Special Issue Modelling Forest Ecosystems

Message from the Guest Editors

Forest ecosystems are complex systems in which biological, climate and geo-topographic factors interact to produce different patterns of species distributions and species colonization, growth and mortality rates. In addition, such natural complexity is combined with socio-economic factors. Hence, any tool that can simplify the study of these factors and their interactions and, at the same time, help to predict the effects of altering such factors would be of great help for scientists, technicians and decision makers. Models are such type of tool. Models can be used to know how the different parts that form a forest ecosystem work, but also to better understand the interactions among such parts. Even more importantly, models can help to predict possible future ecosystem states. Models can be used at a wide range of ecological, spatial and temporal scales, from simulating rapid ecophysiological processes at the leaf level to slow environmental changes at the continental level. This Special Issue will therefore be devoted to collecting results in the theory and application of forest models, with the aim of improving the understanding of forest ecosystems and their possible futures.

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Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and crossdisciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have *Forests* be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

Editor-in-Chief

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