On the efficacy of restoration in stream networks: comments, critiques, and prospective

recommendations

David Murray-Stoker[1,2]

[1]Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602, U.S.A.

[2]Present Address: Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Toronto,

Toronto, ON M5S 3B2, Canada

ORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4774-6948

E-mail: dstoker92@gmail.com

Abstract

Swan and Brown (2017) recently addressed the effects of restoration on stream

communities under the meta-community framework. Using a combination of headwater and

mainstem streams, Swan and Brown (2017) evaluated how position within a stream network

affected the outcome of restoration on invertebrate communities. Ostensibly, their hypotheses

were partially supported as restoration had stronger effects in headwater streams: invertebrate

taxonomic richness was increased and temporal variability decreased in restored reaches;

however, these results were not consistent upon closer scrutiny for both the original paper (Swan

and Brown 2017) and the later erratum (Swan and Brown 2018). Here, I provide a secondary

analysis of the data, with hypotheses and interpretations in the context of stream, meta-

community, and restoration ecology. Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) evaluated the effect of

restoration on sites receiving various combinations of in-channel manipulation and riparian

reforestation treatments. Given the difference in the relative importance of environmental

filtering and dispersal between headwaters and mainstems and the structure of river networks, I

contend that different restoration treatments have differential effects between headwaters and

mainstems. I hypothesized in-channel manipulations would have more consistent effects between

headwaters and mainstems compared to riparian reforestation, and I used this hypothesis to guide

site selection in the re-analysis. I then compared results from the re-analysis to those presented

by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018). I did not find any effects of restoration on local diversity,

spatial dissimilarity, or temporal variability, let alone differential effects of restoration between

headwaters and mainstems; these results are contrary Swan and Brown (2017, 2018), who

reported that restoration increased taxonomic richness, increased spatial dissimilarity, and

decreased temporal variability in restored headwater streams. I demonstrate further that the

statistical tests conducted by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) were invalid and, therefore,

recommend the use of the results presented here. More broadly, I suggest, in agreement with

Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) and a growing body of research, that river and stream restoration

will likely have greater success if a regional approach is taken to designing and implementing

restoration projects.

Keywords: biodiversity, community ecology, freshwater ecology, metacommunity theory, open

science, restoration ecology

Introduction

In a recent study, Swan and Brown (2017) evaluated how restoration affected community diversity in streams through the use of metacommunity theory. Under this framework, local effects are associated with species' niches while regional effects are more associated with dispersal (Leibold et al. 2004). In the context of stream networks, headwaters are isolated patches more likely to be impacted by niches and environmental characteristics and mainstems are well-connected more likely to be affected by dispersal (Heino et al. 2003, Leibold et al. 2004, Grant et al. 2007, Altermatt 2013, Heino 2013). Restoration of stream habitats was therefore expected to have a greater impact on communities in headwaters relative to mainstems (Swan and Brown 2017).

Although Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) noted that restoration techniques can vary in intrusiveness on stream ecosystems, they did not account for this in their experimental design and statistical analyses. Restored streams in their study received various combinations of bank stabilization, in-channel manipulation, and riparian reforestation (i.e. tree planting) treatments, and these treatments were not applied in a consistent or systematic manner (Swan and Brown 2017: Table 2). Swan and Brown (2017) did not set a restoration criterion for site inclusion in their study, instead including all sites regardless of the combination of applied restoration treatments. I suggest that this oversight leads to unnecessary assumptions about the efficacy of restoration by assuming the effects of all treatment combinations are equivalent, and this issue could have been partially resolved a priori by hypothesizing how each treatment would affect headwater and mainstem streams and then setting requirements for site inclusion in the analyses.

I contend that the various restoration treatments differ not only in their overall effects but also if the treatment is applied in headwater or mainstem streams, and, for these reasons, criteria

for site selection could be set. I suggest that bank stabilization and in-channel manipulation

treatments are more likely to have stronger and consistent effects in both headwaters and

mainstems (Muotka and Syrjänen 2007, Miller et al. 2010), while riparian reforestation would

likely have stronger effects in headwater compared to mainstem streams (Vannote et al. 1980,

Rosi-Marshall and Wallace 2002). A similar argument was made by Swan and Brown, though it

was not explicitly noted until the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018). Bank stabilization and in-

channel manipulation can increase bed stability and substrate availability and diversity in both

headwater and mainstem streams (Muotka and Syrjänen 2007, Miller et al. 2010), however, the

effects of riparian reforestation could act on a gradient from headwaters to mainstems. For

example, leaf litter is an important source of habitat and nutrients in headwaters but less so in

mainstems (Vannote et al. 1980, Rosi-Marshall and Wallace 2002). Additionally, the utility of

riparian reforestation on reducing nutrient inputs notwithstanding (Collins et al. 2013), the

effects of riparian reforestation could be stronger in headwater streams because they are isolated

systems, whereas mainstem streams receive flows of water, nutrients, and organisms from many

tributaries (Vannote et al. 1980). Effectively, mainstems are dependent on other tributaries and

any local restoration effects via riparian reforestation could be overwhelmed by incoming flows

from unrestored streams (Wahl et al. 2013).

