

World Association for Sedimentation & Erosion Research – WASER

NEWSLETTER

Reporting WASER news to you regularly

2021 No. 2

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NEWS

China's water diversion project promotes green development



Xinhua, 2021-05-14, ZHENGZHOU - Xi Jinping, President of China, on Thursday inspected the South-to-North Water Diversion Project in the city of Nanyang in Central China's Henan province.

On Thursday afternoon, he went to the county of Xichuan, where he inspected the Taocha Canal Head, Danjiangkou Reservoir and village of Zouzhuang. Xi listened to the introductions of the construction, management and operation of the middle route of the water diversion project and the ecological conservation of the water source region.

When the water started to gush north through the middle route in December 2014, Xi, also Chinese President and Chairman of the Central Military Commission, described the South-to-North Water Diversion Project as important strategic infrastructure to optimize water resources, boost sustainable economic and social development and improve people's livelihoods.

Six years on, the middle route of the water diversion project, which takes water from Danjiangkou in the middle reaches of the Yangtze, to feed the arid north including Beijing, Tianjin, and the provinces of Henan and Hebei, has proved to be a reliable "lifeline" for water supplies in the recipient regions.

As of March 2021, the mega water project had transferred over 40.8 billion cubic meters of water to the northern areas. More than 130 million people had directly benefited from the project since the first phase of its eastern and middle routes began supplying water.

More than 40 large and medium-sized cities received water from the project, which has also supported the ecological restoration of rivers and lakes along its eastern and middle routes.

Greener north

Major water plants in Beijing have used the supply from the water diversion project in addition to that from Miyun Reservoir in the northeast of the city to provide tap water.

Zhang Ying, a resident in Daxing District, southern Beijing, said local people had to buy purified water for drinking in the past, because of excessive levels of scale-formation associated with tap water.

"Now the tap water has become clearer and the flow has become bigger," she said.

According to the Beijing Water Authority, the supply of the water diversion project has replenished rivers and lakes.

"The ecological environment around the Miyun Reservoir has been greatly improved, and the species of aquatic fauna and flora have increased substantially," said Liu Dagen, director of the Reservoir Management Office.

The water diversion project has also promoted ecological protection and green development in the source area and along the diversion routes.

In Xichuan County, 380 polluting companies have been shut down to ensure the safety of the water source for the diversion project. The county has invested more than 600 million yuan (\$93.24 billion) in the treatment of industrial waste. Catering, fishing and animal husbandry business have been banned in reservoir and river areas.

There are 13 automatic water quality monitoring stations along the middle route. Underwater robots are widely used for monitoring aquatic organism and sediment levels, and checking water gates.

Trees are planted within 100 meters on both sides of the diversion canal in Henan Province, meandering about 640 km. The afforestation along the canal has formed an ecological zone for water conservation. A section of the canal-side green belt in Jiaozuo city, Henan, has recently been opened as a public eco-park.

Meanwhile, the country has been increasing the awareness of water conservation among citizens.

Zhao Tan, director of the water-saving office of the Beijing Water Authority, said despite the water replenished by the water diversion project, the capital still faces severe water shortage, with the per capita available water resources at about 150

cubic meters.

He said the city has basically ensured the collection and treatment of sewage in urban areas. Recycled water has become an indispensable water source in the capital city.

UNESCO-ISI online training workshop on 'Sediment Transport Measurement and Monitoring' will be held from July 5-9, 2021



The ISI Online Training Workshop on 'Sediment Transport Measurement and Monitoring' will take place from July 5-9, 2021, and represents a key initiative of the International Sediment Initiative (ISI) of UNESCO for 2021. It meets the objectives of the new strategy of ISI, which in turn is a contribution to the 8th phase of the IHP (2014-2021), focuses on "Water security: responses to local, regional and global challenges", and addresses the wide-ranging environmental, social and economic impacts of erosion, sediment transport and sedimentation processes. Measurement and monitoring of sediment transport are of critical importance for managing and mitigating these impacts.

