



Title	Response of aquatic insects along gradients of agricultural development and flood magnitude in northern Japanese streams
Author(s)	Sueyoshi, Masanao; Tojo, Koji; Ishiyama, Nobuo; Nakamura, Futoshi
Citation	Aquatic sciences, 79(4), 985-994 <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-017-0547-y">https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-017-0547-y</a>
Issue Date	2017-10
Doc URL	<a href="http://hdl.handle.net/2115/71581">http://hdl.handle.net/2115/71581</a>
Rights	The final publication is available at <a href="http://link.springer.com">link.springer.com</a> : <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-017-0547-y">https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-017-0547-y</a>
Type	article (author version)
Additional Information	There are other files related to this item in HUSCAP. Check the above URL.
File Information	MS_Sueyoshi_AQSC.pdf



[Instructions for use](#)

1 **Title**

2 Response of aquatic insects along gradients of agricultural development and flood magnitude in northern  
3 Japanese streams

4 **Authors' names**

5 Masanao Sueyoshi<sup>\* †</sup>, Koji Tojo<sup>‡ §</sup>, Nobuo Ishiyama<sup>\*</sup>, and Futoshi Nakamura<sup>\*</sup>

6 **Affiliations and addresses of the authors**

7 <sup>\*</sup>Graduate School of Agriculture, Hokkaido University, North 9, West 9, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0809,  
8 Japan<sup>§</sup>

9 <sup>†</sup>Aqua Restoration Research Center, Public Works Research Institute, KawashimaKasada-machi,  
10 Kakamigahara, Gifu 501-6021, Japan

11 <sup>‡</sup>Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Shinshu University, Asahi 3-1-1, Matsumoto, Nagano  
12 390-8621, Japan

13 <sup>§</sup>Institute of Mountain Science, Shinshu University, Asahi 3-1-1, Matsumoto, Nagano 390-8621, Japan

14 **E-mail address and telephone number of the corresponding author**

15 Masanao Sueyoshi

16 E-mail: [m-sueyoshi55@pwri.go.jp](mailto:m-sueyoshi55@pwri.go.jp)

17 Tell: +81-586-89-6036

18 **ORCID**

19 Masanao Sueyoshi: 0000-0002-5517-0256

20 **Abstract**

21           Agricultural activities have increased environmental homogenisation in stream ecosystems.  
22 These alterations reduce the availability of flow refugia during flooding and increase the effects of flood  
23 disturbances on aquatic insects. Thus, we examined the effects of the agricultural development  
24 (percentage of pasture cover within the catchment) and flood magnitude (ratio of shear stress at high flow  
25 to that at low flow) on the resistance indices measured by relative changes in taxon richness or abundance  
26 between pre- and post-flood (all insects, five orders and 31 dominant taxa) at 27 sites in the  
27 Kitamihorobetsu River, northern Japan. The resistance index of taxon richness decreased with increasing  
28 agricultural development, whereas that of the abundance of all insects decreased synergistically with  
29 increasing agricultural development and flood magnitude. Among 31 dominant taxa, the resistance  
30 indices of 20 taxa, generally belonging to Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera, exhibited stronger  
31 negative relationships with agricultural development than with flood magnitude. By contrast, three  
32 Diptera taxa exhibited weak negative relationships with agricultural development. These results showed  
33 that the interactive effect between agricultural development and flood magnitude was taxon dependent,  
34 but agricultural development could be detrimental to the resistance of most of the studied taxa, especially  
35 Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera taxa. Additionally, agricultural developments in our study  
36 watersheds was relatively low (< 18% pasture cover), and nevertheless, apparent interacting effects with

37 natural disturbance was detected. This implies that limited agricultural development along the river line

38 can lower the resistance of instream insects to natural disturbances.

39

40 **Keywords**

41 natural disturbance, anthropogenic disturbance, snowmelt flood, resistance, population persistence

42

43 **Introduction**

44 Human activities have extensively altered instream and near-stream terrestrial habitats, and  
45 most streams or watersheds have been exposed to anthropogenic disturbances, such as land use and dams  
46 (Allan 2004; Nilsson et al. 2005). These anthropogenic disturbances are superimposed on the natural  
47 disturbance regimes (e.g. flooding and drying) of stream ecosystems, and both natural and man-made  
48 disturbances and their interactions contribute to determining the assemblages of aquatic organisms  
49 (Stanley et al. 2010). Additionally, multiple disturbances often affect organisms more synergistically than  
50 do additively (Crain et al. 2008). Thus, separating the influences of natural and anthropogenic  
51 perturbations in streams is impossible.

52 Flooding is a major natural disturbance that increases the temporal heterogeneity of stream  
53 ecosystems (Resh et al. 1988; Death 2010). Aquatic insects are susceptible to flood disturbances, whereas  
54 their abundances rapidly recover after the disturbances (Mackay 1992). A major determinant of the  
55 response of aquatic insects to flood disturbances is habitat heterogeneity (Townsend and Hildrew 1994),  
56 which provides flow refugia (i.e., hydraulic dead zones) where aquatic insects can escape and survive  
57 during intensive floods (Lancaster and Hildrew 1993). Many studies have reported that the stabilities of  
58 populations and communities of aquatic insects can be sustained by various flow refugia, such as stable  
59 stones, woody debris and floodplain gravel bars (e.g. Palmer et al. 1996; Rempel et al. 1999; Matthaei et  
60 al. 2000).

61                    However, spatial habitat heterogeneity has rapidly decreased due to human activities.  
62                    Specifically, agricultural land use has caused biotic and abiotic homogenisation in various ecosystems  
63                    (e.g. Roschewitz et al. 2005; Maloney et al. 2011; Rodrigues et al. 2013). In streams, the deposition of  
64                    fine sediments fills the interstitial spaces between stones and homogenises benthic habitats (e.g.  
65                    Kaufmann et al. 2009; Larsen et al. 2009). Additionally, channel straightening restricts the floodplain area  
66                    and diminishes the channel morphology (e.g. Nakano and Nakamura 2008; Nakamura et al. 2014). Thus,  
67                    floods in human-altered streams may have a greater detrimental effect on aquatic insects than those in  
68                    natural streams (Dunbar et al. 2010a, b).

69                    Several studies have investigated the interactive effects of agricultural activities on the  
70                    response of benthic invertebrates to a flood disturbance and have reported contrasting results. Negishi et  
71                    al. (2002) reported a significant decrease in the species richness and density of benthic invertebrates in a  
72                    channelised stream, and Parkyn and Collier (2004) reported a significant decrease in crayfish density in  
73                    agricultural streams. By contrast, several previous studies did not find significant differences in species  
74                    richness and density between agricultural and natural streams (e.g. Collier and Quinn 2003; Melo et al.  
75                    2003; Mesa 2010). Thus, the interactive effects of agricultural activities on the response of benthic  
76                    invertebrates to flood disturbances may alter with species and their composition. Additionally, these  
77                    previous studies were limited by the simple categorisation of streams as either agricultural or natural and  
78                    the conditions as either before or after a flood. In actual streams, however, agricultural land use varies

79 along a gradient (King et al. 2005), and the flood magnitude differs at different positions in the stream  
80 network (Leopold et al. 1964; Lepori and Hjerdt 2006).

