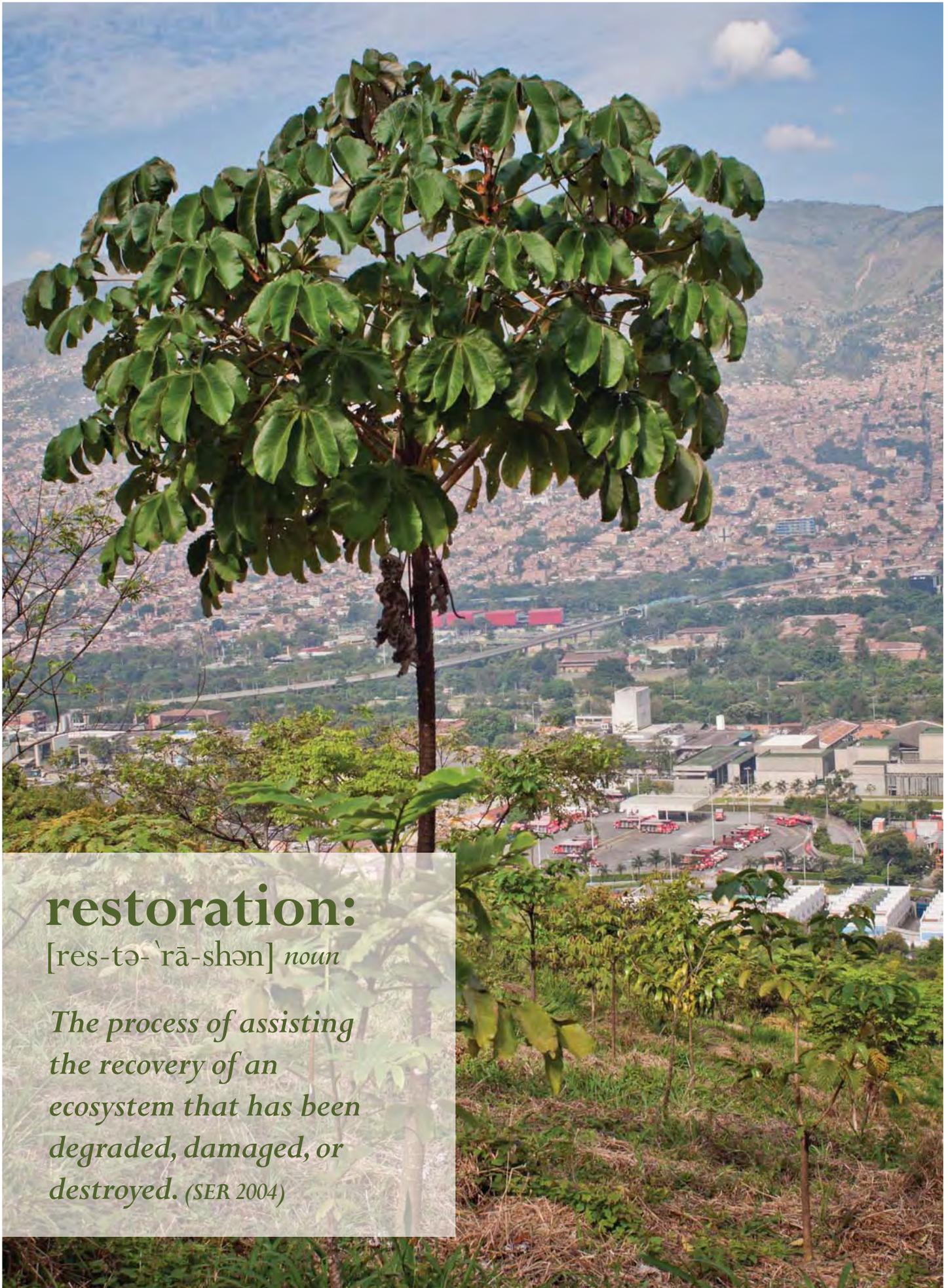




SER SOCIETY FOR
ECOLOGICAL
RESTORATION

**2012 ANNUAL
REPORT**



restoration:

[res-tə-`rā-shən] *noun*

The process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. (SER 2004)



Photo credit: Ecological Restoration and Management



SOCIETY FOR
ECOLOGICAL
RESTORATION

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

A MISSION FOR RESTORATION

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) is an international non-profit organization that promotes ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and re-establishing an ecologically healthy relationship between nature and culture.

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Photo credit: Biohabitats, Inc.

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Photo credit: Mass
Dept. of Fish & Game

Dear SER Members, Supporters, and Partners:

Ecological restoration is the essential conservation activity for the 21st century. In the 19th century, the world saw the birth of the national park concept: governments started setting aside lands with significant scenic and natural values to protect them for the enjoyment of future generations. Land conservation efforts grew in the 20th century and countries also learned the importance of creating local, national, regional, and international rules to conserve wildlife, manage pollution, and protect nature and natural resources.

