Debris plant flux in fresh water by acoustic echosounder Évaluation du flux de débris végétaux aquatiques par sondeur acoustique

Objective

Quantify the plant flux & dead wood flux to prevent the risk of obstruction of hydroelectric dam water intakes and nuclear power cooling water intakes. 6 trial years

Use DTX echosounder (BioSonics)

- Pings with single 200 kHz, 7° wide, circular beam
- Runs in split-beam mode
- Automatic target tracking
- Target characterization
 - Speed/Direction/Distance
 - Echo level (dB)



Correct echo level (dB) in turbidity

- Risk : Echo level (dB) attenuated with increased turbidity
- Experiment on Isère River
 - Fixed target at 40 m in front of DTX
 - Echo level at -20 dB with 50 FNU turbidity
 - Turbidity increased after bottom valves of dam opened
 - Determine relationship between increasing turbidity and attenuation of echo level (dB)



• Calibration with weighed plants

- Echo (dB) = k Log (exposed surface)
- Plant density = C^{te} & plant thickness ≈ C^{te}, echo(dB) = k' Log (plant weigh)
- Plant (*Elodea sp, Myriophyllum sp*) weigh from 100 g to 5 kg front of DTX on Rhône River & on Loire River
- Carried out k' (≈ 60 records per weight) with 35 FNU water turbidity :



Time series of plant flux tests

Example of plant flux time series in November 2017 in Rhône River



- The dB value is translated to the equivalent dB at 35 FNU (clear water)
- With the relationship dB/kg known, the plant flux test is conducted
- R automatic script to treat data for remove fishes by observations of Directions distribution & speed values
- Next step : Observing the Distribution of the flux distance for adjust the flux value

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