



## MSc Project

### Lake tributaries as safe haven? Long-term temporal patterns of amphipod communities in tributaries of Lake Constance.

We are looking for an enthusiastic MSc student who will be working on macroinvertebrate communities of tributaries to Lake Constance. The project involves extensive fieldwork, morphological identification of specimens in the laboratory and statistical analyses of diversity patterns. The project is part of a larger and long-term research program (based at Eawag, Dübendorf).

Amphipods are a diverse and ecologically highly relevant group of freshwater invertebrates. In a large study program (Amphipod.CH), we have already recorded about 40 different species of amphipods in Switzerland over the last few years. At Lake Constance we have recorded amphipod communities in a dozen streams since 2012. While most of the data were targeted to answer specific research questions, the data now also allow looking at temporal patterns of amphipod communities and inferring conclusions about their persistence and ecological stability.

In this MSc project, you would build on existing macroinvertebrate data from tributaries to Lake Constance. These should be complemented with recent samples taken by you. You would perform the fieldwork and the consecutive lab work to identify all macroinvertebrates, and the amphipods specifically. You will thereby build a long-term dataset, allowing to perform diversity analyses across time and space, getting insights into driving forces of amphipod community composition.



**Requirements:** Interest in ecology and faunistics of aquatic invertebrates, German and English language skills, interest to plan fieldwork and to identify invertebrate samples under the stereomicroscope, keen to implement statistical models covering temporal and spatial aspects, valid driver's licence and driving practice. The MSc project can start any time. We are looking forward to meeting you!

#### Contact/Supervision:



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