

Wetland habitat ranks are shown in Table 1. None of the 41 ponds that I reviewed were surrounded by naturally-functioning, intact longleaf/slash pine–wiregrass flatwoods habitat and upland habitat conditions for all sites was scored a “3”. In fact, at all sites, upland habitats have been grossly degraded by silvicultural practices (bedding, ditching, fire suppression, etc.) and there are no areas of upland habitat remaining that are characterized by undisturbed soil and an intact, wiregrass-dominated groundcover.

Similarly, isolated wetlands on-site are also in poor condition due to bedding (historically, beds have been plowed into the ecotones and often into the basins of depressional wetlands on-site), ditching, historic fire suppression, and other disturbances. Although some ponds on-site possessed graminaceous vegetation in their basins, we suspect these wetlands had long been fire-suppressed (with a concomitant increase in canopy and shrub layer vegetation) before being burned by a catastrophic wildfire on 6 May 2017. As it passed through the basins of isolated depressions that most likely had been fire-suppressed for many years this fire event killed many of the larger slash pine, pond cypress, black gum and myrtle-leaved holly in these wetlands. Unusually thick mats of sphagnum moss are now present in many of these wetlands.

I selected 12 of the 41 ponds, including sites spread over the entire property (i.e., ponds on the Adirondack, Keystone, Loncala and TIAA tracts) as survey sites for frosted flatwoods salamanders (Figure 4). Some graminaceous vegetation is present in the basins of these wetlands (Figure 5). The wet winter of 2018–2019 included frequent rain events and filled these pond basins – providing appropriate hydroperiod conditions for salamander reproduction. I sampled each of these 12 wetlands for frosted flatwoods salamander larvae during February–March 2019 using dipnets and minnow traps (Figure 6). Some of the minnow traps deployed (during surveys conducted from 2/28 – 3/9/2019) were provided with glow-sticks, as doing so may enhance capture rates of ambystomatid salamander larvae (Bennett et al. 2012). However, *Ambystoma* larvae, including those of the frosted flatwoods salamander, are also commonly captured in minnow traps not provided with glow-sticks (Stevenson, unpubl. data).