

NEON PROTOCOL AND PROCEDURE: SIM - SITE MANAGEMENT AND DISTURBANCE DATA COLLECTION

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Change Record

REVISION	DATE	ECO #	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE
А	03/10/2017	ECO-04456	Initial release
В	07/15/2018	ECO-05721	Added datasheet, Added table of reporting captured in other protocols, Corrected MOAB domain, Removed Fulcrum app details and transferred to Fulcrum user guide
С	01/13/2020	ECO-06278	Updated tables to reflect Fulcrum app changes and revised data structure, Removed the table of programmatic functions for mappings from Fulcrum fields to Ameriflux BADM



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1 OVERVIEW

1.1 Background

NEON has been designed to observe and collect data on ecosystem responses to changes in climate, land-use and invasive species over a thirty-year period. These observations will come from 20 different domains, each having sites that experience a range of management activities and stochastic disturbances occurring at varying temporal and spatial scales. Without context, many of these activities and perturbations could be interpreted by data users as a response to the aforementioned forcings. For example, a site may have a history of applying herbicides to control an invasive plant and, during the course of the study, the landowner ceases these activities and the plant begins to recolonize the study area. Without the knowledge of the changes in land-management practices, the data user could make inferences that are incorrect or that do not account for the other variables that may be causing the observed variation. Equally important are the random events that may impact multiple data products across plots and aquatic reaches or within individual plots and transects. Knowledge of burns, wind damage, flooding, erosional processes, and the like are all important to the integrity and utility of NEON data products. This protocol and the associated standard operating procedures provide the means for documenting site-specific management activities and disturbances.

1.2 Scope

This document provides a change-controlled version of Observatory protocols and procedures. Documentation of content changes (i.e. changes in particular tasks or safety practices) will occur via this change-controlled document, not through field manuals or training materials.

1.2.1 NEON Science Requirements and Data Products

This protocol fulfills Observatory science requirements that reside in NEON's Dynamic Object-Oriented Requirements System (DOORS). Copies of approved science requirements have been exported from DOORS and are available in NEON's document repository, or upon request.

Execution of this protocol procures samples and/or generates raw data satisfying NEON Observatory scientific requirements. These data and samples are used to create NEON data products, and are documented in the NEON Scientific Data Products Catalog (RD[03]).



2 RELATED DOCUMENTS AND ACRONYMS

2.1 Applicable Documents

Applicable documents contain higher-level information that is implemented in the current document. Examples include designs, plans, or standards.

AD[01]	NEON.DOC.004300	EHS Safety Policy and Program Manual
AD[02]	NEON.DOC.004316	Operations Field Safety and Security Plan
AD[03]	NEON.DOC.000724	Domain Chemical Hygiene Plan and Biosafety
		Manual
AD[04]	NEON.DOC.001155	NEON Training Plan
AD[05]	NEON.DOC.050005	Field Operations Job Instruction Training Plan
AD[06]	NEON.DOC.004104	NEON Science Data Quality Plan

2.2 Reference Documents

Reference documents contain information that supports or complements the current document. Examples include related protocols, datasheets, or general-information references.

RD[01]	NEON.DOC.000008	NEON Acronym List
RD[02]	NEON.DOC.000243	NEON Glossary of Terms
RD[03]	NEON.DOC.002652	NEON Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 Data Products Catalog
RD[04]	NEON.DOC.001271	NEON Protocol and Procedure: Manual Data Transcription
RD[05]	NEON.DOC.002984	NEON Standard Operating Procedure: Minimizing Site Disturbance
		During Aquatic and Terrestrial Observation System Sampling

2.3 Acronyms

Acronym	Definition	
GIS	Geographic Information Systems	
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure	

2.4 Definitions

Event Type: broad category used in this protocol to describe a variety of anticipated planned management activities and unplanned disturbances

Primary Observation: an observation by NEON domain staff of the implementation or results of site management activities or unplanned disturbances

Secondary Observation: a report to NEON domain staff by an external party of the occurrence of an event, planned or unplanned, at one or more NEON sampling locations



NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282

3 METHOD

This protocol provides methods to document ecologically notable events, including both land management activities (planned) and disturbances (unplanned), which occur within NEON sites. This important information will be provided to the NEON data user. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) described below capture such events across spatial scales: at the site, reach or airshed level, at a group of specified plots, or at the level of an individual sampling location. SOP A describes the process of identifying, tracking, and recording long term, large scale, planned site management activities that are likely to impact NEON data products. SOP B incorporates information pertaining to unplanned events and the associated consequences across spatial scales. Additional considerations are provided with respect to the particular terrestrial or aquatic NEON system being impacted. Although the SOPs describe different approaches to organizing and reporting the diversity of potential events, all data shall be entered into one mobile data application, described in SOP C.

This protocol is not intended to yield documentation of every event that occurs at a NEON site, but rather, those activities, either planned or unplanned, that likely affect a NEON data point and of which NEON staff are aware, either through direct observation or secondary reports from landowners, site hosts, and other reliable sources. While this reporting is not expected to capture all important activities, it provides a means to capture as much of the useful on-the-ground information as possible, to ultimately provide to the NEON data user. Moreover, some protocols provide a means of reporting some of these impacts as part of the data product, and these impacts are not expected to be reproduced here (Table 1). For example, the TOS small mammal sampling data product provides data pertaining to traps disturbed for potential incorporation into mark-recapture models or other analyses. Although the cause of the disturbance (e.g., black bear (Ursus americanus)) is not necessarily included in the data product, these disturbance events should not be reported again here.

The Field Operations Domain Manager (DM) or a delegated domain protocol lead will be responsible for gathering required data for each SOP. Domain Managers (or Field Protocol Leads) are also responsible for compiling necessary reports, maps, and datasheets for ingest from readily available materials to complete this reporting function. Field Ecologists and Technicians will report to the DM or Field Protocol Lead on disturbances they observe that impact plot-level data and sampling, along with larger disturbances and management activities that may occur across the site (see field datasheet in Appendix A). The primary goal is to collect information about activities and disturbances that have the potential to impact or affect data products across all NEON data-generating systems (TIS, TOS, AIS, AOS, and AOP) that are not collected as part of a data product. Given that the scope of significant impacts can be difficult to bound, observations outside permitted site boundaries or those that do not have potential impacts to NEON data products do not need to be collected. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), in Section 7 of this document, provide detailed step-by-step directions, contingency plans, sampling tips, and best practices for implementing this sampling procedure. To properly collect and process samples, field technicians must follow the protocol and associated SOPs. Use NEON's problem reporting system to resolve any field issues associated with implementing this protocol.



The value of NEON data hinges on consistent implementation of this protocol across all NEON domains, for the life of the project. It is therefore essential that field personnel carry out this protocol as outlined in this document. In the event that local conditions create uncertainty about carrying out these steps, it is critical that technicians document the problem and enter it in NEON's problem tracking system.

Quality assurance is performed on data collected via these procedures according to the NEON Science Data Quality Plan (AD[06]).

3.1 Planned Site Management Activities

Long term, planned site management activities are reported using the procedure outlined in SOP A (Table 2). This procedure pertains to site management activities that are planned and occur regularly as part of the site host's land management plan, including planting schedule, livestock rotation, or other land-use activities. The Domain Manager will be responsible for gathering as much information as is reasonably possible from site hosts, farmers, ranchers, and other stakeholders on activities that are planned to occur during the upcoming field season. At the end of the field season or year-end, where applicable, the Domain Manager will verify, where possible, that these land use activities have been accurately reported as an occurrence at the plot or site level. The reporting level is to be to the lowest possible land demarcation (such as to plot level, if possible, rather than just a site reporting). Reporting is expected to occur only after the activity has been completed, as the data user is presumed to be not interested in planned activities that did not occur. At a minimum, this report should attempt to (a) quantify the scale of the activities (e.g., square meters, hectares), (b) capture the NEON assets that were impacted (e.g., plot numbers, airshed, stream reach), and (c) record the type of manipulation.

Examples may include, but are not limited to:

- Grazing regimes (cattle stocking rates, extent, timing)
- Logging/maceration (Logging type, level of disturbance)
- Burning regimes (extent, season, frequency)
- Agricultural practices (planting, fertilizing, pesticide use and application rate)
- Non-NEON research activities (experimental fertilization, biomass removal)

3.2 Unplanned Disturbances

Unplanned disturbances, regardless of the scale of impact, are documented using the procedures outlined in SOP B (Table 4). For large-scale disturbances involving multiple sampling locations, the Domain Manager, with input from Domain staff, should quantify the extent of each disturbance or manipulation and the assets that were possibly impacted annually (e.g., at the start of each field season).

Large-scale, unplanned events may include, but are not limited to:

• Wildfire (Location, intensity)



- Flooding event (Extent, effect) •
- Blowdown
- Vandalism (Location, type, effect) •

Small spatio-temporal scale events typically occur at the plot level for TOS, the transect level for AOS, the sensor location for AIS, and the tower for TIS. Observations should be made each time a new disturbance is discovered during normal scheduled visits to sampling locations. Record only those observations that are likely to have direct impacts on the data products (e.g., wild boar digging up 1m² plant diversity subplot). The nature of the disturbance will be chosen from a menu in the mobile application, and then the field staff will determine the areal impact as a percentage of the plot area and determine which sub-plots are most affected. Note that these observations are not to include impacts caused by NEON activities (See NEON DOC.002984 – SOP for Site Disturbance RD[05]).

Small-scale, unplanned events may include, but are not limited to:

- Fallen tree
- Animal disturbance
- Vandalism

Table 1. Descriptions of protocol-specific data product reporting that do not need to be reproduced as part of the site management protocol. The rest of the site management protocol outlines the required event reporting which is not sampling protocol specific.

Protocol	Protocol-Specific Data Product Reporting
Canopy Foliage Sampling	Individual plant status of 'diseased' or 'damaged'; if the individual plant status is part of a larger event affecting multiple plants that are
	not sampled, the larger scale event should be reported in the site management application.
Soil N-transformations	Incubation condition captures when an incubated sample was not
Sampling	recovered, because it was missing, destroyed, etc. If this status reflects
	a larger scale event that impacts the entire plot or more, the larger
	scale event should be reported in the site management application.
Plant Diversity Sampling	Disturbances are only captured as 'remarks'; it is recommended that
	disturbances are more formally captured in the site management
	application.
Riparian Sampling	Captures changes in the riparian area or erosion to the stream bank,
	once per year; these do not need to reproduced as part of the site
	management application
Stream Morphology	Captures woody debris and downed trees when performed every 5
Sampling	years; disturbances (changes to the stream channel, including channel
	migration or changing habitat (e.g., pools filling in, riffles turning into
	pools), noticeable changes in bank erosion, newly downed trees (>0.15
	m diameter), newly downed colonies of small trees (e.g., a whole
	stand of small willows), or new noticeable debris dams should be



	captured in the site management application during years when the
	protocol is not conducted.
Fish Sampling	The field, fishReachCondition, captures data about flooding on the sampling day.
AOS Protocols	Information captured in samplingImpractical or in the AOS Field Metadata and Gage Height Application do not need to be reproduced here. If flooding levels prevent sampling, these should be captured in the site management application.
Litterfall, Ground Beetle, Mosquito, and Small Mammal Sampling	Disturbed or damaged traps are captured. If this status reflects a larger scale event that impacts the entire plot or more, the larger scale event should be reported in the site management application.
Vegetation Structure	Disturbances are only captured as 'remarks' in perplotperyear; it is recommended that disturbances are more formally captured in the site management application. Individual plant status is captured; if the individual plant status is part of a larger event affecting multiple plants, especially at a scale larger than the plot or if new information as to the cause of the status could be provided in the site management application, the larger scale event should be reported in the site management application.

