

INTECOL - Bulletin

International Association for Ecology

INTECOL 2017

Welcome Message from President of INTECOL

Dear INTECOL Members,

The 12th INTECOL Congress will be held in Beijing in 2017 and will be hosted by the Ecological Society of China. We hope you can join us at this conference. There will be wonderful opportunities to network, meet new friends from across the world, hear from world science leaders, and to collaborate and discuss innovative solutions to world ecological issues.

The theme of the congress is 'Ecology and Civilization in a Changing World'. A range of key topics will be discussed including ecosystem services and sustainable development, culture and conservation, global change, environmental change in urbanization, ecosystem restoration and management, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem health, molecular ecology and ecological genomics.

Proposals for symposium topics are due by 1 August 2016 and we strongly encourage you to submit ideas. We need a varied and extensive range of symposia. We are looking for proposals that cover the key topics of the congress and that promote collaboration across the globe and between colleagues in different countries. You can also submit paper abstracts from 1 August 2016.

Keep an eye on the INTECOL website and the INTECOL 2017 website for updates. Our new revamped INTECOL website will be launched very soon!

Ka kite ano
See you next year

Shona Myers
President of INTECOL

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INTECOL 2017 Beijing, China

INTECOL 2017 Beijing

Ecology and Civilization in a Changing World

21-25 August, 2017

First Circular



Invitation

The 12th International Congress of Ecology (INTECOL 2017 Beijing) will be held in Beijing, 21-25 August 2017. As the host of the congress, the Ecological Society of China warmly welcome you to join this meeting together with leaders in ecology from the globe, as well as scientists, educators, practitioners and policy-makers, who are dedicated to protecting and preserving our planet.

The theme of the congress is Ecology and Civilization in a Changing World, which will focus on harmonious and sustainable development among people, nature, and society in the context of global development. During the congress, the issues on the following fields will be thoroughly discussed, i.e., ecosystem service valuation and sustainable development, culture conservation and human well-being, global change, environmental change in urbanization, ecosystem restoration and management, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem health, ecological civilization, molecular ecology and ecological genomics. We do hope you can join us for discussing the issues faced by human and finding

solutions to them, as well as making new friends from the other regions.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Beijing in August 2017!

Professor Shirong Liu

Chair of Congress Organizing Committee

President of the Ecological Society of China

Professor of Chinese Academy of Forestry





Extension of Submission of Symposium Proposals : 1 August 2016

The deadline for submission of symposium proposals for INTECOL 2017 Beijing Congress extended to 1 August 2016

We are pleased to announce that the deadline for submission of symposium proposals of INTECOL 2017 Beijing congress is extended to August 1st, 2016 at the request of many ecologists from the world. The international congress of INTECOL organized in four years is an important event for the ecologist to exchange ideas, to meet friends, and further to seek cooperation. As one of such events, The 12th INTECOL International Congress will be held on 21 - 25 August 2017 in Beijing, China. The theme of this congress focus on harmonious and sustainable development among people, nature, and society in the context of global change. Thematic topics of the congress include:

- Ecosystem services and management
- Global climate change and ecosystem adaptation
- Urbanization and regional environmental change
- Biogeochemical cycling and ecosystem health
- Ecological degradation and ecosystem restoration
- Environmental stress and biodiversity conservation
- Industrial ecology and green economy
- Molecular ecology and evolution
- Landscape pattern, process and sustainability
- Ecohydrology and watershed management

**Contact:**

Dr. Liding CHEN

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General Secretary of ESC

Email: liding@rcees.ac.cn, intecol2017@rcees.ac.cn

- Paleocology, ecological dynamics and environmental assessment
- Agroecology, sustainable agriculture and rural development.

In order to promote collaboration and interdisciplinary dialogue, we invite you and your friends to participate this event and to propose symposia with specific topics. Proposals are encouraged to address the congress theme, if appropriate, but doing so is not necessary. Any timely and coherent subject of broad ecological interests will be welcomed. The proposals that explore interdisciplinary connections with areas of social and natural sciences outside of ecology are also welcomed.

Each symposium should have at least 8 speakers (15 min. presentations plus 5 min. discussions for each speaker). The content of symposium should follow the form given in the attachment. Please submit your proposals to liding@rcees.ac.cn, intecol2017@rcees.ac.cn before August 1, 2016. We will inform you as early as possible after the evaluation by the Congress Scientific Committee.

For more information about the 12th INTECOL International Congress of Ecology, please visit the website: www.intecol2017.org.



Meetings and Congress



ECSA 56 Coastal Systems in Transition

From a 'Natural' to an 'Anthropogenically-modified' State

4-7 September 2016, Maritim Hotel & Congress Centrum, Bremen, Germany

Welcome to ECSA's next major symposium, ECSA 56 Coastal systems in transition: From a 'natural' to an 'anthropogenically-modified' state, which will take place from the 4-7 September 2016 in Bremen, Germany.

