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Forests Carbon and Water Dynamics

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
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Message from the Guest Editors

Forests cover about one third of the world's land surface, over four billion hectares, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. Forests provide a wealth of ecosystem services, including fiber and biomass production, carbon sequestration, and regulation of water quality and quantity. These water and carbon cycles are tightly linked at scales from the leaf to the globe, and perturbation of one cycle tends to cascade through to the other. Current and future predicted changes in climate are likely to affect coupled forest carbon-water cycles through a range of impacts, such as altered precipitation patterns, elevated CO2, rising temperatures and altered heatwave cycles. There is an increasing need to better understand forest carbon-water interactions under existing and projected future climate. This understanding will help to predict how critical ecosystem services of forests may be impacted by climatic change, and can underpin mitigation and adaptation strategies to cope with the expected changes. We are asking for papers examining coupled carbon and water cycles in forests under current and projected climatic changes, going from stands to larger scales.

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