



Forest Degradation Monitoring

Guest Editors:

Dr. Alexander Hernandez

Researcher, Utah State
University, Logan, UT, USA

Dr. Rene Zamora-Cristales

World Resources Institute, the
USA

Mr. Abner Jimenez

REDD-CCAD/GIZ Program,
Germany

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Mapping and monitoring forest degradation across the world's biomes is an exciting field of remote sensing science and technology that aims at providing scientists, policymakers, and stakeholders with the pertinent information to understand the role of degradation in more complex global processes. Well-established and emerging remote-sensing-based monitoring techniques are contributing to unify, advance, and clarify the terminology around the concept of forest degradation, which is still subject to debate in the scientific arena. This debate focuses heavily on the limitations of remote sensing to adapt to the forest degradation definitions widely adopted in international forums. With the now widespread availability of long-term time series of satellite imagery and historical aerial photography, in conjunction with longstanding field observations and recently-acquired UAV measurements, there is unparalleled potential to develop monitoring applications of forest degradation in the tropics as well as temperate zones.

Dr. Alexander Hernandez

Dr. Rene Zamora-Cristales

Mr. Abner Jimenez

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Editor-in-Chief

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Center (WGSC), 2255, N. Gemini
Dr., Flagstaff, AZ 86001, USA

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Remote Sensing Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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