

Name of Field Station	Brackenridge Field Laboratory
Ownership	University of Texas at Austin. Donated to UT in 1910 as part of a land bequest from George Brackenridge.
Website	www.bfl.utexas.edu
Contact phone number	(512) 471-2825
Mailing address	2907 Lake Austin Boulevard, Austin, Tx 78703, USA
State, County	Texas, Travis County
Contact persons	Dr L. Gilbert, Dr R. Plowes
Mission Statement	To innovate and successfully prepare students through field-based studies of diverse natural systems in an urban setting close to campus, and to promote world-changing discoveries and improve our world through a better understanding of our natural systems.
Setting	BFL is situated on the Balcones Escarpment along the Colorado River in Austin, Texas. Although it is in an urban setting, the site is connected to a series of other natural landscapes along the river corridor.
Area	82 acres
Date established	Used as a UT field site since 1920's. Formal establishment in 1966.
Landuse history	Some parts of the site were used for a Limestone quarry (c.1890), Low density housing (1910 – 1950), Cattle pastures (1900 – 1950).
Lat/long	30.284°N, -97.780°W
Elevation	131 - 156m a.s.l.
Ecoregion	BFL sits at the intersection of the Balcones Canyonlands subregion (Edwards Plateau Ecoregion), and the Northern Blackland Prairie subregion (Texas Blackland Prairie Ecoregion).
Vegetation	Upper Terrace: Oak savanna (<i>Quercus fusiformis</i> , <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i> , <i>Juniperus ashei</i> trees in grassland with <i>Opuntia</i> , <i>Condalia</i> , <i>Mahonia</i> shrubs). Old Quarry: Juniper woodland (<i>Juniperus ashei</i> , <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i> trees with <i>Forestiera</i> , <i>Diospyros</i> understory). Old Pastures: Deciduous woodland (<i>Quercus fusiformis</i> , <i>Juniperus ashei</i> , <i>Quercus buckleyi</i> , <i>Prunus mexicana</i> , <i>Ulmus crassifolia</i> , <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> trees). River terrace: Riparian woodland (<i>Carya illinoensis</i> , <i>Populus deltoides</i> , <i>Celtis laevigata</i> , <i>Ulmus americana</i> , <i>Prunus caroliniana</i> trees).
Soil types, USDA	<u>Upper Terrace and Old Quarry</u> : <i>TuD</i> (<i>Travis soils and Urban land</i>). Travis soils have a surface layer of gravelly fine sandy loam about 18 inches thick. It is brown in the upper part and light reddish brown in the lower part. The next layer, to a depth of 50 inches, is red gravelly sandy clay. Old Quarry area has shallow soils on a rocky hillslope. <u>Old Pastures</u> : <i>HdE</i> (<i>Hardeman soils and Urban land</i>). Undisturbed areas of Hardeman soils have a surface layer of brown fine sandy loam about 36 inches thick. This layer overlies reddish-yellow silt loam.

	<p><u>River terrace: Lu (Lincoln soils and Urban land)</u>. Undisturbed areas of Lincoln soils have a surface layer of brown loamy fine sand about 17 inches thick. The underlying material is stratified very pale brown and brown loamy sand or sandy loam.</p>
Weather records	<p>Onsite weather station KTXAUSTI351 since Jan 2015. Refer to Camp Mabry weather records (4km from BFL) for long term weather data.</p>
Rainfall	<p>Average yearly rainfall is near 33 inches. Extremes at Austin Mabry, since 1856, vary from 11.52 inches low in 1954 to 64.68 inches high in 1919.</p>
Summer temperatures	<p>Summer daytime temperatures hot, with highs over 90F more than 80% of time. Typically 20-30 days per year over 100F.</p>
Winter temperatures	<p>Av 25 freezing days per year, between late November and early March.</p>