



Applications of UAVs in Cold Region Ecological and Environmental Studies

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Message from the Guest Editors

Lightweight unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) have developed rapidly due to the miniaturization of parts and the low cost of various sensors, and embedded computers and have become a popular, low-cost platform for ecological and environmental studies. This platform is especially valuable for harsh environments, for example, the Qinghai–Tibetan Plateau and the Arctic. UAVs also have the following advantages: (1) high spatial and temporal resolution when compared with satellite remote sensing; (2) high efficiency, large ground coverage, and non-destruction when compared with ground sampling; and (3) as a bridge between satellites for remote sensing and ground sampling. With these advantages, UAVs have been applied to investigate the vegetation cover, biomass, patch, yak, plateau pika, gravel, and biodiversity, etc., of cold regions over the recent years.

For this Special Issue, we seek articles on the application of UAVs in, but not limited to, cold region ecology and environment, at various spatial scales, from quadratic to plot and regional scale. Articles on the applications of UAV in permafrost and periglacial environments are especially welcome.





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