4 SAMPLING SCHEDULE

4.1 Sampling Frequency and Timing

SOP A: Planned Site Management: In many domains, timing of this SOP will be dependent on the site host, their land-use plan, and when the desired information will become available. The Domain Manager should determine sensible start and end dates for each management cycle (e.g., fiscal year, calendar year, beginning of sampling season, beginning of grazing season). Frequency of data collection within the management cycle is at the discretion of the Domain Manager. At a minimum, domain staff should verify that the planned activities have been completed at the end of the cycle and reported accordingly.

SOP B: Unplanned Site Disturbances: The Domain Manager should review annually which large-scale disturbances are likely to occur across the sites within each domain and communicate these to the field staff at the beginning of the year or field season (e.g., flooding, wildfire, wind damage). Data recording should take place as soon as the disturbance is observed and it is safe to assess the scale and intensity of the impact, preferably within 10 days of the observation. For small-scale disturbances, observations should be made, as necessary, during each visit to a plot, transect, point or other designated sampling location throughout the sampling season. Field ecologists or domain managers should review recently recorded disturbance information records to assess that they are only reporting new activities or impacts (e.g., dead cow in plot is only reported once). Multiple reports could imply multiple observed impacts if larger area locations are selected (e.g., multiple reports of dead cow at "reach" location would not necessarily be understood as same dead animal reported multiple times.) All observations for a sampling location are expected to be entered while at the sampling location using the mobile



application and to the best, most exact location detail. A field datasheet is provided to facilitate recording (Appendix A).

4.2 Estimated Time

The time required to implement a protocol will vary depending on a number of factors, such as skill level, system diversity, environmental conditions, and distance between sample plots. The timeframe provided below is an estimate based on completion of a task by a skilled two-person team (i.e., not the time it takes at the beginning of the field season). Use this estimate as framework for assessing progress. If a task is taking significantly longer than the estimated time, a problem ticket should be submitted. Please note that if sampling at particular locations requires significantly more time than expected, Science may propose to move these sampling locations.

This protocol is expected to take no more than 6 hours per site per year. Some of the more intensively managed sites may require more time, up to an additional 6 hours per site per year. It is expected that set-up for this protocol may take longer at a first-year site. Time should be scheduled to provide quick data processing to accommodate fast turnaround in data availability to the user. Field observation time is not expected to be in addition to relevant subsystem protocol tasking, but rather, an observation completed while executing other protocol efforts. Therefore, the time estimate is for compiling the reports at the domain support facility.

5 SAFETY

This document identifies procedure-specific safety hazards and associated safety requirements. It does not describe general safety practices or site-specific safety practices.

Personnel working at a NEON site must be compliant with safe field work practices as outlined in the Operations Field Safety and Security Plan (AD[02]) and EHS Safety Policy and Program Manual (AD[01]). Additional safety issues associated with this field procedure are outlined below. The Field Operations Manager and the Lead Field Technician have primary authority to stop work activities based on unsafe field conditions; however, all employees have the responsibility and right to stop their work in unsafe conditions.

6 PERSONNEL

6.1 Training Requirements

All technicians must complete required safety training as defined in the NEON Training Plan (AD[04]). Additionally, technicians must complete protocol-specific training for safety and implementation of this protocol as required in Field Operations Job Instruction Training Plan (AD[05]).

Training for this protocol may involve GIS software to delineate site boundaries and affected areas where the skills and resources exist in specific domain support facilities and where that facility deems



this tool necessary. Fulcrum application training may also be necessary. The Domain Manager or Field Ecologists should review annually which large-scale disturbances (a) are likely to occur across the sites within each domain and (b) have been reported in the site management application in previous years and communicate these to the field staff as part of training, at the beginning of the year or field season (e.g., flooding, wildfire, wind damage).



7 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

SOP A Planned Site Management Activity Reporting

A.1 Preparing for Data Capture

Mobile applications are the preferred mechanism for data entry. Mobile devices should be fully charged at the beginning of each field day, whenever possible.

However, given the potential for mobile devices to fail under field conditions, it is imperative that paper datasheets are always available to record data. Paper datasheets should be carried along with the mobile devices to sampling locations at all times.

A.2 Collecting data on planned site management activities

- 1. Gather NEON site boundaries and sampling locations as provided by the NEON GIS specialist.
 - 1) Examples include:
 - a) Airshed maps
 - b) Plot boundary locations with associated named locations
 - c) Aquatic reach boundary with associated sampling points as named locations
 - d) Extent of permitted area
- 2. Research management plans for the site at least once annually. Gather as much relevant information as possible on each site management activity (e.g., date, duration, area, amount of fertilizer used, number of cows grazed), using any or all of the following methods:
 - a. Collect spatial data on management activities via maps provided by the site host, the NEON GIS specialist, or satellite imagery, such as that provided by Google Earth.
 - 1) Examples include:
 - a) Site specific land use maps
 - b) Site specific burn maps
 - c) Site specific farming plots
 - b. Request site management plans, if available.
 - c. Request formal or informal communications with site hosts, as appropriate
 - 1) Examples include:
 - a) requesting a phone call of intention to spray herbicides
 - b) requesting the intention to burn schedule
 - d. Participate in annual planning meetings (e.g., land use committee meetings)
 - e. Additional details on timing and frequency are described in Section 4.



Site management data are reported only as high as the site-level and as low as a specific NEON sampling location. There is no requirement to create spatial data layers in a GIS to manage the information, but this approach may be desirable.



- 3. Determine which NEON sampling locations are planned to be impacted, according to the available spatial information on site management activities.
 - a. Recognize that, depending on the quality and or accuracy of the information, it may be desirable to include those plots that are in the direct path of the management activity rather than trying to resolve if a plot is NOT included in a specific management activity.
 - 1) Examples include:
 - a) translate site Burn Unit map into TOS plot IDs
 - b) translate parcel map of farming plats into TOS plot IDs



Do your best to determine the NEON named location that is being influenced. Data users will be interested in connecting data collection points to site management activities or disturbance events. It may not always be possible to identify to plot or sample collection point location, so larger areas (e.g. airshed, reach) can be selected. However, more specific named location data produces more robust data linkages.

- 4. Confirm that the planned management actions were implemented according to plan, as a function of a routine scheduled visits when a different protocol is being executed.
 - a. Compile primary observations by domain staff of management actions at NEON sampling locations.
 - b. Note any discrepancies between the management plans and direct observations and confirm with site host.
 - 1) Examples include:
 - a) It appears from droppings that livestock were likely present outside planned grazing schedule. Confirm with site host.
 - b) Broad swath of vegetation is found dead; confirm if herbicide was applied, and, if so, the date, chemical composition, etc.
 - c. Use any or all of the methods in Step 2 above to obtain confirmation.
- Report management actions using the mobile application, as described in SOP C, upon completion.



Remind field staff to be on the lookout for management activities when they visit a plot. Have them report observations via the Fulcrum application when they see recent management activities.

A.3 Reporting on planned site management activities

Details to report vary with the activities (referred to herein in as 'event type'). Table 1 provides descriptions and general instructions for reporting by event type. Table 2 provides further guidance on the suggested details to be reported for each event type. Reporting by event type will also vary across



sites based on availability of information. Good faith efforts to acquire the details suggested herein are expected, but successful collection of all of the information in all cases is not.



Use your best judgment and *consider both the intensity and duration of the event on each impacted location/group of locations* and what the end user would find ecologically important and balance that with effort. If the event intensity and duration differences are significant across each impacted individual location or groups of locations, the preferred approach is to create multiple event records per impacted location/group of locations. For example, if a prescribed fire varied in severity across multiple plots or the end dates differed across multiple plots, it is recommended that separate records for plots be generated. However, if there are not significant differences and it makes sense to create one single event record for multiple locations, please specify in the remarks any minor differences.

Event type	Description	Reporting instructions
ownership Change	Change of legal ownership or lessor of any of NEON's permitted terrestrial and aquatic sites	An initial record should be created for each site to document the baseline. Thereafter, a record only needs to be created when a change occurs
human Disturbance	Catch-all category for damage to sampling areas due to all remaining human-caused disturbance events not included in other event types	For construction activities, report all construction occurring within 100 m of a NEON sampling location, as well as the approximate distance from the nearest sampling location (rounded to the nearest 10-20 m increment)
fire	Prescribed fire deliberately set as part of management action. Also includes unplanned wildfire	Report severity class at the reach and individual plot level, if NEON staff visit these sampling locations following a fire and can assess. See Appendix C for descriptions of severity classes. Report the full extent of the actual fire, even if it went outside the prescribed area (if applicable)
grazing	Intentional human introduction of animals to NEON sites or sampling locations as livestock or to control vegetation	For grazing, use the otherScientificName field
plant Addition	Intentional human introduction of plants to NEON sites or sampling locations	Report only during the initial transplant/seeding event, e.g., annually for planting of annual agricultural crops; only at initial introduction for perennials and/or trees (orchards and plantations). If planting of perennials and/or trees occurred prior to NEON sampling, an initial record should be created to document the baseline.

Table 2. Descriptions of event types of planned management activities and instructions for reporting.



neon	Title: NEON Protocol and Procedur
Operated by Battelle	NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282

NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection *I Doc. #*: NEON.DOC.003282 Author: T. Baldwin

Event type	Description	Reporting instructions
		Please be sure to copy and paste scientific names (especially for plants) from NEON master taxon lists prior to finalizing record. If a taxon is not in a NEON list, please copy and paste from www.itis.gov.
chemical Application	Intentional introduction of chemicals to a plot or stream reach	Used for fertilizer, pesticide, herbicide, rodenticide, including experimental manipulations that introduce these elements to NEON sampling areas. For areas that are regularly treated over the course of a growing season, it is adequate to report the approximate start/end of the treatment season and not track down information on each time fertilized.
plant Reduction	Physical removal of plants	Use for harvesting or any other physical plant removal. For chemical removal of plants, use chemicalApplication - herbicide. It is anticipated that, at agricultural sites, data will be entered annually (or more frequently, if there is a winter cover crop or extended growing season). Also, be sure to note each time if the biomass is left in place or removed. Please be sure to copy and paste scientific names into the scientificName field from master taxon lists prior to finalizing record. If a taxon is not in a NEON list, please copy and paste from <u>www.itis.gov</u> . It is encouraged that Field Science do their best to identify the plant species. However, it can be difficult if only stump, cut grass, etc. remains and the species weren't previously identified at the site. If there is no way to identify the species down to family, order, etc., there is the option for "2PLANT" when it can't be identified.
animal Reduction	Physical removal of animals	Use for hunting, trapping, exclosure, or any other physical removal of animals. For chemical removal of animals, use chemicalApplication - insecticide/rodenticide. Recreational hunting does not need to be captured. Rather, targeted, large-scale removal of animals that is managed by the site host, other research entities, state or federal agency should be captured. Exclosures installed as part of the core NEON program (e.g., herbaceous clip harvest exclosures) should not be recorded.



ne⊘n	Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection		
Operated by Battelle	NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282	Author: T. Baldwin	

Event type	Description	Reporting instructions
tillage	Tilling of the soil for agricultural purposes	
biocontrol	Intentional human introduction of organisms for biocontrol	Use only when informed by site host or another reliable source that this has occurred. It is not expected that primary observations could reliably deduce this event. Record should capture the organism that has been introduced to the site, rather than the target for biocontrol. Use of large animals such as goats to control brush should be captured under grazing. For species other than plants, use the otherScientificName field.
irrigation	Intentional irrigation of NEON sampling areas. This event type also includes intentional drainage of NEON sampling areas.	For areas that are regularly irrigated over the course of a growing season, it is adequate to report the approximate start/end of the treatment season and not track down information on each time irrigated.
other	Event type to be used when none of the other event types fits your disturbance. Ideally, there will be very few of these and we can update the list to include more use cases. Example is fish addition in efforts to restock native population.	



