

Subject: : Tips and Tricks

Topic: : guesing width of small streams from maps

Re: guesing width of small streams from maps

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URL:

Troutbert: To estimate the area of the catchment, locate on the map the high points between the watershed divides. Draw a polygon (in your head if necessary) from point to point and close the traverse (so to speak). Use K-bob's scale to estimate the lengths of the "legs" of the polygon. Multiply length of polygon by its width and you should come up with a rough estimate of the catchment size (area).

Most of us tend to use the term "watershed" when what we are describing is the "catchment". A "watershed" by definition is the boundary line surrounding a catchment. A "catchment" is the area of land contributing runoff to a stream (i.e., the area within a stream's watershed boundary).