



NSF Research and Training Opportunities

1. NSF-wide priorities
2. Macrosystems Biology & NEON-Enabled Science
3. BIO and Division of Environmental Biology
 - a. DEB core tracks
 - b. new opportunities
4. Accelnet
5. Tips & tools

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NSF's 10 Big Ideas



Harnessing the Data Revolution



The Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier



Navigating the New Arctic



The Quantum Leap: Leading the Next Quantum Revolution

Understanding the Rules of Life: Predicting Phenotype



Windows on the Universe: The Era of Multi-messenger Astrophysics



Mid-scale Research Infrastructure

NSF 2026: Seeding Innovation

Growing Convergence Research at NSF



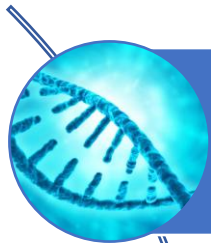
NSF INCLUDES: Enhancing STEM through Diversity and Inclusion





BIO Priorities – FY2020

Life innovates, biology integrates



Fundamental research



Advancing convergence opportunities



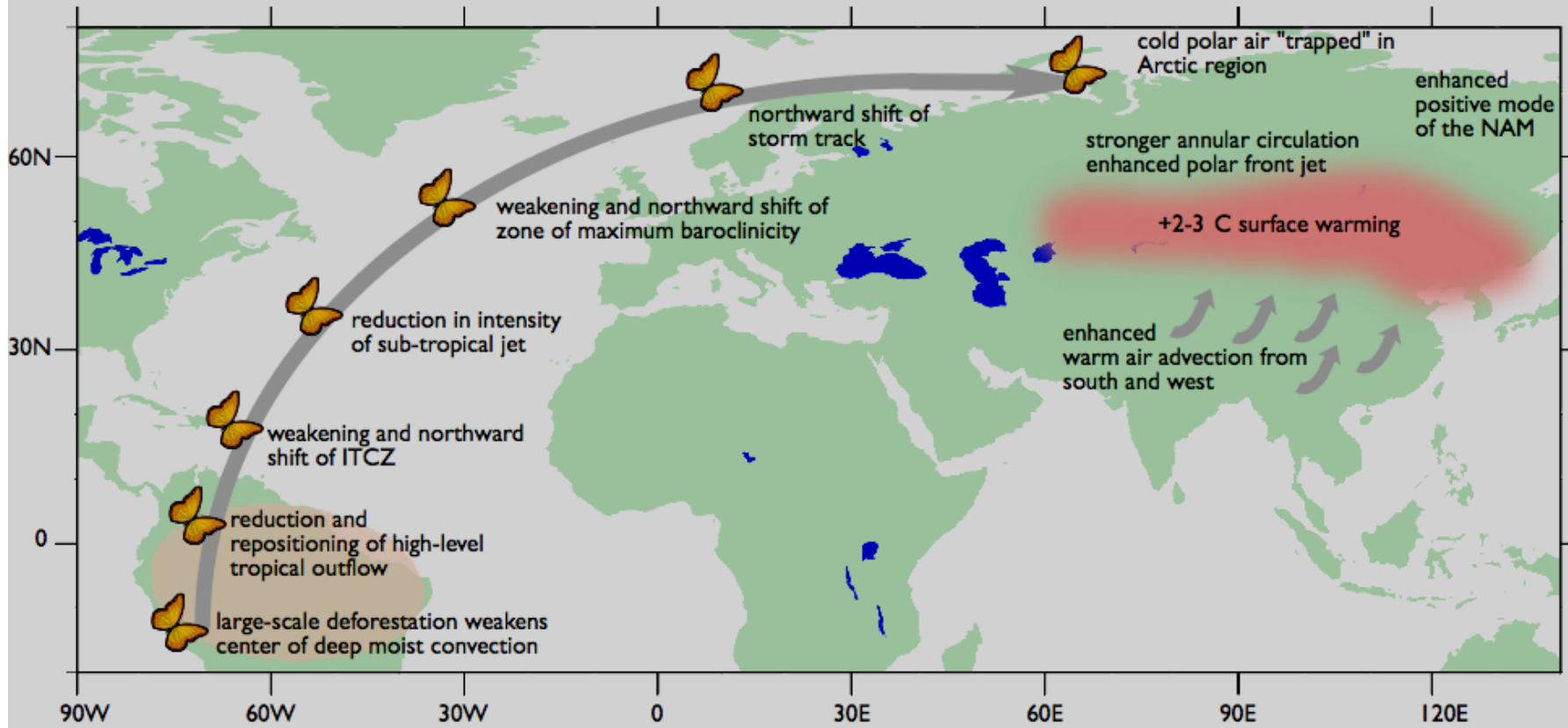
Continental scale ecosystem science



Workforce development

Linking the Amazon and Tibet

Tropical-Extratropical Teleconnection Mechanism



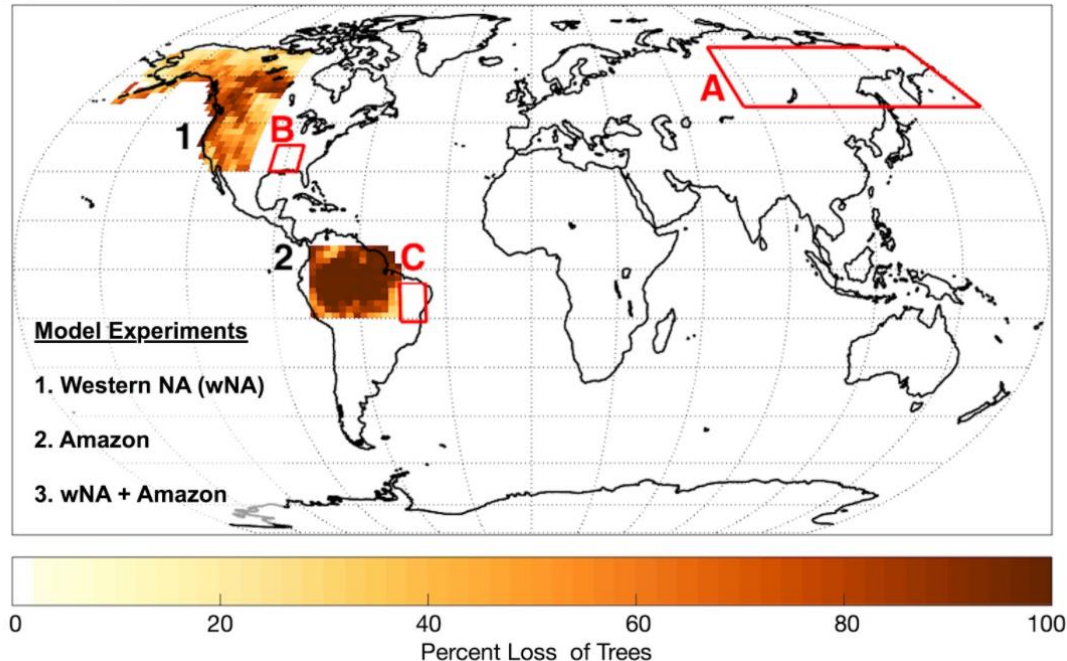
From NEON Presentation by BIO AD Dr. James P. Collins, to the House Committee on Science (April 2006)



Ecoclimate Teleconnections between Amazonia and Temperate North America: Cross-Region Feedbacks among Tree Mortality, Land Use Change, and the Atmosphere

(David Breshears, University of Arizona, EF-1340624; Abby Swann, U. Washington, EF-1340649)

(b) **Modeling Forest Die-offs:**



- Modeled climate and ecological teleconnections
