Science
AAAS

Supplementary Materials for

Anthropogenic climate change has influenced global river flow seasonality

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Science **383**, 1009 (2024)
DOI: 10.1126/science.adi9501

The PDF file includes:

Materials and Methods
Figs. S1 to S18
Tables S1 to S3
References

Materials and Method

Observation-based datasets

Monthly river flow time series (calculated from daily records) were obtained from the Global Streamflow Indices and Meta data archive (GSIM) (*18*, *46*, *51*). The Global Runoff Data Centre (*52*) (GRDC) database, offering river flow at monthly scale that are excluded by GSIM, are used as a complementary dataset. To compute RFS with minimal bias, two selection standards were formulated: i) the study period ranges from 1965 to 2014 to ensure sufficient stations for analysis with wide spatial coverage; ii) monthly discharge is used to calculate annual seasonality index only when there are 10 or more months of data available in a year. Given rapidly changing climate, we extended our analysis to include more recent years by combining five regularly updated river flow datasets (Table S3) from national to global level for 2017-2019. All GRDC stations in countries that have a national or a continental database (e.g. USGS data within the US) were replaced to avoid duplicated time series of river flow when combining datasets.

To achieve a global scale coverage, a recently published global gridded monthly reconstruction of runoff (GRUN) data set was used (*19*, *47*). GRUN is developed from *in-situ* monthly river flow observations from the GSIM with a 0.5° spatial resolution covering the period from 1902 to 2014 (*19*). It is derived by training a machine learning algorithm based on the gridded observations of precipitation and temperature from the Global Soil Wetness Project Phase 3 (GSWP3) dataset (*19*), therefore, GRUN is not able to explicitly account for the effects of HWLU. Observed monthly river discharge from the GRDC dataset and multimodel simulations from phase 2a of the Inter-Sectoral Impact Model Intercomparison Project (ISIMIP2a) reconstructions are used for its validation (*19*). Four additional members in the newly published G-RUN ENSEMBLE which overlap in 1965-2014 were used to account for the uncertainty of atmospheric forcing datasets on runoff, including runoff reconstructions forced with CRUTSv4.04, GSWP3-W5E5, GSWP3-EWEMBI and PGFv3 (*53*). The spatial pattern of AE trends from G-RUN ENSEMBLE coinciding with GRUN supports use of GRUN to conduct climate change detection and attribution analysis and further confirms the robustness of our results (Fig. S17). In summary, *in-situ* observations incorporate the impacts from climate change (including ACC, natural forcing, and natural climate variability) and human activities (such as reservoirs, human water management, and land-use change, abbreviated as HWLU). Instead, GRUN and G-RUN ENSEMBLE only account for the impacts from climate change. To exclude impacts of reservoirs on the spatial pattern of RFS trends from *in-situ* observations, HydroBASIN subbasin units (Pfafstetter level 12) (*54*) are integrated with degree of regulation (DOR) provided by Grill et al. (*55*) to distinguish gauge stations into those influenced by reservoirs (DOR>0) and those unaffected by reservoirs (DOR=0). The DOR at the subbasin unit level is represented by selecting the maximum value of DOR at the river reach scale. There are 6,150 stations identified as free from reservoir influence, while 3,914 stations are situated in subbasins or downstream of reservoirs (with 49 stations located outside the HydroBASINS range due to their presence on islands, and another 7 stations lacking DOR information).

Snow-dominated regions were identified worldwide by the average snow to precipitation ratio in the period 1979-2000 from the WFDE5 dataset (*56*), which contains global precipitation and snow flux at a resolution of 0.5°. Time series of snow fraction during 1965-2014 is calculated from the fifth-generation atmospheric reanalysis (ERA5) for full time coverage (*57*). To rule out precipitation seasonality, observed monthly gridded precipitation data from the Global Precipitation Climatology Centre (GPCC) (*58*) at a resolution of 2.5 × 2.5° for the period of 1965-2014 at monthly scale was used. Mean air temperature data from the CRUTEM5 dataset at a resolution of 5 × 5° for the period 1965–2014 were used (*59*). The

permafrost and glacier maps are from the International Permafrost Association (IPA) and Randolph Glacier Inventory (RGI) (*60*, *61*).

Model simulations

We used the ISIMIP simulation round 2b (ISIMIP2b) outputs of global daily discharge to investigate whether ACC impacts on RFS can be detected. Seven global hydrological models (GHMs) (CLM4.5, H08, MATSIRO, MPI-HM, LPJmL, PCR-GLOBWB and WaterGAP2) under the framework of ISIMIP2b were obtained (*62*). Each GHMs is run under different climate scenarios with different social and economic scenarios in four bias-corrected global climate models (GCMs) contributing to the Coupled Model Intercomparison Project 5 (CMIP5) archive, except for MPI-HM (only three GCMs, Table S2), thereby providing us with 27 GCM-GHM combination datasets of gridded daily discharge. All models considered water consumption sectors (for irrigation / domestic / industrial purposes), reservoir management, and land-use change, apart from CLM45 and MPI-HM, which only considered irrigation water use without reservoir operation. The scenarios of GCM-GHM combinations considered are listed below (Table S2):

1. Picontrol&1860soc: pre-industrial control (Picontrol, including natural climatic variability) simulations under 1860 social and economic scenarios (1860soc) run from 1661-1860. All available Picontrol&1860soc simulations were split into non-overlapping 50-year segments, resulting in a total of 108 segments, to account for natural climate variability. This simulation is used in the subsequent climate change detection and attribution method.

2. Picontrol&HWLU: the Picontrol simulations run from 1861-2005 are used to drive GHMs that account for HWLU, which do not account for ACC. For 1965-2005, the simulations are forced with histsoc (except for CLM45 with 2005soc). For 2006-2014, HWLU is kept at the constant level of 2005soc.

3. HIST&HWLU: simulations under historical climate forcing (HIST, including anthropogenic climate forcing, natural forcing, and natural climatic variability) are used to drive GHMs that account for HWLU. For 2006-2014/2006-2019, the medium–high emission scenarios (Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 6.0) is used to extend the study period (*36*).

To understand the effect of soil moisture on RFS, monthly gridded soil moisture modeled data from the Climate Prediction Center (CPC) soil moisture dataset for the period 1965–2014 were analyzed. These data are monthly averaged soil moisture water height equivalents with a spatial resolution of 0.5°.

Seasonality index

After acquisition of data, both the reconstructed and modelled data were interpolated to a 2.5×2.5° grid using the second-conservative regridding method from their respective original grids. We assessed the seasonal variation of monthly river flow using an information theory metric known as Apportionment Entropy (AE). This metric is non-parametric and may even encompass high-order moments, in contrast to other seasonality indices based on standard deviation, Fourie decomposition, and circular statistics (*13–15*, *22*). AE is therefore very well suited to analyzing river discharge distributions globally. Moreover, information theory metrics have been widely used as a measure of rainfall seasonality in both hydrologic and climatological contexts (*21*, *22*). In our case, higher AE values imply lower seasonal variation, and lower AE imply higher seasonal variation.

To estimate AE of river flow over the year k, we firstly calculated the sum of monthly values x_m (m=1,2,…,12) in year k, denoted as X_k.

$$X_k = \sum_{m=1}^{12} x_{m,k} \quad (1)$$

The AE at year k can be calculated as (*20*):

$$AE_k = -\sum_{m=1}^{12} \frac{x_{m,k}}{X_k} log_2(\frac{x_{m,k}}{X_k}) \quad (2)$$

which by definition, when monthly river flow is uniformly distributed, river flow is equal in each month, and AE reaches its maximum, $\log_2 12$. In contrast, if the annual river flow is concentrated in one month and there is no discharge for the rest of the months, AE = 0.

Anomalies of annual AE were computed by subtracting the long-term mean over the full 1965–2014/1970-2019 period for each station or grid cell. All datasets were masked for overlapping pixels between observational reconstructions and model simulations to achieve the same spatial coverage. We directly use GRUN runoff to calculate RFS, since river flow can be assumed to equal the runoff multiplied by the drainage area (area weighted discharge) at a monthly timescale, where water losses through e.g. channel evaporation are negligible except for in few very large basins (*19*).

AE characterized the magnitude change of the RFS. Our findings suggest that the trends in river flow timing may not be significant at the stations with significant AE trends included in our analysis, particularly at a monthly scale. This is because flow changes in no high-flow months offset the shift in the centroid timing of river flow (Fig. S5).

Trend and reliability analysis

Sen's slope is a robust and nonparametric method to reflect time series trends, commonly used in hydro-meteorological analysis to estimate linear trends (*63*). Stahl et al. developed a method using the Sen's slope k to calculate change ratio expressed in units of percent change per decade to represent trend magnitudes (*64*):

$$\text{change ratio} = \frac{k \cdot 10}{\bar{x}} * 100 \quad (3)$$

where $\bar{x}$ is the mean discharge in the study period. This method is robust to outliers (*64*). In addition, trend estimates from catchments with different sizes and climate are comparable with this method (*51*). Significance of trends is estimated by the Mann-Kendall statistical test (*65*).

Previous literature suggested that trend analysis can be considered when at least 70% of the data-years for stations are available (*51*). However, long-term hydrological data are deficient in high latitudes, where RFS is stronger. To overcome this lack of long-term station-based river flow observations, the length of record (LOR) method is adopted to characterize the uncertainty associated with the application of shorter record lengths when data are limited (*65, 66*). This LOR analysis was used to determine how many years of data were required to achieve a specified level of statistical certainty for any flow gauging station (*66*). Here, a 90% confidence interval for data to be within 5% of the long-term mean was selected to define AE uncertainty. To do this, the whole available period for each station was used to assess the variability of river flow AE and determine the length of record required in calculations when there are at least 35 years record with at least 20 years in the period being studied. Finally, the AE trend was calculated only when there are i) ≥ 35 years (70% of the 1965-2014/1970-2019 time period) available or ii) ≥ 20 years but no more than 20 years record length was required to constrain AE to be within 5% of the long-term mean with 90%

confidence interval. Typically, large rivers flowing through flat lowlands required shorter record lengths to represent the flow regime because their discharge is characterized with relatively lower intra-and interannual variability than highland streams (*66*).

