STEAC MEETING REPORT
(06/22/2022)

The STEAC met on June 22, 2022, with a quorum of nine members attending (Lilian Alessa, Sarah Bevins, Mike Dietze, Anne Giblin, Peter Groffman, Jackie Matthes, Kim Novick, Steve Petruzza, Shawn Serbin,). Nine NEON-Battelle staff attended (Zoe Gentes, Darcy Gora, Mike Kuhlman, Christine Laney, Claire Lunch, Paula Mabee, Chris McKay, Bonnie Meinke, Kate Thibault).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Approval of previous minutes; II. Approval of May 22, STEAC report to Battelle, III. Data product use & engagement planning; IV. Other business;

I.   **Approval of previous minutes:** Minutes Approved

II.   **Approval of May 22, STEAC report to Battelle:** Report Approved

III. **Data product use & engagement planning:**

NEON presented an update and new data related to the data product usage and engagement with the community. The presentation included information on the "top ten downloads" as well as an indication of the underutilized data products. The National Science Foundation is asking NEON how the AY23 engagement plan focuses on underutilized data products? NEON requested feedback from the STEAC focused on how data use (downloads or publications) should inform the engagement plan for next year. This included requesting feedback on possible reasons for underutilized products. In particular, aquatic data has significantly less downloads in comparison to other data types.

The members of the STEAC identified a few potential drivers: 1) The pandemic likely impacted virtual teaching/labs and the download numbers for particular data products; 2) there may be data products that the community may still not be aware of; 3) datasets that the community is aware of but may not know how to easily access or use; 4) Some datasets may require a longer time series to be useful. The members of the STEAC also suggested that the NEON aquatic community is much smaller than the terrestrial ecology community and that a delay in the release of river discharge data may be a key factor in low download/usage, as well as the delay in setting up and flooding of aquatic instrumentation system (AIS) sites which created large data gaps. The members of the STEAC asked how NEON could be better leveraging the technical working groups (TWGs) to find ways for improved data product engagement. Further discussion on this topic is needed to develop ideas for NEON's community engagement.

IV.   **Other business:** None