GIS in Watershed Analysis

- This lecture focused on concepts, important datasets and analysis tools.
- Regional stressors in the US are linked to overland flow water pollution.
- Humans impact the landscape in many ways.
- EPA watershed framework has legislative roots in the Clean Water Act of 1972.
- Watershed cataloging units are nested by scale.
- Need exists for a one to one relationship between streams and watersheds.
- Watersheds and catchments can be defined differently based on flow through components.
- GIS use in the hydo cycle is mainly focused on the overland flow runoff relationship.
- Terrain or elevation plays a big role in many GIS analysis with hydrological modeling.
- Watersheds are the key unit of analysis for examining water quality issues.
- Scale issues require us to delineate smaller watersheds for local issues.
- Limitations exist in the static snapshot of data, older elevation grids and a narrow view of only looking at surface interactions.

Student Notes:

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