Biocoenotically relevant stream types for Germany
- Quality element Makrozoobenthos -

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Selected river landscapes and regions according to Briem (2003)	biocoenotically type			
	Size class[1) 2)]			
	small river	mid-sized river	large river	very large river
Ecoregion 4: Alps, altitude > 800 m				
Calcareous Alps, Flysch-Alps	**1**[3)]			
Ecoregion 9 (and 8): Central highlands and Alpine foothills, altitude ca. 200 - 800 m and higher				
Alpine foothills				
Tertiary hills, river terraces, lower river terraces, old moraines	**2**[4)]		**4**	
Pleistocene moraine landscapes	**3**[5)]			
Floodplains (over 300 m wide)				
Central highlands				
Gneiss, granites, schists, volcanis regions	**5**	**9**	**9.2**	
Buntsandstein sandstone, sandy deposits	**5.1**			
Loess regions, upper Triassic rocks, middle and lower Jurassic	**6**	**9.1**		
Lacustrine limstones, lower and middle Jurassic stones, upper Jurassic limestone, Cretaceous rocks	**7**			
Floodplains (over 300 m wide)				**10**
Ecoregion 14: Central plains, altitude < 200 m				
Outwash plains, sandy deposits, ground and terminal moraines	**14**	**15**		
Loess regions	**18**			
Ground and terminal moraines, lower river terraces	**16**	**17**		
Floodplains (over 300 m wide)				**20**
Marshland of the coastal plains	**22**[6)]			
Young moraine landscape: ground moraines	**23**			
Ecoregion independent stream types				
Outwash plains, loess regions, floodplains (paludificated)	**11**	**12**		
Floodplains (over 300 m wide)	**19**			
Outwash plains, ground and terminal moraines	**21**			

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[1] Concerning size categories of streams: The short descriptors „small river“, „mid-sized river“, „large river“ and „very large river“ indicate size classes of stream catchments and refer to the size categories of the EU-WFD. Longitudinal biological characteristics of streams do not change in the same way in all stream types as catchment size category increases; therefore, it is noted that these categories serve as an orientation. They are however important concrete parameters for selecting and managing assessment sites in data bases.

small catchment („small river“):	ca.10-100 km^2
mid-sized catchment („mid-sized river“):	ca.>100-1.000 km^2
large catchment („large river“):	ca.>1.000-10.000 km^2
very large catchment („very large river“):	ca. >10.000 km^2

[2] The stream types listed in the table are not fully differentiated with respect to longitudinal biocoenotic and relevant zoogeographic aspects. This must be taken into consideration when type specific biological reference conditions are defined and described (especially with respect to the biological quality component fish).

[3] Differentiation in sub type 1.1 „Small and mid-sized rivers of the Calcareous Alps“ and sub type 1.2 „Large rivers of the Calcareous Alps“.

[4] Differentiation in sub type 2.1 „Small rivers in the alpine foothills“ and sub type 2.2 „Mid-sized rivers in the alpine foothills“.

[5] Differentiation in sub type 3.1 „Small rivers in the Pleistocene sediments of the alpine foothills“ and sub type 3.2 „Mid-sized rivers in the Pleistocene sediments of the alpine foothills“.

[6] Differentiation of types is still in progress.