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**LTER DataBits**

Information Management Newsletter of  
The Long Term Ecological Research Network

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## Good Read: Review

### Infrastructuring for the Long-Term: Ecological Information Management

- *John Campbell (HBR)*

Helena Karasti and Karen S. Baker, "Infrastructuring for the Long-Term: Ecological Information Management", in Proceedings of the 37th Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, Big Island, Hawaii, January 5-8, 2004.

(<http://csdl.computer.org/comp/proceedings/hicss/2004/2056/01/205610020cabs>)

This paper emphasizes the critical role of information management in designing collaborative long-term ecological research. The LTER Network is used as a case study to examine information management within the context of large-scale scientific research. The authors' analyses draw largely from interviews with LTER scientists, information managers and others involved in the LTER program, using quotations and anecdotes to highlight points. A description of how information management provides support to science, data, and technology is provided. While information management is typically carried out behind the scenes, the authors make a convincing argument that it is a fundamentally important part of the infrastructure of collaborative research. This paper offers an inside look into the workings of information management within the LTER program and is a good read for information managers, scientists and others involved in long-term ecological research.