

STEAC MEETING REPORT

(09/22/2021)

The STEAC met on September 22, 2021 with a quorum of eleven members attending (Anne Giblin, Karen Lips, Lillian Alessa, Mike Dietze, Peter Groffman, Rob Guralnick, Sarah Bevins, Shawn Serbin, Sparkle Malone, Steve Petruzza, Jackie Matthes,). Six NEON-Battelle staff attended (Paula Mabee, Kate Thibault, Darcy Gora, Gene Kelly, Zoe Gentes, Eric Sokol). One ASU staff member attended (Nico Franz).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Welcome new members; II. Approval of previous minutes; III. Proposal to De-fuzz State listed taxa; IV. Items for discussion at Fall STEAC meeting (Oct 5,7).

- I. **Welcome new members:** Steve Petruzza, Karen Lips, and Shawn Serbin. The STEAC meets monthly. The week before the meeting a call for agenda items and reading materials to prepare for the meeting will be sent to you. Post meeting minutes for all meetings are sent to you directly following the meeting for editing and will be evaluated at the start of the next meeting. We schedule multi-day meetings once in the Spring and the Fall. Following the multi-day meeting the STEAC will compose a report with recommendations to NEON. NEON encourages the STEAC to initiate agenda items and NEON is open to having specialists attend the meetings when needed.
- II. **Approval of previous minutes:** Approved
- III. **Proposal to de-fuzz state listed taxa:** NEON is fuzzing the taxonomic information for state and federally listed species. While required for federally listed species, this is not required for state listed species. NEON proposes to de-fuzz the state listed species since there are no clear guidelines from the states, and there is lots of variability in space and time in the lists. It is a lot of work to keep track of these state lists. NEON would also like the NSF to revisit guidelines for federally listed species to plan for data users who request de-fuzzed information. The STEAC voted to support the proposal to de-fuzz state listed taxa and to support NEON asking the NSF to re-engage with federal agencies to establish a plan for data users who request access to de-fuzzed state listed taxa. The STEAC also encourages NEON to develop a communication plan for any changes to the data.
- IV. **Items for discussion at Fall STEAC meeting (Oct 5, 7):** The STEAC is planning on discussing term limits in the FALL meeting and will identify additional agenda items via email. We may be able to have a 1 day meeting instead of a 2 day meeting.