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# ABoVE: Post-Fire and Unburned Vegetation Community and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2018

## Get Data

Documentation Revision Date: 2019-08-30

Dataset Version: 1

### Summary

This dataset provides vegetation community characteristics and biophysical data collected in 2018 from areas that were burned by wildfire in 2014 and 2015, and from nine unburned validation sites in the Northwest Territories, Canada. The data include vegetation inventories, ground cover, regrowth, tree diameter and height, and woody seedling/sprouting data at burned sites, and similar vegetation community characterization at unburned validation sites. Additional measurements included soil moisture, collected for validation of the UAVSAR airborne collection, and depth to frozen ground at the nine unburned sites. This 2018 fieldwork completes four years of field sampling at the wildfire areas.

Field data collection was focused on vegetation regrowth three to four years post fire (2014-15 wildfires), including re-sampling of selected sites, collecting soil moisture coincident with Radarsat-2 and UAVSAR overpasses, and collection of pre-burn biomass (biophysical sampling of tree and shrub inventory) and soil conditions at validation sites that was not completed in previous years.

There are six data files in comma-separated format (.csv) in this dataset.



Figure 1. Investigators collected field data and inventoried plots for vegetation species and growth in 2018 at a post-burn site (image provided by Laura Bourgeau-Chavez).

### Citation

Bourgeau-Chavez, L.L., M. Battaglia, E.S. Kane, L.M. Cohen, and D. Tanzer. 2019. ABoVE: Post-Fire and Unburned Vegetation Community and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2018. ORNL DAAC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA. https://doi.org/10.3334/ORNLDAAC/1703

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## 1. Dataset Overview

This dataset provides vegetation community characteristics and biophysical data collected in 2018 from areas that were burned by wildfire in 2014 and 2015, and from nine unburned validation sites in the Northwest Territories, Canada. The data include vegetation

inventories, ground cover, regrowth, tree diameter and height, and woody seeding/sprouting data at burned sites, and similar vegetation community characterization at unburned validation sites. Additional measurements included soil moisture, collected for validation of the UAVSAR airborne collection, and depth to frozen ground at the nine unburned sites. This 2018 fieldwork completes four years of field sampling at the wildfire areas.

Field data collection was focused on vegetation regrowth three to four years post fire (2014-15 wildfires), including re-sampling of selected sites, collecting soil moisture coincident with Radarsat-2 and UAVSAR overpasses, and collection of pre-burn biomass (biophysical sampling of tree and shrub inventory) and soil conditions at validation sites that was not completed in previous years.

### **Project: ABoVE**

The Arctic-Boreal Vulnerability Experiment (ABoVE) is a NASA Terrestrial Ecology Program field campaign taking place in Alaska and western Canada between 2016 and 2021. Climate change in the Arctic and Boreal region is unfolding faster than anywhere else on Earth, resulting in reduced Arctic sea ice, thawing of permafrost soils, decomposition of long-frozen organic matter, widespread changes to lakes, rivers, coastlines, and alterations of ecosystem structure and function. ABoVE seeks a better understanding of the vulnerability and resilience of ecosystems and society to this changing environment.

#### **Related Datasets:**

Bourgeau-Chavez, L.L., S. Endres, L. Jenkins, M. Battaglia, E. Serocki, and M. Billmire. 2017. ABoVE: Burn Severity, Fire Progression, and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2015-2016. ORNL DAAC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA. https://doi.org/10.3334/ORNLDAAC/1548

Bourgeau-Chavez, L.L., N.H.F. French, S. Endres, L. Jenkins, M. Battaglia, E. Serocki, and M. Billmire. 2016. ABoVE: Burn Severity, Fire Progression, Landcover and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2014. ORNL DAAC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA. http://dx.doi.org/10.3334/ORNLDAAC/1307

### Acknowledgements:

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### 2. Data Characteristics

### **Data Characteristics**

Spatial Coverage: Northwest Territories, Canada.

