

Missing Baseline Information for British Columbia's Forests

Can timber cruise data fill some gaps?



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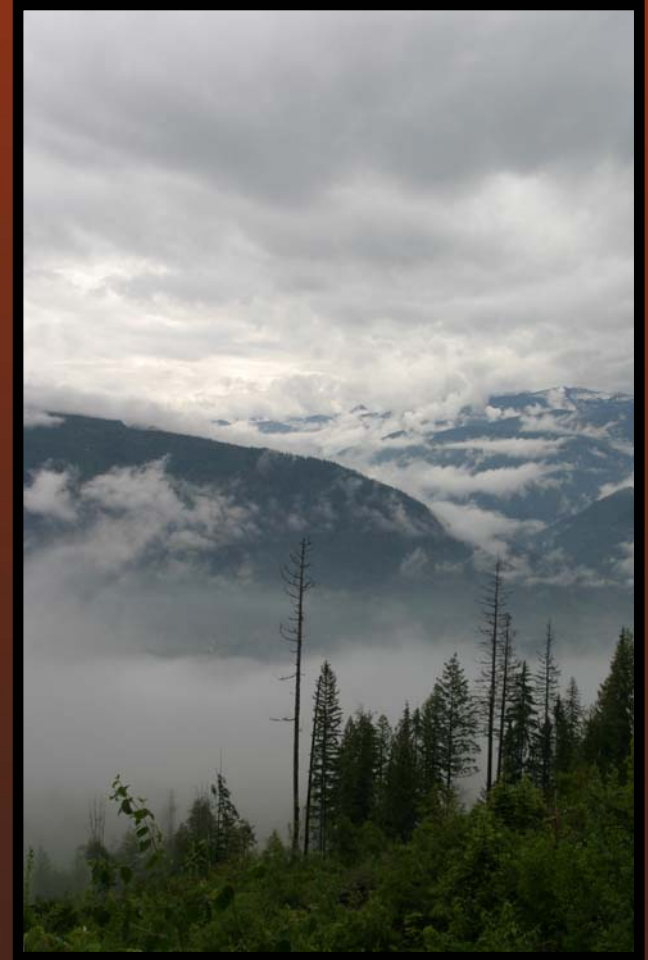
Outline

- Background & Objective
- Methodology
- Preliminary Results
- Limitations & Opportunities
- Conclusion

- *Questions & comments!*

Background & Objective

- Timber cruise data
 - Valuable source of baseline data
 - Collected provincially
- Potential
 - FREP SLB monitoring
 - Other FRPA values
 - Other studies
- Objective
 - Determine the efficacy of using *timber cruise* data in *FREP SLB* monitoring

