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Resilience in SENSitive mountain FORest ecosystems under environmental change



Editors: Nils Chr. Stenseth, Frans E. Wielgolaski



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SPECIALS of Climate Research (CR) present important new information on climate phenomena, measured and assessed by closely coordinated group efforts. They concentrate on specific research themes or geographic areas.

CR SPECIAL 34 focuses on the impacts of climate and land use changes in treelines of several European mountain areas. Treelines, transition zones between the low elevation subalpine forests and the higher elevation low-alpine treeless ecosystems, are important and sensitive indicators of environmental changes. The SENSitive mountain FORest (SENSFOR) COST Action project focuses on the analysis and comparison of biological and socioecological data from European mountain areas, and also presents case studies from various European regions. The main aims of the SENSFOR treeline project in this Special are:

- *To improve the potential for sustainable governance of sensitive treeline ecosystems and related ecosystem services*
- *To build capacity for local and regional stakeholders to cope with future climate and land use changes*

The project was supported by the COST Action of the EU in which 22 EU countries and one 'neighbor country' cooperate.

Contributions to this CR SPECIAL provide a comprehensive overview of European mountain treelines ecosystems under environmental change and support strategy development for ecosystem service preservation and biodiversity conservation in sensitive European treeline areas.

We are pleased to make the online version of this CR Special available with Open Access

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Nordbunte 23 (+3, 5, 28, 30), 21385 Oldendorf/Luhe, Germany
Tel: (+49) (0)4132 7127, Fax: (+49) (0)4132 8883
Email: ir@int-res.com, Internet: www.int-res.com

