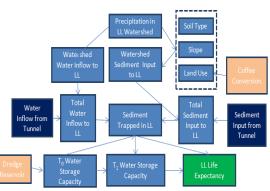


www.epa.gov







Decision Scenario Analysis for Addressing Sediment Accumulation in Lago Lucchetti, Puerto Rico

William Fisher¹ and Justin Bousquin²

US EPA Office of Research and Development
National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory

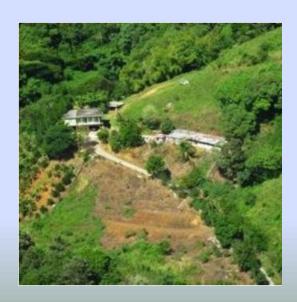
¹Gulf Ecology Division, Gulf Breeze, FL USA

²Atlantic Ecology Division, Narragansett, RI USA

ACES Conference December 11, 2014

Coral Reef Protection

- The Guánica watershed has gone through many changes, including agricultural and municipal growth
- Landuse changes have altered the quantity and quality of water flowing into Guánica Bay
- Concern over effects on coastal corals led to a US Coral Reef Task Force initiative to reduce watershed pollution

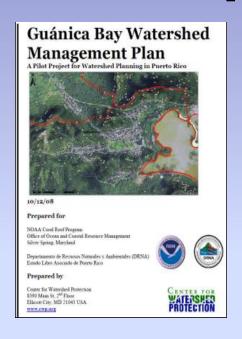






Guánica Bay Watershed Management Plan: Proposed Actions

Shade-grown coffee
Dredging reservoirs
Lagoon restoration
Hydro-seeding
Riparian planting
Remove relic irrigation

