

STEAC MEETING REPORT

(12/17/2025)

The members of the STEAC met on December 17, 2025, with nine members attending (Kelly Aho, Ben Baiser, Kin Onn Chan, Jennifer Edmonds, John Kochendorfer, Sydne Record, Adrienne Sponberg, Samapriya Roy, and Xi Yang). Five NEON-Battelle staff attended (Darcy Gora, Paula Mabee, Tanya Maslak, Hojun Song, and Kate Thibault).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Call to order, II. Updates on NSF funding and potential protocol modifications, III. Quick report on Summit Working Groups/Products. IV. Timing of the 2026 STEAC online meetings and spring in-person STEAC meetings in Boulder, CO

- I. Approval of previous minutes for 11/25/2025:** Discussion of notes and further work required. Kochendorfer will work on the notes from the last two meetings, and the STEAC will approve them later.
- II. Updates on NSF funding and potential data product modifications:** NEON provided NSF with a summary of the comments and consensus of the STEAC on the data products proposed for discontinuation or modification. Feedback on the scope modifications proposal is expected from NSF this week. The future is bright for NEON. Kate Thibault summarized past conversations with NSF and potential approaches for cost savings/reductions.
- III. Quick report on Convergence Summit Working Groups/Products:** A manuscript is being developed. Working groups asked for updates, and more information is forthcoming.
- IV. Timing of 2026 STEAC online meetings and spring in-person STEAC meeting in Boulder, CO:** We proposed moving the meeting time forward by 30 min to 12:30 EST on Wednesdays. Early April on a Monday and Tuesday is the best option, but a poll will follow.
- V. Question from the STEAC on engagement policy:** There have been no indications of NEON engagement strategy/policy changing.