Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve

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Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve | University of Minnesota | College of Biological Sciences

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Research & Discovery Center

Mission and Strategy

- Faculty, staff and students who work at Cedar Creek are dedicated to discovering sustainable solutions to environmental challenges.
- We achieve this by:
  1. ***investigating*** the fundamental processes that govern the dynamics and functioning of ecological communities and ecosystems, and how human activities are changing ecosystems;
  2. ***sharing knowledge*** gained at Cedar Creek with citizens of the state, the nation, and the world; and
  3. ***conserving natural ecosystems*** as platforms for study and as examples of intact ecosystems.

NSF Long-term ecological research site

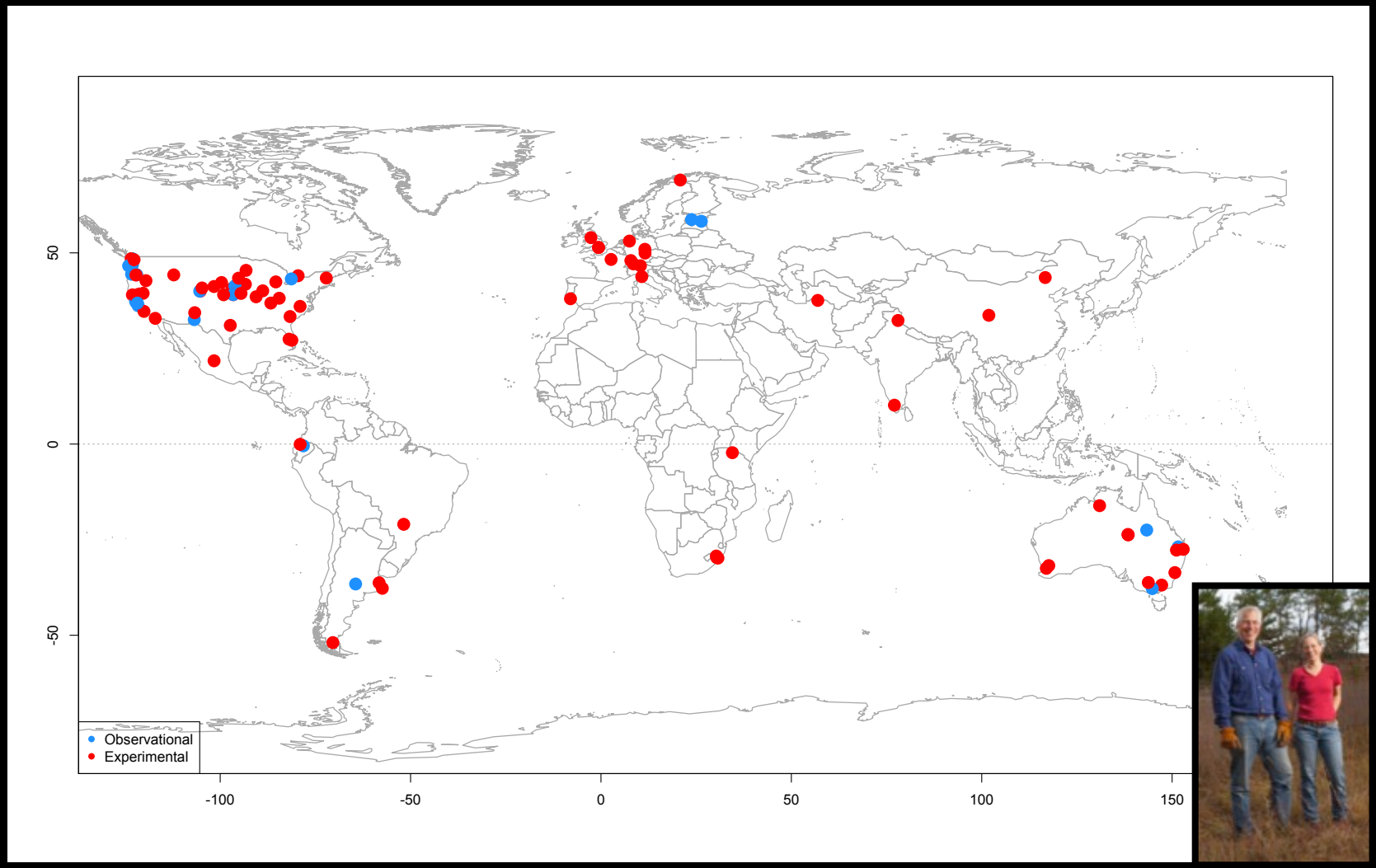
2015 Research Staff

Graduate and postdoctoral research training

Biodiversity research

Climate change research

Nutrient Network: global change research



K12 education

A short walk through Minnesota

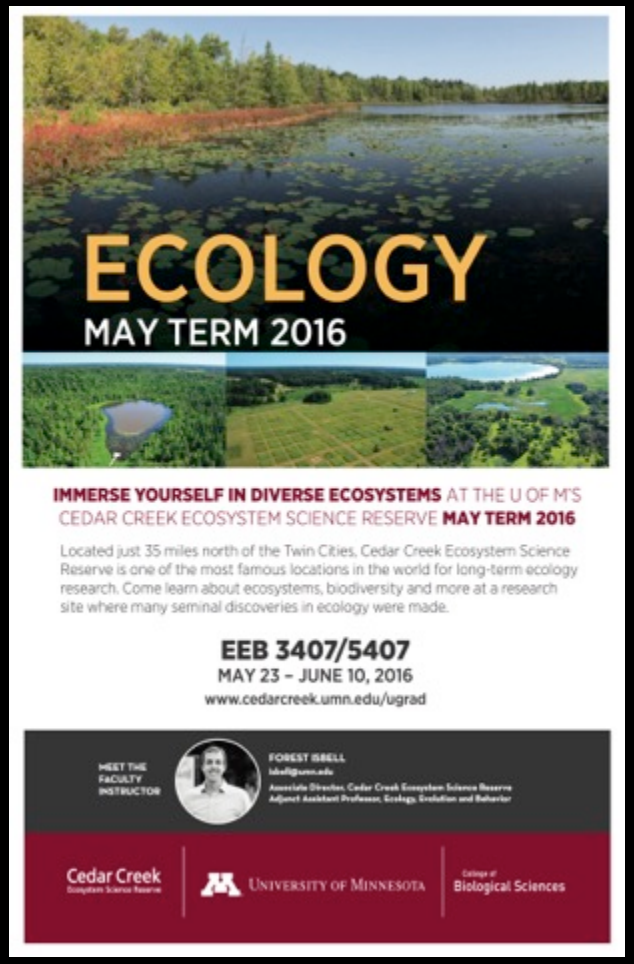
A short walk through Minnesota

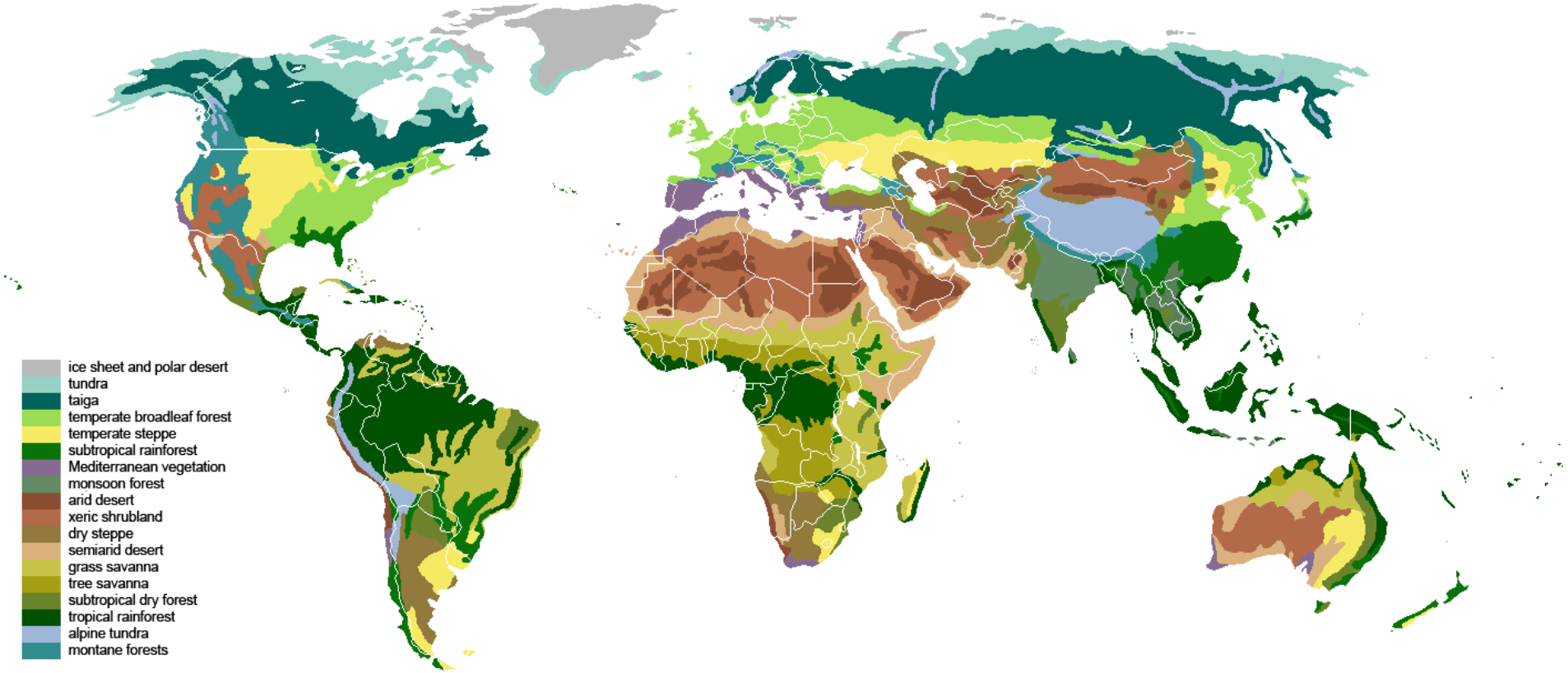
