

Editorial

Introduction to the Special Issue “The Intersection of Society and Watershed Science”

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Despite significant advances in watershed science and technology, water availability, water quality, and water related health problems remain a significant worldwide concern [1]. While the concept of watershed-scale management to address these concerns remains intact, most scientists recognize that application of natural science concepts and advanced technologies are not sufficient to adequately address watershed-scale water management issues. There is a significant need for a paradigm shift, *i.e.*, namely increased public interaction and participation in watershed management and decision-making. The effective application of an integrated approach requires developing new scientific concepts on integration of natural and social sciences. In recent years, concepts, such as integrated watershed management and/or holistic approaches to water resource management, have been widely promoted (e.g., [2–6]).

The theme of this Special Issue “The Intersection of Society and Watershed Science” intends to compile scientific information, state of knowledge and case studies on integration of natural and socio-economic sciences in watershed management. The term *intersection* encompasses a wide range of topics from integrating the public into science to societal barriers. Articles (theoretical and applied) for inclusion in this Special Issue may concern, without being limited to, the following areas:

- The role and significance of social factors in watershed science
- Barriers to integrated watershed management
- Integrating socio-economic analysis in watershed management
- Integrated watershed management case studies
- College level curricula on integrated watershed management
- Evolving water policy for integrated watershed management

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