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**Penetration to the meaning of a thing
or process, as distinct from the ability to
describe it exactly, involves a participation
by the knower in the known.**

Owen Barfield

The Rediscovery of Meaning

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Cover Photo: Planting needlegrass at a restoration site near Davis, California. The reintroduction of extirpated species, often the key element in a restoration project, raises basic questions about the way a biotic community develops, and may actually preclude development of alternate, ecologically appropriate communities. Exploring these questions, ecologists have developed two similar, yet subtly different, ways of thinking about community dynamics—succession and assembly. Truman P. Young, Jonathan M. Chase and Russell T. Huddleston explore these two paradigms and their implications for restoration in an article on page 5.

Photo by Dan Leroy

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