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**LTER DataBits**  
Information Management Newsletter of  
The Long Term Ecological Research Network  
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◆ **Good Read: BioScience January 2003 Special Issue**  
*- Karen Baker, Palmer Station*

**John E. Hobbie (ed), 2003. A Special Section on the US Long Term Ecological Research Network. BioScience 53(1).**

A special section in Bioscience about LTER provides a comprehensive historical context for long-term research from pre International Biological Program (IBP) time through the work of LTER today. Two articles summarizing the LTER program and its accomplishments are followed by six articles on cross-site research topics: climate forcing, land-use, biodiversity, system disturbance, system variability, and mechanistic modeling. The collection of articles presents the LTER community, highlighting its mission and selected ecological the rich intellectual and data resources, the series gives insight both to the research community approach as well as to the long-term data legacy.

The overview offers an opportunity to consider the LTER process as a whole.