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Paleo-Perspectives on Fire in the Earth System

Guest Editors:

Dr. Grant Harley

Ms. Allison Karp

Ms. Jarunetr Nadia Sae-Lim

Mr. Troy Ferland

Mr. Richard Vachula

Deadline for manuscript submissions:

closed (31 May 2020)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Fire is increasingly recognized as an important component of the Earth system with deep roots in geologic history. Recently, extreme and damaging fire events have sparked great interest in the drivers and controls of fire. Historical records are short relative to the long time scales on which climatic and ecological drivers of fire operate. Paleofire records thus offer context with which we can assess the magnitude of observed burning, infer fire-climate and fire-vegetation relationships, and predict the impact of anthropogenic climate change on fire regimes. The paleo-record provides a perspective of fire history both before and as humans became the dominant influence on global fire activity, allowing us to establish baselines.

An array of proxies, methodologies, statistical analyses, and earth system archives facilitate the paleofire approach, making it a dynamic, exciting and uniquely interdisciplinary field of study. In this Special Issue, we seek articles aiming to understand the history, controls, evolution, and impacts of fire on Earth, across all temporal and spatial scales. We also welcome fire proxy developments, calibrations and comparisons.



