Ecological status of a mountain river based on pre- and post-flood data

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The Biała is a 182 km long gravel-bed river flowing north across the Outer Western Carpathians. In 2009 and 2010, repeated assessments of the physical habitat conditions and fish and benthic invertebrate communities were performed. Ten sites were selected in two sets of four pairs of unmanaged and channelized cross-sections located at the influence zone of 5 km from the headwaters of the Biała catchment. Each site consisted of a pair of unmanaged and channelized cross-sections located at a 5 km distance from the headwaters of the Biała catchment, (1) river sections of the channelized cross-sections with a repetition interval of at least ten years occurred, significantly changing both habitat conditions and fish communities.

RESULTS

The differences between the outcomes from both surveys indicate that the ecological status of a river can seriously affect the assessment of the quality of abiotic and biotic elements of the studied reach, as indicated by two-way analysis of variance

CONCLUSIONS

The differences between the outcomes from both surveys indicate that the ecological status of a river can seriously affect the assessment of the quality of abiotic and biotic elements of the studied reach, as indicated by two-way analysis of variance.