

SPATIO - TEMPORAL PATTERNS OF MACROBENTHIC INVERTEBRATES IN A FREE - FLOWING SECTION OF THE RIVER DANUBE IN AUSTRIA – SUBJECT TO IMPOUNDMENT BY THE HYDROPOWER PLANT FREUDENAU.

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ABSTRACT

The Austrian Danube has been severely regulated in the last century because of flood control. Since the second world war, a chain of impoundments has been constructed. The study area is situated in and upstream of Vienna, where the hydropower plant "Freudenau" is built. Quantitative faunal sampling was done from April 1993 to February 1995 in the free flowing section of the main channel, and in groyne fields before the dam has been finished. The most abundant species are analysed in terms of their spatio/temporal patterns and population dynamics are descibed. First samples, 2 years after dam closure (1995) indicate changes in the composition of the stream fauna.

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