

Special Issue

Hunting for the Bushmeat Trade: Impacts on Ecology, Livelihoods, and Conservation in a Changing World

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue of *Animals* will explore the ecological and social impacts of bushmeat (also known as wild meat) hunting in the global tropics. Bushmeat is important for millions of people living in rural areas because it is their major source of income, protein, macro- and micronutrients, yet this dynamic is changing as more people in urban areas now consume more bushmeat. This Special Issue synthesises first-hand evidence of the contemporary use of bushmeat in the livelihoods of people across a rural–urban gradient in the global tropics. It provides examples of how bushmeat use may be evolving in relation to the changing social, political, economic, cultural, and environmental contexts, and what this means for sustainable wildlife management and biodiversity conservation. It offers a theoretical justification of why human population growth in a changing world can ultimately influence ecological sustainability. Given the diversity of bushmeat uses and the potential for inequitable management decisions, incorporating social justice in wildlife management will ensure human wellbeing while curbing biodiversity decline.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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