

The NEON Mobile Deployment Platform (MDP): A Flexible Community Resource for Ecological Research

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The National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) Mobile Deployment Platforms (MDP) are the Principal Investigator and agency requestable infrastructure designed to observe stochastic or spatially important events, gradients, or quantities that cannot be reliably observed using fixed location sampling (e.g. fires and floods). Due to the transient temporal and spatial nature of such events, the MDPs will be designed to accommodate rapid deployment for time periods up to ~ 1 year. Broadly, the MDPs will be comprised of infrastructure and instrumentation capable of functioning individually or in conjunction with one another to support observations of ecological change, as well as education, training and outreach. This presentation will provide a detailed summary of that infrastructure and instrumentation, as well as providing information about protocols for requesting and deploying the NEON MDP.



Figure 1. Existing mobile infrastructure as currently deployed by other agencies.