ABoVE reference locations:

Domain: Core ABoVE

State/territory: NWT

Region: Great Slave Lake

Locale: Yellowknife

Grid cells: Ah2Av1.Bh12Bv11.Ch75Cv71, Ah2Av1.Bh12Bv11.Ch76Cv71, Ah2Av1.Bh13Bv10.Ch79Cv65, Ah2Av1.Bh13Bv11.Ch79Cv66, Ah2Av1.Bh13Bv11.Ch78Cv67, Ah2Av1.Bh13Bv11.Ch79Cv67, Ah2Av1.Bh13Bv11.Ch83Cv67, Ah2Av1.Bh14Bv11.Ch84Cv67, Ah2Av1.Bh12Bv11.Ch77Cv68, Ah2Av1.Bh12Bv11.Ch76Cv70, Ah2Av1.Bh12Bv11.Ch76Cv69, Ah2Av2.Bh12Bv12.Ch75Cv72, Ah2Av1.Bh14Bv11.Ch84Cv67

**Spatial Resolution:** Field data were collected at multiple points from plots varying in size from 1-m x 1-m to 10-m x 10-m to 100-m x 100-m.

Temporal Coverage: 2018-08-12 to 2018-08-22.

Study Area: (all latitudes and longitudes given in decimal degrees)

Site (Region)	Westernmost	Easternmost	Northernmost	Southernmost
	Longitude	Longitude	Latitude	Latitude
Northwest Territories, Canada	-117.42529	-113.41964	62.56579	60.45244

#### **Data File Information**

There are six comma-separated files (.csv) of inventory, seedling/sapling growth, soil moisture, and biophysical data collected in 2018 from seven wildfire areas burned in 2014/15, and four unburned validation areas. Not all measurements were made in all areas. Most areas were divided into multiple sites with several plots per area (for example, SS3-29, SS3-40, SS3-42-1). Table 2 provides a summary of data collected in this dataset at each site.

Data not provided are reported as NA if the column is text format; numeric data not provided are reported as -9999.

Table 1. Data file names and descriptions

File name	Description
NWT2018_ Biophysical.csv	This file provides vegetation community biophysical data collected from three wildfire areas (10 sites within the areas)
NWT2018_Biophysical_Inventory.csv	This file provides site/plot observations, species inventory, diameter, and height data collected from three wildfire areas (10 sites within the areas)
NWT2018_SeedlingSprouting.csv	This file provides observations of woody vegetation seedling/saplings and sprouting of mosses and lichen from seven areas (24 sites within the areas)
NWT2018_SoilMoisture_Hydrosense1.csv	This file provides soil moisture and temperature data using a Hydrosense 1 instrument at depths of 6, 12, and 20 cm collected from eleven areas (33 sites within the 11 areas)
NWT2018_UnburnedSites_validation.csv	This file provides vegetation community characterization data and thaw depth measurements collected from four field areas (nine sites within the four areas)

	site coordinates
NW12018 field data summary.csv	I his file provides a summary of the field data collected per site, data collection year, and

**Table 2.** This table is intended as a quick reference and does not provide all of the sites within the areas. The fileNWT2018\_field\_data\_summary.csvprovides additional information per site within the areas below.

Area	Biophysical (10 sites at 3 areas)	Seedlings/Sprouting (24 sites at seven areas)	Inventory (diameter and height) (10 sites at 3 areas)	Soil Moisture (33 sites at 11 areas)
SS3	x	x	x	х
SS50		х		х
ZF14		х		х
ZF20	x	х	x	х
ZF2		x		х
ZF28		х		х
ZF46	x	х	x	х
VALSS50				х
VALZF14				х
VALZF20				x
VALZF46				х

