

From Spatial Data to Time-Lapse: Creating Videos with ArcGIS and Premiere



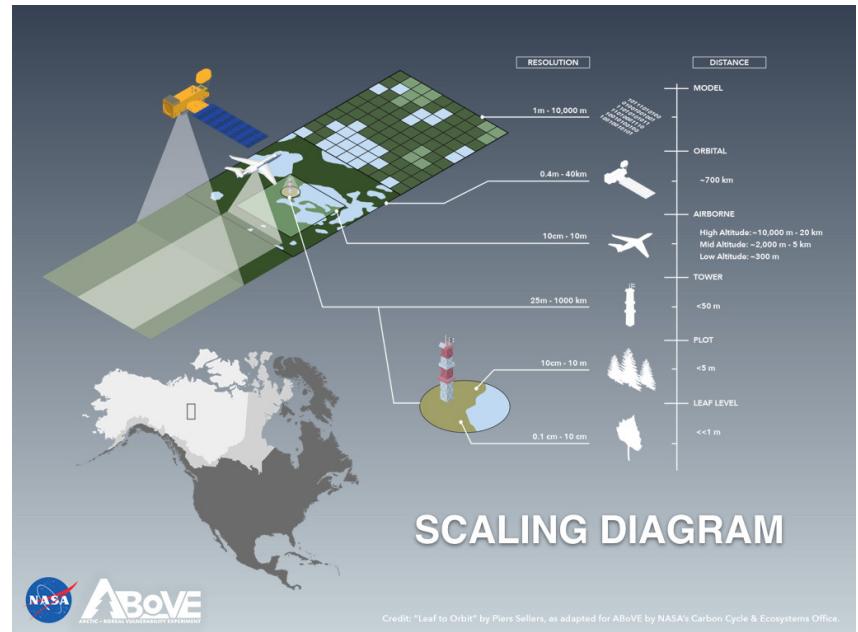
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Yaxiong Ma, Postdoctoral Researcher, Sargent College

IS&T RCS Spring 2023 Trainings
02.02.2023



- **NASA Arctic-Boreal Vulnerability Experiment**
Explore impacts of environmental change on Arctic and Boreal terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems
- The warming in the arctic is twice as fast as the global average (IPCC, 2013)
- Boreal biomes exhibit the highest gross forest cover loss (GFCL), and NA's forest loss is above all the other continents' (Hansen et al., 2010; Natural Resources Canada, 2017)



Landsat 5/7 TM/ETM+

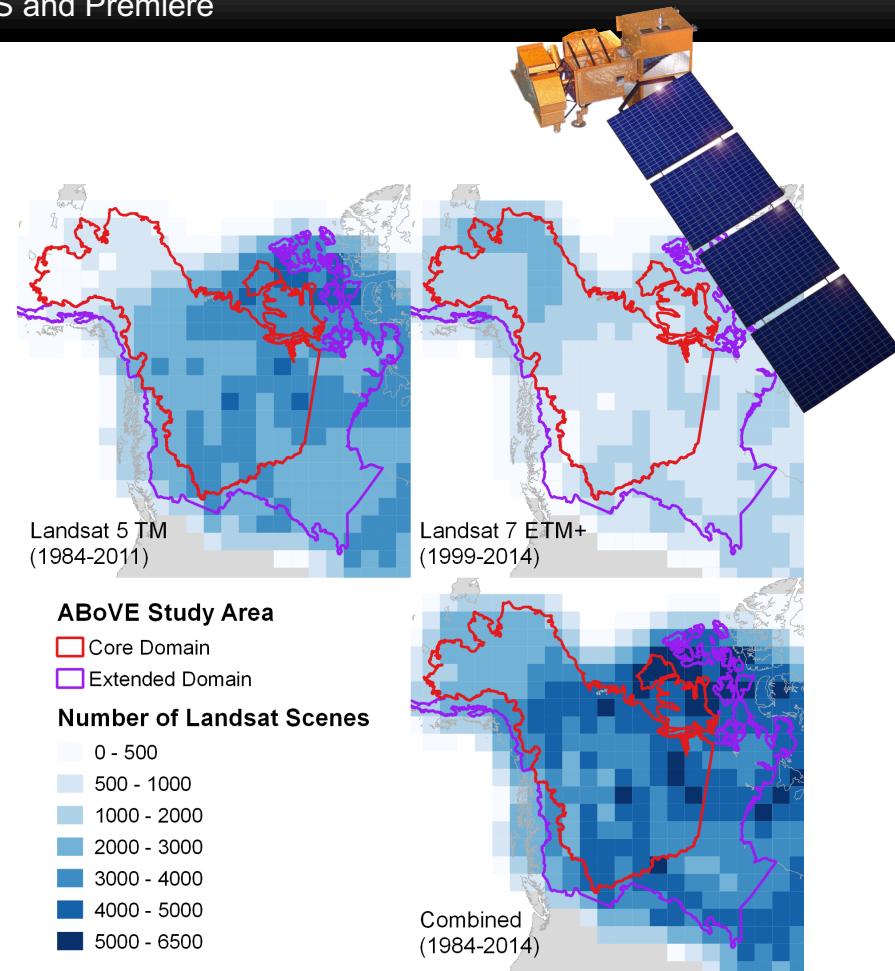
- Temporal resolution: 16 days
- Spatial resolution: 30 meters

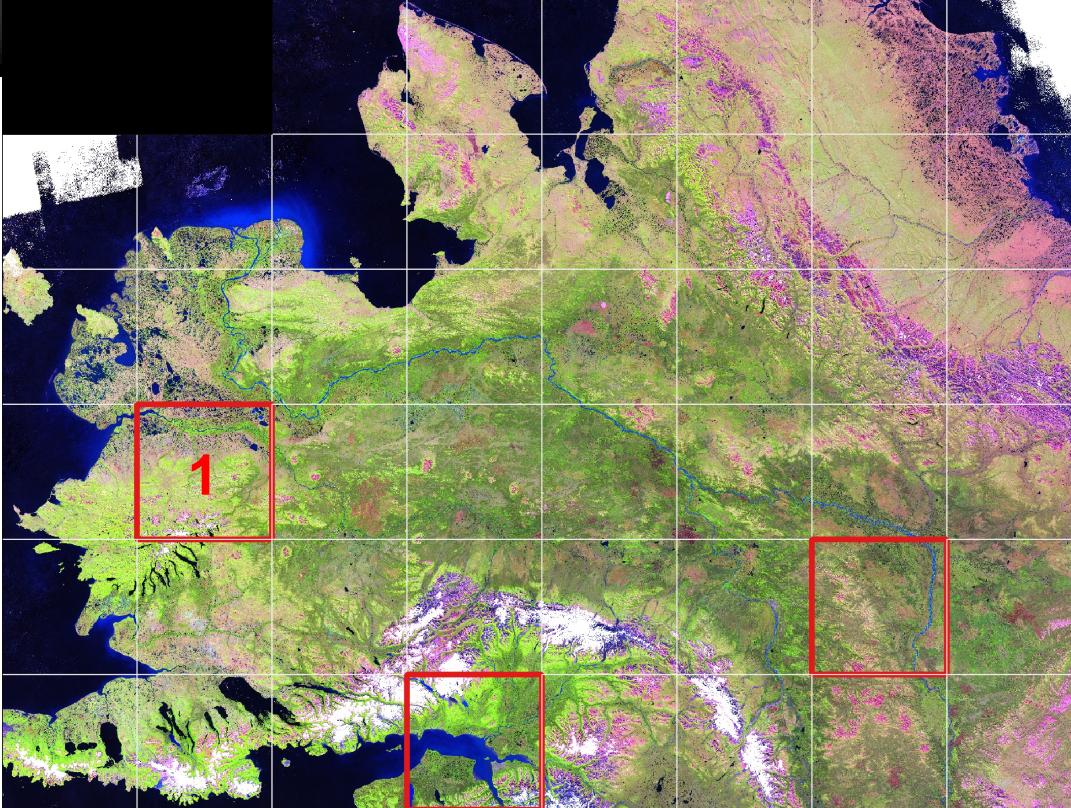
Data volume

164 tile × 6000*6000 pixels × 31 years

- The inputs to this process required 102 TB of storage and the outputs, highly compressed TIFF files, use 82 TB