Interpreting AE from high and low flows

To understand the trends of seasonal variability of river flow qualitatively, the annual mean trends of river flow were also included to help identify potential reasons for seasonal variations of river flow for global regions. To interpret the results, low- (high-) flow months were defined as three calendar months when the long-term monthly means of river flow is lowest (highest). Here, we developed a suite of six alteration metrics ascribed as T_{LH} (trends of low flows and high flows) (L−H*, L−H+, L*H+, L*H−, L+H−, L+H*) based on the change directions of AE and the signs and significance of annual mean river flow changes, dividing gauges into six distinct categories. Notation – and + represent the change direction of river flow in low- and high- flow month, * indicates that the change is not predominant. Only stations with significant AE trends were considered. Therefore, we excluded L+H+, L−H−, and L*H* as we assumed stations with significant AE trends would not exhibit the same predominant changes in both low- and high- flow months.

The significant seasonal variations ($p < 0.05$) of river flow at each gauge can be attributed to the variations of high flows and low flows. For example, a station with a significant ($p < 0.05$) increasing AE trend and insignificant ($p > 0.05$) annual mean river flow trend can be assigned to L+H− (increasing low flows and decreasing high flows). Specifically, L−H* indicates that decreasing low flows is dominant assuming that both annual mean river flow and AE are experiencing significantly decreasing trends, L−H+ indicates decreasing low flows and increasing high flows contribute to the significant decreasing trends of AE with insignificant annual mean trends, L*H+ indicates that increasing high flows is prominent in the situation of decreasing AE and increasing annual mean trends, L*H− indicates that decreasing high flows is prominent under the condition of significantly increasing AE and decreasing annual mean trends, and L+H* indicates low flows are significantly increasing in the case of significantly increasing AE and annual mean trends. A few stations with significant AE trends, such as L+H+ in the upper Midwest of CONUS and L−H− in southeast Brazil, are outside our classification framework. Nevertheless, there is still a predominant change in low- or high-flow months overall, which would result in a significant RFS trend (Fig. S5).

Climate change detection and attribution

To quantify possible influences of external forcings in the observed/reconstructed RFS, we conducted climate change detection and attribution analyses on AE over the NHL (above 50°N) over the 1965-2014/1970-2019 period. We used two methods to test robustness of the results: one is a correlation-based method (*17*, *32*, *33*) and the other is the optimal fingerprinting approach (*67*) with a regularized covariance estimate (*34*).

The correlations between the multimodel mean and the observations / pre-industrial control, that is corr(HIST, obs) and corr(Picontrol, HIST), respectively, quantifies the similarity between the estimated response to human-induced climate change and the observed response or a consequence of natural climate variability (*17*, *32*, *33*). The null hypothesis is that there is no signal in the observations resulting from human-induced climate change, that is, the corr(HIST, obs) will be approximately zero and not distinguishable from corr(Picontrol, HIST). On the contrary, if corr(HIST, obs) is significantly larger than zero, e.g. greater than almost all the estimates of corr(Picontrol, HIST), then the null hypothesis is rejected with high confidence. This indicates that the observed response includes a signal stemming from the external forcing given by human-induced climate change. A normal

distribution using the mean and standard deviation of corr(Picontrol, HIST) was assumed for providing the 95% and 99% confidence levels in comparison with corr(HIST, obs) (*32*, *33*).

For the correlation approach, all available Picontrol simulations were used and divided into multiple nonoverlapping 50-year segments with the last segment discarded if shorter than 50 years to match the time span of our study period, providing 216 (8 × 27) chunks of Picontrol simulations span 1661–2099 in total. It is noted that there is no difference if we exclude Picontrol&1860soc simulations in the correlation method (Fig. S18), since the impacts of HWLU on RFS are underrepresented in simulations (Fig. 3C). The Spearman correlation coefficient was used because of its resistance to outliers.

We used the correlation method to examine the spatial and temporal consistency of AE changes between the multimodel mean of historical simulations and the observation, as opposed to estimates from Picontrol. We did this by comparing spatial corr(HIST, obs) with spatial corr(Picontrol, HIST) of AE trends (%/decade), denoted as $corr_{spatial}$(HIST, obs) and $corr_{spatial}$(Picontrol, HIST), distinguished from the temporal correlation coefficient of AE anomalies, denoted as $corr_{temporary}$(HIST, obs) and $corr_{temporary}$(Picontrol, HIST).

Optimal fingerprinting was applied to detect and attribute changes in the observational reconstructed magnitude of the AE in the NHL (above 50°N) from 1965-2014/1970-2019. The optimal fingerprint method is based on the generalized linear regression of the observed or reconstructed AE as a combination of climate responses to external forcing plus internal variability (*34*). The regression model for the one-signal climate change detection and attribution analysis is:

$$\begin{cases} y = x^{*}\beta + \varepsilon \\ x = x^{*} + v \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where observation vector y and the simulation ensemble average response matrix $\boldsymbol{x}$ are known, the actual regressor of $\boldsymbol{x}^{*}$in response to external climate forcing can be obtained with the noise term $\boldsymbol{\nu}$. $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ represents the effect of internal variability that remains in $\boldsymbol{x}$ resulting from sampling since multimodel averaging of forced runs cannot remove all internal variability because the size of the latter is usually small. The observations are acquired from the actual regressor $\boldsymbol{x}^{*}$ by multiplying the scaling factor $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ plus the noise term ε ∼N (0, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$), with $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ being a covariance matrix derived from 108 (27×4) groups of unforced Picontrol simulations under 1860soc accounting for natural variability and uncertainty of multimodel means. To derive the best estimate of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ and the associated confidence intervals, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ is divided into two equally independent groups $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}1$ and $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}2$ following previous research (*17*, *33*). To account for uncertainty of randomly splitting Picontrol&1860soc simulations into two halves, we replicate the procedure 2,000 times, resulting in 2,000 β and corresponding 99% confidence intervals. Median of the resamples was considered as best estimate of 0.5-99.5% uncertainty ranges of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$. A signal is detected if the lower confidence bound of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ is above zero. Furthermore, if the confidence interval of $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ includes one, the magnitude of the mean response of AE is consistent with the observations. In this study, $\boldsymbol{x}^{*}$ is estimated using the ensemble mean of the HIST&HWLU simulations (*34*). If simulations include the drivers of anthropogenic climate forcing, that is HIST&HWLU, are consistent with the observation, then it is possible to claim attribution. The consistency of the unexplained signal ε with internal variability was also assessed using a residual consistency test (RCT) (*34*). The RCT uses a non-parametric estimation of the null distribution through Monte Carlo simulations, and its *p* value is estimated. If $p > 0.1$, the RCT passed, which indicates the consistency between the regression residuals and the model-simulated variability (*34*). The optimal fingerprinting detection and attribution analyses were performed using code provided in ref. (*34*).

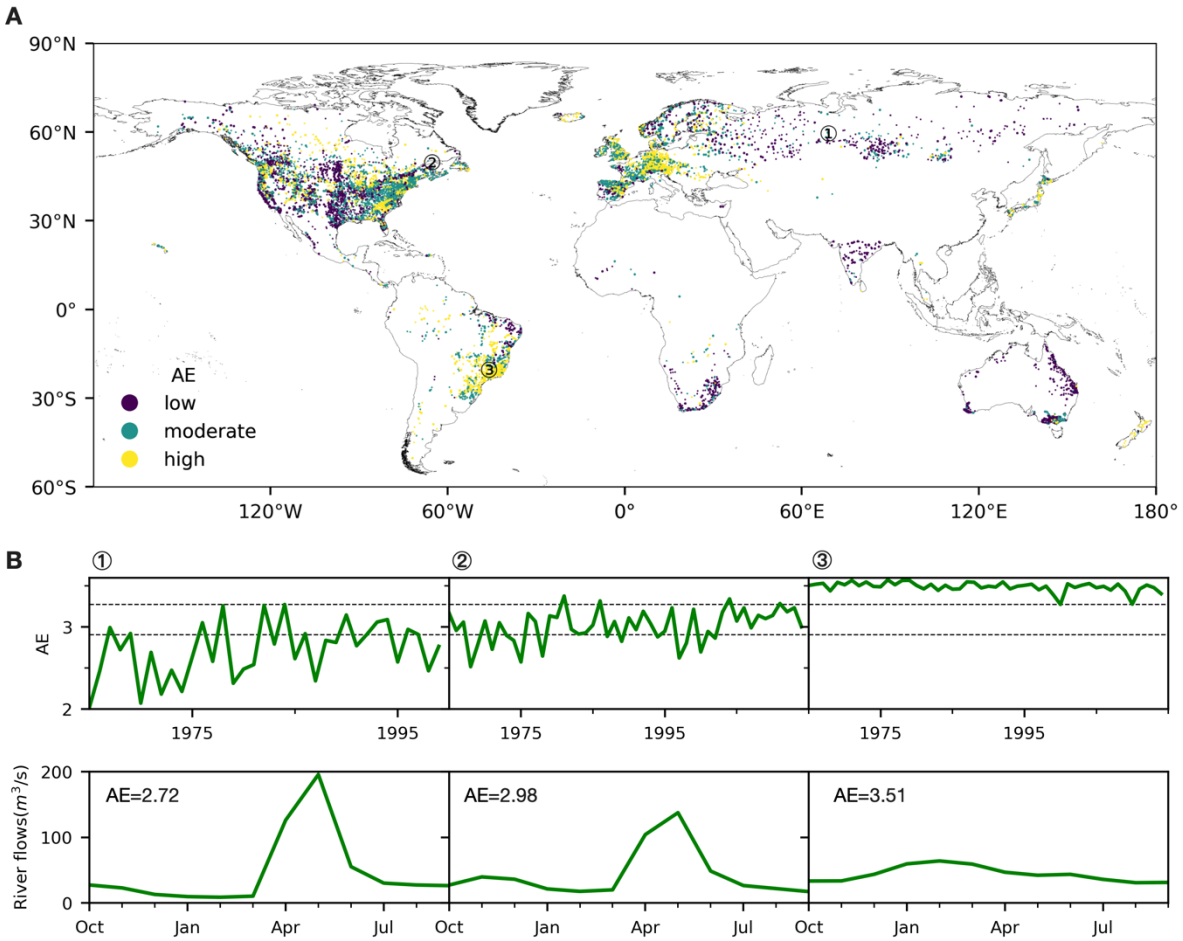


Fig. S1.

