Denny collapse – paper draft

Primary questions?

* How has forest structure changed (BA, stem density, biomass)?
* How have ecological communities changed? (Tree and ground flora community composition and richness)
* How have the traits present in the system changed? (functional traits linked to ground flora etc)

Introduction

* Concern about non-linear shifts in ecosystems
* Though there is concern about these shifts, there has been relatively little evidence of them in terrestrial systems
* However, recent work has suggested that forests may be prone to regime shifts that result in changes to savannah/grassland
* Previous work has indicated that tropical and boreal forest may be prone to such shifts, but little has been done in temperate forests.
* Here we present evidence of an apparent regime shift in a lowland temperate forest.

Research questions