CALL FOR PAPERS

Methods and Applications in Natural Resources Management

Special Volume of the *Annals of Operations Research*

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Brief description of the Topic: Because many real-world decision-making situations arise from agriculture and from forest management, which are part of other natural resources like fisheries and water, *Methods and Applications in Natural Resources Management* are often presented at OR international conferences and workshops and are expected to increase in the future. Presentations usually contain a section called "Validation" or "Discussion," and although they describe carefully what the program or model does, often they only briefly stress why and how it does it. The purpose of this volume is to focus on the methods but without leaving aside derived applications.

Objectives: This special volume of *Annals of Operations Research* is intended to collect in one volume high quality papers on *Methods and Applications in Natural Resources Management* considering both theoretical issues and application results. It is expected that many of these papers have been presented within the EURO Summer Institute on OR in Agriculture and Forest Management (www.esi2009.udl.cat), but other contributions falling in the topic of this volume are also welcomed. Methods applied to problems from agriculture and natural resource management may include, but are not restricted to, the following themes:

- Dynamic programming
- Bayesian networks and decision graphs
- Markov decision processes
- Linear programming
- Stochastic programming
- Parameter estimation and knowledge acquisition
- Learning from data

- Descriptive and normative decision tree techniques
- Agent modelling and simulation
- State of the art surveys

Papers will undergo a very stringent evaluation process based on an international refereeing procedure in order to ensure contributions are of top international standard.

Deadline for submissions: September 30th 2010

<u>Author instructions</u>: For preparation of manuscripts please follow the instructions at http://www.springer.com/journal/10479/submission</u> The article type for this volume is "SI: Methods_App in Natural Resource Mgt."

<u>Publication:</u> Papers will be published in the online version of the journal as soon as they are accepted.