

1 **Detecting the impact of land cover change**
2 **on observed rainfall.**

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4 ¹**Sydney Institute of Agriculture, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006**

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8 **ABSTRACT**

9 This is the supplementary data for the paper "Detecting the impact of land cover change on observed
10 rainfall." Peerj article number 35847

11 **1 CODE FROM THE PAPER ON GITHUB**

12 The Rmarkdown documents contain the code used in the analysis. These documents including most of the
13 data and additional scripts are accessible via Github: [https://github.com/WillemVervoort/
14 RainfallLandcover/releases](https://github.com/WillemVervoort/RainfallLandcover/releases).

15 Please cite our paper if you plan to use any of the code.

16 **2 SUMMARY OF DATA**

17 This is a summary table of all the data used in the paper.

Table S 1. Summary of data.

Data	Source	Resolution		Analysis period
		Temporal	Spatial	
Percent tree cover	MOD44B	Annual	250m	2000-2010
Trend of vegetation cover change	DLCD (2009)	Onetime	250m	Trend of Apr 2000 - Apr 2008
Rainfall	AWAP gridded rainfall data	Monthly	$0.05^\circ \times 0.05^\circ$	Jan 1979- Dec 2008
SOI	BoM	Monthly	N/A	Jan 1979- Dec 2008
NINO 3, 3.4, 4	IRI/LDEO data library	Monthly	N/A	Jan 1979- Dec 2008
PDO	NOAA	Monthly	N/A	Jan 1979- Dec 2008
IOD	POAMA-2 dataset	Monthly	N/A	Jan 1979- Dec 2008

