

## Special Issue

# Coral Reef Ecology and Diversity Conservation

### Message from the Guest Editors

Coral reefs are among the most diverse marine ecosystems in the world, providing coastal communities with valuable ecosystem services and natural infrastructure protection. Increasingly, threats to these ecosystems are intensifying due to fishing pressure, land-based sources of sediment and pollution, invasive species, coastal development, recreational overuse, and climate change. Although these impacts are often documented and management actions are implemented at local and regional scales, the ecological and biodiversity changes associated with such threats are often less well characterized. This is despite the fact that coral reefs host many new species that are known but not yet formally described, as well as significant undiscovered biodiversity. This under-documented and often cryptic biodiversity is concentrated in poorly studied groups and poorly explored habitats, such as mesophotic coral ecosystems. This Special Issue will focus on underappreciated coral reef biodiversity and ecosystem processes imperiled by a wide range of human-mediated threats, the impacts of which are incompletely understood due to inadequate study of key taxa and habitats

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Anthony D. Montgomery  
US Fish & Wildlife Service, Honolulu, HI, USA

Dr. Dan A. Polhemus  
Department of Natural Sciences, Bishop Museum, 1525 Bernice St.,  
Honolulu, HI 96817, USA

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 January 2026



## Diversity

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.1  
CiteScore 4.0



[mdpi.com/si/243216](https://mdpi.com/si/243216)

*Diversity*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[diversity@mdpi.com](mailto:diversity@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
diversity](https://mdpi.com/journal/diversity)





# Diversity

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.1  
CiteScore 4.0



[mdpi.com/journal/  
diversity](https://mdpi.com/journal/diversity)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Diversity* (ISSN 1424-2818) is a scholarly journal that covers all areas of diversity research. Our distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor for publishing. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access.

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).

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Michael Wink

Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, Heidelberg  
University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubAg, GEOBASE, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Biodiversity Conservation) / CiteScore - Q1  
(Agricultural and Biological Sciences (miscellaneous))

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 17.1 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).