Here, I present a re-analysis of the data provided by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018). I

hypothesized that stream-channel manipulations would have a more consistent effect between

headwaters and mainstems relative to the effect of riparian reforestation, with stronger effects of

restoration in headwaters relative to mainstems; I used this hypothesis to guide and inform site

selection in my re-analysis. I required sites in the re-analysis to have received both the bank

stabilization and in-channel manipulations treatments (hereafter "revised" sites), although sites

receiving riparian reforestation were also included if they received both the bank stabilization

and in-channel manipulations treatments. I also re-analyzed the full data (hereafter "full" sites) to

determine if any differences, or lack thereof, between the full and revised sites analyses could be

attributed to increased variation in the revised sites due to decreased sample size. Finally, I

compare the interpretation and conclusions from my re-analysis to those in Swan and Brown

(2017) and the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018).

Methods

Sampling Design

97   Swan and Brown (2017) conducted their study in 5 headwater and 8 mainstem streams in

Baltimore County, Maryland, U.S.A. Each stream had a paired structure, where restored and

adjacent, unrestored reaches were sampled; restored and adjacent reaches were separated by < 10

m. The sampling design was explicitly constructed to permit comparisons between paired

restored-adjacent reaches in each of the focal streams. Each of the 13 focal streams was sampled

quarterly in 2011 (spring, summer, and fall) and 2012 (winter; Swan and Brown 2017). The full

sites in the re-analysis included these 13 focal streams, while the revised sites included 9 streams

(4 headwaters and 5 mainstems). In the revised sites subset, 7 of the 9 sites received all three

restoration treatments (i.e. bank stabilization, in-channel manipulation, and riparian

reforestation); 2 of the 4 headwaters and all 5 mainstems received all restoration treatments. In

contrast, 7 of the 13 streams in the full sites received all three restoration treatments: 2 of the 4

headwaters and 5 of the 8 mainstems received all restoration treatments (Table 1).

Statistical Analyses

110   I generally followed the analyses as written by Swan and Brown (2017), with

modifications made when necessary. The three community response variables were local

diversity, spatial dissimilarity, and temporal variation. Local diversity was calculated as

taxonomic richness (i.e. number of different taxa present) and taxonomic diversity (i.e.

Shannon's diversity) and compared using an analysis of variance (ANOVA). The model was

constructed to examine the individual effects of reach (restored or adjacent), order (headwater or

mainstem), and season (spring, summer, fall, and winter) and all two- and three-way interactions,

with individual ANOVAs for richness and diversity; I also fit the full and reduced taxonomic

richness models proposed in the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018) as a separate set of ANOVAs.

Spatial dissimilarity between communities in restored and adjacent reaches for each order-by-

season combination was quantified using the modified Gower index (Anderson et al. 2006) with

a logarithm with a base of 5 on an untransformed abundance matrix. Values of the modified

Gower dissimilarities were then compared using an ANOVA with the individual effects of

season and order as well as their interaction. Temporal variability was measured as the

multivariate dispersion (i.e. mean distance to the centroid) of repeated samples for each stream-

by-reach-by-order combination (Anderson et al. 2006). Distances were calculated in principal

coordinates space after Bray-Curtis dissimilarity was performed on the untransformed abundance

matrix. Temporal variability values were then compared using an ANOVA with the individual

effects of order and reach and their interaction. All ANOVAs were performed for both the full

and revised sites, with stream identity fitted as a random effect in each ANOVA; all ANOVAs

were fitted by restricted maximum likelihood.

Exploratory data analysis was conducted prior to any model fitting to determine if the

data met test assumptions (Zuur et al. 2010). For the full sites analyses, numerical summaries

demonstrated an unbalanced design, with equal representation of restored and unrestored reaches

but a large disparity in the number of samples between headwaters and mainstems for each of the

taxonomic richness and diversity (headwater n = 38, mainstem n = 62), spatial dissimilarity

(headwater n = 19, mainstem = 31), and temporal variation (headwater n = 10, mainstem n = 16)

analyses. Additionally, the assumption of homogeneity of variance was violated for the

taxonomic richness and diversity and the spatial dissimilarity analyses. The unbalanced design

was greatly reduced for the revised sites analyses: taxonomic richness and diversity (headwater n

= 30, mainstem n = 40), spatial dissimilarity (headwater n = 15, mainstem n = 20), and temporal

variation (headwater n = 8, mainstem n = 10); however, the assumption of homogeneity of

variance was still violated. To better meet the assumption of equal variance, taxonomic richness

was *ln*-transformed, taxonomic diversity was square root-transformed, and spatial dissimilarity

was *ln*-transformed for all analyses. Along with using transformations to response variables to

better meet model assumptions, I used Type III sums of squares for evaluating main and

interactive effects of factors included in the ANOVA. Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) used Type

I sums of squares, which are inadequate for unbalanced and multi-factor designs with

interactions between or among factors (Shaw and Mitchell-Olds 1993, Quinn and Keough 2002).

