

Ecological Restoration

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Birnam Woods, Moving Closer, Shadows Our Work

Steven N. Handel

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Tabby Fenn, Ph.D. Appointed Associate Editor of Ecological Restoration

Tabby earned a MS in Zoology from Miami University and a PhD in Geography from Rutgers University. Understanding the interaction of scientific data and human social factors which drive ecological management decisions have motivated much of her academic research. Tabby has spent over 15 years working professionally as an ecologist for various academic and governmental institutions. Her focus on land management within protected areas led her to study diverse communities like forests, intertidal invertebrates, wetland plants, and birds. She is excited to be joining the ER editorial staff and combining her passion for management-oriented ecology with her (slightly dusty) skills as a former English major.

Front Cover Feature:

Having a reference site is valuable for establishing desirable goals for restored prairie communities. However, both ecological parameters and human actions can influence the pathways of restoration. Taft et al. compare baseline data and changes through time in two restored and one unrestored prairie in a Minnesota county. They report that restored prairie communities did not converge with reference communities and discuss the potential influence of ecological and human factors. Image credit: John Taft.

Back Cover Features:

Top: A wet autumn produced an unusual abundance of mushrooms, such as the *Russula* species pictured here, across many temperate forests of the eastern U.S. The ephemeral nature of these fruiting bodies is a reminder of the complex but relatively invisible community relationships which exist in a forest. The editorial in this issue considers the role of restoration in a world where forests species are shifting their ranges at different rates. Photo credit: Tabby Fenn.

Middle: Canopy parameters were calculated using digital photography with a hemi-view lens to assess differences at restored and unrestored prairie sites. Taft et al. report on findings associated with prairie restoration where large-scale woody plant removal occurred. Photo credit: John Taft.

Bottom: *Lonicera maackii* (foreground, red berries) is a common understory invasive in temperate forests. Hopfenger et al. examined the recolonization of this species across a riparian forest after a stream restoration removed portions of the forest canopy. The presence of the forest canopy impacted the rate at which *L. maackii* reinvaded areas where it had been eradicated. Photo credit: Tabby Fenn.