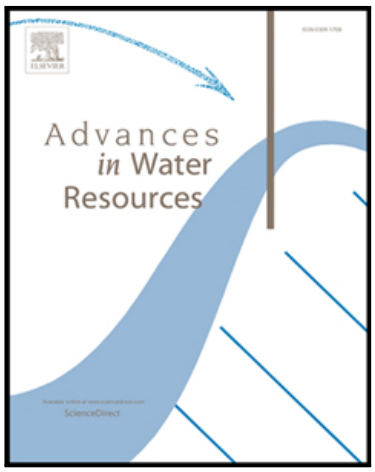

Seasonal hydrologic buffer on continents: patterns, drivers and ecological benefits

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Highlights

- 1/4 of land precipitation is released with seasonal delay, with disparate patterns
- The main driver is seasonality in climatic surpluses/deficits, followed by snowfall
- Buffered lateral transfers by rivers are visible, supporting evaporation downstream
- Dry-season plant water use is largest in monsoonal and Mediterranean climates