Humans are drivers of and affected by global change. Human-induced global climate and regional environmental change dramatically modify the structures and functions of coastal systems driving them into a new system state. The altered resource potentials and ecosystem services then, in turn, significantly affect the livelihoods of the population.

Distinguishing between natural and anthropogenic control factors and quantifying their impacts is a major challenge in the investigation of hydrodynamic, sedimentological, biogeochemical, ecological and socio-economic processes in the coastal zone.

Inter- and transdisciplinary efforts are required to gain a profound understanding of these "novel" systems, which provides the basis for a sustainable management.

ECSA 56 brings together a global multi-disciplinary community of researchers and professionals to discuss

and address issues of outstanding scientific importance in the science and management of estuaries and coastal seas in this rapidly changing world. To submit your abstract or to register please visit our website: <http://www.estuarinecoastalconference.com>.

Dr. Tim Jennerjahn

Conference Chairman,

Leibniz Center for Tropical Marine Ecology,

Bremen, Germany

Editor-in-Chief of Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science



13th EURASIAN DRY GRASSLAND CONFERENCE (EDGC)

Management and Conservation of Semi-natural Grasslands: from Theory to Practice

20-24 Sept. 2016, Sighisoara, Romania

The local organising committee is pleased to announce that the 2016 Eurasian Grassland Conference will take place from the 20th to the 24th September 2016 in the historic town of Sighişoara in central Romania. This is the 13th annual meeting of the EDGG (formerly known as European Dry Grassland Meetings, EDGM), which aims to promote exchange and collaboration between those interested in all aspects of grassland research and conservation across Eurasia.

The conference is intended to bring together latest research, and to link this to practical management and policy contributing to the sustainability of semi-natural grasslands. For the first time, two optional pre-conference workshops will be offered; one on scientific writing and another on science/policy interfaces concerning semi-natural grasslands.

The conference will include the following sessions:

- Semi-natural grasslands and environmental policy and socio-economy
- Landscape scale processes and historical evolution of semi-natural grasslands
- Ecology and biodiversity of semi-natural grasslands
- Management, conservation and restoration of semi-natural grasslands.

All other topics related to semi-natural grasslands are also welcome. A special issue of an ISI listed journal related to the conference is planned, to which all contributors to the conference will be invited to submit papers.

The Eurasian Dry Grassland Conferences are organised annually by the European Dry Grassland Group (EDGG, <http://www.edgg.org>), a network of dry grassland/steppe researchers and conservationists from all disciplines. EDGG is affiliated with the IAVS (International Association for Vegetation Science) as a Working Group as well as with the EFNCP (European Federation for Nature Conservation and Pastoralism), and membership is free of charge.

The conference webpage is open at : <https://egc2016.namupro.de/>

- The deadline for early registration and abstract upload is 15th July (extended!).
- The deadline for late registration is 31st August.



Ecology Forum

Letter to Polish Government regarding Białowieża Forest



8 June 2016

Prime Minister of the Republic of Poland
Mrs. Beata Szydło

Minister of Environment of the Republic Poland
Mr. Prof. Jan Szyszko

Dear Mrs. Szydło and Prof. Szyszko,

INTECOL, The International Association for Ecology, pursues the development of the science of ecology and the application of ecological principles to global problems. Its members are the national ecological societies of many countries around the world. Since its foundation in 1967, INTECOL has been active in organizing conferences, meetings, symposia, programs and projects, conducting speaking-series, publication of manuscripts and supporting young scientists internationally.

The INTECOL Board has been informed by members about the plans of the Polish government to allow much greater logging in the Białowieża Forest in Eastern Poland than earlier established in long-term management plans. These major changes in the exploitation of the vast forest areas in the Polish part of Białowieża have been motivated officially by outbreaks of the bark beetle, which is affecting spruce trees in the outer areas of the forest. In these mixed forest areas, spruce is only a minor vegetation component and the bark beetle damage, even to the extent that it kills spruce trees, by no means warrants the logging of entire mixed forest stretches with many very large and old deciduous trees.

The Białowieża Forest is the very last primeval, natural forest in Europe. It has a tremendous value because of its biodiversity, 9000 years of development history, and its vast, very extensive size as a natural resource virtually untouched by humans. It is also very important as a source of education and recreation for inhabitants of Poland, Europe and the world. The learning experience and deep impression of seeing and wandering through a natural, primeval forest can hardly be overestimated. This gives opportunities for ecotourism, nature education and scientific research, now and for many future generations.

The INTECOL Board is very concerned about the major harmful measures proposed recently because they would seriously threaten the integrity of the whole area. The Polish Ministry of the Environment proposed that of the forest area outside of the Białowieża National Park, but protected as a UNESCO Cultural and Natural Heritage and Natura 2000 site, one third will remain under passive protection, whereas two-thirds would be "subjected to measures of ecological engineering through the implementation of forest management plans". These measures would imply the logging of more than four times as much wood than earlier indicated in previous long-term management plans. Whole forest stretches would be logged and it would take several centuries before they have recovered to mixed, uneven-aged forest stands. It is in this part of the forest area that the European Bison has been reintroduced successfully after a long-term and carefully executed program.

