**Trask Watershed Study**

**EXAMINING THE EFFECTS OF CONTEMPORARY FOREST PRACTICES ON AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS AT MULTIPLE SCALES**

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**Our Goal:** Quantify effects of forest harvest on the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of small non-fish headwater streams and the extent to which harvest on these small streams influences downstream fish reaches.

**Our Approach:** Cooperative, multi-disciplinary and long-term.

**Why is it important?:** Links effects of forestry to a wide range of aquatic responses both locally and downstream rather than assuming response from surrogate parameters.
Research Team

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Location of WRC Study Sites

Watersheds Research Cooperative Study Sites

Trask River Watershed Study

Alsea Watershed Study

Hinkle Creek Paired Watershed Study

Note: All watersheds are depicted at the same scale.
**Trask Watershed Study Design**

**Watershed Scale** as opposed to reach scale

**Nested design** at two scales: on-site and downstream with 3 harvest treatments.

**Extensive pre- and post-harvest study:**
4+ years of pre-harvest and 4 year post-harvest data collection.

**Ecosystem Response:**
Effects on fish, amphibians, macroinvertebrates, birds, hydrology, stream temperature, sediment routing, etc.
Highlighted boxes indicate what we will be discussing today.
Trask Study Timeline

- **2006-11**: Baseline data collection
- **2011**: Road upgrades
- **2011-12**: Headwater harvest in 8 basins
- **2012-16**: Post-treatment data collection
We explored the landscape context of the Trask as we initiated research.
Trask Watershed Study Outreach

- Tours for public, research, regulatory and environmental groups
- Website and brochures available
- Educational outreach to watershed councils
- Science presentations at conferences
- Masters and PhD theses
- Peer-reviewed journal articles
Now that the sun has set on the pre-harvest period...

It is time to go collect more data!

Photo by Kelly James