## How to use SER’s Community Forum

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SER Community Forum

The SER Community Forum is intended to facilitate thoughtful, constructive, useful, and relevant dialogue, debate, education, and networking among members of the international restoration community. In addition to connecting members of the international restoration community, we hope this will be a place for SER to understand the wants of the community for future programs, sections, chapters, and publications.

You will need to sign into the SER website to access the forums.

Terminology

There are three levels to the forum system: Forum, Topic, and Post. Forums are the level that organize related Topics – currently there is the SER Community Forum and the INSR Seed Based Restoration Forum. Topics are used to organize comments, replies, and discussion about specific subjects or questions. Posts are the questions or replies themselves.

Adding a Signature

You have the option to add a signature line below your posts on the forum if you would like to share additional information about yourself (organization, chapter, website, etc.); your first initial and last name, as well as your member profile picture, will always be visible next to your posts.

1) Once you are signed in as a member, go to the “My Profile” box on the right of the screen and select “Manage Profile.”
2) Near the bottom of the page under “Community” select “Forum Settings.” (If you haven’t updated your member profile in awhile, you can also do that under “Edit Bio” at the top of the page.)
3) Add your preferred signature to the Forum Signature box at the bottom of the page and save.
Accessing the SER Community Forum

1) From the [SER Home Page](#), hover your mouse over the “Get Involved” option on the blue menu bar (see photo below). This will open a drop down menu.

2) Move your mouse down to hover over “Online Communities” to open the second drop down menu.

3) Select “Member Discussion Forum.” This will bring you to the Forum Index page.
Posting a New Topic

New topics should be used to start a new conversation. The topic should be started in the appropriate forum (unless you specifically want to post a discussion to the INSR Forum, make sure you are posting in the SER Community Forum.)

1) Go to the Forum Index page (https://www.ser.org/forums/Default.aspx?).

2) Select the forum you’d like to post in.

3) To create a new topic, click “New Topic,” found above the listed existing topics.

4) Fill in the relevant information for your thread subject and content (conversation, question, etc.). You have the option to attach videos, images, or other files.

New Topic

Forum Index » Seed Based Restoration

Subject *

Attach Video Paste embed code from YouTube or other video sharing service.

Editor

Advanced Editor
Replying to a Posted Topic
There are two options for replying to a post: “Quick Reply,” and “Reply using the Full Editor.” Use “Quick Reply” if you’d like to reply only with text, and “Reply using the Full Editor” if you’d like to add videos or files.

Quick Reply
1) Scroll to the bottom of the Topic page to “Quick Reply.”
2) Write your response in the space.
3) Click “Submit Quick Reply.”

Replying Using the Full Editor
1) At the bottom of the page under the Quick Reply box is a “Reply Using full Editor” link.
2) Fill in the relevant information. You have the option to attach videos, images, or other files.

Reply
Subscribing
It is possible to subscribe to entire forums, to individual topics, or to a forum digest. Subscribing to topics or forums is an ideal way to stay engaged in the conversations without needing to be on the forum constantly.

Subscribing to a topic
Subscribing to a topic will notify you by email every time a new comment is posted in that topic thread.

1) Select the thread you are interested in.

2) Select the Thread Actions drop-down menu.

3) Select Subscribe to instant updates.

Replying to an email notification
Once you are subscribed to a thread, you will receive an email with a link when a new comment is added to a thread.

1) Open the notification email.

2) Press the “View the Full Comment” button.
This will bring you to the appropriate topic. Note: if the topic has been deleted, this link will default to the ser.org homepage.

**Subscribing to a forum**

Subscribing to a forum will send you notifications by email every time a new topic is posted in the forum. Subscribing to a forum will not send you notifications for replies to topics.

1) Select the forum you are interested in.

2) Select the Forum Actions drop-down menu.

3) Select “Subscribe to instant updates.”
Subscribing to a digest
If you subscribe to the forum digest, you’ll receive an email every day with all of the new topics that have been started during that time period. By subscribing to the digest, you will not receive individual notifications when a new topic is started or when a reply is posted to an existing thread.

1) Select the appropriate forum.
2) Select the Forum Actions drop-down menu.
3) Select “Subscribe to Digest.”
Managing forum subscriptions


2) Select the appropriate forum.

3) Select the Forum Actions drop-down menu.

4) Select “My Subscriptions and Settings.”

5) This will bring you to a page that will list all your subscriptions to forums and individual topics. From here you can select “Subscribe” or “Unsubscribe” under the “Options” column to change subscription preferences.