- Assessed effects of forest loss in Amazonia and Western North America on distant climate and ecology
- Found that forest productivity declined in Eurasia, but increased in SE US

Garcia et al. (2016) – PLOS ONE



National Ecological Observatory Network

- NEON is revolutionary
- NEON is fully operational
- NEON is increasingly used by the community

www.neonscience.org





Macrosystems Biology & NEON-Enabled Science

(new solicitation forthcoming)

What does the program fund?

- ✓ Substantively NEON-related projects
- ✓ Macrosystem Biology = fundamental science questions
- ✓ Theory development, prediction, forecasting
- ✓ Scaling theory: e.g. teleconnections, non-linearities, cross-scale interactions, emergence
- ✓ Quantitative, interdisciplinary, mechanistic projects
- ✓ Scaling of local and global knowledge to regional/continental levels
- ✓ Planning, training, and development activities

- *More than extrapolation, aggregation, replication, or simply large*
- *If it fits snugly within a core program (e.g., ESC, PCE, IEP), it probably does not fit MSB*





The DEB Core Solicitation (NSF 18-587)

DEB Core: no-deadline submission of full proposals to the core programs:

- ***Ecosystem Science (ES)***
 - ***Evolutionary Processes (EP)***
 - ***Population and Community Ecology (PCE)***
 - ***Systematics and Biodiversity Science (SBS)***
-
- Within the core program solicitations
 - Rules of Life (RoL) track
 - Bridging Ecology & Evolution (BEE) track





Life innovates, biology integrates



Molecular & Cellular
Biosciences (MCB)

Integrative Organismal
Systems (IOS)

Environmental Biology (DEB)

Biological Infrastructure (DBI)

