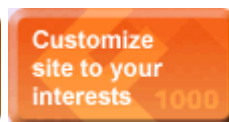
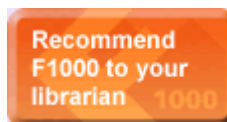
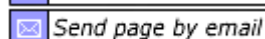
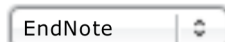


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Reche I, Pulido-Villena E, Morales-Baquero R, Casamayor EO

*Ecology* 2005 **86**:1715-1722 [[order article](#)]

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#### David Kirchman

University of Delaware,  
United States of America  
Ecology

New Finding

**This study is an interesting and important contribution to a series of recent papers arguing that bacterial communities follow the island biogeography theory, which was originally developed for macroscopic organisms.** Reche et al.

examined bacterial communities in 11 mountain lakes in the Sierra Nevada of Spain and explored the hypothesis that these lakes are "islands" in a terrestrial sea. The authors found that geographical distance explained the degree of similarity among the lake bacterial communities and that there was a positive relationship between bacterial OTU richness and lake area. For the abstract of this paper, please see <http://www.esajournals.org/esaonline/?request=get-archive> .

**Competing interests:** None declared

Evaluated 12 Aug 2005

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