

## Soil-landscape information needed for understanding the ecology and management of forest vegetation in the Missouri Ozarks.

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The soil-landscape largely controls the availability of water, nutrients, and light energy to plants. Therefore, the soil-landscape affects the distribution of vegetation and vegetation responses to management. Because of this, managers need to understand their soil-landscapes when developing and implementing management systems. In this paper, we discuss important relationships between soil-landscapes and forest vegetation that we identified through the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project. We focus on key soil-landscape variables and explain why they are relevant to vegetation patterns and to forest management concerns. We also discuss where managers can find important soil-landscape information needed for developing and implementing management systems.