



USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference

A Biological Assessment Based on Macroinvertebrates in the Boulder Creek Drainage of Owyee County, Idaho

Abstract: Situation: Boulder Creek is a main tributary of the Owyhee River (a National Wild and Scenic River). The BLM is currently re-evaluating its grazing allotments in the area; however, only fish have been evaluated in this water body. The TMDL has not been completed and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has done limited water quality work partly due to poor access to this water body.

Objectives:

The objective of this study was to conduct a biological assessment of this water body using macroinvertebrates.

Methods:

Established protocols were used to sample remote sites in this watershed in August 2004.

Results:

Based on the macrovertebrate analysis (which is currently being conducted) we will establish baseline data that will provide a reference point in time for this high desert ecosystem.

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