Table 3. Suggested details to report for each planned event type with associated choice lists

Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
ownership Change	name		University of California, Riverside	part or all of NEON site sold to new manager
		noneOrNegligible		ash in plot, but not burned
	severityClass	low		low burn severity fire
		medium		medium burn severity fire
		high		high burn severity fire
fire	methodTypeChoice	fire-controlledBurn		intentionally set fire as part of a management action. Report the full extent of the actual fire, even if it went outside the prescribed area (if applicable)
	otherScientificName		Bison bison	presence of bison grazing in vicinity of TOS plots at KONZ
grazing	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity – value(s)		30	
	quantityUnit		head per acre	3 calf cow pairs per acre
plant	methodTypeChoice	livePlants		planting of seedlings or live plants that physically protrude from the soil
Addition		seeds		planting of seeds (no visible plant protruding from the soil)
	scientificName		Zea mays L.	crops planted at CPER
		chemicalApplication- fertilizer-organic		manure applied
		chemicalApplication- fertilizer-inorganic		N, P, K mix applied
		chemicalApplication- fertilizer –unknown		unknown fertilizer applied
chemical Application	methodTypeChoice	chemicalApplication- fire retardant		planes dump fire retardant on plots.
		chemicalApplication- pesticide - fungicide		researcher applies fungicide to corner of plot
		chemicalApplication- pesticide - herbicide		roundup for invasive removal



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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
		chemicalApplication- pesticide - insecticide		dumped an entire bottle of DEET in plot
		chemicalApplication- pesticide - rodenticide		dispersing mouse bait
	name (brand name or active chemical ingredient)		MiracleGro	garden tomato plot
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		1 acre	
	other (if only partial details are available)		nitrogen-based	corn field fertilizer
	scientificName		Zea mays L.	corn harvest
		removal-clearCut		all timber harvest
		removal- cropHarvest		corn harvest
	methodTypeChoice	removal-mowing		mowing with grass left in place
		removal-pruning		lopping branches
		removal-thinning		selective timber harvest
plant Reduction		0%		mowing with grass left in place; approximately 0% biomass removal
		25%		approximately 1-25% biomass removal
	biomassRemoval	50%		approximately 26-50% biomass removal
		75%		approximately 51-75% biomass removal
		100%		corn harvest by combine; approximately 100% biomass removal
	otherScientificName		Rattus rattus	kill-trapping for invasive predator removal in Hawaii
animal Reduction	methodTypeChoice	animalReduction - huntTrapEtc		kill-trapping for invasive predator removal in Hawaii
		animalReduction- exclusion		
	minQuantity and maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		400 trap stations	
tillage	methodTypeChoice	tillage-conservation		any method of soil tilling that leaves crop residue left behind



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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
				after harvest on the field to reduce soil erosion and runoff
		tillage-conventional		disking, plowing and other methods of tilling that bury crop residue left behind after harvest
		tillage-other		other methods of tilling not covered by above choices
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		1 acre	
biocontrol	otherScientificName		Ceutorhynchus litura	stem-mining weevil introduced to control Dalmation toadflax
	methodTypeChoice	irrigation - flood irrigation - sprinkler		
		irrigation - drainage		
irrigation	remarks		Flood irrigated regularly from Jan - October, ground saturated during most of that period	
		human Disturbance- soil Disruption		soil disruption not related to tilling for agriculture, e.g. digging a pit
human Disturbance	methodTypeChoice	humanDisturbance- vandalism		deliberate damage of NEON sampling areas or equipment, details to be added to the remarks
		humanDisturbance- construction - structure		land owner builds a small shed in tower airshed
		humanDisturbance- road - dirt		evidence of a new road that bisects a plot, likely no new material addition but obvious vehicle disturbance of vegetation

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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
		humanDisturbance- road - asphalt		new road construction, with asphalt as top layer, either poured or recycled
		humanDisturbance- road - gravel		new road construction, with gravel base as top layer, either compacted or loose, material is foreign to the site
		humanDisturbance- other		
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		2.7 m	max width of road in reported area
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		20 percent	percent of instrument hut exterior vandalized
	remarks		distance from nearest plot	



SOP B Unplanned Disturbance Reporting

B. 1 Preparing for Data Capture

Mobile applications are the preferred mechanism for data entry. Mobile devices should be fully charged at the beginning of each field day, whenever possible.

However, given the potential for mobile devices to fail under field conditions, it is imperative that paper datasheets are always available to record data. Paper datasheets should be carried along with the mobile devices to sampling locations at all times.

B. 2 Collecting data on unplanned site disturbances

Observations should be made during each visit to a plot, transect, point or other designated sampling location throughout the sampling season. All observations about a site impacting event for a sampling location should be entered into a mobile device or datasheet while at the site, whenever possible.

B.3 Reporting on unplanned site disturbances

Details to report vary with the activities (referred to herein in as 'event type'). **Table 3** provides descriptions and general instructions for reporting by event type. **Table 4** provides further guidance on the suggested details to be reported for each event type. Reporting by event type will also vary across sites based on availability of information. Good faith efforts to acquire the details suggested herein are expected, but successful collection of all of the information in all cases is not.



Use your best judgment and consider both the intensity and duration of the event on each impacted location/group of locations and what the end user would find ecologically important and balance that with effort. If the event intensity and duration differences are significant across each impacted individual location or groups of locations, the preferred approach is to create multiple event records per impacted location/group of locations. However, if there are not significant differences and it makes sense to create one single event record for multiple locations, please specify in the remarks any minor differences.

Event type	Description	Reporting instructions
human Disturbance	Catch-all category for damage to sampling areas due to all remaining human-caused disturbance events not included in other event types	For construction activities, report all construction occurring within 100 m of a NEON sampling location, as well as the approximate distance from the nearest sampling location (rounded to the nearest 10-20 m increment).
fire	Wildfire	If it is possible for NEON staff to assess burn severity class after a fire, report severity class at the reach and individual plot level. See Appendix C for descriptions of severity classes.

Table 4. Description of event types of unplanned activities and instructions for reporting.



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Event type	Description	Reporting instructions
population Spike	Unusual spike in activity of any organism (e.g., invertebrates, pathogens), including the first observations of the presence of an invasive species of particular local concern, sudden population growth of any of these, outbreak	Report based on primary observations or secondary reports from a reliable source (e.g., site host, federal or state agency). For species other than plants, use the otherScientificName field. For plant species, please be sure to copy and paste scientific names into the scientificName field from master taxon lists prior to finalizing record. If a taxon is not in a NEON list, please copy and paste from www.itis.gov.
obstruction	Natural or human-made objects of varying size present in plot or stream reach.	Use for trash, old cars, large animal carcasses, and the like that are left in stream reach and/or plot. Use only for in plot/in reach objects, not objects that prevent access to the sampling location. Use only when the object impacts sampling or may impact data and is not otherwise reported via established mechanisms in the affected protocol.
otherNatural Disturbance	Catch-all category for damage to sampling areas due to all remaining natural disturbance events not included in other event types, particularly weather-related.	Use to report ice damage, windthrow, flooding, or other natural disturbances.
wildlife Disturbance	Wildlife-caused damage of NEON sampling areas or equipment	Use professional judgment to attribute the cause of damage to a taxonomic group, if possible, and use additional detail types, such as minQuantity, maxQuantity and remarks to describe the nature of the damage. If data entry mechanisms provided for affected protocols capture the key impacts to the data (e.g., small mammal trap status of 'disturbed'), there is no need to report here.
pollutant	Unusual deposition of pollution from a point source	Do not report ambient pollution from vehicles and nearby urban areas; this category is intended for capturing unusual events. Use for ash deposition in fires where the plot itself didn't burn but deposition from nearby is observable. Ignore smoke.
drought Perceived	Landscape-scale drought conditions reported in the region containing the site and causing marked impacts on data quality	Report when drought conditions are confirmed by National Weather Service or similar, and ability to conduct field work is compromised or bouts are canceled. For example, report if taxonomic identification of plants is inhibited by lack of growth and/or reproductive parts as a result of known drought conditions. No estimation of drought severity is expected.

Table 5. Suggested details to report for each unplanned event type.

Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
fire	severityClass	noneOrNegligible		ash in plot, but not burned



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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
		low		low burn severity fire
		medium		medium burn
				severity fire
		high		high burn severity fire
		fire-controlled Burn		intentionally set fire as part of a management action
	methodTypeChoice	fire-wildfire		fire that results from any cause other than a deliberate management action
		populationSpike- animal - invertebrate		widespread defoliation due to unknown insect herbivore
		populationSpike- animal - vertebrate		
	methodTypeChoice	populationSpike- plant		
population Spike		populationSpike- fungus		
		populationSpike- pathogen		
		populationSpike- firstInvasiveSighting		initial sighting of an invasive species
		populationSpike- other		
	otherScientificName		Dendroctonus ponderosae	mountain pine beetle infestation
	scientificName			populationSpike- plant records
obstruction	none, just use remarks		large (1m x 1.5m) sheet of rusty metal near point 21 but not covering plant diversity subplots	
		naturalDisturbance- iceDamage		ice storm
		naturalDisturbance- frostDamage		
other Natural Disturbance	methodTypeChoice	naturalDisturbance- windDamage		
		naturalDisturbance- flood		
		naturalDisturbance- earthquake		



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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		32 cm	max depth of flooding in reported area (centimeters preferred)
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		6.7 magnitude	earthquake
	otherScientificName		Sus scrofa	feral pigs rooting in plot
wildlife Disturbance	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		65 percent	percent of plot disturbed by pigs
		humanDisturbance- soil Disruption		soil disruption not related to tilling for agriculture. e.g. digging a pit
		humanDisturbance- vandalism		deliberate damage of NEON sampling areas or equipment, details to be added to the remarks
	methodTypeChoice	humanDisturbance- construction - structure		
human Disturbance		humanDisturbance- road - dirt humanDisturbance- road - asphalt humanDisturbance-		
		road - gravel humanDisturbance- other		
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		2.7 m	max width of road in reported area
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		20 percent	percent of instrument hut exterior vandalized
	remarks		distance from nearest plot	
		deposition - spill		spilled antifreeze in plot
pollutant	methodTypeChoice	deposition- atmospheric		
		pollutant - ash		volcanic ash in plot

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Event type	Detail types to report (if possible)	Valid Choices (if applicable)	Example Entry (if not choice list)	Sample Use Case
		pollutant - hydrocarbon		oil spill in stream reach
		pollutant - acid		HCl spill in plot
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		0.5 acres	acres of site estimated to be impacted
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		25 percent	percent of the plot covered
	minQuantity and/or maxQuantity (value(s) + units)		3000 liters	oil estimated to have spilled into stream
drought Perceived	none, just use remarks			



SOP C DATA ENTRY AND VERIFICATION

Mobile applications are the preferred mechanism for data entry. Data should be entered into the protocol-specific application as they are being collected, whenever possible, to minimize data transcription and improve data quality. Mobile devices should be synced at the end of each field day, where possible; alternatively, devices should be synced immediately upon return to the Domain Support Facility.

