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Main Drivers Affecting/Shaping the Diversity and Variability of Forests

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Message from the Guest Editor

The biodiversity of forest ecosystems is affected by climatic, edaphic and geographic factors, together with natural disturbances and human-controlled forest management. Global climate change causes weather anomalies, including severe droughts, shifts in precipitation patterns and intense storms that are reflected by the diversity and variability of forest ecosystems. Large scale-disturbances together with fragmentation of forest areas, intensive management, especially non-native tree planting, and invasion of alien species are contributing to biodiversity loss and the disappearance of rare forest species and thus, the homogenization of forest vegetation. Thus, improvement of the understanding of the processes that shape forest diversity, resistance to invasions, and regeneration after natural disturbances is essential. The goal of this Special Issue is to gather knowledge about the diversity, variability and habitat characteristics of forests to determine how these ecosystems react under stress and to improve predictions of the effects of climate and land-use changes on ecosystems.



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Special Issue



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