

Global Lake Census and Carbon Accumulation

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| British Columbia | Canada



- Current census of the world's lakes and reservoirs and map their size and spatial distribution
- Estimate carbon fluxes
- Establish the baseline form monitoring changes to lakes globally

What do we know?

- Carbon accumulated ~ 19 to 27 PgC/ yr (Pajunen, 2000) Kortelainen et al., 2004
- → Second largest pool of C after peatlands
- Others (Einselle et al., 2002) ~ up to 70 Tg/yr
- \rightarrow 25% as much as oceans

What do we know?

• Smaller lakes accumulate C faster (Pajunen, 2000)



 Lake size changes due to climate change: C release (Siberia) (Smith, et al., 2005), Science.

Methodology development

JERS-1 mosaic



Shorelines: NWT Canada Lakes > 10km²



Results



Results



(Pajunen, 2000)

Results





- Good for lakes > 0.1 km²
- Problems to define area of small lakes: < 0.1 km²

mixing problems

50 m will help, but need fine res to calibrate

- Extrapolation: Field validation
- Field data: C accumulation
- SRTM
- high res JERS-1 for 15 years comparison





Telmer and Costa (in press), Journal of Aquatic Conservation

Thank you