While we can be grateful for the Yellowstones, the Tongariros, and other preserves and World Heritage Sites, and we can appreciate the importance of international treaties to protect biodiversity, landscapes, and resources, we know the global economy's appetite for growth that degrades nature generally outstrips society's interest in sustainable development and conservation.

It is no exaggeration to say every nation on earth faces serious challenges that stem from historic mismanagement of land, water, air, and wildlife. Improved regulation of current activities is a necessity, but it will not be enough to maintain and repair the ecosystems that our societies depend on for habitat, food, water, air purification, climate regulation, and recreation and enjoyment. Building a worldwide culture of conservation and restoration—or, as some restoration thinkers now say, ecological intervention—is the necessary next step.

I joined SER as its new executive director in May 2012 because I know restoration is essential and realized this organization has the potential to help governments, NGOs, and the private sector better understand how to implement ecological restoration efforts at large and small scales. The Society has a talented and motivated network that reaches out through 14 regional chapters and members in more than 70 countries. Our organizational challenge is to build our membership and funding base to a level that creates a sustainable financial base while expanding our professional education programs and improving our ability to assist key partner institutions at the national and international level. Through an empowered membership and enhanced outreach capacity, SER ultimately endeavors to help the global conservation community develop a greater capacity for implementing restoration projects that sustain societies and natural resources for future generations.

Sincerely,

Steven Bosak
SER Executive Director



“If the world is to achieve its shared vision for a planet on which nature is valued and conserved, we must recover what has been lost, as well as protect what remains. The ecological restoration of protected areas is essential to the preservation of these treasured places and to the conservation of biodiversity.”

Dr. Steve Whisenant, Chair of SER

2011-2013 SER BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Executive Committee:

Steve Whisenant, *Board Chair*

Texas A&M University

Professor and Chief of Party for “John Garang Memorial University University” project in South Sudan

Cara Nelson, *Board Vice Chair*

Associate Professor of Restoration Ecology

Director, Wildland Restoration Program

University of Montana

Montana, USA

Mary Travaglini, *Board Treasurer*

Montgomery County, Maryland,

Department of Environmental Protection

Stormwater Planning Specialist

Maryland, USA

Alan Unwin, *Board Secretary*

Academic Chair, School of Environmental and Horticultural Studies

Niagara College of Canada

Ontario, Canada

Representatives At-Large:

Stuart K. Allison, *Midwest North America*

Regional Representative

Professor and Director of the Green Oaks Field Research Center

Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois

James Aronson, *Representative At-Large*

Restoration ecologist

CEFE/CNRS & Missouri Botanical Garden

Monpellier, France

Karen Keenleyside, *Representative At-Large*

National Science Advisor, Climate Change

Parks Canada

Quebec, Canada

Cheryl P Ulrich, PE, *Representative At-Large*

Ecosystem Restoration Program Manager

WESTON Solutions, Inc.

Florida, USA

Robert Daoust, *Representative At-Large*

Manager, Ecosystem Restoration

Department

ARCADIS U.S., Inc.

Florida, USA

Thorunn Petursdottir, *Student Representative*

At-Large

Researcher

Iceland Soil Conservation Service

Reykjavik, Iceland

Regional Representatives

Kingsley Dixon, *Australasia Regional*

Representative

Director, Kings Park Botanical Garden

Perth, Australia

Dr. Samira Omar Asem, *Asia Regional*

Representative

Program Director

Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research

Kuwait City, Kuwait

Jose Ignacio Barrera Catano, *Latin America /*

Caribbean Regional Representative

Science Faculty

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Bogota, Columbia

Kris DeCleer, *Europe Regional Representative*

Research Institute for Nature and Forest

Brussels, Belgium

Clement Ebin, *Africa Regional Representative*

African Ecological Restoration Foundation

Calabar, Nigeria

Carolyn J. Einig, *Rocky Mountain / Great Plains*

North America Regional Representative

Mountain Rivers Institute

Colorado, USA

Stuart K. Allison, *Midwest North America*

Regional Representative

Professor and Director of the Green Oaks

Field Research Center

Knox College, Galesburg, Illinois

James Hallet, *Pacific Northwest North America*

Regional Representative

Adjunct Professor

Eastern Washington University

Washington State, USA

Judy Haner, *Southeastern North America*

Regional Representative

Marine Program Director

The Nature Conservancy, Alabama Chapter

Alabama, USA

Michael Leff, *Northeast North America*

Regional Representative

President of SER Mid-Atlantic Chapter

President

Research Urban Forester

Davey Institute / USDA Forest Service

Pennsylvania, USA

John Stanley, *Western North America Regional*

Representative

Restoration Ecologist

WWW Restoration

California, USA



Photo credit:
Felipe Villegas

SER BUILDS GLOBAL AWARENESS OF RESTORATION

SER relies on its network of restoration experts around the world to gather the latest science and restoration practice advances. The Society then communicates this restoration information to the conservation community, researchers, governments, and the public through its peer-reviewed journal, *Restoration Ecology* (published by Wiley), its Island Press book series, publications with partner organizations, and staff and member presentations at SER conferences and other conservation events.