The training workshop will extend over five days and will include lectures and discussion. The lectures will address the following topics:

1. Standard measurement and monitoring techniques used to collect data on water discharge and sediment loads for rivers and reservoirs;
2. Recent advances in sediment transport measurement and monitoring: online monitoring of suspended sediment concentrations in rivers;
3. Sediment measurement and monitoring methods for mountain streams;
4. Measuring erosion and sediment yields on slopes and in small catchments for soil and water conservation; and
5. Application of sediment data in controlling sediment-related ecological problems.

The online programme can be accessed at: <http://isi-unesco.iahr.org/>.

WASER is co-sponsoring this online training workshop.

WASER is sponsoring ICEC 2021 and co-sponsoring the 4th World's Large Rivers Conference

The 7th International Conference on Estuaries and Coasts (ICEC 2021) is organized by the State Key Laboratory of Estuarine and Coastal Research, East China Normal University, Shanghai, China and will take place in Shanghai from October 18-21, 2021. The ICEC 2021 is sponsored by IRTCES and WASER. Details of ICEC 2021 can be found at: <http://icec2021.ecnu.edu.cn/>.

The 4th World's Large Rivers Conference, organized by the Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria and co-sponsored by WASER, will take place as a hybrid event from 3rd – 6th of August 2021. This means that the conference can be attended either physically on-site or virtually online. More detailed information can be found on the Conference webpage:

<https://worldslargerivers.boku.ac.at/wlr/>.

UNESCO-ISI Training Workshop "River Basin Sediment Monitoring and Management" will be held online from September 6 – 10, 2021

This training workshop focuses on training and capacity building on the topic of river sediment monitoring and management. During the training workshop topics such as: the relevance of sediment monitoring and sediment management in river basins, sediment monitoring techniques, data analysis methods and an introduction to global river sediment databases will be addressed. This online workshop focusses on the monitoring and management of large rivers, rather than monitoring and management of small streams, headwater catchments and soil conservation..

The workshop is organized by the International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change (ICWRGC) and the German Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG), in collaboration with the International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES) and the International Sediment Initiative (ISI, UNESCO-IHP).

There will be an opportunity for selected participants to evaluate a regional sediment-related case study under the supervision of a workshop lecturer. A regional study should highlight challenges facing sediment monitoring and management to solve sediment-related issues in a particular region. The focus of the regional case study will be on developing or evaluating

monitoring concepts, data presentation and analyses. High-quality regional studies will be included in a joint UNESCO ICWRGC report.

Details can be found at: <https://www.waterandchange.org/en/event/>.

Soil erosion area in China drops by nearly 1 million square kilometers

BEIJING, Jun. 13 (Xinhua) - China has reported a decrease in the area affected by soil erosion in 2020 as the country's environment continues to improve.

The total area of land with soil erosion was 2.69 million km² last year, down 977,600 km² from the peak in the 1980s, according to data from the Ministry of Water Resources.

The area affected by soil erosion in 2020 was down 18,100 km², or 0.67%, from the 2019 level, said the ministry, which carried out the monitoring of soil erosion across the country last year.

The area affected by soil erosion by water stood at 1.12 million km² in 2020, decreasing by 1.3% from 2019, while the area affected by wind erosion reached 1.57 million km², down 0.21%. (Source: Xinhua News Agency)

USGS, FWS report highlights impacts of sediment management on barrier islands, wildlife and ecosystems

Coastal sediment management practices, such as dredging and beach nourishment, can have beneficial and detrimental impacts on the physical and ecological resiliency of barrier islands, particularly when sediment is removed from one barrier island system and placed in another, according to a report released recently.

Produced by the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the report provides resource managers valuable information they can use to evaluate impacts of sediment removal and placement within barrier islands, including those addressed by the Coastal Barrier Resources System. The CBRS is comprised of relatively undeveloped coastal barriers along the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic Ocean and Great Lakes coasts that are depicted on a set of maps maintained by FWS.

Barrier islands, the narrow low-lying landforms located at the interface of land and sea, play a key role in storm protection for coastal communities and infrastructure and serve as important habitats for many coastal and marine species.

“The study identifies both beneficial and

detrimental impacts from sediment management practices depending on where and how they are applied within barrier island systems,” said Jennifer Miselis, USGS Research Geologist and lead author on the report.

Sediment management actions such as beach nourishment — where sand is added to an area to expand beaches and dunes — are typically done for coastal hazard mitigation, erosion prevention and flood control.

