



## June 2021 SER-Rocky Mountain Chapter Member Newsletter

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### Field Trip Fridays

May 7th through June 18th



One of the unexpected benefits of the shift to a virtual conference is that SER can offer field trips from all over the world. Everyone registered for **SER2021** ([register here](#) and more info below) can attend as many field trips as you choose (or watch them later on-demand), to experience and learn from a vast range of restoration contexts, techniques, and outcomes. Hosts will mix pre-recorded footage of their site with live discussions of the project, its effectiveness, innovations, challenges, and ambitions. Field trips are intended to be highly interactive and to mimic, as much as possible, the type of field-based excursions that we host at our in-person conferences.

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### SER-RM Outreach June Wildfire Restoration Webinar: Fuels Mitigation in Wyoming

June 30th, 2021 12 - 1 PM MST

**Note--registration is currently being enabled so [check back](#) shortly**

The Outreach Committee continues to organize speakers to continue our Wildfire Restoration Webinar Series, following May's [Fuels Mitigation in Wyoming](#) presentation.

**Nick Zaczek is the Senior Resource Forester – Fuels Program Coordinator** for Wyoming State Forestry Division. Nick received both his B.S. in Forest Resource Management and M.S. in Forestry at Southern Illinois University. He has been working in the fields of Forestry, Wildland Fire, and Fuels Mitigation since 2006 and has worked previously for the USFS on the Shawnee and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forests, as the Cooperative Forester for the National Wild Turkey Federation and Nebraska Game & Parks Commission in Nebraska's Pine Ridge, as a Resource Forester for Missouri Department of Conservation, and as a Senior Forester – Operator for Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

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## **SER-RM CSU Student Club Update**

Even with the difficulties of the pandemic the CSU SER student club has thrived over the last year! During the Spring 2021 semester the club was able to host bi-weekly meetings and engage with undergraduate and graduate students interested in ecological restoration. In the earlier, snowy months of the semester, the club met virtually and hosted guest speakers such as **Chris Lenhart** to learn about the SER CERPIT, watched SER webinars, spent time discussing future projects/plans, and learning about member's unique ecological interests. Our students are always looking to build their hands on experience so please keep the club in mind with any opportunities. To connect our members during this isolating time we also hosted many social meetings to create comradery, network and, of course, play some virtual Pictionary.

As the weather began to warm and the ground began to thaw, we created opportunities for club members to engage in socially distanced restoration projects while following county guidelines to limit the number of participants per project. Our in-person restoration efforts this semester included planting native pollinator species at the **SER pollinator garden** at CSU (check it out on the west side of the new Warner building) as well as several field workdays at the CSU owned **Waverly property** to remove barbed wire fencing to prep the land for future restoration projects.

The club also had a busy Fall 2020 semester. We planted a pollinator garden at the Waverly property with plans to expand the garden each semester and built bee boxes to discuss the importance of pollinators and maintaining their populations. The club was also excited to hear from speakers such as **Brett Wolk**, who talked to us about the recent fires in the Front Range, **Rod Chimner** who discussed wetland hydrology, ecology and restoration in wetlands, **Marin Chambers** and **Jim Bromberg**. We are excited for the Fall 2021 semester and the opportunity to host more in-person meetings and projects!

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## SER-RM Grant Opportunities

SER-RM has funding opportunities for students and professionals; please reach out to [cersermembership@gmail.com](mailto:cersermembership@gmail.com) for more information.

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## Upcoming SER Webinars

**May 26th, 2021--and Beyond**

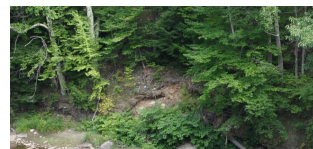
As part of our webinar series, SER hosts at least one webinar each month to provide opportunities for members to engage with restoration experts from academia and the practice. Each [SER webinar](#) is pre-approved for 1 CEC under the [Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner program](#) unless otherwise noted.



### **Invasive Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica* Houtt.) and related knotweeds as catalysts for streambank erosion**

**May 26th, 2021 8 - 9 AM MST**

Once established, knotweed can displace riparian plants, meaning that soil stability once provided by displaced roots is lost, carrying significant knock-on implications for watershed management. We propose that knotweed rhizomes both displace roots and the structure they provide to soil, and also amplify bank-erosion forces, especially during floods. Further, erosive forces create vegetative propagules, with larger



flow events creating larger numbers of propagules and providing the vector for short- and long-distance downstream spread within the watershed. Induced erosion is therefore the main driver of knotweed invasions along waterways. While the continued spread of this invasive could have significant riparian flood resiliency consequences if left unchecked, mindful action to control these plants is likely to be beneficial financially, socially, and ecologically within any invaded watershed.

Speakers: **Brian Colleran**, CERP, PWS, MS- Natural Resource Management. His career has focused on the restoration and conservation of freshwater habitats, primarily through invasive species and riparian area management. Currently, he is a Principal with Ecological Land Management, and recently returned from Patagonia where he assisted with restoration projects in the Torres del Paine National Park as well as reporting on the southernmost knotweed stands in the world.

### **Ecological Restoration in the Context of Environmental Racism**

**June 9th, 2021 9 - 10 AM MST**

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS WEBINAR COMING SOON.

**Jacqueline Patterson** is the Senior Director of the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program. Since 2007 Patterson has served as coordinator & co-founder of Women of Color United. Jacqui Patterson has worked as a researcher, program manager, coordinator, advocate and activist working on women's rights, violence against women, HIV&AIDS, racial justice, economic justice, emergency response, and environmental and climate justice. Patterson served as a Senior Women's Rights Policy Analyst for ActionAid, Assistant Vice-President of HIV/AIDS Programs for IMA World Health, Outreach Project Associate for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Research Coordinator for Johns Hopkins University, and as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer in Jamaica, West Indies.

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.

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

Remote sensing technologies continue to improve our ability to efficiently monitor revegetation outcomes. [Blackburn et al. \(2021\)](#) test whether unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) can be used to monitor not only vegetation but also soil properties!

Restoration is increasingly being conducted in the context of increasing global change drivers including nitrogen deposition, precipitation change, and rising temperatures. In this review, [Wilsey \(2021\)](#) discusses challenges and solutions related to grassland restoration in rapidly changing systems.

If you are interested in grassland restoration, check out many more articles focused on diverse grasslands from around the world in this month's special issue of Restoration Ecology!

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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](#). Field Trip Fridays (May 7 - June 9) are one of the best ways to see restoration in action and one of the highlights of the SER 2021 world conference. This year, the virtual format means SER can offer even more field trips (more than 20!) - in two different time slots and from all over the world!

**Register Now!** Early bird rates are available through March 22nd. SER

Members receive an additional discount on conference registration!

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