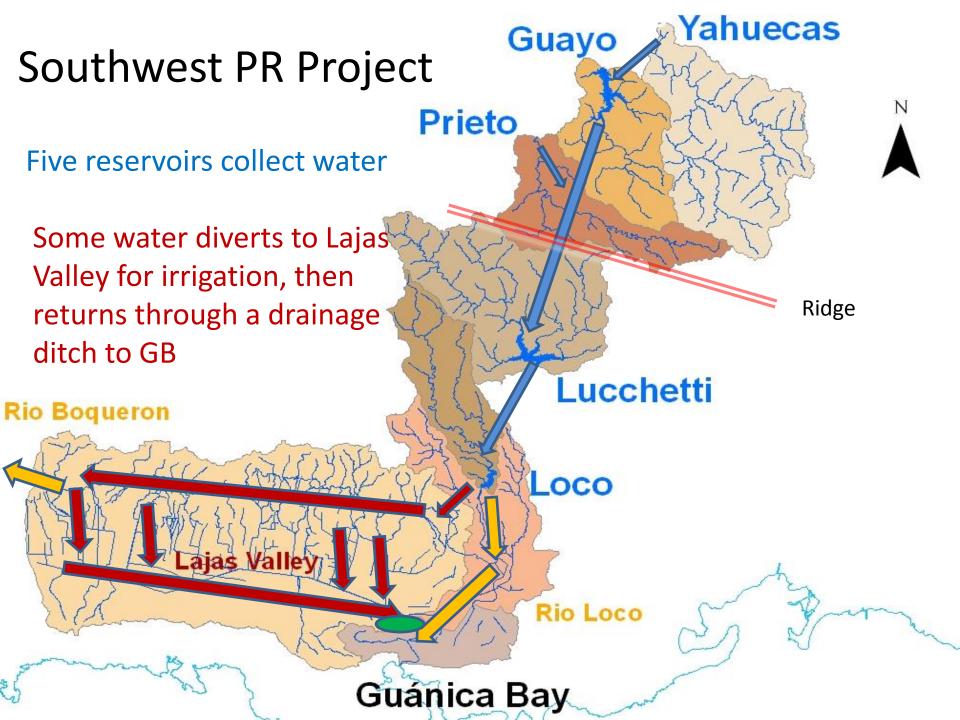




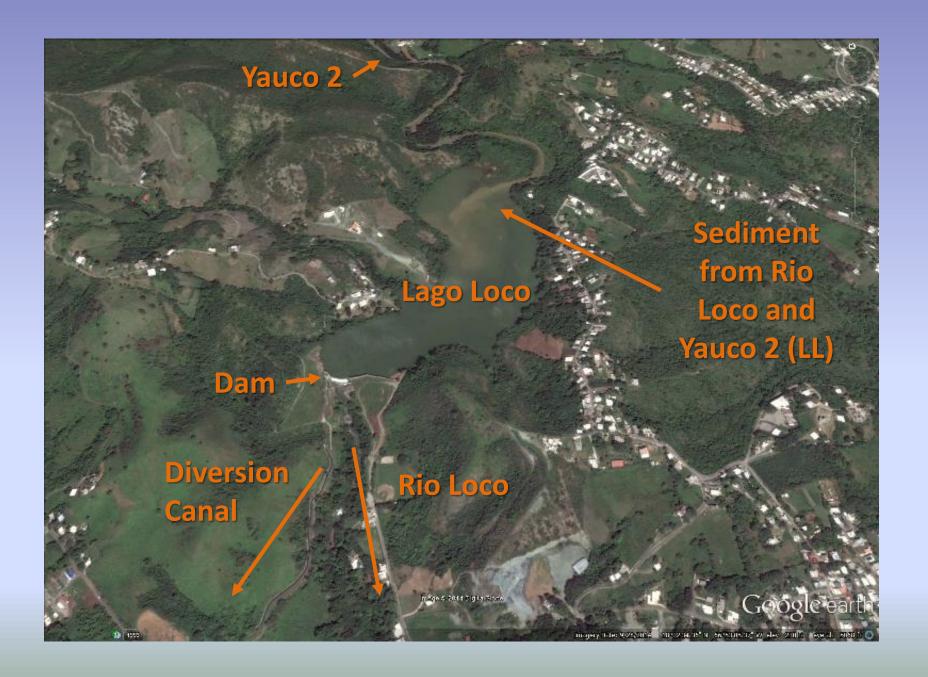








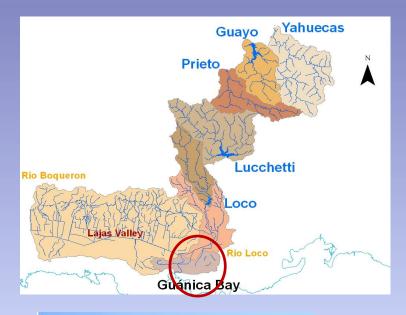


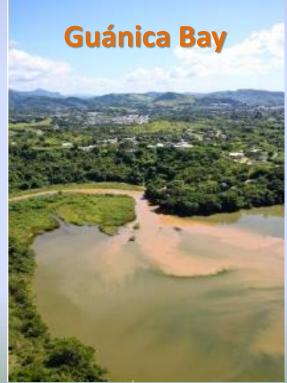


Coral Reef Protection

Should management decisions be focused on sediment from the Rio Loco or from the Lajas Valley Drainage (Return) Ditch?







Water Quality and Quantity (Ecosystem Services)

Freshwater Habitat





Agricultural Irrigation



Flood Control

Coral Reefs



Drinking Water



Waste Water Dilution



Bird and Reptile Biodiversity



Hydroelectric

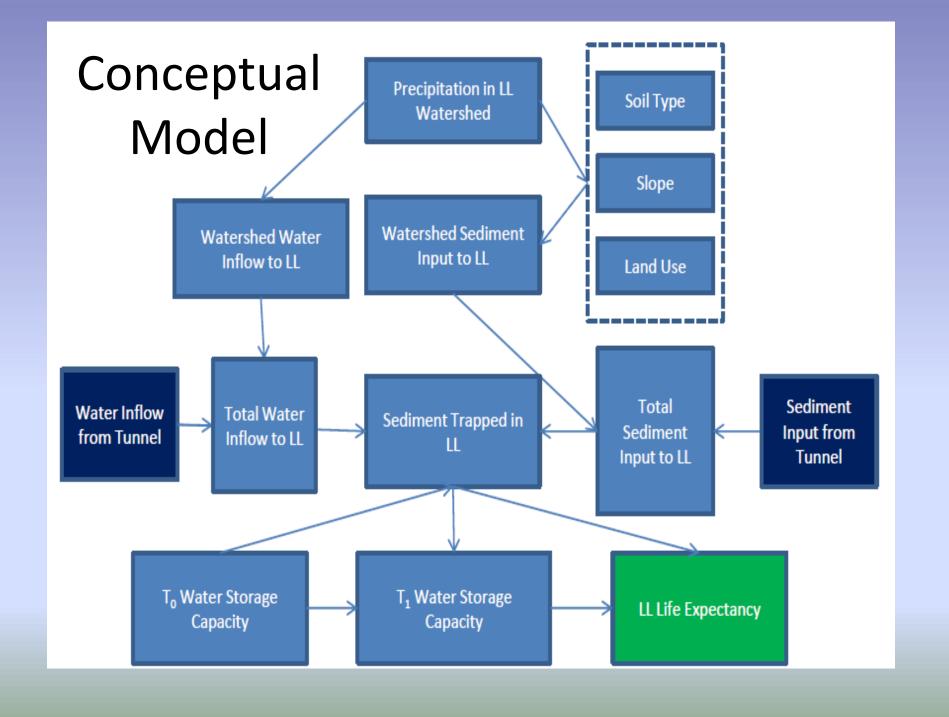
What is the Life Expectancy of Lago Lucchetti?

