

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910711817003321
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Titolo	Insect community responses to climate and weather across elevation gradients in the Sagebrush Steppe, eastern Oregon / / by David S. Pilliod and Ashley T. Rohde
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Reston, Virginia : , : U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, , 2016
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (vi, 50 pages) : color illustrations, color maps
Collana	Open-file report ; ; 2016-1183
Soggetti	Sagebrush steppe ecology - Oregon Insect populations - Oregon Insect-plant relationships - Oregon Insects - Climatic factors - Oregon Insects - Effect of altitude on - Oregon Public lands - Oregon - Management Sagebrush steppe ecology Insect populations Insect-plant relationships Insects - Effect of altitude on Climatic changes Public lands - Management Eastern Oregon
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	"Prepared in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management under Interagency Agreement L10PG00804 for the project: Forecasting Insect Community Responses to Changes in Land Management and Climate in Upper Basin Sagebrush Steppe."
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (pages 47-50).
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.

Sommario/riassunto

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.
