



October 2020 SER-Rocky Mountain Chapter Member Newsletter

Postponing the 2021 SERRM-HAR Conference

I look forward to the scientific meeting hosted by the [SERRM](#) and [HAR](#) every other year with such enthusiasm. A time to interact with colleagues, collaborators, and friends; a time to develop new partnerships and new projects; a time to learn new skills and tricks of the trade from the many wonderful presenters. For the past few months we (SERRM and HAR) have already been hard at work to plan for the scientific conference that was to be held in the spring of 2021. We were looking forward to implementing the feedback we received from the last conference, and to, as always, make the next conference the best conference we've held to date.

As so much in life right now, we've also known that Covid19 would create a significant amount of uncertainty for us. We've had many conversations to decide how to conduct this conference in a safe way, while maintaining the many attributes we all look forward to when we attend. As the weather starts to cool, and as Covid19 rates continue to ebb and flow, we've come to the realization that an in-person event is simply not feasible or responsible. Although some conferences have gone entirely virtual, through many difficult conversations we've come to the conclusion that an entirely virtual conference simply wouldn't meet our objectives. It is thus with great reluctance that we

postpone the Spring 2021 Conference another year, to be held during the Spring of 2022.

That said, we miss you all way too much to not interact at all or to provide an opportunity for engagement and learning during 2021. There is simply too much awesome work happening across our region and too much to learn from each other to not wait an entire year with no interaction! While we are still ironing out the details, we can comfortably say that it is our intent to showcase some of those great projects happening by our friends and collaborators across the region, and to provide opportunities to learn from them. We are thinking this will take the form of pre-prepared videos or live webinars. We'll send out more details as they become available, but please [email me](#) if you are interested in showcasing one of your projects or providing some type of technical webinar. Even if you aren't completely sure what that presentation would entail, let's start a dialogue!

It's our hope that we can all be creative and embrace this as an opportunity to engage with each other in new ways. We're thinking of you all, and look forward to interacting with you in person again someday soon!

[Jeremy Sueltenfuss](#)

SERRM Scientific Meeting Committee Chair

2020 SERRM Membership Committee Student Support Scholarship

In light of the difficulties and challenges of COVID-19, particularly financially, and subsequent reduction in conferences and training, the [SERRM chapter](#) is offering a **new type of scholarship** that will provide

financial support to graduate and undergraduate students focusing on ecology, restoration, natural resources, or a related field. Three to four scholarships in the amount of \$500 each will be awarded on a continuous basis until funds are expended. This scholarship is intended to support students during their studies and does not have specific spending requirements.



Requirements:

- Must be a current member of SERRM
- Must be a student focusing on ecology, restoration, natural resources, or

related field and either:

- An undergraduate student actively conducting an undergraduate research project
- A graduate student
- Must show current proof of enrollment at their University
- Post award, the student may be asked to provide a short written narrative with photographs of how they spent the money.

Application directions:

- In a single PDF include the following documents:
 - A one-page, 300 words or less narrative describing how you will benefit from this scholarship and what your academic and/or professional aspirations are.
 - Proof of current enrollment at your University and proof of degree program
 - Proof of current SERRM membership
- Send application package to the [SERRM membership committee](#)

Upcoming SERRM Outreach Events

November 2020 Homecoming

While the regular pub talk series has been put on hold due to COVID-19, the Outreach Committee is planning to begin a webinar series beginning in November 2020 with local and regional experts on various ecological restoration topics. With the widespread wildfires throughout the Rocky Mountains, our first speaker will discuss ecological restoration associated with wildfire that will include presentations and a panel discussion. Additionally, we are working with the SER International in effort to allow for attendance to these virtual events to count for CERP credit.

Date, time and potential CERP credit will be announced in the near future.

Upcoming SER Webinars

October 22, 2020--and Beyond

As part of our webinar series, SER hosts at least one webinar each month to provide opportunities for

members to engage with restoration experts from academia and the practice. Each [SER webinar](#) is pre-approved for 1 CEC under the [Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner program](#) unless otherwise noted.