The Polish Government claims that the change in logging is necessary "to prevent the decline of habitats harmed by the bark beetle and to restore the natural processes in the forest". The INTECOL Board strongly opposes this statement and is convinced that the logging will result in the opposite: the integrity of the forest will be seriously jeopardized and natural functioning as well as species diversity will be affected in a negative way. Occasional outbreaks of population sizes of species killing trees such as the



bark beetle, are a perfectly normal phenomenon in natural forests. They lead to shifts in the dominance patterns of trees, in this case giving a number of deciduous and conifer tree species other than spruce, a chance to become more dominant in the forest. In addition, the decomposition of the dead trees is associated with an extremely diverse community of microbial decomposer species and a complete separate food web associated with them.

The INTECOL Board also rejects that "it is not scientifically proven" or "not known" what is the best strategy to protect lowland broad-leaf forests and their populations of endangered species. Studies in natural forests around the world have demonstrated that a no-intervention strategy is the only feasible option to really protect such vast, self-sustaining systems. It is exactly the age of these systems and their enormous diversity which has led over the millennia to a balanced situation which is extremely resilient and where natural dynamics do renew all regeneration processes in a perfectly natural way. Human interference is totally unnecessary and, if large-scale, will lead to a weakening and severe loss of these self-perpetuating processes.

Summarizing, the INTECOL Board is very concerned about the plans of the Polish government with the Bialowieza forest and urges the government to change its plans while it is still possible.

Shona Myers
INTECOL President
Auckland, New Zealand

John Lee
Sheffield, UK

Shirong Liu
Beijing, China

Manuel Maass
Michoacan, Mexico

Eun-Shik Kim
INTECOL Secretary General
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Call for Nominations : The Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement

The Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement is the premier award recognizing achievement in environmental science, health and energy. Established in 1973, the Prize has honored individuals and organizations for their outstanding contribution to the scientific knowledge and public leadership required to improve our planet's environment and therefore the well-being of its inhabitants. Endowed by the John and Alice Tyler Charitable Trusts, the Tyler Prize consists of an award of \$200,000 and a commemorative medallion. [<http://tylerprize.usc.edu/>]

For more information on eligibility and the revised nomination process, please visit www.tylerprize.org/nominate.html.

Nomination requirements:

- Nomination form (must include nominees home and/or cell number)
- Nominee's CV or resume
- A one to two-page summary of the individual's or institution's accomplishments, discovery, improvement, or other contribution for which the award is proposed, including links to appropriate websites
- A list of three to five individuals who would be ready to provide reference letters should the nomination advance to the short list

Submission deadline is Friday, September 16, 2016.

More information on the nomination process can be found here: www.tylerprize.org/nominate.html

Contact:

Amber Brown, Administrator:

Email: nominations@tylerprize.org • Telephone: (1) 213-740-9760 • Fax: (1) 213-740-1313

Web: www.tylerprize.org

The Tyler Prize is governed and awarded by an independent, international committee of experts and leaders in environmental fields. For a complete list of the Tyler Prize Executive Committee members please visit: www.tylerprize.org/executivecommittee.html.

Current Laureate:

Sir Partha Dasgupta: Environmental economics

Past Laureates include:

- Madhav Gadgil and Jane Lubchenco: Science policy and public leadership
- Diana Wall: Soil ecology
- Richard Alley and V. "Ram" Ramanathan: Climate change
- May Berenbaum: Insect-plant interactions
- John Holdren: Energy and environment
- John Seinfeld and Kirk Smith: Air quality and health
- Jared Diamond and Thomas Lovejoy: Conservation biology
- Werner Stumm and Richard Vollenweider: Water resources
- The Barefoot College: Sustainable technologies in rural communities
- Red Latinoamerica de Botanica: Plant biodiversity and training
- Paul and Anne Ehrlich: Ecological principles applied to human population
- For a complete list of Laureates see: www.tylerprize.org/pastlaureates.html



INTECOL, International Association for Ecology

INTECOL is affiliated with the ICSU family of scientific organizations as the section responsible for general ecology within the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The association will assist and/or support the development of the science of ecology and the application of ecological principles to global problems, especially by assisting international cooperation; the collection, evaluation and distribution of information about ecology; national, regional and international actions which will serve ecological research, training of personal, coordination of general publications of ecological principles and the recognition of the importance of ecology for economy and society; the organization of conferences, meetings, symposia, programs and projects, conduct of speaking-series, publication of manuscripts, and measures which are deemed necessary to reach the goals of the association.

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Deadline for sending information for next e-Bulletin

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