Special Issue

Ectotherms in a Dynamic Environment: Understanding Patterns of Ecology, Distribution, Evolution, and Threats to Species

Message from the Guest Editors

In an environment undergoing accelerating changes, ectotherms need to cope with the changing conditions that require innovative strategies, greater plasticity, and phenotypic adaptations. Fishes, amphibians and reptiles occupy significant positions in various ecosystems and provide indispensable ecosystem services. Experiencing a higher rate of decline compared to other animal groups, 25% of freshwater fishes, 21% of reptiles, and 41% of amphibians are already threatened with extinction. Unprecedented anthropogenic pressures in the form of habitat modification, climate warming, exploitation, and invasive species require constant adaptation in the form of ecological requirements, morphological and physiological factors. This Special Issue aims to collate research related to ectotherms across habitat types and spanning both local and global landscapes. We encourage the submissions focused on population trends, ecology, distribution, systematics, phylogeography, and trait evolution, as well as conservation and ecosystem services.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions 30 June 2025



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