Type III sums of squares are more appropriate than Type I sums of squares because: (1) tests of

main effects are unweighted and unaffected by sample size; and (2) main effects are calculated

after accounting for other main effects and interactions in the model, particularly when

interactions are presented or hypothesized (Quinn and Keough 2002).

Model assumptions were inspected graphically, and significance was considered at $p <$

0.050. I removed the spring sample from the restored reach of site 227 from analyses because

there was no corresponding sample from the adjacent reach, which would have precluded paired

comparisons of restored-adjacent sites; however, I did not remove any sites prior to fitting the

full and reduced model ANOVAs set by Swan and Brown (2018). Additionally, the only

difference between re-analysis of the full and reduced ANOVAs set by Swan and Brown (2018)

was the use of Type III sums of squares instead of Type I sums of squares. Untransformed values

of variables are presented in the results and figures. All analyses were conducted using R version

3.5.3 (R Core Team 2019) with the nlme (version 3.1-139, Pinheiro et al. 2019) and vegan

(version 2.5-4, Oksanen et al. 2019) packages; data and R code are deposited in the figshare

repository (10.6084/m9.figshare.6448010). Given I made necessary modifications to the analyses

written by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018), later comparisons between the re-analysis presented

here and the results presented by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) will only be in terms of

statistical and ecological interpretation and not exact values of test statistics. Additionally, as the

bank stabilization and in-channel manipulations were the treatments of interest for the re-

analysis, later discussion of restoration will be restricted to these treatments (hereafter "channel

manipulations") unless riparian reforestation is explicitly stated. Due to the restrictions of the

study design and re-analysis, riparian reforestation was a confounding treatment as bank

stabilization and in-channel manipulations were the focal treatments.

To facilitate discussion among the initial study (Swan and Brown 2017), erratum (Swan

and Brown 2018), and this re-analysis, effect sizes were calculated for each factor and interaction

in the ANOVA models. Local diversity and temporal variability effect sizes were calculated for

the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018) and full and reduced models in this re-analysis. Spatial

dissimilarity effect sizes were calculated for the initial study (Swan and Brown 2017) and the full

and reduced models in this re-analysis; effect sizes were not calculated for local diversity and

temporal variability of the initial study (Swan and Brown 2017) as results were later corrected in

the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018), and it would be illogical to make comparisons to

deprecated analyses. All effect sizes were calculated as partial η^2 (Cohen 1973):

$$\eta = \frac{df_{between} \times F}{df_{between} \times F + df_{within}}$$

181   where $df_{between}$ is the degrees of freedom associated with the factor or interaction, F is the F

182   statistic associated with the factor or interaction, and df_{within} is the degrees of freedom associated

183   with the residual error. Effect sizes were classified as small = 0.01, medium = 0.06, and large =

184   0.14 (Cohen 1973).

185   **Results & Discussion**

186   There were no main or interactive effects of season, order, or reach on taxonomic

richness for either the full or revised sites analyses (Table 2, Figure 1). The full model of

taxonomic richness proposed in the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018) did not show any main or

interactive effects of season, order, or reach (Table 3); however, the reduced model of taxonomic

richness demonstrated an interaction between order and season ($F_{3, 80} = 4.105$, $p = 0.009$) and

significant main effects of season ($F_{3, 80} = 4.358$, $p = 0.007$) and reach ($F_{1, 80} = 4.844$, $p = 0.031$).

In contrast to taxonomic richness, taxonomic diversity varied by season for the full ($F_{3, 80} =$

12.267, $p < 0.001$) and revised ($F_{3, 80} = 10.999$, $p < 0.001$) sites (Table 2, Figure 2). There were

no further main or interactive effects of season, order, or reach on taxonomic diversity for either

the full or revised sites (Table 2, Figure 2). Spatial dissimilarity did not vary by any of the main

or interactive effects of season and order for both the full and revised sites (Table 1, Figure 3).

Additionally, temporal variation did not vary by the main effects of or interaction between reach

and order for the full and revised sites (Table 2, Figure 4).

199   Analyses by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) overestimated some effect sizes for the local

diversity and spatial dissimilarity analyses (Table 4). Large effect sizes were observed for season

in the local diversity ($\eta^2 = 0.1405$) and spatial dissimilarity analyses ($\eta^2 = 0.1817$) by Swan and

Brown (2017, 2018), but there was a medium effect size for season for the full ($\eta^2 = 0.0756$) and

revised ($\eta^2 = 0.0826$) sites in the re-analysis of local diversity. A medium effect size for season

was observed for the full sites ($\eta^2 = 0.0999$) and a small effect size was observed for the revised

sites ($\eta^2 = 0.0599$) for the spatial dissimilarity analyses. Similar effect sizes for order for the

local diversity analyses were observed for the Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) analyses ($\eta^2 =$

0.1255) and the full sites ($\eta^2 = 0.1143$) analysis, but the revised sites analysis had a negligible

effect size for order ($\eta^2 = 0.0006$). Noticeably, equivalent and small effect sizes of reach were

observed for the local diversity analyses across in the re-analysis but not in the original study

(Swan and Brown 2017, 2018; Table 4). In contrast to local diversity and spatial dissimilarity,

Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) frequently underestimated effect sizes for the temporal variability

analyses (Table 3). A medium effect size for order ($\eta^2 = 0.1203$) and large effect sizes for reach

and the order-by-reach interaction were observed in the revised sites analysis (reach $\eta^2 = 0.2779$,

order-by-reach $\eta^2 = 0.4026$), with the largest effect size from all analyses and community

diversity metrics derived from the order-by-reach interaction in the revised sites analysis ($\eta^2 =$

0.4026). Although this effect was not statistically significant ($p = 0.066$), it suggests that channel

manipulation treatments could have an effect that is dependent on network position, but the

statistical power was insufficient.

