

Special Issue

The Ecology and Biogeochemistry of Old-Growth Forests

Message from the Guest Editor

Old-Growth forests are ecological superstars, providing innumerable goods and services in the form of carbon storage, nutrient retention and cycling, species diversity, and rare habitat as well as aesthetic and spiritual value. Yet, the unique ecological and biogeochemical characteristics of old-growth forests remain understudied and -reported relative to more broadly distributed early and middle successional forests. A consequence is old-growth forest management and land-use policies are less data-informed than their more abundant, younger counterparts. We invite papers that provide novel insights into the ecology, biogeochemistry, and/or management of old-growth forest, and particularly encourage studies that contrast old-growth and younger forests. We define “old-growth” broadly as primary or secondary forest with structural attributes associated with late-successional, but not necessarily steady-state, stages of ecosystem development. Such features should be clearly described in the methods and include a multi-layered and uneven-aged canopy structure, canopy gap formation, the presence of woody debris, and well-developed soils.

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 October 2020)



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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.

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