

Special Issue

Climatic, Biotic and Structural Feedbacks on Drought-Induced Forest Declines

Message from the Guest Editors

Climatic extremes have triggered episodes of forest decline globally. In the last decade, the understanding of the physiological mechanisms involved in tree mortality has improved enormously. However, we still lack predictive capacity from the ecological perspective. Trees are long-lived organisms and forests are highly structured ecosystems with complex biotic interactions. The activity of pathogens would be enhanced by species-specific climatic constraints prior or after the drought episode. Therefore, we invite manuscripts with a focus on one or several of the following questions:

- 1) How do forest structural characteristics interact with extreme drought episodes?
- 2) How does previous climate influence the magnitude of drought effects on forests?
- 3) Are successional trajectories accelerated or delayed by extreme droughts?
- 4) Is the activity of pathogens enhanced by the climate prior or posterior to a extreme drought episode?

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