Differences in significant main effects or interactions within the full and revised sites in

the re-analysis did not seem to be the result of increased variation in the revised sites. In fact,

variance, as measured by 95% confidence intervals, was either similar or even reduced for each

of local diversity, spatial dissimilarity, and temporal variability for the revised sites compared to

the full sites (Figures 1-4). In general, local diversity more frequently increased in headwaters

relative to mainstems (Figure 5), and this trend was consistent for both the full (Figure 5A and

5B) and revised (Figure 5C and 5D) sites. Taken together, it is unlikely that that revised sites

analysis was unable to detect effects due to increased variation and more likely due to reduced

statistical power associated with a smaller sample size or the true lack of an effect of channel

manipulations on different facets of biodiversity in this system.

Effectiveness of Local Restoration

I hypothesized that channel manipulations would have stronger effects in headwaters

relative to mainstems. As there were no significant effects of channel manipulations on any of

the community metrics between headwaters and mainstems, this hypothesis could be invalid or,

at a minimum, revised and re-tested in channel manipulations experiments. I was unable to

directly test this hypothesis because I was re-analyzing data from a previous study and the

experimental design precluded any test to isolate the effects; however, the hypothesis was

intended to guide criteria for site selection and reduce variation in restoration treatments among

sites and not to necessarily or strictly compare the effects channel manipulations and riparian

reforestation treatments on biodiversity in restored streams. Despite these limitations, there is

some evidence of a large effect in the revised sites on temporal variation in community

composition, with this effect dependent on network position. The re-analysis was lacking

sufficient statistical power to combine statistical significance with ecological relevance,

potentially due to inconsistencies in applied restoration treatments. Only the mainstem stream

group received all channel manipulation and riparian reforestation treatments, while the riparian

reforestation treatment was applied to half headwater stream group (2/4 streams; Table 1). As

headwater streams are strongly linked to allochthonous inputs and leaf litter subsidies from the

riparian forest for community structure (Wallace et al. 1997), the lack of riparian reforestation to

all streams in the headwater group could have reduced any observable recovery of biodiversity.

More consistent application of all restoration treatments across both headwater and mainstem

streams could provide the conditions for more effective restoration and recovery of stream

ecosystems, measured by local diversity, spatial dissimilarity, and temporal variation. Based on

the evidence from this re-analysis, further evaluation of this interactive effect of restoration and

network position on temporal variability could be an efficacious avenue for bridging

metacommunity ecology and restoration efforts in rivers and streams and increasing positive

biodiversity outcomes.

Regarding evidence for stream-channel manipulations and other treatments for effective

restoration, previous research suggests local habitat manipulations are ineffective for structuring

communities and increasing biodiversity (Palmer et al. 2010). An emerging hypothesis is that

local factors, such as habitat complexity and water quality, are overwhelmed by regional factors,

such as dispersal and position within the larger network (Heino 2013, Tonkin et al. 2014). Given

channel manipulations did not have a statistically-significant effect on any diversity measure of

communities in either headwaters or mainstems and that the majority of effect sizes were small-

to-medium (Table 3), this could suggest either channel manipulations were either wholly

inadequate for both headwaters and mainstems or that the larger network and regional species

pool were already degraded (Sundermann et al. 2011), overwhelming any mitigating effects of

channel manipulations.

Restoration Ecology & Experimental Design

Restoration of the streams was done in isolation of the study design and prior to data

collection, resulting in variation in the types of treatments applied to the streams (Swan and

Brown 2017). Although Swan and Brown (2017) noted this limitation of their study, they did not

acknowledge they could have better controlled for this variation by setting strict criteria for site

selection and inclusion, which informed my hypothesis and was the foundation for my re-

analysis. This concern was briefly acknowledged in the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018), where

the data quality control process removed sites if they only received riparian reforestation

treatments without at least one of either the bank stabilization or in-channel manipulation

treatments; however, Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) proceeded to analyze data from sites

receiving any resulting combination of restoration treatments, despite suggesting that in-stream

modification treatments would have stronger effects on communities relative to riparian

reforestation (Swan and Brown 2018). Setting a more stringent criterion for site inclusion, as was

done in this re-analysis of the revised sites, would have reduced the variation in the applied

restoration treatments and provided a more balanced experimental design.

The inconsistent application of restoration treatments prohibited a robust evaluation that

could have been possible with a factorial experiment; therefore, the singular and interactive

effects of the restoration treatments in the study system remain untested. This further complicates

the indiscriminate usage of "restoration" by Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) as the underlying

mechanism of restoration on the stream invertebrate communities remains an unknown quantity.

