Selection Criteria for *Landscape Ecology*'s Best Article Award

Landscape Ecology's Best Article Award is awarded annually to the best article published in the journal in the previous calendar year. This award is sponsored by the journal's publisher Springer. The best article is selected by the Editorial Board of Landscape Ecology based on the following criteria:

1)   Relevance: The article's subject matter is immediately relevant to the key topics in landscape ecology.

2)   Scientific rigor: The article has interesting and important research questions clearly articulated, proper methods adequately described and rigorously implemented, and unambiguous conclusions sufficiently supported by results presented.

3)   Breakthrough/Innovation: The article presents a new theoretical and methodological development or ground-breaking findings through innovative applications of landscape ecological principles and methods.

4)   Originality and literature: The article is original in terms of the research reported and shows an adequate awareness of the primary literature immediately relevant to the subject matter.

5)   Quality of writing: The article is well organized and written, with clarity, accuracy, and readability.

Selection Procedure

1) The EiC solicits nominations for the Best Article Award from the Editorial Board members. Each member can nominate 1 paper based on the selection criteria.

2) The EiC selects 5 nominated articles and send them out to the Editorial Board members for final ranking.

3) The most highly ranked article will be selected for the Best Article Award, and the rest will receive Best Article Honorable Mentions.

The winner receives:
- A voucher for free access to any Springer publication in eBook form (value of 250 Euros/US dollars);
- Article made freely accessible for 8 weeks on SpringerLink;
- A brief write up on the journal's landing page and IALE website.