**Biophysical data:** Biophysical data collected from 10 sites at three areas: SS3, ZF20, and SF46.

 Table 3.
 Variables in the file NWT2018\_ Biophysical.csv

Variable	Units	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team
plot		Plot number within site
plot_size		Size of sampling plot reported in meters by meters
date	YYYYMMDD	Date of data collection
observer	text	Initials of person(s) who collected the information
latitude	decimal degrees	Latitude of plot corner
longitude	decimal degrees	Longitude of plot corner
time	HH:MM	Time that data collection at that location began in local time MDT (UTC-6).
live_canopy_cover	percent	Percent of canopy (tree) cover classified as live
dominant_cover		Description of the dominant cover type. Choices included: forested; shrub; herbaceous or some combination of these cover types
ecosystem		Ecosystem type(s) represented in the plot: bog, fen, lowland, upland
ground_wetness		Description of the soil moisture status: dry, moist, soggy, standing water, or some combination of these conditions
medium_shrub_cover	percent	Percent of cover composed of medium shrubs
soil_top_moss_condition		Notes on the condition of the top layer of organic soil (moss) with respect to burning: ash, burned, singed, charred, or unburned
soil_live_moss	cm	Thickness of the live moss component of the organic soil layer reported in centimeters
soil_dead_moss	cm	Thickness of the dead moss component of the organic soil layer reported in centimeters
soil_upper_duff_layer_thickness	cm	Thickness of the upper duff component of the organic soil layer reported in centimeters
soil_lower_duff_layer_thickness	cm	Thickness of the lower duff component of the organic soil layer reported in centimeters
peat_depth	cm	Depth of organic soil layers calculated as the sum of the previous 4 columns reported in centimeters from the surface
sphag_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in Sphagnum moss reported as percent of total plot area
sphag_distribution		Pattern of distribution of Sphagnum moss: reported as Even
low_shrubs_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in low shrubs reported as percent of total plot area
low_shrubs_distribution		Pattern of distribution of low shrubs: reported as Even, Peripheral, or Center
woody_debris_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in woody debris reported as percent of total plot area

woody_debris_distribution		Pattern of distribution of low shrubs: reported as Even, Peripheral, or Center
feather_moss_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in feather moss reported as percent of total plot area
feather_moss_distribution		Pattern of distribution of feather moss: reported as Peripheral
reindeer_lichen_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in reindeer lichen reported as percent of total plot area- All observations are reported as 0
reindeer_lichen_distribution		Pattern of distribution of reindeer lichen: all observations are NA (note the coverage is reported as 0)
other_lichen_coverage	percent	Percent of ground cover, other lichen
other_lichen_distribution		Pattern of distribution of other lichen: reported as Even
grasses_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in grasses reported as percent of total plot area
grasses_distribution		Pattern of distribution of grasses: reported as Even, Peripheral, or Center
herbaceous_coverage	percent	Percent of ground covered in herbaceous plants reported as percent of total plot area
herbaceous_distribution		Pattern of distribution of herbaceous plants: reported as Even, Peripheral, or Center
other_type_X		Description of other ground cover types. There are three additional "other" ground cover types. Each ground cover type is followed by the columns othertype_groundcover_coverage_X and othertype_groundcover_distribution_X, where X is 1, 2, or 3, See the descriptions below. Note that there are few observations, therefore, most values are -9999 or NA
other_coverage_X	percent	Percent of ground covered in other ground cover reported as percent of total plot area. Note that there are few observations, therefore, most values are -9999 or NA
other_distribution_X		Pattern of distribution of other ground cover: reported as Even or Peripheral. Note that there are few observations, therefore, most values are -9999 or NA

**Plot Vegetation Inventory Data:** Site/plot observations, species inventory, diameter, and height data collected from the same 10 sites and three areas as the biophysical data: SS3, ZF20, and SF46.

