

Interactive comment on “Surface flow types, near-bed hydraulics and the distribution of stream macroinvertebrates” by M. A. Reid and M. C. Thoms

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 15 May 2008

This is a welcome addition to our knowledge of physical habitat in rivers. There have been contradictory findings over the hydraulic meaning of flow types and their statistical validity. However, the fact that they summarise the meso-scale of observable biotope conditions offers unrivalled power in mapping and, increasingly, remotely sensed assessments of river character.

The main precaution to make when accessing this and other papers internationally is that we compare like with like and in this respect I have some queries for the authors such as:

What is the significance of choosing field sites in a reservoir sequence - does the

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper



regulated flow regime have any bearing on the significance of the results (it would do so in the UK);

In view of the desire amongst e.g. fisheries managers to gross up the stocks of particular waterbodies, what is the predictive power of a flow-type map and in this respect is the existing typology of flows comprehensive or are we missing some information?

With minor attention to the wider significance and use of these results the paper is a thoroughly professional addition to the growing evidence base of ecohydraulics.

Interactive comment on Biogeosciences Discuss., 5, 1175, 2008.

BGD

5, S536–S537, 2008

Interactive
Comment

Full Screen / Esc

Printer-friendly Version

Interactive Discussion

Discussion Paper