



Runoff generation research in an area with land use and ecological change

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In the foothills of the Jizera Mountains species of plants are being used as indicators of the extent of saturated areas on which direct runoff during storms is generated. During the analysis interesting data about the land use development in the last two centuries were found (old maps, records in chronicles and even narratives of those who remember the older times). The area is full of wetlands some of which have been drained. The occurrence of a number of protected plant species depends on undisturbed wetlands and a certain regime of mowing grasslands. The disappearance of most of small ponds (formerly used for industry and flood retention) has made the area much more vulnerable to floods.

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