Empowered and informed by its international network, SER and its members made significant contributions to the international conservation community in 2012 through collaborations with partner organizations and presentations at high-profile conferences.

Documents & Reports

Information Notes for United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity 11th Conference of Parties

Under contract to the CBD Secretariat, SER compiled a number of Information Notes to prepare for the 11th Conference of Parties (COP11) in Hyderabad. The Notes includes a large collection of restoration-related guidance documents from governments and research reports so that CBD parties could access relevant, up-to-date reference materials on restoration science and policy. The resulting product included 114 pages of links and summaries on restoration guidance and guidelines, and more than 637 pages of links and summaries on restoration tools and technologies.

Ecological Restoration for Protected Areas: Principles, Guidelines and Best Practices

SER staff and members also assisted the IUCN's Commission on Protected Areas, Parks Canada, and the CBD in the production of the report titled *Ecological Restoration for Protected Areas: Principles, Guidelines and Best Practices*. The document covers terrestrial, marine and freshwater protected areas with information for managers on the restoration of natural, cultural and other associated values. Moreover, it presents case studies of actual restoration experiences at protected areas across the globe. SER believes this is the most comprehensive compilation of guidance and related examples of ecological restoration for protected areas produced to date.

SER staff participated in the public release of the report at the IUCN's World Conservation Congress in Jeju, South Korea in September 2012. SER members and staff also organized and participated in a number of restoration workshops and symposia at the Congress.

Participation in Global Conferences

In addition to holding its own biennial world conferences, SER participates in other meetings regularly. SER's prior work with CBD led to an invitation to organize workshops for an Ecosystem Restoration Day at the Rio Conventions Pavilion during the 11th Conference of Parties for CBD in Hyderabad, India in October 2012. SER Board member James Aronson gave the keynote address for the day and SER program director Sasha Alexander appeared on symposia panels.

The culmination of the Rio Conventions Pavilion event was the CBD Parties' endorsement of the Hyderabad Call for a Concerted Effort on Ecosystem Restoration. The Call recognized the emerging consensus that restoration and rehabilitation are a necessity as conservation alone is no longer sufficient. Importantly, it links global restoration commitments such as the CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Bonn Challenge on forest restoration, and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UN Convention on Combating Desertification, and the wetland preservation goals under the RAMSAR treaty.

SOCIAL MEDIA SUMMARY

In 2011 during SER's 4th World Conference SER launched its Social Media Program.

Since then SER has created an integrated social media platform with three "channels:" Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Over the past two years SER's Facebook page has gained more than 1,600 fans, mainly aged 25 to 44 years. Fans hail from more than 60 countries across North America, Latin and Central America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The majority of Facebook fans are English speakers (66%). Other represented languages include Spanish (18%), Portuguese (7%), and French (2%). Since its creation in September of 2011, SER's LinkedIn Group has grown into a favorite restoration discussion forum for both members and non-members with nearly 1,500 members. Helping to create a balanced dialog, LinkedIn members range from entry (26%) to executive (47%) level professionals. Represented industries include Environmental Services (56%), Research (7%), Renewing Energy & Environment (6%), Higher Education (6%), Architecture (6%), and Government Administration (6%). Twitter is the youngest SER platform, with 200 followers.

60

Number of different countries our Facebook fans call home.

66

Percentage of Facebook fans who are English speakers.

47

Percent of LinkedIn members in executive-level positions.

18

Percent of Facebook fans who are Spanish speakers

7

Percentage of Facebook fans who are Portuguese speakers.

200

Number of SER followers on Twitter in 2012.



Connect With Us: Facebook; LinkedIn; Twitter @SERestoration. Tweet to our upcoming 5th World Conference on Ecological Restoration: #SERMadison



CHAPTER UPDATES

SER has 14 chapters, with nine in the United States, two in Canada, one in Australasia, one in Europe, and one in Nepal. Chapters are independent bodies with separate boards, but the SER parent board must approve each chapter's application for SER recognition. Chapters help create local and regional networks of restoration professionals. Most chapters have a regular conference and some hold workshops and other events throughout the year to serve their membership.

