

Environmental Flow in Water Bodies

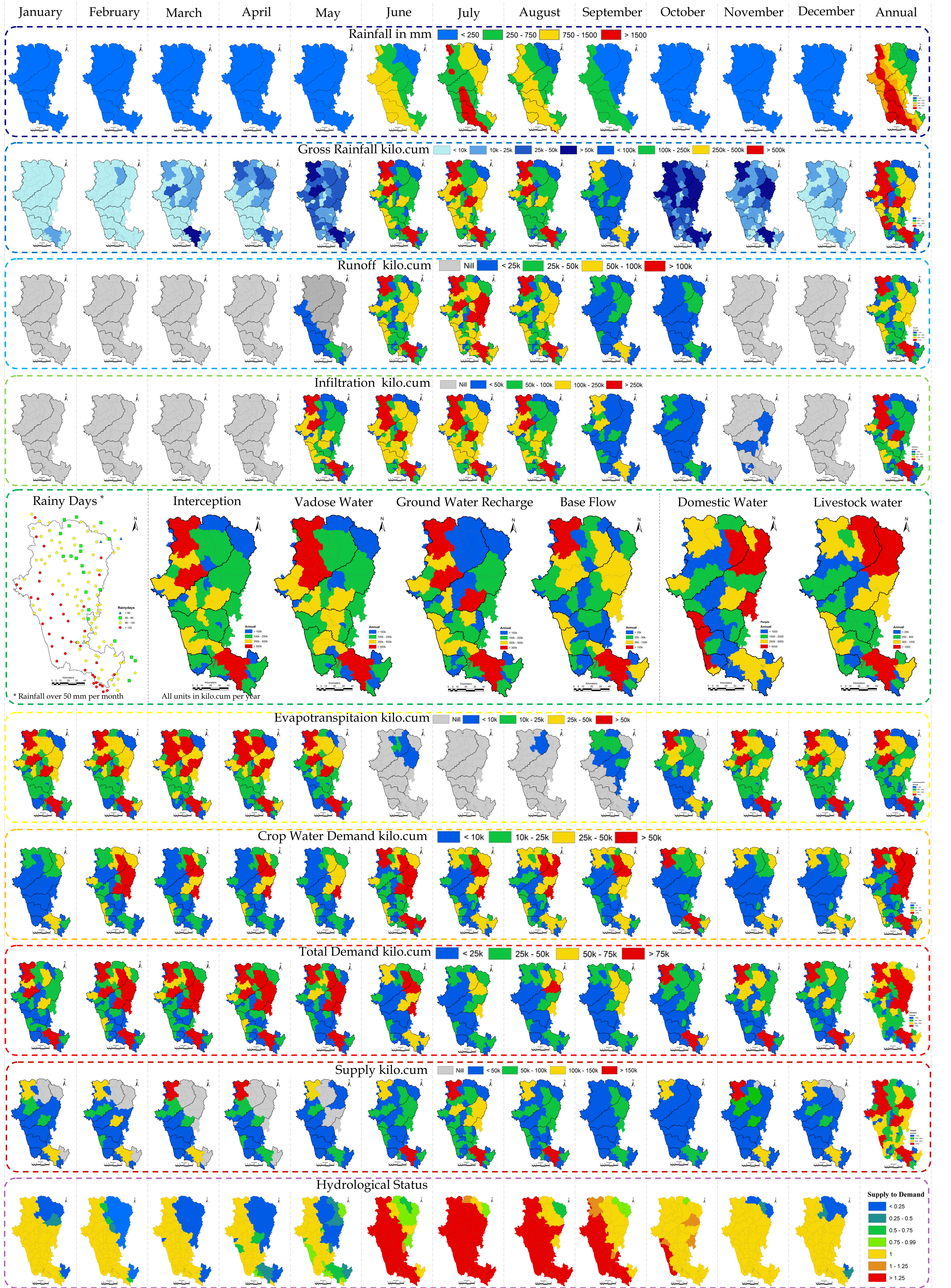
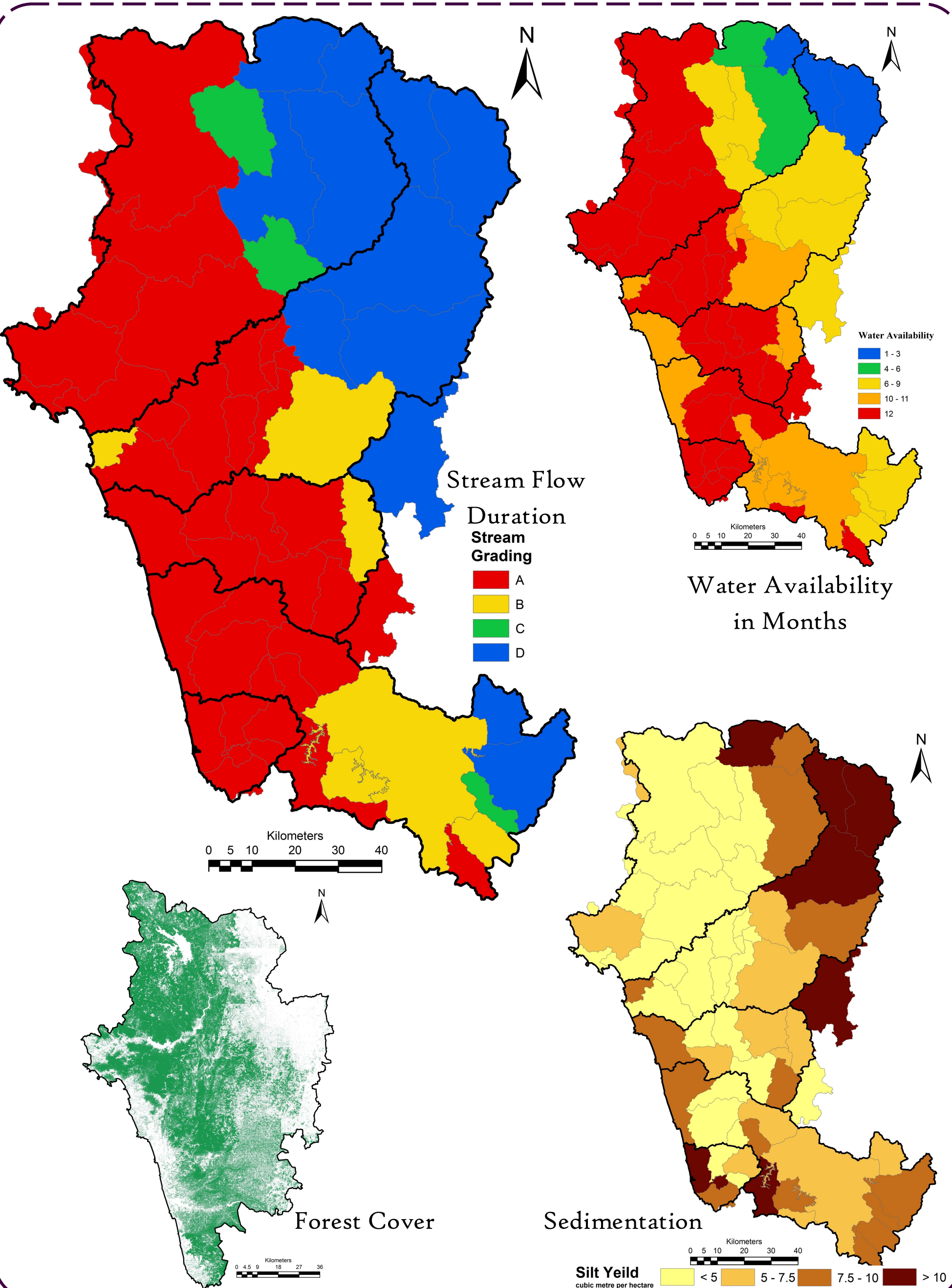