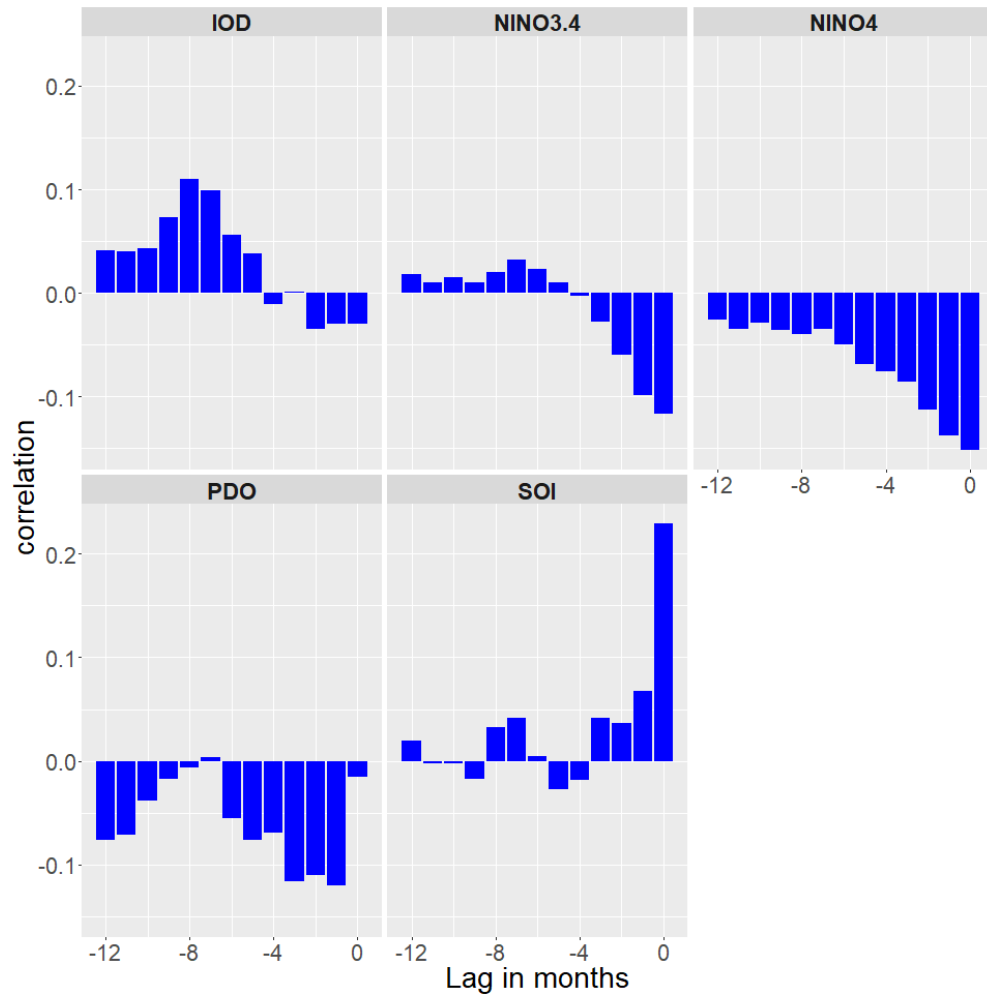


Figure S 1. Cross-correlation of six climate indices and rainfall in QLD study region. Bars in the plot indicate the strength of the cross-correlation at different lags. For the PDO analysis, 108-year rainfall data (1900 - 2008) are used. Otherwise, 36-year rainfall data are used. The correlation with NINO 3 is not shown as it is very similar to but weaker than for NINO 3.4.

3 CROSS CORRELATIONS RAINFALL AND CLIMATE INDICES

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19 These figures were moved to the supplementary data during the review process.

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Based on the correlation between the climatic indices and rainfall in the regions (as shown in Figure S 1 and Figure S 2), it can be concluded that:

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- In QLD, the correlation between rainfall and SOI at zero time lags is the strongest across all indices, outweighing the other ENSO indicators. IOD and PDO have a weak influence in QLD.

