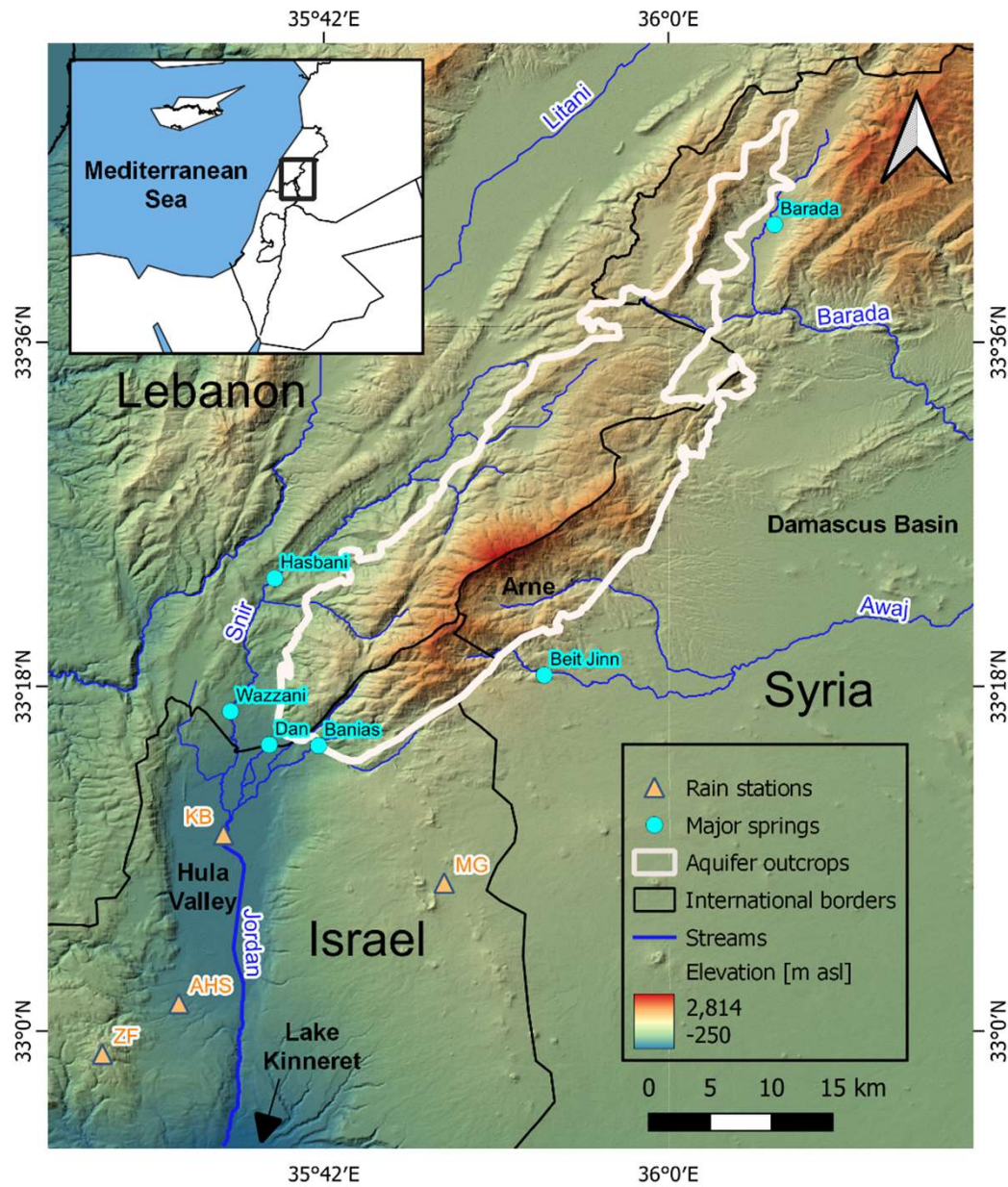
Input

- Elevation
- Soil type
- Land use
- Source/sink points
- Reservoirs
- Climate