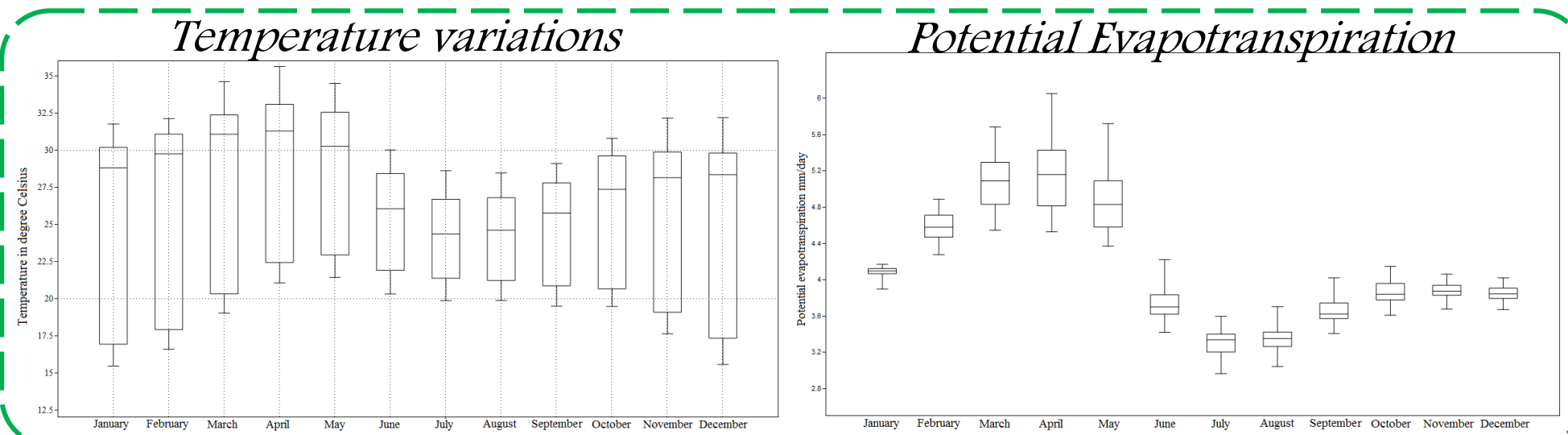
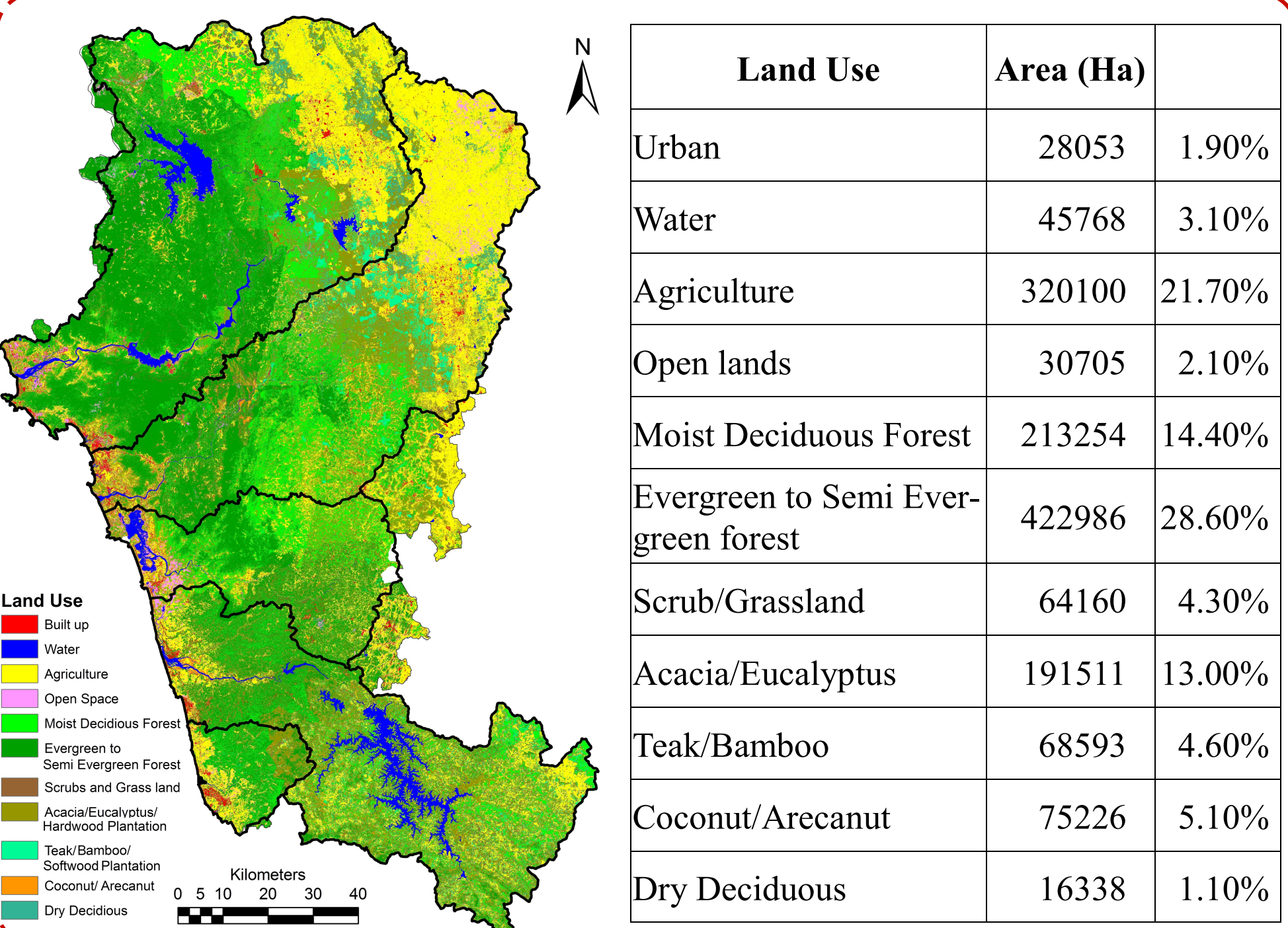
