



*KU field ecology course at the KU Field Station.*

### **KU Field Station**

The 3,400-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;
- five miles of public trails, including the ADA-compliant Rockefeller Prairie Trail, with signage on ecosystems and research.

The Field Station also is one of 60 sites that make up the National Science Foundation's National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON), established for monitoring environmental change.

The KU Field Station is made up of seven sites in Douglas, Jefferson and Anderson counties. The field office and research area, comprising 1,800 acres, is a 15-minute drive north of Lawrence, Kansas. Most public trails are here. The Anderson County Prairie Preserve, near Welda, Kansas, is the largest tract at 1,370 acres and is managed for The Nature Conservancy.

For locations, trail maps and more:  
[biosurvey.ku.edu/field-station](http://biosurvey.ku.edu/field-station)



*Survey scientists have teamed up with colleagues from the University of Notre Dame and the U.S. Geological Survey as part of an ongoing study of invasive Asian carp.*

### **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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THE UNIVERSITY  
OF KANSAS





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

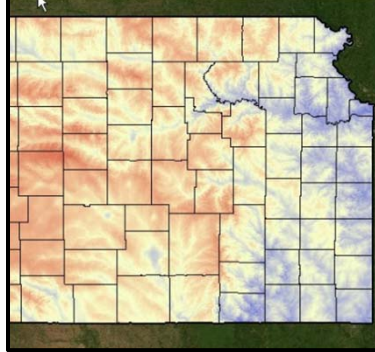
### Who we are

The Kansas Biological 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 Kansas Biological Survey was informally established with the founding of KU. Much has changed since then, but the survey continues to be part of KU and to serve the state in the same way it did more than 150 years ago. Grounded in our historical, state-mandated mission to study the state's animals and plants, we hold to this core goal: contribute to the development of strategies for sustainable natural resource use.

The survey holds dual status: It is both a non-degree granting research and service unit of KU, and it is a nonregulatory agency of the State of Kansas. It is known nationally for statewide and regional 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.

*Cover: Gayfeather at the KU Field Station's Anderson County Prairie Preserve. Photo / The Nature Conservancy.*



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:

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



Ecosystems research: Studying differences in soil layers.

### 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 key staff positions (such as outreach) that cannot be funded through research project grants;
- student academic projects in the sciences, arts and humanities.

Give online at [kuendowment.org](http://kuendowment.org) and specify that your gift is for the Kansas Biological Survey, or contact:

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