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Nota di contenuto	Executive summary -- Introduction -- Methods -- Study design and sampling methods -- Section I. assessment of sampling design -- Section II. insect community composition -- Section III. insect phenology -- Management implications and future directions -- References cited.

In this study, the U.S. Geological Survey investigated the use of insects as bioindicators of climate change in sagebrush steppe shrublands and grasslands in the Upper Columbia Basin. The research was conducted in the Stinkingwater and Pueblo mountain ranges in eastern Oregon on lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. We used a "space-for-time" sampling design that related insect communities to climate and weather along elevation gradients. Overall, our interpretation of these patterns is that insect communities respond positively and negatively to weather and local vegetation more than to long-term climate. Given increasing variability in weather and high probability of extreme weather events, insect communities in sagebrush steppe also may experience considerable fluctuations in composition and abundance, as well as phenology. These findings have implications for many ecosystem services, including pollination, decomposition, and food resources for predatory birds and other vertebrates.
