

# Ecological Restoration

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Different Restoration Thinning Treatments Affect Level of Soil Disturbance in Ponderosa Pine Forests of Arizona, USA

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Megan Lulow's dog, Mieka, sits contently in a field of restored native bunchgrass near Davis, California. Lulow, a former graduate student at the University of California at Davis, and her team studied the causes of variation in California native bunchgrass establishment. They found that the cover of drill-seeded native grasses was greater on north-facing slopes than on slopes with southern aspects. They also found that purple needlegrass (*Nassella pulchra*) was especially hardy in all trials, suggesting excellent potential for establishing this species under harsher environmental conditions with proper management.

Photo courtesy of Jan Goerrissen

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