Identifying how individual and combinations of restoration treatments affect stream communities

would provide valuable insight for maximizing the effectiveness of restoration efforts. In the

absence of this knowledge, reducing the variation in which restoration treatments were applied to

the streams, as done with revised sites analysis, arguably would have been a better avenue.

Additionally, restoration treatments were not applied to all sites at the same time, which could

allow for further confounding variation among sites. Previous research has demonstrated mixed

results of the effects of time since restoration on biodiversity responses (Miller et al. 2010,

Orzetti et al. 2010, Louhi et al. 2011), but it is hypothesized that more time allows for increased

colonization of restored habitats and for restoration treatments (e.g. riparian reforestation) to

have an impact on the system (Lake et al. 2007, Palmer et al. 2014). Knowledge of the effects of

restoration treatments, both in isolation and in combination, and incorporating time since

restoration in evaluations of community responses to restoration would likely improve future

studies and experiments.

Statistical Inconsistencies

Channel manipulations were not found to have a significant effect on local diversity,

spatial dissimilarity, or temporal variability of stream invertebrate communities between paired

restored and unrestored reaches in headwaters and mainstems. These results presented here, not

exact values of test statistics but in terms of interpretation, contradict the results presented in the

original paper (Swan and Brown 2017) and in the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018; Table 3).

This is concerning, as any data management and analytical errors in the original paper were

supposedly resolved in the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018); however, the discrepancies can be

partially explained by the erroneous reporting and implementation of statistical analyses. First,

and as was noted above, Swan and Brown (2017, 2018) analyzed an unbalanced design with

unequal variance using an ANOVA with Type I sums of squares, when transformations to

response variables were necessary to better meet test assumptions and Type III sums of squares

were more appropriate for investigating the main and interactive effects (Shaw and Mitchell-

Olds 1993, Quinn and Keough 2002). Second, the fitting of the random effects in the ANOVAs

was incorrect. Swan and Brown (2018) reported fitting stream identity as a random effect. With

the R code provided with the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018: Supporting Information), each

site-by-reach combination was fitted as a random effect, despite adjacent and restored reaches

being separated by < 10 m (Swan and Brown 2017). Fitting stream identity alone would have

been a more appropriate fitting of a random effect that reflected the non-independence of the

reaches at such small spatial scales, and, importantly, an accurate implementation of the written

methods. Additionally, with the evidence available, only the local diversity analysis had a

random effect fitted with the model, despite a random effect being applicable to all analyses

based on the experimental design. Third, removal of the restored site without a paired

observation is necessary for the fundamental goal of the study: comparing community diversity

between paired restored and adjacent reaches across headwater and mainstem streams. Without

removing the site, comparisons would be made to an unpaired reach, violating the experimental

design and central goal of the study.

Finally, there was disagreement between the reported analytical procedure and what was

actually conducted when analyzing temporal variability. Temporal variability was reportedly

quantified as the mean distance to the group centroid (Anderson et al. 2006) after applying a

Bray-Curtis dissimilarity index on an untransformed abundance matrix (Swan and Brown 2017).

Results presented in the erratum were actually derived from the spatial median after a Jaccard

index was applied to a presence-absence matrix (Swan and Brown 2018: Supporting

Information); in the initial study, Swan and Brown (2017) stated that a Jaccard index applied to a

presence-absence matrix would produce stronger results than a Bray-Curtis index applied to an

abundance matrix. No random effect of stream identity was fitted for this ANOVA, although it

would have been appropriate given the study design (Quinn and Keough 2002). Most

importantly, none of the changes to the analytical procedure were reported in the erratum, and

these alterations were only found upon evaluation of the provided R code (Swan and Brown

2018: Supporting Information). Without consulting the supporting information or if no R code

was provided, it would have been assumed the results presented in the erratum (Swan and Brown

2018) were derived from the analytical procedure described in the original study (Swan and

Brown 2017), just with the corrected dataset; this assumption would have been incorrect.

Ecological Implications & Prospective Suggestions

Based on my re-analysis, I have concluded that, given channel manipulations had no

effect on any community diversity metric, local restoration of streams can be ineffective if (1)

both dispersal and habitat quality are structuring biodiversity (Heino et al. 2015, Smith et al.

2015, Downes et al. 2017) and (2) the larger regional community is already degraded

(Sundermann et al. 2011). Future research projects should experimentally- and factorially-

manipulate different environmental factors to evaluate the relative impact and effectiveness of

restoration techniques, which could allow for the identification of how in-stream and riparian

reforestation treatments affect stream biodiversity. More broadly, restoration of individual

reaches of rivers and streams might be insufficient to reach objectives of restoration projects

(Bernhardt and Palmer 2011, Sundermann et al. 2011). Streams and rivers will likely have better

restoration success if a regional approach is taken (Bernhardt and Palmer 2011), whereby

heterogeneity among rivers and streams in ecological, geographic, and spatial context is

incorporated (Palmer et al. 2010, 2014, Booth et al. 2016). In this respect, I agree with Swan and

Brown (2017, 2018), along with previous research, that local manipulations are insufficient, and

a regional perspective is needed for more effective restoration in rivers and streams.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful for the comments and discussion provided by Karl Cottenie, Mariana Perez

Rocha, and Eric Harvey that greatly improved the quality of the manuscript.