Most Reservoirs in Puerto Rico are ½ filled with sediment, placing at risk the many ecosystem services they provide



How long can LL provide current and future services?

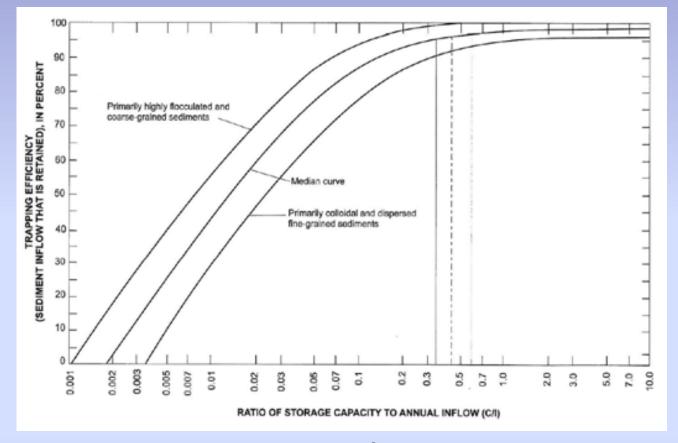
How will management options affect LL life expectancy?



Trapping Efficiency: Capacity to Trap Sediment

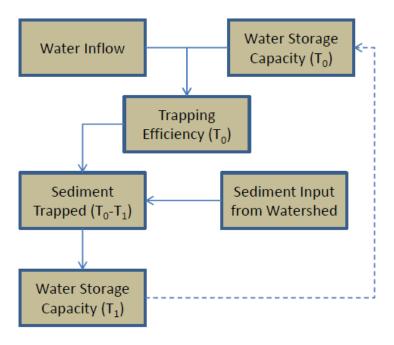
Ratio of reservoir capacity to inflow [Brunes Curve]

