Soil Has a Microbiome, Too

Netherlands: New study on soil microbes "highlights the links between soil and ecosystem health, showing the power that changing soil can have." Researchers are just beginning to understand how soil microbes we can’t even see could potentially shape the world around us (via. Smithsonian).

Bonn Challenge approaches target to restore 150 million hectares of degraded land

Guatemala & Malawi: The two countries have committed to restoring a total of 4.54 million hectares of degraded land as part of the Bonn Challenge initiative, as announced at the IUCN World Conservation Congress last week in Hawai’i (via IUCN).

How millions of trees brought a broken landscape back to life

UK: After 25 years, the decision to place a national forest amid derelict coal and quarry workings has borne spectacular fruit. Today, in the place of dozens of former mining communities, vast forests of native trees are emerging, attracting cyclists, birdwatchers, and horse-riders (via. The Guardian)

32,000 km Of Wetland Trenches!

Iceland: Wetland reclamation efforts are converting agricultural trenches into wetlands once again. Icelandic wetlands previously covered roughly 10% of the island. Agricultural
trenches cover 32,000 km, affecting 4,000 km² of wetlands. This works out to be 40% of Iceland's total wetlands, the highest such ratio in Europe (via. Grapevine)

New from *Restoration Ecology*: **Toward quantitative dryland restoration models**
Developing solutions to restore degraded drylands is one of the largest research challenges of our time. Ecological models are fundamental to this effort and this opinion article discusses opportunities for building a conceptual understanding of dryland ecosystem function to create realistic models to improve seedling establishment in restoration.

**SER Webinar Recording: Restoring the Living Skin of the Earth: Biocrusts in Dryland Restoration**
In August Dr. Matthew Bowker, Kristina Young, and Henry Grover of the Forest-Rangeland Soil Ecology Lab of Northern Arizona University shared new methods for restoring biological soil crusts. Watch the recording.

**Upcoming SER Webinar: Conserving and Restoring Layered Landscapes**
Friday, September 30th Marion Hourdequin and David Havlick, co-editors of the 2015 book *Restoring Layered Landscapes*, will discuss the challenges of restoring landscapes with complex histories shaped by ongoing interactions between humans and nature. Register in advance.

**Q&A: Lessons from Latin America for forest landscape restoration**
An interview with Manuel Guariguata, CIFOR Principal Scientist and Team Leader, on forest landscape restoration challenges and lessons learned to coincide with the IUCN World Conservation Congress, held from 1-10 September in Hawai'i, USA.

**Opinion: A controversial bird - should Everglades Restoration hinge on a single species?**
Should the prospect of disturbing one sensitive species hold hostage the restoration of an entire ecosystem upon which hundreds of other species depend, including us?
Resource: A New Tool for Wetland Management
To help wetland managers in arid regions to plan in managing water supplies and controlling invasive vegetation, researchers at USU have developed a computer model that determines water levels in wetland units that would increase the productive habitat in an area, a major step in improving migratory bird habitat.

Video: Sagebrush Science Makes a Breakthrough with Soil Pasta
When scientists were looking for a better way to restore sagebrush they thought way outside of the box. The solution - a pasta maker (via The Nature Conservancy).

The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) is a member-based organization whose mission is to promote ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and re-establishing an ecologically healthy relationship between nature and culture. When you become a member of SER you join a network of like-minded professionals working towards a unified goal of restoring our earth.

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