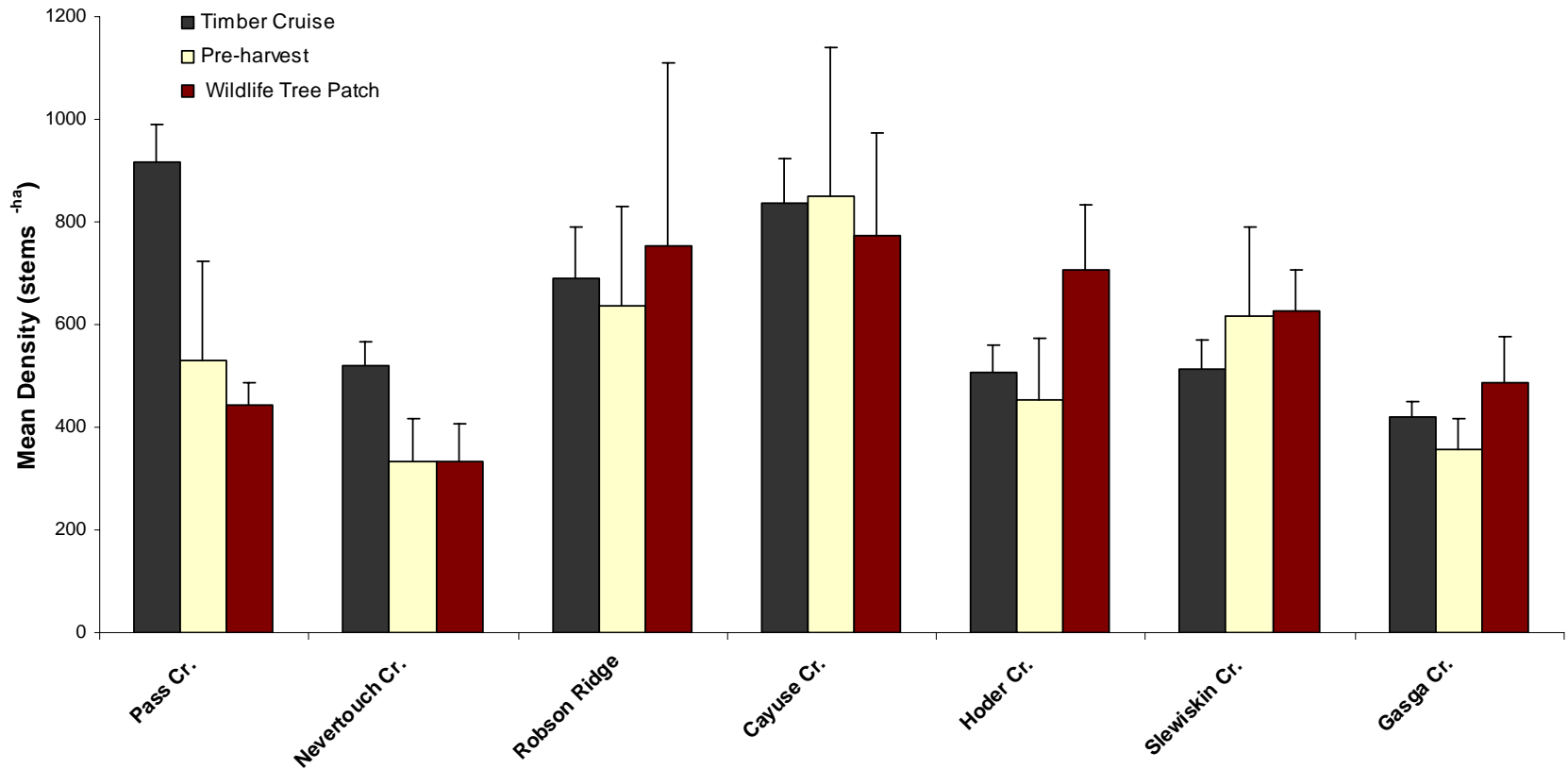


Methodology

- Pre and post-harvest survey
- 7 cutblocks
- 3 data sources for each block
 - Timber cruise
 - Pre-harvest FREP SLB
 - Post-harvest FREP SLB
- Stand structure
 - Live trees/ Snags by diameter class
 - Total live and dead trees
 - Big trees (live and dead, $\geq 50\text{cm dbh}$)
 - Functional snags ($\geq 30\text{cm dbh}$, $\geq 10\text{m}$)
- Species composition

