

BIOLOGIC ASSESSMENT OF RIVERS AND STREAMS USING MULTIMETRIC INDICES: METHODS AND APPLICATIONS

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The development of multimetric indices using benthic invertebrate organisms as bioassessment tools in Western North America was reviewed. An overview of recommended methods for testing metrics for their usefulness in assessing habitat conditions and water quality was given. I included the current status of these indices and their applications and various study designs and made comparisons between various field sampling techniques employed in the Western U.S.