

Special Issue

The Provision of Ecosystem Services in Response to Habitat Change

Message from the Guest Editors

Anthropogenic landscapes, along with human affected, transformed and intentionally created habitats, are expanding and tend to cover more land. Together with these alternations, the ecosystems functioning in the densely populated environmental mosaic are changing. At the same time, the demand for ecosystem services is increasing proportionally to the growth of human population, and the decrease of the natural environment, due to global changes of the Anthropocene. Among the anthropogenic ecosystems, there are many that present features of novel ecosystems (NE). From a scientific viewpoint, the biological nature of the mechanisms of the novel ecosystems functioning is almost not known. The human population is facing the perspective of more than half of the terrestrial ecosystem being anthropogenic ecosystems on one hand, and on the other hand, the dependence on ecosystem services provided by ecosystems of unknown functioning mechanisms. The outline and scope of this collection should be, at least, to define what we do not know about the basis (ecosystems services) of human population in the future.

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