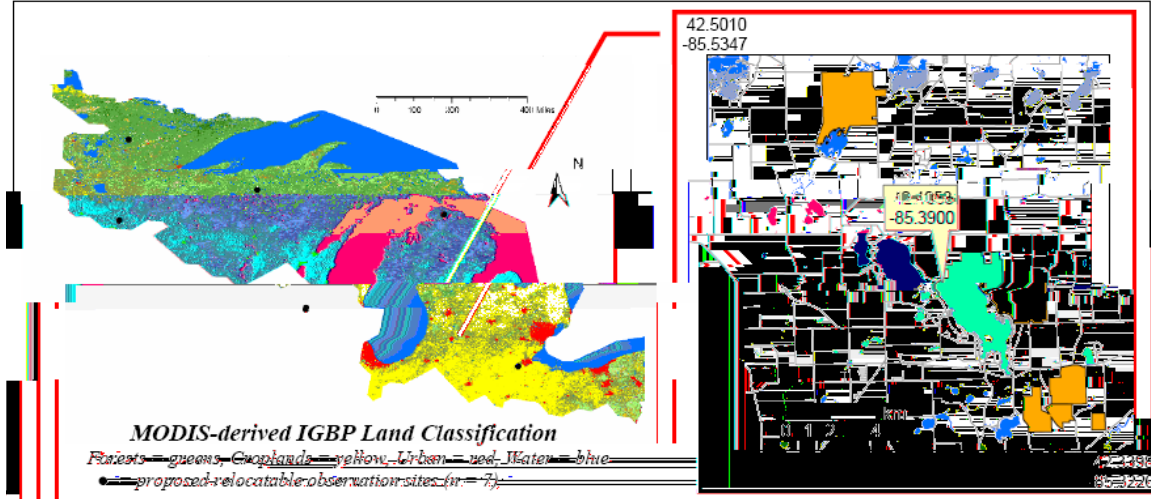


## Kellogg Biological Station (KBS)

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**Web Page:** <http://www.kbs.msu.edu>

**Location within Domain:**



**History:** KBS has a rich history of ecological research on terrestrial and aquatic environments dating back over 50 years, with > 1000 publications. The KBS Long-Term Ecological Research program (<http://lter.kbs.msu.edu/>) has focused on the ecology of agroecosystems since 1987. Watershed biogeochemistry, regionalization, and valuation of ecosystem services are more recent topics of LTER research.

**Key Characteristics:** KBS is an academic unit of Michigan State University, housing 11 faculty spanning the range of ecological subdisciplines. In addition to courses and graduate student research, KBS is deeply involved in community outreach. KBS land holdings total 1879 ha (orange areas on map) and include natural forests, old fields, wetlands and lakes as well as managed row crops and plantations (poplars and conifers). KBS lands and their surroundings represent a glacial landscape covered by a mosaic of successional deciduous forests, agricultural lands dominated by annual row crops, wetlands and lakes, and, increasingly, rural and suburban residential development. Oaks, hickories, maples and beech are prominent in the native forest vegetation; oak openings and prairies were also common prior to agricultural conversion. Two medium-sized urban areas – Kalamazoo and Battle Creek – are within 20 miles of KBS, as is one of the largest contiguous forested areas in the agricultural Midwest (the >5000 ha of the Fort Custer State Recreation Area and Fort Custer Training Center).

**Existing Infrastructure:** The KBS LTER study site includes a replicated series of annual row crops, perennial forage crops, and unmanaged successional and older growth communities used for ecological and historical comparisons. The LTER supports IT and GIS staff as well as lab technicians.

**Facilities:** As a field station, KBS is distinct for its year-round operation and state-of-the-art lab facilities that are on par with those of major campus labs. Field experiments can readily be conducted on land or in water. The station has housing for visitors and operates a cafeteria and other guest services, accommodating groups of up to 200.