

APPLICATION OF WEIGHTED CRITERIA AND INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ASSESS SEDIMENT QUALITY IN MARINE AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

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Integrated models for ecological risk assessment



"the process that evaluates the likelihood that adverse ecological effects may occur as a result of exposure to one or more stressors" (USEPA, 1998)

Risk Characterization

Integrated Environmental Management

Quantitative risk assessment model on Weight of Evidence (WOE) approach



Weighted criteria are included in the Italian legislation on classification and management of dredged marine sediments Manual ICRAM-APAT 2007 Art. 109, D.lgs. 152/2006 and ss.mm.ii.







Ecotoxicological hazard Chemical hazard		Quality classes
	HQ_{C} (L2) \leq Negligible	Α
Absent	Slight \leq HQ _C (L2) \leq Moderate	В
	$HQ_{C}(L2) = High$	С
	HQ _C (L2) > High	D
Slight	HQ _C (L1) ≤ Slight	Α
	HQ _C (L1) ≥ Moderate and HQ _C (L2) ≤ Slight	В
	Moderate ≤ HQ _C (L2) ≤ High	с
	HQ _C (L2) > High	D
Moderate	HQ _C (L2) ≤ Slight	С
	HQ _C (L2) ≥ Moderate	D
≥ High	HQ _C (L2) ≤ Slight	D
	HQ _C (L2) ≥ Moderate	E



A multidisciplinary weight of evidence approach for classifying polluted sediments: Integrating sediment chemistry, bioavailability, biomarkers responses and bioassays

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Chemical analyses on sediment



- 3 platforms
- 60 sampling points
- 53 parameters: Grain size
- **Total Organic Matter**
- Total Organic Carbon(TOC)
- Metals (Al, As, Ba, Cd, Cr, Cu, Fe, Hg, Mn, Ni, Pb, V, Zn)
- **PAHs**
- **Total hydrocarbons**

LOE 5: Benthic Communities



M-AMBI = Multivariate index: AMBI, Shannon diversity index and taxonomic richness. (Muxika et al., 2007)

M-AMBI* = Multimetric index: AMBI, Shannon diversity index and taxonomic richness. (M-AMBI revisited; Sigovini et al., 2013)

BENTIX = [6 × %GI + 2 × (% GII + %GIII)]/100

GI = group of sensitive species or taxa; GII = group of tolerant/ second-order opportunistic species or taxa; GIII = group of first-order opportunistic species or taxa. (Simboura and Zenetos, 2002).

BOPA (benthic opportunistic polychaetes amphipods) (ratio between the frequency of opportunistic (tolerant) polychaetes and the frequency of amphipods to classify the state of a community) (Gomez Gesteira and Dauvin, 2000).

BITS (Benthic Index based on Taxonomic Sufficiency) = log [(6fl+fll)/(flll+1)+1] + log[nl/(nll+1)+nl/(nlll+1)+0.5nll/(nlll+1)+1]

fl, fll and flll is the frequency (ratio of the number of individuals belonging to those families to the total number of individuals in the sample) of sensitive, tolerant and opportunistic families; nl, nll and nlll is the number of sensitive, tolerant and opportunistic families in the sample (Mistri and Muntari, 2008)

Normalization Index selection

ier:	AME .			
	AMBI	SLIGHT	26,44	
	BENTHIN	TEVERE	31,67	
	BIT's (Tango)	MODERATE	47,78	
	IIITS (sabbia)	MODERATE	58,32	
	BOPA-m	SUGHT	24,49	
	H ² Himboura & Zenetos J	MAJOR	21,50	
	H ⁴ (Wreamt 2002)	MODERATE	57,24	
	m-AMBI	MODERATE	49,27	
	m AMBi*	MODERATE	49.19	



Flow chart for integration of various LOEs into



Total of 6696 analyses to interpret

General structure of the model for freshwater quality



ISPRA

ma Nazionale Protezione dell'Ambiente



- Modules developed in Sediqualsoft model
- Modules provided by D.M 260/10

Additional LOEs for freshwater ecosystems

according to requirements of D.M 260/10: Ecological status of surface water bodies



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and the desire

185 Daniel

EQR: Ecological Quality Ratio

LOE8: Macrophytes



IBMR: Indice Biologique Macrophyitique en Rivière



LOE9: Synthetic assessments on fluvial functionality

				Question n.2	
Datina			2) Vegetazione presente nella fascia periflaviale prim		a
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Validation of model in field studies

Case study: Development of a multidisciplinary, Weight of Evidence (WOE) model for ecological risk assessment (ERA) in freshwater environments

Area: Cecina River

Site: Ponteginori

Period: 2007/08

Reference data: Guidi et al. 2010; ARPAT



PROCESSED DATA

- LOE1: Chemical characterization of sediments
- LOE2: Chemical characterization of water column
- LOE3: Bioavailability
- LOE4: Biomarkers
- LOE5: Ecotoxicological bioassays

- LOE6: Macroinvertebrates
- LOE7: Diatoms community
- LOE8: Macrophytes
- LOE9: Synthetic assessments on functionality fluvial
- WOE: Weight of Evidence integration

Validation of Weight of Evidence (WOE) model for freshwater environments



Weight of Evidence integration

Area	Cecina		
Site	River Cecina		
Chemical cha	racterization of sediments	MAJOR	
Chemical cha	racterization of soil		
Chemical cha	racterization of water column	MODERATE	
Bioavailability of chemicals		SLIGHT	
Sublethal effects Biomarkers		MODERATE	
Toxicological Bioassays		ABSENT	
Macroinvertebrates		MODERATE	
Diatoms community		ABSENT	
Macrophytes		ABSENT	
Index of river functionality		MODERATE	

Weight of Evidence integr

SLIGHT





CONCLUSIONS AND PERSPECTIVES

- Importance of multidisciplinary WOE approach for characterizing environmental quality and risk assessment
- WOE models represent a fundamental tool for summarizing and interpreting large datasets of heterogeneous data, singularly or in an integrative approach
- They do not use "pass-to-fail" approach, enhancing the capability to discriminate different environmental conditions
- The developed model is versatile, easy to update or adapt to local or national specificities
- Scientifically sound but user-friendly format, to support a more comprehensive process of risk assessment and "site-oriented" management decisions



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THA





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