

# Following the Fire

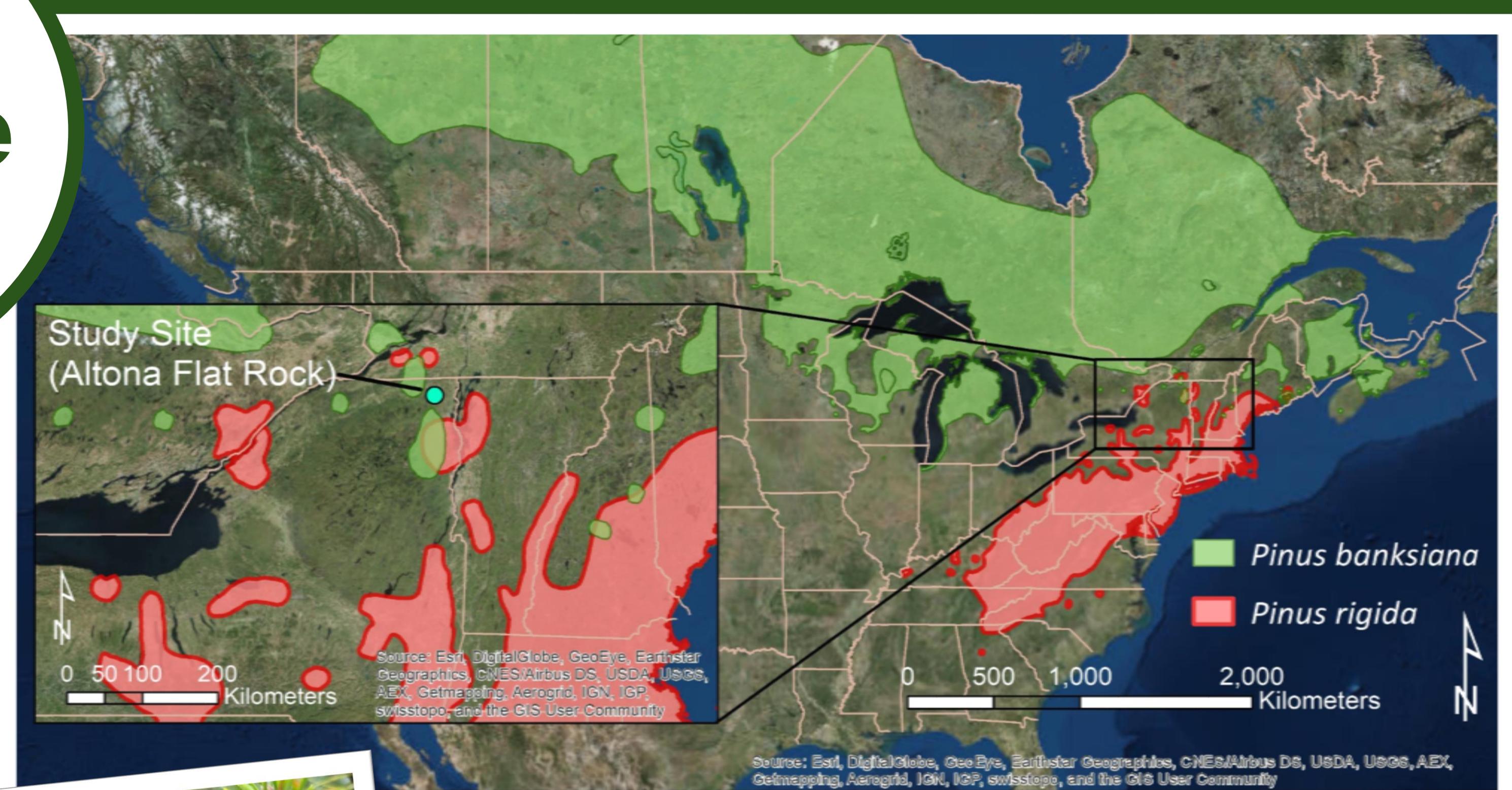
resilience and recovery of a jack-pine ecosystem  
after the 2018 Altona Flat Rock wildfire



