



Invasive Alien Species in Protected Areas

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Invasive alien species (IAS) represent one of the most significant threats to biodiversity globally by inducing species extinctions and alterations to ecosystems' structure and functions, impeding the provision of ecosystem services, or even resulting in negative socioeconomic impacts.

Protected areas play a key role in biodiversity conservation, hosting several significant and rare habitats and species and providing numerous ecosystem services. Their enhancement against biological invasion is of paramount importance, especially under the risk of climate change, which is expected to favor the establishment and expansion of invasive alien plants in new habitats and areas.

This Special Issue aims to contribute to the existing knowledge concerning the presence and current status of invasive alien plants within protected areas, their impact on ecosystems and their management.



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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