
Biodiversity collapse and the future of the Eastern Deciduous Forest Biome of North America

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Résumé

Dr. Walter Carson's research on the eastern forests of North America has focused on introduced pests and pathogens, the consequences of over-abundant ungulates, and the pervasive practice of fire suppression. His findings demonstrate that introduced enemies and alteration of biome wide disturbance and browsing regimes have changed the very nature of a biome critical for carbon storage and sequestration. Future forests will have both a depauperate overstory, and a species poor understory, dominated by a small number of highly shade-tolerant, browse-tolerant, and fire intolerant plant species.

Mots-Clés: Biodiversity, Deciduous forest, North America

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