In 2012, SER began increasing its services to chapters by upgrading chapter websites, providing chapters with more advice on organizational development, and surveying chapter leaders on their needs and goals. In this report, we highlight the chapters that reported on conferences and significant achievements in 2012

Australasia

The Australasian chapter of SER had a very productive 2012, the culmination of which was the inaugural chapter meeting in Perth, at the University of Western Australia in November 2012. More than 300 delegates from Australia, New Zealand, New Caledonia, the Philippines, and other parts of the region attended the conference. The three-day conference featured seven keynote speakers and 140 individual presentations across four daily concurrent sessions. Other events included a poster session, the conference dinner overlooking the Swan River, the student and early career function, and field trips. A highlight was the announcement of the next two, biennial conferences: 2014 in New Caledonia and 2016 in New Zealand.

British Columbia

SER BC spent the early part of the year helping to organize the "Restoration 2012, Beyond Borders" Conference. The conference was a resounding success, bringing together attendees from Canada and the United States, and creating many links between fisheries managers and restoration ecologists. In 2012, SER BC improved its ability to communicate by establishing a Facebook and Twitter presence, creating a new website, and designing a new logo. Finally, the Chapter ended the year with a series of events held in the Fraser Valley, including a full-day field trip, a bio-engineering workshop, and AGM.

Central Rockies

The Central Rockies chapter of SER (CeRSER) was revived after several years of inactivity. A group of SER members from the region held a meeting in March 2012 to discuss ways to move the chapter forward. An election was held in May 2012 and in June, a new slate of officers took over CeRSER and spent the summer of 2012 working out the logistics of the leadership transfer. In the fall of 2012, CeRSER began to meet as a chapter and revise their bylaws in an attempt to set a new course for CeRSER. By the end of 2012 they had revised and ratified their bylaws and had begun working on the task of rebuilding chapter membership and activities.

Europe

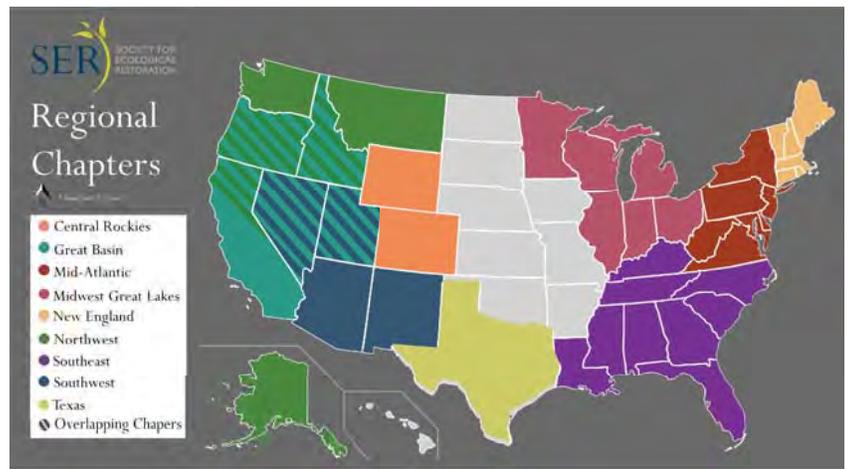
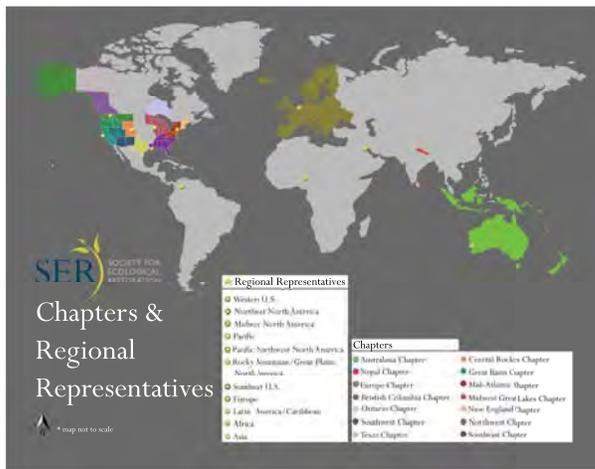
The European Chapter hosted its 8th European Conference on Ecological Restoration in the beautiful town of České Budějovice (Budweis). The event attracted 382 participants from 40 countries. The conference highlighted

issues such as spontaneous succession and facilitated succession in near-natural restoration, especially in the context of restoring species-rich grasslands. Other topics covered included restoration science and practice in peatlands, wetlands, forests, and human-altered sites. Conference organizers published an impressive report showcasing restoration projects in the Czech Republic.

The conference concluded with a conference declaration and a call for extended abstracts—



*Replacing topsoil (Southwest Australia)
Image credit: Kings Park and Botanic Gardens*



Maps created by Carol Maxwell, SER Temple University President, 2013.

CHAPTER UPDATES (CONTINUED)

to be included in the online SER Europe Knowledge Base on Ecological Restoration—and an invitation for submitting publications in the special issues of several peer-reviewed journals. The next European conference will take place in Oulu, Finland, 3-8 August 2014 and will focus on Restoration of Ecosystem Services.

