

## Special Issue

# Alpine Treeline Ecotone—from Structure and Function to Ecosystem Services

### Message from the Guest Editors

Alpine treeline ecotone as a sensitive monitor of environmental change has aroused increasing attention in recent decades. However, our understanding of the patterns, processes, function and ecological services of alpine treeline ecotones and their underlying drivers are still limited. Classic and novel research from different perspectives is urgently needed to resolve these uncertainties and enhance our understanding of treeline ecosystems. Multidisciplinary contributions related to treeline ecotones (e.g., from the subalpine forests or alpine grassland) are welcome. Topics include, but are not confined to, the following:

- Alpine vegetation composition, structure, and patterns;
- Dynamics of alpine plant life;
- Adaptation and evolution of alpine plant life;
- Treeline changes (e.g., tree growth, recruitment, and range shifts);
- Grasses and soil microbiota across the treeline ecotone;
- Biogeochemical cycles from subalpine forest to alpine grassland;
- Multiple services provided by treeline ecosystems;
- Livelihoods of mountainous people near, at, and beyond the treeline;
- Challenges and threats to the functions of treeline ecosystems and management practices.

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Jesús Julio Camarero

Prof. Dr. Yafeng Wang

Dr. Jinniu Wang

Dr. Yang Yang

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2023)



## Forests

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 4.6



[mdpi.com/si/103091](https://mdpi.com/si/103091)

*Forests*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[forests@mdpi.com](mailto:forests@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)





# Forests

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.5  
CiteScore 4.6



[mdpi.com/journal/  
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Forests* (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, 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

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia,  
I-25121 Brescia, Italy

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, GEOBASE, PubAg, AGRIS, PaperChem, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Forestry) / CiteScore - Q1 (Forestry)

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 16.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).