ORGANIC POLLUTION OF STREAMS DEPENDS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN CZECH REPUBLIC

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The relationship between economic development and stream water quality in the Czech Republic between 1975 and 2019 was assessed based on an Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC) model using two main organic pollution indicators: Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) and Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD). By including a consolidated time series of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), it was possible to apply the EKC over a ca. 15-year period covering both the socialist economy and the period following its transition to a market economy. The results show that, aside from the last five years, development of both BOD and COD quantity decreased consistently. Future research using EKC models and other methodological approaches on different pollutants and in other countries will contribute to both a better understanding of the EKC model itself, including the economic and social preconditions for its validity, and its theoretical context.