When do we need a snorkel? Practical lessons learned on monitoring cobblebed rivers often barely-wadeable at low flows

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Abstract. Extensive field methodology has been developed for the sampling of sediment conditions, channel geometry, and aquatic insect populations in wadable rivers. This presentation will expand on the question: What happens when the water is a bit too deep to wade, yet too shallow and swift for boat-based methods? Additionally, we will investigate how commonly overlooked field protocol details can make or break your dataset. This presentation will convey lessons learned in the planning, implementation, and data analysis of field data gathered on gravel- and cobble-bed rivers in the Rocky Mountains and on Front Range of Colorado. Specifically, a case study of sampling sites on the Poudre River as in and below the 2012 fires will be discussed.

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