Special Issue

Undersea Refuges: Functional Ecology and Biodiversity of Coral Reef Ecosystems

Message from the Guest Editor

Coral reefs worldwide are under ever-increasing stress from local pressures such as fishing, coastal modification, and pollution, as well as thermal stress associated with global climate change. These pressures often act synergistically, modifying coral reef dynamics over time and leading to changes in reef functions and biodiversity. This includes the loss of live coral cover. decreased reef calcification, loss of refuge for associated species, and alterations in herbivory and bioerosion dynamics, among other impacts. This Special Issue focuses on two main areas. First, it aims to compile studies of coral reef functions and biodiversity that are preserved in particularly resistant or resilient reefs, which may be relatively isolated systems or simply more robust than other nearby reefs. Second, it will include contributions that compare and analyze the changes in these functions and biodiversity in reefs under significant pressure over time.

Guest Editor

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We invite papers and reviews on multidisciplinary topics of diversity that bridge organismic diversity (systematics, biodiversity, phylogeny, population genetics, and evolution) and molecular diversity (phytochemistry and biophysics).

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