

Aquatic LTER (July 4, 2004)

During ILTER meeting in Seattle 3 years ago we agreed on two topics, which might be common to all (all many) LTER sites and a good base for cooperation: **BIODIVERSITY** and **WATER**.

Water is an important component of both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and has various essential functions. It is not easy to find “universal” topics for cooperation in diverse LTER sites over the world.

The following proposal is an attempt:

- (i) to identify LTER sites and individuals interested in “water problems”, which might be discussed and shared with other LTER scientists, and
- (ii) to identify main problems and/or threats concerning water (cycle, quantity, quality) at the sites, both in long-term research and/or application for management.

A questionnaire is prepared (very simple) and you are asked to answer yourself and/or disseminate it among LTER site operators in your country.

If your site has been investigated for long time and there are publications and web site with information available, then just give references. Only several points in the questionnaire are obligatory (in bold) as basic information for contacts, mutual cooperation and further progress. The other points are optional and you can add any suggestions and comments.

Please, send your answers to Vera Straskrabova <verastr@hbu.cas.cz>. I will collect and organize them and inform all respondents with the results. Hopefully, we can create a forum of LTER scientists involved in “aquatic problems” and promote joint projects.

Aquatic LTER Questionnaire (July 4, 2004)

Name of site (LTER site and its “aquatic” part)

Country and Regional network

Person(s) responsible and interested in “water problems” at the site (and filling the questionnaire) – address(es), e-mail, any contact(s).

Is there a web site with information from the site? Web address?

Type of the site: lake, wetland, pond, mire, river, brook, terrestrial site – characterize..

Location of the site – altitude, latitude, longitude.

Is there a long-term research? And/or monitoring? (e.g. meteorological, hydrological ..) If so, how many years? Characterize briefly or give reference.

Which organization or authority manages the site – ownership? Which organization is responsible for (and/or participates in) the LTER research at the site?

Main “water” problems at the site: quantity (flood, drought), eutrophication, acidification, toxic substances, sediments..

The following questions are optional, but answers would be very useful!!

Research problems necessary to be solved at the site?

Management problems to be solved at the site?

How is the research/monitoring financed at the site? Grant Agencies?

Could you list ongoing projects you have for long term research and/or monitoring at the site? Please characterize the topics, duration and funding agency.

Are there difficulties for continuing LTER at your site? If yes, then list the main ones: insufficient financial support, no access to funding agencies, lack of staff, lack of experience, poor infrastructure, communication problems....

Which topic do you consider as important for cooperation in the LTER network?

ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS? THANK YOU!

Please, send the answers to Viera Straskrabova

Hydrobiological Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences

Na sadkach 7, Ceske Budejovice, CZ 37005, Czech Republic

e-mail <verastr@hbu.cas.cz>

phone: +420 387775819

fax +420 385310248