

INFLUENCE OF GEOMORPHOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOGENIC CONDITIONS
ON THE HYDROMORPHOLOGICAL STATE OF THE UPPER PARSEŃA RIVER

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Summary

Assessment of hydromorphological state of rivers falls within the scope of monitoring of surface water quality in accordance with the Water Framework Directive in the European Union. Valuation by method of River Habitat Survey allows for a comprehensive assessment of the environment of the river, along with elements of characteristic of vegetation and land use of the river valley. Good methodological base of the River Habitat Survey allows more numerous, comparable assessment of hydromorphology of rivers in different zones of Polish landscape. The results presented in the paper relate to the hydromorphological assessment of environment of the upper Parsęta River in Drawskie Lakeland. The existing water quality assessment of the upper Parsęta River, conducted since 1994 within the framework of the Integrated Environmental Monitoring based on physico-chemical indicators, pointed to the high quality of river water (class I and sometimes class II). Hydromorphological assessment carried out according to the RHS rules on 9 Survey sites (altogether 4.5 km of the river channel) indicates a wide variation of environmental quality of the upper Parsęta River from class V to class II. It has been shown that the primary differentiating factor of the state of the river hydromorphology is constituted by geomorphological conditions resulting from polygenetic character of the river valley, referring to the areas of the melt-out basins and erosion segments connecting them. Geomorphological conditions also determine the degree of anthropogenic transformation of the Parsęta River valley, which in the case of the segments of the melt out genesis are mainly due to drainage works and in the erosion segments mainly in the construction of hydraulic structures in order to use the water energy.