At the member meeting, the chapter elected two new board members: Anne Tolvanen (Finland), who will organize the 2014 conference in Finland and Agata Klimkowska (the Netherlands) who will serve as the new Secretary and a member of the Executive Committee.

Great Basin

The SER Great Basin Chapter completed the organization of its Board of Directors, initiated a website and restoration committee, printed one newsletter, and developed a website, brochure and poster. The Chapter co-sponsored three field tours in summer 2012. The Sagebrush & Fire Field Day held near Roberts, Idaho, on June 7 focused on post-fire dust emission and soil erosion research and Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation projects. A Historical Restoration Field Tour & Meeting; Ephraim, Utah, June 18-19 visited sites that were seeded at various times during the last century and included discussions about ensuing management and resulting vegetation responses. The Drill Operation & Calibration Workshop conducted near Initial Point in southern Idaho on July 18 provided participants with a basic knowledge of rangeland drill operation and calibration techniques. Graduate students at Utah State

University, Logan, Utah, are exploring the potential for formation of a SER Student Association. They also presented the SER Great Basin poster at the Restoring the West Conference held in Logan, Utah on October 30- 31.

Midwest-Great Lakes

The 4th Annual Meeting of the Midwest-Great Lakes SER Chapter was hosted by University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment and Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum on May 4 to 6, 2012. One-hundred and thirty-eight people from nine states (MI, IL, WI, IN, OH, MN, MD, PA, and UT) attended the meeting, which had a plenary session, a keynote presentation, two symposia, two workshops, 21 contributed

poster presentations, and 36 contributed oral presentations. The meeting highlight was a joint plenary session and field trip focusing on conservation and restoration of the eastern massasauga rattlesnake. Meeting attendees also had the opportunity to participate in three offsite field trips to local restoration sites in Michigan.

In August, the Chapter was incorporated as a nonprofit Domestic Corporation, which allowed it to apply for 501(c)(3) nonprofit status with the IRS.

Mid-Atlantic

2012 began with final preparations for the 7th annual conference, this time in partnership with the New England Chapter, supported by NYC Parks, and hosted by Brooklyn College, March



Urban depaving - Kailash Ecovillage 2009 (Portland, OR) Image credit: Eric Rosewall



Photo credit: Felipe Villegas

CHAPTER UPDATES (CONTINUED)

22-24. In addition to the usual day of field trips after the main conference itself, the chapter offered its first pre-conference workshop, “Restoration Planning Framework” led by NOAA Coastal Services Center. The SER-MA Chapter board and other volunteers met at the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary offices in Wilmington on May 11 to discuss plans for the months ahead. New board members were recruited as old ones rotated off, and the various committees were reactivated.

In June, SER-MA reinforced its close connections to SER-NE by jointly staffing sponsor exhibit tables at the triennial 2012 Atlantic White Cedar Symposium, held at Great Dismal Swamp in Suffolk, VA. As summer ended, planning heated up for the 2013 annual conference, “Pieces of the Puzzle: From Backyard Habitat to Landscape Scale,” to be held at the University of Maryland, College Park, March 28-30, this time with two pre-conference training workshops, and four field trips on Saturday. The 2013 conference will explore how the successes of landscape scale initiatives are based on the cumulative impacts of work at local projects. In addition to the main conference planning activities, the SER-MA Field Trip Committee organized a trip to the South Cape May Meadows Preserve in New Jersey on October 20, led by The Nature Conservancy New Jersey director restoration Bob Allen and researcher Brooke Maslo.

Nepal

In February 2012, SER Nepal teamed up with the Nepal Support Society (NESS) and participated in a two-day workshop to assess the challenges and opportunities inherent in the restoration of areas in Chitrehanjyang, Syangia. One of the key problems identified during the workshop was the widespread use of

Banmara (*Euphorium adenophorum*), a plant that has caused extensive damage to landscapes in the region including natural forests. SER Nepal identified areas for possible intervention that will allow community farmers to play a significant role in restoring the land while improving techniques. One such strategy is the planting of Amriso (*Thysanolaena maxima*), which has a large demand in the Nepalese and Indian market and gives local people economic incentive to buy into the restoration project

In May 2012, Carolyn Jane Browning, SER board member, made a visit to Kathmandu. SER Nepal president Dr. Dhananjay Regmi, Secretary Ram Raj Rijal and other SER Nepal members like Shalik Ram Sigdel, Uttam Uprety, and Dim Prakash Poudel accompanied Ms Browning on a visit to SER Nepal’s nursery and some of the

plantation sites in the Kathmandu valley.

On June 5th of every year, SER Nepal celebrates World Environment Day; this year it was celebrated with a plantation program at Shahid Smarak Park, Sanepa. The participation of local clubs and Park people are critical to restoring the dumping site and further greenery as part of SER Nepal’s save the Bagmati campaign.