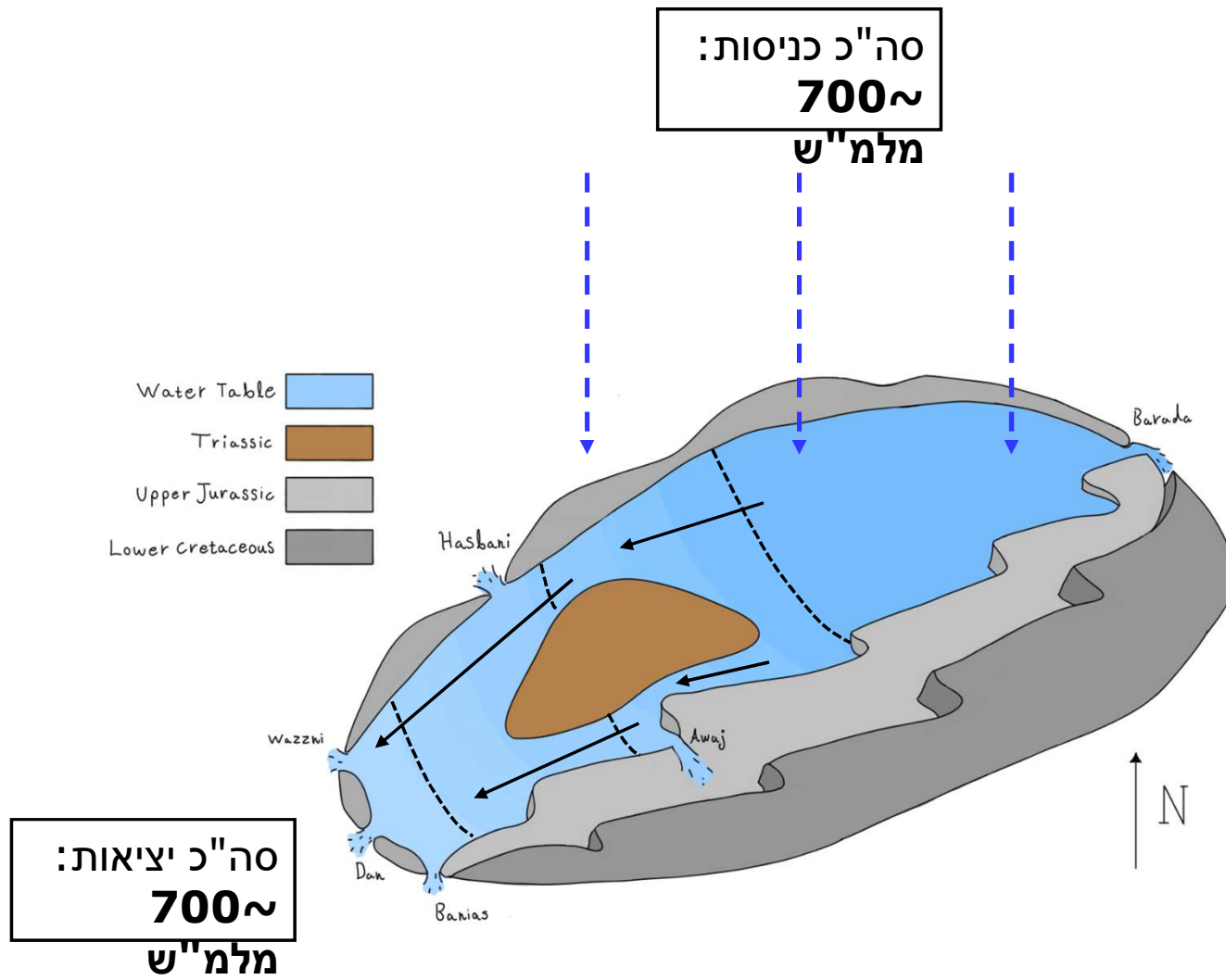


Output

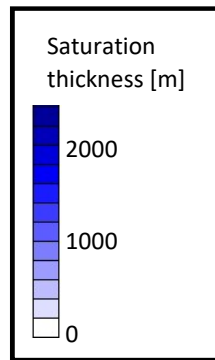
- Runoff generation
- Intermediate processes
- Stream discharge



