



National Ecological Observatroy Netowrk

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Ecology is increasingly tackling questions of great intellectual difficulty, critical for developing a sustainable world. NEON links ecology to the physical sciences to address climate impacts and feedbacks, and atmospheric and hydrological transport. NEON also links ecology to the human sciences, observing land use and land management practices directly, integrating with key human data sets and deploying infrastructure into cities, farms and production forestry.

Part of NEON's design is the standardization of approaches and technologies to enable a consistent scaling strategy. Because approaches and technologies are rapidly changing, NEON is challenged to develop an adaptive and dynamic structure. Moreover, collaboration with other networks will expand NEON's sphere of influence and data products. Hence, as NEON science continues to mature, it becomes increasingly important to expand our understanding globally and assure standardization and the compatibility of data products through cooperation with international and national entities.

Here, we present an overall philosophy and specific strategic details to achieve this goal, and demonstrate a large diversity of partner organizations and ecological disciplines. We demonstrate new initiatives in standardization and leadership. NEON represents new Observatory scale ecology and how new frontiers can be forged in collaboration with existing Networks.