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ONLINE ISSN : 1882-4897 PRINT ISSN : 0021-5104

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## Japanese Journal of Limnology (Rikusuigaku Zasshi)

Vol. 67 (2006), No. 3 pp.235-244

[PDF (519K)] [References]

## **Biogeochemical model in forest ecosystem; Application and problem of PnET model**

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(Received June 16, 2005) (Accepted April 3, 2006)

## Abstract

Biogeochemical processes are closely related to ecosystem functioning and the change in stream chemistry against various environmental changes. A process-based model that replicates the interaction between biotic and abiotic factors is a powerful research tool in improving our understanding the environmental drivers of temporal and spatial fluctuations in biogeochemical cycling and predicting future changes in ecosystem functioning. In this paper, we review the general concepts, structure and applications of the existing processbased model, FOREST-BGC, CENTURY, TEM and PnET. We applied the PnET-CN model in a natural forest watershed in northern Hokkaido, Japan to assess the performance of the model and the problems encountered in improving its application. The PnET model is a generalized, lumped model based on the physiological processes of photosynthesis and evapotranspiration. Predicted seasonality in stream nitrate concentrations using the PnET-CN model was in general agreement with the observed values in Uryu Experimental Forest, Hokkaido University, despite a minor over-prediction during the winter and underprediction in the non-snowy period. Analysis of the model's structure and validation suggested the need for modifications, including (i) the accumulation and melting process of atmospheric nitrogen deposition in the snowpack, and (ii) the effect of hydrological processes on the ground.

Key Words: <u>nutrient cycling</u>, <u>stream chemistry</u>, <u>simulation model</u>, <u>process-based model</u>, <u>carbon and nitrogen dynamics</u>

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To cite this article:

Hideaki SHIBATA, Nobuhito OHTE, Fuyuki SATOH and Takahito YOSHIOKA (2006): Biogeochemical model in forest ecosystem; Application and problem of PnET model . Japanese Journal of Limnology (Rikusuigaku Zasshi), 67: 235-244 .

doi:10.3739/rikusui.67.235

JOI JST.JSTAGE/rikusui/67.235

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