Literature Cited

Altermatt, F. 2013. Diversity in riverine metacommunities: A network perspective. Aquatic

Ecology 47:365–377.

Anderson, M. J., K. E. Ellingsen, and B. H. McArdle. 2006. Multivariate dispersion as a measure

of beta diversity. Ecology Letters 9:683-693.

Bernhardt, E. S., and M. A. Palmer. 2011. River restoration: the fuzzy logic of repairing reaches

to reverse catchment scale degradation. Ecological Applications 21:1926–1931.

Booth, D. B., A. H. Roy, B. Smith, and K. A. Capps. 2016. Global perspectives on the urban

stream syndrome. Freshwater Science 35:412–420.

Cohen, J. 1973. Eta-Squared and Partial Eta-Squared in Fixed Factor Anova Designs.

Educational and Psychological Measurement 33:107–112.

Collins, K. E., C. Doscher, H. G. Rennie, and J. G. Ross. 2013. The effectiveness of riparian

'restoration' on water quality: A case study of lowland streams in Canterbury, New

Zealand. Restoration Ecology 21:40-48.

Downes, B. J., J. Lancaster, A. Glaister, and W. D. Bovill. 2017. A fresh approach reveals how

dispersal shapes metacommunity structure in a human-altered landscape. Journal of

Applied Ecology 54:588–598.

Grant, E. H. C., W. H. Lowe, and W. F. Fagan. 2007. Living in the branches: Population

dynamics and ecological processes in dendritic networks. Ecology Letters 10:165–175.

Heino, J. 2013. Does dispersal ability affect the relative importance of environmental control and

spatial structuring of littoral macroinvertebrate communities? Oecologia 171:971–980.

Heino, J., A. S. Melo, T. Siqueira, J. Soininen, S. Valanko, and L. M. Bini. 2015.

Metacommunity organisation, spatial extent and dispersal in aquatic systems: Patterns,

processes and prospects. Freshwater Biology 60:845–869.

Heino, J., T. Muotka, and R. Paavola. 2003. Determinants of macroinvertebrate diversity in

386  headwater streams: Regional and local influences. Journal of Animal Ecology 72:425–

387  434.

388 Lake, P. S., N. Bond, and P. Reich. 2007. Linking ecological theory with stream restoration.

389  Freshwater Biology 52:597–615.

390 Leibold, M. A., M. Holyoak, N. Mouquet, P. Amarasekare, J. M. Chase, M. F. Hoopes, R. D.

391  Holt, J. B. Shurin, R. Law, D. Tilman, M. Loreau, and A. Gonzalez. 2004. The

392  metacommunity concept: a framework for multi-scale community ecology. Ecology

393  Letters 7:601–613.

394 Louhi, P., H. Mykrä, R. Paavola, A. Huusko, T. Vehanen, A. Mäki-Petäys, and T. Muotka. 2011.

395  Twenty years of stream restoration in Finland: little response by benthic

396  macroinvertebrate communities. Ecological Applications 21:1950–1961.

397 Miller, S. W., P. Budy, and J. C. Schmidt. 2010. Quantifying macroinvertebrate responses to in-

398  stream habitat restoration: applications of meta-analysis to river restoration. Restoration

399  Ecology 18:8–19.

400 Muotka, T., and J. Syrjänen. 2007. Changes in habitat structure, benthic invertebrate diversity,

401  trout populations and ecosystem processes in restored forest streams: a boreal

402  perspective. Freshwater Biology 52:724–737.

403 Oksanen, J., F. G. Blanchet, M. Friendly, R. Kindt, P.Legendre, D. McGlinn, P. R. Minchin, R.

404  B. O'Hara, G. L. Simpson, P. Solymos, M. H. H. Stevens, E. Szoecs, and H. Wagner.

405  2019. vegan: Community Ecology Package. R package version 2.5-4. <https://CRAN.R-

406  project.org/package=vegan>

407   Orzetti, L. L., R. C. Jones, and R. F. Murphy. 2010. Stream Condition in Piedmont Streams with

408   Restored Riparian Buffers in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed1. Journal of the American

409   Water Resources Association 46:473–485.

410   Palmer, M. A., H. L. Menninger, and E. Bernhardt. 2010. River restoration, habitat heterogeneity

411   and biodiversity: A failure of theory or practice? Freshwater Biology 55:205-222.

412   Palmer, M. A., K. L. Hondula, and B. J. Koch. 2014. Ecological restoration of streams and

413   rivers: shifting strategies and shifting goals. Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and

414   Systematics 45:247–269.

415   Pinheiro J., D. Bates, S. DebRoy, D. Sarkar, and R Core Team. 2019. nlme: Linear and

416   Nonlinear Mixed Effects Models. R package version 3.1-139. <https://CRAN.R-

417   project.org/package=nlme>

418   Quinn, G. P., and M. J. Keough. 2002. Experimental design and data analysis for biologists.

419   Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

420   R Development Core Team. 2019. R: a language and environment for statistical computing. R

421   Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria. <https://cran.r-project.org/>

422   Rosi-Marshall, E. J., and J. B. Wallace. 2002. Invertebrate food webs along a stream resource

423   gradient. Freshwater Biology 47:129-141.

