

Special Issue

Food Chains and Food Webs in Aquatic Ecosystems

Message from the Guest Editors

The current Special Issue will focus on food chains and food webs in aquatic ecosystems. Food chains and food webs describe the structure of communities and their energy flows. Recently, diverse methods have been developed for both experimental studies and theoretical/computational studies. They improve our fundamental ecological knowledge and are effectively used for various applications, including the monitoring and assessment of ecosystems. In particular, ecological monitoring and assessment have advanced in the last decades. Along with the progress of molecular and environmental DNA techniques, the process of monitoring and assessment has become rapid and accurate. A wide variety of ecological disturbances associated with temperature and salinity changes and other environmental factors are being recognized as threats to the food-chain functions of freshwater and marine ecosystems. The current Special Issue will introduce various applications of new techniques and approaches for the study of food chains and food webs in aquatic ecosystems, covering ideas, concepts, methods, and policies; general experimental and computational studies are also welcomed.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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