

Title: Long-term declines in insect abundance and biomass in a subalpine habitat

Creator: Rebecca M. Dalton

Owners of data: ***Insect data:*** Brian D. Inouye, Nora C. Underwood, Michael Soule, and David W. Inouye
Temperature and precipitation: Crested Butte Weather Station (NOAA station USC00051959) <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets/GHCND/stations/GHCND:USC00051959/detail>
Snow data: b. barr (RMBL) <http://www.gothicwx.org/-data.html>
Flower data: Brian D. Inouye, Nora C. Underwood, and David W. Inouye: <https://www.bio.fsu.edu/~nunderwood/homepage/RMBLphenologyproject.html>

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Year of study: 1984 - 2020

Access: These data are made publicly available on Open Science Framework upon publication of Dalton et al., "Long-term declines in insect abundance and biomass in a subalpine habitat."

Location: Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory
Gothic, Colorado 81224
N 38° 57.414', W 106° 59.133'
Elevation: 2912 m

Keywords: Insects, Malaise trap, subalpine habitat

Purpose: To document insect abundance and biomass over time at the RMBL

Methodology: We sampled insects weekly with a Malaise trap (BioQuip® Model No. 2875A/AG) in an open subalpine meadow at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory in Colorado, USA from 1984 – 2019.

Empty cells: NA

Data file names: daltonetal-malaise-week-2020-final.csv
daltonetal-malaise-year-2020-final.csv
daltonetal-malaise-analysis-2022.R

daltonetal-malaise-week-2020-final.csv
Weekly data from Malaise trap sampling at the RMBL

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|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clean column heading: | site |
| Description: | Three letter abbreviation of the field site where Malaise sampling took place |
| Data type: | Character |
| Possible values: | "GRM": Gothic Research Meadow N 38° 57.414', W 106° 59.133' |
| Clean column heading: | year |
| Description: | Year of sampling |
| Date type: | Year |
| Measurement unit: | YYYY |
| Possible values: | 1984 – 2020 |
| Clean column heading: | start.date |
| Label: | Sampling start date |
| Description: | Date when Malaise trap was placed in the field |
| Date type: | Date (US) |
| Measurement unit: | MM/DD/YY |
| Possible values: | 06/30/84 – 8/26/2020 |
| Clean column heading: | start.doy |
| Label: | Sampling start day of year |
| Description: | Day of the year when Malaise trap was placed in the field |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Day of year (DOY) |
| Possible values: | 135 – 273 |
| Clean column heading: | end.date |
| Label: | Sampling end date |
| Description: | Date when Malaise trap was removed from the field |
| Date type: | Date (US) |
| Measurement unit: | MM/DD/YY |
| Possible values: | 07/01/84 – 08/28/2020 |
| Clean column heading: | end.doy |
| Label: | Sampling end day of year |
| Description: | Day of year when Malaise trap was removed from the field |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Day of year (DOY) |
| Possible values: | 137 – 274 |
| Clean column heading: | mid.doy |
| Description: | Mid-point day of year of sampling. To calculate mid.doy, subtract start.doy from end.doy. The mid.doy is used to calculate days past snowmelt (see below). |
| Date type: | Numeric |

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| Measurement unit: | Day of year (DOY) |
| Possible values: | 137 – 274 |
| Clean column heading: | total.days |
| Label: | Total days of insect sampling |
| Description: | The total number of days that the Malaise trap collected insects in the field. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of days |
| Possible values: | 1 – 7 |
| Clean column heading: | snowmelt |
| Label: | Snowmelt day of year |
| Description: | Day of the year when a 1 x 1m ² plot was free of snow at the RMBL. Data collected by b. barr. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Day of year (DOY) |
| Possible values: | 113 – 170 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 8 August 2019 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: http://www.gothicwx.org |
| Clean column heading: | snowpack |
| Label: | Total winter snowfall |
| Description: | Cumulative snowfall (cm) during the winter previous to sampling. Data collected by b. barr. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | cm |
| Possible values: | 490 – 1691 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 10 May 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: http://www.gothicwx.org |
| Clean column heading: | dps |
| Label: | Days after snowmelt |
| Description: | The number of days between the snowmelt DOY and the middle of sampling. To calculate dps, subtract mid.doy from snowmelt. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of days |
| Possible values: | 0 –147 |
| Comments: | We excluded this analysis to samples after date of snowmelt at the RMBL, as there were very few of these. If you would like to access data from samples before snowmelt, please contact the owners of the insect data. |
| Clean column heading: | mean.temp.ave.cb |
| Label: | Mean air temperature |
| Description: | Mean air temperature during the last day of sampling and six days prior the Crested Butte Weather Station (NOAA station USC00051959). |
| Data type: | Numeric |