	TM5	ETM+	Combined
Total tile files produced	1,136,321	504,607	1,640,928





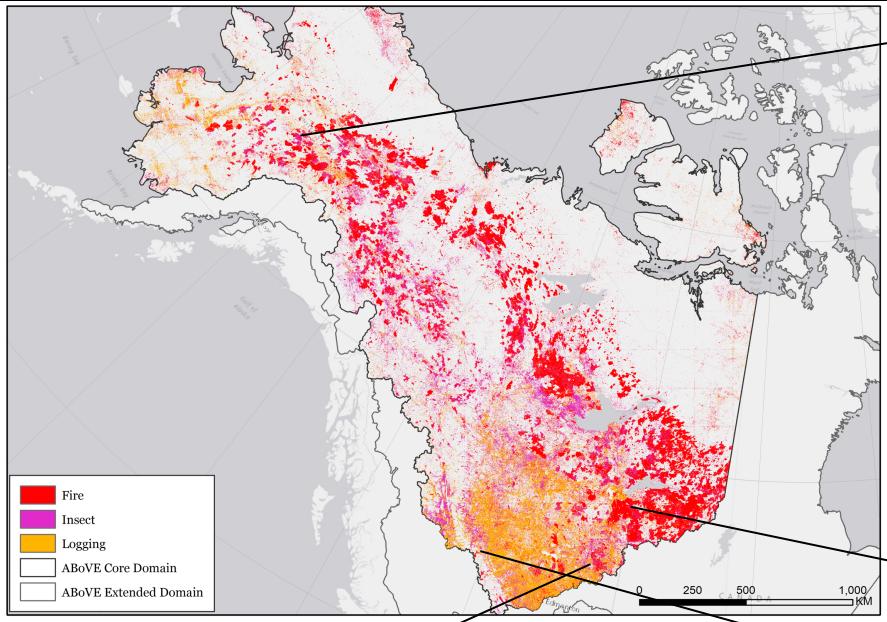
Synthetic Landsat Composite of
Alaska for August, 2000
(R: SWIR1, G: NIR, B: Red)

100 0 100 200 300 400 km



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Causal Agents of Disturbance Map

