BIODIVERSITY IN LAND–INLAND WATER ECOTONES

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### 1. WHY STUDY BIODIVERSITY IN LAND–INLAND WATER ECOTONES?

*Jean-Bernard Lachavanne*

- The erosion of biodiversity — a major problem facing humanity  
  - A worldwide concern  
  - The challenges to humanity  
  - A difficult challenge to take up  
- About land–inland water ecotones  
  - What is a land–inland water ecotone?  
  - Ecotone — an ambiguous concept  
  - Toward a hierarchical application of the ecotone concept  
- Importance of land–inland water ecotones for the conservation of biodiversity  
  - Biodiversity and land–inland water ecotones  
  - Threats to the biodiversity of land–inland water ecotones  
- The land–inland water ecotone: a life-sized laboratory for studying the patterns and regulating factors of biodiversity  
  - Land–inland water ecotones have to receive more attention in the future  
  - Key biodiversity-related questions  
- Objectives of this book  
- Acknowledgements  
- References  

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*Ramon Margalef*

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*Ewa Pieczyńska and Maciej Zalewski*

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