In August 2012, SER Nepal organized two days of gardening training in SER Nepal’s nursery at Chalnake with the purpose of empowering local youth leaders through teaching gardening skills and horticulture. Local youths and St. Xavier’s school kids participated in the training. The training was facilitated by the head of the SER Nepal nursery and other SER members in association with Nepal Government, Department of Forest and Lalitpur Municipality.



Mt. Vernon, Fairfax County, VA | Image credit: Joe Berg

CHAPTER UPDATES (CONTINUED)

Northwest

The Northwest chapter spent most of the spring 2012 preparing for the May 2012 Conference held in Victoria, British Columbia. The Chapter was able to issue six student travel scholarships for the conference. The annual membership meeting was held at the conference and elections were held in July 2012. New board members were installed at the summer retreat held at Potholes State Park near the Columbia National Wildlife Refuge, and committees were established, including the re-establishment of a program committee, a strategic communication committee, grants committee and Restoration Highlights committee.

New England

The highlight of the year for the New England chapter was the opportunity to be involved heavily in the planning and execution of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter's Annual Conference. 2013 will be a more active year, as members and leaders work together in order to jump start various restoration initiatives and grow membership.

Ontario

The SER Ontario Chapter (SERO) started 2012 by awarding the 2012 SER Ontario Scholarship to Michelle Burger in the amount of \$1000. Michelle was a worthy recipient who achieved academic excellence and demonstrated scholarly relevance to ecological restoration. The Scholarship fund aims to financially support the emergence of critical research in the field of ecological restoration.

This past October, SER Ontario held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) in beautiful Norfolk County at the Bird Studies Canada Headquarters and National Research Centre. The AGM was held over two days with the presentation showcasing restoration projects in Carolinian Canada and Norfolk County on the Saturday and with a tour of St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre and three prairie restoration sites in varying stages of succession, on the Sunday. Due to the success of the 2012 AGM and with the support of their sponsors, SER Ontario will be able to offer a \$2000 scholarship to a worthy student in 2013.

Southeast

The Board of Directors for the Southeastern Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration recently participated in a strategic planning session to give the chapter focus and direction for the next three years. The Chapter will be working towards better communications with members and providing more opportunities for education and networking to pursue their vision of "promoting and support the practice of ecological restoration."

Southwest

As one of the newest chapters, the Southwest chapter worked hard during 2012 in order to establish a web presence, and in the process sent out multiple recruitment solicitations to potential members. 2012 was a year of great change and reform. The chapter is currently awaiting the accumulation of a reasonable number of members to hold elections for officers and is preparing for increased growth and membership during 2013.

Texas

The Texas Chapter had a great year with a very successful conference in Weslaco, Texas. Attendees enjoyed a variety of field trips to local parks and preserves that featured rare sabal palm forests and thornscrub vegetation. Presentations covered a wide range of topics, from restoration along the Rio Grande to diatom community changes in restored wetlands. The Texas chapter presented awards to Claire Afflerbach for the best undergraduate presenter and to David Toledo for the best graduate presenter. The next conference will be November 1-3, 2013, in Junction, Texas.