Variable Name	Units	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team. Each site nominally represented a 100 x 100 m area
plot		Plot number (1 through 6) representing a plot of 10 x 10 m area nominally for characterization
plot_ size		Plot size, typically 10 m x 10 m, 5 m x 5 m
date	YYYY- MM-DD	Date of data collection
latitude	Decimal degrees	Latitude of plot corner
longitude	Decimal degrees	Longitude of plot corner
observer		Person(s) who collected data
life_form		Tree or shrub
condition		Condition of tree or shrub: standing or fallen
species		Scientific name of tree or shrub species measured
diameter_type	basal or dbh	Whether the tree/shrub was measured at the base or dbh
diameter	cm	Diameter of the tree or shrub
height	m	Height of the tree or shrub in meters (typically only 5 representative trees were measured for height per plot). Unmeasured trees are left blank.
status		Status of tree or shrub- living or dead

Table 4. Variables in the file NWT2018\_ Biophysical\_Inventory.csv

**Seedling and Sprouting Data:** Observations of woody vegetation seedling/saplings and sprouting of mosses and lichen collected from 24 sites at seven areas: SS3, SS50, ZF14, ZF20, ZF2, ZF28, and ZF46.

 Table 5. Variables in the file NWT2018\_SeedlingSprouting.csv

Variable	Units	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team. The last number indicates the plot number
	Decimal	

latitude	degrees	Latitude of plot corner
longitude	Decimal degrees	Longitude of plot corner
date	YYYY- MM-DD	Date of data collection
observers		Person(s) who collected data
plot_size		Plot size typically 1 x 1 m or 0.5 x 0.5 m
species		Scientific name or taxa of vegetation species measured
veg_state		Condition of vegetation: seedling or sprouting
number		Number of seedlings or sprouts
seedbed		Seedbed type: sphagnum, unburned organic material (duff and litter), thick burned organic material, thin burned organic material, or exposed mineral soil
percent_cover	percent	Percent ground cover composed of species in plot. Percent cover used in cases where unable to count such as moss or lichens.

**Soil Moisture and Temperature Data:** Soil moisture and temperature data were collected from 33 sites at 11 areas: SS3, SS50, VALSS50, VALZF14, VALZF20, VALZF46, ZF2, ZF14, ZF20, ZF28, and ZF46 at depths of 6, 12, and 20 cm.

Table 6. Variables in the file NWT2018\_SoilMoisture\_Hydrosense1.csv

Variable	Units/format	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team
observers		Initials of person(s) who collected data
date	YYYY-MM-DD	Date of measurements
start_time	HH:MM	Time of measurements
weather		Weather conditions at time of measurement- important to note if raining or recently rained
probe_depth	cm	Depth of probe tip insertion: 6, 12, or 20 cm
soil_temp_plot_X	degrees C	Soil temperature measured one time at each plot at 6, 12, and 20 cm depth, where <b>plot_X</b> represents a series of measurements for six plots, plot_1 to plot_6. The temperature measurements for each plot are followed by the VMC measurements and Hydrosense1 period data for each of the six plots. These measurements (for all six plots) are provided in columns 7-24 in the data file. See additional variable descriptions below
vmc_plot_X	cm3/cm3	Volumetric Water Content of the soil at plots 1-6 (where <b>plot_X</b> represents plots 1-6) based on Hydrosense-1 default algorithm for loam soil
plot_X_period	milliSeconds	The Hydrosense-1 probe period at plots 1-6 (where <b>plot_X</b> represents plots 1-6)
comments		Comments or notes regarding data collection

**Validation Sites:** Vegetation community characterization data collected from nine sites at four unburned areas: VAL-SS50, VAL-ZF14, VAL-ZF20, VALZF46. Soil pH is not included as the instrument was not working properly.

Table 7. Variables in the file NWT2018\_UnburnedSites\_validation.csv

Variable Name	Units	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team. The last number indicates the plot
date	YYYY-MM-DD	Date of data collection
time	HH:MM:SS	Time at which field work began in local time (MDT)
latitude	Decimal degrees	Latitude of plot corner
longitude	Decimal degrees	Longitude of plot corner
elevation	m	Elevation of site
aspect		Aspect
slope		Slope of site
observers		Person(s) who collected data
depth_to_frozen_ground_sam1 to sam6	cm	Depth of soil to frozen ground layer for samples 1 to 6
ecosystem		Type of ecosystem, individually or in combination; Bog/Bog Like, Fen/Fen Like, Treed Bog, Shrub Fen, Treed Fen, Open Fen, Upland, Marsh, Shrubby, Sparse Trees, Lowland

