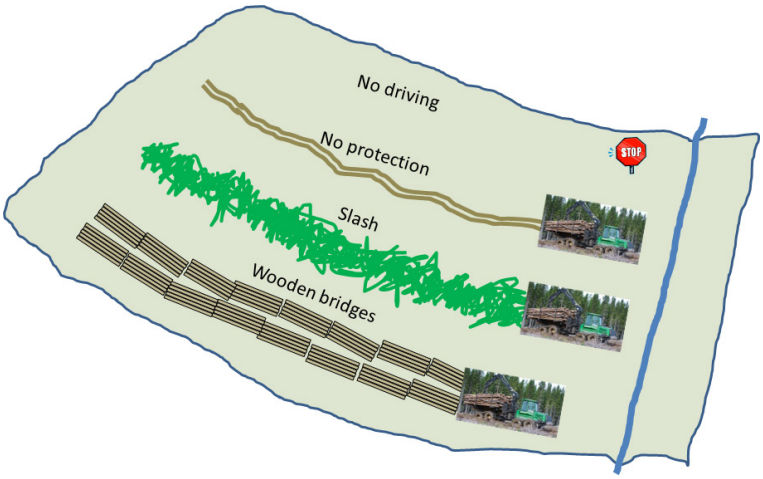
Using slash or wooden bridges as soil protection at logging:

- Effects on rutting, operation efficiency, regeneration, and mercury, carbon and nitrogen cycling

A co-operation between Skogforsk, SLU, Umeå University and Metla lead by E. Ring

Experimental plots on four harvested slopes in northern Sweden

Starting in the recharge area, a laden forwarder drove three times down and up the slope after applying a thick layer of slash, wooden bridges or no soil protection.



Results

The application of slash or wooden bridges effectively reduced rutting.

Rutting in the lowest part of the slope following six passages with the laden forwarder:

Driving without soil protection

Driving on slash

Driving on wooden bridges

We thank Holmen AB for hosting the field experiments and Formas for funding the project.

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