Trapping Efficiency



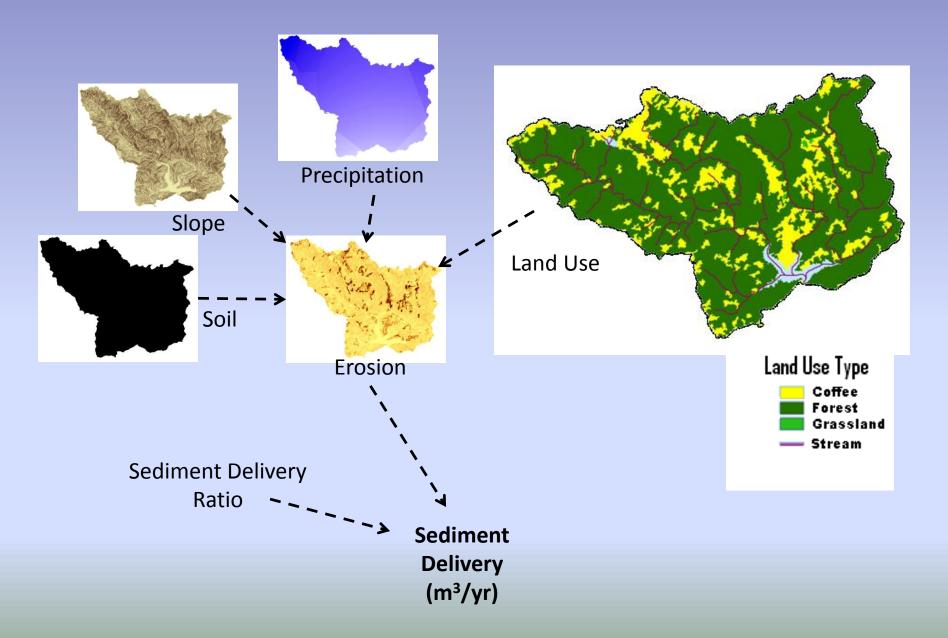
Storage Capacity/Water Inflow

Sediment Balance Model

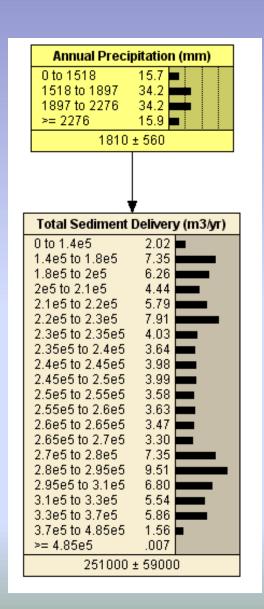


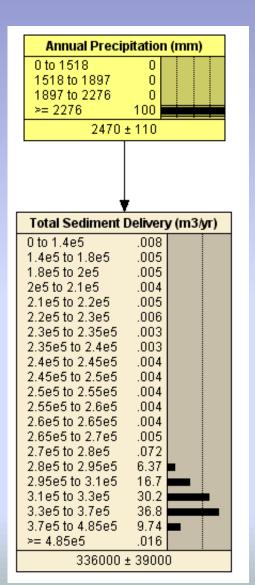
To estimate the amount of water and sediment delivered through tunnels into successive reservoirs