81 Our objective is to examine the influences of agricultural development and flood magnitude on  
82 the stability (i.e., resistance) of assemblages (total abundance and taxon richness) and populations of  
83 aquatic insects (abundances of each taxon) during a snowmelt flooding season. In our study region, which  
84 is located in northern Japan, snowmelt floods represent large seasonal disturbances for aquatic insects,  
85 and flow refugia formed by complex channel morphology allow the aquatic insects to persist (Sueyoshi et  
86 al. 2014). The floodplain areas of the study basin (Kitamihorobetsu basin) were transformed into pastures  
87 approximately one hundred years ago. Currently, approximately 15% of the catchment is used as  
88 pastureland, which may be relatively low as compared to previous studies testing the effects of  
89 agricultural development on stream ecosystems (e.g. King et al. 2005; Maloney and Weller 2011), but the  
90 pasturelands are developed along the river line. As we previously reported, the deposition of fine  
91 sediments and environmental homogenisation increased in proportion to pasture cover in these  
92 catchments (Sueyoshi et al. 2016), and these processes may exacerbate the negative effects of flood  
93 disturbances on aquatic insects. Thus, we predicted that the resistance of aquatic insects would decline  
94 with increasing pasture cover in the catchments.

95

96 **Materials and Methods**

97 *Study site and sampling design*

98           The study sites were located in the Kitamihorobetsu River, Hokkaido Island, Japan. The  
99   catchment area of the Kitamihorobetsu River is 416 km<sup>2</sup> and is covered by forests (78%), natural  
100   grasslands (6%), pasture (15%) and other types of land use (1%). Many small patches of pastures are  
101   distributed along the mainstream and tributaries of the Kitamihorobetsu River (see details in Sueyoshi et  
102   al. 2016). The study was conducted from March through May 2011, and snowmelt flooding occurred  
103   from early April to late May, a period of approximately two months (Fig. 1). The flow fluctuation of  
104   snowmelt floods has been consistent in recent years. We selected 27 reaches from 1<sup>st</sup>- through 3<sup>rd</sup>-order  
105   streams in the Kitamihorobetsu River Basin.

106           To demonstrate the influence of a snowmelt flood on aquatic insects, we sampled insects twice:  
107   on March 26-28 (pre-flood) and May 21-23 (post-flood) in 2011. We shortened the sampling periods  
108   before and after the flood (three days for each) because the flow discharge of a snowmelt flood changes  
109   on a daily basis. To shorten the sampling periods, we selected study reaches where easy access was  
110   ensured, although the reaches were located more than 500 m apart and were characterised by different  
111   agricultural developments and flood magnitudes (see in a Supplementary figure). The length of a reach  
112   was set as approximately twenty times the width of the stream channel to include representative habitats  
113   such as riffles and pools. Additionally, we selected the reaches to avoid man-made obstructions, such as  
114   weirs and culverts.

115 We established six transects at even intervals in each reach and two random sampling points in  
116 each transect. One quadrat sample was collected at each of the sampling points by using Surber net  
117 (0.0625 m<sup>2</sup>, mesh size 0.5 mm), and twelve insect samples were collected from each reach for a total of  
118 648 samples (324 pre-flood and 324 post-flood samples). Twelve quadrat samples were pooled for data  
119 analysis to represent the total abundance and species richness in each reach. All samples were preserved  
120 in 70% EtOH with substrate particles in the field and were sorted and counted in the laboratory. All  
121 individuals were identified to the genus level except for certain taxa whose identification was difficult  
122 because of a lack of taxonomic information (Kawai and Tanida 2005). These taxa were identified to the  
123 subfamily or family level.

124

#### 125 *Agricultural development*

126 All of the agricultural lands along the Kitamihorobetsu River are pastures (mostly used for  
127 grass harvesting without cattle grazing) situated close to the riverbanks without riparian buffers; therefore,  
128 they supply fine sediments directly into streams during various hydrological events. All of the study sites  
129 are located above the main urban areas, and the influence of urbanisation on the study sites is limited.  
130 Pasture cover in our study catchments was relatively little (less than 18%). However, previous studies  
131 demonstrated the positive relationship of sand cover on streambed to % of pasture cover in Hokkaido  
132 streams having equal range of pasture cover (Nakamura and Yamada 2005; Sueyoshi et al. 2016).

133 Furthermore, Sueyoshi et al. (2016) reported that pasture cover showed a significant positive relationship  
134 with the homogenisation of instream environments (i.e. coefficients of variation in flow characteristics)  
135 probably caused by channelization. Therefore, we used the percentage of pasture cover within a  
136 catchment area (%pasture) as an indicator of fine sediment deposition and habitat homogenisation. We  
137 used available vegetation/land use maps (scale of 1:50,000, Ministry of the Environment of Japan 1998)  
138 and a geographic information system (GIS, ArcGIS 10.0; ESRI, Redlands, CA, USA) to determine the  
139 percentage of pasture cover within the catchment area above each study site.

140

#### 141 *Environmental characteristics*

142 To describe the local environmental characteristics of the study sites, we measured the flow  
143 velocity (Model 2000 Portable Flowmeter, Marsh McBirney Inc., Frederick, MD., USE), water depth and  
144 ratio of substrate particles in each quadrat before insect sampling during the pre-flood period. Ratio of  
145 substrate particles in each quadrat were visually classified into four size categories based on the  
146 intermediate axis: 1, silt and sand (< 2 mm); 2, gravel (2–64 mm); 3, cobble (64–256 mm); 4, boulder (>  
147 256 mm). We also measured water width at each transect, and bed slope at each reach (Impulse 200,  
148 Laser Technology Inc., Centennial, CO, USA), Additionally, we calculated the coefficient of variation  
149 (C.V.) for the flow velocity, water depth and water width, as well as Shannon’s diversity for substrate  
150 particles, to represent the environmental heterogeneity within each reach. The raw data of environmental

151 characteristics of each reach are summarised in Supplementary material.

152

153 *Flood disturbance magnitude*

154 To evaluate the flood magnitude, we used an index modified from the relative flood magnitude.

155 The relative flood magnitude (peak discharge/mean discharge at low flow) is often used as an index that

156 reflects the flood disturbance intensity for aquatic insects (McMullen and Lytle 2012). In this study, we

157 tested the response of aquatic insects to flooding based on the relative change in abundance or taxon

158 richness before and after the flood (see the “Data analysis” section). Therefore, the relative flood

159 magnitude would be more appropriate than other absolute indices such as a maximum flow discharge.

160 However, it is difficult to measure discharge at high flows. Shear stress, which indicates the force on the

161 channel bed, is a more direct index for estimating the disturbance intensity for aquatic insects (Schwendel

162 et al. 2010). We calculated the relative shear stress (ratio of shear stress at high flows to shear stress at

163 low flows) at the sampling points instead of the relative flood magnitude. Shear stress at the sampling

164 points was estimated using an approximation of the following equation:

$$\tau = \rho gRS$$

165 where  $\rho$  is the density of water ( $1.0 \text{ g mL}^{-1}$ ),  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity ( $980 \text{ cm s}^{-2}$ ),  $R$  is the

166 average water depth at the sampling points, and  $S$  is the bed slope. Because the variables  $\rho$ ,  $g$  and  $S$

167 changed only slightly during the study period, the relative disturbance magnitude was calculated using the

168 average water depth at high flows/the average water depth at low flows. During a flood, we could not  
169 enter the central part of the large river; therefore, we set one fixed point on each of the six transects within  
170 a reach and measured the increase in the water level at the fixed points (six in total per reach).  
171 Measurements at the fixed points were conducted twice at low flows (pre- and post-flood) and twice at  
172 high flows. The average water depth of each reach during low flows was calculated using data from  
173 twelve quadrats at each site during the pre- and post-flood period. The average water depth at high flows  
174 was calculated by adding the average increase in the water level measured at the six fixed points to the  
175 average water depth during low flows.