Classification of river flow seasonality. (A) Distribution of low, moderate, and high apportionment entropy (AE), corresponding to high, moderate, and low river flow seasonality, respectively, based on 30th and 70th percentile of mean AE (2.91 and 3.28, two dashed lines in (B)) in the 1965-1994 baseline period. (B) Time series of low, moderate, and high AE corresponding to three types of flow regimes with similar annual mean river flow (40~45m^3/s) in the stations of ① Bogadinskoje, south Serbia; ② near Fort Kent Maine, northeast CONUS; and ③ Rio Pardo, southeast Brazil, respectively. 30 years referenced mean AE are noted in the left corner. River flow observations are not available after 2000 in Bogadinskoje.

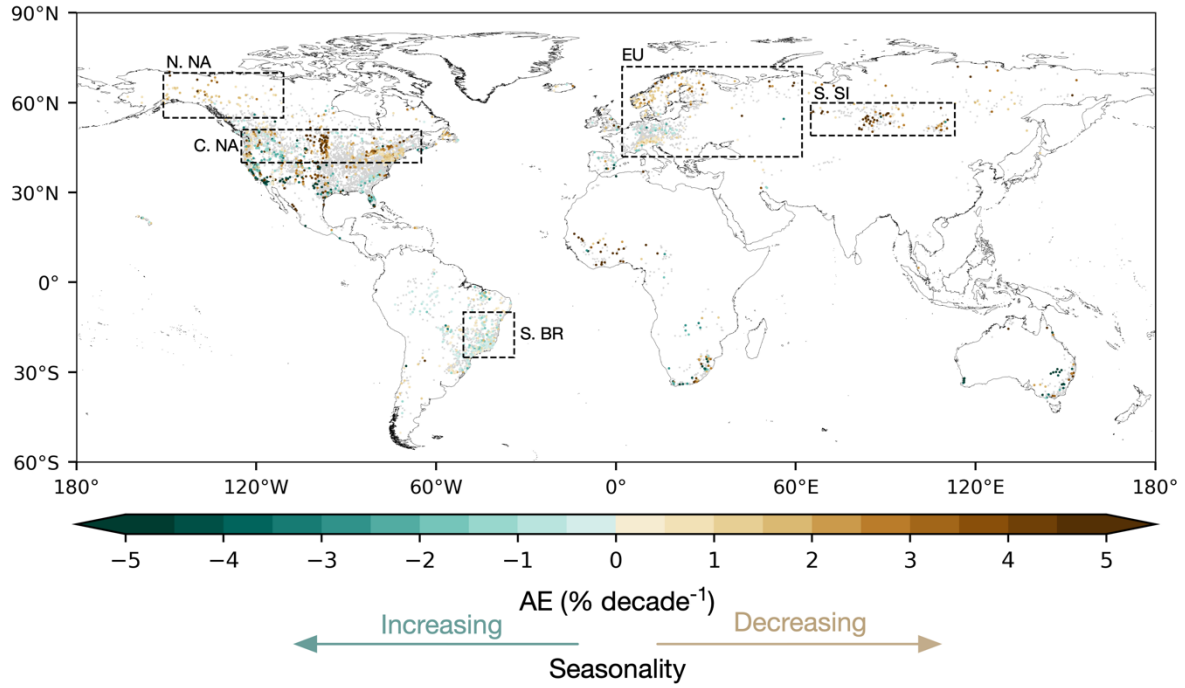


Fig. S2.

River flow seasonality trends represented by apportionment entropy (AE) (% decade^{-1}) over 50 years (1970–2019). Similar to Fig. 1A in the main text, but with study period replaced with 1970-2019.

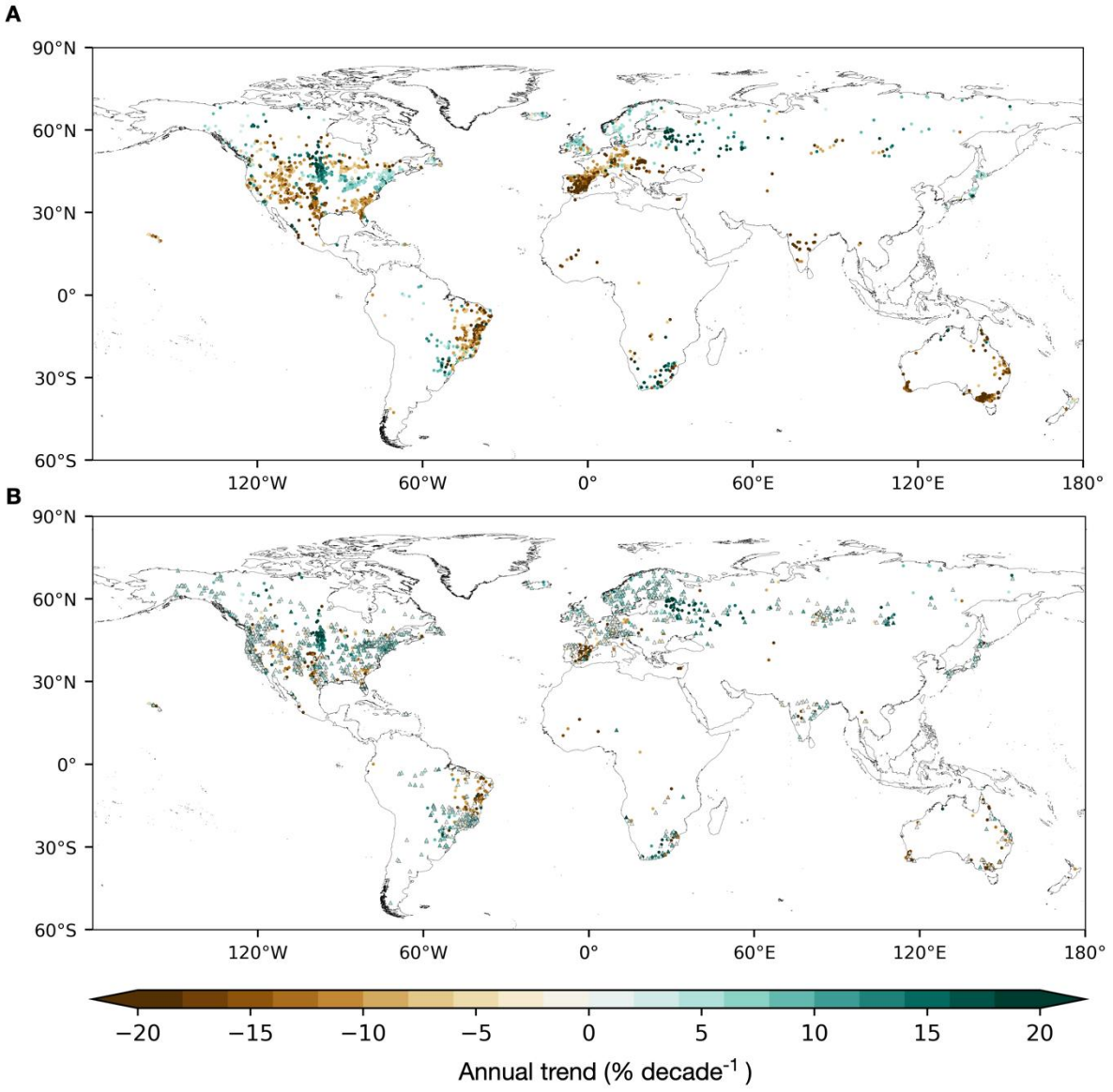


Fig. S3.

Trends of annual mean river flow (% decade^{-1}) over 50 years (1965-2014) in the stations with (A) significant ($p < 0.05$) annual mean trends (2301 stations) or (B) significant ($p < 0.05$) seasonal trends (2134 stations). In (B), stations without significant annual mean trends are represented as black edged triangles, which account for 65% (1380 stations) of the stations with significant seasonal trends.