However, given the potential for mobile devices to fail under field conditions, it is imperative that paper datasheets are always available to record data. Paper datasheets should be carried along with the mobile devices to sampling locations at all times. As a best practice, field data collected on paper datasheets should be digitally transcribed within 7 days of collection or the end of a sampling bout (where applicable). However, given logistical constraints, the maximum timeline for entering data is within 14 days of collection or the end of a sampling bout (where applicable). See RD[04] for complete instructions regarding manual data transcription.

Report on activity using the mobile application, as specified in **Table 2** and **Table 4**. Please see the user manual in the Sampling Support Library for more detailed instructions on using the mobile application.



8 REFERENCES

Parson, Annette; Robichaud, Peter R.; Lewis, Sarah A.; Napper, Carolyn; Clark, Jess T. 2010. Field guide for mapping post-fire soil burn severity. Gen. Tech. Rep. RMRS-GTR-243. Fort Collins, CO: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station. 49 p.

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APPENDIX A DATASHEET Observer(s):_____ Date: _____ Plot/Reach ID(s):______Plot Type(s): _____ **Plot depiction:**

Photos? -

Field Phone: _____

Written Description (Include as much detail as you can, include disturbance type and information)





Common Disturbances

Disturbance Type	Description	Important Information	
Fire	Prescribed management fire or	Fire severity (SOP C)	
	wildfire		
Grazing	Introduction of animals as	Other scientific name	
	livestock or vegetation control		
Plant Addition	Transplant or seeding events	Scientific name	
Chemical Application	Fertilizer, pesticide, herbicide,	Chemical used	
	rodenticide, etc.		
Plant Reduction	Physical removal of plants	Scientific name	
		Is biomass left or removed?	
Animal Reduction Removal or exclusion of animals		Targeted large scale efforts	
		Not for recreational hunting	
Tillage Tilling for agricultural purposes			
Irrigation	Irrigation or drainage		
Population Spike	Spike in organism, outbreak	Scientific name or other scientific name	
Obstruction	Detritus, natural or human made	Use only in plot; not accessing plot	
Other Natural Disturbance Natural events catch-all		Ex. Ice damage, windthrow, flooding	
Wildlife Disturbance Wildlife catch-all		Other scientific name; if known	
Pollutant	Unusual deposition of pollution	Ex. Ash from fire in an area not burned	
	from a point source		

Refer to protocol Tables 1-4 for more information regarding disturbance types.

Report anything you find to be ecologically relevant, even if it does not fit into a category above



APPENDIX B QUICK REFERENCES

If Fulcrum is unavailable to record data while at the site, the following can be noted in a field book for addition to the Fulcrum app once available.

- 1. Site event where event was observed (e.g. Great Smoky National Park)
- 2. Date and time event observed
- 3. Type of event observed (e.g., wildfire)
- 4. Specific location of event (e.g., plot type and number or extent of multiple plots)
- 5. Severity description (e.g., tree tops burned off, all remaining vegetation is black, understory completely burned, scorched soil, ash present to 3 inches deep)
- 6. Additional Remarks (e.g., looks like uncontrolled wildfire, not controlled burn, impacts at least ½ of site, possibly more, uniform disturbance)
- 7. Take pictures with any camera available- iPhones are appropriate to use here!



APPENDIX C FIRE SEVERITY CLASSIFICATION

Soil Burn Severity is assessed following Parson et al. 2010. **Table 5** can be used as a quick reference, with subsequent tables providing more detailed information and photographs. Please choose the category '**Low**', '**Medium**' or '**High**' that best describes the soil burn severity in the area you are assessing.

Factor Considered	Severity Class: Low	Severity Class: Medium	Severity Class: High
Aerial view of canopy	Tree canopy largely unaltered. Shrub canopy intact and patches of scorched leaves not dominant. Ash is spotty.	Tree canopy is scorched over 50% of area. Shrubs mostly charred but difficult to assess fuels from air. Black ash is visually dominant. Gray or white ash may be spotty.	Tree canopy is largely consumed over > 50% of area. Shrubs completely charred but difficult to assess fuels from air. Gray and white ash is visually dominant.
Trees	Nearly all of crown remains "green." Some scorching in understory trees.	High scorch height. Generally, > 50% of crown is scorched. Mostly "brown" crowns with intact needles.	No needles or leaves remaining. Some or many branches may be consumed. Mostly "black" remaining vegetation.
Shrubs	Scorching in canopy but leaves remain mostly green. Limited fire runs with higher scorch. 5 to 30% charred canopy.	30 to 100% charred canopy. Smaller branches < 0.5 inch (1 cm) remain. Shrub density was moderate or high.	90 to 100% charred canopy. Most branches consumed, including fuels < 1 inch (2.5 cm). Skeletons or root crowns remain. Shrub density was moderate or high. Often old growth in character.
Fine fuels (Grassland)	Scorched or partially consumed.	Mostly consumed. Appears black from the air. Small roots and seed bank remain intact and viable	
Ground cover	Generally, > 50% litter cover remains under trees—less under shrub community or where pre- fire cover is sparse.	Generally, 20 to 50% cover remains or will be contributed by scorched leaf fall from trees. Shrub litter will be mostly consumed.	0 to 20% cover remains as burned litter and woody debris under trees. Shrub litter is consumed.
Water repellency	Soils may be naturally water repellent under unburned chaparral. Other soils will infiltrate water drops in less than 10 sec; greater than 8 mL min–1 with the MDI.	The surface of the mineral soil below the ash layer may be moderately water repellent but water will infiltrate within 10 to 40 sec; 3 to 8 mL min–1 with the MDI.	Strongly water repellent soils (repels water drops for > 40 seconds; less than 3 mL min–1 with the MDI) may be present at surface or deeper.

Table 6. Summary of characteristics of burn severity classifications, from Parson et al. 2010.

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Factor Considered	Severity Class: Low	Severity Class: Medium	Severity Class: High
Soil	Original soil structure— fine roots and pores are unaltered.	Original soil structure—roots and pores slightly altered or unaltered. Soil color darkened or charred at surface or just below surface only.	Soil structure to 1 inch is degraded to powdery, single- grained, or loose. Fine roots are charred. Pores are destroyed. Black charred soil color common below thick ash layer. Compare with unburned.

APPENDIX D SOIL CONDITIONS PHOTO SERIES

D.1 Ground Cover: Amount and Condition







High soil burn severity

Little to no effective ground cover remaining after fire (less than 20%) All or most litter and duff has been consumed, only ash or bare soil (ash blown away) remain. Little to no potential for leaf or needle-cast.

D.2 Ash Color and Depth

Low soil burn severity Ground surface may be black with recognizable fine fuels (needles, grass, and leaves) remaining on surface.
Moderate soil burn severity Thin layer of black to gray ash with recognizable litter beneath it. Ash layer may be patchy as it is highly moveable by wind and water. Soil heating may have been significant; residence time usually brief. If thicker ash layer is observed, a mitigating factor may be leaf or needle-cast potential from scorched canopy.





High soil burn severity

Thick, 1 to 3 inch (3 to 6 cm or more) layer of powdery gray or white ash covers the ground. Greater than 90% surface organics consumed; significant soil heating has occurred; residence time long. No potential for leaf or needle cast to provide ground cover.

Localized red (oxidized soil may underlie a thick, powdery layer of gray and white ash- generally found near a burned out stump or log; indicates extreme heating.

D.3

Soil Structure







High soil burn severity

Structural aggregate stability reduced or destroyed. Loose and single-grained soil dominates and is exposed or under ask (up to 5 inches or 10 cm of ash.) Consumption of organic matter in the top 2 inches (5 cm) of the soil profile.

D.4 Roots

	Low soil burn severity	
	Fine roots (~02 mm diameter) intact and unchanged	
	Moderate soil burn severity	
	Fine roots near surface maybe charred or scorched; large roots intact (~2 mm diameter).	
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High soil burn severity

Many or most fine roots near surface consumed or charred. Some charring may occur on very large roots (~3 inches or 8 cm diameter).

D.5 Soil Water Repellency







High soil burn severity

Strong water repellency found at surface or deeper. Water does not infiltrate. In case of extreme soil heating, soil water repellency may be destroyed or may exist at very deep soil depths (6 inches or 15 cm).

APPENDIX E SITE-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

D01 Domain 01

D01 – HOPB – Lower Hop Brook

Domain: 1

Site: HOPB

subsystem: AOS, AIS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	MA Department of Conservation and Recreation	
fire	Wildfire- rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	hunting-rare	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	Large beaver dam just upstream of reach.
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Severe storms happen annually.
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	



D01 – HARV – Harvard Forest

Domain: 1		
Site: HARV		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Harvard Forest and MA Department of Conservation and Recreation	
fire	Wildfire- rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	hunting-rare	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	Various invasive species present (EAB, wooly adelgid, Asian longhorned beetle, etc.). Could impact transport of samples.
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Severe storms happen annually.
wildlifeDisturbance	common	Bear damage to small mammal traps
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D01 – BART – Bartlett Experimental Forest

 Domain: 1

 Site: BART

 subsystem: TOS

 eventType – frequency
 remarks

 ownershipChange
 US Forest Service

 fire
 Wildfire- rare



Domain: 1

Site: BART

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	Timber cutting- common	
animalReduction	hunting-rare	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	common	Various invasive species present (EAB, wooly adelgid, Asian longhorned beetle, etc.). Could impact transport of samples.
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Severe storms happen annually.
wildlifeDisturbance	common	Bear damage to small mammal traps.
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D02 Domain 2

D02 – POSE – Posey Creek

Domain: 2 Site: POSE subsystem: AOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownershipChange	Smithsonian Institution		
fire	rare		
grazing	N/A		
plantAddition	N/A		
chemicalApplication	N/A		
plantReduction	N/A		
animalReduction	hunting-rare		
biocontrol	N/A		
populationSpike	common	EAB	



Site: POSE

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	tree damage, flooding
wildlifeDisturbance	common	bear damage
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D02 – LEWI – Lewis Run

