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Effects of Habitat Destruction on seasonal floods and Management in River Basin: A Case Study of Zarrin Gol River

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Abstract

Nature is always at the risk of human activity and natural injury and damages. Flooding is one of those natural disasters that causes damage in nature. This research in the Zarin-Gol River basin has a geographic position of 54° 43' 40" to 55° 11' 36" E and the latitude 36° 43' 30" to 37° 8' 44" using the stations registered in the summer of 2017 in order to achieve the process of change (during field operations) and the cause of the flood. The results of this study showed that the highest destructive flood in the Zarin-Gol basin in Aliabad-Katoul city was reported in August, summer. The maximum width is 80 meters in the upper area of the river and is dominated by bedrock. Also, the percentage of river marginal vegetation cover after the flood has decreased dramatically. Reduction of total annual rainfall and the occurrence of long-term droughts, increase in maximum annual precipitation and its occurrence in unusual season in August, the presence of tributary with a steep slope, conversion of forest and rangeland area to dry land, excessive livestock and blockage of bridges are due to being small of natural and human factors that are effective in flood events in this area. In general, these factors caused the destruction of the natural habitat of natives living in the river and reduced biodiversity or destroyed them.

Keywords: Ecological Rehabilitation, Flood, Habitat Degradation, Zarin-Gol River Basin