

## **Development of a Monitoring Plan for Idaho's New Class I Stream Shade Rule**

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In 2014, Idaho passed a new Class I stream shade rule for timber harvesting. The new rule has two options for landowners to choose from when determining allowable levels of harvesting in riparian areas, and is based on the relationship that exists between stand relative stocking (RS) and shade. Over the last few months, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality and Idaho Department of Lands have worked with the College of Natural Resources to design a monitoring study that will evaluate the effectiveness of the rule. This is a relatively simple design that includes pre- and post-treatment sampling of RS and shade using Solar Pathfinder measurements, with sufficient sample size to accurately estimate observed harvesting effects on changes in post-treatment stream shade within each of the 5 major forest types. We summarize the design process for developing the monitoring study and plans for beginning implementation in 2015 and summarize new demonstration areas being developed on the University of Idaho Experimental Forest as part of the project.