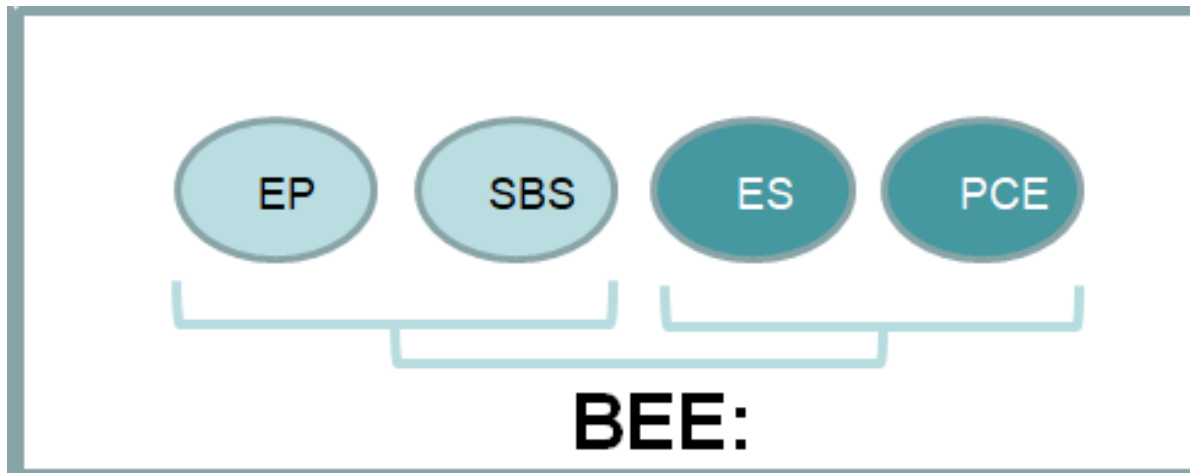
Biology Rules of Life Track:

- Integrative research on questions linking levels of biological organization
- Understanding general principles governing key properties of living systems



BEE track: Bridging Ecology & Evolution

- Applies to DEB core programs
- Targets research that spans ecology and evolution
 - Must reciprocally address hypotheses in both disciplines





Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Biology (PRFB - NSF 19-597)

- (1) Broadening Participation of Groups Underrepresented in Biology;
- (2) Interdisciplinary Research Using Biological Collections;
- (3) National Plant Genome Initiative (NPGI) Postdoctoral Research Fellowships;
- (4) Integrative Research Investigating the Rules of Life Governing Interactions Between Genomes, Environment and Phenotypes.



Accelerating Research through International Network-to-Network Collaborations -- **AccelNet**

- International “networks of networks”, or ‘meta-RCNs’
- Aligned with NSF Big Idea or a community-identified scientific challenge with international dimensions.
- Supports connections among research networks

e.g., Nancy Grimm, PI: Nature-Based Solutions for Urban Resilience in the Anthropocene (NATURA)

NSF 19-501 and NSF 19-034 (Frequently Asked Questions)

Letter of Intent: October 30, 2019

Full Proposal: January 31, 2020



Tips & Tools: Get good info

- Follow NSF updates
 - Google “NSF updates subscribe” and look for a service.gov delivery option
- Follow NSF blogs
 - <http://DEBBlog.nsfbio.com>
- Watch for new programs or ‘DCLs’
- Once you’ve read a solicitation carefully, email/call the program officers with questions





No Deadlines: Common Questions

How will proposals be reviewed?

- Same process as always:
 - Written panel and ad hoc reviews
 - Panel discussion

When should I submit?

- Submit when your proposal is ready!
- No best time of year to submit...
 - Funding and review are not tied to fiscal year (1 Oct. - 31 Sept.)
 - Frequent, smaller panels occur throughout the year
- Why rush a proposal to make some “next” panel rumored on the Internet?





DIRECTORATE FOR BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Assistant Director: Joanne Tornow
Deputy Assistant Director: Alan Tessier



Emerging Frontiers (EF)



Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI)

Acting Division Director:
Lisa Clough*

Deputy Division Director:
Jim Deshler

- Human Resources
- Research Resources
- NEON & Centers



Division of Environmental Biology (DEB)

Division Director:
Stephanie Hampton

Acting Deputy Division Director:
George Gilchrist

- Ecosystem Science
- Evolutionary Processes
- Population and Community Ecology
- Systematics & Biodiversity Science



Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS)

Division Director:
Donal Manahan

Deputy Division Director:
Michelle Elekonich

- Behavioral Systems
- Developmental Systems
- Neural Systems
- Physiological & Structural Systems
- Plant Genome Research Program



Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB)

Division Director:
Basil Nikolau

Deputy Division Director:
Theresa Good

- Cellular Dynamics & Function
- Genetic Mechanisms
- Molecular Biophysics
- Systems & Synthetic Biology

**Patricia Soranno starts as DD on August 19th*



Special Programs

- Ecology and Evolution of Infectious Disease (EEID): NSF 19-592
- Dimensions of Biodiversity: NSF 19-535
- Macrosystems Biology and NEON-Enabled Science (MSB-NES): NSF 19-538
- Opportunities for Promoting Understanding through Synthesis (OPUS): NSF 19-584
- Long-term research in environmental biology (LTREB): NSF 18-597
- Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER): NSF 17-537
- Research Coordination Networks (RCN): NSF 17-594
- Dynamics of Integrated Socio-Environmental Systems (CNH2): NSF 19-528