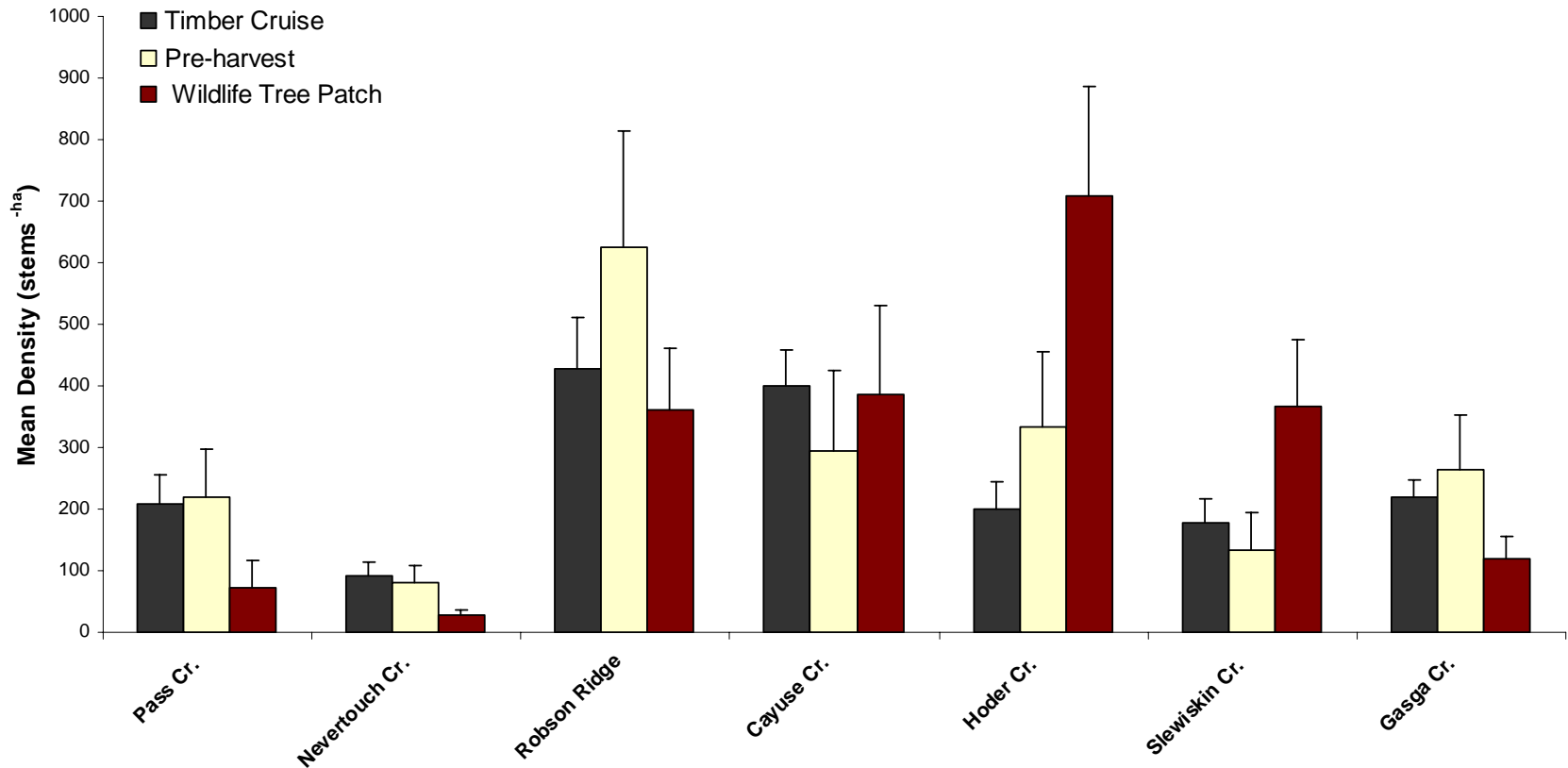


Preliminary Results: Overlap in stand structure



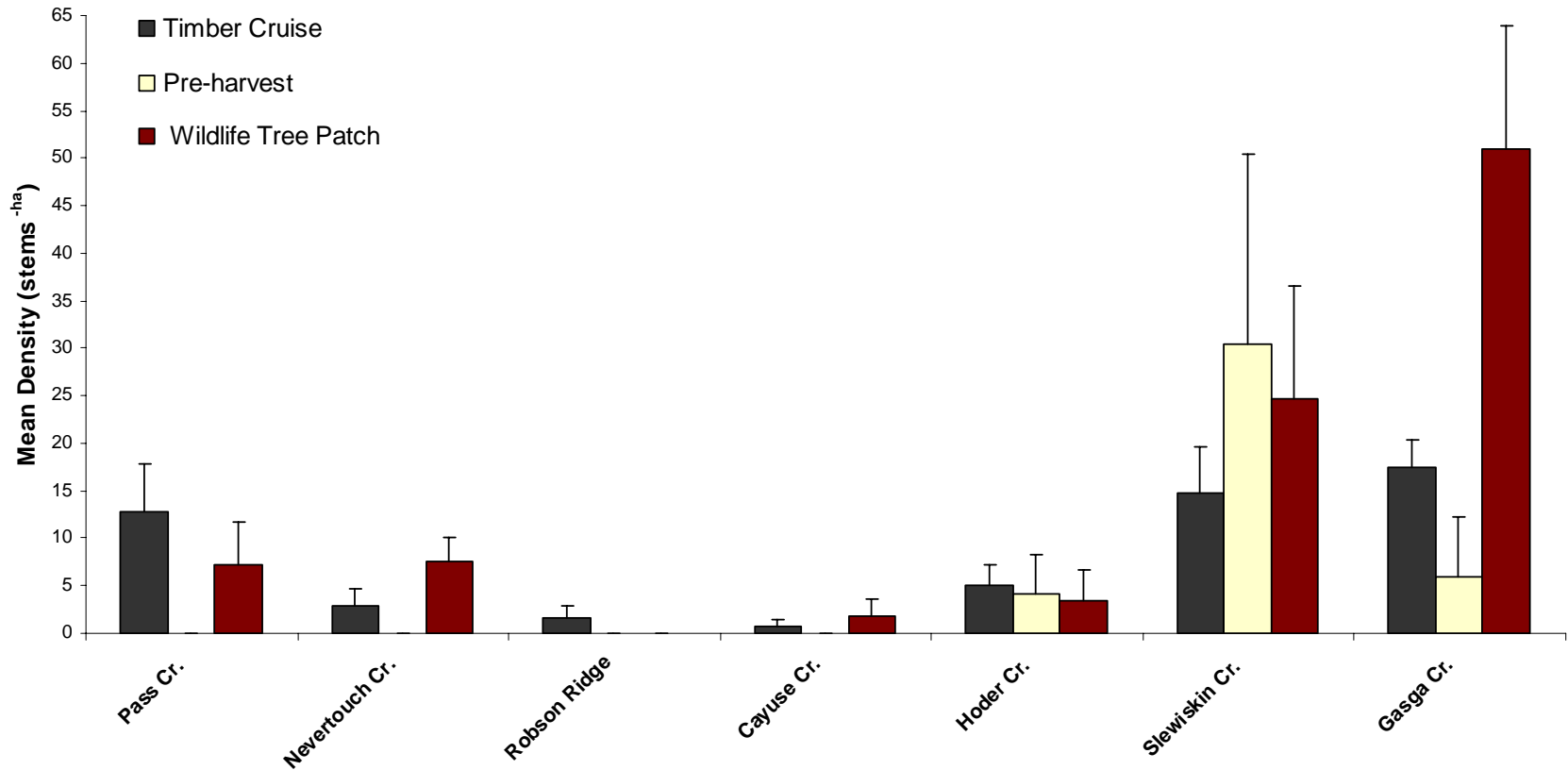
Average density (+ SE) of *total live trees* present prior to harvest, within the timber cruise and FREP pre-harvest sample, and post-harvest within the wildlife tree patches.