176

### 177 *Data analysis*

178 Initially, to verify whether %pasture is useful as an indicator of environmental homogenisation  
179 and fine sediment deposition, we examined the relationships between agricultural land use (%pasture) and  
180 each environmental variable (sand cover, H' diversity of substrates, C.V. of flow velocity, water depth and  
181 water width) based on Spearman's correlation tests. A significant level was adjusted by Bonferroni  
182 correction. Then, to determine the relationships between the agricultural development, flood magnitude  
183 and their interactions with the stability of the assemblages and populations, we used a generalised linear  
184 mixed model (GLMM). To represent stability, we used the resistance index, which is calculated by the  
185 post-flood abundance or taxon richness/pre-flood abundance or taxon richness. This index indicates the

186 relative change between the pre- and post-flood values and ignores the absolute changes (i.e. for  
187 abundance, both 1/2 and 100/200 become 0.5 even though the former lost only one individual and the  
188 latter lost 100 individuals). To take absolute number of individuals into account, pre-flood value was set  
189 as an ‘offset’ variable in the GLMM. Thus, the response variable was the post-flood value with a Poisson  
190 error structure, and the pre-flood value was included in the model as  $\log(\text{pre-flood value})$  with other  
191 explanatory variables. The explanatory variables examined included %pasture, relative shear stress and  
192 their combined effect. Prior to the GLMM analysis, the correlation between %pasture and relative shear  
193 stress was tested using a Pearson correlation to avoid multicollinearity, and the relationship was not  
194 significant ( $r = 0.31$ ,  $P > 0.1$ ; in a Supplementary figure). Stream identity was also treated as a random  
195 effect intercept. We built the models in all cases and evaluated the models based on the Akaike  
196 information criterion (AIC). We compared models with all combination of explanatory variables  
197 including a model without explanatory variables (i.e. Null model). AIC was calculated for all models, and  
198 the model with the lowest AIC value indicated the best fitness (best model). Then explanatory variables  
199 included in a best model are “influential” to explain the response variable. We also calculated the  
200 standardised coefficients for each explanatory variable in the best model.

201 First, we used the GLMMs to test the influences of explanatory variables on abundance and  
202 taxon richness of total aquatic insects. Then, to examine the more detailed responses of the aquatic insect  
203 taxa, we used the GLMMs to determine the abundance of five orders (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera,

204 Trichoptera, Coleoptera and Diptera) and 31 dominant taxa (eight taxa within Ephemeroptera, seven taxa  
205 within Plecoptera, six taxa within Trichoptera, one taxa within Coleoptera and nine taxa within Diptera).  
206 We selected the taxa that appeared in more than one-half of the reaches pre-flood (fourteen reaches). The  
207 other taxa were excluded from the analysis because of a small sample size and the poor accuracy of the  
208 models. Reaches with no pre-flood individuals for target taxa were excluded from the analyses because  
209 the resistance index could not be calculated in these reaches. All the statistical analyses were conducted  
210 using the R environment for statistical computing (R Core Team 2015) and package ‘glmmML’ (Broström  
211 2017) and ‘MuMIn’ (Burnham and Anderson, 2002).

212

## 213 **Results**

214 The correlations between the agricultural development (%pasture) and local environments  
215 suggested that environmental heterogeneities (the C.V. values of flow velocity and water width) showed  
216 significant negative correlations with agricultural development (Spearman's rho = -0.69 and -0.54,  
217 adjusted  $P < 0.01$ ). Additionally, sand cover on riverbeds exhibited a significant positive correlation with  
218 agricultural development (Spearman's rho = 0.71, adjusted  $P < 0.01$ ). These relationships indicated  
219 that %pasture was a useful index to represent habitat homogenisation and fine sediment deposition.

220 The results of the GLMMs are summarised in Table 1. Only %pasture was influential in the  
221 best model of taxon richness (Table 1, Fig. 2a, b). This result indicated that the resistance index for taxon

222 richness decreased with increasing %pasture regardless of the relative shear stress. By contrast, %pasture,  
223 relative shear stress and their interaction were influential in the best model of total abundance (Table 1,  
224 Fig. 2c). The resistance index of total abundance decreased synergistically with %pasture and relative  
225 shear stress. The average observed resistance index was relatively high for taxon richness (0.69) and low  
226 for total abundance (0.29).

227           The relative shear stress, %pasture and their interaction were influential in the best models for  
228 Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, Trichoptera and Diptera (Table 1). The former three orders exhibited similar  
229 responses in which the resistance indices rapidly decreased with increasing %pasture compared to the  
230 relative shear stress (Fig. 3a, b, c). Diptera exhibited a different response compared to the three  
231 above-noted orders because the resistance index rapidly decreased with increasing relative shear stress  
232 (Fig. 3d). By contrast, Coleoptera was influenced to a comparable extent by %pasture and relative shear  
233 stress (Table 1; Fig. 3e). The resistance indices of Coleoptera decreased linearly with increasing %pasture  
234 and relative shear stress. All average observed resistance indices were lower than 0.5, and Plecoptera and  
235 Coleoptera exhibited low values (both 0.14).

236           Among the 31 dominant taxa, the relative shear stress, %pasture and their interaction were  
237 selected in the lowest AIC models for ten taxa (four taxa in Ephemeroptera, three in Trichoptera and three  
238 in Diptera) (Table 1). Standardised coefficients indicated that %pasture showed more negative  
239 relationships with ephemeropteran and trichopteran taxa (e.g., *Epeorus* spp. and *Hydropsyche* spp.) than

240 was the relative shear stress. By contrast, the dipteran taxa (e.g. Tanypodinae spp. and Diamesinae spp.)  
241 showed more negative relationships with the relative shear stress than with %pasture. The standardised  
242 coefficient of interaction showed a positive value for nine taxa (Table 1), which indicated that the  
243 negative relationships between %pasture and the resistance index was weak under conditions of high  
244 flood magnitude (see in Fig. 3a, b, c).

245 Both the relative shear stress and %pasture, without their interaction, were selected in the  
246 lowest models for eleven taxa (three taxa in Ephemeroptera; three in Plecoptera; two in Trichoptera;  
247 Elmini spp. in Elmidae, Coleoptera; and two in Diptera) (Table 1). These taxa showed similar responses  
248 in which the resistance indices decreased linearly with increasing %pasture and relative shear stress.  
249 However, the observed resistance indices were relatively high in ephemeropteran taxa (0.66 for  
250 *Paraleptophlebia japonica*, 0.71 for *Baetis* spp. and 0.56 for *Ameletus* sp.) compared to those of taxa  
251 from other orders (< 0.5 for all taxa) (Table 1).

252 Only the relative shear stress showed a negative relationship with the resistance indices of  
253 *Prosimulium* spp. and Chironominae spp. in Diptera (Table 1). The resistance indices of these taxa  
254 decreased with increasing relative shear stress regardless of %pasture. Additionally, *Stenopsyche*  
255 *marmorata* (Stenopsychidae) in Trichoptera was influenced by %pasture alone. Neither the relative shear  
256 stress nor %pasture influenced seven taxa (*Ephemera strigata* in Ephemeridae, Ephemeroptera, four in  
257 Plecoptera and two in Diptera) (Table 1). Ephemeropteran and dipteran taxa exhibited relatively high

258 average observed resistances ( $> 0.5$ ) compared to that of the plecopteran taxa ( $< 0.15$ ).

