



## February 2021 SER-Rocky Mountain Chapter Member Newsletter

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### **SER-RM Outreach Activities are Back!**

The Outreach Committee began a transition from the Pub Talk Series to a webinar based platform to keep members of SER-RM up to date on recent news related to ecological restoration in the Rocky Mountain region. Currently, three speakers are lined up in March, April and May/June to start a wildfire restoration webinar series, following [Dr. Mark Paschke's November 2020 webinar](#). All webinars will allow for SER members to get [CERP](#) credits for attending. Look for social media announcements in the coming weeks.

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### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit 2021 Seminar Series**

**Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: Opportunities through the Rocky Mountains CESU**

**Cooperative Eco-Cultural Restoration of American  
Bison to Native Americans**



## February 18th, 2021 3 PM MST

The Wolakota Buffalo Range was formally established in October 2020 with 100 bison released onto the Rosebud Sioux Tribal Lands. Join Dr. Brendan Moynahan (Science Advisor, National Park Service), Wizipan Little Elk (CEO, Rosebud Economic Development Corporation), and Dennis Jorgensen (Bison Program Lead, World Wildlife Fund) for active discussion on how partnership can simultaneously support conservation, cultural renewal, economic development, and food security an sovereignty.

## Yellowstone Center for Resources Native Student Internship Program

### March 24th, 2021 11 AM MST

Developing a workforce and recruiting employees that reflect the diversity of the American population is vitally important to the National Park Service and Yellowstone National Park. Our internship program is designed to offer opportunities for Native American university/college students (18-35) to gain hands-on experience in natural and cultural resource management in the Yellowstone Center for Resources (YCR), with the intension that students can use skills learned to enter resource management careers in the NPS or other federal agencies.

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## Upcoming SER Webinars

### February 24th, 2021--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.



[Enabling factors to scale up forest landscape restoration: the roles of governance and economics](#)

**February 24th, 2021 8 - 9 AM MST**

Speaker: Stephanie Mansourian (Research Associate with Geneva University, board membership with SER and Deputy Coordinator of the IUFRO Task Force)

A study of 10 long term and large scale forest restoration initiatives reveals some of the key governance and economic factors that support restoration. This WWF and IUFRO study entitled "Enabling factors to scale up forest landscape restoration: the roles of governance and economics" highlights the key factors at the national or sub-national scale that motivate the initiation of forest restoration, enable its implementation at scale and sustain it. The report features examples of how these enabling factors have played out in different countries, and finds that approaches have to be context-specific to be successful.

### **Peatland Restoration as a Natural Climate Solution in Minnesota**

**March 24th, 2021 8 - 9 AM MST**

Wetland restoration is increasingly being considered as a climate change adaptation by conservation organizations globally. Peatlands store as much as 30% of the world's terrestrial carbon. The Nature Conservancy is developing natural climate solutions (NCS) as an approach to address climate change. Since peatlands are abundant in Minnesota, the TNC regional chapter is assessing the potential for peatland restoration as an NCS strategy. A three-pronged peatland restoration strategy for is recommended: protect large standing stocks of carbon in peatlands, re-wet partially drained peatlands in the north and restore large southern "mucklands" for short-term carbon sequestration and multiple benefits.

**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.

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## **SER's Restoration Ecology Journal**

***Check out some of our top picks from the latest issues of the society's journal!***

Ecological restoration is largely shaped by western scientific ideas and methods. Focusing on two case studies in urban systems, [Hall et al. \(2021\)](#) argue that incorporating Indigenous frameworks - which center biocultural relationships, acknowledge social and environmental inequities, and integrate intergenerational and linguistic diversity into restoration practice - will promote not only the restoration of ecological systems but also human relationships with nature.

Priority effects, or the order in which species arrive at a site and associated consequences, have been studied in ecological research for decades. However, until recently, a systematic review of how priority effects may influence ecological restoration had not been completed. In this review [Weidlich et al. \(2021\)](#) synthesize the literature on priority effects and the mechanisms that underpin their impacts on community assembly, and highlight how priority effects may be manipulated to improve restoration outcomes.

Low moisture conditions hinder plant establishment in many systems. In this study, [Lubin et al. \(2021\)](#) show that arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (AMF) inoculum may help improve plant establishment - particularly when plants from dry sites are matched with inoculum from dry sites. Details about specific species and (AMF) inoculum interactions, including effects of AMF inoculum on non-seeded species, are explored in the article.

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## **RiversEdge West Annual Conference**

**February 17-26th**

Since 2001, [RiversEdge West](#) has been hosting an annual conference that focuses on impacts to riparian habitat in the Southwestern U.S. This year, the conference will be held virtually over the course of two weeks, February 17-18 and February 23-25, 10 am to 3 pm MT each day.

Connect with others in your field who are managing or studying riparian lands and stream environments and discover novel techniques, scientific findings, and lessons learned that make restoration successful! The conference will include presentations on riparian lands and stream ecosystems to share novel techniques, scientific findings, and lessons learned to make restoration successful. [Registration](#) is still open.

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# An Evolving Climate: Frameworks for Sustainability and Social Inclusion: Land and Water Summit

February 23rd

The goal of the [Land and Water Summit](#) is to bring together design professionals, construction and management companies, agencies, farmers, artists, teachers, hydrologists, ranchers, climatologists, wildlife advocates, homeowners, and policy makers to find sustainable ways to protect and share our state's water and resources. [To register click HERE.](#)

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## City of Longmont's New Funded Research Program

Proposals due March 5th

The City of Longmont's Ecosystem Management Division is launching a new [funded research program](#) that will provide grants for scientific research, monitoring, and resource inventories. Priority will be given to projects on that further they City's understanding of its natural resources and management Projects. Funding is available up to \$10,000.

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## SER Virtual Conference on Ecological Restoration

June 21 - 24



The 9th World Conference on Ecological Restoration moves online. SER2021 will provide a high quality, lively, and interactive forum for learning and networking with members of the restoration community from around the world. An online conference offers new options for participation and engagement, and we're developing exciting activities to bring restoration into your home or office.

Learn more about the conference and how you can participate [here](#).

**Register Now!** Early bird rates are available through March 15th. SER Members receive an additional discount on conference registration!



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