



UAV Applications in Forestry

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) applications are rapidly expanding and revolutionizing remote sensing for natural sciences. UAV platforms provide a unique opportunity for acquiring low-cost imagery at fine spatial and temporal resolutions from local to regional scales. Recent advances in UAV sensors include LiDAR and hyperspectral sensors, although multispectral and thermal sensors have been commonly used on UAV platforms. UAV-based visible (RGB) and near-infrared (NIR) images are also used to generate three-dimensional models of topography and vegetation using structure from motion (SfM). Taken together, the UAV sensors, associated images, and derived products can now provide critical datasets for forest monitoring, impact assessment, change detection, and management protocols. This special issue examines UAV-based multispectral, hyperspectral, and three-dimensional images in forestry applications. In particular, this Special Issue focuses on quantitative assessment of errors and accuracies of UAV image-derived forest metrics and variables at the scale of forest stands as well as individual trees.

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