

**ILTER ASM 2015 Workshop: Sources of Uncertainty in Ecosystem Monitoring**  
**Tuesday, September 1, 1:30-3:30 PM, Ruesch Auditorium (Dodge)**  
**Organizers: Ruth Yanai, John Campbell, Craig See**

Members of QUEST held a working group at the LTER ASM in Estes Park, CO, titled “Sources of Uncertainty in Ecosystem Monitoring.” In attendance were cooperators from eight LTER sites, along with representatives from NEON, SITES, and the Aspen Global Change Institute. The first hour of the working group consisted of six brief presentations on different aspects of uncertainty in ecosystem monitoring, each followed by a similar lightning-round discussion. The second hour consisted of a longer group discussion. At the end participants were invited to take a survey on how they deal with uncertainty in their own research. We received positive feedback from many participants, and plan to use the results of the survey as part of a review article on current practices for uncertainty in ecosystem ecology. Slides from the presentations, along with a link to the survey are available on the QUEST website. [quantifyinguncertainty.org](http://quantifyinguncertainty.org)

**List of presentations:**

- Ruth Yanai (SUNY-ESF): A brief history of QUEST; Uncertainty in the Hubbard Brook nitrogen budget
- Craig See (University of Georgia): Gaps: why they occur, and what we can do about them.
- John Campbell (USFS): Uncertainty in the net hydrologic flux of calcium in a paired-watershed harvesting study.
- Josh Roberti (NEON): Connecting uncertainty estimates and QA/QC methods.
- Melissa Slater (NEON): Examining spatial patterns of precipitation in complex terrain.
- Carrie Levine (UC Berkeley): Using Bayesian hierarchical models to estimate forest demographic processes.

**LTER-Affiliated Attendees:**

John Yarie, BNR  
Alix Conway, BNZ  
Joel Scott, CWT  
Christine Beck, FCE  
Hafsah Nahrawi, GCE  
John Campbell, HBR  
Ruth Yanai, HBR  
Carrie Levine, HBR  
Craig See, HBR  
Jessica Corman, NTL  
Vince Butitta, NTL  
Gosia Golub, NTL

Katharine Suding, NWT

**Non-LTER Attendees:**

Jeff Taylor, Aspen Global Change Institute

Bengt Liljebladh SITES (Sweden)

Josh Roberti, NEON

Melissa Slater NEON