

Environmental Stressors in Freshwater Ecosystems: Consequences for Communities and Conservation

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Freshwater ecosystems provide critical functions and services, but are increasingly threatened by a multitude of anthropogenic stressors. These stressors may affect ecological communities at both local and regional scales, and alter fundamental physical, biological and chemical properties of the system. Our current understanding of the effects of these stressors on ecological communities is limited, particularly when considering interactive effects of multiple stressors, hampering our ability to predict responses to future environmental change. I will discuss aspects of my research program (e.g., invasive species and climate change) that seek to inform community dynamics in the context of conservation of freshwater organisms and ecosystems.