

Hydroriparian Planning Guide

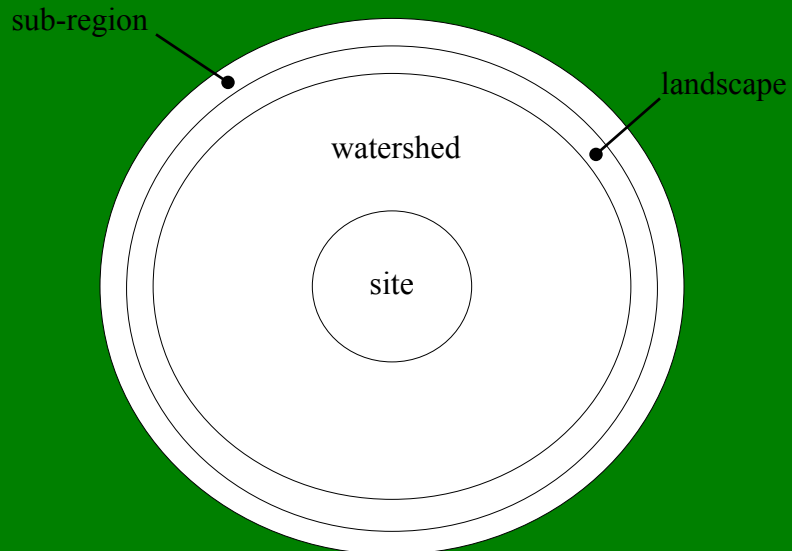
May 2003

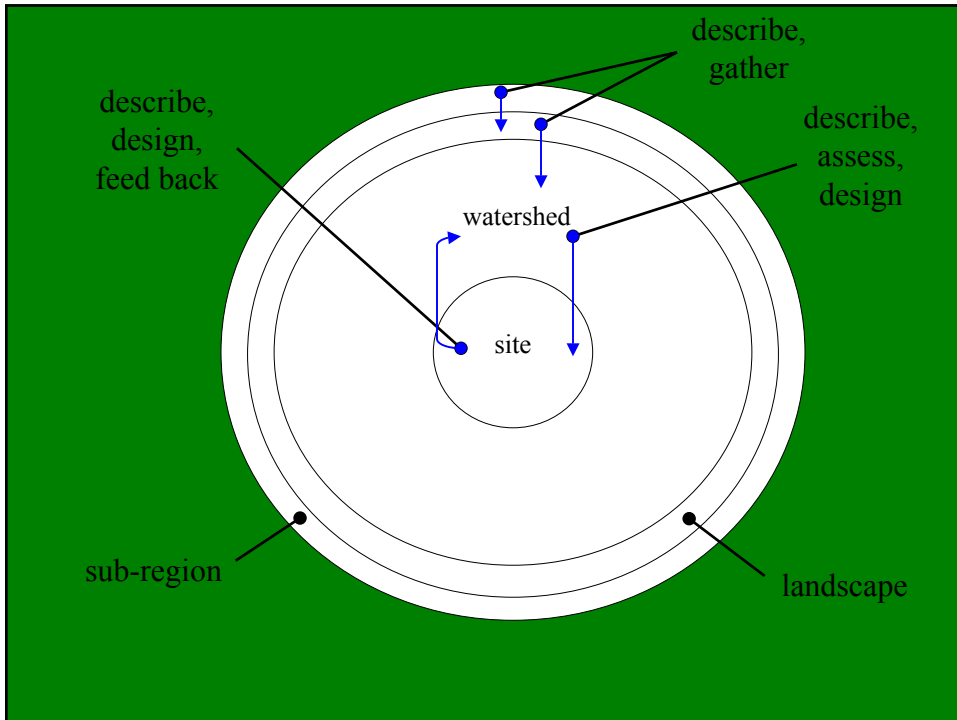
“hydroriparian”

- more than just “river banks”
- characterised by change
- indistinct boundaries on wet coast

“hydroriparian planning guide”

a procedure to help people design practices
that are likely to maintain hydroriparian
function





Sub-region

- identify ecological sub-region (e.g. Hecate Lowland, Outer Coast Mountains etc.)
- describe natural disturbance regimes for sub-units
- gather information from other planning processes

Landscape

- gather information from other planning processes describing landscape and assessing condition (e.g. conservation networks, land use)
- provides context for watershed planning

Watershed Overview

1. Describe watershed
2. Assess opportunities for development (how much?)
3. Design watershed plan (where?)

Watershed

1. Describe watershed

- a. process zones: source, transportation, deposition

Watershed

1. Describe watershed

- a. process zones
- b. hydroriparian ecosystems: e.g. small very steep streams, torrented gullies, fans, bogs, shoreline forests

