

## **‘Developing a watershed monitoring project’ revisited: What to measure, in what order and why?**

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**Abstract.** In 1994, Lee MacDonald published a paper in the *Journal of Soil and Water Conservation* entitled “Developing a monitoring project”. This talk uses that work as a springboard for exploring watershed monitoring today, including questions of what to measure, in what order and why? I also examine the standard paired watershed approach—something else Lee has contributed greatly to—and I offer some suggestions for how to better illuminate the black box of input-output relations associated with that approach. In keeping with Lee’s management orientation, I base my ideas largely on recent applied work in the Southern Cone of South America, helping to establish a monitoring program to cover 2 million ha of forested land in Brazil, Argentina and Chile.