USLE Sediment Model



Watershed Sediment Delivery to Lago Lucchetti

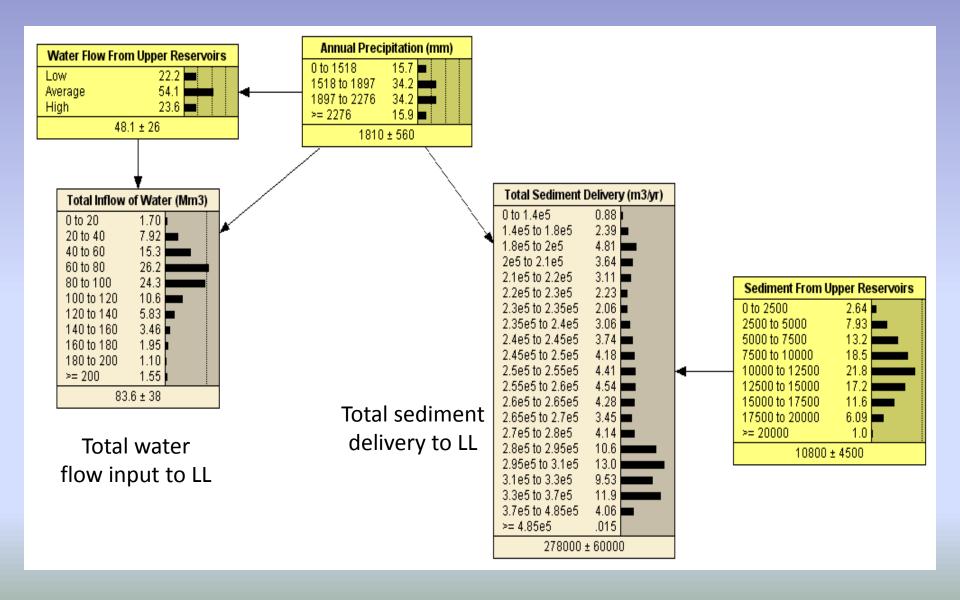


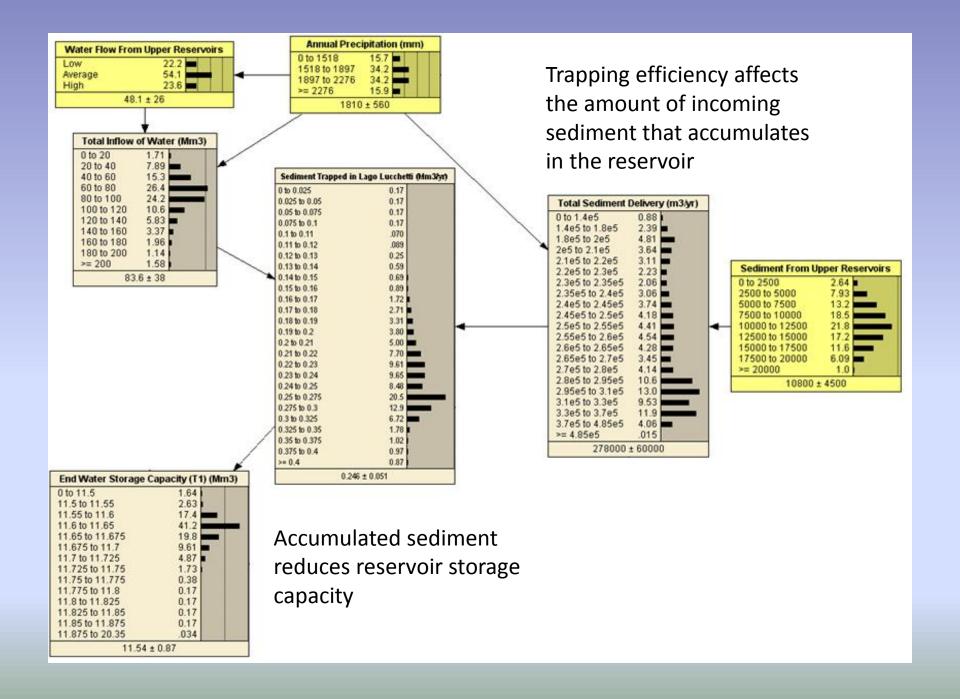


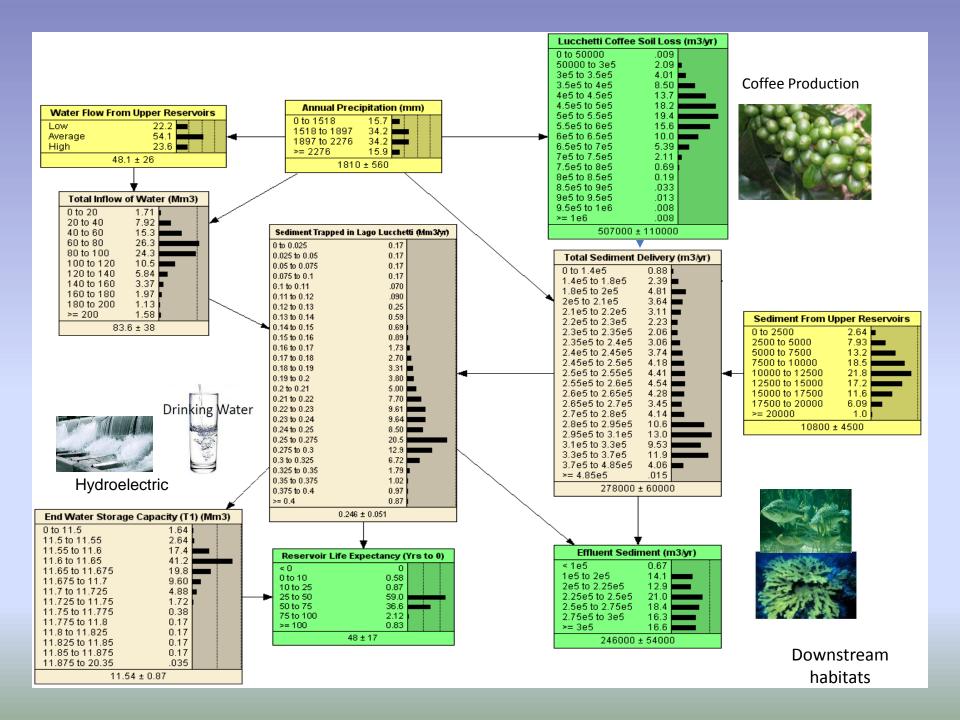
Bayesian Belief Network

- Limited data
- High uncertainty
- Expert opinion
- Multiple objectives and decisions
- Project scaling

