

# A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE SECOND SPECIAL SECTION OF PAPERS FROM THE TENTH SOUTHERN FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GIS CONFERENCE

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**ABSTRACT.** This is the second Special Section of papers from the 10<sup>th</sup> Southern Forestry and Natural Resource Management GIS Conference. The conference was held in Athens, Georgia (USA) on December 7-8, 2015. In this Special Section resides the third manuscript that has passed the peer review process. We anticipate that future issues of *Mathematical and Computational Forestry & Natural-Resource Sciences* may include other papers from the conference.

**Keywords:** Symposium Proceedings, SOFOR GIS, Geographic Information Systems, Spatial Information Technologies, mapping technologies

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Held nearly every two years, the Southern Forestry and Natural Resource Management GIS Conference (SOFOR GIS) provides academics and practitioners an opportunity to meet and to discuss new ideas that have recently been developed in fields related to mapping technologies. The series began in 1996 and the 10<sup>th</sup> conference was held in 2015. Associated with the conference is a proceedings of papers and abstracts, each editorially reviewed. However, since 2010 a select set of papers has been submitted to *Mathematical and Computational Forestry & Natural-Resource Sciences* (MCFNS) to undergo peer review by an international set of reviewers. Special Sections in MCFNS have thus been devoted to those works that have passed peer review. Volume 8, Issue 2 (this issue) of MCFNS contains a second Special Section related to the 2015 conference.

## 2 CONTENTS OF THE SPECIAL SECTION

As a continuation of our series of papers arising from the 10<sup>th</sup> SOFOR GIS Conference, Crosby and Self (2016) describe geospatial methods for assessing tree seedling mortality as a result of meadow vole herbivory. The pattern of damage and the preference for specific tree species were observed through field study and subsequent analyses. Over the course of their seven-year study, tree damage information was collected and a geospatial analysis

of damaged trees was performed, allowing investigation into spatial clustering of tree mortality.

Two other papers from this conference were published previously in Volume 8, Issue 1 of *Mathematical and Computational Forestry & Natural-Resource Sciences* (Kauffman and Prisley, 2016 and Bettinger et al. 2016). We anticipate that two additional papers may be available in future issues of this journal.

## 3 FUTURE CONFERENCE LOCATION AND DATE

The 11<sup>th</sup> SOFOR GIS Conference will be held on December 11-12, 2017 in Athens, Georgia (USA). Information regarding the conference will soon be available at [www.soforgis.net](http://www.soforgis.net). During the conference we hope to facilitate discussions among academics and practitioners on practical issues involving the use of GIS, GPS, unmanned aerial vehicles, and other geospatial technologies. In addition, we hope to provide a venue for the delivery of advances in science related to the use and application of geospatial technologies to issues facing forest managers today.

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