The NEON data products: Enabling continental-scale ecological science

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The National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) is funded through the National Science Foundation, and dedicated to enabling understanding and forecasting of the impacts of climate change, land-use change, and invasive species on continental-scale ecology. One of the primary interfaces between NEON and the larger community is a multi-level suite of data products, nominally designed to address outstanding challenge questions in ecological science. These data products include integrative, continental-scale maps and statistics as well as fundamental measurements of organismal, biophysical, and biogeochemical variables. Additionally, they form a framework allowing users to extend and enhance their own studies of ecological processes underlying change across the continent. Here, we present this framework and its context, and provide use cases for some of NEON's data product suites.