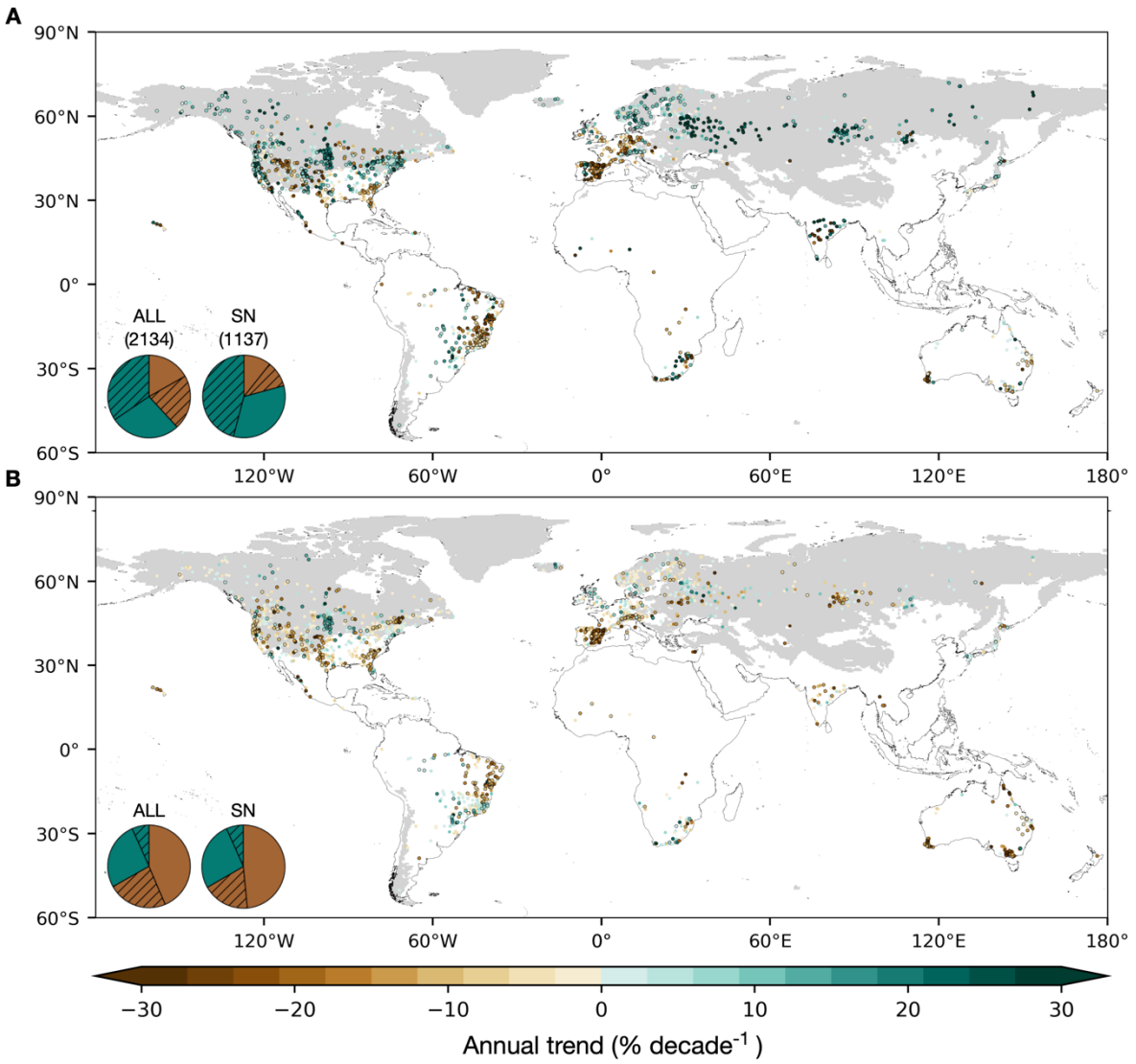


Fig. S4.

Trends of river flow in (A) low- and (B) high- flow months (%decade^{-1}) over 50 years (1965-2014). Stations with significant trends ($p < 0.05$) are circled with black. The number of stations included is indicated in parentheses. Regions where snow fraction in precipitation is larger than 0.2 are showed in grey as snowmelt-dominated areas. The pie charts depict the proportions of stations with significant trends (hatched, $p < 0.05$) and insignificant trends (solid) worldwide (ALL) and in the snowmelt-dominated areas (SN).

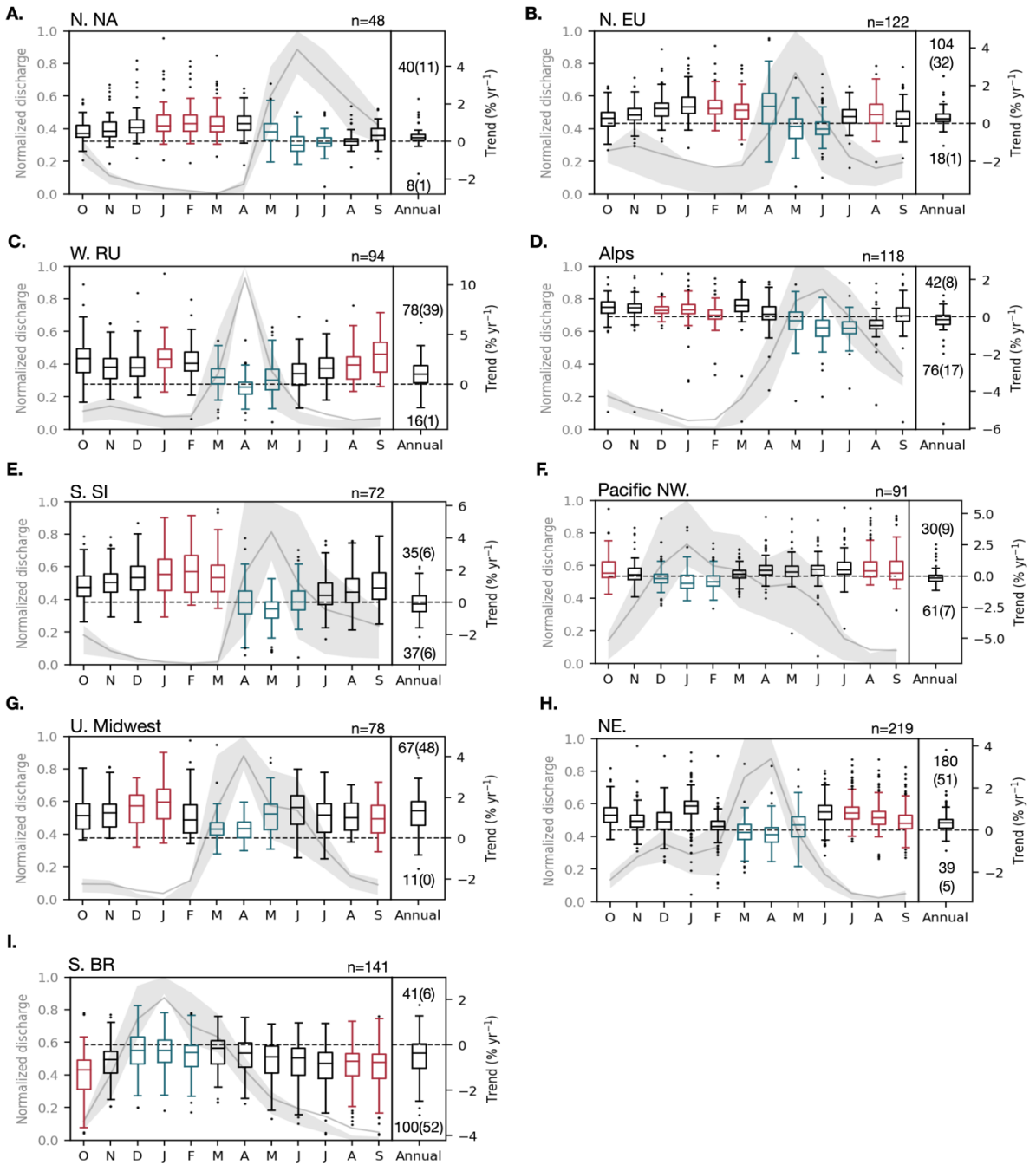


Fig. S5.

Normalized monthly mean flow regime (grey line) within the 25th and 75th percentile range (grey shading) and boxplot of monthly and annual mean river flow trends (% yr^{-1}) in (A) northern North America, (B) northern Europe, (C) western Russia, (D) higher elevation European Alps, (E) south Siberia, (F) Pacific Northwest, (G) upper Midwest, (H) northeast CONUS, (I) southeast Brazil. Low (high) flow months are defined as three calendar months with lowest long-term monthly means of river flow noted in red (blue). Only stations whose seasonal trends are significant ($p < 0.05$) and the same as the dominant change direction in each region are included in statistics. Numbers within annual boxplots indicate the number of positive and negative trends, excluding trends equal to zero. Numbers in parentheses indicate the count of trends that were significant ($p < 0.05$).

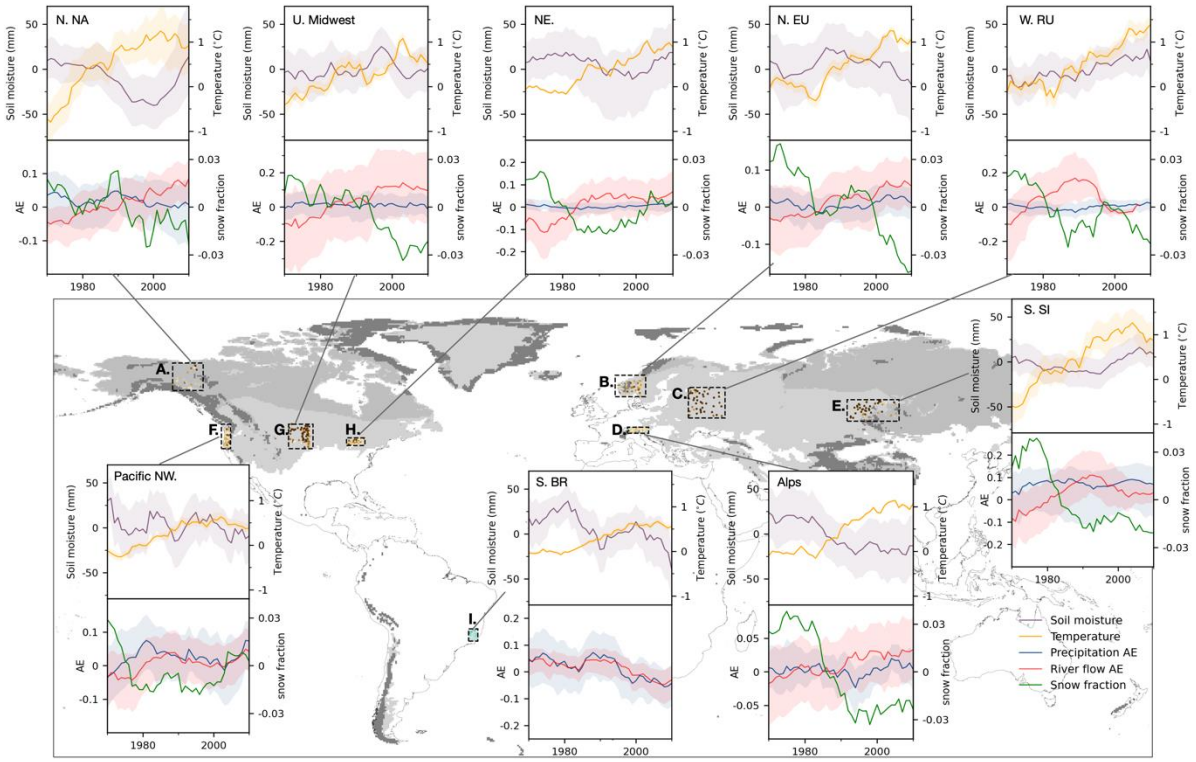


Fig. S6.

Temporal evolution of river flow seasonality with their potential climatic drivers for subspaces in the nine hotspots in (A) northern North America, (B) northern Europe, (C) western Russia, (D) higher elevation European Alps, (E) south Siberia, (F) Pacific Northwest, (G) upper Midwest, (H) northeast CONUS, (I) southeast Brazil. Data show anomalies of soil moisture in high-flow months (purple), temperature (yellow), precipitation (blue), river flow (red) seasonality, and snow fraction (green) changes. Solid lines show the median and shaded bands indicate the spatial variability within the subspaces (25th and 75th percentiles). Bands are not shown for snow fraction to enhance readability of the plot. Regions where snow fraction in precipitation is larger than 0.2 are shown in light grey as snowmelt-dominated areas. Permafrost and glacier distributions are shown in medium and dark grey, respectively. All times series are smoothed by a 10-yr running mean and indexed to the middle year.

