<u>Special Issue Title</u> Wildland Fire, Forest Dynamics, and Their Interactions

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Special Issue Information

Wildland fire is an important, pervasive, and a sometimes-destructive ecological process in many forest ecosystems across the globe. In some cases, wildland fire maintains and reinforces forest dynamics. This is common, for example, in forests with thick-barked species that are adapted to frequent, low-severity fires or in forests where species' regenerative traits (e.g., serotiny, resprouting) allow them to endure regimes of recurrent high-severity fire. However, wildland fire can also act as a catalyst that changes the successional trajectory of forest ecosystems, particularly if the factors responsible for historical fire regimes (e.g., frequency, severity, or season) have been substantially altered and exceed species' adaptive capacity. Examples of these situations include effects of extreme fire weather and drought, fuel buildup due to fire exclusion or insect-induced mortality, and interactions between these factors. Some of these situations may result in fire-induced conversions from forest to non-forest ecosystems.

We seek submissions aimed at wildland fire, forest dynamics, and their interactions. We are particularly interested in studies evaluating additional factors and stressors that influence the characteristics of fire, as well as the composition and structure of vegetation, such as insect- and drought-induced mortality, extreme weather events, human ignitions, excessive fuels, and climate change.

Submission Deadline November 30, 2017

<u>Keywords</u>

- · Wildland fire
- Forest dynamics
- · Interactions
- · Vegetation composition and structure
- Fire behavior and effects

- · Non-fire disturbances
- Successional trajectories
- Fire-induced ecological change

Manuscript Submission Information

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Submitted manuscripts should not have been published previously, nor be under consideration for publication elsewhere (except conference proceedings papers). All manuscripts are thoroughly refereed through a single-blind peer-review process. A guide for authors and other relevant information for submission of manuscripts is available on the <u>Instructions for Authors</u> page. *Forests* is an international peer-reviewed open access monthly journal published by MDPI.

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