259 **Discussion**

260 Our prediction that the persistence of population (abundances for each taxa) and assemblage (total  
261 abundance and taxon richness) of aquatic insects would decrease with increasing agricultural  
262 development and flood magnitude was supported by the results, which showed that both disturbances  
263 were influential for the resistance indices of total abundance, five order groups and 21 dominant taxa.  
264 Surprisingly, agricultural developments in our study catchments was relatively low (less than 18% pasture  
265 cover) compared to other previous studies which observed the influences of agricultural development on  
266 instream biomes (e.g. King et al. 2005; Maloney and Weller 2011). Nevertheless, most of the studied taxa  
267 exhibited stronger negative relationships with agricultural development than with flood magnitude. This  
268 result suggested that limited agricultural developments along the river line caused habitat homogenisation  
269 and fine sediment deposition, dampening the resistance of aquatic insects to flood disturbances. The  
270 interactive effects of both disturbances varied among taxa. Eleven dominant taxa showed influential  
271 relationships with both disturbances without interaction, which indicated that the combined effects of land  
272 use and flood disturbance accumulate additively. By contrast, in nine taxa that were influenced by the  
273 interactive effects of both disturbances with positive standardised coefficients, a weakly negative  
274 relationship with agricultural development was observed, under high flood conditions. This observation is  
275 likely because the high flood magnitude washed out most individuals (more than 75% of pre-flood total  
276 abundances in our study reaches) and masked the importance of flow refugia within a reach. These

277 interactions between land use and flood magnitude would result in synergistic or antagonistic effects that  
278 are far greater than additive effects and would greatly alter the prediction of temporal changes in  
279 communities and populations (Crain et al. 2008). Thus, it is essential to understand the various  
280 interactions between multiple stressors to prevent aquatic organisms from further degradation.

281

### 282 ***Taxon-specific response to flooding and agricultural land use***

283 First, the resistance indices of eleven dominant taxa belonging to all orders decreased linearly  
284 with increasing agricultural development and flood magnitude. However, the observed resistance indices  
285 exhibited different tendencies between the ephemeropteran taxa and those of other orders. Notably, these  
286 indices were higher in the ephemeropteran taxa. Three taxa within Ephemeroptera (*Paraleptophlebia*  
287 *japonica* in Leptophlebiidae, *Baetis* spp. in Baetidae and *Ameletus* spp. in Ameletidae) exhibited a  
288 “swimmer” life form with high mobility and efficiently used limited refugia and exhibited rapid  
289 colonisation after floods (Hose et al. 2007; Sueyoshi et al. 2014). Therefore, these mayfly populations can  
290 be maintained by using the few refugia remaining in streams with high agricultural development or high  
291 flood magnitude.

292 The resistance indices of six taxa in Ephemeroptera (*Epeorus* spp. and *Cinygmula* spp. in  
293 Heptageniidae, *Cincticostella* spp. and *Drunella* spp. in Ephemerellidae) and Trichoptera (*Hydropsyche*  
294 spp. in Hydropsychidae and *Neophylax ussuriensis* in Uenoidae) decreased rapidly with increasing

295 agricultural development compared to the flood magnitude. This result indicates that the populations of  
296 taxa with high resistance to flood disturbances cannot be maintained in intensive agricultural streams. For  
297 example, *Epeorus* spp. and *Cinygmula* spp. have dorsoventrally flattened bodies adapted to fast flows,  
298 and *Hydropsyche* spp. are net-spinning caddisflies that build nests between stones. Additionally, the  
299 species *Stenopsyche marmorata* (Stenopsychidae), within Trichoptera, exhibited a negative relationship  
300 with agricultural development alone. This species is a net-spinning caddisfly similar to *Hydropsyche* spp.  
301 The nets of *S. marmorata* exhibit a high coherent strength (Takao et al. 2006; Nunokawa et al. 2008),  
302 which allows this species to remain on the substrate during large floods. These taxa may exhibit  
303 resistance under suitable flow conditions and in the presence of coarse substrata; however, such  
304 environments disappear in strongly impacted agricultural streams due to the deposition of fine sediments  
305 (Jones et al. 2012).

306           The resistance indices of two dipteran taxa (Diamesinae spp. and Orthocladiinae spp.)  
307 decreased rapidly with increasing flood magnitude compared to agricultural development. These two taxa  
308 belong to Chironomidae, which generally inhabit shallow deposited substrates and are generally abundant  
309 among drifting individuals during floods (Brittain and Eikeland 1988). Additionally, two taxa in Diptera  
310 (*Prosimulium* spp. and Chironominae spp.) decreased only with increasing flood magnitude due to their  
311 low resistance ability to flood disturbances. As noted above, chironomids are easily washed out by a flood.  
312 Similarly, simuliids such as *Prosimulium* spp. actively drift with increasing flow discharge (Robinson et

313 al. 2004).Therefore, flood magnitude influenced these species more than others.

314           Seven dominant taxa from Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera and Trichoptera showed no negative  
315 relationships with either type of disturbance. These taxa were classified into two groups with different  
316 ecological characteristics. The first group, including *E. strigata* (Ephemeridae), *Limnephila* spp.  
317 (Tipulidae) and Ceratopogonidae spp., contains burrowers that inhabit deep, fine streambed sediments.  
318 The hyporheic zone beneath the streambed is considered a refugium, especially for hyporheic species (see  
319 the review by Dole-Olivier 2011). The high observed resistance indices of these three taxa imply the use  
320 of hyporheic refugia in our study sites. The second group, which includes four dominant taxa in  
321 Plecoptera, showed extremely low observed resistance indices of approximately zero, even at sites with  
322 low agricultural intensities and flood magnitudes. The resistance indices were also influenced by  
323 emergence during the floods. In fact, in the studied streams, adult flies of Capniidae were often observed  
324 during snows in March, and the emergence period of *Mesyatsia* spp. (Taeniopterygidae) occurs in March  
325 (Zhiltzova 2006). Life cycles synchronised with seasonal floods represent an evolutionary adaptation to  
326 flood disturbances (Lytle 2002). Therefore, these taxa would adapt to seasonal floods and maintain their  
327 populations by emerging early, before snowmelt.

328           In conclusion, the response to both disturbances differed among taxa based on their ecological  
329 traits. Taxa showing the high resistance to flood magnitude itself such as dorsoventrally flattened mayflies  
330 and net-spinning caddisflies, have probably adapted to regional natural disturbance regime and

331 maintained their populations. However, agricultural development lowers the resistance to natural  
332 disturbance via habitat homogenisation and fine sediment deposition. Thus, in regions having high flood  
333 magnitude, land managers should pay attention to interacting effects between anthropogenic and natural  
334 disturbances on aquatic biomes, even if the man-made disturbance seems to be relatively low. Enhancing  
335 and maintaining the habitat heterogeneity (e.g. Nakano and Nakamura 2008) and/or building the riparian  
336 buffer strip along the river for filtering fine sediment (e.g. Nakamura and Yamada 2005) may be useful  
337 management strategies to conserve aquatic organisms in natural disturbance regime.

338

### 339 **Acknowledgements**

340 This study was supported by Grants in Aid for Scientific Research (23248021) from the Ministry of  
341 Education, Science, and Culture of Japan; the Environment Research and Technology Development  
342 Funds (S9 and 4D-1201) of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan; and research funds provided by the  
343 River Center of Hokkaido.

