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Environmental and Ecological Effects of Recent Deforestation and Biodiversity Loss in the Amazon Region

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Amazon region has the largest rainforest in the world; however, the anthropogenic pressure and associated land cover changes have led to large-scale forest losses.

The Amazon rainforest influences the terrestrial climate system due to the exchanges of energy, carbon, and water between the surface and the atmosphere. In addition to providing water vapor to the environment through evapotranspiration, influencing the general circulation in the tropics and contributing to regional precipitation, the Amazon rainforest plays an important role in the global carbon cycle.

We welcome original research articles as well as review articles addressing, though not exclusively, the following topics:

New satellite data and tools to assess deforestation, forest fragmentation, and natural recovery; belowground biogeochemistry, plant demography and ecophysiology, plant functional traits, and aquifer-to-canopy hydrology; forest–atmosphere interactions; impacts of severe events such as droughts and fire; and resilience of the Amazon rainforest to extreme events, taking into consideration the drivers of land degradation and deforestation and further transitions under a climate change scenario.



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