

Do utility-scale solar energy installations affect species diversity?

Utility-scale solar energy (USSE) facilities were most often investigated (70.1%). Observations mainly focused on the effect of the presence of PV installations (51.8%). Species abundance, community composition and species diversity were the most common outcomes assessed (23.0%, 18.4% and 16.1%, respectively).

Is solar energy a future energy resource?

The utilization of renewable energy as a future energy resource is drawing significant attention worldwide. The contribution of solar energy (including concentrating solar power (CSP) and solar photovoltaic (PV) power) to global electricity production, as one form of renewable energy sources, is generally still low, at 3.6%.

Can 'ecovoltaics' improve ecosystem services & energy generation?

We argue that co-prioritizing ecosystem services and energy generation using an ecologically informed, 'ecovoltaics' approach to solar array design and operation will have multiple benefits for climate, biodiversity and the restoration of degraded lands.

How do utility-scale solar installations affect ecosystem services?

Utility-scale solar installations can vary widely in their effect on ecosystem services. Land grading and removal of vegetation beneath PV panels has the strongest and most obvious negative effects.

Do solar photovoltaic panels promote vegetation recovery?

Liu Y, Zhang R, Huang Z, Cheng Z, Lopez-Vicente M, Ma X, et al. Solar photovoltaic panels significantly promote vegetation recovery by modifying the soil surface microhabitats in an arid sandy ecosystem. *Land Degrad Dev.* 2019;30:2177-86. Lovich JE, Ennen JR. *Wildlife Conservation and Solar Energy Development in the Desert Southwest.*

Which taxa are most studied in the study of solar energy?

Plants and arthropods were the two most studied taxa (41.7% and 26.3%, respectively). Utility-scale solar energy (USSE) facilities were most often investigated (70.1%). Observations mainly focused on the effect of the presence of PV installations (51.8%).



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Web: <https://publishers-right.eu/contact-us/>

Email: energystorage2000@gmail.com

WhatsApp: 8613816583346