344

### 345 **Data availability**

346 Environmental data are included in a supplementary table. Biological data analysed during the current  
347 study available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.

348 **References**

- 349 Allan JD (2004) Landscapes and riverscapes: the influence of land use on stream ecosystems. *Annu Rev*  
350 *Ecol Evol S* 35:257-284. doi: 10.1146/annurev.ecolsys.35.120202.110122
- 351 Burnham KP, Anderson DR (2002) Model selection and multimodel inference: a practical  
352 information-theoretic approach (2nd ed). Springer-Verlag, New York
- 353 Brittain JE, Eikeland TJ (1988) Invertebrate drift – A review. *Hydrobiologia* 166:77–93.  
354 doi:10.1007/BF00017485
- 355 Broström G (2017) Package ‘Glmml’ Generalized linear models with clustering.  
356 <https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/glmml/glmml.pdf>. Accessed 21 April 2017.
- 357 Collier KJ, Quinn JM (2003) Land-use influences macroinvertebrate community response following a  
358 pulse disturbance. *Freshwater Biol* 48:1462-1481. doi:10.1046/j.1365-2427.2003.01091.x
- 359 Crain CM, Kroeker K, Halpern BS (2008) Interactive and cumulative effects of multiple human stressors  
360 in marine systems. *Ecol Lett* 11:1304-1315. doi:10.1111/j.1461-0248.2008.01253.x
- 361 Death RG (2010) Disturbance and riverine benthic communities: what has it contributed to general  
362 ecological theory? *River Res Appl* 26:15–25. doi: 10.1002/rra.1302
- 363 Dole-Olivier MJ (2011) The hyporheic refuge hypothesis reconsidered: a review of hydrological aspects.  
364 *Mar Freshwater Res* 62:1281-1302. doi: 10.1071/MF11084
- 365 Dunbar MJ, Pedersen ML, Cadman D, Extence C, Waddingham J et al (2010a) River discharge and

366 local-scale physical habitat influence macroinvertebrate LIFE scores. *Freshwater Biol* 55:226-242.  
367 doi:10.1111/j.1365-2427.2009.02306.x

368 Dunbar MJ, Warren M, Extence C, Baker L, Cadman D et al (2010b) Interaction between  
369 macroinvertebrates, discharge and physical habitat in upland rivers. *Aquat Conserv* 20:S31-S44.  
370 doi:10.1002/aqc.1089

371 Hose GC, Walter T, Brooks AJ (2007) Short-term colonisation by macroinvertebrates of cobbles in main  
372 channel and inundated stream bank habitats. *Hydrobiologia* 592:513–522.  
373 doi:10.1007/s10750-007-0791-6

374 Jones JI, Murphy JF, Colins AL, Sear DA, Naden PS et al (2012) The impact of fine sediment on  
375 macro-invertebrates. *River Res Appl* 28:1055-1071. doi:10.1002/rra.1516

376 Kaufmann PR, Larsen DP, Faustini J (2009) Bed Stability and sedimentation associated with human  
377 disturbances in Pacific Northwest streams. *J Am Water Resour Assoc* 45:434-459.  
378 doi:10.1111/j.1752-1688.2009.00301.x

379 Kawai T, Tanida K (2005) *Aquatic insects of Japan. Manual with keys and illustrations (in Japanese).*  
380 Tokai University Press, Kanagawa

381 King RS, Baker ME, Whigham DF, Weller DE, Jordan TE et al (2005) Spatial considerations for linking  
382 watershed land cover to ecological indicators in streams. *Ecol Appl* 15:137-153. doi: 10.1890/04-0481

383 Lancaster J, Hildrew AG (1993) Characterizing in-stream flow refugia. *Can J Fish Aquat Sci* 50:1663–

384 1675. doi:10.1139/f93-187

385 Larsen S, Vaughan IP, Ormerod SJ (2009) Scale-dependent effects of fine sediments on temperate  
386 headwater invertebrates. *Freshwater Biol* 54:203–219. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2427.2008.02093.x

387 Leopold LB, Wolman MG, Miller JP (1964) *Fluvial processes in geomorphology*. Dover Publications,  
388 New York

389 Lepori F, Hjerdt N (2006) Disturbance and aquatic biodiversity: reconciling contrasting views.  
390 *BioScience* 56:809–818. doi: 10.1641/0006-3568(2006)56[809:DAABRC]2.0.CO;2

391 Lytle DA (2002) Flash floods and aquatic insect life-history evolution: evaluation of multiple models.  
392 *Ecology* 83:370-385. doi:10.1890/0012-9658(2002)083[0370:FFAAIL]2.0.CO;2

393 Mackay RJ (1992) Colonization by lotic macroinvertebrates: a review of processes and patterns. *Can J*  
394 *Fish Aquat Sci* 49:617-628. doi:10.1139/f92-071

395 Maloney KO, Munguia P, Mitchell RM (2011) Anthropogenic disturbance and landscape patterns affect  
396 diversity patterns of aquatic benthic macroinvertebrates. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 30:284-295.  
397 doi:10.1899/09-112.1

398 Maloney KO, Weller DE (2011) Anthropogenic disturbance and streams: land use and land - use change  
399 affect stream ecosystems via multiple pathways. *Freshwater Biol* doi:56:611-626.  
400 10.1111/j.1365-2427.2010.02522.x

401 Matthaei CD, Arbuckle CJ, Townsend CR (2000) Stable surface stones as refugia for invertebrates during

402 disturbance in a New Zealand stream. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 19:82–93. doi:10.2307/1468283

403 McMullen LE, Lytle DA (2012) Quantifying invertebrate resistance to floods: a global-scale  
404 meta-analysis. *Ecol Appl* 22:2164–2175. doi:10.1890/11-1650.1

405 Melo AS, Niyogi DK, Matthaei CD, Townsend CR (2003) Resistance, resilience, and patchiness of  
406 invertebrate assemblages in native tussock and pasture streams in New Zealand after a hydrological  
407 disturbance. *Can J Fish Aquat Sci* 60:731–739. doi:10.1139/f03-061

408 Mesa LM (2010) Effect of spates and land use on macroinvertebrate community in Neotropical Andean  
409 streams. *Hydrobiologia* 641:85-95. doi:10.1007/s10750-009-0059-4

410 Ministry of the Environment of Japan (1998) Japan integrated biodiversity information system (J-IBIS).  
411 <http://www.biodic.go.jp/>

412 Nakamura F, Yamada H (2005) Effects of pasture development on the ecological functions of riparian  
413 forests in Hokkaido in northern Japan. *Ecol Eng* 24:539-550. doi:10.1016/j.ecoleng.2005.01.010

414 Nakamura F, Ishiyama N, Sueyoshi M, Negishi JN, Akasaka T (2014) The significance of meander  
415 restoration for the hydrogeomorphology and recovery of wetland organisms in the Kushiro River, a  
416 lowland river in Japan. *Restor Ecol* 22:544-554. doi:10.1111/rec.12101

417 Nakano D, Nakamura F (2008) The significance of meandering channel morphology on the diversity and  
418 abundance of macroinvertebrates in a lowland river in Japan. *Aquat Conserv* 18:780–798.  
419 doi:10.1002/aqc.885

