

Tropical Wetlands in a Changing World: Current Status and Future Perspectives

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Message from the Guest Editors

Tropical wetlands are recognized for providing environmental services and ecological functions at several landscape scales that are important from local to global scales. There are considerable uncertainties regarding the global spatial extent of tropical wetlands, the relative distribution of wetland types, and their environmental status. Tropical wetlands are under considerable environmental pressure from global change, including hydrological disruption, eutrophication, urban pollution, desiccation, biodiversity loss, deforestation, agricultural, and aquaculture conversion but their effects have rarely been quantified. This SI focuses on recent ecological research on status and the main environmental impacts threatening the vulnerability of tropical wetlands in the twenty-first century. The main goals are to determine how the different environmental impacts are addressing the disturbance of tropical wetlands and their resilience, how these altered systems contribute to the loss of important environmental services, and how they can be conserved and protected in the framework of the global environmental and socio-economic crises that we will face over the next 100 years.





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