

The Intersection and Interactions between Ecosystem Restoration and Mercury Contamination

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Ecosystem Restoration

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Acknowledgements

- Thank you to the Conference Organizers for challenging the scientists to consider an “alternative platform” style.
- **THANK YOU** to all the invited speakers in today’s session who agreed to take part in this “experiment”
 - George Aiken, Carrie Austin, Jacob Fleck, James Hurley, William Orem, and Lisamarie Windham-Myers

Why a Special Session on Mercury and Ecosystem Restoration??

Nature's Ecological Barometer

Ecosystem restoration and mercury contamination can get "crosswise", several repeating and apparently conflicting themes:

- Wetland replacement/creation --> increase sites for methylation
- DOM increases --> increases in Hg bioavailability
- Reduced nutrient loads --> increases in methylation
- Uncertainty ascertaining the "driving Hg source"
- Debates over whether to dredge legacy contamination sites
- Land/water management strategies to meet multiple needs: ecosystem needs versus agriculture etc.