424   Shaw, R. G., and T. Mitchell-Olds. 1993. ANOVA for unbalanced data: an overview. Ecology

425   74:1638–1645.

426   Smith, R. F., P. D. Venugopal, M. E. Baker, and W. O. Lamp. 2015. Habitat filtering and adult

427   dispersal determine the taxonomic composition of stream insects in an urbanizing

428   landscape. Freshwater Biology 60:1740–1754.

Sundermann, A., S. Stoll, and P. Haase. 2011. River restoration success depends on the species

pool of the immediate surroundings. Ecological Applications 21:1962-1971.

Swan, C. M., and B. L. Brown. 2017. Metacommunity theory meets restoration: isolation may

mediate how ecological communities respond to stream restoration. Ecological

Applications 27:2209-2219.

Swan, C. M., and B. L. Brown. 2018. Erratum for: Metacommunity theory meets restoration:

isolation may mediate how ecological communities respond to stream restoration.

Ecological Applications 28:1370–1371.

Tonkin, J. D., S. Stoll, A. Sundermann, and P. Haase. 2014. Dispersal distance and the pool of

taxa, but not barriers, determine the colonisation of restored river reaches by benthic

invertebrates. Freshwater Biology 59:1843-1855.

Vannote, R. L., G. W. Minshall, K. W. Cummins, J. R. Sedell, and C. E. Cushing. 1980. The

river continuum concept. Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences 37:130-

137.

Wahl, C. M., A. Neils, and D. Hooper. 2013. Impacts of land use at the catchment scale constrain

the habitat benefits of stream riparian buffers. Freshwater Biology 58:2310–2324.

Zuur, A. F., E. N. Ieno, and C. S. Elphick. 2010. A protocol for data exploration to avoid

common statistical problems. Methods in Ecology and Evolution 1:3–14.

Tables

Table 1: Schematic of restoration treatments applied to each stream. Shaded cells represent the restoration treatments that were applied to each stream, with full sites in blue and revised sites in orange. Sites excluded in the revised sites analysis are denoted with N/A.

Stream	Full Sites			Revised Sites		
	Bank Stabilization	In-Channel Manipulation	Riparian Reforestation	Bank Stabilization	In-Channel Manipulation	Riparian Reforestation
Headwaters						
24		■	■	N/A	N/A	N/A
191	■	■		■	■	
227	■	■	■	■	■	■
265	■	■	■	■	■	■
SR	■	■		■	■	
Mainstems						
18	■	■	■	■	■	■
19	■	■	■	■	■	■
21	■			N/A	N/A	N/A
179	■			N/A	N/A	N/A
196	■			N/A	N/A	N/A
222	■	■	■	■	■	■
289	■	■	■	■	■	■
MB	■	■	■	■	■	■

452   Table 2: ANOVA results for taxonomic richness, taxonomic diversity, spatial dissimilarity, and

453   temporal variability. Models were fitted using restricted maximum likelihood and with Type III

454   sums of squares for estimating main and interactive effects of factors.

Source of Variation	Full Sites				Revised Sites			
	numDF	denDF	F	*p*	numDF	denDF	F	*p*
Taxonomic Richness								
Season	3	73	1.991	0.123	3	47	1.411	0.251
Order	1	11	1.419	0.259	1	7	0.004	0.951
Reach	1	73	0.730	0.396	1	47	0.398	0.531
Season x Order	3	73	1.641	0.187	3	47	0.553	0.649
Season x Reach	3	73	0.045	0.987	3	47	0.143	0.934
Order x Reach	1	73	0.308	0.581	1	47	1.375	0.247
Season x Order x Reach	3	73	0.083	0.969	3	47	0.149	0.930
Taxonomic Diversity								
Season	3	73	12.267	< 0.001	3	47	10.999	< 0.001
Order	1	11	2.073	0.178	1	7	0.253	0.630
Reach	1	73	0.088	0.768	1	47	0.085	0.772
Season x Order	3	73	2.477	0.068	3	47	1.272	0.295
Season x Reach	3	73	0.323	0.809	3	47	0.284	0.837
Order x Reach	1	73	0.139	0.710	1	47	0.917	0.343
Season x Order x Reach	3	73	0.313	0.816	3	47	0.149	0.930
Spatial Dissimilarity								
Season	3	31	1.146	0.346	3	20	0.425	0.737
Order	1	11	0.062	0.808	1	7	0.007	0.934
Season x Order	3	31	1.356	0.275	3	20	0.306	0.821
Temporal Variability								
Order	1	11	0.030	0.866	1	7	0.957	0.361
Reach	1	11	1.906	0.195	1	7	2.693	0.145
Order x Reach	1	11	2.054	0.180	1	7	4.718	0.066

456   Table 3: ANOVA results for the full and reduced models of taxonomic richness proposed by

457   Swan and Brown (2017, 2018). Models were fitted using restricted maximum likelihood and

458   with Type III sums of squares for estimating main and interactive effects of factors. The unpaired

459   sample was not removed from the data prior to fitting the full and reduced model ANOVAs.

