

Special Issue

Unravelling the Diverse Effects of Fire on Soil Processes

Message from the Guest Editor

The topics are related to fire effects on ecosystems through a belowground lens focused on the responses of soils. Such topics may include: the response of decomposer communities, such as the dominant taxa sensitive to fire, what factors determine community recovery, and how changes in microbes influence biogeochemical cycling. Along these lines, the effect of fire on soil organic matter is highly variable and controlled by several processes such as the physicochemical properties of soil minerals and organic matter. Additionally, fire can lead to changes in soil water retention and cycling, as burning shifts pore structure, wax formation, soil compaction, and evapotranspiration. Changes belowground have important implications for aboveground processes, such as nutrient availability affecting the composition of plant strategies and plant productivity. The responses of plants can have cascading effects on animal populations, as palatability and biomass production changes. Consequently, understanding the mechanisms leading to the widespread variability in fire effects on soil properties and processes has broad implications for ecosystem functioning.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2021)



Fire

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 3.9



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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Fire is an international open-access journal about the science, policy, and technology of fires and how they interact with communities and the environment. *Fire* seeks to provide a forum to help the fire science community convey how we can live with fire in a changing world. *Fire* seeks submissions from interdisciplinary studies that take a pyrogeography perspective of fires occurring in natural, cultural, and industrial landscapes and how they interact with communities in the science-policy interface. *Fire's* Editorial Board are widely recognized international leaders. The journal emphasizes quality and innovation and has a rigorous peer-review process. I strongly recommend *Fire* for the rapid publication of your innovative research publications and case studies.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Grant Williamson

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