In-Class Exercise: Application of the Strahler-Horton Stream Ordering Method

Examine the drainage network map shown on Figure 1.

Task 1. On Figure 1, label the watershed boundary on this map.

Task 2. On Figure 1, label the primary drainage outlet for this watershed.

Question 1: Is this drainage network best described as "dendritic" (i.e. like veins on a leaf), rectangular, or parallel?

Task 3. Based on the drainage pattern, draw a watershed boundary around the stream network system labelled "Sub-Basin 1".

Task 4. Using the Strahler-Horton stream order method, determine the stream order number for each tributary in "Sub-Basin 1". Write the order numbers at an appropriate scale next to the tributary in question.

Task 5. Determine the order of the watershed system at the point where the river exits the drainage basin.

Figure 1. Stream Order Exercise

Sub-Basin 1

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