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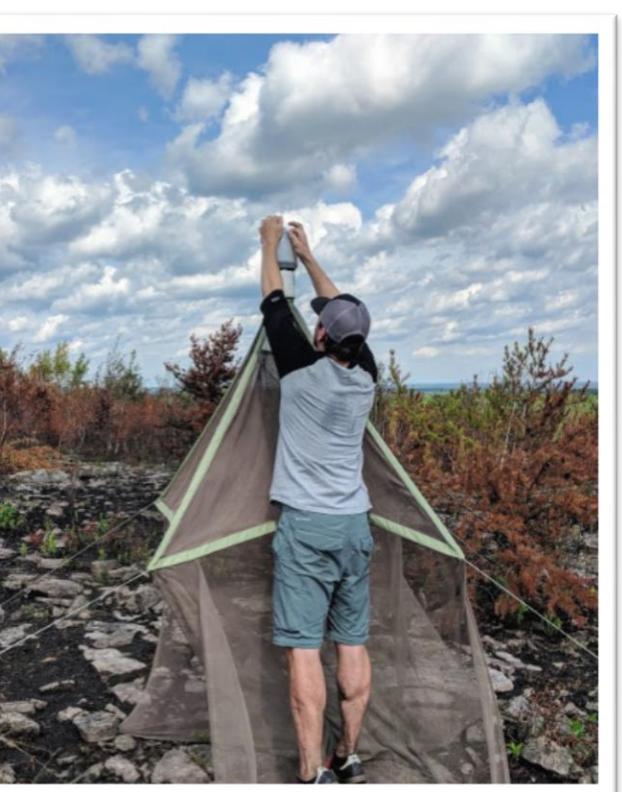


**where**

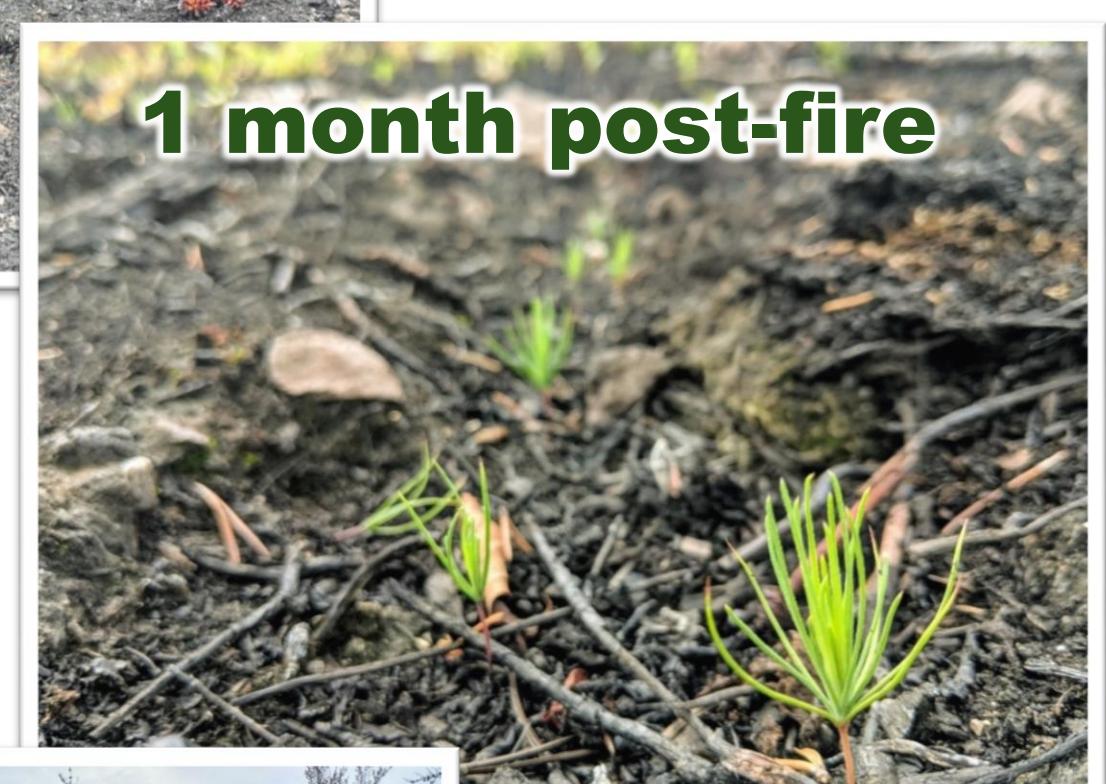


The Altona Flat Rock jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) sandstone barren in northern New York has a Natural Heritage designation of SIG2 and is located near the southern range limit of jack pine and the northern range limit of pitch pine (*Pinus rigida*).

We conduct interdisciplinary research spanning forest, wetland, soil, insect, and wildlife ecology to track the response of this ecosystem to the wildfire.



**what**



**why**

In July 2018 a wildfire burned 225 ha of the Flat Rock pine barren. This was the first fire at the site in 60 years. Jack pine, a serotinous species, depends on fire for regeneration.

Students and faculty from CEES study various aspects of the ecosystem response in the Applied Environmental Science Program, other CEES classes, and in independent research projects.



**who**