

Characterizing the drivers of stream metabolism in an agricultural semi-arid stream

Marsh Creek: A Murky Problem



Marsh Creek is a large source of sediment to the Portneuf River which has downstream consequences for Pocatello. Metabolism is a functional indicator of ecosystem degradation. By understanding the controls of metabolism we can make informed decisions on management practices.



Methods for Monitoring

Measure dissolved oxygen, turbidity, temperature, light, and discharge every 15 minutes Monthly water chemistry Growing season monthly in-stream vegetation surveys and



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Metabolism varies longitudinally and seasonally

4. Synthesize results with previous and current Marsh Creek studies to see which management practices relate to reach level stream health

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Future Directions

We plan to continue data analysis on this vast data set to: 1. Identify important temporal scales of variability in metabolism using time series analysis

2. Further identify drivers of metabolism at different temporal and spatial scales

3. Relate summer instream vegetation and nutrient levels to metabolism in Marsh Creek