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Critical Review of Geologic Writing

Geology 371

Review of: "Combined Influence of Riparian Forest and Urban Development on Stream Channel Morphology" by W.C. Hession

The paper in review is about a study done in Pennsylvania and northern Maryland and includes 26 paired stream reaches. The paper address the following questions:

1. How does forested riparian cover affect the stream channel morphologic characteristics?
2. How does the level of the watershed urban development affect stream channel morphologic characteristics?
3. What effect does the degree of urbanization have on the watersheds in the study?

This paper was very well written and contained a large amount of information to support the conclusions drawn from this study. The quality of the data in this paper is good. The interpretations in the paper were present with supporting evidence and flowed nicely thought the paper. Both the writing and illustrations were present in a clear and concise way, with the illustrations incorporated well to support the writing. This paper had a very strong ending that added to the strength of the paper as a whole.

I recommended this paper for submission to GEOLOGY, after a few corrections are made. The abstract needs to be added, I feel that this when well written will complete this paper. I only have a small list of corrections in this paper over I was very impressed!

1. This part is very awkward and wording try to simplify this section by making the sentence structures shorter. Maybe to much statistics for Geology.
2. You need to state how long your study was done for.

3. Expand your method into the data repository to include the cross sections, these would add to the paper for people interested in this part.
4. You should decipher from developed and urbanized, how did you separate the two.
5. Your figures need to have better captions; I would like to see a picture of the area. Your figures need to be really strong for Geology.