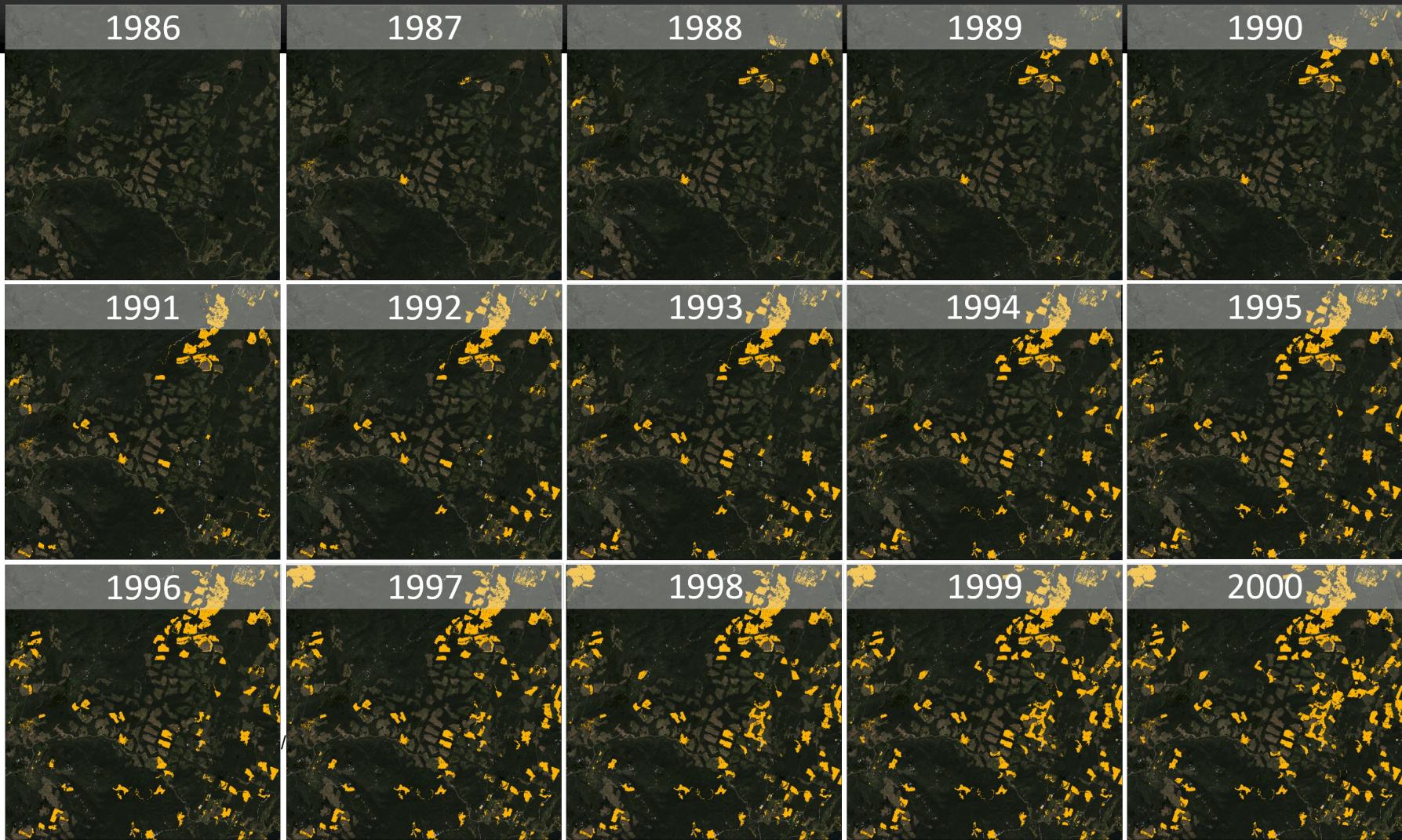


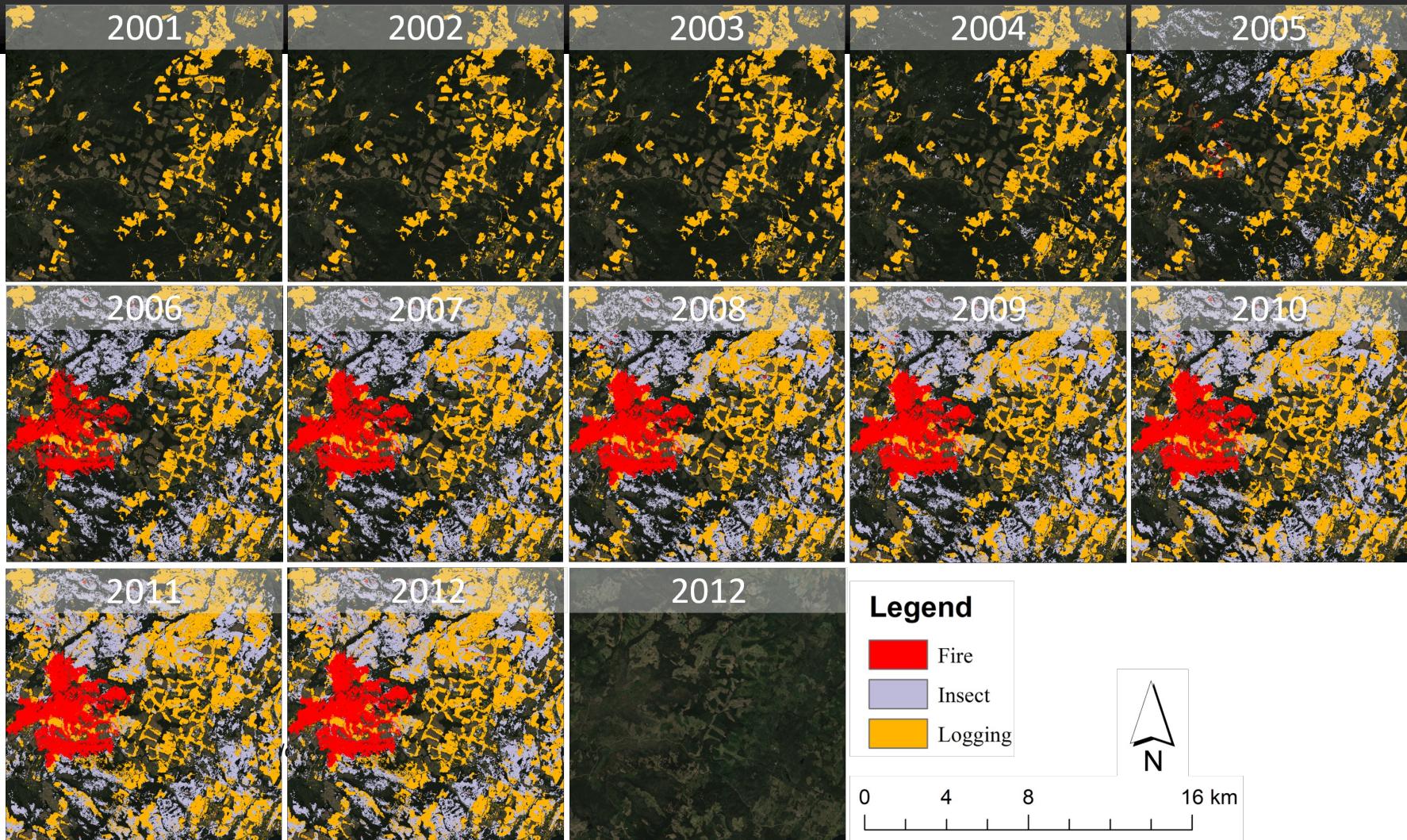
Check out
the video



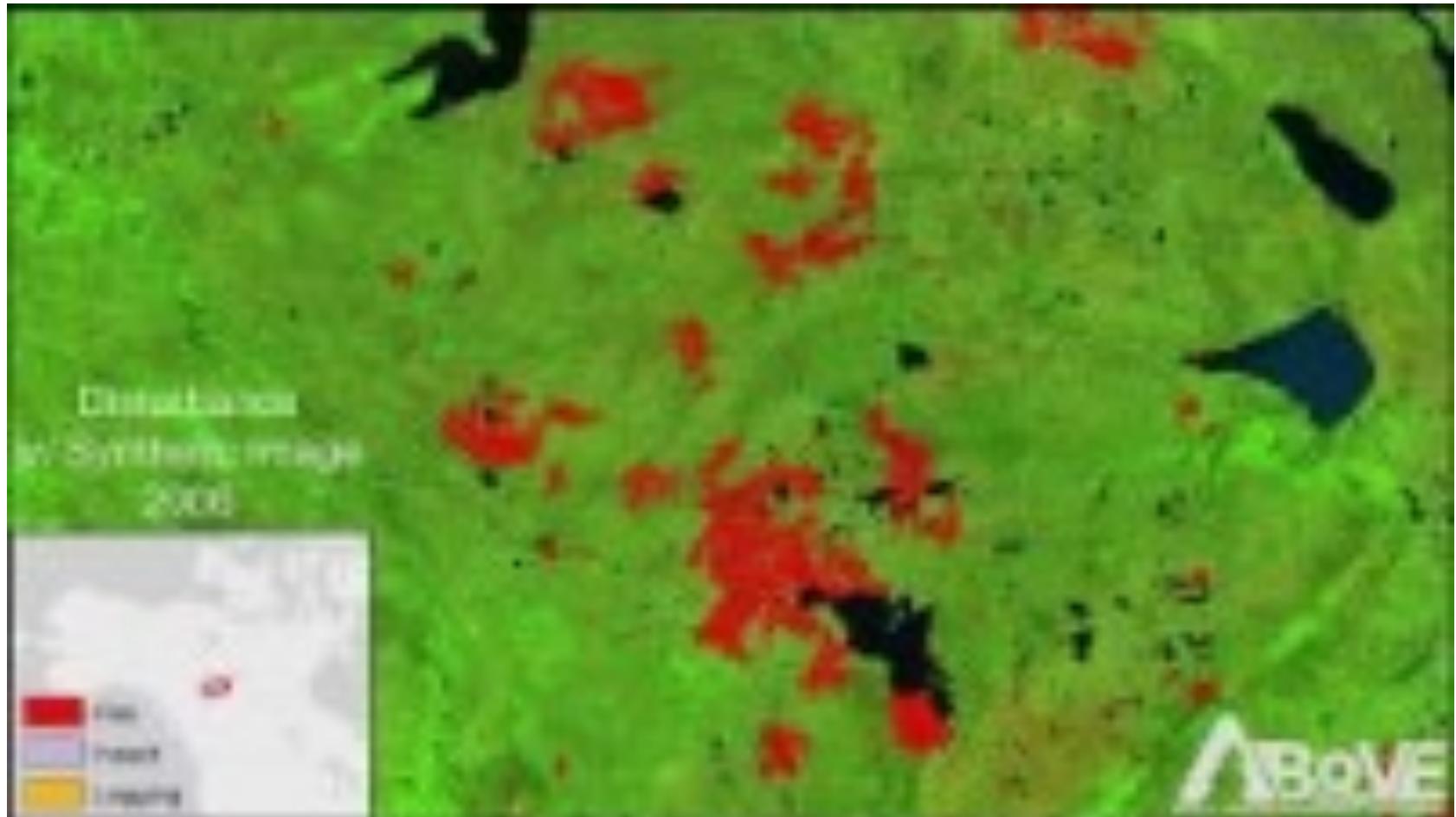
Zhang et al.,
2022, RSE







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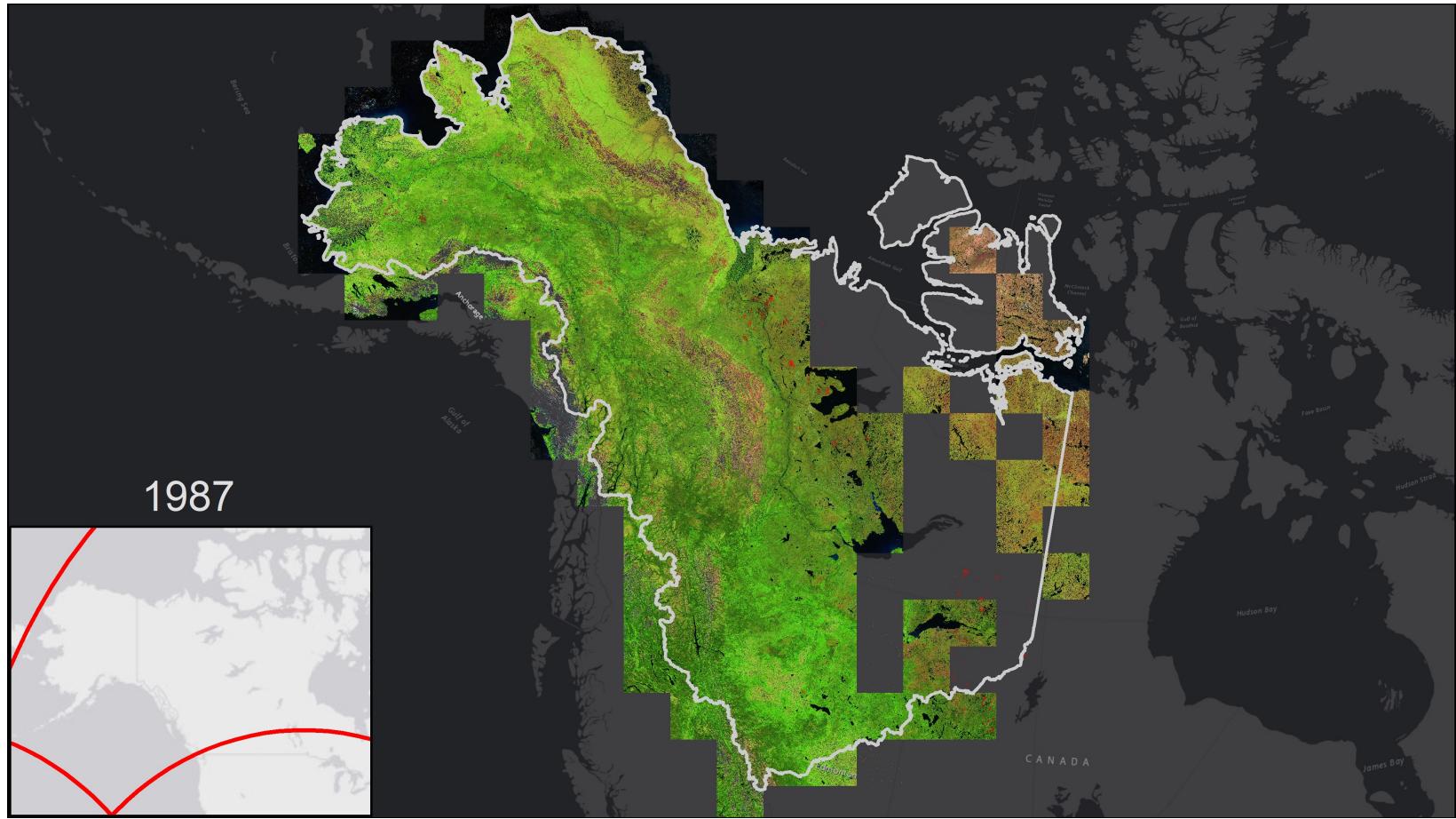