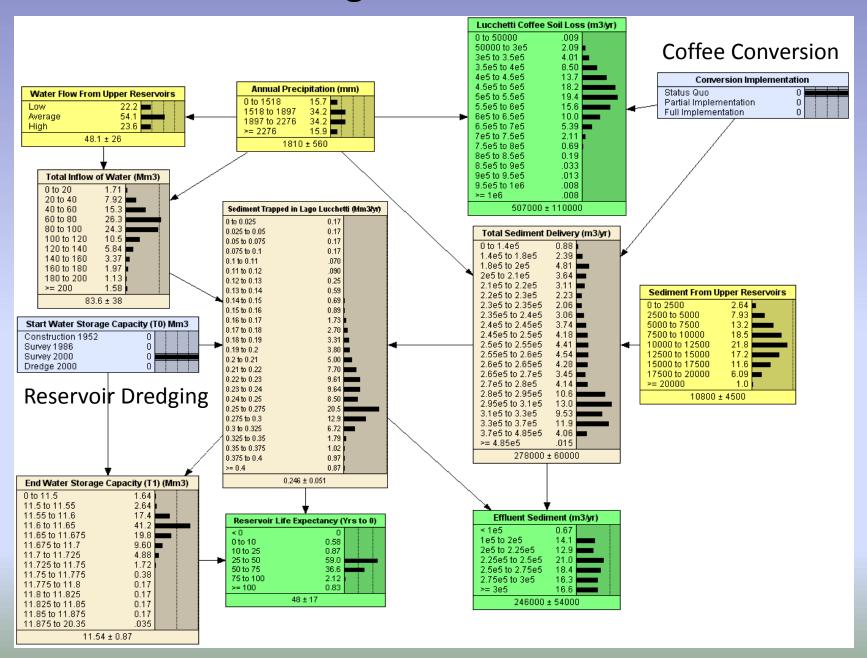
Water & Sediment from Upper Reservoirs



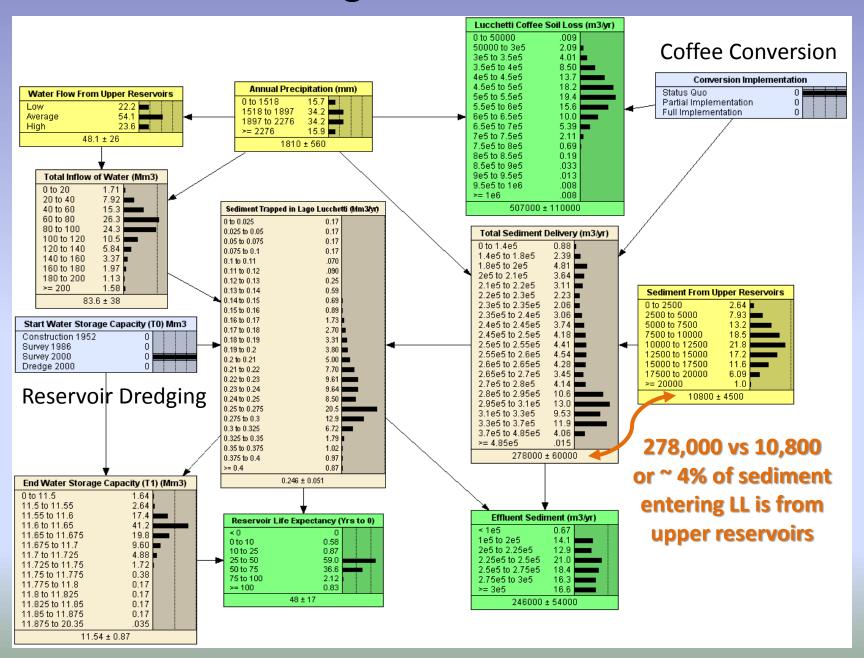




Management Actions



Management Actions

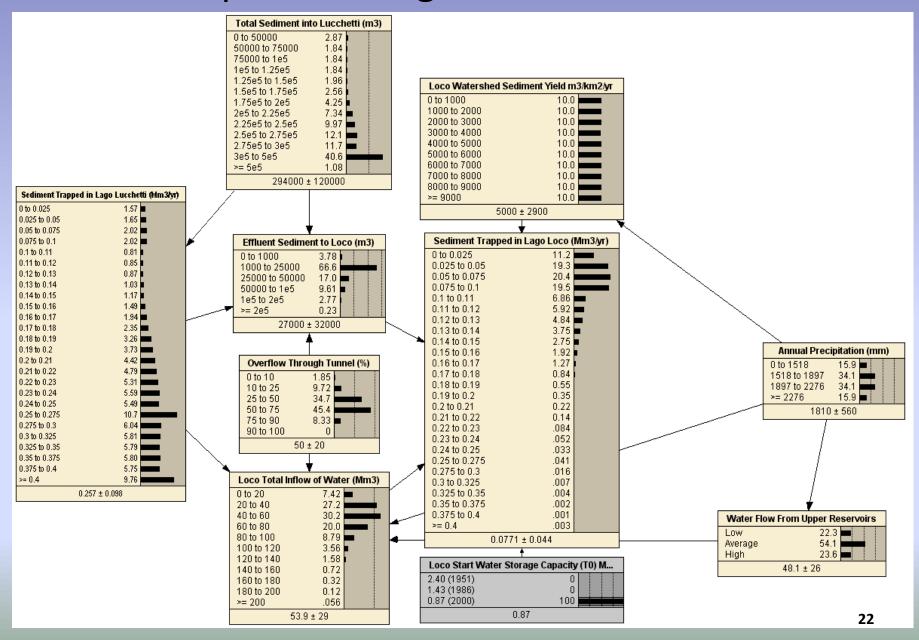


Consequence Table

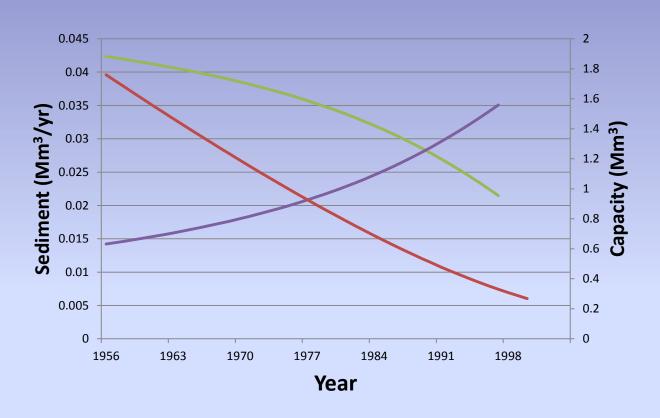
| Management Scenario | Effluent Sediment (x10 ⁵ m ³ /yr) | Reservoir Expected Life (Years to 0) | Coffee Soil Loss (x10 ⁵ m ³ /yr) |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|
| Status Quo | 2.46 ± .54 | 48.0 ±17 | 5.07 ± 1.5 |
| Partial Coffee | 2.34 ± .55 | 51.6 ±17 | 3.91 ± 1.0 |
| Full Coffee | 2.19 ± .56 | 56.0 ±18 | 2.50 ± 1.0 |
| Dredge Only | 2.45 ± .54 | 70.6 ±23 | 5.07 ± 1.5 |
| Dredge & Partial Coffee | 2.33 ± .54 | 75.7 ±23 | 3.91 ± 1.0 |
| Dredge and Full Coffee | 2.18 ±. 56 | 81.3 ±22 | 2.50 ± 1.0 |

Dredging is most effective for extending reservoir life expectancy Conversion of coffee is most effective for control of soil loss

Next Step: Extending the Model to Rio Loco



Sands of Time



- —Annual Accumulated Sediment
- —Annual Effluent Sediment
- —Annual Water Storage Capacity

Scenarios

Decisions
Sun-Grown → Shade-Grown Coffee





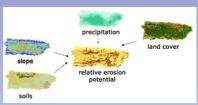
Scenario Evaluation

Effects of decision options on stakeholder objectives:

Tourism economy
Fishing economy
Agricultural economy
Human health
Recreational opportunities
Hazard protection
Ecosystem integrity

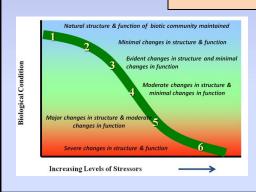
Stressors

Models of sediment delivery



GSSHA

Coastal ecosystem



- -Coral
- -Seagrass
- -Mangroves

Ecosystem Services

ES Production Functions Coastal & Terrestrial