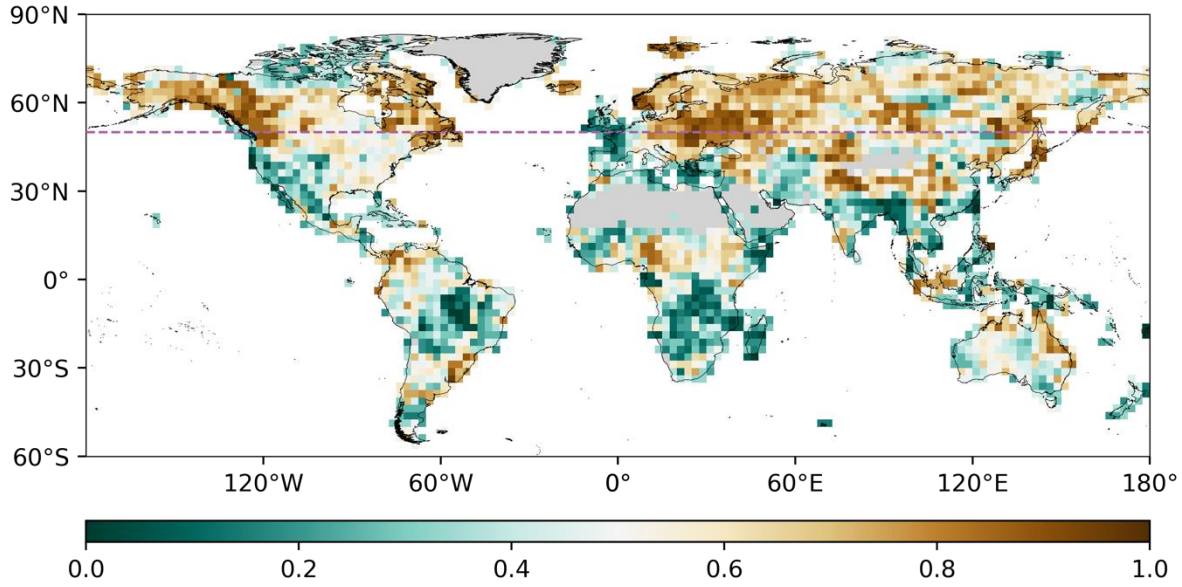


Fig. S7.

Agreement of seasonality trends from 27 GHMs under HIST&HWLU. Fraction of GHMs with weakening river flow seasonality at each grid cell. The purple dashed line at 50°N highlights the boundary of the northern high latitudes defined in this study. Areas of annual precipitation below 100 mm and Greenland are masked in grey.

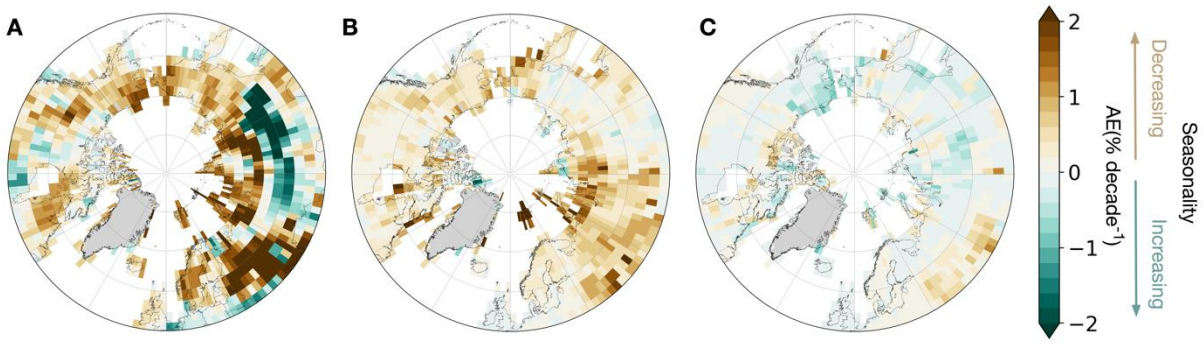


Fig. S8.

Similar to Fig. 3A-3C in the main text, but with study period replaced with 1970-2019. Note (A) shows AE trends from CRU-TS, which is one observational runoff reconstruction driven by the CRUTSv4.04 atmospheric forcing dataset in the G-RUN ENSEMBLE. (B, C) Simulated changes based on multimodel mean that account for historical water and land use (HWLU) under either historical radiative forcing (HIST) (B) or pre-industrial control (Picontrol) (C). Areas with annual precipitation below 100 mm and Greenland are masked in grey.

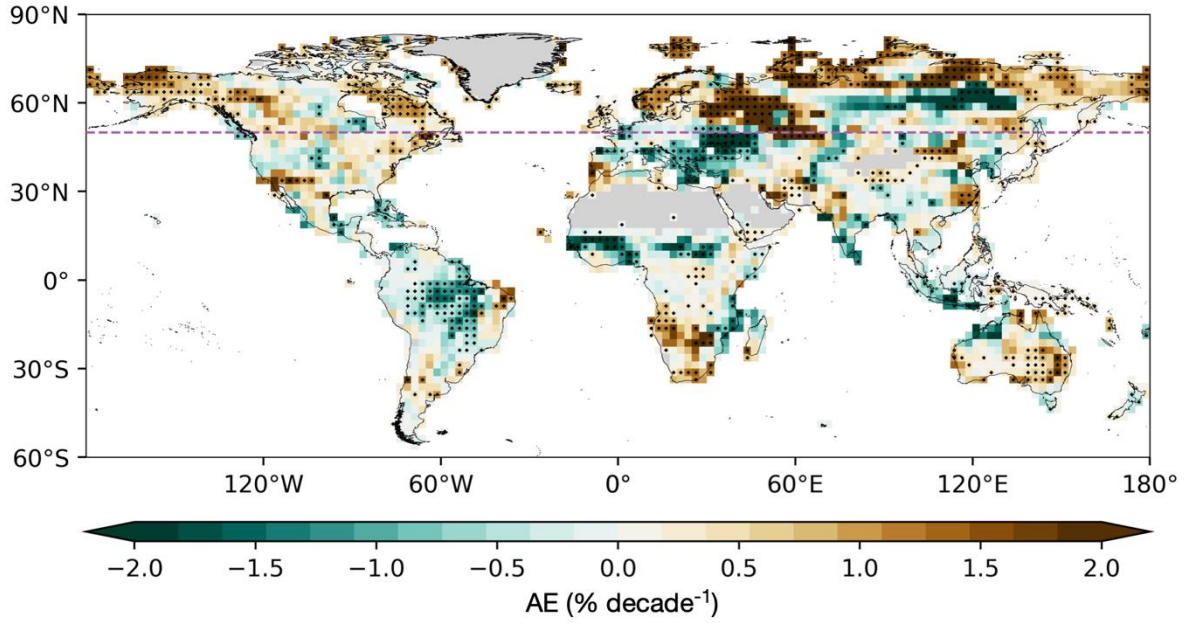


Fig. S9.

Observational reconstruction of river flow apportionment entropy (AE) trends (% decade^{-1}) for the G-RUN ENSEMBLE member driven with CRU-TS in 1970-2019. Black dots indicate a trend significance at 0.05. The purple dashed line at 50°N highlights the boundary of the northern high latitudes defined in this study. Areas of annual precipitation below 100 mm and Greenland are masked in grey.

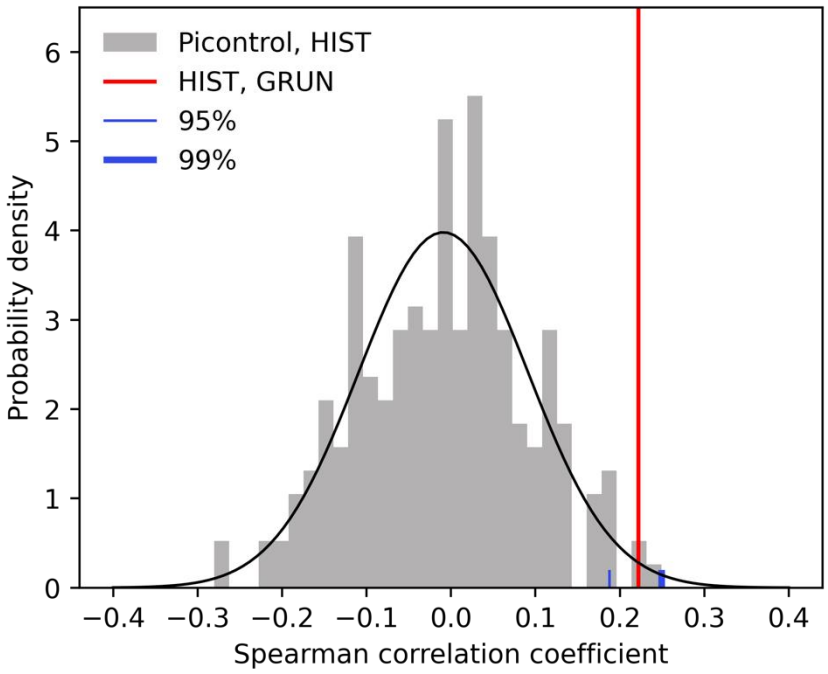


Fig. S10.

Spatial Spearman correlation coefficient of apportionment entropy (AE) trends for 1965-2014 (% decade^{-1}) between the multimodel mean from HIST&HWLU and observed changes from GRUN ($corr_{spatial}$(HIST, GRUN), red) compared with an empirical distribution of correlation coefficients from 216 chunks of Picontrol simulations ($corr_{spatial}$(Picontrol, HIST), grey). Vertical blue lines mark the 95% and 99% cumulative probability of an assumed normal distribution for the correlations.

