



wasser
cluster
lunz

WasserCluster Lunz - Biologische Station GmbH
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WasserCluster Lunz is a non-profit research center shared to equal amounts by the University of Vienna, the University of Natural Resources and Life Science Vienna and the Danube University Krems. WCL is financially supported by a partnership with the provincial government of Lower Austria and the municipality of Vienna.

The research center was founded in 2006 to pursue basic and applied research on aquatic ecosystems around Lake Lunz and at various other sites. Beside field studies, experimental work in the laboratory and in specifically developed outdoor constructions are also in the focus of our research. Numerous cooperations with partner universities in Austria and abroad enable to work on current scientific problems of aquatic ecosystem research at the highest level. Furthermore, WCL is an important centre for university teaching, postgraduate and international education.

The 4 working groups

AquaScale

Group leader: Robert Ptacnik



Research areas:

- Experimental plankton ecology
- Mixotrophy in phytoplankton
- Biodiversity and ecosystem functioning relationships
- Macroecology & biogeography



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BIGER

Group leader: Gabriele Weigelhofer



Research areas:

- Nutrient and organic carbon cycling in riverine systems
- Sediment – water interactions
- Multiple stressor effects (land use, climate change, hydro-morphology)
- Restoration and management of streams and floodplains

EcoCatch

Group leader: Jakob Schelker



Research areas:

- biogeochemistry
- stream ecology
- microbial ecology and biodiversity of streams
- cycling of carbon, nutrients and metals

LipTox

Group leader: Martin Kainz



Research areas:

- Trophic processes in aquatic food webs
- Lipid biochemistry in aquatic organisms (experimental and observational)
- Climate and nutritional change effects on aquatic organisms
- Terrestrial/aquatic biomarkers (stable isotopes, fatty acids)
- Aquatic ecotoxicology