Some of the key findings in the report illustrate how some barrier island sediment management practices can have negative impacts on seafloor habitats, fish and other marine species, beach habitats and dunes, and the coastal sediment supply that ensures barrier island resiliency.

For instance, when sediment is removed from one barrier island system and deposited in a separate system, it may lead to coastal erosion near the removal location or cause longer-term impacts to the supply of sediments to neighboring barrier islands. Ultimately, it may alter the islands' ability to withstand future storms and increases in sea level.

The process of removing sediment from an area, known as dredging, can also alter the quality of nearshore seafloor habitats, such as seagrass beds and fish nurseries, that are critical for supporting economically and ecologically important species. Organisms that live in or on the seafloor, which often serve as food sources for many threatened and endangered coastal and marine species, may be directly excavated during dredging activities. Additional impacts to surface-dwelling species, such as manatees and sea turtles, include direct entanglement in or physical strikes from dredging equipment.

The report also highlights some positive impacts of sediment management. For example, in addition to the short-term protection from coastal hazards beach nourishment provides, it also increases nesting habitats for some coastal wildlife.

“By creating a wider beach, you create more foraging and nesting areas for several species, like shorebirds and turtles,” Miselis said.

However, the timing of beach nourishment is important so the addition of sediments to beaches, dunes and marshes does not interfere with wildlife breeding.

“This report will give decision-makers, resource managers and the public a better understanding of the pros and cons of moving sand within barrier island systems,” Miselis said. “Hopefully, it will show that sometimes short-term benefits can have unforeseen impacts that may affect the health of barrier islands and their ecological stability beyond the life of the sediment

management project itself.”

For the study, USGS scientists reviewed existing information about barrier island response to changes in sediment supply via sand mining and removal and impacts to coastal resilience. FWS scientists provided expertise in how changes in sediment supply impact wildlife habitats and species of concern. The report also identifies knowledge gaps that can help prioritize future USGS and FWS research, modeling and monitoring efforts.

The report, titled “Impacts of Sediment Removal From and Placement in Coastal Barrier Island Systems,” can be read here: <https://doi.org/10.3133/ofr20211062>.

(Source: USGS, <https://www.usgs.gov/>)

WASER

PUBLICATIONS

Papers Published in the International Journal of Sediment Research Volume 36, No. 4, 2021



Pages 449-566 (August 2021)

Interfacial instability of sand patterns induced by turbulent shear flow
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Channel morphologic processes of a highly sinuous bend approaching neck cutoff by bank erosion in the middle Yangtze River
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Effects of length and application rate of rice straw mulch on surface runoff and soil loss under laboratory simulated rainfall
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Bioremediation perspective of historically contaminated sediment with polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
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Pages 479-488

Multifractal features of the particle-size distribution of suspended sediment in the Three Gorges

Reservoir, China
Jinlin Li, Xiubin He, Jie Wei, Yuhai Bao, ... Dil Khurram
Pages 489-500

Factors influencing the removal of fine non-cohesive sediment by vortex settling basin at small river abstraction works
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Comparative study of multilayer perceptron-stochastic gradient descent and gradient boosted trees for predicting daily suspended sediment load: The case study of the Mississippi River, U.S.
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Phosphate mineral accumulation in lake sediment to form a secondary phosphate source: A case study in lake sediment around Eppawala Phosphate Deposit (EPD) in Sri Lanka
Nimila Dushyantha, Nalin Ratnayake, Hemalal Panagoda, Chulantha Jayawardena, Amila Sandaruwan Ratnayake
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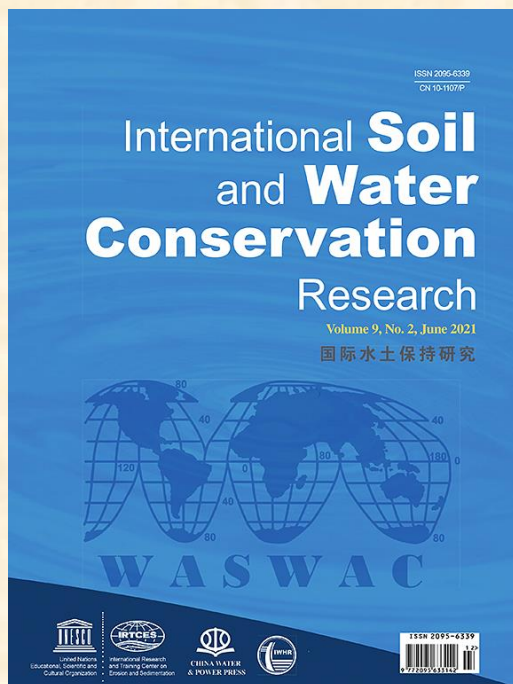
The settling of resuspended lake sediment related to physicochemical properties of particles of different sizes: Implication for environmental remediation
Zhao Wei, Youze Xu, Yanyan Zhao, Yuanyuan Zhao, ... Changhui Wang
Pages 542-554

