Special Issue

The Impact of Climate Change on Freshwater Plankton Communities

Message from the Guest Editors

Freshwater plankton, play fundamental role in the Energy flow in aquatic systems generating primary production (phytoplankton) and transferring energy to higher trophic levels (zooplankton). Therefore, the already observed and expected climate driven changes in plankton communities will dramatically influence the functionning of aquatic ecosystems. Climate can directly affect physiology, behaviour and phenology of aquatic organisms (metabolic rate, oxygen uptake, food demands, mobility, life cycles, diapause) or act indirectly, altering physical properties of freshwater habitats (thermal stratification, including steepness of metalimnetic gradients, annual mixing regime, temperature-dependent solubility of O2, CO2 and others). Under these changing conditions, the character of biotic interactions (both intra- and intrespecific) will be rearranged. These effects may be enhanced by accompanying invasions of tropical species to temperate biota and posssible extinctions of domestic species. Encouraged are contributions related to these and other aspects of climate change effect on freshwater plankton, from individual, through population and community to ecosystem level.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Piotr Dawidowicz
Department of Hydrobiology, Faculty of Biology, University of Warsaw, Poland

Prof. Dr. Joanna Pijanowska
Department of Hydrobiology, Faculty of Biology, University of Warsaw, Poland

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Water
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
water@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/water

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In the context of global changes, the sustainable management of water cycles, going from global and regional water cycles to urban, industrial and agricultural water cycles, plays a very important role on the water resources and on their relationships with food, energy, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and human health. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications and to propose special issues devoted to new technological and scientific domains and to interdisciplinary approaches of the water cycles. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Jean-Luc PROBST
Centre de Recherche sur la Biodiversité l'Environnement (CRBE) UMR CNRS/UPS/INPT/IRD, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), University of Toulouse, Campus ENSAT, Auzeville Tolosane, Toulouse, France

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