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### RESEARCH ARTICLES:

Most manuscripts published in *Ecosystems* report original research within the domain of ecosystem-level science. Studies should address questions in ecosystem science that are of general interest to an international audience, and research goals and findings should be placed in the context of current understanding of patterns and processes of ecosystems or land- and seascapes. *Ecosystems* publishes research from terrestrial, freshwater or marine ecosystems across a wide range of spatial and temporal scales. *Ecosystems* also welcomes interdisciplinary studies that integrate biotic, abiotic and social data.

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**MINI-REVIEWS:**

Periodically, *Ecosystems* publishes mini-reviews on recent or emerging topics in ecosystem science that are of wide interest. Most mini-reviews are invited by the editors in chief, but contributed mini-reviews are also published. Effective mini-reviews are not just summaries of the literature; rather, they synthesize current understanding to generate new insights and advance the field. Exhaustive review is not the goal, although it is important to provide context and summarize relevant history of the topic. Figures, including conceptual figures that help explain or organize information, are encouraged. Mini-reviews should also identify future research directions and take a point of view. Authors interested in preparing a mini-review should submit a short prospectus for consideration by the editors. Manuscripts follow standard guidelines.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:**

Special features are collections of related papers (typically four to six) that address aspects of a current topic in ecosystem science. Individual articles must be complementary and each must also stand on its own merit. Most special features are invited, but prospective authors also may submit a prospectus for consideration. Special feature papers are 3000-4000 words in length.

**EDITORIALS:**

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- Performed research
- Analyzed data
- Contributed new methods or models
- Wrote the paper

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Authors are encouraged to post their data on their own or institutional web sites, upload it as ESM, or post on a commercial data service site. The URL for the data should be included in the manuscript on the title page. Archived data should be sufficiently complete for readers to recreate results in the paper and accompanied by complete metadata.

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ABSTRACT of up to 250 words that highlights the objectives, results, and conclusions of the paper.

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Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section before the reference list. The names of funding organizations should be written in full. In addition, please provide the funding information in a separate step of the submission process in the peer review system. Funder names should preferably be selected from the standardized list you will see during submission. If the funding institution you need is not listed, it can be entered as free text. Funding information will be published as searchable metadata for the accepted article, whereas acknowledgements are published within the paper.

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### Article in edited book:

Carpenter, SR, Frost TM, Kitchell JF, Kratz TK, Schindler DW, Shearer J, Sprules WG, Vanni MJ, Zimmerman AP. 1991. Patterns of primary production and herbivory in 25 North American lake ecosystems. Cole J, Lovett G, Findlay S, editors. *Comparative analyses of ecosystems*. New York: Springer-Verlag New York. p67-96.

### Edited book:

Kitchell, JF, editor. 1992. *Food web management: a case study of Lake Mendota*. New York: Springer-Verlag New York.

### Authored book:

Ljung, L. 1987. *System identification: theory for the user*. Englewood Cliffs (NJ): Prentice-Hall. 270p.

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### General:

Send illustrations separately from the text (i.e. files should not be integrated with the text files).

### Vector (line) Graphics:

Vector graphics exported from a drawing program should be stored in EPS format.

Suitable drawing program: Adobe Illustrator. For simple line art, the following drawing programs are also acceptable: Corel Draw, Freehand, Canvas, Sigma Plot.

No rules narrower than .25 pt.

No gray screens paler than 15% or darker than 60%.

Screens meant to be differentiated from one another must differ by at least 15%.

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Line art should be provided as TIFF files at 600 ppi.

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- Research involving Human Participants and/or Animals
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Ecosystems

Editors-in-Chief: Turner, M.G.; Carpenter, S.R.

ISSN: 1432-9840 (print version)

ISSN: 1435-0629 (electronic version)

Journal no. 10021