



KU field ecology course at the KU Field Station.

KU Field Station

The 3,700-acre KU Field Station, which is managed by the Kansas Biological Survey, provides important resources for researchers and the public:

- native prairie, forest and wetland ecosystems, as well as managed terrestrial and aquatic areas monitored for change over time;
- the Armitage Education Center, which contains offices, laboratories and meeting areas, and may be reserved for education-related workshops and other events;
- 5 miles of public trails, including the ADA-compliant Rockefeller Prairie Trail, with signage on ecosystems and research.

The Field Station is a key site in the National Science Foundation's National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), established for monitoring environmental change.

The KU Field Station includes three sites in northeastern Kansas. The field office and research area, comprising 1,800 acres, is a 15-minute drive north of Lawrence, Kansas. Public trails are here. The 456-acre Baldwin Woods Forest Preserve is in southeastern Douglas County. The Anderson County Prairie Preserve, near Welda, Kansas, is owned by The Nature Conservancy.

For locations, trail maps and more:
biosurvey.ku.edu/field-station



Sharon Billings, Survey senior scientist and Dean's Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, in her lab at Higuchi Hall.

About us

The Kansas Biological Survey develops environmental research-based information that contributes to scientific knowledge, and that benefits lands and communities in Kansas and beyond. Through our core activities, we:

- gather and interpret information on the state's plants and animals;
- conduct environmental research on such key issues as air and water quality, and ecosystem health;
- develop and provide geospatial information and tools that contribute to the health of people and our environment;
- provide a setting and opportunities for research and education in the sciences, arts and humanities at the University of Kansas Field Station.

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Kansas Biological Survey



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Survey research on reservoir health helps Kansas communities, policy makers and planners.

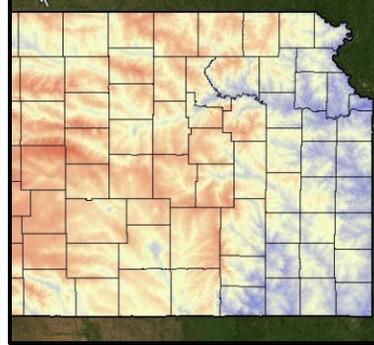
Who we are

The mission of the Kansas Biological Survey, a KU Designated Research Center, is to pursue a deeper understanding of and appreciation for our biological resources through world-class research, education and service that enlightens, engages, and empowers people in our state and beyond.

The Bio Survey is made up of research scientists, University of Kansas faculty, graduate student researchers, undergraduate assistants, administrators and professional staff. We are working on many multi-investigator research projects at all times. Our main office and laboratory building is on KU's west campus.

Our history goes back to 1866, when the Survey was informally established to study the state's plants and animals. It became part of KU in 1911 and gained state agency status in 1959. Today, the survey continues to hold dual status as a nonregulatory agency of the State of Kansas. It is known nationally for research that includes the monitoring of plant and animal species in the field, applied remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), prairie and wetland restoration, water quality and reservoir assessment, and much more.

Cover: Giant swallowtail on gayfeather at the KU Field Station's Rockefeller Prairie Trail.



Two of the online, interactive maps of the KARS program are the Green Report, above, which provides real-time vegetation monitoring, and the Natural Resource Planner, left, which offers more than 20 types of data, such as water bodies, oil and gas wells, wind speed and more.

Core expertise

The Kansas Biological Survey offers expertise for research collaboration and community service applications in the following core areas:

- plant/animal identification;
- organism/habitat evaluation;
- natural resources planning;
- aquatic and terrestrial monitoring and assessment;
- ecosystem structure, modeling and restoration;
- field measurement and analytical chemistry;
- geographic information systems technology;
- remote sensing applications.

Over time, many important programs and projects have been developed by or have become part of the Survey. Our central programs include:

- Reservoir Assessment Program;
- Central Plains Center for BioAssessment (water quality);
- Kansas Applied Remote Sensing (KARS);
- Kansas Natural Heritage Inventory;
- KU Ecosystems Research Group.



NSF-funded Dimensions in Biodiversity research site at the KU Field Station.

Financial support

Though many specific research projects are grant-funded, gifts from private donors are especially needed for overall research and operations for the Kansas Biological Survey. Private support can help provide for:

- acquisition of land to buffer sensitive research areas and native prairie habitat;
- maintenance of the KU Field Station and its facilities;
- environmental education and outreach, including public workshops and K-12 teacher training in science;
- funding for equipment and for outreach activities that cannot be funded through research project grants;
- student academic projects in the sciences, arts and humanities.

Give online at

kuendowment.org

and specify that your gift is for the Kansas Biological Survey,

or contact us at:

biosurvey@ku.edu