Recipe

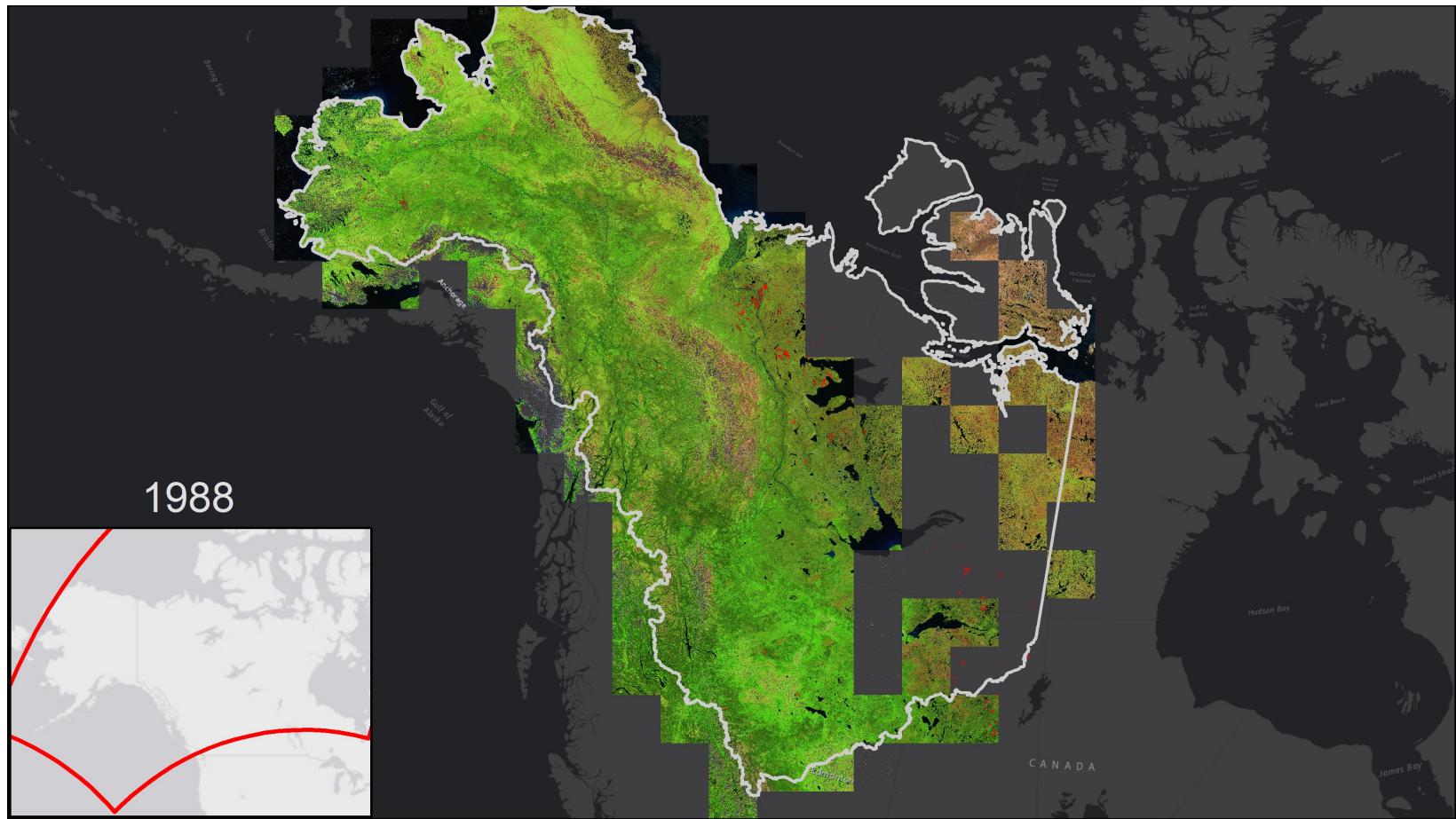
Ingredients Breakdown

1. Annual Landsat-derived disturbance maps → Time-lapse of dataset group1
 - categorical map: 3 classes
 - 1987-2012
2. Annual Landsat peak-summer image composite → Time-lapse of dataset group2
 - continuous values
 - R: short-wave infrared (1.55-1.75 μm); G: near-infrared (0.77-0.90 μm); B: red (0.63-0.63 μm)
3. Bounds/frames