Domain: 2

Site: LEWI

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Casey Trees	
fire	rare	
grazing	Bos taurus-rare not planned	rare occurrence when cattle are moved from one field to another or when they escape fenced areas
plantAddition	planting-common	they will add trees to riparian buffer over time
chemicalApplication	common	site receives ag runoff and effluent from a small municipal water treatment facility
plantReduction	mowing- common	mowing riparian area
animalReduction	hunting-common	deer management
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	common	EAB
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	tree damage, flooding, trampling
wildlifeDisturbance	common	bear, cattle, horse damage
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	

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Domain: 2 Site: LEWI subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
pollutant	rare	effluent from treatment plant mentioned in earlier category

D02 – SCBI – Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute

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Domain: 2 Site: SCBI subsystem: TOS				
	eventType – frequency	remarks		
ownershipChange	Smithsonian Institution			
fire	Prescribed burn-frequent	some distributed plots are burned as part of management plan		
grazing	Bos taurus-rare not planned			
plantAddition	planting-rare	some field plots may be seeded		
chemicalApplication	fertilizer, herbicide, pesticide- common	treatment of invasives, use of fertilizer, spreading of dung		
plantReduction	mowing-common	mowing, brush hogging, manual removal of invasives, herbicide treatment. Usually not directly in plots.		
animalReduction	hunting-common	deer management		
biocontrol	N/A			
populationSpike	common	EAB		
obstruction	N/A			
irrigation	N/A			
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	tree damage		
wildlifeDisturbance	common	bear damage		
Other	N/A			
humanDisturbance	rare			
pollutant	rare			

D02 – SERC – Smithsonian Environmental Research Center



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Domain: 2

Site: SERC

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Smithsonian Institution	
fire	rare	not currently for management, but could be used in future
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-common	agricultural distributed plots - grains, corn and soybean
chemicalApplication	fertilizer, herbicide, pesticide- common	soil amendments, herbicide, pesticide
plantReduction	cropHarvest-common	
animalReduction	hunting-common	deer management
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	common	EAB
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	tree damage
wildlifeDisturbance	common	bear damage
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	rare
pollutant	N/A	

D02 – BLAN – Blandy Experimental Farm

Domain: 2 Site: BLAN subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Virginia and Casey Trees (distributed plots)	
fire	rare	not currently for management, but could be used in future
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-common	agricultural plots in Tower and Distributed plots - corn and grain. Perennial grass in Distributed plots may switch over time.



Revision: C

Domain: 2

Site: BLAN

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
chemicalApplication	fertilizer, herbicide, pesticide- common	soil amendments, herbicide, pesticide
plantReduction	cropHarvest, mowing-common	crop harvest at BLAN - Casey Trees has 1 or 2 cuttings for hay
animalReduction	hunting-common	deer management at Casey Trees distributed plots.
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	common	EAB
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	tree damage
wildlifeDisturbance	common	bear damage
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	common	Blandy is public space while Casey Tree is fenced and private.
pollutant	N/A	

D03 Domain 3

D03 – BARC – Barco Lake at Ordway-Swisher Biological Station

Domain: 3		
Site: BARC		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Florida	Unlikely to change, The Nature Conservancy has easement
fire	Prescribed fire - Frequent	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	Herbicide-common	Access at ramp
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	



Site: BARC

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	drought and long term lowering of water table. Also potential for exotic/invasive species
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	
pollutant	rare	

D03 – SUGG – Suggs Lake at Ordway-Swisher Biological Station

Domain: 3		
Site: SUGG		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Florida	Unlikely to change, The Nature Conservancy has easement
fire	Prescribed fire - Frequent	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	drought and long term lowering of water table. Also potential for exotic/invasive species
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	



Domain: 3			
Site: SUGG			
subsystem: AOS			
	0		
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
pollutant	rare		

D03 – FLIN – Flint River at Jones Ecological Center

Domain: 3		
Site: FLNT		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	State of Georgia	This is a navigable waterway so it is public access. The shoreline where we will be conducting sampling belongs to the Woodruff Foundation and is unlikely to change
fire	prescribed-frequent	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	frequent	this is a navigable waterway, so it is likely some chemical application takes place at some point
plantReduction	N/A	Not along the JERC shoreline
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	rare	Not along the JERC shoreline, but I'm sure it occurs somewhere in the area
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Land use along the shores of the Flint has made the shoreline less resilient. After rains, the river can become "flashy"
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	



Site: FLNT

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
humanDisturbance	common	See row 16
pollutant	common	Agriculture along shoreline

D03 – OSBS – Ordway-Swisher Biological Station

Domain: 3 Site: OSBS subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Florida	
fire	prescribed- frequent	Frequent Prescribed fire every 2 to 4 years. Low to moderate intensity
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-frequent	Pine tree planting and some restoration of the herbaceous layer
chemicalApplication	herbicide-frequent	Herbicide for invasive plant control
plantReduction	mowing-frequent	No harvesting but some plant reduction for habitat restoration
animalReduction	common	Feral hogs
biocontrol	N/A	Possibly for invasive plants in future
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	Drinking water wells on the property
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Treefall and other damage from weather events
wildlifeDisturbance	common	Occasional trap damage by larger vertebrates
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Infrastructure and roads
pollutant	N/A	

D03 – DSNY – Disney Wilderness Preserve





 Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

 NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282
 Author: T. Baldwin

Domain: 3

Site: DSNY

subsystem: TOS

	avantTuna fraguanau	remarks
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	The Nature Conservancy	
fire	prescribed- frequent	Frequent Prescribed fire every 2 to
lite	presenbed- nequent	4 years. Low to moderate intensity
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Grazing is a management tool on
grazing	bos tudius- nequent	some pasture land on the property.
plantAddition	planting-frequent	Pine tree planting and some
plantAddition	planting-mequent	restoration of the herbaceous layer
chemicalApplication	herbicide-frequent	Herbicide for invasive plant control
plantReduction	mowing-frequent	No harvesting but some plant
plantiteddetion	mowing-nequent	reduction for habitat restoration
animalReduction	common	Feral hogs
biocontrol	N/A	Possibly for invasive plants in future
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N1/A	Drinking water wells on the
irrigation	N/A	property
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Treefall and other damage from
otherNaturalDisturbalice	common	weather events
wildlifeDisturbance	common	Occasional trap damage by larger
wildineDisturbance	common	vertebrates
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Infrastructure and roads
pollutant	N/A	

D03 – JERC – Jones Ecological Research Center

Domain: 3 Site: JERC subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	The Jones Ecological Research Center	
fire	prescribed- frequent	Frequent Prescribed fire every 2 to 4 years. Low to moderate intensity



Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282

Domain: 3

Site: JERC

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-frequent	Pine tree planting and some restoration of the herbaceous layer
chemicalApplication	herbicide-frequent	Herbicide for invasive plant control
plantReduction	mowing-frequent	No harvesting but some plant reduction for habitat restoration. Roller chopping to reduce hardwoods
animalReduction	hunting-frequent	Hunting is part of the management plan at JERC. They hunt all major seasons.
biocontrol	N/A	Possibly for invasive plants in future
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	Drinking water wells on the property
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Treefall and other damage from weather events
wildlifeDisturbance	common	Occasional trap damage by larger vertebrates
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Infrastructure and roads
pollutant	N/A	

D04 Domain 4

D04 – CUPE – Rio Cupeyes

Domain: 4 Site: CUPE subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Recourses (DNER).	Access point through private land. Sampling area are in the state forest of Maricao and belongs to the



Site: CUPE

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
		Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Recourses (DNER).
fire	N/A	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Access point: farm dedicated to cattle
plantAddition	N/A	Natural forest
chemicalApplication	fertilizer-frequent	Access point: application of fertilizers
plantReduction	mowingclearCut-frequent	Access point: land clearing for pastures
animalReduction	common	Access point: cattle rotation
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	seasonal high flow
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	Occasional / recreational fishing
pollutant	N/A	

D04 – GUIL - Rio Guilarte

Domain: 4 Site: GUIL subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Adjuntas Agricultural Experimental Station of the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez campus. Rest of the access and sampling areas in public land.	Combined access and sampling areas. Majority of the sampling area are in the Adjuntas Agricultural Experimental Station of the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez campus. Rest of the



Design 4		
Domain: 4		
Site: GUIL		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
		access and sampling areas in public land (what department owns this as public land? DNER?)
fire	N/A	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-frequent	Agricultural Experiment Station dedicated to Coffee plantation and Citric plantation. Tendency to crop rotation.
chemicalApplication	fertilizer, pesticide- frequent	Agrichemicals (Fertilizers and Pesticides)
plantReduction	cropHarvest-frequent	Tendency to crop rotation
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	rare	insect control
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	frequent	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	seasonal high flow
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	frequent	Agricultural activities and recreational activities
pollutant	rare	Possible agrichemicals (Fertilizers and Pesticides)

D04 – GUAN – Guanica Forest

Domain: 4 Site: GUAN subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Recourses (DNER).	



Site: GUAN

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
fire	common	seasonal
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	Natural forest
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	rare	Possibly for invasive plants in future
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	seasonal drought
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	frequent	Tourist
pollutant	N/A	

D04 – LAJA – Lajas Experimental Station

Domain: 4 Site: LAJA subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Lajas Agricultural Experimental Station of the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez campus and private farm	Combined access and sampling areas. Sampling area are in the Lajas Agricultural Experimental Station of the University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez campus and privet farm dedicated to managed pastures and sorghum.
fire	N/A	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Dairy cows – section of the Agricultural Experimental Station
plantAddition	planting-frequent	Tendency to crop rotation.



Domain: 4

Site: LAJA

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
chemicalApplication	fertilizer, pesticide- frequent	Agrichemicals (Fertilizers and Pesticides) and manure as an organic fertilizer
plantReduction	cropHarvest-frequent	Tendency to crop rotation
animalReduction	common	Cow rotation
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	frequent	Irrigation channels - Lajas valley irrigation system
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	seasonal high precipitation
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	frequent	Intensive farming activities
pollutant	rare	Possible agrichemicals (Fertilizers and Pesticides)

D05 Domain 5

D05 – CRAM – Crampton Lake

Domain:	5	
	5	

Site: CRAM

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	The University of Notre Dame	CRAM is on the UNDERC property.
fire	Wildfire rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	rare	When required to maintain access roads, plant reduction may occur; however, not near NEON plots or infrastructure.



Domain: 5 Site: CRAM subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
animalReduction	trapping-rare	Beaver trapping occurs at UNDERC property when damming of culverts causes flooding to occur on roads.
biocontrol	rare	Some discussion of using Galarucella beetles to combat purple loosestrife at other UNDE lakes. Do not believe it is present at CRAM
populationSpike	common	Emerald ash borer, soon, could impact shoreline. Uncertain about aquatic invasives. Chinese mystery snail reputedly in waters, although no signs of spiking populations are seen.
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Windstorms blow a lot of trees down. Could damage on-shore infrastructure
wildlifeDisturbance	Rare	Uncertain. Something with wells? Birds on buoy?
Other		
humanDisturbance		
pollutant	Unlikely	

D05 – LIRO – Little Rock Lake

Domain: 5 Site: LIRO subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Wisconsin DNR property.	
fire	Wildfire rare	
grazing	N/A	



Revision: C

Domain: 5

Site: LIRO

subsystem: AOS

	overtType frequency	remarks
	eventType – frequency	remarks
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	timber harvest- rare	Surrounding land is state forest. Possible logging.
animalReduction	fishing-rare	Recreation fishing may occur on this property, and recreational hunting in surrounding areas
biocontrol	rare	Not sure about purple loosestrife situation at site (DNR website does not document invasives for this site). Some WI lakeshores have programs to apply Galarucella beetles to combat
populationSpike	common	Emerald ash borer, soon, could impact shoreline. Uncertain about aquatic invasives.
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Windstorms blow a lot of trees down. Could damage on-shore infrastructure
wildlifeDisturbance	Rare	Uncertain. Something with wells? Birds on buoy?
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Vandalism?
pollutant	N/A	

D05 – UNDE – University of Notre Dame Ecological Research Center

Domain: 5 Site: UNDE subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Notre Dame.	



