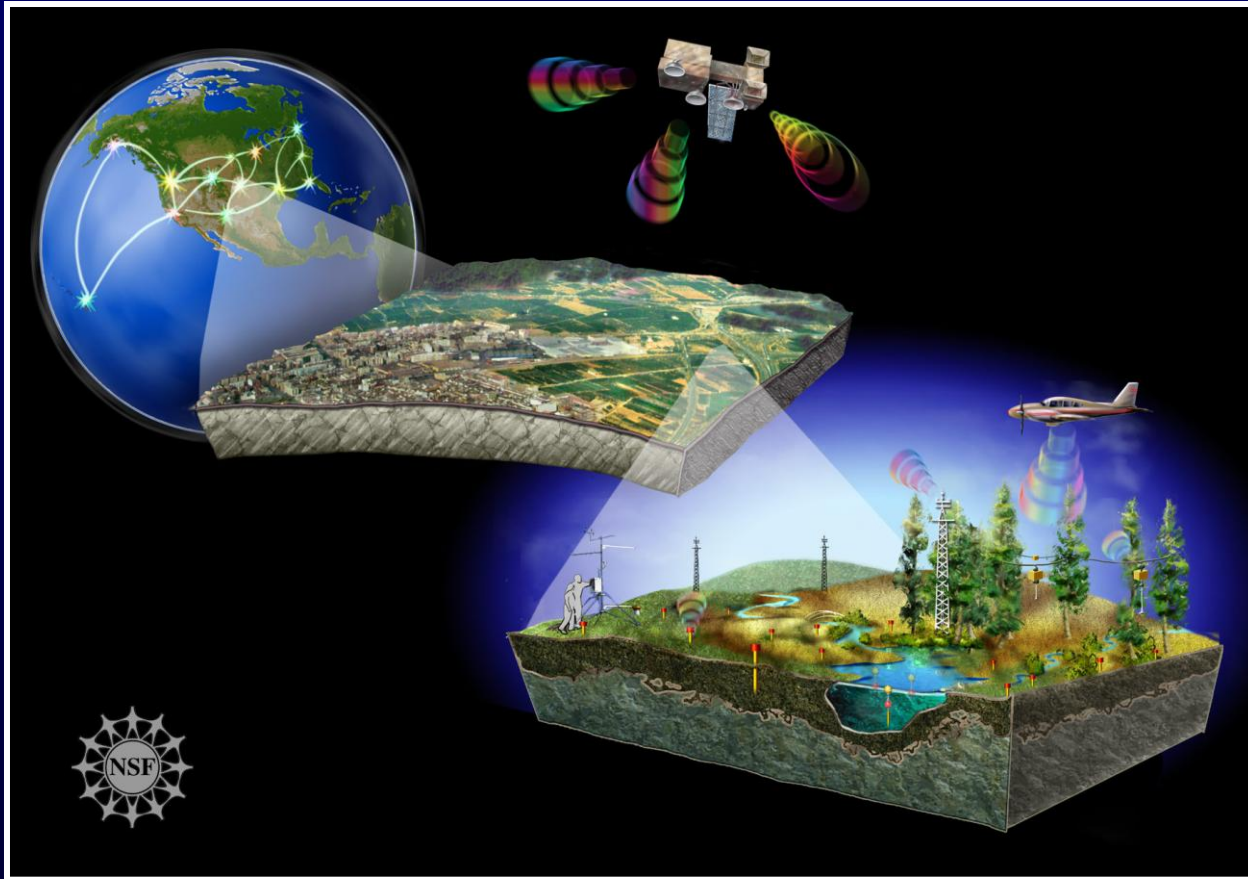


National Ecological Observatory Network:

Opening new horizons in the science of large-scale ecology



Elizabeth Blood
NEON Program
BIO AC September 11, 2009

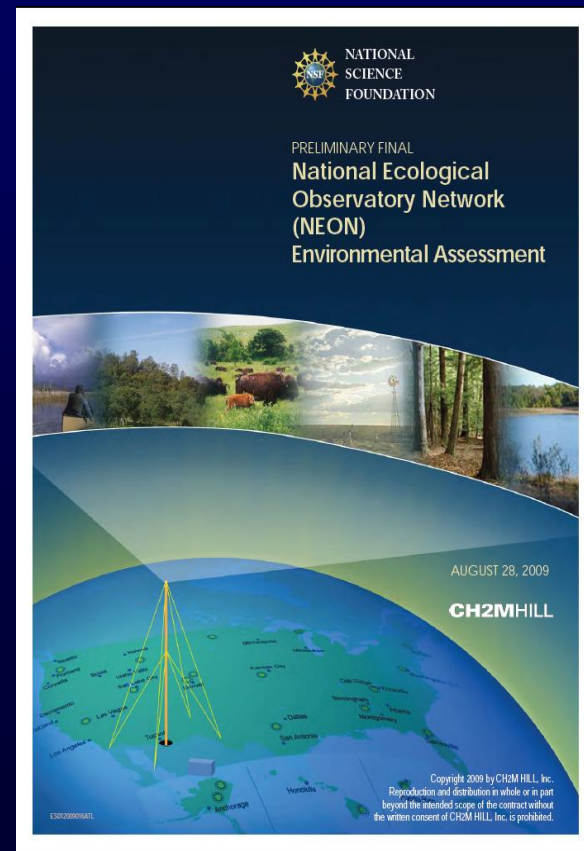


NEON Environmental Assessment

September 15 & 17, 2009 Public Meeting at NSF and NEON, Inc., respectively.

Webcast & Comments until September 28, 2009

Final EA – FONSI or EIS 11/12/09 to 12/09/09



Preliminary Design Review Stage I: NEON Science and Observatory Design Review

Charge: Assess whether NEON scientific, technical and deployment requirements will allow researchers to address the NEON science and Use-cases derived from the NEON Integrated Science and Education Plan.

“In summary, we believe that the scientific basis for NEON planning and design process is solid and its implementation will provide many opportunities for transformational science. NEON is ready to move forward to the next stage.”

Preliminary Design Review Stage II: Project Scope, Cost, & Schedule

- NEON has the capacity to produce an **FDR-ready** construction execution plan and transition into the construction phase.
- NEON Senior Management team, particularly the Project Manager, Tony Beasley is **impressive**.
- The **acquisition strategy and plan is appropriate** for the design implementation and construction with well established policies and procedures .
- Funding profile is technically limited**, additional work is needed before FDR to ensure that the cyberinfrastructure and M&O are cost effective.
- Critical path is well defined** and clearly traverses domain construction.

Next Steps:

- Final Design Review – November 2009
- Final Design & Development stage:
 - Current funding May 2008 → May 2010
- NSB Action Items:
 1. February 2010 – NSB “Bridging Award”
 - To complete the final scope, management, schedule, costs, operations, & risk reduction activities.
 - May 2010 to May 2011
 2. May 2010 – Construction Request NSB
- Begin Construction – Oct 2010

MREFC Process: NEON's Status

