

## **The importance of specific habitats for the bioindication of littoral macroinvertebrates.**

Norbert Walz, Mario Brauns, Xavier-François Garcia, Martin T. Pusch  
Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Berlin

We investigated the littoral macroinvertebrates in North German lowland lakes to test which factors affected the composition of the macroinvertebrate community. In the eulittoral communities are much less impacted by the trophic level than in the profundal zone, but more by land use practices and the presence of specific habitats. If those habitats are lacking by human activities invertebrate richness was three times lower than at natural shorelines. The infralittoral was only affected in zones with human recreational activity. Other modifications as retaining walls had no impacts in the infralittoral.