



Evaluation of the sensitivity of habitats protected by Natura 2000 network to water quality and/or quantity changes

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The aim of ecological network Natura 2000 is to protect rare European habitats and species of both plants and animals against total extinction. Natural river valleys, due to their unique qualities, are often protected within the aforementioned network.

This study is aimed at answering the question to which extent is the quality of habitats included into Natura 2000 network dependant from the quantity of water, as well as its quality. The proposed method is based upon a structural research, which makes use of both knowledge and experience of renowned Polish phytosociologists. This study consists of three stages, each strictly dependant from information gathered from the previous one. The authors decided to use questionnaires, because of their flexibility as means of gathering information. Only multiple choice questions were used in order to specify a group of possible answers, with the intention to gather data which is sufficient for interpretation.

The whole research was carried out using a special purpose webpage located on Warsaw University of Life Science servers.