420 Negishi JN, Inoue M, Nunokawa M (2002) Effects of channelisation on stream habitat in relation to a  
421 spate and flow refugia for macroinvertebrates in northern Japan. *Freshwater Biol* 47:1515–1529.  
422 doi:10.1046/j.1365-2427.2002.00877.x

423 Nilsson C, Reidy CA, Dynesius M, Revenga C (2005) Fragmentation and flow regulation of the world's  
424 large river systems. *Science* 308:405-408. doi:10.1126/science.1107887

425 Nunokawa M, Gomi T, Negishi JN, Nakamura O (2008) A new method to measure substrate coherent  
426 strength of *Stenopsyche marmorata*. *Landscape Ecol Eng* 4:125-131. doi:10.1007/s11355-008-0044-5

427 Palmer MA, Arensburger P, Martin AP, Denman DW (1996) Disturbance and patch specific responses:  
428 the interactive effects of woody debris and floods on Iotic invertebrates. *Oecologia* 105:247-257.  
429 doi:10.1007/BF00328554

430 Parkyn SM, Collier KJ (2004) Interaction of press and pulse disturbance on crayfish populations: flood  
431 impacts in pasture and forest streams. *Hydrobiologia* **527**:113-124.  
432 doi:10.1023/B:HYDR.0000043189.91134.94

433 R Development Core Team (2013) *R: A language and environment for statistical computing*. R  
434 Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. ISBN 3-900051-07-0, Available at:  
435 <http://www.R-project.org>.

436 Resh VH, Brown AV, Covich AP, Gurtz ME, Li HW et al (1988) The role of disturbance in stream  
437 ecology. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 7:433–455. doi:10.2307/1467300

438 Rempel LL, Richardson JS, Healey MC (1999) Flow refugia for benthic macroinvertebrates during  
439 flooding of a large river. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 18:34–48. doi:10.2307/1468007

440 Robinson CT, Aebischer S, Uelinger U (2004) Immediate and habitat-specific responses of  
441 macroinvertebrates to sequential, experimental floods. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 23:853-867.  
442 doi:10.1899/0887-3593(2004)023<0853:IAHROM>2.0.CO;2

443 Rodrigues JLM, Pellizari VH, Mueller R, Baek K, Jesus EC et al (2013) Conversion of the Amazon  
444 rainforest to agriculture results in biotic homogenization of soil bacterial communities. *P Natl Acad Sci*  
445 USA 110:988-993. doi:10.1073/pnas.1220608110

446 Roschewitz I, Gabriel D, Tschardt T, Thie C (2005) The effects of landscape complexity on arable weed  
447 species diversity in organic and conventional farming. *J Appl Ecol* 42:873-882.  
448 doi:10.1111/j.1365-2664.2005.01072.x

449 Schwendel AC, Death RG, Fuller IC (2010) The assessment of shear stress and bed stability in stream  
450 ecology. *Freshwater Biol* 55:261–281. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2427.2009.02293.x

451 Stanley EH, Powers SM, Lottig NR (2010) The evolving legacy of disturbance in stream ecology:  
452 concepts, contributions, and coming challenges. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 29:67-83. doi: 10.1899/08-027.1

453 Sueyoshi M, Ishiyama N, Nakamura F (2016)  $\beta$ -diversity decline of aquatic insects at the microhabitat  
454 scale associated with agricultural land use. *Landscape Ecol Eng* 12:187-196.  
455 doi:10.1007/s11355-015-0283-1

456 Sueyoshi M, Nakano D, Nakamura F (2014) The relative contributions of refugium types to the  
457 population persistence of benthic invertebrates in a seasonal snowmelt flood. *Freshwater Biol*  
458 59:257-271. doi:10.1111/fwb.12262

459 Takao A, Negishi JN, Nunokawa M, Gomi T, Nakahara O (2006) Potential influences of a net-spinning  
460 caddisfly (Trichoptera: *Stenopsyche marmorata*) on stream substratum stability in heterogeneous field  
461 environments. *J N Am Benthol Soc* 25:545-555. doi: 10.1899/0887-3593(2006)25[545:pioanc]2.0.co;2

462 Townsend CR, Hildrew AG (1994) Species traits in relation to a habitat templet for river systems.  
463 *Freshwater Biol* 31:265-275. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2427.1994.tb01740.x

464 Zhiltzova LA (2006) A Review of stoneflies of the family Taeniopterygidae (Plecoptera) in Russia and  
465 adjacent countries. *Entmol Rev* 86:632-634. doi:10.1134/S0013873806060029

466

467 **Table legend**

468 Table 1. Results of GLMMs for all aquatic insects and taxonomic groups. The values in columns 2-4  
 469 indicate standardised coefficients. The observed resistance index in column 5 was calculated from the  
 470 observed post-flood abundance or taxon richness / the observed pre-flood abundance or taxon richness.  
 471 “Null” indicates that Null model (without explanatory variables) was chosen by the lowest AIC value.  
 472 Taxa were ordered by observed resistance values. E: Ephemeroptera, P: Plecoptera, T: Trichoptera,  
 473 C: Coleoptera, D: Diptera.

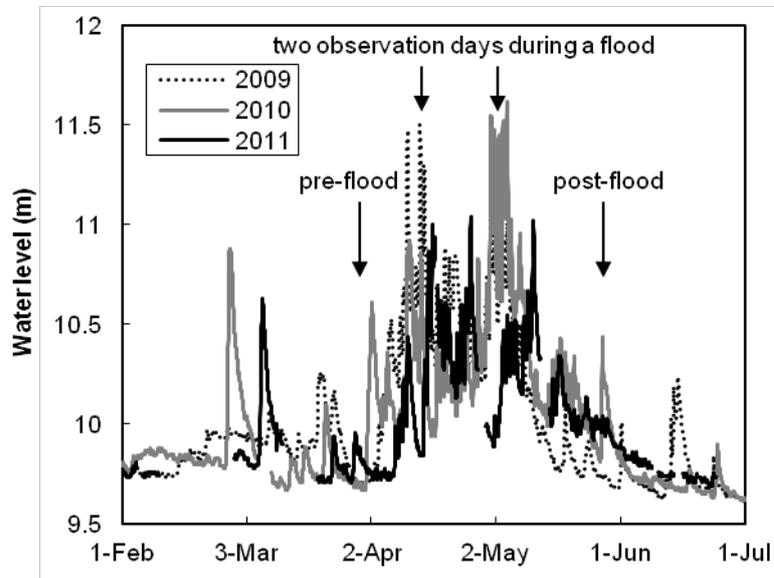
Response variable	Coefficients			Observed resistance index average (s.d.)	
	Relative shear stress	%pasture	Interaction		
Taxon richness		-0.18		0.69 (0.14)	
Abundance	-0.3	-0.3	-0.02	0.29 (0.16)	
Ephemeroptera (E)	-0.1	-0.45	0.13	0.36 (0.23)	
Plecoptera (P)	-0.06	-0.91	0.15	0.14 (0.17)	
Trichoptera (T)	-0.1	-0.55	0.16	0.38 (0.31)	
Coleoptera (C)	-0.42	-0.67		0.14 (0.22)	
Diptera (D)	-0.33	-0.17	-0.07	0.29 (0.16)	
<i>Limnephila</i> spp.	D	Null		0.90 (1.28)	
<i>Baetis</i> spp.	E	-0.09	-0.17	0.71 (0.57)	
<i>Ephemera strigata</i>	E	Null		0.68 (0.69)	
<i>Paraleptophlebia japonica</i>	E	-0.3	-0.39	0.67 (0.44)	
<i>Stenopsyche marmorata</i>	T		-0.95	0.63 (0.69)	
<i>Ameletus</i> sp.	E	-0.27	-0.61	0.56 (0.63)	
Ceratopogonidae spp.	D	Null		0.51 (0.68)	
Tanypodinae spp.	D	-0.34	-0.21	0.09	0.51 (0.46)
<i>Antocha</i> spp.	D	-0.14	-0.15	0.47 (0.29)	

