

Plant community response to a second cycle of *Tamarix* biocontrol defoliation in the Upper Colorado River near Moab, UT

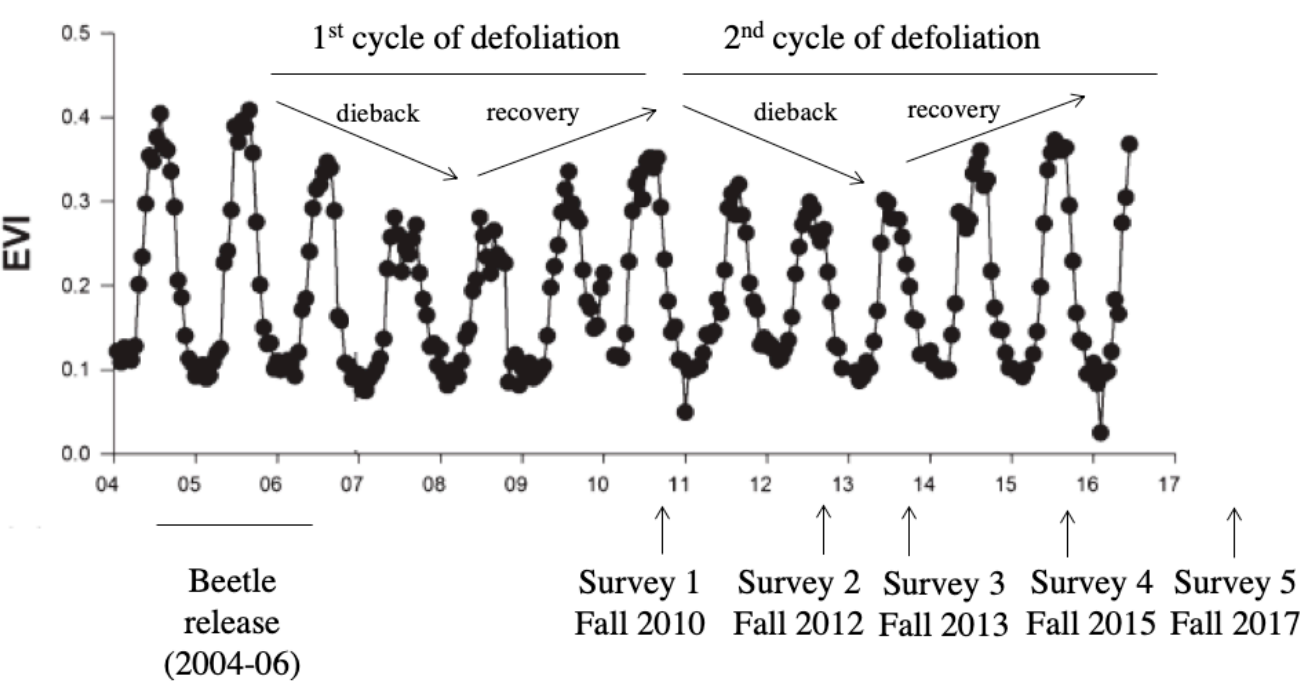
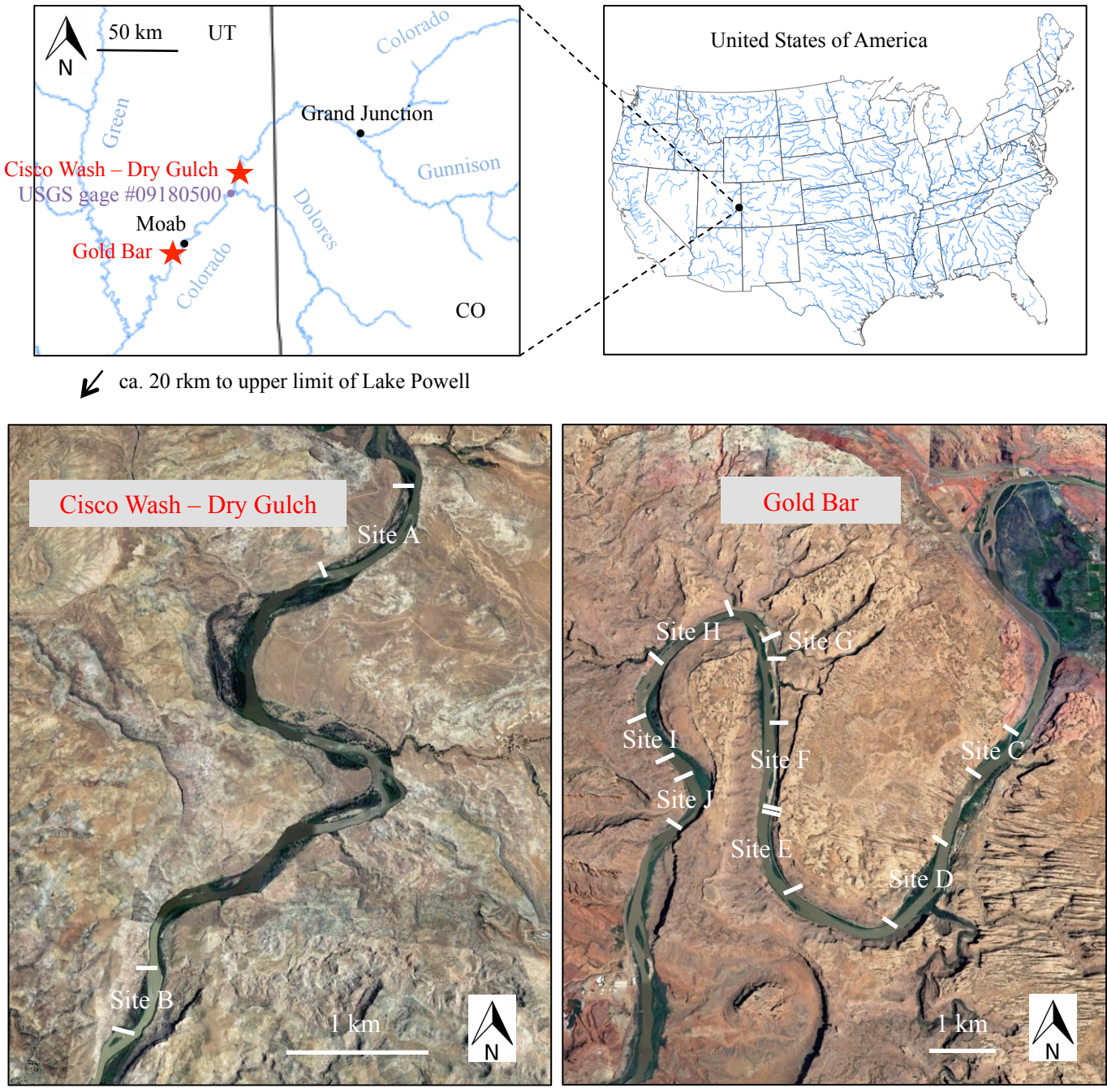
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BACKGROUND:

