

Channel and Morphological Response of Two Watersheds to Urbanization in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria

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ABSTRACT Two rivers (Ikpoba and Ogba) studied in Benin City show that stream channel alters due to change in stream flow regime brought about by the conversion of the natural cover to different land uses as a result of urbanization. Stream channels draining areas subjected to impervious land uses tend to develop relatively large stream channel bank full cross-sectional areas than those draining areas under pervious land uses. The primary effect is induced velocity by way of increased discharge. Consequently, and as a secondary effect, there is a tendency for channel enlargement.