<i>Orthoclaadiinae</i> spp.	D	-0.32	-0.35	-0.13	0.47 (0.28)
<i>Lepidostoma</i> spp.	T	-0.27	-1.84	1	0.45 (0.79)
<i>Hydropsyche</i> spp.	T	-0.19	-0.6	0.16	0.43 (0.38)
<i>Skwala</i> spp.	P	-0.35	-0.58		0.42 (0.38)
<i>Rhyacophila</i> spp.	T	-0.17	-0.24		0.40 (0.31)
<i>Epeorus</i> spp.	E	1.03	-2	1.11	0.38 (0.48)
<i>Dicranota</i> spp.	D	-0.26	-0.67		0.38 (0.45)
Apataniidae spp.	T	-0.59	-0.81		0.35 (0.57)
<i>Neophylax ussuriensis</i>	T	0.43	-1.23	0.49	0.35 (0.45)
<i>Cincticostella</i> spp.	E	0.06	-0.94	0.19	0.34 (0.40)
<i>Drunella</i> spp.	E	0.22	-0.49	0.3	0.34 (0.19)
Diamesinae spp.	D	-0.8	-0.19	0.18	0.22 (0.33)
<i>Amphinemura</i> spp.	P	-0.24	-1.06		0.22 (0.29)
Chironominae spp.	D	-0.22			0.18 (0.18)
<i>Cinygmula</i> spp.	E	0.2	-0.58	0.56	0.17 (0.18)
Chloroperlidae spp.	P	Null			0.15 (0.16)
Perlodidae spp.	P	-1.25	-3.36		0.14 (0.36)
Elimini spp.	C	-0.39	-0.63		0.14 (0.22)
<i>Nemoura</i> spp.	P	Null			0.10 (0.24)
<i>Prosimulium</i> spp.	D	-0.53			0.04 (0.05)
<i>Mesyatsia</i> sp.	P	Null			0 (0.01)
Capniidae spp.	P	Null			0 (0.01)

474

475

476 **Figures**



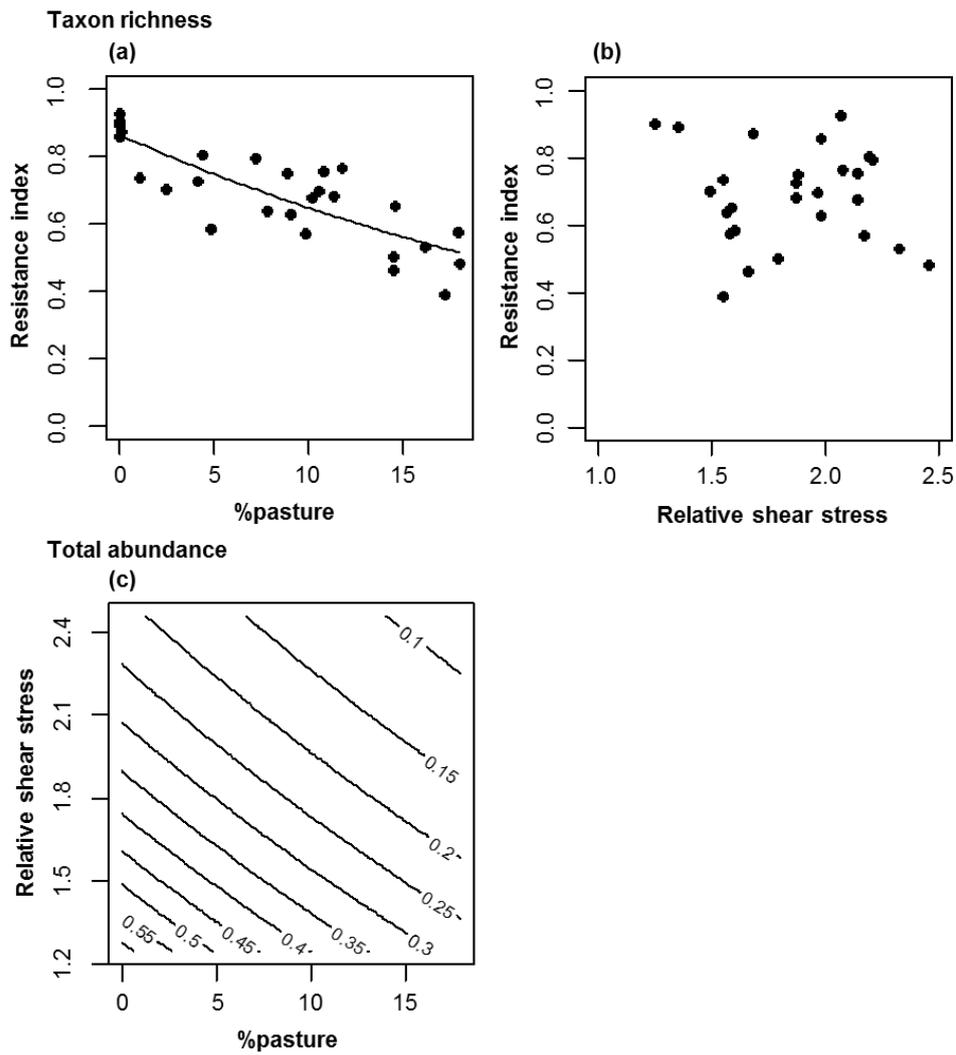
477

478 Fig. 1. Variation in the water level of the Kitamihorobetsu River during the study period. The water level

479 was monitored at a site downstream (4<sup>th</sup>-order stream) by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and

