

Special Issue

Species Diversity and Habitat Conservation in Forest

Message from the Guest Editors

Biodiversity has been at the center of interest in forest ecology. Dynamic environmental changes, such as droughts, high winds, pest outbreaks, invasions of alien species, and human pressure on ecosystems, have led to unprecedented destabilization. Forests in many countries have suffered significant economic and environmental damage. Many species are declining, and unique habitats are disappearing. New approaches to biodiversity conservation are being introduced into forestry practice. The most valuable habitats are removed from production, but forest management is also integrated with biodiversity conservation. Forestry practices are being changed so that the forest provides wood and non-wood products while preserving habitats for all species. Increasingly, solutions to these issues often mimic the natural processes of forest growth and development. There is an urgent need to share information on methods for assessing, monitoring, and conserving biodiversity, including examples of best practices for protecting the full complexity of forest ecosystems and efforts to protect specific species and habitats.

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