Preliminary Results: Overlap in stand structure



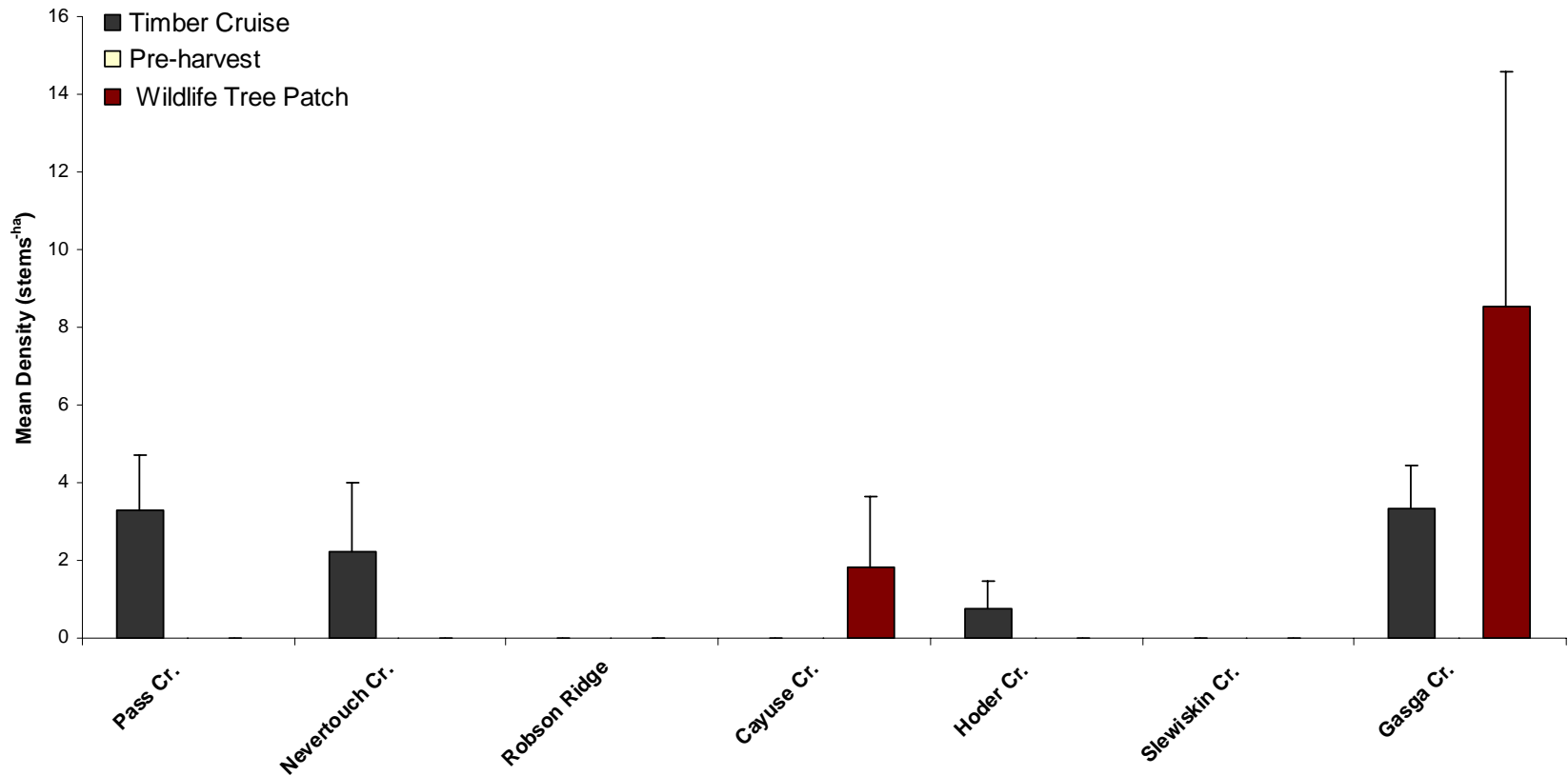
Average density (+ SE) of *total snags* present prior to harvest, within the timber cruise and FREP pre-harvest sample, and post-harvest within the wildlife tree patches.

