Direct and indirect impacts of anthropogenic stressors on stream macroinvertebrate communities across spatial scales: a structural equation modeling approach

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Larson et al. 2019, *Ecological Indicators* 102: 175-185

Biological condition as assessed with B-IBI



Larson et al. 2019, Ecological Indicators 102: 175-185

Most prevalent stressors



Larson et al. 2019, Ecological Indicators 102: 175-185

Relative Risk/Attributable Risk



Larson et al. 2019, Ecological Indicators 102: 175-185





765 Sites

203 Sites in Puget Sound region





- Statewide:
 - R² = 0.510; RMSEA = 0.052, p-value = 0.406
- Puget Sound:
 - R² = 0.434; RMSEA = 0.066, p-value = 0.263

- Statewide:
 - R² = 0.616; RMSEA = 0.050, p-value = 0.451
- Puget Sound:
 - R² = 0.548; RMSEA = 0.064, p-value = 0.262





- Statewide:
 - R² = 0.442; RMSEA = 0.058, p-value = 0.248
- Puget Sound:
 - R² = 0.434; RMSEA = 0.063, p-value = 0.312

Summary

- Macroinvertebrate communities impacted by many interacting factors from multiple spatial scales
- Increased sediment associated with loss of forest cover related to land use, i.e., urbanization and agriculture
- Sediment deposition negatively impacting stream macroinvertebrates
- Elevated water temperatures impacting EPT taxa
- Loss of sensitive taxa with elevated sediment and water temperatures