Site: UNDE

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
fire	Wildfire rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	herbicide- rare	Roadside application of herbicide to invasive species is possible; activities like this would not likely occur near NEON plots or infrastructure unless NEON initiated (e.g., tower maintenance plan)
plantReduction	rare	When required to maintain access roads, plant reduction may occur; however, not near NEON plots or infrastructure.
animalReduction	trapping-rare	Beaver trapping occurs at UNDERC property when damming of culverts causes flooding to occur on roads.
biocontrol	rare	Some discussion of using Galarucella beetles to combat purple loosestrife; likely not in any TOS areas
populationSpike	common	Emerald ash borer, soon. Various invasive plants present, but not spiking (yet?)
obstruction	rare	e.g., another researcher starts some research on a NEON plot. We work with Notre Dame to avoid, hopefully
irrigation	N/A	
other Natural Disturbance	common	Windstorms blow a lot of trees down. Could damage infrastructure. Has already occurred at UNDE
wildlifeDisturbance	Rare	Bear damage to ground instruments? Birds on tower. Bees on tower
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Human traffic through plots?
pollutant	N/A	

D05 – STEI – Steigerwaldt Land Services



Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

Author: T. Baldwin

Domain: 5

Site: STEI

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Tower plots: Ed Steigerwaldt; Distributed plots: USFS- Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest	Tower plot area belongs to private landowner. Chequamegon National Forest areas may have logging rights sold.
fire	Wildfire rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	rare	Not sure if active planting is part of any logging/reforestation effort
chemicalApplication	rare	Not sure if herbicides or fertilizers are used in logging/re-forestation efforts. Not unheard of.
plantReduction	timber harvest- common	Tower site and distributed sites are managed. Some logging will occur.
animalReduction	rare	Recreational hunting occurs, but not likely to create impact through reduction of animal population
biocontrol	rare	
populationSpike	common	Emerald ash borer, soon. Various invasive plants present, but not spiking (yet?)
obstruction	common	Hunters use the Chequamegon National Forest area to bait bear. We could end up with a bait pile in a plot
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Windstorms blow a lot of trees down. Could damage infrastructure. Has already occurred at UNDE
wildlifeDisturbance	Rare	Bear damage to ground instruments? Birds on tower. Bees on tower
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Human traffic through plots? Vandalism
pollutant	N/A	

D05 – TREE – Treehaven



Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

Domain:	5
Domain	9

Site: TREE

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point and Ed Steigerwaldt.	
fire	prescribed, wildfire- rare to common	TREE is the focus of some controlled burn research. Some of our plots experience burns periodically.
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	rare	Not sure if active planting is part of any logging/reforestation effort
chemicalApplication	rare	Not sure if herbicides or fertilizers are used in logging/re-forestation efforts. Not unheard of.
plantReduction	timber harvest- common	Tower site and distributed sites are managed. Some logging will occur.
animalReduction	rare	Minimal recreational hunting occurs. Nothing likely to create large impact via animal reduction
biocontrol	rare	
populationSpike	common	Emerald ash borer, soon. Various invasive plants present, but not spiking (yet?)
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Windstorms blow a lot of trees down. Could damage infrastructure. Has already occurred at UNDE
wildlifeDisturbance	Rare	Bear damage to ground instruments? Birds on tower. Bees on tower
Other		
humanDisturbance	common	Human traffic through plots? Vandalism
pollutant	N/A	

D06 Domain 6

D06- KING – Kings Creek



Revision: C

Site: KING

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
	eventrype – nequency	
ownershipChange	The Nature Conservancy	Managed by Kansas State University. Site host contact is Konza Prairie Biological Station Director John Briggs.
fire	prescribed-frequent	Kings Creek sits in an annually burned watershed. Burning occurs in the spring between March 1-May 1. The area directly around the creek does not burn with as high intensity as the surrounding prairies due to less vegetation from overstory trees and limestone inhibiting growth.
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	herbicide, pesticide- frequent	Chemical application to control invasive species is widespread throughout the site and likely in the Kings Creek watershed.
plantReduction	N/A	Set in a matrix of native prairie.
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	The site is not irrigated
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Flooding following rain events happen often. Significant flood events happen on average 2- 3x/year.
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	N/A	

D06 – MCDI – McDiffett Creek



Revision: C

Domain: 6

Site: MCDI

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Kansas State University Endowment Foundation	Current lease is Greg McDiffett who farms and runs cattle on the land. He also owns/farms adjacent lands.
fire	wildfire-rare	All areas in Kansas are eventually burned, though no specified burning frequency is established at the site.
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Annual fall grazing happens following harvest of crops.
plantAddition	planting-frequent	2016 - corn
chemicalApplication	rare	
plantReduction	cropHarvest-frequent	early October - corn
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	site is not irrigated
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	N/A	

D06 – KONZ – Konza Prairie Biological Station

Domain: 6 Site: KONZ subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	The Nature Conservancy	Managed by Kansas State University. Site host contact is Konza Prairie Biological Station Director John Briggs.
fire	prescribed-common	Watersheds are burned on differing frequencies (annually to 20 years).



Revision: C

Domain: 6

Site: KONZ

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Watersheds are grazed by cattle or
grazing	Bos tudius- nequent	bison. Some are left ungrazed.
plantAddition	N/A	
		Chemical application to control
chemicalApplication	herbicide, pesticide- frequent	invasive species is widespread
		throughout the site.
		Roadsides and fireguards (native
plantReduction	mowing-frequent	prairie) are mowed throughout the
		season.
		Cattle graze the site between 4/1 -
animalReduction	frequent	10/31. Bison culling happens late
		October.
		I believe biocontrol have been
biocontrol	rare	previously introduced onto the site,
biocontrol	Tale	though would need to confirm with
		site host for species and dates.
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	None of the site is irrigated.
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	N/A	

D06 – UKFS – The University of Kansas Field Station

Domain: 6 Site: UKFS subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	University of Kansas Endowment	Managed by the Kansas Biological Survey.



Domain: 6		
Site: UKFS		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
fire	prescribed- rare	Prairie areas are burned with differing and non-predictive frequencies.
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	herbicide, pesticide- frequent	Chemical application to control invasive species is widespread throughout the site.
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	rare	I believe biocontrol have been previously introduced onto the site, though would need to confirm with site host for species and dates.
populationSpike	hunting-common	Whitetailed deer populations are currently experiencing a boom at the site. Researchers are working to estimate population numbers.
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	

D06 – KONA – Konza Prairie Biological Station

pollutant

N/A

Domain: 6			
Site: KONA			
subsystem: TOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownorshipChange			
ownershipChange			



Domain: 6 Site: KONA			
subsystem: TOS		· ·	
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
grazing			
plantAddition			
chemicalApplication			
plantReduction			
animalReduction			
biocontrol			
populationSpike			
obstruction			
irrigation			
otherNaturalDisturbance			
wildlifeDisturbance			
Other			
humanDisturbance			
pollutant			

D07 Domain 7

D07 – LECO – LeConte Creek

Domain: 7			
Site: LECO			
subsystem: AOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownershipChange	GRSM NPS		
fire	Wildfire-rare		
grazing	N/A		
plantAddition	N/A		
chemicalApplication	N/A		
plantReduction	N/A		
animalReduction	N/A		
biocontrol	N/A		
populationSpike	N/A		
obstruction	N/A		
irrigation	N/A		
otherNaturalDisturbance	Flood		



Site: LECO

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	Possible	
pollutant	N/A	

D07- WALK – Walker Branch

Domain: 7 Site: WALK subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	UT-Battelle	
fire	Wildfire-rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	Flood	
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	
pollutant	N/A	



D07 – ORNL – Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Domain: 7		
Site: ORNL		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Oak Ridge National Laboratory	
fire	prescribed burn- common, wildfire-rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	frequent	pasture plots only
plantReduction	frequent	pasture plots only
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	N/A	
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	frequent	pasture plots only
pollutant	N/A	

D07 – MLBS – Mountain Lake Biological Station

Domain: 7 Site: MLBS subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Mountain Lakes Biological Station	
fire	prescribed burn- common, wildfire-rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	timber harvest- rare	
animalReduction	N/A	



Site: MLBS

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	N/A	
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	common	
pollutant	N/A	

D07 – GRSM – Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Domain: 7		
Site: GRSM		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Great Smokey Mountains National Park	
fire	Wildfire-rare	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	herbicide- common	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	high wind
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	N/A	



D08 Domain 8

D08 – Black Warrior River near Dead Lake

Domain: 8 Site: BLWA subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USACE	Permit from USACE - Lee Chip Dixon is contact, Private Land owner for AIS portion (Gauge installation, portal, power line, device boxes) - Red Barton
fire	N/A	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	windDamage - rare	Tornadoes in area
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
human Disturbance	Dredging - frequent	Navigable commercial river - by USACE barges regularly in channel
pollutant	common	Upstream of site pollutant - wastewater

D08 - MAYF – Mayfield Creek

Domain: 8 Site: MAYF subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS	Cindy Ragland, District Ranger is contact



Domain: 8	
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Site: MAYF

subsystem: AOS

	Π	
	eventType – frequency	remarks
fire	Prescribed burn- common	USFS long leaf restoration?- Prescribed burns usually do not reach into MAYF area since it is a wetland, 3 year cycle
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	windDamage - rare	Tornadoes in area
wildlifeDisturbance	Sus scrofa- common	Feral pigs rooting in riparian area
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	
pollutant	N/A	

D08 – TOMB – Lower Tombigbee River at Choctaw Refuge

Domain: 8 Site: TOMB subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USACE, Portal and groundwater wells on University of South Alabama land	Lee Chip Dixon is contact, unsure about contact person for USA (ask permitting - Dan Jackson)
fire	N/A	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	N/A	
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	



Site: TOMB

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	N/A	
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	windDamage - rare	Tornadoes in area
wildlifeDisturbance	N/A	
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	Dradging fraguent	Navigable commercial river - by
numanDisturbance	Dredging - frequent	USACE barges regularly in channel
a alle to at	common	Upstream of site pollutant -
pollutant		wastewater

