Dirt Skid Pad Tire Testing
Originator: Suspension Strategy Brainstorm Session
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Concept Description:
Very simple setup of known radius on a specific surface can yield accurate and vital tire, traction, and suspension setup data without large time or money investment. Controlling surface conditions (eg. Wet, dry, gravel, clay, high frequency bumps, etc.) can hugely expand tire tread and compound knowledge. Can be coupled with controlled condition straight runs for longitudinal traction data.

Strengths:
• Little time investment
• Little money investment
• Can be accomplished with current resources
• Little risk of car damage

Weaknesses:
• Will subtract from other necessary test time

Opportunities:
• Address little tire knowledge issues
• Design report points
• Extensive knowledge of tire treads and compounds will be achieved
• Will enhance team and driver understanding of turning dynamics

Threats:
• Conditions may be hard to control
• Grooming time of surface
• Repeatability

Notes:
Simple idea that basically adds more control and certainty to our current testing methods.