

Ecological Modeling for the Flint Hills of Kansas

Adam M. Skibbe ^{1, 2}
askibbe@ksu.edu



¹ United States Environmental Protection Agency – Contractor
² Kansas State University

This poster reflects the early stages of a US-EPA sponsored collaborative research effort to create a multi-model ecosystem simulator for environmental risk assessment in the Flint Hills of Kansas. The initial phase of the study focuses on the Konza LTER station and the King's Creek Watershed.

The model links plant community, biogeochemistry, and hydrologic components to address the environmental effects of various disturbances including vegetation change, climate variability, and land management (burning, grazing, pesticides and fertilizers). Given consideration for these disturbances we hope to better understand their effects on the ecosystem relating to changes in vegetation, carbon storage, aquatic effects (stream discharge and nutrient loads), and air quality issues (relating to burning, fuel types and fuel loads).

