

# Ecological Restoration

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Wetsand—Living a Life in Restoration

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**Front Cover Feature:**

Horseshoe Dam on the Pawcatuck River of Rhode Island is one of many legacy dams found in New England. Vogler *et al.* present a structured and collaborative approach to involving the public in the decision-making process around small legacy dams and their removal. The transdisciplinary approach brings together public engagement tools from the design and planning disciplines with Structured Decision Making. Image credit: Emily Vogler.

**Back Cover Features:**

Top: A sample of macroinvertebrates collected from a farm on Smith Creek located in the Shenandoah Valley in Virginia, a 272 km<sup>2</sup> sub-watershed of the Chesapeake Bay. Several mayfly and caddisfly species are visible, as well as snails and water pennies. Agricultural land in the watershed degrades aquatic health, generating stressors such as nonpoint source pollution. Image credit: Julia Portmann.

Middle: This retired silo at Irvine Prairie in north-central Iowa (USA) captures the spirit of the United States Conservation Reserve Program, a program which restores prairie and other forms of perennial vegetation on former agricultural fields. In this issue, Elgersma *et al.* examine factors that potentially limit noxious weed invasion in CRP fields. Image credit: Tama-Grundy Publishing.

Bottom: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff use the belt-transect method to monitor a native prairie unit enrolled in the Native Prairie Adaptive Management program at Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge, Cayuga, North Dakota. Invasion by non-native cool-season grasses has degraded the biological integrity of many prairies held in public trust over the past 40–70 years. Gannon *et al.* evaluate restoration of Service-owned native prairies following principles of adaptive management. Image credit: Cami Dixon, U.S. Fish and Wildlife.