

Lecture outline

- Evolutionary considerations
- Current factors affecting diversity
- Invasions
- Extinctions

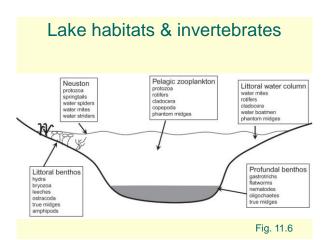


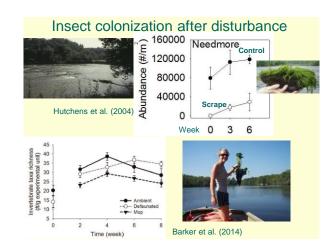
Current factors

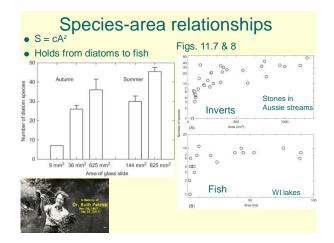
- Habitat type
- Colonization after disturbance or of new habitats
- Species introductions
- Productivity (later)
- Species interactions (later)



Cypress Spring, Fla







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Invasions of non-native species

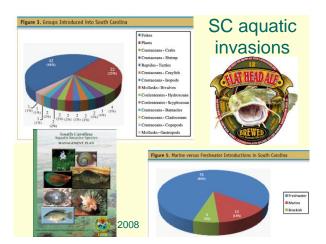
- Viewed by some as most permanent form of pollution
- Some findings for fish
 - most invaders fail to establish; many attempts often needed
 - most successful invaders have no significant effects
 - all aquatic systems can be invaded
 - major community effects occur mostly in low-diversity systems
 - top predators are more likely to have strong effects

Moyle & Light 1996



Peter Movle

Table 11.1 Some Invaders of the North American Great Lakes				
Organism	Year	Source	How Introduced	Effects
Sea lamprey, Petromyzon marinus	~1830	Atlantic	Shipping canals	Decreases native lake trout
Purple loosetrife, Lythrum salicaria	1869	Europe	Ship ballast	See Sidebar 9.4
Alewite, Alosa pseudoharengus	1873	Atlantic	Shipping canals	Suppresses native fish species; new prey for salmon
Chinook salmon, Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	1873	Pacific	Intentional	New piscivore; important sport fish
Common carp, Cyprinus carpio	1879	Europe	Intentional	Destroys habitat for waterfowl and fish
Brown trout, Salmo trutta	1883	Europe	Intentional	New piscivore; important sport fish
Coho salmon, Oncorhynchus kisutch	1933	Pacific	Intentional	New piscivore, important sport fish
White perch, Morone americana	~1950	Atlantic	Shipping canals	Competes with native fish
Eurasian watermilfoil, Myriophyllum spicatum	1952	Eurasia	Not known	Competes with native plants
European ruffe, Gymnocephalus cernuus	1986	Europe	Ballast water	Competes with native fish and eat eggs
Zebra mussel, Dreissena polymorpha	1988	Europe	Ballast water	Biofouling, outcompetes native species



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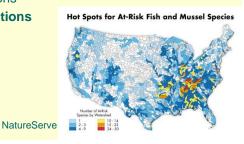
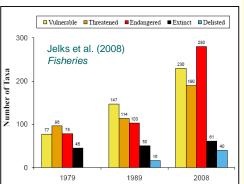


Figure 2. Numbers of imperiled North American freshwater and diadromous fish taxa in each status category as listed previously by the AFS Endangered Species Committee in Deacon et al. (1979), Williams et al. (1989), and this list (2008). Extinct taxa for each year are cumulative based on estimated dates of extinction, whereas delisted taxa are the number of taxa excluded since the previous list.



Fish in peril

Extinctions (1)

- Freshwater systems are extremely vulnerable
- Since 1900, 123 spp of freshwater animals have gone extinct
- Combined extinction rates for mussels, crayfish, gastropods, amphibians, and fishes in NA average 3.7% per decade
 - 5X higher than any terrestrial habitat

Extinction Rates of North American Freshwater Fauna

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1999, Conservation Biology

Extinctions (2) • Lake Victoria—300 cichlid species evolved in last 12,000 years, 200 extinct following 1954 introduction of Nile Perch and pollution Catastrophic Change in Species-Rich Freshwater Ecosystems The lessons of Lake Victoria Lis Kantuna 1992, BioScience