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Disturbances Effect Forest Carbon Cycling

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (25 September 2019)

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Forests are an important element of the atmospheric composition, contributing and removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, a phenomena detectable at a global scale. Changing environmental conditions are changing an important driver of this carbon exchange: disturbances. The effects of disturbances on forest carbon are not well quantified and have a potentially important impact on the amount of carbon stored in forest systems, and on the carbon exchanged between forest and atmosphere. Stand-replacing disturbances may contribute to changing the course of forest dynamics, and therefore of forest carbon. However, non-stand-replacing disturbances, such as drought, insects and pathogens, may also have a cumulative impact of large proportion. None of these issues is well understood or quantified.

Dr. Céline Boisvenue
Guest Editor



mdpi.com/si/23395

Special Issue



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