The effects of adsorptive materials on microbial community composition and PAH degradation at the sediment cap-water interface
Giovanna Pagnozzi, Danny D. Reible, Kayleigh Millerick
Pages 555-565

Full papers are available at ScienceDirect:
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-sediment-research> with free access to

the paper abstracts.

Contents of ISWCR (Vol. 9, No.2, 2021)



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New approach for obtaining the C-factor of RUSLE considering the seasonal effect of rainfalls on vegetation cover
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Predictions of soil and nutrient losses using a modified SWAT model in a large hilly-gully watershed of the Chinese Loess Plateau
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Free full papers and open access are available at ScienceDirect :
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-soil-and-water-conservation-research>.

COMING EVENTS

UNESCO-ISI online training workshop on 'Sediment Transport Measurement and Monitoring' (July 5-9, 2021)

Date: July 5-9, 2021

Online Platform: <http://isi-unesco.iahr.org>

Topics of the workshop

The training workshop will extend over five days and will include lectures and discussion. The lectures will address the following topics:

1. Standard measurement and monitoring techniques used to collect data on water discharge and sediment loads for rivers and reservoirs;
2. Recent advances in sediment transport measurement and monitoring: online monitoring of suspended sediment concentrations in rivers;
3. Sediment measurement and monitoring methods for mountain streams;
4. Measuring erosion and sediment yields on slopes and in small catchments for soil and water conservation; and
5. Application of sediment data in controlling sediment-related ecological problems.

Date/Time

Five days, July 5-9, 2021, two hours for each day, with an additional 40 minutes on the final day. The core time slots are:

- Coordinated Universal Time (UTC): 8:00-10:00
- West Africa Time (WAT): 9:00-11:00
- Central Africa Time (CAT) / Central European Summer Time (CEST): 10:00-12:00
- Eastern European Summer Time (EEST): 11:00-13:00
- China Standard Time (CST): 16:00-18:00

World's Large Rivers Conference 2021 (Russia, August 2-6, 2021)

Date: August 2-6, 2021

Venue: Moscow, Russia

Summary: This WASER, UNESCO-IHP, and other organizations co-sponsored conference aims to provide a global forum for a wide-ranging discussion of key issues related to research on large rivers and to their effective and sustainable management, involving both scientists and decision makers. The conference will be organized by MSU - Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia, and BOKU - University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, Austria. We kindly ask all interested authors to submit their work within the topics of

- Hydrology, Hydraulics & Hydroclimatic Impacts
- Sediment Transport & River Morphology
- River Pollution, Ecology & Restoration
- Integrated River Management

Special focus will be given this time to **Climate Change** and its impact - not only in general, but also specifically related to **Russian and Arctic Rivers**.

Supported by: WASER World Association for Sedimentation and Erosion Research; UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; IAHR International Association of Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research; IAHS International Association of Hydrological Sciences; IAG International Association of Geomorphologists. All WASER- and ISI-members can benefit from a reduction of conference fees of 10%.