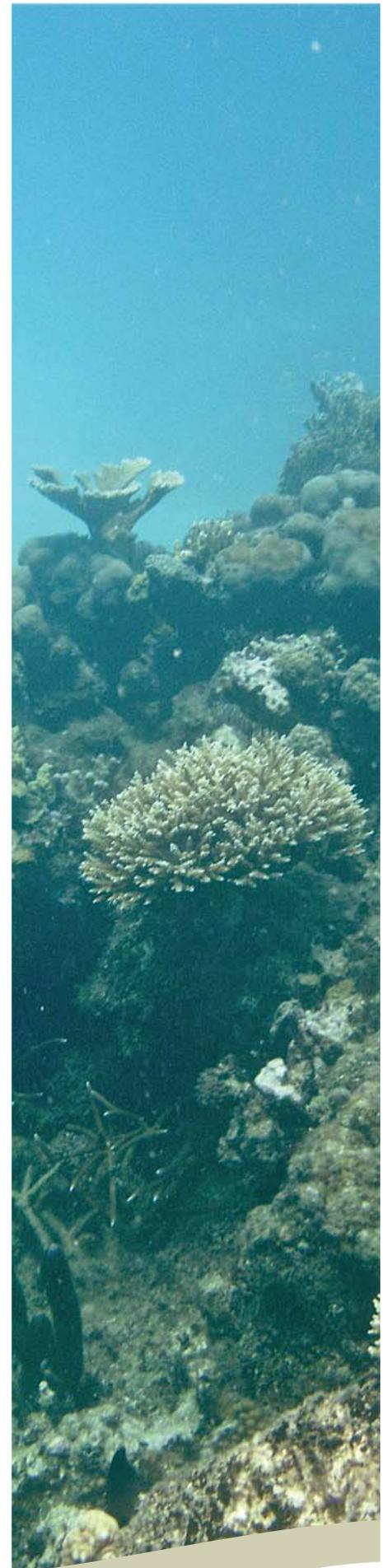


Photo credit:
Andrew Ross



Photo credit:
Felipe Villegas

STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

SER's Student Association Program provides an opportunity for students interested in ecological restoration and related fields to become involved in SER's global network, participate in SER conferences and events, and take advantage of SER resources. Organized and run entirely by the students themselves, student associations—previously known as student guilds—can be formed at any accredited academic institution, and provide a means for those students interested in pursuing a career in some facet of ecological restoration to come together in a like-minded group. The program was established in 2007 and has since grown to include several active student groups throughout the US. The program is not limited to US institutions, however, and can be formed by a motivated student group from most anywhere in the world.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

Colorado State University
(Fort Collins, Colorado)

North Carolina State University
(Chapel Hill, North Carolina)

Portland State University
(Portland, Oregon)

Temple University
(Amber, Pennsylvania)

Texas A&M University
(College Station, Texas)

University of Montana
(Missoula, Montana)

University of Wisconsin, Steven's Point
(Steven's Point, Wisconsin)



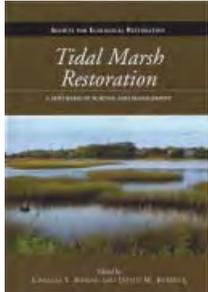
Fort Worth-Texas
burn; point B
flank fire.

Image credit:
Fort Worth
Nature Center

SER'S ISLAND PRESS RESTORATION BOOK SERIES

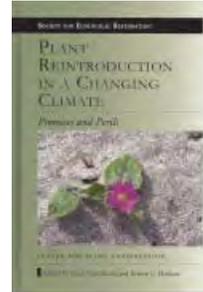


SER and Island Press began a partnership more than 12 years ago to bring up-to-date research and practitioner knowledge on ecological restoration to a broader audience. As of 2013, SER's series with Island Press boasts more than 27 titles and some are in their second edition. Universities are using SER books in classes on restoration and SER authors are speaking at conferences around the world to promote a greater understanding about the principles of and applications for ecological restoration.



Tidal Marsh Restoration: A Synthesis of Science and Management
David E. Burdick; Roman, Charles; August 2012

Tidal Marsh Restoration is an essential work for managers, planners, regulators, environmental and engineering consultants, and others engaged in planning, designing, and implementing projects or programs aimed at restoring tidal flow to tide-restricted or diked salt marshes. Many coastal tidal marshes have been significantly degraded by roadways and other projects that restrict tidal flows, limiting their ability to provide vital ecosystem services including support of fish and wildlife populations, flood protection, water quality maintenance, and open space. *Tidal Marsh Restoration* provides the scientific foundation and practical guidance necessary for coastal zone stewards to initiate salt marsh tidal restoration programs.



Plant Reintroduction in a Changing Climate: Promises and Perils
Kristin E. Harkins; Maschinski, Joyce; March 2012

Considered an essential conservation tool, plant reintroductions have been conducted for many of the world's rarest plant species. The expertise and knowledge gained through these efforts constitute an essential storehouse of information for conservationists faced with a rapidly changing global climate. *Plant Reintroduction in a Changing Climate: Promises and Perils*, presents a comprehensive review of reintroduction projects and practices, the circumstances of their successes or failures, lessons learned, and the potential role for reintroductions in preserving species threatened by climate change.

SER'S RESTORATION ECOLOGY JOURNAL



Restoration Ecology (RE), the Society's peer-reviewed journal, had strong indicators of continued growth and success during 2012. Editor-in-Chief Richard Hobbs and Managing Editor Sue Yates at University of Western Australia saw increased submissions from the international community; they organized the publication of a virtual issue on Biodiversity and Restoration; and they introduced a novel section, Setbacks and Surprises. As the journal continues to publish six issues per year, the editing process has increased the rejection rate to 74% and also has reduced the time between accepting articles and publishing them. The editorial board, which consists of 46 members from 12 countries, continues to handle submissions from 44 countries including the United States (39%), China (11%), Australia (7%), Brazil (6%), and Canada (5%).

RE's impact factor rose in 2012 to 1.764 from a factor of 1.68 in 2011. Most (83%) submissions in 2012 were manuscripts; five percent of submissions were opinion articles. The journal began development of two sponsored special sections in 2012. This success occurred because the editorial office has the support of a very committed team that includes the Editorial Board, the SER executive director, and the staff at Wiley-Blackwell Publishing.

Submissions from 44 countries including the United States (39%), China (11%), Australia (7%), Brazil (6%), and Canada (5%).