		White Pine
ground_wetness		Wetness of ground: Dry (no moisture present); Moist (moisture present but not saturated); Soggy (saturated with water but no areas of standing water); Standing Water (visible standing water present in plot)
vegetation		List of vegetation species present
dense_trees	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in dense trees
dense_trees_dist		Description of dense tree distribution: reported as Even or Peripheral
moderate_trees	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in moderate trees
moderate_trees_dist		Description of dense tree distribution: reported as Even
sparse_trees	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in sparse trees
sparse_trees_dist		Description of sparse tree distribution: reported as Peripheral
open_water	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in open water
open_water_dist		Description of open water distribution: reported as Even
shrubby	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in shrubs
shrubby_dist		Description of shrub distribution: reported as Even
moss	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in moss
moss_dist		Description of moss distribution: reported as Even or Center
grass_sedge	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in grass/sedge
grass_sedge_dist		Description of grass/sedge distribution: reported as Even
herbaceous_cover	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) that is herbaceous cover
herbaceous_dist		Description of herbaceous distribution: reported as Even
other_description		Description of other vegetation cover-Note that all observations are NA
other	percent	Percent of plot (1/2 acre area) covered in grass/sedge-Note that all observations are NA
other_dist		Description of grass/sedge distribution: Note that all observations are NA
dom_spp1		Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)
dom_live_ht_spp1	m	Average height of live dominant species 1
dom_dead_ht_spp1	m	Average height of dead dominant species 1
dom_density_spp1	percent	Percent of area covered by dominant species 1
dom_pct_live_spp1	percent	Percent of dominant species 1 live (by area)
dom_pct_dead_spp1	percent	Percent of dominant species 1 dead (by area)
dom_growth_stage_spp1		Crowth Change for demains the second se
		Growth Stage for dominant species: immature or mature
dom_spp2	genus_species	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)
dom_spp2 dom_live_ht_spp2	genus_species m	
		Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)
dom_live_ht_spp2	m	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2	m m	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2 Average height of dead dominant species 2
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2	m m percent	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)         Average height of live dominant species 2         Average height of dead dominant species 2         Percent of area covered by dominant species 2
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2	m m percent percent	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2 Average height of dead dominant species 2 Percent of area covered by dominant species 2 Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2	m m percent percent	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2 Average height of dead dominant species 2 Percent of area covered by dominant species 2 Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area) Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2	m m percent percent percent	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2 Average height of dead dominant species 2 Percent of area covered by dominant species 2 Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area) Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area) Growth Stage for dominant species: mature
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch	m m percent percent percent m	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species) Average height of live dominant species 2 Average height of dead dominant species 2 Percent of area covered by dominant species 2 Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area) Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area) Growth Stage for dominant species: mature Height of average lowest living branch
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch average_tree_ht	m m percent percent percent m m	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)         Average height of live dominant species 2         Average height of dead dominant species 2         Percent of area covered by dominant species 2         Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)         Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)         Growth Stage for dominant species: mature         Height of average lowest living branch         Average tree height in m
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch average_tree_ht average_shrub_ht	m m percent percent percent m m m	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)Average height of live dominant species 2Average height of dead dominant species 2Percent of area covered by dominant species 2Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)Growth Stage for dominant species: matureHeight of average lowest living branchAverage tree height in mAverage shrub height in m
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch average_tree_ht average_shrub_ht soil_live_moss	m m percent percent percent m m m m cm	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)Average height of live dominant species 2Average height of dead dominant species 2Percent of area covered by dominant species 2Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)Growth Stage for dominant species: matureHeight of average lowest living branchAverage shrub height in mDepth of live moss layer present in 40 cm soil profile
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch average_tree_ht average_shrub_ht soil_live_moss soil_dead_moss	m m percent percent percent m m m cm cm	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)Average height of live dominant species 2Average height of dead dominant species 2Percent of area covered by dominant species 2Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)Growth Stage for dominant species: matureHeight of average lowest living branchAverage tree height in mAverage shrub height in mDepth of live moss layer present in 40 cm soil profile
dom_live_ht_spp2 dom_dead_ht_spp2 dom_density_spp2 dom_pct_live_spp2 dom_pct_dead_spp2 dom_growth_stage_spp2 ht_to_lowest_living_branch average_tree_ht average_shrub_ht soil_live_moss soil_dead_moss	m m percent percent percent m m m cm cm cm	Scientific name of dominant species (grasses and sedges not identified to species)Average height of live dominant species 2Average height of dead dominant species 2Percent of area covered by dominant species 2Percent of dominant species 2 live (by area)Percent of dominant species 2 dead (by area)Growth Stage for dominant species: matureHeight of average lowest living branchAverage shrub height in mDepth of live moss layer present in 40 cm soil profileDepth of upper duff layer present in 40 cm soil profile