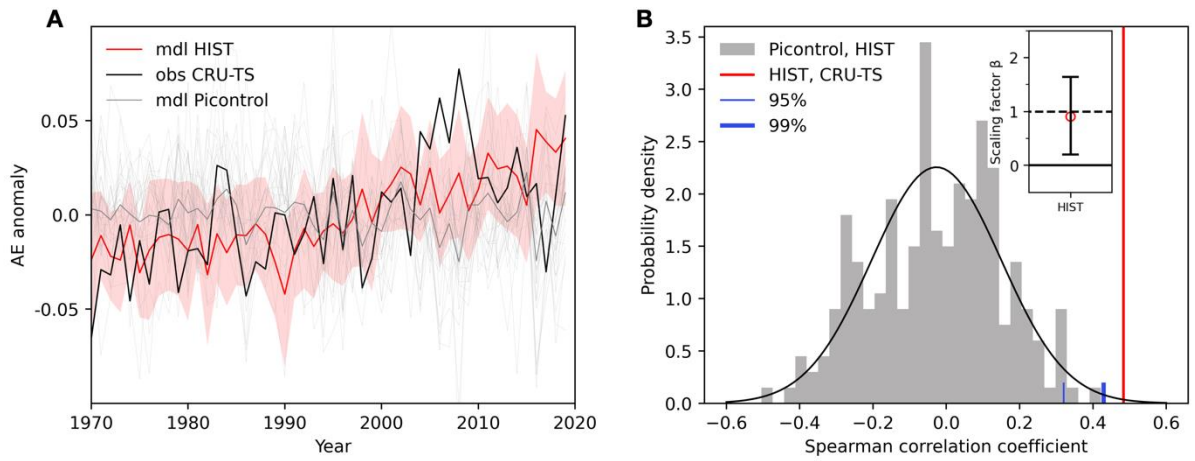


Fig. S11.

Similar to Fig. 3D and 3E in the main text, but with study period replaced with 1970-2019 and observational runoff replaced with CRU-TS, which is one observational runoff reconstruction driven by CRUTSv4.04 atmospheric forcing dataset in the G-RUN ENSEMBLE. (A) Global multimodel (mdl) mean time series of apportionment entropy (AE) anomalies for HIST&HWLU and Picontrol&HWLU response and CRU-TS observations above 50°N. The red spread is ensemble standard deviation of HIST&HWLU, and thin grey lines are 27 model results of Picontrol&HWLU. (B) Correlation coefficient of AE anomalies between simulations with and without ACC ($corr_{temporary}$(Picontrol, HIST)) or observation-based reconstructions ($corr_{temporary}$(HIST, CRU-TS)) across 50°N-90°N. Correlation coefficient between the mdl mean from HIST&HWLU simulations and 216 chunks of Picontrol simulations with 50-yr segments are shown as an empirical probability density function in grey. Vertical blue lines mark the 95% and 99% cumulative probability of an assumed normal distribution for the correlations. The inset shows the confidence interval of the scaling factor from the optimal fingerprinting method with 0.5-99.5% uncertainty range. A signal is detected if the lower confidence bound is above zero (the solid line). The amplitude of the mean response is consistent with the observations if the confidence interval includes one (the dashed line). The residual consistency test (RCT) passed ($p >$ 0.1), indicating the consistency between the regression residuals and the model-simulated variability.

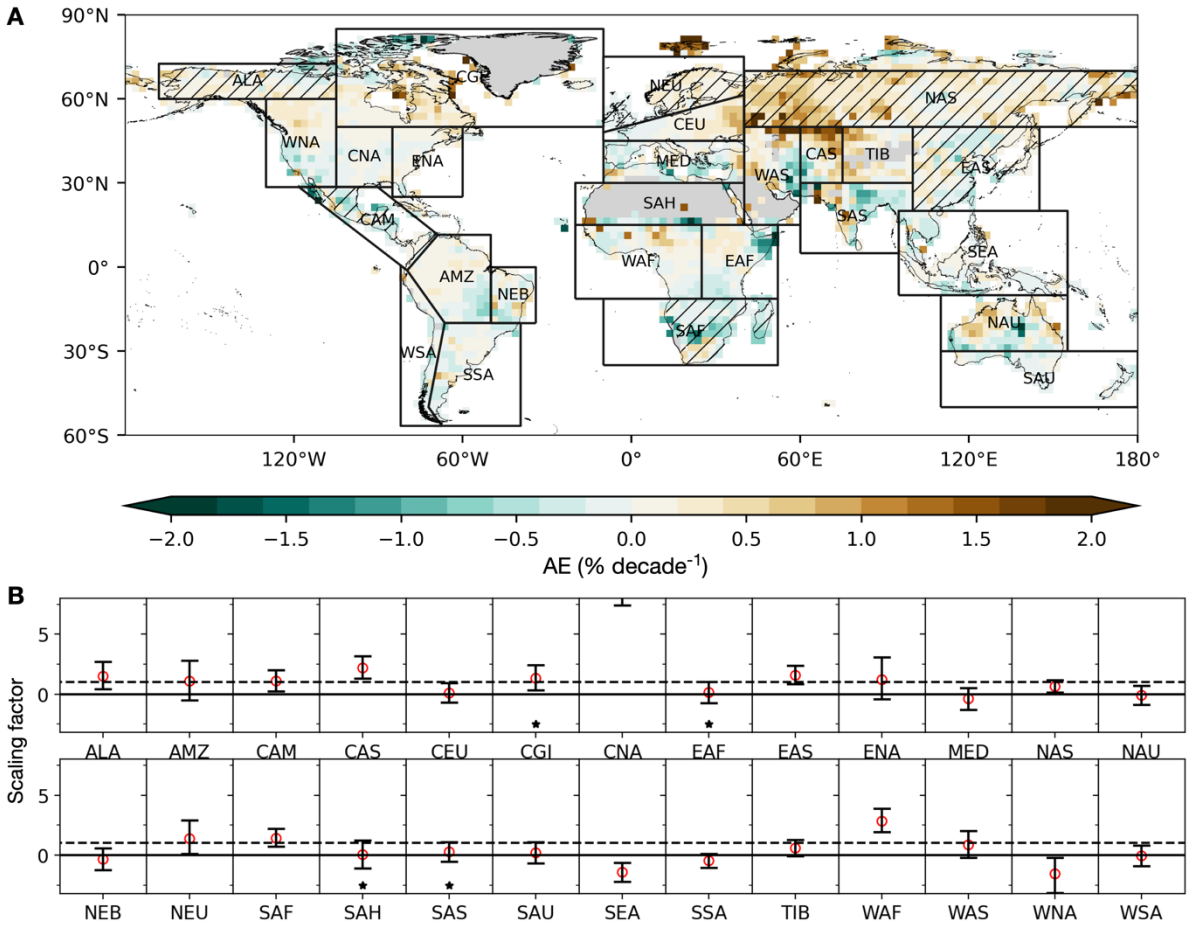


Fig. S12.

Results of the climate change detection and attribution analyses for the Apportionment Entropy (AE) of river flow in 26 IPCC SREX regions for 1965-2014. (A) Trends of AE in river flow from multimodel mean of global hydrological models (% decade^{-1}), the same as Fig. 3B but at global scale. (B) The scaling factor plots from 26 IPCC SREX refer to 10-90% uncertainty ranges from the detection analysis, * indicates a residual consistency test was not passed ($p < 0.1$). Regions with detected signal (lower confidence bound of scaling factor is above zero (the solid line)) and attributable to ACC (the confidence interval includes one (the dashed line)) are marked with dashes in (A). The ranges of scaling factor are truncated to enhance readability of the plot if confidence intervals exceed the ordinate.

