



## **USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference**

### **A Biological Assessment of the Myrtle Creek Watershed in Boundary County, Idaho**

*Abstract: Situation:*

*The Myrtle Creek watershed in Boundary County, Idaho is a heavily forested watershed that serves as the primary municipal water source for the county seat, Bonners Ferry. Over 60% of the land in this heavily forested watershed is owned by the federal government. Recently, one-third of the watershed burned in a forest fire event.*

*Objectives:*

*The objective of this study was to conduct a biological assessment of this watershed to provide baseline macroinvertebrate data and to determine if the recent fire impacted the make-up of the macroinvertebrate community.*

*Methods:*

*Established protocols were used to sample sites in this watershed in August 2004.*

*Results:*

*Based on the macroinvertebrate analysis (which is currently being conducted) we will establish baseline data that will provide a reference point in time for this forested ecosystem.*

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