**Field data summary:** This file is provided as a summary of site locations and data collected per site in each area during the 2018 field season. This file does not contain additional measurements.

Column	Units	Description
site		Unique name given to a field site. The initial alphanumeric code indicates site and fire number and the second part of the name is a site code designated by the research team. In certain data files, a plot number is also included and is separated with a dash
date	YYYY- MM-DD	Date of field visit
latitude	decimal degrees	Latitude of plot corner (10 x 10 m plot)
longitude	decimal degrees	Longitude of plot corner (10 x 10 m plot)
burn_severity	YYYY or unburned	Burn severity data collection year or unburned (validation sites)
seedling_sprouting	Yes/No	Presence/absence of seedling/sprouting data
biophysical	Yes, No, or YYYY	Presence/absence of biophysical data, year of collection provided if applicable, or validation
soil_moisture	Yes/No	Presence/absence of soil moisture data

### 3. Application and Derivation

The goal was to identify and collect remote sensing and field data to support the science necessary to investigate the impacts and consequences of the 2014-2015 fires in Northwest Territories.

### 4. Quality Assessment

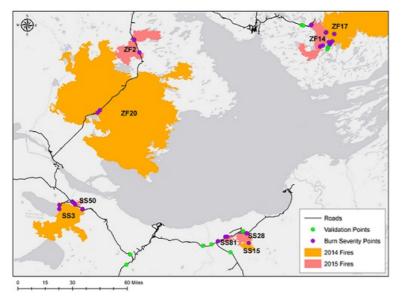
Quality control checks were performed on the field data. Data were recorded in the field on field sheets, then entered into excel in the lab. A second person checked the entered data against the original field sheets. A third person cross referenced field data and checked for any anomalies (out of range values) or missing values; if they were recorded on any of the field on sheets, notes, gps, or camera then the data were entered/corrected based on the cross reference. Soil moisture is sampled at each plot with five repeated samples within an arms length at each depth with the Hydrosense instrument. This allows for spatial averaging across the site (six plots; five samples per depth = 30 samples to average per site) for scaling up to remote sensing.

## 5. Data Acquisition, Materials, and Methods

### Study areas

This project characterized the impacts of wildfires that occurred in 2014 and 2015 in the North Slave, South Slave, and Dehcho Regions of Northwest Territories, Canada. Data were collected from 11 areas: SS3, SS50, VALSS50, VALZF14, VALZF20, VALZF46, ZF2, ZF14, ZF20, ZF28, and ZF46.

This 2018 dataset completes four years of field sampling. Users should refer to the related datasets (Bourgeau-Chavez et al., 2017 and 2016) for additional data.



**Figure 2**. Location map showing some of the burned areas and validation field site locations in the Northwest Territories. Not all sites visited in 2018 are shown; sites SS81, ZF17, SS15, and SS28 were not visited for the 2018 data collections but were 2014 or 2015 NWT wildfires. Refer to the related datasets listed in the Overview Section of this document (map is from Bourgeau-Chavez et al., 2017).