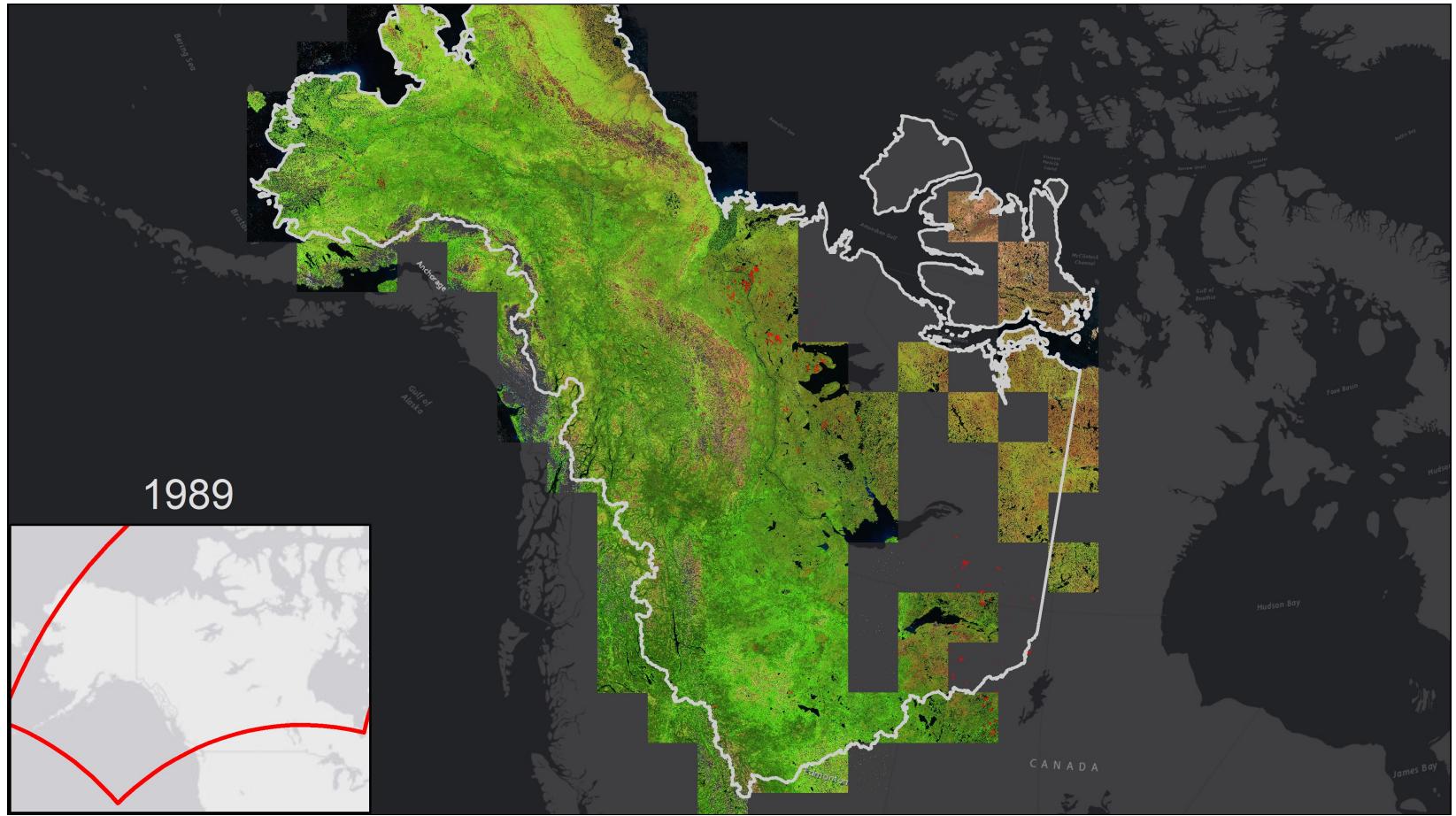
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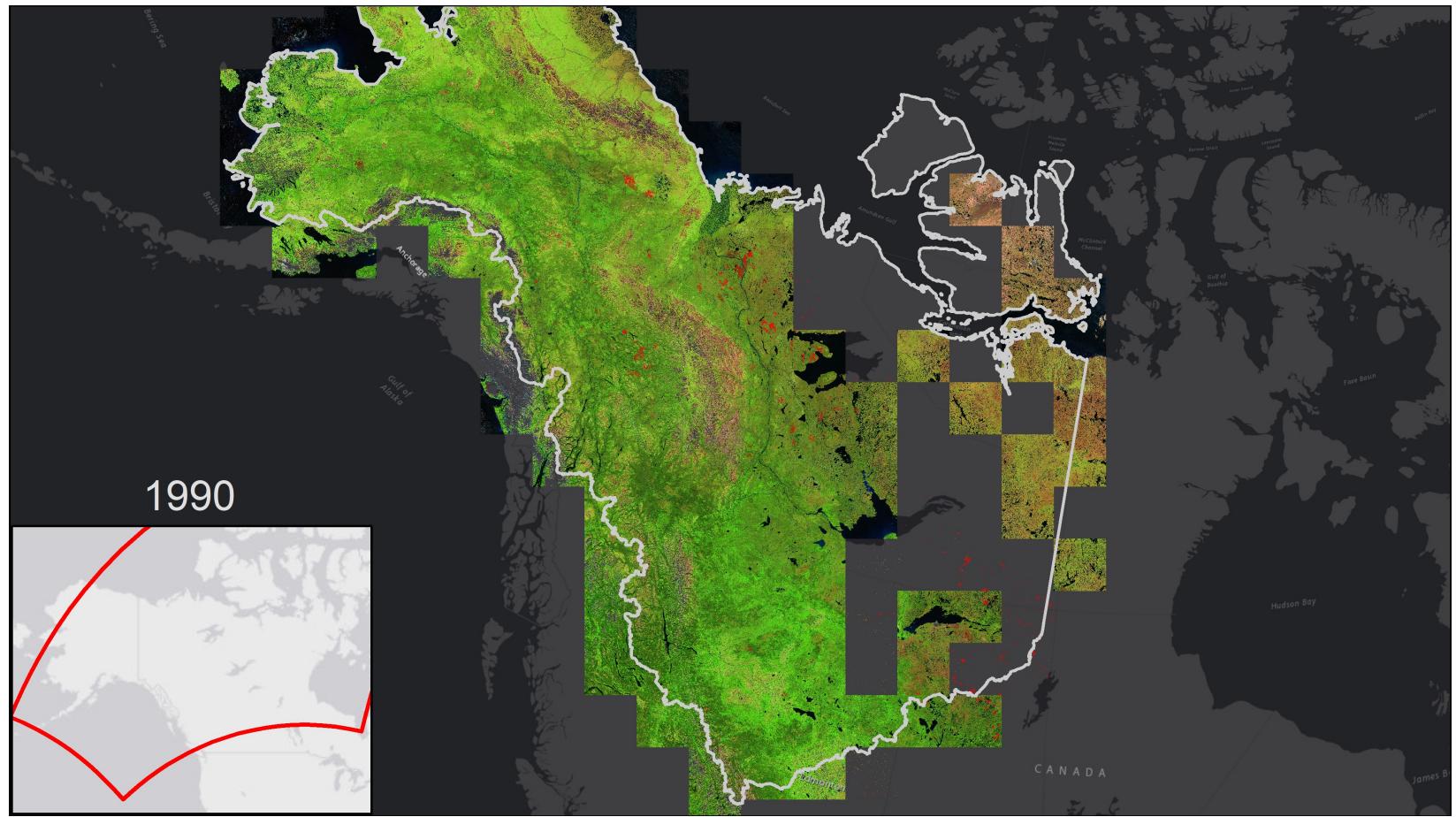
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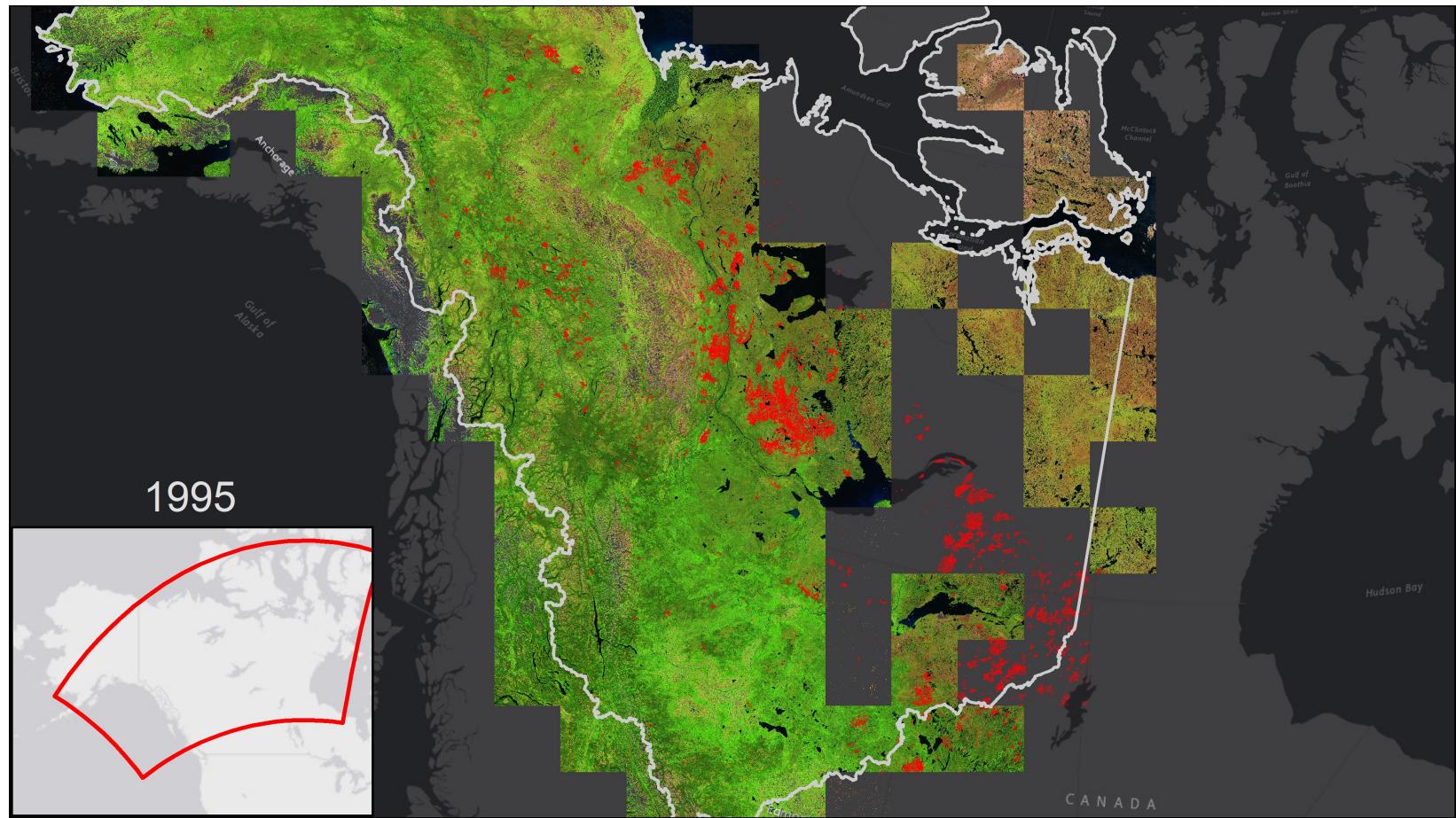
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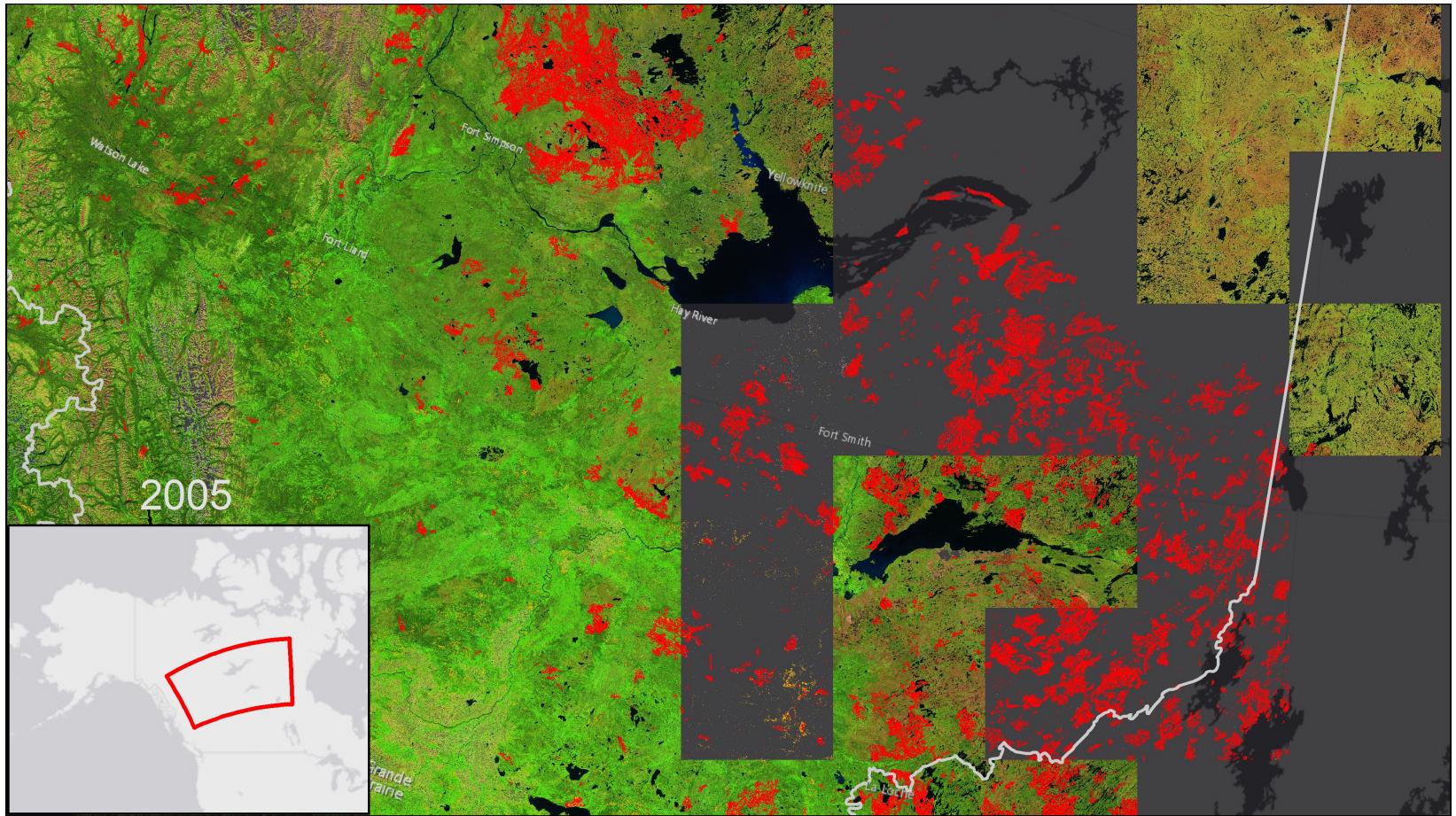
