

### LTET Cross-site Synthesis Travel Grant Proposal – Final Report

<b>Title</b>	The influence of changes in terrestrial plant community structure on aquatic ecosystem function across the LTER network.
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<b>LTER PI sponsors</b>	Kay Goss (KBS) and Steve Hamilton (KBS)
<b>LTER site support</b>	Kellogg Biological Station LTER

#### Summary

We held a workshop at Kellogg Biological Station (KBS) LTER April 19-22, 2007. Our primary objectives were to: 1) explore effects of changes in terrestrial plant species composition on aquatic ecosystem function across sites within the LTER Network; 2) initiate a cross-site synthesis project with other LTER graduate students; 3) establish a framework for future research collaborations; and 4) present findings at international meetings and publish findings in a peer-reviewed journal, such as *Ecosystems* or *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*.

Prior to the workshop, members of the working group conducted an extensive literature review of LTER data that could be incorporated into the cross-site synthesis. During the workshop, we compiled results of the literature review and organized the literature into groups comprising a common theme related to our synthesis objectives. We established case studies as the most effective means of synthesizing ecological broader patterns related to objectives. From these case studies, we generated a conceptual diagram to compare trends across case studies. We ended the workshop with an outline for a peer-reviewed manuscript.

After the workshop, members of the working group further developed the manuscript outline, specifically focusing on the development of the case studies, as well as the Introduction and Discussion sections. Throughout the writing process, discussion and revision of the manuscript continued via electronic mail correspondence.

Currently, the unpublished manuscript is in its final stages of completion, and will be submitted for review in summer 2008. A website has been maintained to organize the data and working group members, as well as document the workshop and post-workshop progress towards the manuscript.

#### Timeline

	<b>Task</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1.	Establish contact with grads from LTER sites	Sept 2006
2.	Do literature search to determine extent of information on linking terrestrial structure to aquatic function	Oct-Dec 2006
3.	Data collection and analysis	Oct 2006-Feb 2007
4.	Convene for data compilation & analysis, final synthesis and outline manuscript	Mar 2007
5.	Prepare and submit manuscript for peer review and publication	Mar 2007-08