Special Issue

Global Change, Forest Declines and Ecological Restoration

Message from the Guest Editors

Global planetary changes are expected to have significant effects on all natural ecosystems, including forest ecosystems, causing serious declines in their distribution and ecological and conservation status. These changes are often critical drivers for important declines in forest composition, dynamics, and ecosystem processes, which can result in forest degradation and limitations. The ecological restoration of the declined forest ecosystems, based on the characteristics of declines, which vary in space and time according to climatic, physical, and biological factors, can contribute to a better balance and distribution of forest ecosystems across the world. Thus, a better understanding of the degradation process and an analysis of the relationship between global changes and forest declines could lead to more effective methods to achieve successful ecological restoration of degraded forest ecosystems. Knowledge of the methods and techniques for a successful restoration is greatly needed to face the challenges created by global changes. We should utilize this knowledge and translate it into forest or fire management strategies in the context of global change.

Guest Editors

Dr. Petros Ganatsas

Laboratory of Silviculture, Department of Forestry and Natural Environment, Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece

Dr. Marianthi Tsakaldimi

Laboratory of Silviculture, Department of Forestry and Natural Environment, Faculty of Geotechnical Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 54124 Thessaloniki, Greece

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
forests@mdpi.com

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