ERI is pleased to announce the launch of our newly redesigned website. The new web design aligns with NAU’s recent site-wide renovation—a year-long effort to harmonize all university-affiliated web pages to enhance accessibility of content and page organization across all departments, research institutes, and schools.

ERI’s new, easily navigable main menu takes you to our research pages, restoration information, publications and media, and other resources. The homepage is designed to feature our most recent publications and upcoming events in a rotating module so you can stay informed on the latest restoration science and research. The homepage is also streamlined to include breaking news stories related to wildfire, ecological restoration, and forest policy news.

Visit the new ERI website at http://nau.edu/ERI. While there, feel free to join our social networks, including Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube, to stay up-to-date with ERI news and publications.
UPCOMING EVENTS

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration
Dates: July 29-August 2, 2013
Chicago, IL, Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel
More Information

Ecological Society of America 98th Annual Meeting
Date: August 4-9, 2013
Minneapolis, MN
More Information

2013 Society for Ecological Restoration 5th World Conference
Date: October 6-11, 2013
Madison, WI
More Information

ERI IN THE NEWS

Wyden Thumps White House for 'Baffling' Cuts to Hazardous Fuels Funding Chairman Ron Wyden criticized the Office of Management and Budget on June 4 for what he called a 'baffling' proposal to reduce funding for hazardous tree removals in 2014. More...

Senate ENR Panel to Examine Wildland Fire Management Results from a recent ERI study were presented to lawmakers by Diane Vosick on June 4. More...
**NAU Study Estimates Financial Impact of Wildfire** ERI released a study in late May on the impact of the 2010 Schultz Fire and subsequent flooding, which was estimated to cost more than $130 million. More...

**Sequester Guts Wildfire Prevention, Sets Up Bigger Blazes…and Leaves Locals to Pick up the Tab** Fire ecologists, environmentalists, and firefighters describe an increasingly distorted federal budget that has apparently forgotten the old adage about an ounce of prevention. More...

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**PUBLICATIONS**

**ERI Fact Sheets:**


Masek Lopez, S. 2013. Fact Sheet: *Forest Change and Water Balance: Investigating forest restoration treatment effects on soil water storage, evapotranspiration, groundwater recharge and surface water discharge*. Ecological Restoration Institute, Northern Arizona University. 2p.


Stoddard, M. 2012. Fact Sheet: *Herbaceous Vegetation Responses Six Years After Restoration Treatments*. Ecological Restoration Institute, Northern Arizona University, 2p.


**ERI Working Papers:**


**ERI White Papers:**


**ERI Reports:**


**Published in Journals:**


For more articles, please visit: http://library.eri.nau.edu

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

AGENCY OUTREACH

The Agency Outreach Team helps land managers and practitioners with project planning by providing approaches based on best available scientific research and years of practical experience in forestry. The team, which consists of U.S. Forest Service retirees, uses ERI publications, external research materials and localized field data to assist practitioners in determining a project area's historical range of variation and to provide best science support for ecological restoration prescription design and development.

The Outreach Team also works with practitioners to identify and assess research needs surrounding the restoration of overstocked forests, fuels management, restoration of understory plants, and soil management. To help answer these needs, the team works with ERI staff to synthesize important research papers into usable summaries, such as Desired Conditions (DC) Fact Sheets, or to develop long-term research projects. The team also works with ERI colleagues to produce ERI Working Papers, which bring together information about restoration topics.

Selected Past Projects:

- Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest: Summary of Timber Mesa – Vernon WUI Field Work (Rapid Assessment), Summary Report for Beaver Creek Project (Rapid Assessment).
SUMMER FIELDWORK

ERI field crews will be keeping busy this summer collecting ecological data across the southern portion of the Colorado Plateau. Field work will focus on the 5-year post-treatment remeasurement of two sites within the ERI’s Long-term Ecological Assessment and Restoration Network (LEARN).

The **Mineral project**, located in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest in Arizona, is nested within the largest contiguous ponderosa pine forest in the world. The project spans an elevation gradient from the pinyon-juniper ecotone to the dry mixed-conifer ecotone.

The **Lower Middle Mountain project**, located in the San Juan National Forest in southwestern Colorado, is situated in a warm-dry mixed-conifer forest. Mixed-conifer forests have suffered many of the same effects from heavy resource extraction and fire exclusion as ponderosa pine ecosystems, including increased tree density and increased susceptibility to stand-replacing crown fires and insect outbreaks.

Staff and students will be collecting overstory, surface fuel, and regeneration data at both sites, and understory and fire history data at the Mineral site. Long-term monitoring data from both projects will contribute to LEARN and will provide insight into whether restoration treatments increase ecosystem resilience to increasing high-intensity crown fire in conjunction with a changing climate.

For more information, contact: **Mike Stoddard** – 928.523.5910, or **John Paul Roccaforte** – 928.523.7229

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- **Coconino National Forest**: [Summary Report for Clints Well Restoration Project, Flagstaff](#), [Pulliam Airport Fuels Reduction Project](#), [Bald Mesa Demonstration Project – Long Term Study](#).

For more information on agency outreach, contact: **Mark Sensibaugh** – Outreach Program
Lower Middle Mountain site: Prescribed surface fire was implemented as part of the full restoration treatment at the Lower Middle Mountain site.

Lower Middle Mountain site: Open forest structure and abundant understory plant cover one year following a restoration treatment.

PARTNERS

Spotlight: National Forest Foundation

http://www.nationalforests.org

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is the congressionally charted nonprofit partner of the U.S. Forest Service. The mission of the NFF is to engage Americans in community-based and national programs that promote the health and public enjoyment of the 193-million-acre National Forest System, and administer private gifts of funds and land for the benefit of the National Forests.

The NFF works in close collaboration with local people and communities in order to help communities play a leading role in determining the future of our National Forests and Grasslands. The NFF works with a diverse mix of partners, including state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, businesses, research and academic institutes, and thousands of individual volunteers, to leverage public and private resources to maximize conservation impact. NFF’s Conservation Connect learning network for collaboration offers coaching, best practices and peer learning opportunities to community-based groups and Forest Service employees involved in collaborative stewardship on National Forest System lands.

NFF and ERI have successfully partnered on several projects, including the recently released sourcebook for collaborative resource management groups, “Closing the Feedback Loop: Evaluation and Adaptation in Collaborative Resource Management.” ERI and NFF also work together to develop and promote the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Monitoring Network and jointly offer peer learning sessions about landscape monitoring questions and approaches.