

SUMMARY

Natural values of river valleys and environmental aftermath of their transformation

The present article is a review work dealing with an importance of river valleys for nature conservation purposes and problems of their transformation due to hydrotechnical engineering. Amongst different forms of hydrotechnical works and network of buildings which is supposed to prevent towns and villages from floods, flow regulations and land reclamation seem to be the most destructive. They lead to loss of many specific microhabitats, and as a consequences, many representatives of fauna and flora. Similar affects are caused by building of embankments, exploitation of mineral resources from river bottom, and urbanization in area of water basin. Despite economic advantages of existence of some hydrotechnical buildings they always negatively affects ecosystems. Therefore natural values of river valleys should be taken into account during preparation of plans of new hydrotechnical inventions especially in areas valuable from environmental view-point. Also it is advisable to support each activities for renaturalization of rivers.