היפותזה

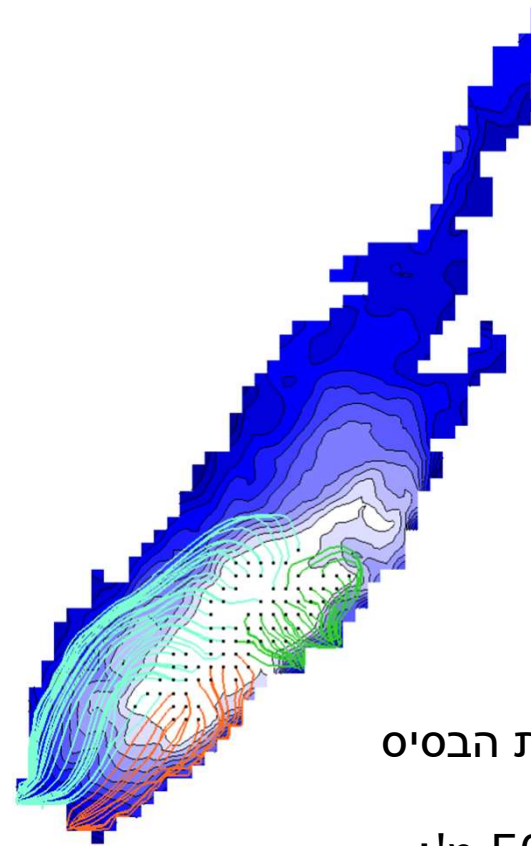
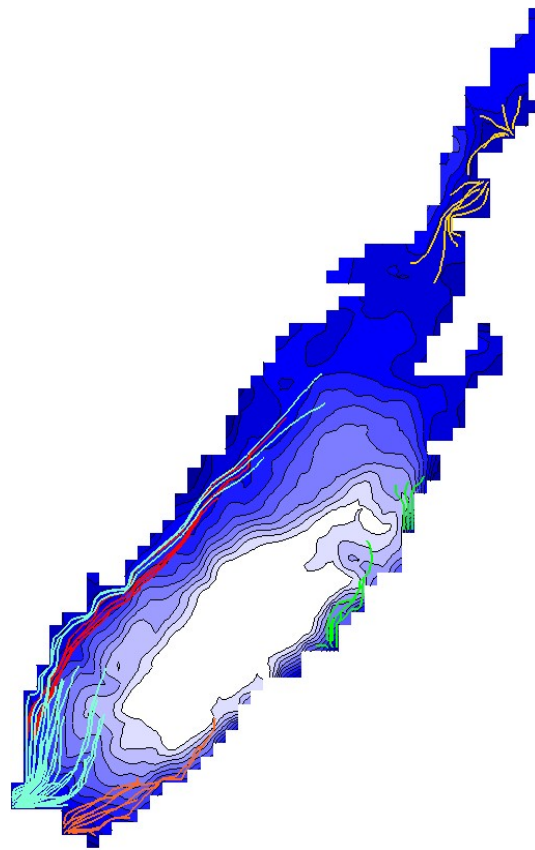


נתיבי זרימה באקוויפר



Drains' path-lines

- Dan
- Banias
- Awaj
- Barada
- Wazzani



תאים משכבת הבסיס
+
עובי רווי > 50 מ':

Hydrographs



Management issues

- Water level
 - Water quantity
 - Water quality , especially salinity, cyanobacteria
 - Water supply reliability including trans-national
- Recreation
- Fisheries

- Solutions
 - Increased storage
 - Desalinated water
 - Improved watershed management
 - Reduce salt inflow