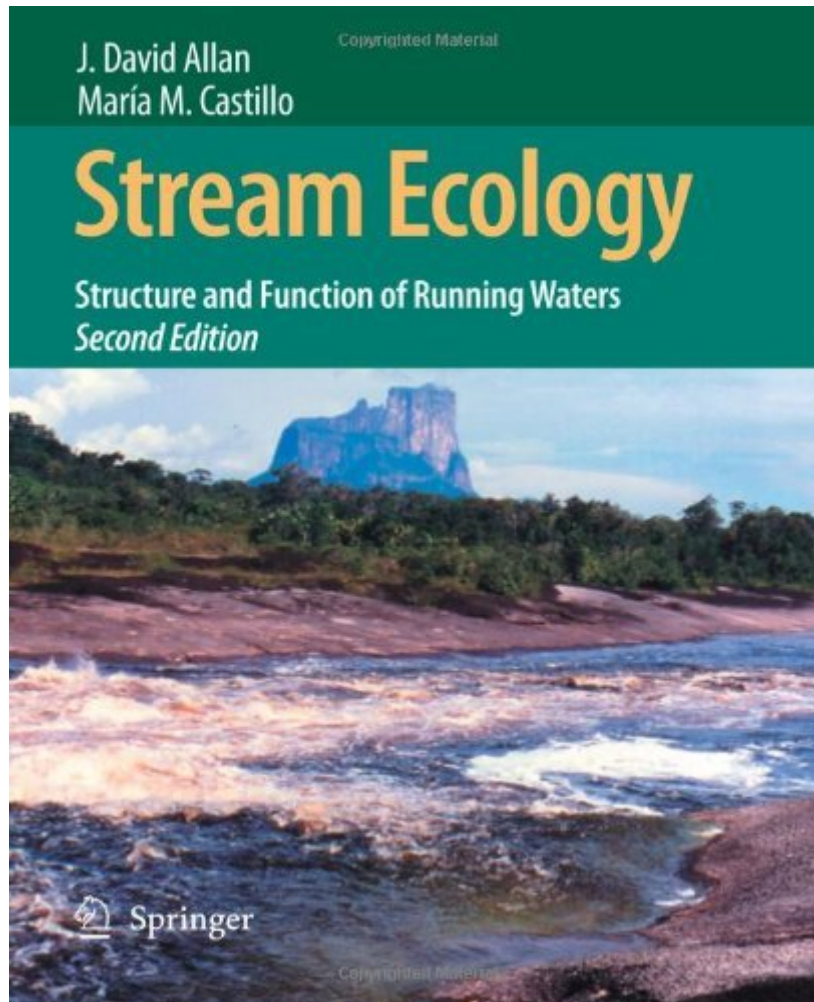


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# Stream Ecology



## Synopsis

Stream Ecology: Structure and Function of Running Waters is designed to serve as a textbook for advanced undergraduate and graduate students, and as a reference source for specialists in stream ecology and related fields. The Second Edition is thoroughly updated and expanded to incorporate significant advances in our understanding of environmental factors, biological interactions, and ecosystem processes, and how these vary with hydrological, geomorphological, and landscape setting. The broad diversity of running waters â “ from torrential mountain brooks, to large, lowland rivers, to great river systems whose basins occupy sub-continentals â “ makes river ecosystems appear overwhelming complex. A central theme of this book is that although the settings are often unique, the processes at work in running waters are general and increasingly well understood. Even as our scientific understanding of stream ecosystems rapidly advances, the pressures arising from diverse human activities continue to threaten the health of rivers worldwide. This book presents vital new findings concerning human impacts, and the advances in pollution control, flow management, restoration, and conservation planning that point to practical solutions. Reviews of the first edition: ‘.. an unusually lucid and judicious reassessment of the state of stream ecology’ Science Magazine ‘..provides an excellent introduction to the area for advanced undergraduates and graduate studentsâ |’ Limnology & Oceanography ’â | a valuable reference for all those interested in the ecology of running waters.’ Transactions of the American Fisheries Society

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is one of only a very limited number I could find that reviewed stream ecology. Unfortunately, the book is usable but not a great textbook. Although the authors do a good job of picking through the extensive literature in this field they do not distill the message clearly in many sections. Subheadings are used to combine the many sources that are used, but do not build a larger picture of streams. In an attempt to display the range and variation in streams the authors have gotten lost in the details. Without a clear larger message at each part it can often feel like a brain dump. The summaries at the end of the chapter suffer in a similar way, and are extremely dry and do not build the larger picture of a stream. The book does have plenty of information, and although there are some complicated figures, most figures are useful. For students interested in the field I will recommend this book until another version or a better book is produced. For those not familiar with the topic I would not recommend this book. It is too dry and technical without a clear picture of what a stream is, to be useful.

Relatively easy reading but fairly comprehensive for an introductory book, one of the few books I kept from college. It doesn't talk down to you or lose you in technicalities and jargon. The book arrived intact and on time.

I bought this book because my class required it as a textbook. There's a substantial weight to it but it uses regular printing paper, not the smooth shiny stuff that is impossible to read under a light. There are 14 chapters in this book that all talk about a different aspect of streams such as : human impact, streamflow, abiotic environment and trophic relationships. The double-column formatting is broken every once in a while to include a graph or image that helps explain what the textbook is saying. Each chapter also has a one page summary that helps you recall all that you read. 4/5 stars: good book chock full of information in text and pictorial form. Just wish it wasn't such a slow read. But then again, which textbook isn't?

My interest in this book followed from a desire to obtain information that might help me outwit wild and wily trout by any and every means possible. And sure enough, this book contains a wealth of

information. The only problem is that much of it is incomprehensible to the lay reader as opposed to the scientific community. For instance, here's what I encountered as I researched what and how fish eat (feeding ecology of riverine fishes): "Herbivorous fishes with scraping mouthparts such as the stoneroller *Campostoma anomalum* clearly have little in common with ooze feeders such as the blunt-nose minnow *Pimephales notatus*. Some benthic invertebrate feeders utilize prey primarily from soft bottoms (the suckermouth minnow *Phenacobius mirabilis*), others from stony bottoms (the greenside darter *Etheostoma blennioides*)."

OK...On the other hand, for biologists and advanced students of ecology the book presents a comprehensive exposition of technical information. And the rest of us, who may not be equipped to cut through the scientific jargon, will still take away a sense of the intricacy and complexity of the living systems of streams and rivers.

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