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- In NSW/VIC, again the SOI has the strongest correlation with rainfall, followed by the IOD. For both, the strongest correlations occur at the zero time lags.

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- In both cases PDO had the weakest correlations, and this factor was therefore dropped as a predictor.

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- In general, for the better correlated indices, strongest correlations occurred at zero time lags.

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Although some indices are serially correlated with rainfall up to several months, the lag zero events have the greatest correlation coefficients. Furthermore, using multiple climatic index series was generally found most useful in rainfall prediction (e.g. Risbey et al. 2009; Kamruzzaman, Beecham, and Metcalfe

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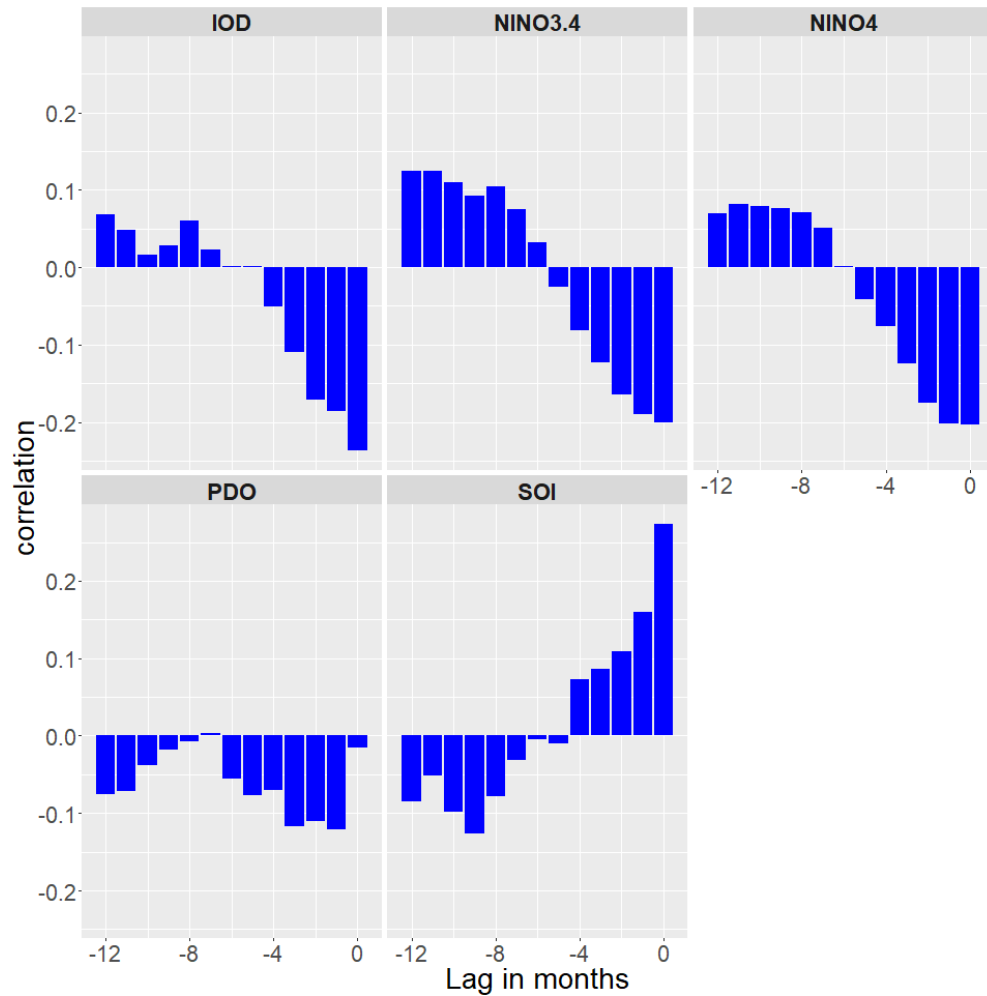