D08 – TALL – Talladega National Forest

Domain: 8 Site: TALL subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS	Cindy Ragland, District Ranger is contact
fire	Prescribed burn- common	USFS long leaf restoration- Prescribed burns usually , 3 year cycle
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting- Triticum aestivum	Planting wheat for deer
chemicalApplication	Herbicide - frequent	Area near R_005 was treated with herbicide to reduce understory woody vegetation; small oaks, and vaccinium. Once a year/as needed
plantReduction	removal-clearCut, removal - thinning	Understory thinning for Red Cockaded woodpecker restoration work-Near TALL tower plots
animalReduction	trapping Sus scrofa- frequent	Feral pig trapping
biocontrol	N/A	



Site: TALL

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	rare	occasional building material detritus from tornado
irrigation	N/A	
otherNaturalDisturbance	windDamage - occasional	Tornadoes in area
wildlifeDisturbance	Sus scrofa	Feral pigs rooting in plot
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	road - dirt	roads built throughout for timber access
pollutant	N/A	

D08 – DELA – Dead Lake

Domain: 8

Site: DELS

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USACE - Sate of Alabama (AL DCNR) does work there	Lee Chip Dixon is contact, Folks on ground are DCNR - Josh
fire	Prescribed burn- common	USFS long leaf restoration-, 3 year cycle
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	planting-Pennisetum glaucum	Rice and Millet planted for ducks in feed plots
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	N/A	
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	rare	Annual flooding disperses trash throughout plots
irrigation	N/A	



Site: DELS

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
otherNaturalDisturbance	Flood - annual	100 year flood 2015 covered area in 122 cm of water, December rains until May
wildlifeDisturbance	Sus scrofa	Feral pigs rooting in plot
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	
pollutant	N/A	

D08 – LENO – Lenoir Landing

Site: LENO subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFWS manages (leased to them by USACE)	Steve Reagan (USFWS) is contact for middle swamp, Randy Bumpers works for Steve and is groundskeeper in middle Swamp. Tower is USACE - Lee Chip Dixon is contact
fire	N/A	
grazing	N/A	
plantAddition	Pennisetum glaucum	Rice and Millet planted for ducks in feed plots
chemicalApplication	N/A	
plantReduction	N/A	
animalReduction	Sus scrofa	Feral pigs throughout distributed plots
biocontrol	N/A	
populationSpike	N/A	
obstruction	Obstruction	Annual flooding disperses trash throughout plots, mostly in Tower plots
irrigation	N/A	



Domain: 8 Site: LENO subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
otherNaturalDisturbance	Flood - annual	December rains until June, Distributed plots covered with 243- 274 cm ft of water, tower plots are minimal
wildlifeDisturbance	Sus scrofa	Feral pigs rooting in plot
Other	N/A	
humanDisturbance	N/A	
pollutant	N/A	

D09 Domain 9

D09 – PRLA – Prairie Lake at Dakota Coteau Field School

Domoin: 0		
Domain: 9		
Site: PRLA		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	North Dakota State Lands Trust	
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	Bos taurus - constant	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	fertilizer/herbicide/insecticide - frequent	adjacent crop land; assessed by color of water
plantReduction	haying - frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	Aphthona spp rare	flea beetle to control noxious weeds
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	


Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

D09 – PRPO – Prairie Pothole

Domain: 9		
Site: PRPO		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge
fire	Prescribed burn- rare	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	herbicide, weed control- rare	
plantReduction	haying- frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	Aphthona spp rare	flea beetle to control noxious weeds
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D09 – WOOD- Woodworth

Domain: 9		
Site: WOOD		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	US Fish and Wildlife Service	Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge
fire	Prescribed burn- rare	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	herbicide, weed control- rare	
plantReduction	haying- frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	Aphthona spp rare	flea beetle to control noxious weeds
populationSpike	rare	



Site: WOOD

subsystem: TOS

ee

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D09 – DCFS – Dakota Chateau Field School

Domain: 9		
Site: DCFS		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	North Dakota State Lands Trust	
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	Bos taurus - constant	Management tool
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	fertilizer/herbicide/insecticide - frequent	adjacent crop land; assessed by color of water
plantReduction	haying - frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	Aphthona spp rare	flea beetle to control noxious weeds
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D09 – NOGP – Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory



Revision: C

Domain: 9

Site: NOGP

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA ARS- Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory	
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	<i>Bos taurus</i> - constant	Management/Research
plantAddition	rare	agricultural research
chemicalApplication	fertilizer/herbicide/insecticide - frequent	
plantReduction	haying - frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	Aphthona spp rare	flea beetle to control noxious weeds
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	rare	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D10 Domain 10

D10 – ARIK – Arikaree River

Domain: 10 Site: ARIK subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	Nathan Andrews runs cattle on the property.
fire	rare	
grazing	Bos taurus - constant	Management
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	frequent	
plantReduction		
animalReduction	NA	



Site: ARIK

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	rare	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D10 – CPER – Central Plains Experimental Range

Domain: 10

Site: CPER

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA-ARS	
fire	prescribed- frequent	management
grazing	Bos taurus - usually 5/1-10/1	management, research
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	frequent	
plantReduction	no	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	rare	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	



Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

D10 – STER – Sterling

Domain: 10 Site: STER subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Gilbert Lindstrom	Andrew Lindstrom (grandson) also farms the lands
fire	rare	
grazing	Bos taurus - constant	
plantAddition	common	agriculture
chemicalApplication	common	
plantReduction	cropHarvest-common	harvest of crops, haying
animalReduction	rare	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	rare	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	Bos taurus can damage site	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D10 – RMNP – Rocky Mountain National Park

Domain: 10 Site: RMNP subsystem: TOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownershipChange	National Park Service		
fire	wildfire-rare		
grazing	NA		
plantAddition	NA		
chemicalApplication	NA		
plantReduction	NA		
animalReduction	NA		
biocontrol	NA		



Site: RMNP

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D11 Domain 11

D11 – PRIN – Pringle Creek

Domain: 11 Site: PRIN		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Managed by US Forest Service	
fire	NA	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	Flash floods, creek will likely be inaccessible during high rain events
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	USFS land open for recreational use year round, Hunting, camping. horse trails- year round



Domain: 11 Site: PRIN subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
pollutant	NA	

D11 – BLUE – Blue River

Domain: 11 Site: BLUE subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Managed by TNC	
fire	NA	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	Flash flooding during high rains
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	Infrequent visits by other scientists, college groups
pollutant	NA	

D11 – CJBJ – LBJ National Grassland



Author: T. Baldwin

Domain: 11		
Site: CJBJ		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	US Forest Service	
fire	Prescribed- rare	In tower site, and other parcels where NEON plots are location. On an approx. 3-yr rotation cycle
grazing	Bos taurus- rare	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	Rains could wash out two-track fire line main path leading to tower/ins hut.
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	Hog packs likely visit nearby areas infrequently.
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	Hunting, camping. horse trails- year-round	USFS land open for recreational use year round
pollutant	NA	

D11 – OAES- Klemme Range Research Station

Domain: 11 Site: OAES		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Managed by Oklahoma State University	
fire	NA	



Site: OAES

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
grazing	<i>Bos taurus</i> - frequent	Grazing is a planned activity. NEON is notified prior to cattle being moved into related pastures.
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance		
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other		
humanDisturbance	NA	
pollutant	NA	

D12 Domain 12

D12 – BLDE - Blacktail Deer Creek

Domain: 12

Site: BLDE

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	National Park Service	
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	chemical- planned fish eradication (rotenone) in coming years	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	



Site: BLDE

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	possible-earthquake, volcanic eruption
wildlifeDisturbance	frequent	bears, bison, other large carnivores
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	fishing
pollutant	NA	

D12 – YELL – Yellowstone Northern Range

Domain: 12

Site: YELL

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	National Park Service	
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	frequent	bison, elk, deer. No cattle grazing
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	rare	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	rare	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	possible-earthquake, volcanic eruption
wildlifeDisturbance	common	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	
pollutant	NA	



D13 Domain 13

D13 – COMO – Como Creek at Niwot Ridge

Site: COMO

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS	Mountain Research Station (MRS) are our point of contact, though they are not the site host.
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	hunting-rare	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	common	trees often fall and block the road, roads not maintained in the winter causing lack of access
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	windstorms
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D13 – WSTL – West Saint Louis Creek

Domain: 13 Site: WSTL subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS	Banning Starr is our POC on the ground



Site: WSTL

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	common	fishing
pollutant	rare	

D13 – NIWO – Niwot Ridge Mountain Research Station

Domain: 13

Site: NIWO

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS	Mountain Research Station (MRS) are our point of contact, though they are not the site host.
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	hunting-rare	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	



Date: 01/13/2020

Domain: 13

Site: NIWO

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	common	trees often fall and block the road, roads not maintained in the winter causing lack of access
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	windstorms
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	bears have disturbed beetle traps in the past
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D13 – MOAB – Moab

Domain: 13

Site: MOAB

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Bureau Land Management	
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	cattle grazing
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	rare	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	rare	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	common	"road" access could be obstructed due to weather-"roads" unmaintained
irrigation	Ν	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	flood
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	NA	



Domain: 13 Site: MOAB subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
humanDisturbance	common	public access hunting, OHV recreation-plots located on OHV trail system on eastern side of TOS boundary
pollutant	NA	

D14 Domain 14

D14 – SYCA – Sycamore Creek

Domain: 14

Site: SYCA

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Tonto National Forest	
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Reach located in Sunflower Allotment (currently for sale, no grazing since 2000)
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	Ν	
obstruction	common	Various man-made and natural debris following flash floods
irrigation	Ν	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Flash floods
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	Heavy UTV recreational use downstream of permitted reach. Potential encroachment.
pollutant	NA	



D14 – SRER – Santa Rita Experimental Range

Domain: 14		
Site: SRER		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Arizona State Land Department	
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	<i>Bos taurus</i> - frequent	Cattle rotated through pastures at various densities and durations. Subject to change during yearly SRER Grazing Plan issued by University of Arizona
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	Flash floods
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	Rare; javelina, rodents eating plot markers
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	Recreation: hunting, target practice, UTVs
pollutant	NA	

D14 - JORN – Jornada Long Term Ecological Research

Domain: 14 Site: JORN subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA-ARS	



Site: JORN

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
		Telliarks
fire	wildfire- rare	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	γ	Rare; oryx, rodents eating plot markers
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	NA	
pollutant	NA	

D15 Domain 15

D15 – REDB – Red Butte Creek

Domain: 15

Site: REDB

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USFS owns canyon/creek; Salt Lake City manages Red Butte Reservoir and access	
fire	wildfire- rare	unmanaged system-lots of woody debris
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	



Domain: 15 Site: REDB subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	common	lots of woody debris in stream- unmanaged system
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	flood
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	NA	closed to public access-but other researchers in canyon
pollutant	possible	oil spill occurred in 2010

D15 – ONAQ – Onaqui

Domain: 15 Site: ONAQ subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Bureau of Land Management	
fire	wildfire	two near site since 2014
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	managed grazing lease with BLM 11/1-6/15 annually. Actual evidence of cows however typically through April annually.
plantAddition	rare	
chemicalApplication	rare	
plantReduction	mastication-frequent	juniper mastication event occurred on some of the site in 2015. possible this will occur again. We are in touch with BLM management regarding these activities.
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	rare	
populationSpike	NA	