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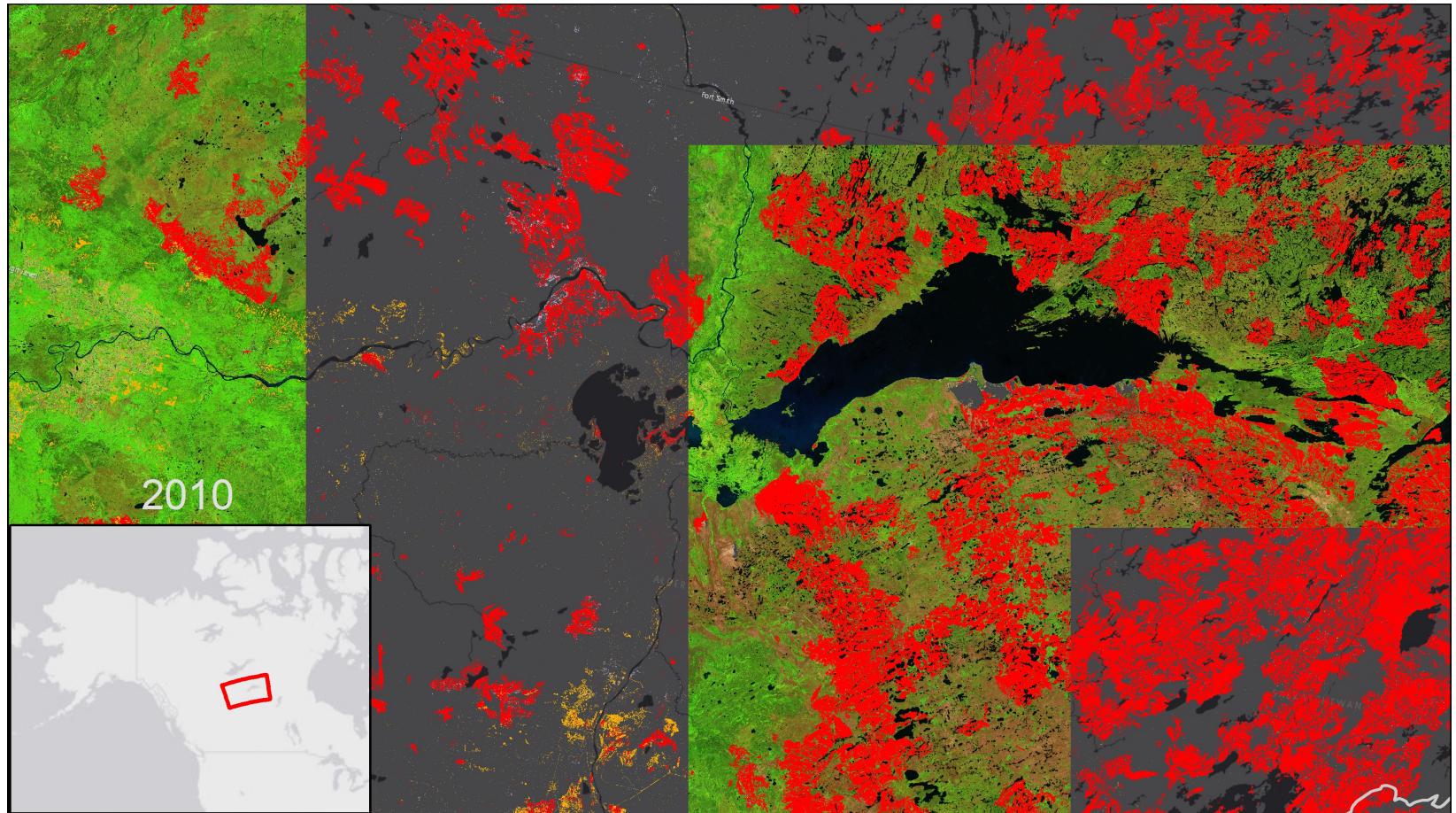
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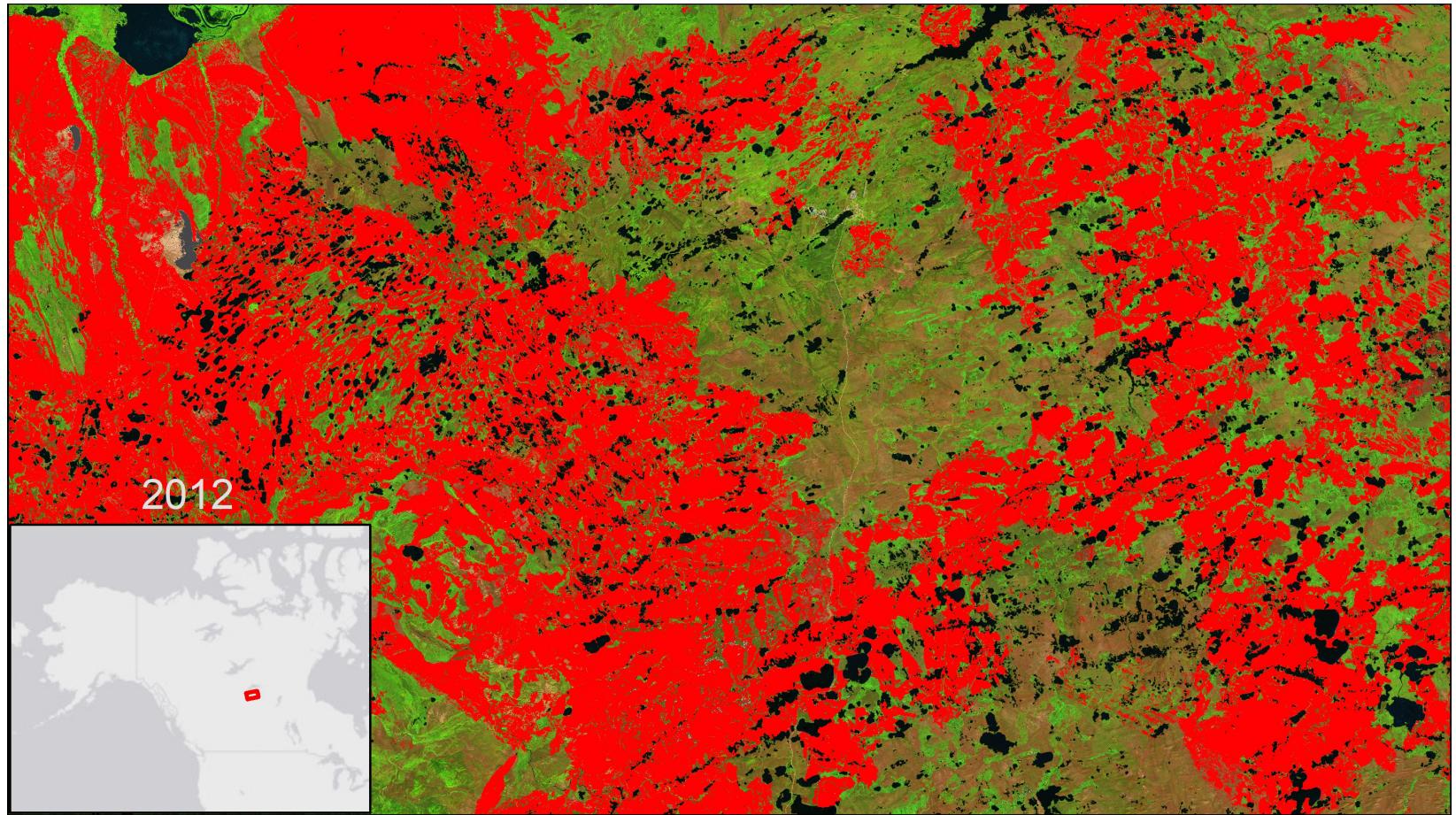
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PURCHASING SOFTWARE

