



SKID TRAIL PRECONSTRUCTION: A CASE STUDY OF LOGGING IMPACTS AND PRODUCTIVITY

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ABSTRACT - On a young-growth redwood/Douglas-fir selection harvest, logging productivity, leave stand damage, and areal extent of skid trails were compared and found to be similar whether or not skid trails were flagged and bladed prior to tree felling and logging. These findings differ from previous similar studies and some reasons for this are discussed. Certain situations are noted where the author feels skid trail preconstruction is advantageous.



Figure 1. Trees being directionally felled to the lead of a preconstructed trail.



Figure 2. Same view as Figure 1. Tractor is pulling logs out of their lay without leaving the preconstructed trail.

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