National Ecological Observatory Network ne@n

Data to understand changing ecosystems







## How do ecosystems adapt and respond to changes over time?

Monitoring ecosystem health is a complex challenge. From droughts and wildfires to land use and invasive species, our ecosystems are constantly changing. NEON is a continental-scale network of field sites that captures key data to help us better understand the causes and impacts of environmental change in the United States.

## How does NEON work?

The data NEON collects characterize plants, animals, soil, nutrients, freshwater and atmosphere over a 30-year timeframe. These freely available data enable scientists and policymakers to study changing ecosystems at large spatial and temporal scales and better forecast the impacts of these changes for future generations.

NEON field sites are strategically located in different ecosystems across the United States. A variety of standardized and integrated data collection methods are used at each site:

- Automated instruments Installed instruments collect atmospheric, soil and aquatic data
- Observational sampling Field scientists collect plant and animal population data

Follow us!

 Airborne remote sensing Annual flight surveys capture changes in land cover and vegetation health

## Learn more at www.neonscience.org

EON is a project sponsored by the National Science Foundation and proudly operated by Battelle.



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