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Appendixes -- Appendix A Committee on the National Ecological Observatory Network Biographical Sketches -- Appendix B National Research Council Workshop on the National Ecological Observatory Network -- Appendix C Federal Agencies and Professional Societies that Voiced their Support for the National Ecological Observatory Network through the National Research Council Workshop and Web Forum -- Color Plates.

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Sommario/riassunto

The book endorses the National Science Foundation's concept of the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON) for providing a nationwide network of facilities and infrastructure for ecological and environmental research that is impossible with existing infrastructure. The committee identified six grand challenges in environmental biology - biodiversity, biogeochemical cycles, climate change, ecology and evolution of infectious diseases, invasive species and land and habitat use -- that deserves high priority for research and needs to be addressed on a regional or continental scale. However, the book says that NEON needs a refined focus and a more detailed plan for its implementation to ensure the maximization of its contribution to science and to better fit within the purview of Major Research Equipment and Facilities Construction funding.

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