FutureHydro

Sustainable hydropower development in China and Norway to meet future demands

The influence of hydropower on morphological processes and vegetation

Short overview and examples from Scandinavia

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Scheme of a Norwegian river system after regulation



Regulation effects on morphology and vegetation – short overview



- Transport capacity > available sediment supply: sediment deficit; the channel evacuates sediment from its bed and/or banks.
- Transport capacity < available sediment supply: the channel accumulates sediment.

First-Order Impacts:

- ➤ Flow
- Sediment

Second-Order Impacts:

- Degradation and Erosion
- Aggradation and Deposition



Regulation effects morphology and vegetation at different scales



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Geomorphological Adjustments:

- \geq
- \geq



"The channel endeavours to maintain or establish quasi-equilibrium in relation the newly imposed flow and sediment regime."







Effects of flow regulation on vegetation







Extent of the riparian zone

Bejarano et al. (2011), Sweden





Examples from Scandinavia



















Predicted future











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2001-2012 Yes

57.5

Lake Färnebofjärden





Lake Øyeren's Delta





New flood Lake Øyeren's Delta regulation scheme 1863: 1st dam 1978: Bingsfoss 1924: Solbergfoss power plant power plant Water level Mørkfoss, m ma.s.l. 12.00 108.54 Flood 11.00 107.54 Flood 1966 10.00 106.54 1995 1967 9.00 105.54 8.00 104.54 7.00 103.54 6.00 102.54 5.00 101.54 HRV 4.00 100.54 3.00 99.54 2.00 98.54 1 LRV 1.00 97.54 0.00 96.54 -1.00 95.54 -2.00 94.54

1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990





The flood regulation scheme affects the position of sedimentation areas in the delta.

Results of single-event simulations for the flood 1995



Previous flood reg.

New flood reg. scheme

Observed morphological development between 1874 and 1994

Tendencies in the delta development after the start of regulation in 1860:

- > More levees aggrading to the surface,
- Enhanced deposition at the lower parts of the delta plain,
- Increased number of lagoons and bays.





Summary

Hydro power regulation changes the flow and sediment regime of rivers. This leads to hydromorphological adjustments and vegetation changes.

Regulation has led to tree encroachment on formerly open riparian zones in many Norwegian rivers.

Reduced magnitude and duration of floods has reduced the alluvial forest at Lake Färnebofjärden.

Hydro power regulation has affected the development of Lake Øyeren's delta, in particular levee depositions during floods.













Thank you!

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