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| Measurement unit: | Celsius |
| Possible values: | 5.63 – 17.81 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 08 March 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets/GHCND/stations/GHCND:USC00051959/detail |
| Clean column heading: | sum.precip.cb |
| Label: | Cumulative precipitation |
| Description: | Cumulative precipitation from during the last day of sampling and six days prior at the Crested Butte Weather Station (NOAA station USC00051959). |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | cm |
| Possible values: | 0 – 5.49 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 08 March 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets/GHCND/stations/GHCND:USC00051959/detail |
| Clean column heading: | flower.wk.sum |
| Label: | Total number of open flowers |
| Description: | Cumulative number of open non-graminoid flowers during the last day of sampling and six days prior at the RMBL. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of open flowers |
| Possible values: | 23 – 31810 |
| Comments: | We recorded the total number of open flowers in 23, 2 x 2m ² plots around the RMBL. Flowering data were not collected in 1990. These data can be requested at: https://www.bio.fsu.edu/~nunderwood/homepage/RMBLphenologyproject.html |
| Clean column heading: | mean.flw.day |
| Label: | Mean number of open flowers per day |
| Description: | The mean number of open non-graminoid flowers per day during the last day of sampling and six days prior at the RMBL. These data were calculated by taking the flower.wk.sum and dividing by the number of days that phenology data was collected during the week. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of flowers |
| Possible values: | 7.67 – 8404 |
| Clean column heading: | total.no |
| Label: | Total insect number |
| Description: | Total number of all insects collected in the sample. This is a summed value of all Diptera, Hymenoptera, and other insects collected during sampling. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of insects |

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| Possible values: | 0 – 1665 |
| Clean column heading: | total.g |
| Label: | Total insect biomass |
| Description: | 72-hour dry weight (grams) of all insects collected in the sample. This is a summed value of the number Dipteran, Hymenopteran, and other insects collected during sampling. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Grams |
| Possible values: | 0.05 – 3.31 |
| Clean column heading: | diptera.no |
| Label: | Diptera number |
| Description: | Total number of Diptera collected in the sample. This is a summed value of the number of all Dipteran samples (Syrphidae, Bombyliidae, Calliphoridae, Tephritidae, Robberflies, Tabanidae, etc.) |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of insects |
| Possible values: | 0 – 1665 |
| Clean column heading: | diptera.g |
| Label: | Diptera biomass |
| Description: | 72-hour dry weight (grams) of total number of Diptera collected in the sample. This is a summed value of the number of all Dipteran samples (Syrphidae, Bombyliidae, Calliphoridae, Tephritidae, Robberflies, Tabanidae, etc.) |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Grams |
| Possible values: | 0.05 – 3.31 |
| Clean column heading: | hymenoptera.no |
| Label: | Hymenoptera number |
| Description: | Total number of Hymenopteran collected in the sample. This is a summed value of the number of bumblebees, other bees, ants, wasps, sawflies, and others. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of insects |
| Possible values: | 0 – 146 |
| Clean column heading: | hymenoptera.g |
| Label: | Hymenoptera biomass |
| Description: | 72-hour dry weight (grams) of Hymenopteran collected in the sample. This is the total biomass of all This is a summed value of the number of bumblebees, other bees, ants, wasps, sawflies, and others. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Grams |
| Possible values: | 0 – 1.04 |
| Clean column heading: | other.no |
| Label: | Other number (non-Dipteran and non-Hymenopteran) |