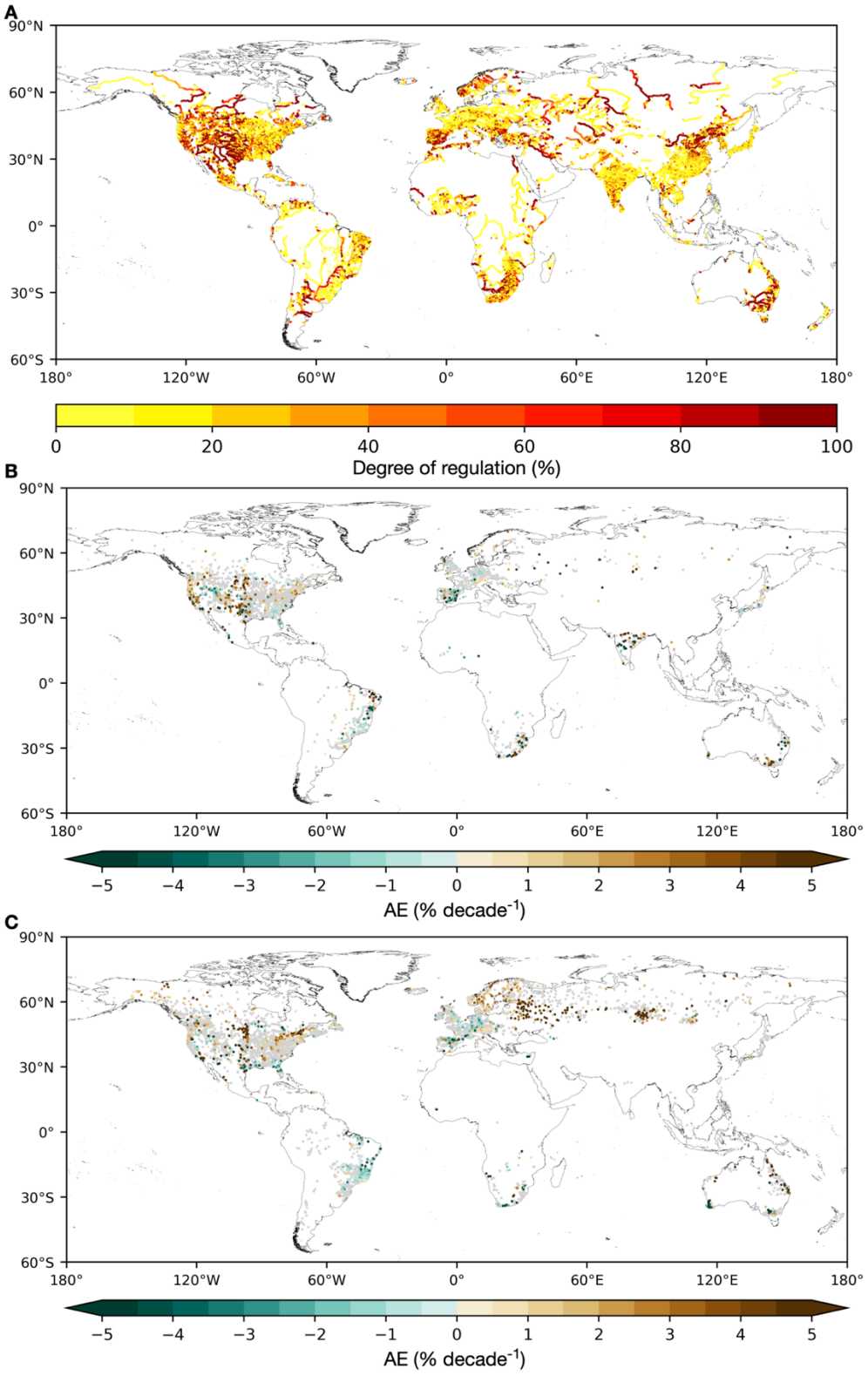
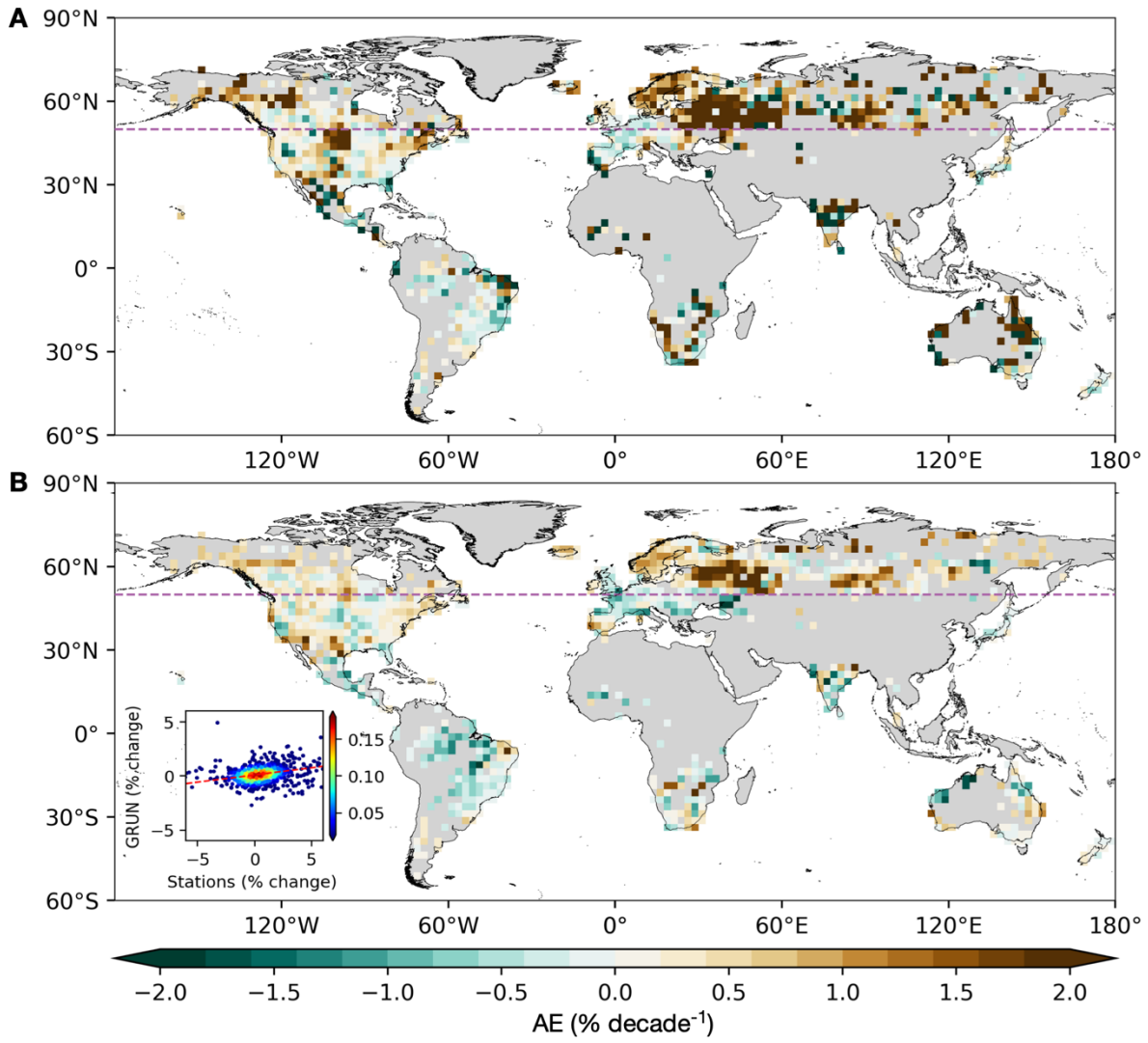


Fig. S13.

River flow seasonality trends represented by apportionment entropy (AE) (% decade^{-1}) over 50 years (1965–2014). (A) Degree of regulation (%) of rivers influenced by reservoirs. (B, C) illustrate the AE trends in the stations influenced by reservoirs (3,914) and those unaffected by reservoirs (6,150), respectively.



126

127 **Fig. S14.**

128 Comparison of apportionment entropy (AE) trends from (A) stations and (B) GRUN (%
129 decade^{-1}). Each grid cell is the median trend for all the stations. Grid cells containing at least
130 one station were included. Inset is a scatterplot showing the trends from stations and GRUN
131 with linear regression in a red dashed line. Color shows the relative density of data points.
132 Stations with trends larger than ±6% are not showed in the scatterplot, which occupied ~4%
133 of 10,120 stations. The purple dashed line at 50°N highlights the boundary of the northern
134 high latitudes defined in this study.

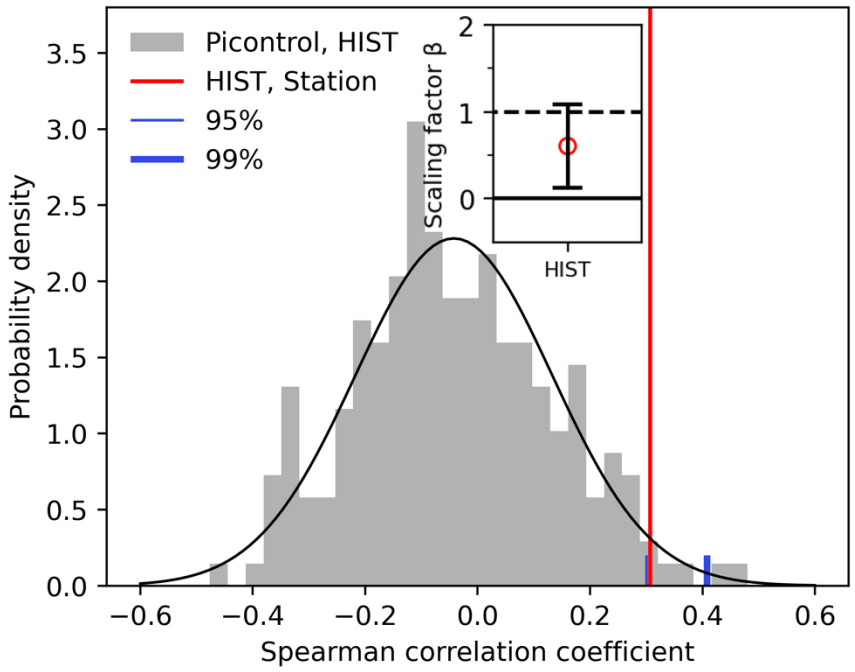
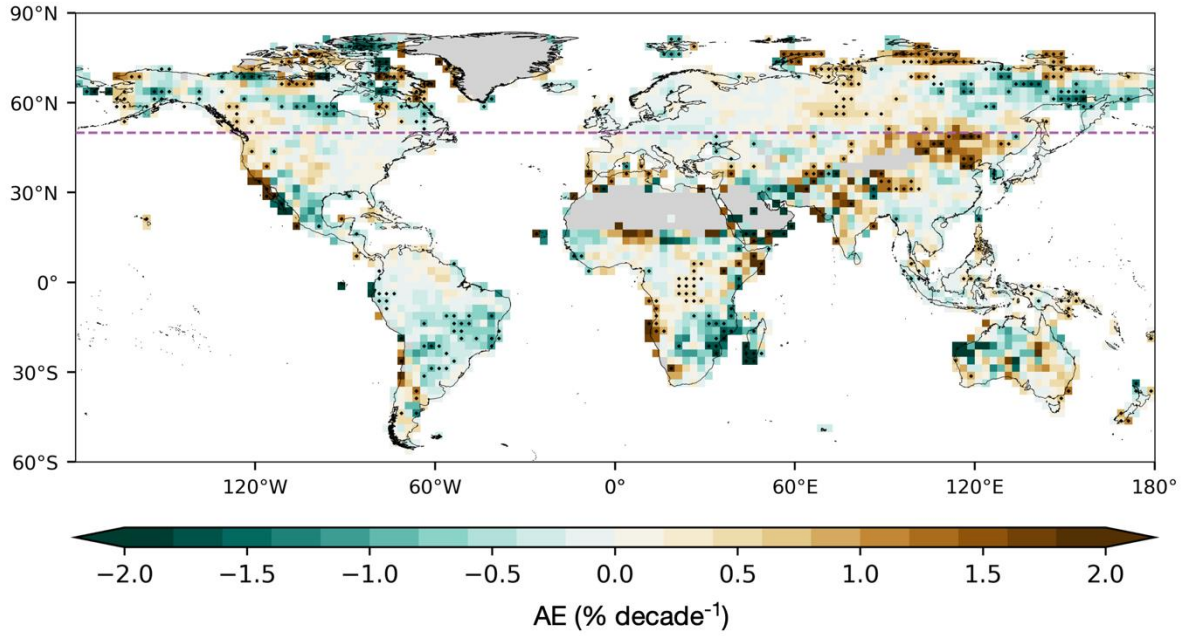


Fig. S15.