CAS IT can help you select and purchase hardware and software to best match your needs. For assistance, please [submit a help ticket](#).

SOFTWARE

Microsoft and Adobe Software:

Adobe Software is free for undergraduates and faculty in CAS, and \$75 for others. For more information about Adobe software, [click here](#).

For Microsoft software pricing and availability, [click here](#).

Statistical software (JMP, SPSS, SAS):

JMP and SPSS

JMP and SPSS are provided free of charge under Boston University's site license for faculty and staff teaching and conducting academic research. Visit <http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/desktop/distribution/statistics/> for more information. A BU login is required.

SAS (Statistical Analysis System)

SAS can be accessed via

<http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/desktop/software/acsunix/software/stats/sas/> or purchased from BUMC.

MATLAB

The University has a site-license for MATLAB available to students, faculty and staff. For more information: <http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/desktop/distribution/mathsci/matlab/>

X-Win32

Under Boston University's site license, X-Win32 is available for all students, faculty and staff to download. <http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/desktop/software/windows/x-win32/>

Stata

Stata must be acquired from the company at [its website](#).

ArcGIS

ArcGIS is available for any faculty, students, and staff of Boston University. To acquire ArcGIS, please [submit a help ticket](#).

Chemdraw

Two versions can be obtained free here:

<https://informatics.perkinelmer.com/sitesubscription/#B>

Other Software

For other software packages, SHI, also accessible through the [Sourcing and Procurement](#) site with BU-specific pricing, offers many software packages used on campus. If there are packages not offered through SHI that you need, please contact our office and we can help obtain pricing.

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The Adobe Creative Cloud (ACC) is a suite of software and web-based applications that creative professionals worldwide use. The suite includes over twenty individual applications that allow you to edit video and audio, process digital images, create single and multi-page layouts, render 3D objects, and many more. An ACC license also provides access to cloud storage and asset management between the various applications.



Benefits

The Adobe Creative Cloud enables you to create and edit digital multimedia assets with industry leading tools that provide the de facto standard in media editing and creation. The majority of applications install right on your own computer and allow you to work on your digital media at your convenience. Some web-based tools (e.g. Spark, Portfolio) are also available and require Internet access.

Key Features

Adobe Creative Cloud is a collection of professional digital multimedia creation tools for print, web, and video content. ACC includes more than twenty programs such as Acrobat, Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign.

Features & Applications

What to Expect

The desktop applications install on your own computer. Performance depends on the suitability of your computer, please consult the recommended minimum configuration requirements. Some applications, especially in the video tools area, require more resources than others.

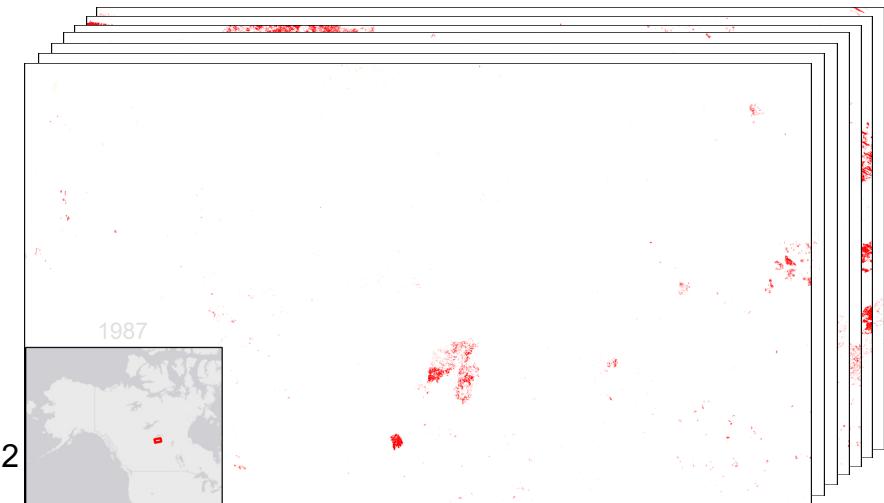
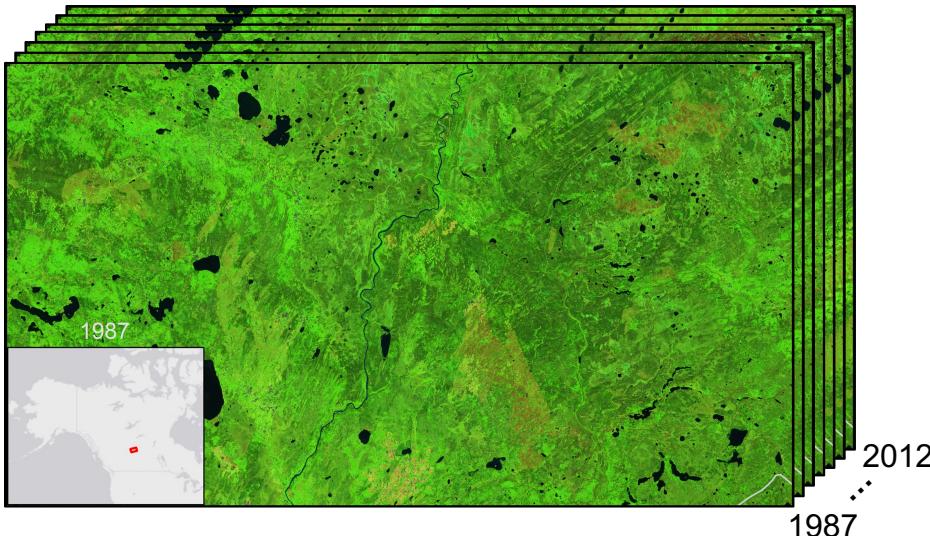
Requirements

- > A computer meeting the minimum requirements for the selected application
- > High-speed Internet access
- > Must be eligible to receive either a university sponsored (free) license or to procure a license via an Internal Service Request (ISR) – see "Cost" section for eligibility determination

Make a movie

1. ArcGIS

A video is basically a series of images (frames) with incremental changes, so ArcGIS was used to generate the frames that show the forest disturbances progress through the year and moving from one ROI to another.



Make a movie

1. ArcGIS

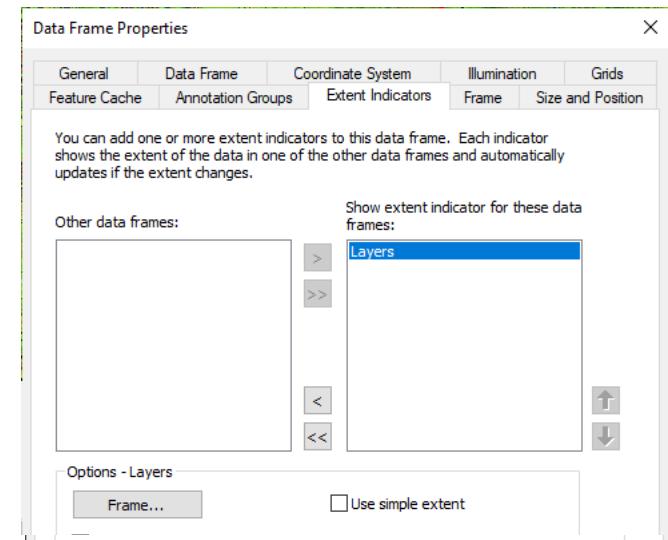
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1.1 Setting up ArcGIS map layout

- Add data layers, base maps, study area boundaries
- Add map elements (legend, inset map, text labels)

1.2 Choose locations

- Choose ROIs that cover the highlight of the data products. Use the “Bookmark” function in ArcMap to save the map view and record the map extent of each ROI, as the coordinates will be referred in the python script



Extent -- A – m1 -- B -- m2 ...