A short walk through Minnesota

Connor’s journey from Cedar Creek to the White House Science Fair

Adult education

Undergraduate and graduate courses



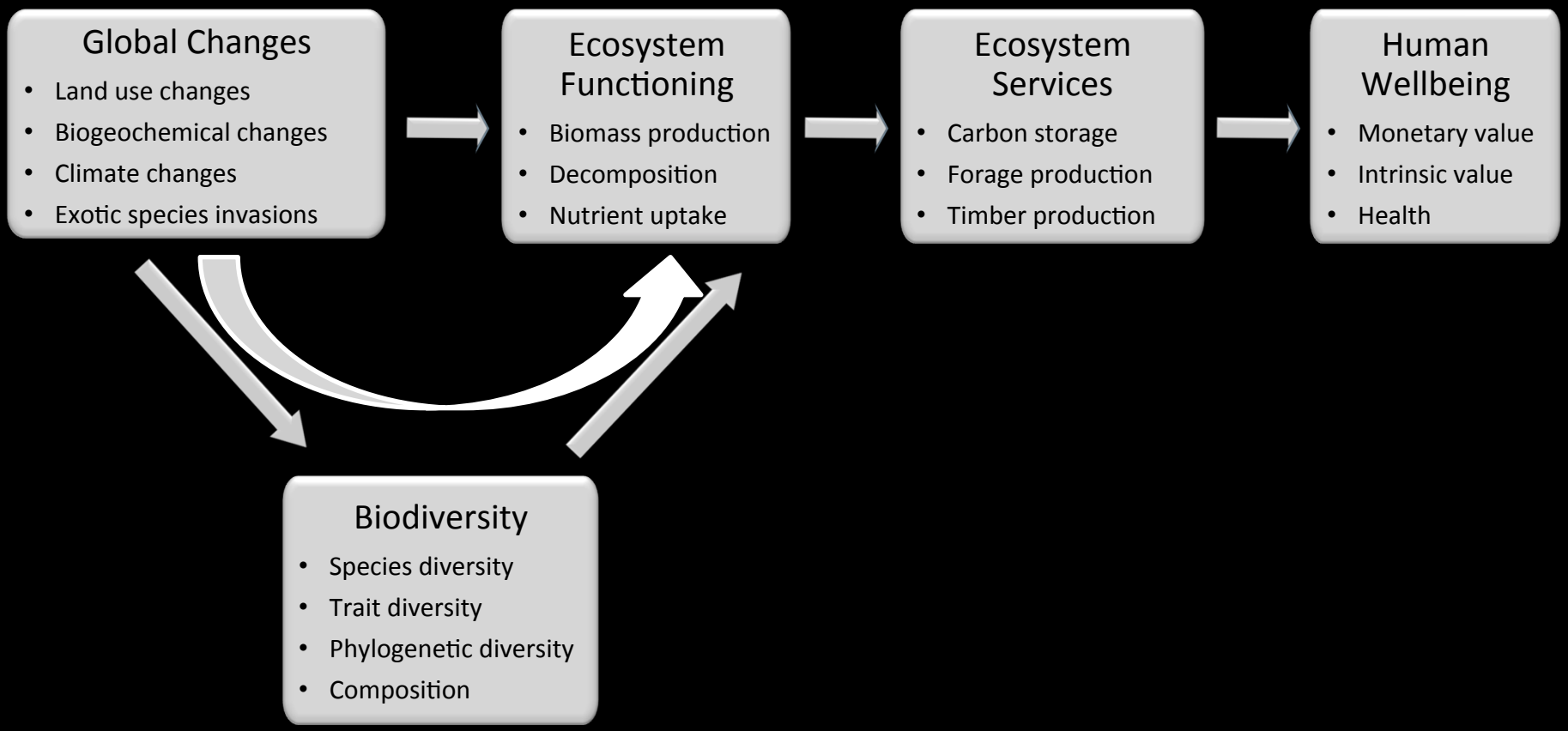

ice sheet and polar desert
tundra
taiga
temperate broadleaf forest
temperate steppe
subtropical rainforest
Mediterranean vegetation
monsoon forest
arid desert
xeric shrubland
dry steppe
semiarid desert
grass savanna
tree savanna
subtropical dry forest
tropical rainforest
alpine tundra
montane forests

Conservation of rare ecosystems

Conservation of rare species

Regaining an apex predator

Research Questions



Isbell et al. 2015 ***Ecology Letters***