What is the long-term response of the riparian plant community to *Tamarix* biocontrol?

METHODS:

We sampled vegetation five times from 2010 to 2017, from 4-6 to 11-13 years since beetle release (2004-2006), in 10 sites along two reaches (Cisco Wash – Dry Gulch and Gold Bar) of the Upper Colorado River near Moab.



Satellite data from Colorado River near Moab. Source: Nagler et al. 2018 Resto Ecol 26: 348-359



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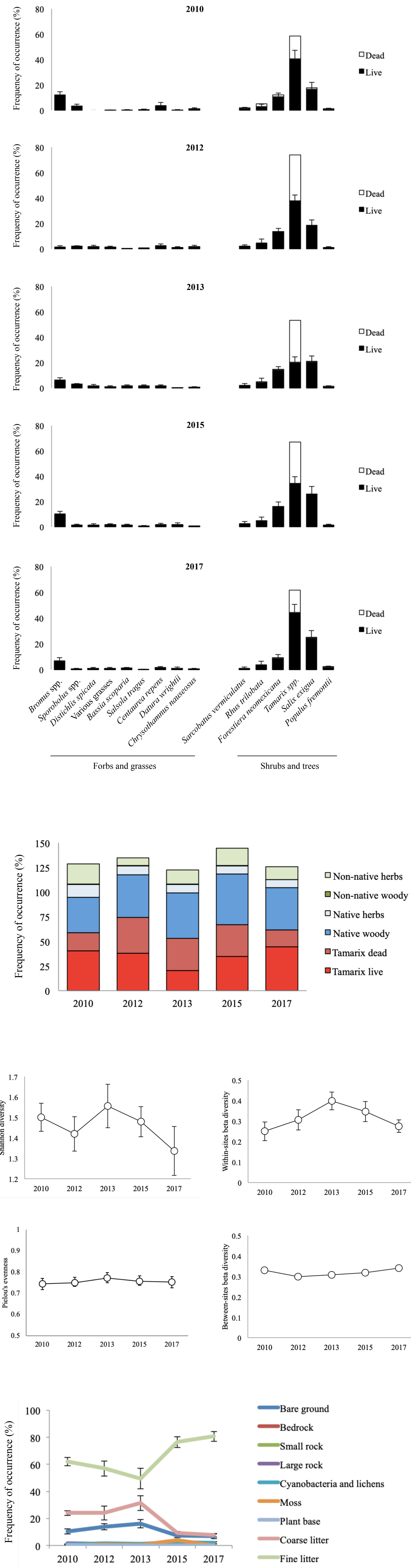
Tamarix defoliation is **NOT** necessarily always followed by long-term *Tamarix* dieback, and changes in the associated plant community may be **SMALL**

The effectiveness of Tamarix biocontrol must be assessed case by case, and on a long-term basis.



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RESULTS:



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