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Impacts of Forest Operations on the Sustainable Management of Forest Soils

Guest Editors:

Dr. Miriam Fernanda Rodrigues

ProfÁgua, Federal University of Technology-Paraná, Campo Mourão, Estrada para Boa Esperança, km 4, Zona Rural, Dois Vizinhos 85660-000, Paraná, Brazil

Prof. Dr. Luis Eduardo Akiyoshi Sanches Suzuki

Technological Development Center, Universidade Federal de Pelotas, Pelotas 96010-610, RS, Brazil

Dr. Gabriel Oladele Awe

Department of Crop, Soil and Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Ekiti State University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria

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Message from the Guest Editors

Forest operations can adversely affect forest soils and the subsequent growth of trees and crops. Soil compaction leads to a reduction in infiltration and redistribution of soil water, which increases runoff and erosion. These consequences can persist and negatively impact subsequent forest and crop growth and productivity in both the short and long term. There are uncertainties about the effects of forest operations on the quality of different soil types to achieve and maintain the sustainability of forest systems. The goal of this SI is to provide an input on advances in soil tillage, management and forest harvest operations throughout the forest cycle to achieve and maintain productivity and sustainability.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Soil tillage and the management of soil's physical, chemical and biological qualities;
- Soil organic carbon, aggregate stability, and nutrient cycling;
- The effects of soil tillage and harvesting operations on soil physical-hydric properties;
- The effects of land use, management, and land use changes on soil quality;
- Components of the hydrologic cycle and erosion processes at the slope and watershed scales.







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Editors-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Cate Macinnis-Ng

Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland 1142, New Zealand

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia, I-25121 Brescia, Italy

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Forests Editorial Office MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 www.mdpi.com mdpi.com/journal/forests forests@mdpi.com X@Forests_MDPI