



## **Society for Ecological Restoration Disciplinary Policy**

This Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) certification program Disciplinary Policy deals with the relationship between SER and the individuals who are certified by SER (certificants). The disciplinary policy is intended to uphold the integrity of SER and the validity of its certifications. As such, the policy is not intended to enforce SER's Code of Ethics.

SER's Disciplinary Policy applies to both Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners (CERPs) and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners In-Training (CERPITs). Discipline can be enforced with respect to the following circumstances, and may include revocation of one's certification.

1. Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners in good standing with SER may use their title, the CERP acronym, and the SER/CERP certification logo in the course of their professional and business activities. Certified practitioners may face disciplinary action if the SER Board determines that they have committed any of the following offenses:
  - a. Using the "Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner" title, "CERP" acronym, and/or the SER/CERP certification logo on business cards, letterhead and on advertising or promotional materials without being duly certified.
  - b. Using the "Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner" title, "CERP" acronym, and/or the SER/CERP certification logo while their certification has been suspended, or after it has expired.
  - c. Knowingly presenting himself/herself as being certified by SER while delinquent in payment of certification renewal and/or annual maintenance fees.
  - d. Permitting his/her SER/CERP seal/stamp and/or certification title/number to be affixed to plans, specifications, reports, and other documents that were not prepared by them or by persons under their direct supervision.
  
2. Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners in-Training in good standing with SER may use their title (Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner In-Training) and the CERPIT acronym in the course of their professional and business activities. There is no logo associated with

the CERPIT designation. A CERPIT designee may face disciplinary action if the SER Board determines that they have committed any of the following offenses:

- a. Using the “Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner In-Training” title and/or the “CERPIT” acronym on business cards, letterhead and on advertising or promotional materials, without being duly designated.
  - b. Using the “Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner In-Training” title and/or the “CERPIT” acronym while their designation has been suspended, or after it has expired.
  - c. Knowingly presenting himself/herself as being designated as a CERPIT while delinquent in payment of annual maintenance fees.
3. Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners In-Training are expected to abide by applicable laws and regulations governing their work. Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners In-Training may face disciplinary action if they have been found guilty in a duly authorized court of law of any of the following offenses:
- a. Engaging in, or being complicit with, illegal activities that violate international, national, regional, or local laws, ordinances, or regulations, especially those pertaining to the protection of the environment, protected areas/resources, special-status species, and historical and cultural sites.
  - b. Engaging in conduct involving fraud or misrepresentation of work performed, including willingly misrepresenting the facts and results of research, investigations and/or monitoring associated with restoration projects.
  - c. Offering or making any payment or gift to a public official with the intent of influencing the official’s judgment in connection with an existing or prospective project.
  - d. Accepting compensation or rewards of any kind intended to influence their professional judgment or advice.
  - e. Providing false or misleading statements while serving as an expert witness before a court, commission, or other tribunal.
4. Representing oneself (or implying such representation) as a spokesperson (either orally or in writing) for SER without having received the express permission (either oral or in writing) of SER’s Board of Directors or SER’s Executive Director.

