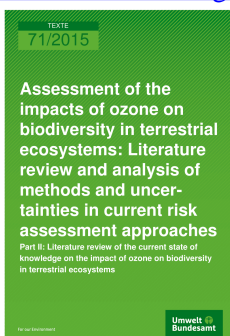


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Karin M. Lavoie
Author of *Environmental Science*, *Wiley-Blackwell*, 2012
Journal: *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 50(1), 2013
Contributors: Kelly Demaree, David Fox, Steve Hedges, Frank Loveland, Alan Wilson and Katherine Squires
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Resilience to Stress and Disturbance, and Resistance to *Bromus tectorum* L. Invasion in Cold Desert Shrublands of Western North America
Janice C. Chambers,^{1,2} Melissa A. Bailes,¹ Cynthia S. Brown,¹ Carla D'Antonio,¹ Matthew J. Germino,¹ James B. Grace,¹ David P. Hartnett,¹ Richard E. Miller,¹ and David A. Clark,¹
¹USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Northern Forestry Experiment Station, 2215 North Lincoln Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526, USA; ²Department of Natural Resources, Colorado State University, 1475 Sherman Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526, USA
Abstract
Disturbance resilience in arid and semi-arid ecosystems is critical to their ability to maintain ecosystem structure and function. However, the ability of these systems to resist and recover from disturbance is being challenged by the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and human activities. We examined the resilience and resistance of cold desert shrublands to disturbance and invasion by the exotic grass *Bromus tectorum* L. in the Colorado Desert. We used a combination of field and laboratory experiments to assess the ability of these systems to resist and recover from disturbance and invasion. We found that these systems are highly resilient to disturbance and resistant to invasion by *B. tectorum*. Our results suggest that these systems are able to maintain their structure and function in the face of disturbance and invasion, and that they are able to recover from disturbance and invasion more quickly than other ecosystems. Our results have important implications for the management of these systems and for the prediction of their future resilience and resistance to disturbance and invasion.

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OPEN Ecosystem engineering creates a direct nutritional link between 600-m-deep cold-water coral mounds and surface productivity

Kathrin Schmalzer¹, Jochen Weyer², Armin Rüggeberg¹, Johannes Seifert¹ & Dirk van Oevelen¹

Abstract Cold-water coral (CWC) mounds are important biogenic structures in the deep sea. They are thought to be important for the deep-sea food web, but the exact mechanisms of their impact on the deep-sea food web are still unclear. Here, we use a combination of field observations and a bioenergetic model to show that CWC mounds create a direct nutritional link between the deep-sea and the surface ocean. We found that CWC mounds increase the amount of organic matter available to the deep-sea food web, which in turn increases the amount of organic matter available to the surface ocean. This suggests that CWC mounds play a key role in the deep-sea food web and in the global carbon cycle.

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Cascading Effects of Canopy Opening and Debris Deposition from a Large-Scale Hurricane Experiment in a Tropical Rain Forest

Walter A. Bonilla, Alfredo Gonzalez, D. Juan Lopez, Alexander S. Wilson, and David A. Donnell

Abstract Tropical rain forests are important carbon sinks, but the mechanisms by which they store carbon are still unclear. Here, we use a combination of field observations and a bioenergetic model to show that canopy opening and debris deposition from a large-scale hurricane experiment in a tropical rain forest create a direct nutritional link between the canopy and the surface ocean. We found that canopy opening and debris deposition increase the amount of organic matter available to the surface ocean, which in turn increases the amount of organic matter available to the deep-sea food web. This suggests that canopy opening and debris deposition play a key role in the tropical rain forest food web and in the global carbon cycle.

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