Preliminary Results: Big trees



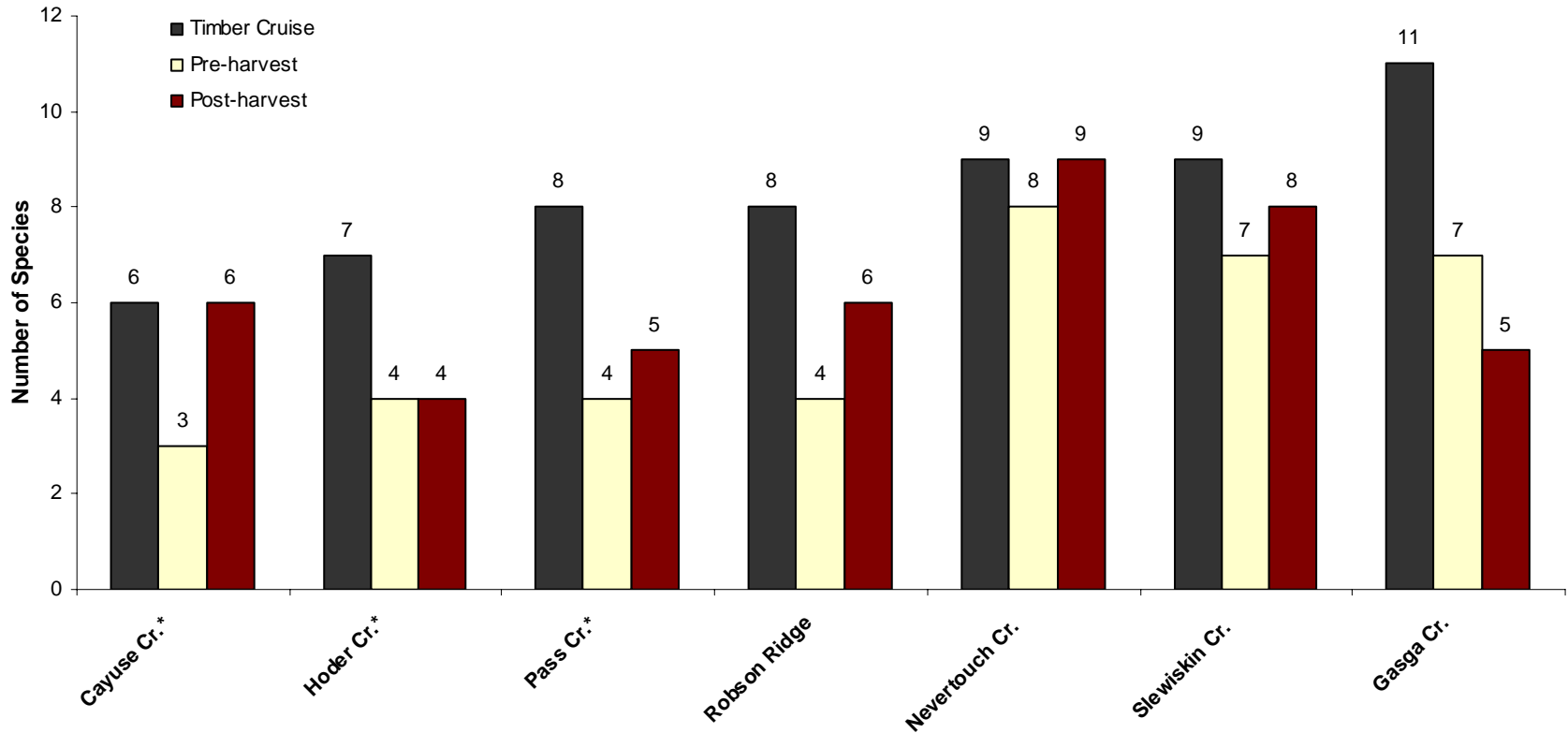
Average density (+ SE) of *big trees* present at the seven study areas prior to harvest, within the timber cruise and pre-harvest sample, and post-harvest within the wildlife tree patches.

Preliminary Results: Large dead trees



Average density (+ SE) of *large, dead snags* present prior to harvest, within the timber cruise and FREP pre-harvest sample, and post-harvest within the wildlife tree patches.

Preliminary Results: Species composition



Number of species present at the seven study areas prior to harvest, within the timber cruise and pre-harvest sample, and post-harvest within the wildlife tree patches.



Limitations & Opportunities

- Potential limitations
 - Rare forest elements
 - May be underrepresented in all three data sources
 - WTC data missing
- Opportunities
 - Overlap in stand structure between timber cruise and FREP surveys
 - Standardized methodology
 - Provincial wide data, extensively collected
 - Baseline data for future studies
 - Baseline data for SLB and other FRPA values

Conclusion

- Scope of project
 - Preliminary study
 - Seven cutblocks
 - High variability
- Possible limitations identified
 - Knowledge gap
 - rare forest elements and data collection methodology

Opportunities are immense!

- Further studies could improve...
 - compatibility
 - efficiency
 - utility



Thanks!

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 - Pope & Talbot
 - BCTS



FREP

Forest & Range
Evaluation Program

