

## **STEAC MEETING REPORT**

**(07/16/2025)**

The members of the STEAC met on July 16, 2025, with a quorum of seven members attending (Jennifer Edmonds, Rich Fiorella, Shannon LaDeau, Sydne Record, Samapriya Roy, Daniel Rubenstein, and Adrienne Sponberg). Four NEON-Battelle staff attended (Darcy Gora, Chris McKay, Tanya Maslak and Kate Thibault).

The meeting was virtual, and the following topics were discussed: I. Call to order, II. Consideration of new STEAC member applications, III. Convergence Summit update, IV. AY26 plans and communications.

- I. **Approval of previous minutes for 03/19/2025 and 06/25/25:** Minutes from prior meetings were approved by STEAC by voice vote.
  
- II. **Consideration of new STEAC member applications:** The STEAC discussed new member applications that they had reviewed before the meeting. Up to five new members are needed to fill in spots being vacated by STEAC members who are cycling off at the end of September 2025. Recommendations were made to NEON for new members. There were some concerns voiced about the applicant pool. For instance, the STEAC felt there may not have been enough applicants with AI experience, land and atmosphere flux expertise (especially since we have lost many members in the past few years with that expertise), and community and organismal biology.
  
- III. **Convergence Summit update:** Tanya Maslak provided an update on the planned NEON Convergence Summit to take place October 15-17, 2025. There was a large applicant pool, so the committee had a big job in winnowing down who would attend. Invitations will be sent out shortly. The organizing committee would like to solicit keynote speaker ideas for the summit if STEAC members have ideas.