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## Environmental DNA as a Tool for the Management and Conservation of Natural Resources

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Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**15 August 2024**

### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Over the past two decades, it has become increasingly clear that environmental DNA (eDNA) studies are of growing utility in providing knowledge about species distributions and community ecology. The combination of its high efficiency and sensitivity, coupled with the advantages of non-destructive sampling, makes eDNA an ideal tool for monitoring species composition and distribution in near real time. Obtaining information of species, populations, and communities by retrieving DNA from environmental samples appears to be a promising tool in the current scenario of biodiversity loss and altered ecosystem functions due to global change and anthropogenic activities.

This Special Issue will provide a collection of articles that display how eDNA analysis can allow us to probe species composition, reveal biodiversity trends, detect endangered or invasive species, detect and evaluate species of commercial interest, and ultimately improve our understanding of ecosystem-level processes. We will mainly focus on eDNA from macroorganisms (animals, plants, and fungi), as they are the key targets in conservation.



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# Special Issue



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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Animals* is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 3.0 (2022, ranks 12 /62 (Q1) in ‘Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science’; 13/143 (Q1) in ‘Veterinary Sciences’), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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