

Environmental impact of intensive irrigation in a part of Chambal project command area of Madhya Pradesh, India

LAXMI PRASAD CHOURASIA

H.S.Gour University, Department of Applied Geology, Sagar, (M.P.) 470003, India;
E-mail: lpc50@rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT

The aim of the present study was to identify the effects of surface water irrigation on the environment in a part of Chambal project command area of Madhya Pradesh, India. The most logical way of identifying impacts associated with the Chambal Project is to establish the causes, conditions and effects relationship. The methodology for identification of environmental impacts indicates all possible network related to different activities pertaining to proposed water resources development project and then allow the identification of impacts by selecting and tracing out appropriate project actions. The identified environmental impacts of surface water irrigation in the study area are public health hazard, decrease in available surface water supply and flow in canals, salinization and alkalisation of soil, water logging, increase in soil erosion, decrease in soil fertility, pesticides and herbicides in food chain, impact on flora and fauna, and degradation of chemical quality of groundwater for drinking purpose, etc.