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| Description: | Total number of non-Dipteran and non-Hymenopteran collected in the sample. This is a summed value of the number of beetles, butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, leaf hoppers, spiders, caddisflies, stoneflies, lacewings, snakeflies, etc. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of insects |
| Possible values: | 0 – 693 |
| Clean column heading: | other.g |
| Label: | Other number (non-Dipteran and non-Hymenopteran) biomass |
| Description: | 72-hour dry weight (grams) of non-Dipteran and non-Hymenopteran collected in the sample. This is the total biomass of all beetles, butterflies, moths, grasshoppers, leaf hoppers, spiders, caddisflies, stoneflies, lacewings, snakeflies, etc. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Grams |
| Possible values: | 0 – 2.84 |
| Clean column heading: | notes |
| Raw column heading: | Notes |
| Description: | Temporary features of sampling period. For example, “trap was found knocked over during sampling” or “mice ate samples |
| Date type: | Character |

daltonetal-malaise-year-2020-final.csv

Yearly data from Malaise trap sampling at the RMBL

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| Clean column heading: | site |
| Description: | Three letter abbreviation of the field site where Malaise sampling took place |
| Data type: | Character |
| Possible values: | “GRM”: Gothic Research Meadow N 38° 57.414', W 106° 59.133' |
| Clean column heading: | year |
| Description: | Year of sampling |
| Date type: | Year |
| Measurement unit: | YYYY |
| Possible values: | 1984 – 2020 |
| Clean column heading: | yr.total.g |
| Label: | Summed total insect biomass |
| Description: | 72-hour dry weight (grams) of all insects collected in the sampling year. This is a summed value of the number Dipteran, Hymenopteran, and other insects. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Grams |
| Possible values: | 0.96 – 19.40 |
| Clean column heading: | yr.total.no |
| Label: | Summed total insect abundance |

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| Description: | Total number of all insects collected in the sampling year. This is a summed value of all Diptera, Hymenoptera, and other insects. |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of insects |
| Possible values: | 245 – 9159 |
| Clean column heading: | yr.samples |
| Label: | Yearly sample number |
| Description: | The total number of times the Malaise trap was deployed during the year |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of weekly samples |
| Possible values: | 3 – 19 |
| Comments: | These values may not match the row count of the weekly data file, as we excluded this analysis to only samples occurring after snow melted at the RMBL. Therefore, yr.samples may be higher than the number of rows of data in daltonetal-malaise-week-2020.csv. To access these earlier samples, please request the data from the owners. |
| Clean column heading: | yr.days |
| Label: | Yearly number of days |
| Description: | The total number of days the Malaise trap was deployed during the year |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of days |
| Possible values: | 6 – 43 |
| Clean column heading: | summer.temp.cb |
| Label: | Mean summer air temperature |
| Description: | Mean daily air temperature during May, June, July, and August in the year of sampling at the Crested Butte Weather Station (NOAA station USC00051959). |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Celsius |
| Possible values: | 9.71 – 13.02 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 8 March 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets/GHCND/stations/GHCND:USC00051959/detail |
| Clean column heading: | summer.precip.cb |
| Label: | Cumulative precipitation |
| Description: | Cumulative precipitation during May, June, July, and August in the year of sampling at the Crested Butte Weather Station (NOAA station USC00051959). |
| Data type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | cm |
| Possible values: | 8.23 – 27.25 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 8 March 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: |

<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cdo-web/datasets/GHCND/stations/GHCND:USC00051959/detail>

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| Clean column heading: | snowpack |
| Label: | Total winter snowfall |
| Description: | Cumulative snowfall (cm) during the winter previous to sampling. Data collected by b. barr. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | cm |
| Possible values: | 490 – 1691 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 10 May 2021 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: http://www.gothicwx.org |
| Clean column heading: | snowmelt |
| Label: | Snowmelt day of year |
| Description: | Day of the year when a 1 x 1m2 plot was free of snow at the RMBL. Data collected by b. barr. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Day of year (DOY) |
| Possible values: | 113 – 170 |
| Comments: | We downloaded these data on 8 August 2019 to use in this analysis. These data are publicly available at: http://www.gothicwx.org |
| Clean column heading: | yr.floral.count |
| Label: | Total number of open flowers |
| Description: | Cumulative number of open non-graminoid flowers from the second week of May (DOY:128, mean first day of flowering) until the end of August at the RMBL. |
| Date type: | Numeric |
| Measurement unit: | Number of open flowers |
| Possible values: | 19091 – 260247 |
| Comments: | We recorded the total number of open flowers in 23, 2 x 2m2 plots around the RMBL. Flowering data were not collected in 1990. These data can be requested at: https://www.bio.fsu.edu/~nunderwood/homepage/RMBLphenologyproject.html |

daltonetal-malaise-analysis-2022.R

This R script runs the analyses presented in Dalton et al., “Long-term declines in insect abundance and biomass in a subalpine habitat” using the “daltonetal-malaise-week-2020-final.csv” and “daltonetal-malaise-year-2020-final.csv.”