480 Transport of Japan.

481



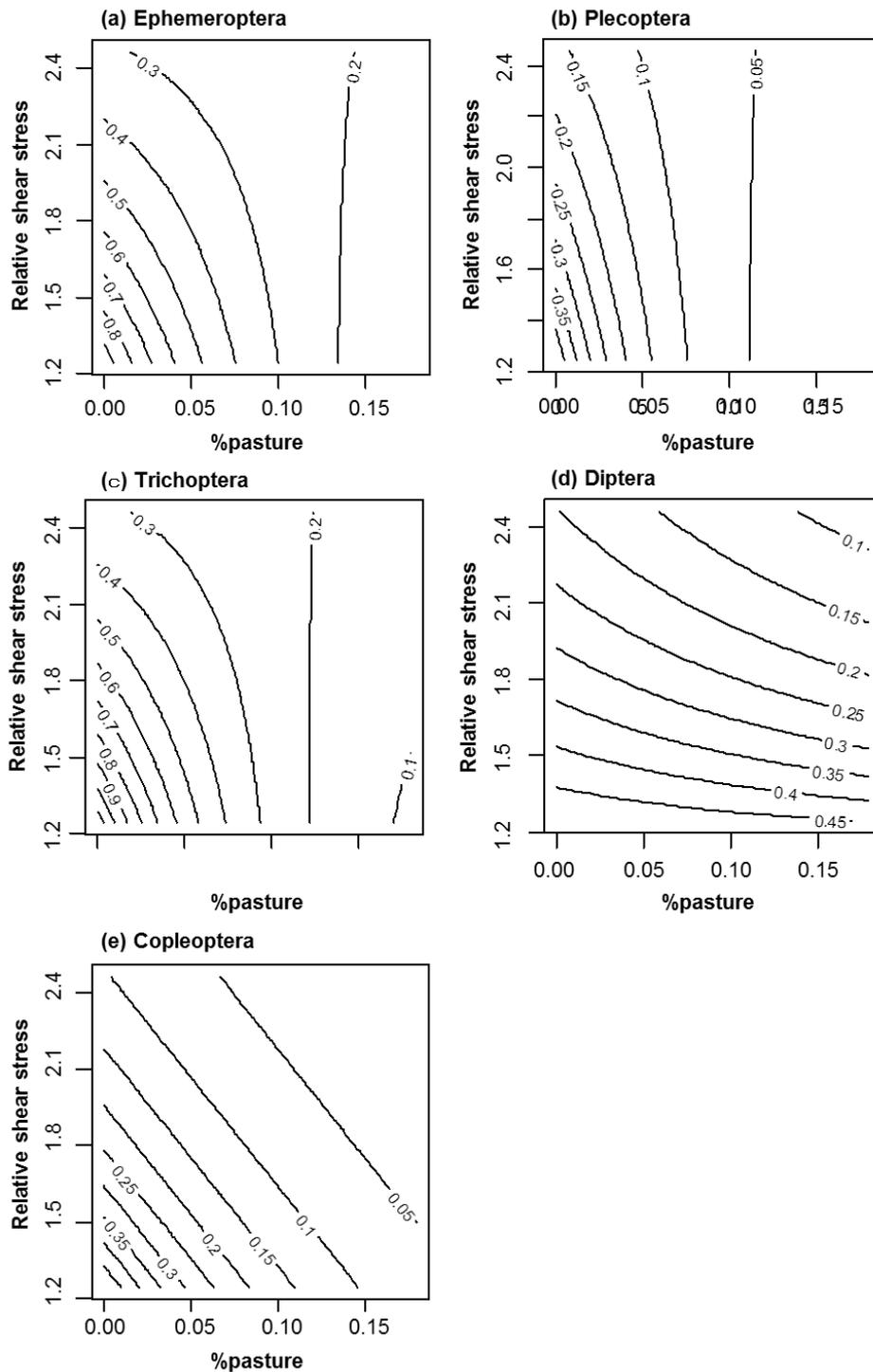
482

483 Fig. 2. Relationships between the resistance index and %pasture or relative shear stress for taxon richness

484 (a, b) and total abundance (c). Plots indicate the observed resistance indices, and solid lines and values

485 within the plot areas of (a, c) indicate the estimated resistance indices.

486



487

488 Fig. 3. Relationships between the resistance index and %pasture or relative shear stress for five order

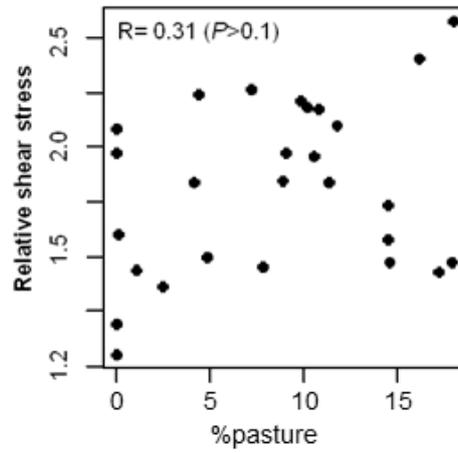
489 groups. Solid lines and values within the plot areas indicate the estimated resistance indices.

490

491 **Supplementary material**

492 Table 2. Environmental characteristics of study sites at pre-flood condition

Site	Pasture (%)	Relative shear stress	Slope (%)	Average flow velocity (cm s <sup>-1</sup> )	Average water depth (cm)	Average water width (m)	Average Sand cover (%)	C.V. of velocity	C.V. of depth	C.V. of width	H' diversity of substrates
Ki1	0	2.07	2.30	9.4	20.9	1.85	29.6	0.98	0.83	0.40	0.56
Ki2	0	1.98	2.51	17.9	13.9	3.30	20.8	0.88	0.63	0.21	0.48
Ki3	4.1	1.87	1.33	24.5	13.8	3.14	18.3	0.66	0.64	0.23	0.51
Ki4	7.2	2.21	1.57	23.1	12.2	4.28	22.1	0.59	0.28	0.06	0.40
Ki5	8.8	1.88	1.92	16.9	20.6	4.24	19.2	0.55	0.54	0.15	0.34
Ki6	10.8	2.14	1.04	18.9	12.6	4.48	30.8	0.51	0.47	0.13	0.27
Ki7	16.2	2.32	1.21	21.7	29.8	10.28	40.8	0.48	0.49	0.23	0.47
Ki8	17.1	1.55	1.12	27.2	51.9	9.28	35.8	0.53	0.63	0.14	0.46
Ki9	17.9	1.58	1.01	16.4	62.5	10.13	35.0	0.42	0.41	0.08	0.47
Pe1	0	1.35	4.90	21.0	10.6	2.89	7.5	0.74	0.52	0.22	0.48
Pe2	0	1.24	3.19	18.3	15.5	2.86	18.3	0.96	0.53	0.27	0.45
Pe3	0.1	1.68	2.47	14.9	15.1	2.95	11.3	0.78	0.45	0.17	0.42
Pe4	1.0	1.55	2.15	21.1	24.9	4.77	8.3	0.68	0.92	0.26	0.52
Pe5	2.4	1.49	3.35	27.6	15.7	4.83	2.9	0.65	0.42	0.20	0.51
Pe6	4.3	2.19	1.98	26.8	16.5	5.99	5.0	0.67	0.40	0.17	0.28
Pe7	9.0	1.98	1.13	12.6	35.1	9.38	45.8	0.76	0.48	0.26	0.52
Pe8	9.8	2.17	2.08	34.8	18.3	5.68	17.9	0.53	0.40	0.11	0.43
Pe9	11.7	2.08	1.91	20.4	28.5	6.74	29.6	0.69	0.51	0.11	0.45
Ke1	4.8	1.60	1.51	15.1	10.5	1.73	32.9	0.44	0.36	0.17	0.30
Ke2	7.8	1.56	1.72	11.1	21.5	2.29	56.7	0.49	0.56	0.20	0.38
Ke3	14.4	1.66	1.22	9.1	19.7	2.28	68.8	0.56	0.38	0.18	0.27
Ke4	17.9	2.46	2.11	21.5	11.8	4.12	57.1	0.53	0.33	0.10	0.30
Ke5	14.5	1.79	0.83	4.9	53.7	3.81	76.3	0.52	0.21	0.09	0.24
Ke6	14.6	1.58	1.44	9.4	33.6	2.93	53.3	0.54	0.53	0.18	0.43
Ke7	11.3	1.87	1.89	22.6	32.7	7.15	39.2	0.67	0.61	0.21	0.40
Ke8	10.5	1.97	0.99	18.3	41.2	6.60	46.7	0.57	0.52	0.13	0.51
Ke9	10.2	2.15	1.48	17.2	29.0	7.38	19.6	0.61	0.54	0.23	0.48



493 Figure 4. A relationship between agricultural intensity (catchment %pasture) and flood  
494 magnitude (relative shear stress). There is no significant correlation between %pasture  
495 and relative shear stress (Pearson's correlation).  
496  
497