Figure S 2. Cross-correlation of six climate indices and rainfall in NSW/VIC study region. Bars in the plot indicate the strength of the cross-correlation at different lags. For the PDO analysis, 108-year rainfall data (1900 - 2008) are used. Otherwise, 36-year rainfall data are used. The correlation with NINO 3 is not shown as it is very similar to but weaker than for NINO 3.4.

34 2011).

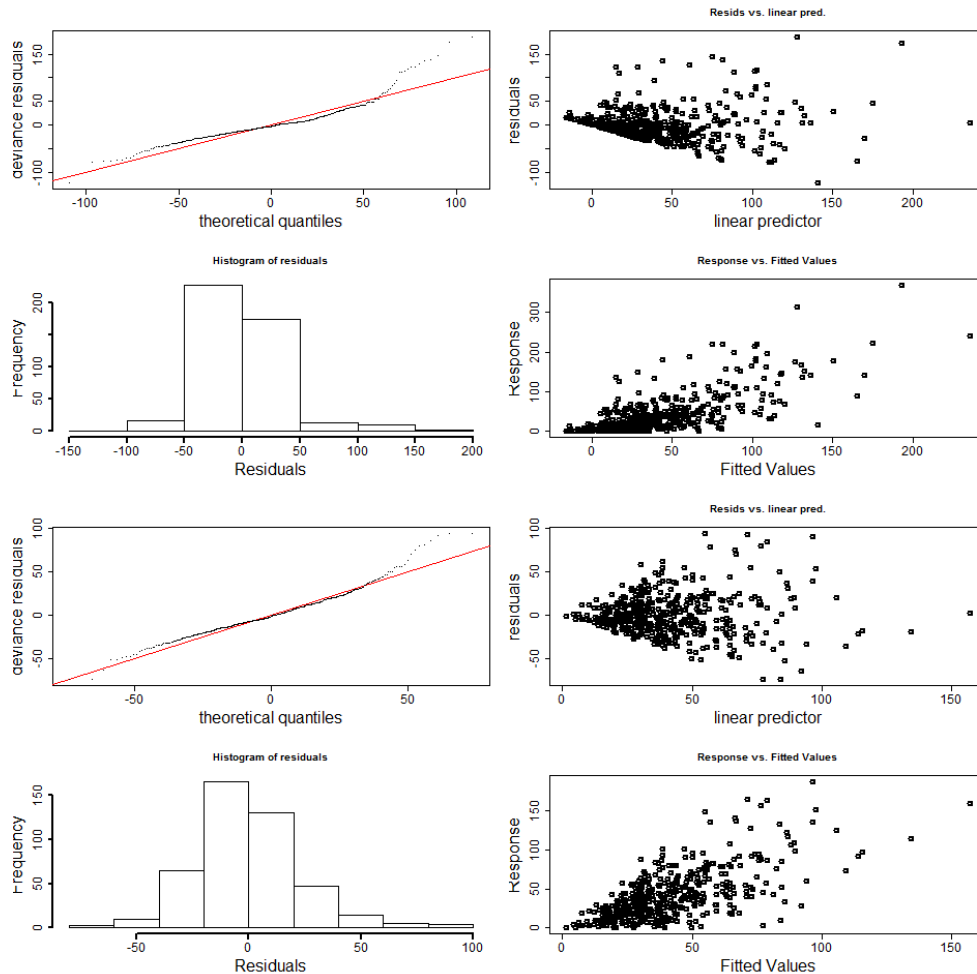


Figure S 3. The residual analysis of the Generalised additive modelling indicating how well the residuals follow the regression assumptions. Results are shown for a sample pixel in the QLD region (top) and NSW/VIC region (bottom). Residuals are fairly normal as seen from the histogram and the qqplot, but show some scattering in the variance.

35 **4 FURTHER FIGURES**

36 These two plots (Figure S 3) highlight the GAM residual analysis for a sample pixel. Residuals for other
 37 pixels were similar across the regions analysed.

38 Finally, Figure S 4 indicates a boxplot of the annual rainfall residuals across the regions.

39 **REFERENCES**

- 40 Kamruzzaman, M., S. Beecham, and A. V. Metcalfe. 2011. "Non-Stationarity in Rainfall and Temperature
 41 in the Murray Darling Basin." *Hydrological Processes* 25 (10). John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.: 1659–75.
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 43 Risbey, James S., Michael J. Pook, Peter C. McIntosh, Matthew C. Wheeler, and Harry H. Hendon.
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 45 3233–53. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1175/2009MWR2861.1>.

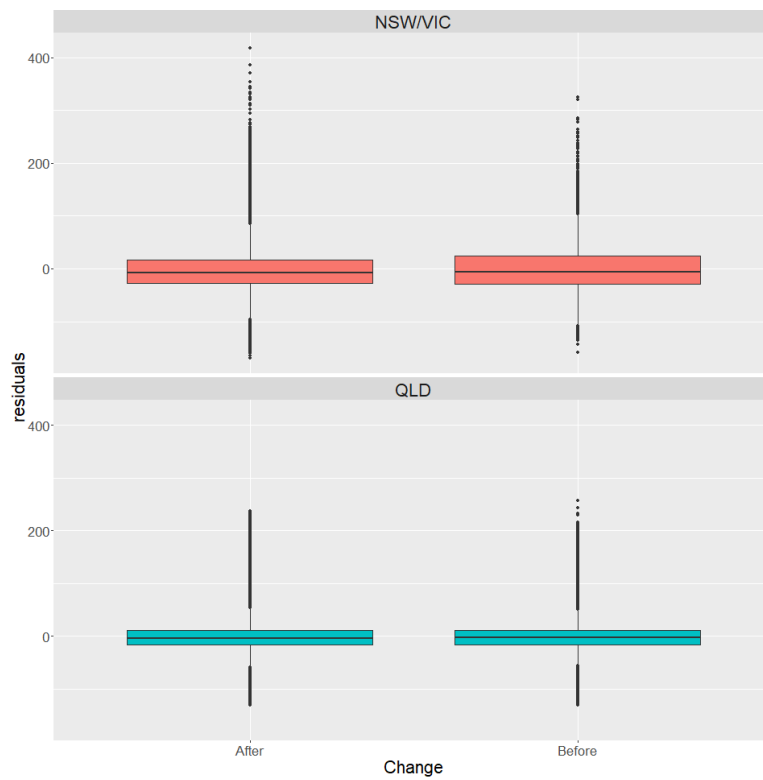


Figure S 4. Boxplots of annual rainfall residuals (estimated based on Equation 2 before and after the land cover intervention during 1979 - 2015 in the study regions. On average, the after period has a significantly lower annual rainfall residual in NSW/VIC, but a significantly higher annual rainfall residual in the Qld study area