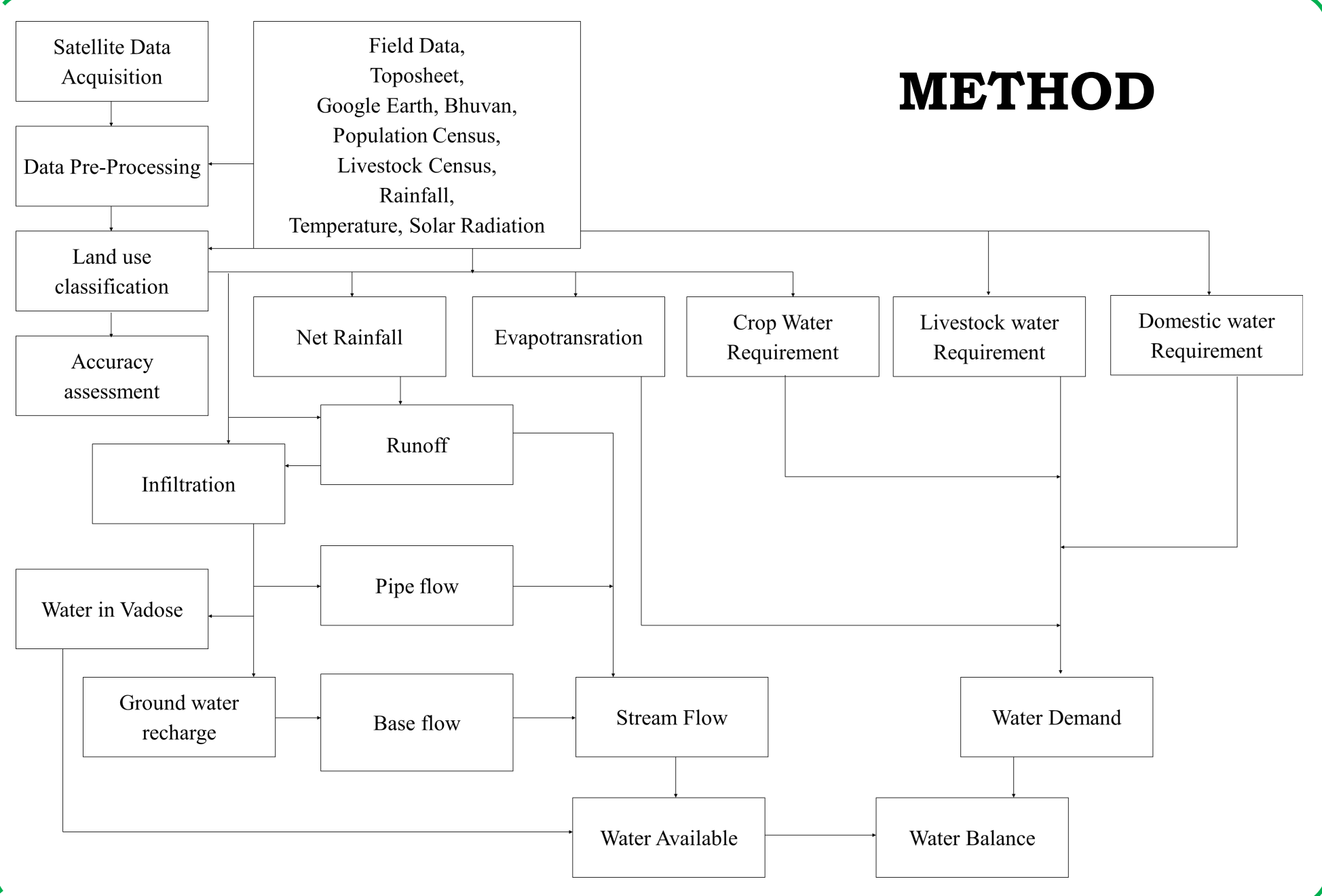
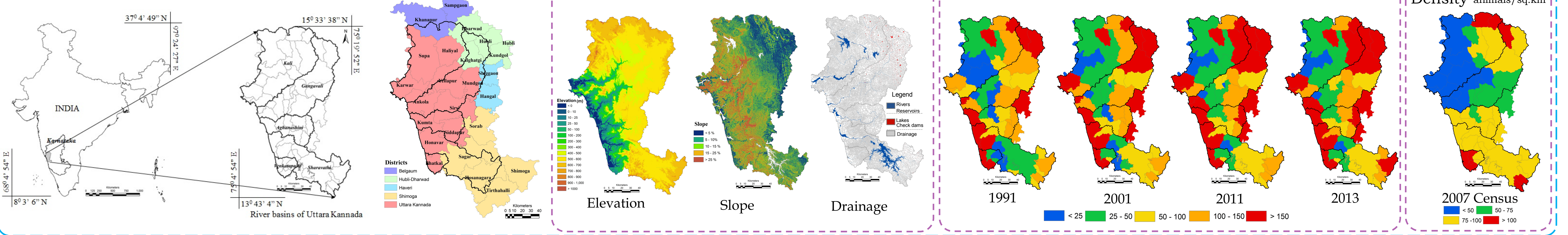
Energy and Wetlands Research Group, Centre for Ecological Sciences,
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 560012