URL: <http://worldslargerivers.boku.ac.at/wlr/>

ISI – Training Workshop on 'River Basin Sediment Monitoring and Management' (Online, postponed from 2020)

Date: September 6-10, 2021

Venue: Online conference

Organizer: International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change under the auspices of UNESCO, German Federal Institute of Hydrology

Co-organizer: UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme, International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sediment Research (IRTCES)

Summary: This training workshop focuses on training and capacity building on the topic of river sediment monitoring and management. During the training workshop topics such as: the relevance of sediment monitoring and sediment management in river basins, sediment monitoring techniques, data analysis methods and an introduction to global river sediment databases will be addressed. This online workshop focusses on the monitoring and management of large rivers rather than monitoring and management of small streams, headwater catchments and soil conservation.

Originally, the workshop was scheduled in a physical form for September 2020, but due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its uncertain future development, the meeting was converted to a virtual workshop.

Organization & Contact:

The workshop is organized by the International Centre for Water Resources and Global Change (ICWRGC) and German Federal Institute of Hydrology (BfG), in collaboration with the International Research and Training Centre on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES) and the International Sediment Initiative (ISI, UNESCO-IHP).

This workshop will target professionals who deal with sediment-related issues and sediment management in their current or future job.

Local organizers are Thomas Hoffmann, Stephan Dietrich and Renee van Dongen. For application or questions please contact them using the following email: events-icwrgc@bafg.de.

The 7th International Conference on Estuaries and Coasts (Shanghai, China, October 18-21, 2021)

Date: October 18-21, 2021 (Tentative)

Venue: East China Normal University, Shanghai, China

Organizers:

East China Normal University

Sponsors: International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sediment Research (IRTCES); World Association for Erosion and Sediment Research (WASER)

Co-sponsors: International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR).

Secretariat: East China Normal University

Summary: The International Conference on Estuaries and Coasts (ICEC) is a triennial event initiated by the International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES). Six such conferences have now been held in Hangzhou and Guangzhou, China; Sendai, Japan; Hanoi,

Vietnam; Muscat, Oman, and Caen, France in 2003, 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018. With support from related international associations, and with the participation of experts and scholars worldwide, the ICEC has attracted wide attention and has become an important and popular event. The ICEC provides an opportunity for scientists, engineers, researchers and decision-makers to exchange ideas, research results and advanced techniques, and develop collaboration and friendships. The 7th International Conference on Estuaries and Coasts (ICEC-2021) will be held in the East China Normal University, Shanghai, China during October 18-21, 2021.

Overall Theme:

Anthropocene Coasts

Topics of the Conference (tentative):

1. Hydrodynamics in estuaries and coasts: tides, waves, circulations, and their interactions;
2. Sediment transport dynamics: sand, mud and their mixture;
3. Multi-scale morphodynamics: tidal flats, estuaries, deltas, beaches, dunes, eco-morphodynamics...;
4. Coastal management: flood defense, ecosystem conservation, human-nature interactions...

URL: <http://icec2021.ecnu.edu.cn/>

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15th International Symposium on River Sedimentation (Florence, Italy, September, 2022)

Date: September, 2022 (Three consecutive days at the end of August / beginning of September, 2022)

Venue: Florence, Italy

Organizer: University of Florence and University of Padua

Sponsors: International Research and Training Center on Erosion and Sedimentation (IRTCES); World Association for Erosion and Sediment Research (WASER)

Co-sponsors: International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR).....(to be invited)

Secretariat: University of Florence, Italy

Permanent Secretariat: IRTCES

Summary: The triennial International Symposium on River Sedimentation (ISRS) was initiated in 1980. Since its foundation, IRTCES has served as the permanent secretariat of ISRS. WASER was inaugurated at the 9th ISRS in 2004, and the ISRS has since become the official Symposium of WASER. The objective of the ISRS is to provide a forum for scientists, engineers, researchers and decision makers to exchange ideas, research results and technical advances, and to share experience and information relating to the study of sediment and its management.

Symposium Theme and Topics:

The theme of the symposium is

Sustainable Sediment Management in a changing Environment (tentative)

The symposium topics include (tentative):

1. Sediment transport
2. Reservoir sedimentation
3. River morphodynamics
4. Coastal morphodynamics
5. Ecomorphodynamics
6. Sediment related disaster
7. Plastic in river and coastal systems
8. Interaction between sediment dynamics and hydraulic structures
9. Integrated Sediment Management at the River Basin Scale
10. Social, economic & political problems related to sediment and water management

URL: (to be provided)

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