Richard Hobbs is retiring in early 2014 so SER has begun a search for a new Editor-in-Chief. SER is grateful for the progress the journal has made under the guidance of Richard Hobbs and Managing Editor Sue Yates.



BUDGET NOTES AND FINANCIAL DATA

SER experienced a significant transition between 2010 and 2012. In 2010, the Board approved moving SER's headquarters from Tucson, Arizona in the southwestern U.S. to Washington, DC, a center of international conservation policymaking. The office move led SER to hire new staff in DC while keeping existing staff spread between Arizona and New York.

The Board had allowed a staff expansion with the hope that SER would find new funding relationships when it moved to Washington, DC. The Board decided to fund operations, temporarily, with some capital from the endowment it established in 2007. Yet, similar to other non-profits, SER found that foundations and federal agencies were still severely limiting their grant-making in response to the recession. Thus, SER decided to downsize and had to lay off staff in late 2011.

In response to the tougher financial circumstances, SER focused its resources on improving membership services and communications. In 2012, SER purchased and developed a new membership database; hired a web design firm to redesign and launch a new website; created a new logo; and established an SER presence on the social media sites, Facebook and LinkedIn. The membership database, new website, and social media outreach has required a significant investment of SER funds and staff time. These investments have helped SER operate more efficiently, improved communications with members and chapters and improved its overall public profile on the internet.

While SER continues to support most operational costs from endowment investments, it was able to reduce operating costs in 2012 and win contracts with partner organizations (e.g., CBD) to fund some of its staff costs.

In 2013, SER will concentrate on hosting its Fifth World Conference on Ecological Restoration (October 2013), which typically helps SER increase its membership and revenue stream. Moreover, SER will seek long-term partnerships and funding relationships that can enable the Society to promote restoration, enhance its educational outreach, and provide services to its members in a financially sustainable manner.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

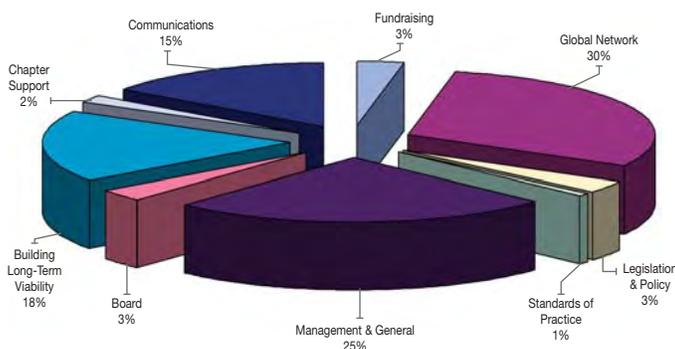
Revenue & Other Support	
Donations	\$ 58,534.25
Grants	13,300.00
Membership	85,501.34
Publications	23,302.16
Other Income	26,661.84
Total Revenue & Other Support	\$207,299.59
Program & Administrative Expenses	
Management & General	\$109,234.00
Board	13,184.00
Building Long-Term Viability	77,899.00
Chapter Support	10,962.00
Communications	66,608.00
Fundraising	11,282.00
Global Network	132,482.00
Legislation & Policy	12,335.00
Standards of Practice	4,075.00
Total Expenses	\$438,061.00
Change in Assets	\$(230,761.41)
Net Assets, December 31, 2011	\$1,271,540.00

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

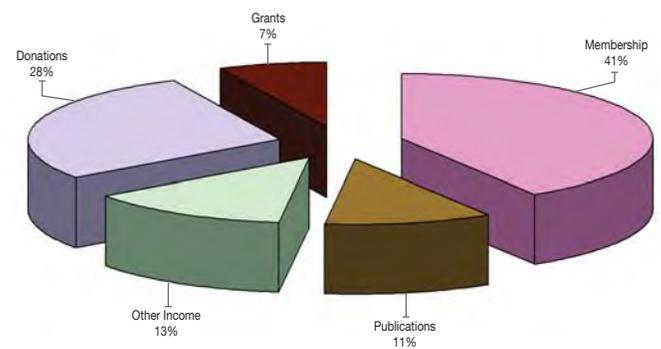
December 31, 2012

Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 71,311.24
Endowment Investments	1,033,575.26
Pledges Receivable	13,980.00
Prepaid Expenses	33,396.49
Deposits	33,964.67
Office Equipment, net Depreciation	6,204.95
Total Assets	\$1,192,432.61
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 7,121.66
Accrued Expenses	4,245.61
Contingent Liability	102,673.84
Unrealized Gain/(Loss) on Investment	35,807.15
Total Liabilities	\$149,848.26
Net Assets	
Undesignated	\$ 9,009.49
Board Designated	1,033,575.26
Total Net Assets	\$1,042,584.75
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$1,192,433.01

Program & Administrative Expenses



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