Frames

1. ArcGIS

1.3 Use python to generate animation frames

When finish setting up ArcMap, switch to the python script to do the following:

- Turn on and off layers (alternating Landsat image and disturbance map, progressing through time)
- Move from one ROI to another ROI while transitioning through layers
- Update map labels corresponding to disturbance map years

python code parameters: fps, extent, xy...

```
1 import arcpy
2 import arcpy.mapping
3 import numpy as np
4 import os
5
6 # Set up ArcGIS environments
7 mxd=arcpy.mapping.MapDocument('CURRENT')
8 dfs = arcpy.mapping.ListDataFrames(mxd, '*')
9 lyr=arcpy.mapping.ListLayers(mxd)
10
11 # get the larger dataframe and list all layers
12 domain_df = dfs[0]
13 domain_df_lyrs=arcpy.mapping.ListLayers(mxd, '*', domain_df)
14
15 # Global variables
16 num_of_frames = 26
17 half_num_of_frames = 13
18 fps = 15
19
20 # get year label
21 year_label = arcpy.mapping.ListLayoutElements(mxd, 'TEXT_ELEMENT')[0]
22
```

1. Set up environments, speed, and fps

```
25
26 # define extent array
27 pointname_list = ['A', 'm1', 'B']
28 xmin_array = [-1771581.876254060, -2120757.142032760, -2273618.185996800]
29 ymin_array = [2324533.703920190, 2340107.285546350, 2674486.638666930]
30 xmax_array = [-796219.9255301290, -1096627.093772620, -1468944.576649550]
31 ymax_array = [2873174.801202350, 2916180.437692620, 3127115.543924710]
32
33
```

2. decide the stops and extents (w/ zoom scale)

```
36 # x to y function
37 ▼ for j in range(len(xmin_array)-1):
38     # move the map to the start view
39     start_extent = arcpy.Extent(xmin_array[j], ymin_array[j], xmax_array[j], ymax_array[j])
40     domain_df.extent = start_extent
41
42     # turn off all the disturbance map layers
43     ▼ for k in range(1987, 2013):
44         dis_year_lyr=arcpy.mapping.ListLayers(mxd, "*agents_" + str(k) + "*", domain_df)[0]
45         dis_year_lyr.visible=False
46
47     # calculate the movement for each frame
48     XMin_steps = np.linspace(xmin_array[j], xmin_array[j+1], num = half_num_of_frames * fps)
49     XMax_steps = np.linspace(xmax_array[j], xmax_array[j+1], num = half_num_of_frames * fps)
50     YMin_steps = np.linspace(ymin_array[j], ymin_array[j+1], num = half_num_of_frames * fps)
51     YMax_steps = np.linspace(ymax_array[j], ymax_array[j+1], num = half_num_of_frames * fps)
52
53     # path to save the frames; create one if it doesn't exist
54     frame_png_path = "D:/YT/movies/frames_v2/" + pointname_list[j] + '_to_' + pointname_list[j+1]
55     os.mkdir(frame_png_path)
56
```



3. Loop through each trajectory and calculate the movement for each frame

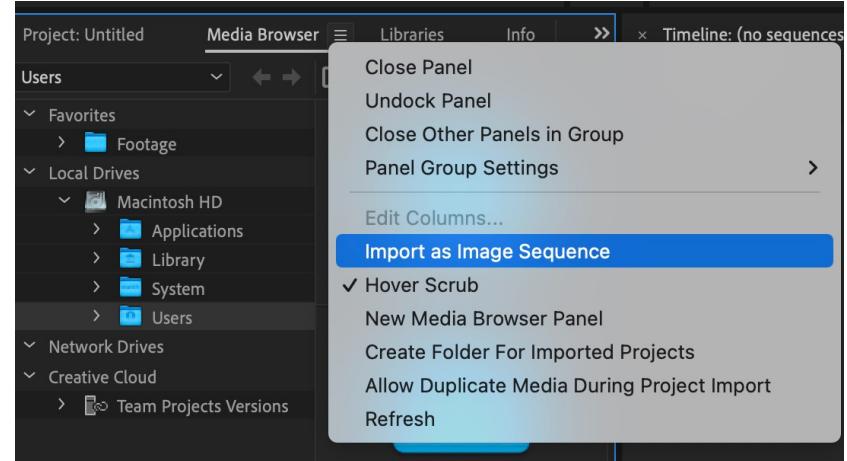
```
57 # generate frames from A to m1
58 if j % 2 == 0:
59     start_year = 1987
60     year_label.text = str(start_year)
61
62     for i in range(half_num_of_frames * fps):
63         frame_XMin = XMin_steps[i]
64         frame_XMax = XMax_steps[i]
65         frame_YMin = YMin_steps[i]
66         frame_YMax = YMax_steps[i]
67
68         # update the extent for each frame
69         frame_extent = arcpy.Extent(frame_XMin, frame_YMin, frame_XMax, frame_YMax)
70
71         domain_df.extent = frame_extent
72
73         # update the year label
74         year = start_year + i / fps
75         year_label.text = str(year)
76
77         if (i % fps) == 0:
78             dis_year_lyr=arcpy.mapping.ListLayers(mxd, "*agents_" + str(year) + "*", domain_df)[0]
79             dis_year_lyr.visible=True
80
81         # save frames as pngs
82         frame_png_fn = frame_png_path + "/" + pointname_list[j] + '_to_' + pointname_list[j+1] + "_" + str(i) + ".png"
83         arcpy.mapping.ExportToPNG(mxd, frame_png_fn, "PAGE_LAYOUT", resolution=400)
84
85 # generate frames from m1 to B
86 else:
87     start_year = 2000
88     year_label.text = str(start_year)
89
90     for k in range(1987, start_year):
91         dis_year_lyr=arcpy.mapping.ListLayers(mxd, "*agents_" + str(k) + "*", domain_df)[0]
92         dis_year_lyr.visible=True
93
```

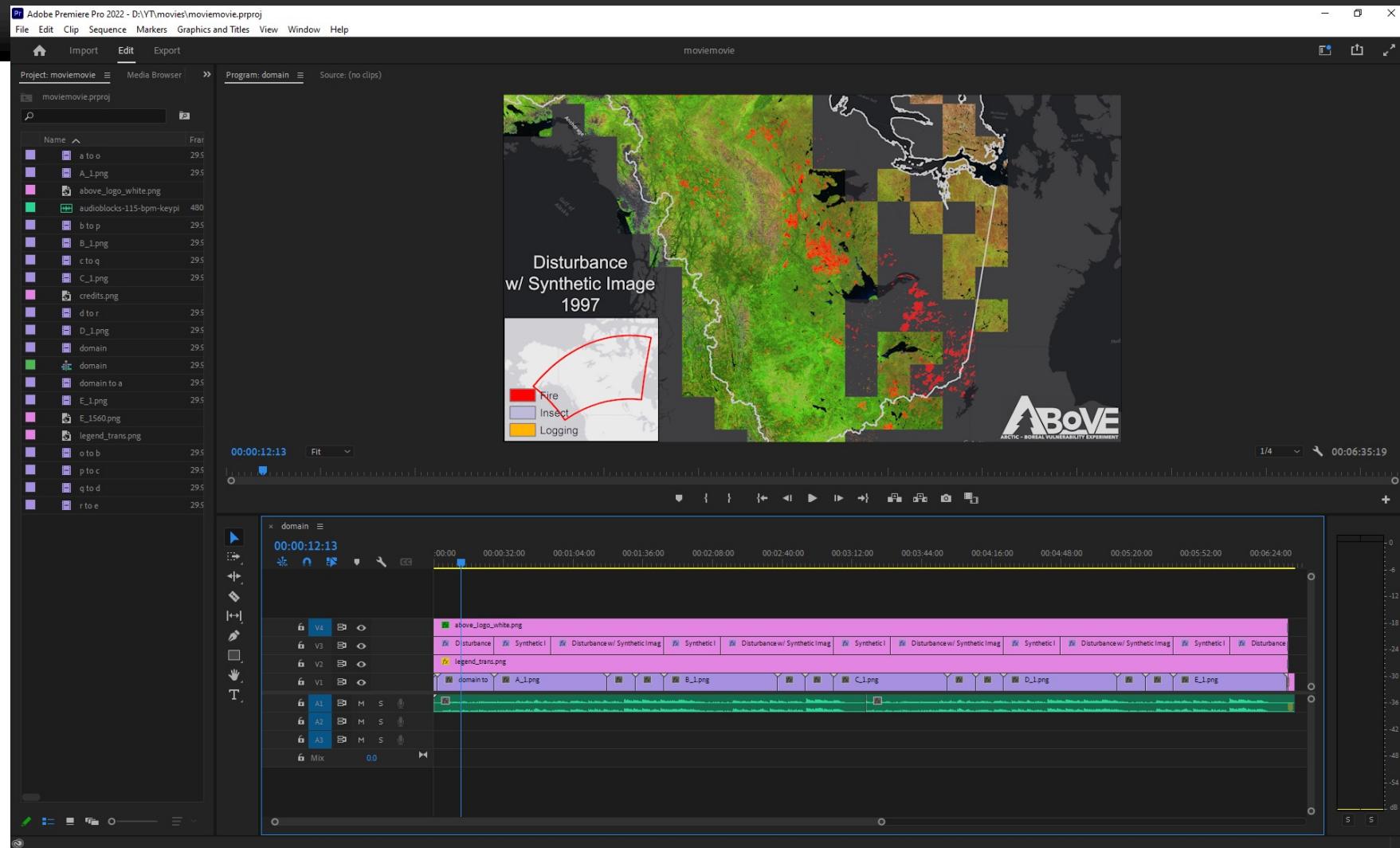
4. When to zoom in/out depends on the time scale of the datasets

2. Adobe Premier Pro

Premier allows you to do video editing and work on post-production. All the frames just created can be pieced together here.

- Animations
- Texts / titles
- Background music / Interview





Thanks!

Contacts

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