Revision: C

Domain: 15 Site: ONAQ subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	common	heavy rains/snow melt make roads impassable
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	common	flood
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	wild horses present
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	common	public access-used for hunting and recreation
pollutant	NA	

D16 Domain 16

D16 – MCRA – McRae Creek

Domain:	16
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Site: MCRA

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Willamette National Forest	H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	



Title: NEON Protocol and Procedures: Site Management and Disturbance Data Collection

D16 – MART – Martha Creek

Domain: 16		
Site: MART subsystem: AOS		
ownershipChange	Gifford Pinchot National Forest	Wind River Experimental Forest
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D16 – WREF – Wind River Experimental Forest

Domain: 16

Site: WREF

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Gifford Pinchot National Forest	Wind River Experimental Forest
fire	wildfire or prescribed burn - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	tree planting - rare	primarily Pseudotsuga menziesii
chemicalApplication	herbicide	possible but frequency unknown
plantReduction	clearcut - rare	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	



Site: WREF

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	rare	
pollutant	rare	

D16 – ABBY – Abby Road

Domain: 16

Site: ABBY

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	Washington State Department of Natural Resources	Yacolt Burn State Forest
fire	wildfire or prescribed burn - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	tree planting - frequent	primarily Pseudotsuga menziesii
chemicalApplication	herbicide - rare	more common along roadsides
plantReduction	clearcut - frequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	rare	
obstruction	rare	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	
Other	rare	
humanDisturbance	vandalism; damage from motorcycles/ATVs; damage from recreational shooting; construction of logging roads - rare	mountain bike and motorcycle trails run through some TOS plots
pollutant	rare	



D17 Domain 17

D17 – TECR – Teakettle II Creek

Domain: 17		
Site: TECR		
subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA Forest Service - rare	Pacific Southwest Research Station
fire	wild and prescribed-infrequent	
grazing	Bos taurus- infrequent	Bos taurus, in an active grazing allotment
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	fire retardant, other research - rare	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	rare	possible during spring melt
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	infrequent	Ursus americanus
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	other research
pollutant	NA	

D17 – BIGC – Upper Big Creek

Domain: 17 Site: BIGC subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA Forest Service - rare	Sierra National Forest
fire	wild and prescribed-infrequent	
grazing	Bos taurus- infrequent	Bos taurus, in an active grazing allotment
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	fire retardant - rare	



Site: BIGC

Other

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	rare	possible during spring melt
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	infrequent	Ursus americanus
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	near a dispersed campsite
pollutant	NA	

D17 – SJER – San Joaquin Experimental Range

Domain: 17		
Site: SJER		
subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA Forest Service - rare	Pacific Southwest Research Station
fire	wild and prescribed-infrequent	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Bos taurus, site is managed as a grazing research facility
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	infrequent	APHIS traps out here sometimes (coyotes, feral hogs)
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	frequent	Sus scrofa

NA



Domain: 17	
6	

Site: SJER

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
humanDisturbance	frequent	other research
pollutant	NA	

D17 – SOAP – Soaproot Saddle

Domain: 17 Site: SOAP subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA Forest Service - rare	Sierra National Forest
fire	wild and prescribed-infrequent	
grazing	Bos taurus- infrequent	Bos taurus, in an active grazing allotment
plantAddition	rare	after timber sales
chemicalApplication	fire retardant - rare	
plantReduction	timber cutting-infrequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	pine beetles-common	
obstruction	frequent	lots of dead trees ready to fall
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	frequent	Ursus americanus
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	NA	
pollutant	NA	

D17 – TEAK – Lower Teakettle at Teakettle Experimental Forest



Author: T. Baldwin

Site: TEAK

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	USDA Forest Service - rare	Sierra National Forest
fire	wild and prescribed-infrequent	
grazing	Bos taurus- frequent	Bos taurus, in an active grazing allotment, mostly in meadows, along streams
plantAddition	rare	after timber sales
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	timber cutting-infrequent	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	infrequent	Ursus americanus
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	dispersed camping area near tower
pollutant	NA	

D18 Domain 18

D18 – OKSR – Oksrukuyik Creek

Domain: 18			
Site: OKSR			
subsystem: AOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownershipChange	BLM		
fire	rare		
grazing	NA		
plantAddition	NA		
chemicalApplication	NA		
plantReduction	NA		
animalReduction	NA		



Site: OKSR

subsystem: AOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	rare	geoblock trail will fail
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	Caribou, Bear, fox
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	rare	Hunters, truckers, pipeline workers
numanDisturbance		(from main road)
pollutant	rare	Alaska pipeline nearby

D18 – TOOK – Toolik Lake at Toolik Lake Field Station

Domain: 18

Site: TOOK

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	BLM/Toolik Field Station	
fire	rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	rare	geoblock trail will fail
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other	NA	
human Disturbance	frequent	Other existing research on lake -
humanDisturbance	frequent	frequent
pollutant	rare	Alaska pipeline nearby



D18 – TOOL – Toolik Lake Field Station

Domain: 18			
Site: TOOL			
subsystem: TOS			
	eventType – frequency	remarks	
ownershipChange			
fire			
grazing			
plantAddition			
chemicalApplication			
plantReduction			
animalReduction			
biocontrol			
populationSpike			
obstruction			
irrigation			
otherNaturalDisturbance			
wildlifeDisturbance			
Other			
humanDisturbance			
pollutant			

D18 – BARR – Barrow Environmental Observatory

Domain: 18 Site: BARR subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	North Slope Borough	
fire	rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	UNK	
chemicalApplication	UNK	
plantReduction	UNK	



Site: BARR

subsystem: TOS

		_
	eventType – frequency	remarks
animalReduction	occasional culling of wildlife by USFWS	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	lemmings/owls/yagers - occasional	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	Polar Bears, fox, caribou	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	Hunters & other existing research - frequent	
pollutant	Oil and Gas development	

D19 Domain 19

D19 – CARI – Caribou Creek, Caribou-Poker Creeks Research Watershed

Domain: 19 Site: CARI subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	DNR/UAF	
fire	wildlife - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	occasional	Moose, grizzly bear - occasional
Other	NA	

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			Author: T. Baldwin	Revision: C

Domain: 19 Site: CARI subsystem: AOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
human Disturbance	frequent	Hunters & other existing research - frequent
pollutant	NA	

D19 – BONA – Caribou-Poker Creeks Research Watershed

Domain: 19 Site: BONA subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	DNR/UAF	
fire	wildlife - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	occasional	Trees near tower - occasional
wildlifeDisturbance	occasional	Moose, grizzly bear - occasional
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	Hunters & other existing research
pollutant	NA	

D19 – DEJU – Delta Junction



Site: DEJU

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	BLM	
fire	wildlife - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	rare	Trees near tower
wildlifeDisturbance	rare	Moose, grizzly bear
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	Hunters & other existing research
pollutant	NA	

D19 – HEAL - Healy

Domain: 19 Site: HEAL subsystem: TOS		
	eventType – frequency	remarks
own or shin Change		
ownershipChange	DNR wildfing rome	
fire	wildfire - rare	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	NA	
plantReduction	NA	
animalReduction	NA	
biocontrol	NA	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	



Site: HEAL

subsystem: TOS

	eventType – frequency	remarks
otherNaturalDisturbance	frequent	shifting permafrost
wildlifeDisturbance	occasional	grizzly bear - occasional
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	frequent	berry pickers and tourists use tower boardwalk - frequent
pollutant	NA	

D20 Domain 20

D20 – PUUM – Pu'u Maka'ala Natural Area Reserve

Domain: 20

Site: PUUM

	eventType – frequency	remarks
ownershipChange	NA	Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources
fire	NA	
grazing	NA	
plantAddition	NA	
chemicalApplication	rare	herbicide treatment
plantReduction	weed removal - rare	
animalReduction	rare	some plots in hunting area; some plots in new site host exclosures
biocontrol	rare	
populationSpike	NA	
obstruction	NA	
irrigation	NA	
otherNaturalDisturbance	NA	
wildlifeDisturbance	NA	
Other	NA	
humanDisturbance	rare	existing site host trails through plots; new hunting trails through plots
pollutant	NA	



APPENDIX F MAPPING OF NEON MOBILE APPLICATION RECORDS TO AMERIFLUX BADM

Reporting of site management and disturbance events at NEON sites parallels a similar reporting effort at Ameriflux sites. Given the compatibility of some NEON data products with Ameriflux measurements, and the possibility that NEON sites may attain membership in the Ameriflux network in the future, the following table maps NEON site events reported with the mobile application to the Biological, Ancillary, Disturbance and Metadata (BADM) spreadsheet used to collect similar information at Ameriflux sites.

NEON Site Management and Disturbance Application	Ameriflux Disturbance and Management BADM
Fulcrum App inputs must match all entries specified for each Event type	See functions below for mappings that are the same for all event types
Event type	Variable
ownershipChange	DM_GENERAL
fire	DM_FIRE
fire	DM_FIRE
grazing	DM_GRAZE
plantAddition	DM_PLANTING
plantAddition	DM_PLANTING
chemicalApplication	DM_FERT_O
chemicalApplication	DM_FERT_M
chemicalApplication	DM_FERT_M
chemicalApplication	DM_GENERAL
chemicalApplication	DM_PESTICIDE
plantReduction	DM_FORESTRY
plantReduction	DM_AGRICULTURE
plantReduction	DM_AGRICULTURE



NEON Site Management and Disturbance Application	Ameriflux Disturbance and Management BADM
Fulcrum App inputs must match all entries specified for each Event type	
Event type	Variable
plantReduction	DM_FORESTRY
plantReduction	DM_FORESTRY
animalReduction	DM_GENERAL
biocontrol	DM_GENERAL
irrigation	DM_WATER
irrigation	DM_WATER
irrigation	DM_WATER
tillage	DM_TILL
tillage	DM_TILL
tillage	DM_TILL
humanDisturbance	DM_GENERAL
humanDisturbance	DM_GENERAL
humanDisturbance	DM_ENCROACH
humanDisturbance	DM_ENCROACH
humanDisturbance	DM_ENCROACH
humanDisturbance	DM_GENERAL
populationSpike	DM_INS_PATH
populationSpike	DM_ENCROACH
populationSpike	DM_ENCROACH
populationSpike	DM_ENCROACH
populationSpike	DM_INS_PATH

		Title: NEON Protocol and Procedure	Date: 01/13/2020
		NEON Doc. #: NEON.DOC.003282	

NEON Site Management and Disturbance Application	Ameriflux Disturbance and Management BADM
Fulcrum App inputs must match all entries specified for each Event type	See functions below for mappings that are the same for all event types
Event type	Variable
populationSpike	DM_INS_PATH
populationSpike	DM_GENERAL
obstruction	DM_GENERAL
otherNaturalDisturbance	DM_EXT_WEATHER
wildlifeDisturbance	DM_GENERAL
pollutant	DM_GENERAL
droughtPerceived	DM_EXT_WEATHER

* "Fulcrum:" designates a field in the Fulcrum mobile application used to report site management and disturbance events observed at NEON sites.

APPENDIX G EQUIPMENT

All required materials and equipment to implement this protocol are considered standard field and laboratory supplies such as charging stations, first aid kits, tablet, etc. Therefore, this section is intentionally left blank.