### Field Data

Aboveground biomass, biophysical site characteristics, burn severity, soil moisture, thaw depth, and woody seedling/sapling data were collected in plots along two transects.

### Biophysical

Data were collected from sites ZF20-3, ZF20-12, ZF20-15, ZF20-26, ZF20-40, ZF20-41, ZF20-47, ZF46-15, SS3-29, and SS3-30. There were six plots per site, varying in size from 2.5-m x 2.5-m, 5-m x 5-m, and 10-m x 10-m. Field surveys noted peatland type, wetness,

soil organic layer thicknesses and the type of ground cover present as well as area covered by each ground cover type.

#### Inventory-Aboveground Biomass

Data were collected from the same sites as the biophysical data. Each standing tree/shrub was measured. The tree/shrub species, DBH or basal diameter, height, and status (dead or live) was recorded.



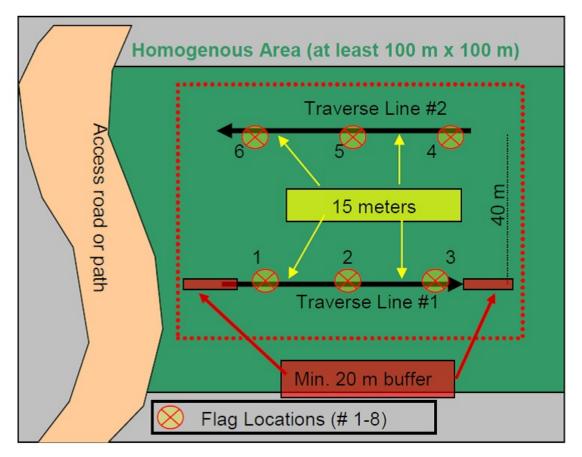


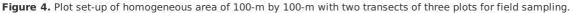
#### Seedling/Sprouting data

A total of 24 sites were sampled. A 1-m x 1-m plot was set up in the corner of each site, where all woody seedling and sprouting vegetation was recorded along with the ground cover type.

#### Soil Moisture

A total of 33 sites were sampled. Each site had six plots. Soil moisture data were collected at each plot at 6 cm, 20 cm and 12 cm depths, at five different points in each plot, with a Campbell Scientific CS620 Hydrosense 1 handheld probe. Probes were placed straight down into the soil. At 6-cm depth, the 12-cm probe was placed at a 30- degree angle. The probe period for each measurement was recorded. For validation of remote sensing data, the moisture data were collected during Radarsat-2 overpasses. Soil temperature was measured one time at each plot using a Hannah Instruments HI 145 probe (Bourgeau-Chavez et al., 2017, 2016).





#### Validation

Nine field sites were sampled including VAL-SS50-4, VAL-ZF14-2, VAL-ZF14-200, VAL-ZF20-1, VAL-ZF20-26, VAL-ZF20-47, VAL-ZF20-201c, VAL-ZF20-202, and VAL-ZF46-6. Data collections followed a standardized protocol. Field crews used a hand-held GPS, and tape measures. At each location, a vegetative index was constructed, ecosystem type was assigned, species diversity noted, dominant species composition assigned, water level measured, vegetation life stage recorded, and height and density measured for the overstory. Thaw depth was measured with a peat rod from the top of the moss to the frozen layer (Bourgeau-Chavez et al., 2016).

### 6. Data Access

These data are available through the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) Distributed Active Archive Center (DAAC).

ABoVE: Post-Fire and Unburned Vegetation Community and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2018

Contact for Data Center Access Information:

- E-mail: uso@daac.ornl.gov
- Telephone: +1 (865) 241-3952

### 7. References

Bourgeau-Chavez, L.L., S. Endres, L. Jenkins, M. Battaglia, E. Serocki, and M. Billmire. 2017. ABoVE: Burn Severity, Fire Progression, and Field Data, NWT, Canada, 2015-2016. ORNL DAAC, Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA. https://doi.org/10.3334/ORNLDAAC/1548

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