Source of Variation	Full Model				Reduced Model			
	numDF	denDF	F	p	numDF	denDF	F	p
Season	3	74	2.478	0.068	3	80	4.360	0.007
Order	1	11	0.925	0.357	1	11	1.579	0.235
Reach	1	74	1.409	0.239	1	80	4.844	0.031
Season x Order	3	74	2.359	0.078	3	80	4.105	0.009
Season x Reach	3	74	0.152	0.928	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Order x Reach	1	74	0.979	0.326	1	80	3.530	0.064
Season x Order x Reach	3	74	0.071	0.976	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

460   Note: N/A indicates a factor or interaction that was removed in the reduced model.

Table 4: Comparison of ANOVA results and effect sizes (η^2) between the initial study (Swan and Brown 2017), the erratum (Swan and Brown 2018), and if results are consistent upon re-analysis in the full (Full) or revised (Revised) sites analyses. Support is denoted as: Yes = consistent with both the initial study and the erratum; No = inconsistent with both the initial study and erratum; NC = no comparisons can be made as the factor or interaction is missing from the previous analysis. Spatial dissimilarity was not re-analyzed in the erratum, so results are only provided for the initial study. Bold values in the Supported column indicate differences in statistical significance between the initial study and/or erratum and the re-analysis.

Source of Variation	Swan and Brown 2017		Swan and Brown 2018		Full Sites		Revised Sites		Supported	
	p	η^2	p	η^2	p	η^2	p	η^2	Full	Revised
Local Diversity										
Season	NULL	NULL	< 0.001	0.1405	0.123	0.0756	0.251	0.0826	**No**	**No**
Order	NULL	NULL	0.18	0.1255	0.259	0.1143	0.951	0.0006	Yes	Yes
Reach	NULL	NULL	0.22	0.0571	0.396	0.0099	0.531	0.0084	Yes	Yes
Season x Order	NULL	NULL	0.086	0.1334	0.187	0.0632	0.649	0.0341	**No**	**No**
Season x Reach	NULL	NULL	N/A	N/A	0.987	0.0018	0.934	0.0091	NC	NC
Order x Reach	NULL	NULL	0.064	0.0423	0.581	0.0042	0.247	0.0284	Yes	Yes
Season x Order x Reach	NULL	NULL	N/A	N/A	0.969	0.0034	0.930	0.0094	NC	NC
Spatial Dissimilarity										
Season	0.015	0.1817	N/A	N/A	0.346	0.0999	0.361	0.0599	**No**	**No**
Order	0.022	0.0972	N/A	N/A	0.808	0.0056	0.145	0.0011	**No**	**No**
Season x Order	0.220	0.0796	N/A	N/A	0.275	0.1160	0.066	0.0439	Yes	Yes
Temporal Variability										
Order	NULL	NULL	0.36	0.0385	0.866	0.0027	0.361	0.1203	Yes	Yes
Reach	NULL	NULL	0.095	0.1214	0.195	0.1477	0.145	0.2779	Yes	Yes
Order x Reach	NULL	NULL	0.020	0.2234	0.180	0.1573	0.066	0.4026	**No**	**No**

Note: N/A indicates a factor or interaction that was removed in the reduced model or not analyzed by Swan and Brown (2018). NULL indicates a deprecated *p*-value and an effect size that was not calculated as the model was corrected by Swan and Brown (2018).

Figures

Figure 1: Plots of taxonomic richness in headwaters (A and C) and mainstems (B and D).

Taxonomic richness is reported for restored (triangles) and adjacent (circles) sites; values from

the full sites are reported in black (A and B), while those from the revised sites are reported in

grey (C and D). Points represent mean ± 95% CI.

Figure 2: Plots of taxonomic diversity, calculated as Shannon's diversity, in headwaters (A and

C) and mainstems (B and D). Taxonomic diversity is reported for restored (triangles) and

adjacent (circles) sites; values from the full sites are reported in black (A and B), while those

from the revised sites are reported in grey (C and D). Points represent mean ± 95% CI.

Figure 3: Plots of spatial dissimilarity between paired restored and adjacent reaches. Estimates are reported for headwaters (HW, circles) and mainstems (MS, triangles); values from the full sites are reported in black (A), while those from the revised sites are reported in grey (B). Points represent mean ± 95% CI.

Figure 4: Plots of temporal variability. Estimates are reported for headwaters (HW, circles) and mainstems (MS, triangles); values from the full sites are reported in black (A), while those from the revised sites are reported in grey (B). Points represent mean ± 95% CI.

Figure 5: Plots of taxonomic richness (A and C) and diversity (B and D) for restored and

adjacent reaches of each site. Lines connect values for each site. Values from the full sites are

reported in black (A and B), while values from the revised sites are reported in grey (C and D).

Points represent the mean taxonomic richness or diversity.