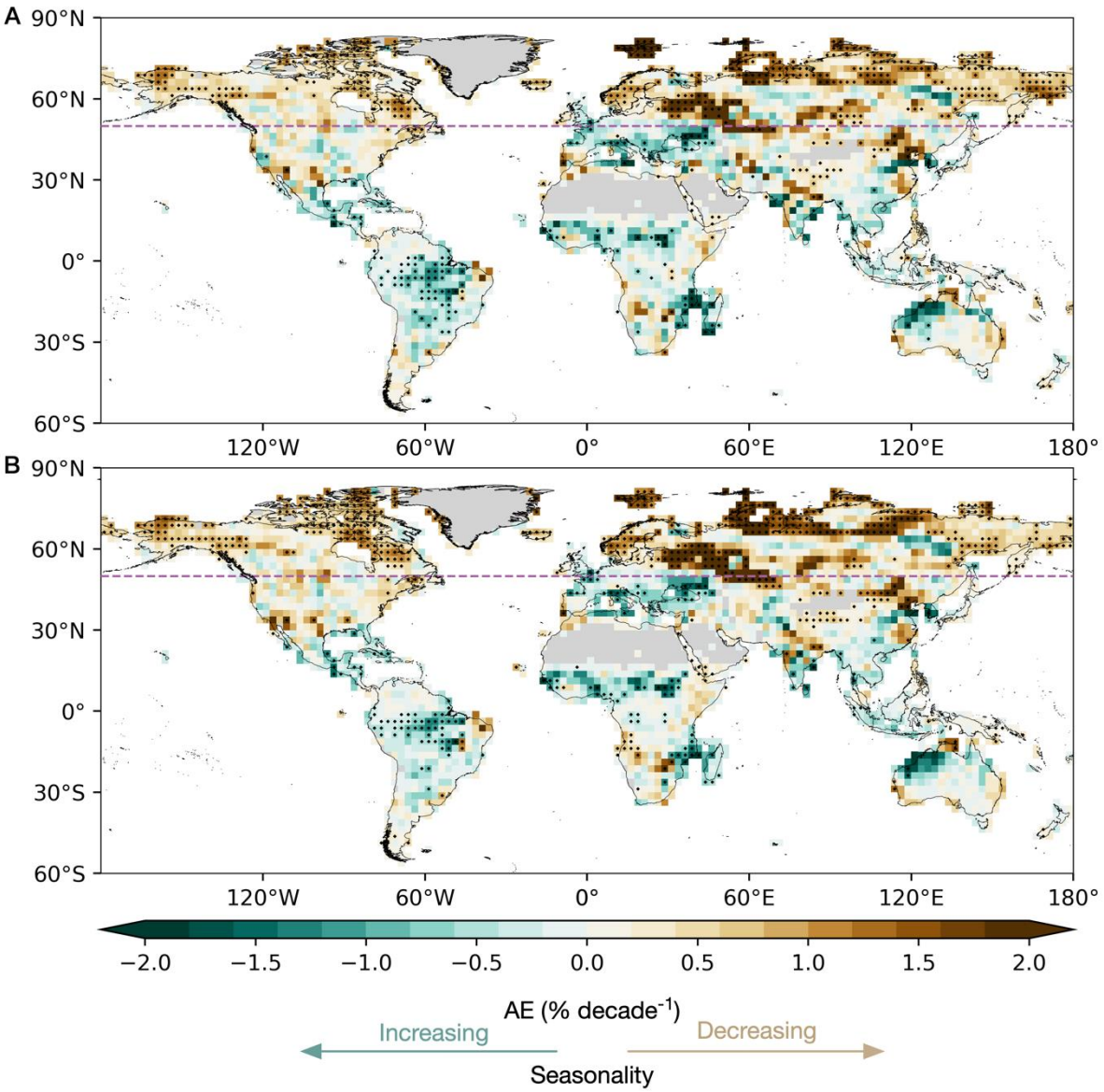
Similar to Fig. 3E in the main text, but we replace GRUN with gauged-based observations, and the spatial coverage is restricted to grid cells that contain at least one station in the northern high latitudes (above 50°N). Correlation coefficient of AE anomalies between simulations with and without ACC ($corr_{temporary}$(Picontrol, HIST)) or observation-based reconstructions ($corr_{temporary}$(HIST, Station)) across 50°N-90°N. Correlation coefficient between the multimodel mean from HIST&HWLU simulations and 216 chunks of Picontrol simulations with 50-yr segments are shown as an empirical probability density function in grey. Vertical blue lines mark the 95% and 99% cumulative probability of an assumed normal distribution for the correlation. The inset shows the confidence interval of the scaling factor plot from the optimal fingerprinting method with 10-90% uncertainty range.



147

148 **Fig. S16.**

149 Trends in Apportionment Entropy (AE) (% decade^{-1}) of precipitation from GPCC in 1965-
150 2014. Black dots indicate a trend significance at 0.05. The purple dashed line at 50°N
151 highlights the boundary of the northern high latitudes defined in this study. Areas of annual
152 precipitation below 100 mm and Greenland are masked in grey.



153

154 **Fig. S17.**

155 Trends in Apportionment Entropy (AE) (% decade^{-1}) of (A) river flow from GRUN and (B)
156 G-RUN ENSEMBLE, reconstructed from observation in 1965-2014. Black dots indicate a
157 trend significance at 0.05. The purple dashed line at 50°N highlights the boundary of the
158 northern high latitudes defined in this study. Areas of annual precipitation below 100 mm and
159 Greenland are masked in grey.

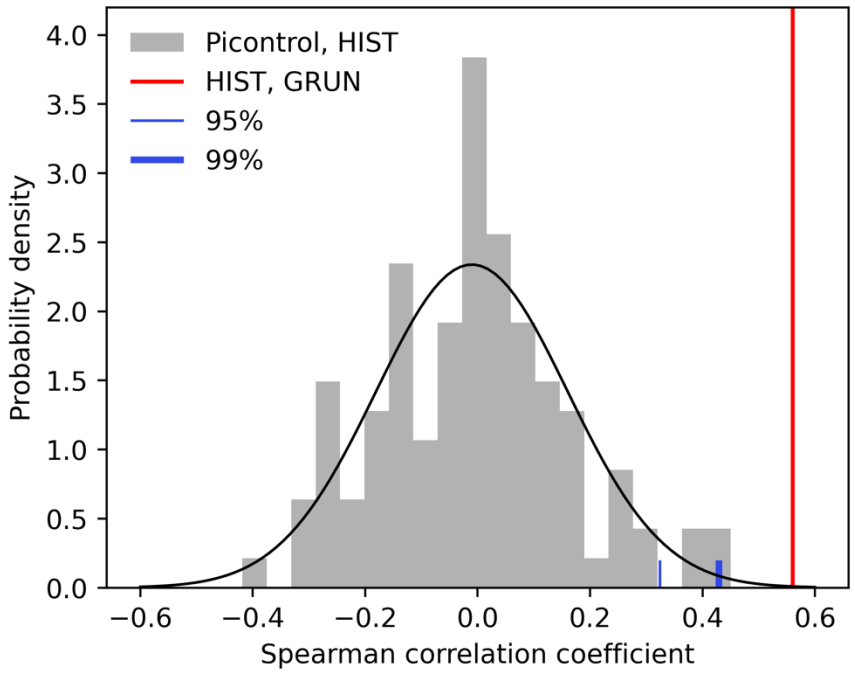


Fig. S18.

Similar to Fig. 3E in the main text, but with Picontrol simulations restricted in Picontrol&HWLU. Correlation coefficient of AE anomalies between simulations with and without ACC ($corr_{temporary}$ (Picontrol, HIST)) or observation-based reconstructions ($corr_{temporary}$(HIST, GRUN)) across 50°N-90°N. Correlation coefficient between the multimodel mean from HIST&HWLU simulations and 108 chunks of Picontrol simulations with 50-yr segments are shown as an empirical probability density function in grey. Vertical blue lines mark the 95% and 99% cumulative probability of an assumed normal distribution for the correlation.

Table S1. Spearman's rank correlation coefficients between the river flow AE with precipitation AE, soil moisture, snow fraction, and air temperature in the nine hotspots of Fig. S6. * indicates the trends are significant ($p < 0.05$).

Regions	precipitation AE	soil moisture	snow fraction	air temperature
N.NA	-0.57*	-0.58*	-0.8*	0.9*
N.EU	0.37*	0.01	-0.87*	0.86*
W.RU	-0.78*	-0.15	-0.63*	-0.07
Alps	0.06	-0.77*	-0.78*	0.86*
S.SI	-0.04	-0.58*	-0.67*	0.55*
Pacific NW.	0.65*	-0.17	-0.11	0.32*
U. Midwest	-0.2	0.37*	-0.89*	0.83*
NE.	0.04	-0.47*	-0.55*	0.7*
S. BR	0.93*	0.27		-0.64*

Table S2. Ensemble simulations and hydrology models included in our analysis.

		climate scenario						
		Pre-industrial control (Picontrol)				Historical (HIST)		RCP6.0
	Simulation period	1661-1860	1861-2005		2006-2099	1861-2005		2006-2099
GHM/LSM	social & economy scenarios / GCM	1860soc	histsoc	2005soc	2005soc	histsoc	2005soc	2005soc
CLM45	GFDL-ESM2M	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y
	MIROC5	Y		Y	Y		Y	Y
H08	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
LPJmL	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
MATSIRO	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
MPI-HM	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
PCR-GLOBWB	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
WaterGAP2	GFDL-ESM2M	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	HadGEM2-ES	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	IPSL-CM5A-LR	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y
	MIROC5	Y	Y		Y	Y		Y

176 **Table S3.** Monthly streamflow databases included in the analysis during 1970-2019.

Database	Spatial coverage	Data access information
Global Runoff Data Centre (GRDC) (*52*)	Global	https://www.bafg.de/GRDC/
United States Geological Survey water data (USGS)	USA	https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis
Canada National Water Data Archive (HYDAT)	Canada	https://wateroffice.ec.gc.ca/
Brazil National Water Agency (ANA)	Brazil	http://hidroweb.ana.gov.br/
African Database of Hydrometric Indices (ADHI) (*68*)	Africa	https://doi.org/10.23708/LXGXQ9

177

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