[Invader Impacts on Soil Ecosystems - What Every Restoration Practitioner Should Know](#)

October 22nd, 10 - 11 AM MST

Speaker: Ylva Leckberg (MPG Ranch)

One of the key findings of the 2019 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment was that Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLC) are a crucial component of environmental management. IPLCs are strongly affected by global environmental change and play key roles in safeguarding and restoring ecosystem resilience to support their well-being. Based on work originally undertaken for the Global Assessment, we published in *Restoration Ecology* (2019)* a review illustrating how and why IPLC participate in restoration activities through maintaining traditional practices, restoring land degraded by outsiders, and partnering with outside groups. Our review also provided examples of how Indigenous and Local Knowledge can be incorporated in the planning, execution, and monitoring of restoration activities. Based on these examples, our paper argued that IPLC should be a more important focus in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and in post-2020 biodiversity planning activities.

[The Contributions of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to Ecological Restoration: Lessons from the IPBES Global Assessment](#)

November 22nd, 8 - 9 AM EST

Speaker: Pamela McElwee (Rutgers)

[Small Dam Removal: Lessons Learned from 20 Years Worth of Dam Removal in Massachusetts](#)

December 3rd, 10 - 11 AM MST

Speaker: Nick Wildman (CERP), Massachusetts Division of Ecological Restoration

Check back often as we are constantly adding new sessions at [Restoration Resource Center » Webinars!](#) Recordings of past webinars can be found in our Webinar Library.

Southern Rockies Seed Network's Virtual 2020 Conference

December 8-9, 2020

SRSN's 2020 Annual Conference will cover current topics under three main areas, "**Ecotypes: Research, Policy & Practice**".

The keynote speaker is: Francis Kilkenny, PhD, Research Biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station.

Attendees will include professionals from:

- * Federal, state, and local agencies
- * Seed and nursery industry staff
- * Restoration practitioners & conservation professionals
- * Students & academic researchers
- * And other private citizens interested in native plants!

Colorado Weed Management Association Virtual Winter Training

December 8-10, 2020

CWMA is gathering online! Connect with weed managers from across the state ? and beyond ? to get the latest updates on effective tools, relevant research, and strategic management approaches. Earn CE credits to renew your license, network with professionals in our industry, and learn the latest trends and techniques.



If You Were Registered for the 2020 Spring Training

Please do not start a new registration! We will help you transfer over your registration and payment information including a possible refund. You should have received an email with options and instructions. Please contact info@cwma.org for more information.

Draft Agenda and CE Credits

We will have sessions and various breaks peppered throughout each day. We will offer great content and opportunities to engage with others and promise that you will not have to sit in front of your computer all day!

For more information, visit [CWMA's website](#).

SER's North American Continental Conference

Québec RE3 Conference: Reclaim Restore Rewild

June 19th - 24th, 2021

Quebec, Canada

[Québec RE3 website](#).



Note: The **2020 Conference has been POSTPONED to 2021** and will Resume in Quebec (not South Korea as originally scheduled)

Since 2005, the SER World Conference has been the premier venue for those interested in connecting with the international restoration community. Our World Conferences are an exciting biennial gathering of experts in the scientific, technical, and socio-economic dimensions of restoring damaged and degraded ecosystems in all biomes and on all continents. Conference attendees are passionate about discussing and debating big picture issues and broad trends, as well as specific tools, techniques, research, and policies for restoration.

SER is proud to host our next World Conference in Quebec City, Quebec, June 19 - 24, 2021. SER2021 will be the Society's 9th World Conference since 2005 and 25th meeting since our founding in 1988.

Jointly hosted by the Canadian Land Reclamation Association (CLRA) and the

Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), the theme of the conference is “From Reclaiming to Restoring and Rewilding”.



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