Watershed

1. Describe watershed
 - a. process zones
 - b. hydroriparian ecosystems
 - c. geomorphic character: overview terrain assessment
 - d. site series
 - e. forest cover

Watershed

2. Assess opportunities for development (how much?)
 - a. map development history
 - b. compare current condition with
 - i. precautionary guidelines
 - OR
 - ii. results of risk assessment (risk curves based on indicators of function)

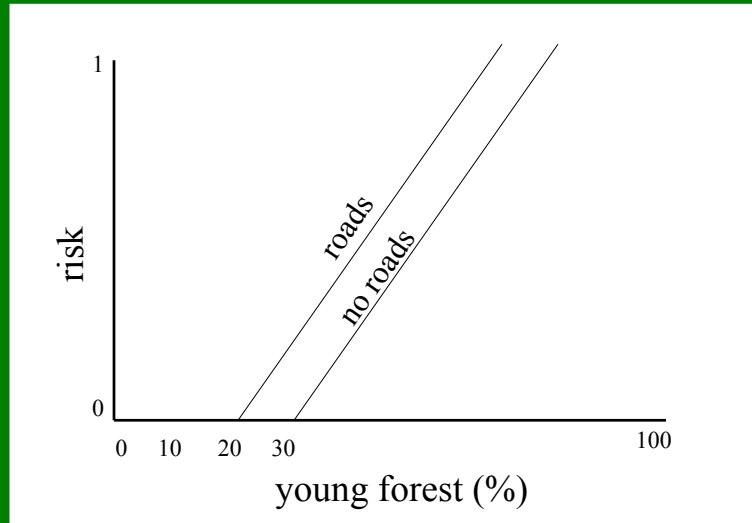
Precautionary guidelines (e.g.)

“To protect the hydrological regime, the rate of cut should not exceed 1% per year of the forested area averaged over 20 years applied to every watershed and sub-basin over 1,000 ha. Stratify larger watersheds into sub-basins of approximately 1,000 – 3,000 ha area.”

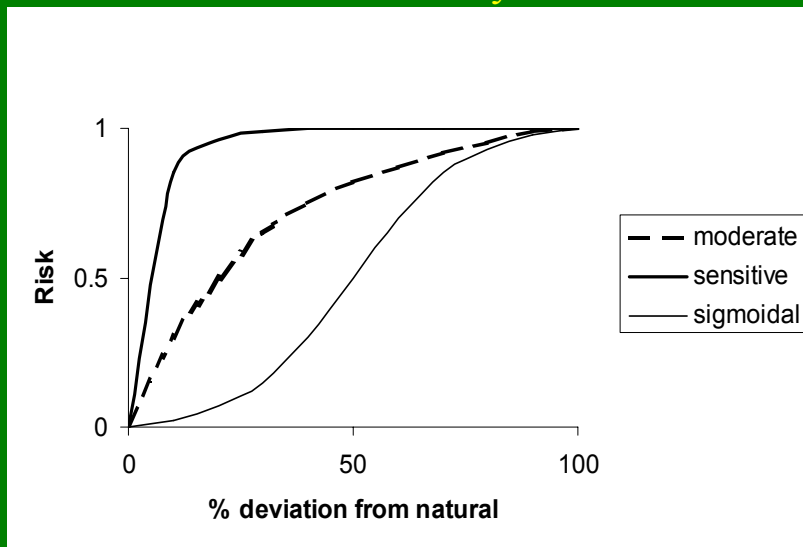
“To provide downed wood, maintain less than 20% deviation from natural riparian forest in the transportation and deposition zones.”

Risk assessment (e.g.)

Hydrological regime



Biodiversity



Use of risk assessment option requires

- appropriate monitoring
- inclusion in adaptive management process

Watershed

3. Develop watershed plan (where?)
 - a. reserves dictated from sub-regional or landscape plans
 - b. sensitive terrain
 - c. hydriparian ecosystem network for protection of hydriparian functions (“HEN”??)
 - d. operable areas

Site

1. Describe site
 - a. revise mapped zones as necessary
 - b. delineate more appropriate boundaries

Site

1. Describe site
2. Design site prescription
 - a. consider options, guidance, rationale and examples

Site

1. Describe site
2. Design site prescription
 - a. consider options, guidance, rationale and examples
3. Pass information back to watershed plan
4. Enter information into database

Testing the Guide

- Current project is testing and refining the guide in two watersheds of the North Coast
- Information will be available next month