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ICHTIOFAUNA DORZECZA PILICY CZEŚĆ I. PRZED UTWORZENIEM ZBIORNIKA

THE ICHTHYOFAUNA OF THE PILICA DRAINAGE BASIN PART I. PREIMPOUNDMENT STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Employing unified electrofishing methods, based on the Behlemisher hever principle and suitable for the three river categories (small, medium, large) distinguished in the present study, the degree of domination and fish population distribution were estimated in the longitudinal profile of the rivers of the Pilica drainage basin. The distributions of the two fish species dominant in the fish regions, barbel and bream, in the main river and in its tributaries occupy the same area. This does not allow the classic fish regions to be distinguished, because in the majority of cases the overlapping of the occurrence areas of associated fish species was also recorded.

In the Pilica River, and also in its tributaries which retained the natural character of river beds, a positive relationship between increase in the order of the river and the number of species was recorded. In sites established in regulated river sections (up to 10 years) no such relationship was recorded, which occurred together with scarcity of species, including a drastic reduction in species important for recreational angling.