- Environmental flow refers to the quantity, quality, duration and timing of water in the wetlands, lakes, estuaries, streams, rivers.
- Environmental Flow/ Ecological Flow needs to be maintained to sustain biodiversity and livelihood of the people.
- Need to manage watershed to ensure sustained water in streams, lakes and rivers.
- Resource needs to be protected to sustain water for our next generation.

- River catchments in the Central Western Ghats of Karnataka flowing in Uttara kannada district namely Kali, Bedti, Agnashini, Sharavati, Venkarapura.
- The total catchment area is about 13972.84 sq.km, extending from 13°43'4"N to 15°33'38" N latitude and from 75°4'54" E to 75°19'52" E longitude spread across districts of Shimoga, Uttara Kannada, Haliyal, Dharwad and Belgaum. These sections of the Western Ghats poses rich biodiversity.
- The rainfall varies from as low 750 at the plains where as it reaches over 5000 mm at the Ghats with about 50 to 120 rainy days and 6 to 8 rainy months.
- Forest cover in Uttara Kannada has reduced from 67.73% in 1973 to 32.08% in 2013.
- Streams are perennial in the ghats such as Chandi hole (Yaana), Vibuthi falls, Kattalekan, Torne and many more; where as the streams are intermittent towards upstream of the Linnganamakki reservoir namely Yennehole, Haridravati, Nandi hole etc and upstream of Bedti towards the plain lands.

STUDY AREA



Acknowledgement

- Karnataka Bio-Diversity Board.
- Ministry of Environment and Forests
- Department of Science and Technology
- Western Ghats Task Force
- Dedicated to the people of Uttara Kannada and Shimoga

- Environmental flow and Silt Yield in the watershed depend on the vegetation cover (type and extent)
- Streams are perennial (streams carry water for 12 months) if the watershed has predominant land covered by native vegetation.
- Deforestation in some catchments has led to seasonal streams and flooding.

Ramachandra T V, Chandran M D S, Joshi N V, Vinay S, Bharath H A, Bharath S.
Energy and Wetlands Research Group, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science , Bangalore 560012
<http://wgbs.ces.iisc.ernet.in/energy> ; <http://wgbs.ces.iisc.ernet.in/foss>