



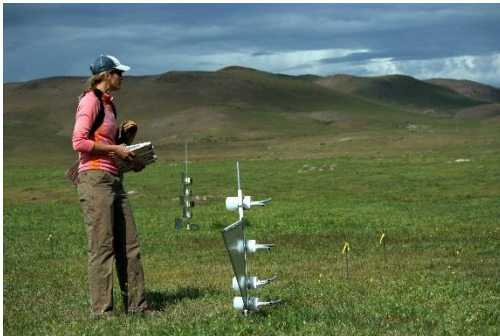
SER UPDATES AND CERP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

AUGUST 2018



Society for Ecological Restoration

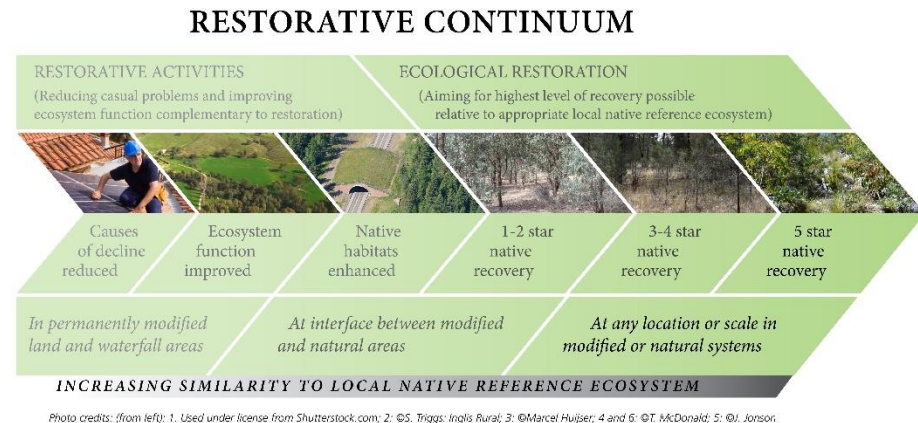
- More than 2,700 members across 80 countries
- 13 chapters, 2 thematic sections, and many student associations
- SER advances the science, practice, and policy of ecological restoration
 - Publish the peer-reviewed journal Restoration Ecology
 - Organize an Island Press ecological restoration book series with 28 titles
 - Publish reports and guidelines on ecological restoration
 - SER Primer
 - International Standards
 - Facilitate communication and information exchange
 - World Conference and chapter conferences
 - Workshops, continuing education, webinars
 - E-communications and online forums
 - Inform decision-makers
 - Participating in world forums (e.g. Convention on Biological Diversity)





International Standards

- Released in 2016
- Reviewed by more than two dozen restoration ecologists, including practitioners, from across the world.
- Provide a framework for guiding the development and implementation of ecological restoration projects in any ecosystem, in any country, anywhere in the world.
- The Standards include a 5-star rating system ranging from the implementation of restorative actions to full ecological restoration.



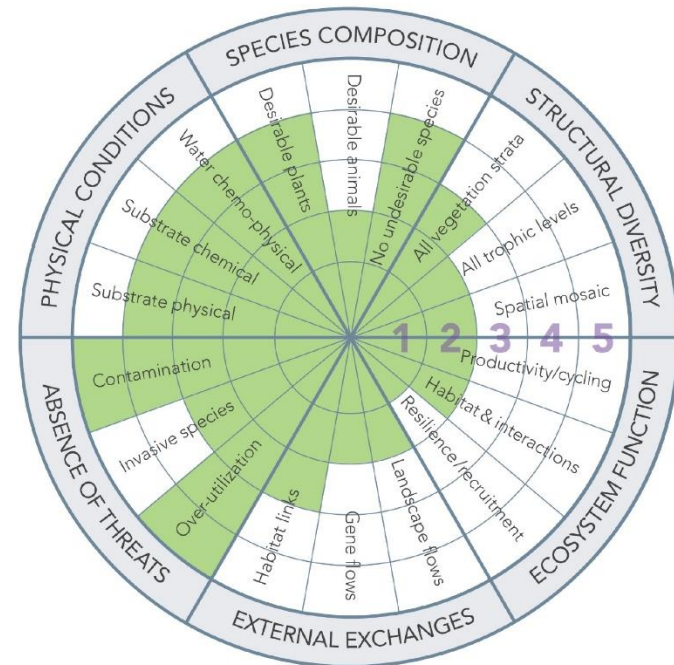


International Standards

Recovery wheel is used to evaluate the degree to which the ecosystem under treatment is recovering over time.

Relies on a five star rating system, assigned to 18 sub-attributes, grouped in six main attributes:

1. Absence of threats
2. Physical conditions
3. Species composition
4. Structural diversity
5. Ecosystem function
6. External exchanges





Restoration Resource Center

Restoration Resource Center 

A new tool for restorationists

Browse our collection of projects and resources and submit your own:

www.ser-rrc.org

Powered by the Society for Ecological Restoration

- Launched in February 2018
- Project Database
- Resource Database

FILTERS +

Biome: Show all...	Region Show all...	Country Show all...
Ecosystem Coral Reef, Seagrass & Shellfish Beds	Cause of Degradation Show all...	Keyword: Enter a keyword or phrase

RESET **FILTER PROJECTS**

20 matching projects found.

USA: Ka Ike O Ka Aina: Knowledge of the land, Hawai'i
Country: Hawaii
Ka Ike O Ka Aina (KOA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the Hawaiian culture and education of our youth. The vision and kuleana (responsibility) of KOA is to mālama 'āina (care for the land) and malama lāhui (care for its people) through our valued academic partnerships and community outreach efforts. KOA is located on a 40 acre coastal property - what is known to be a culturally iconic makahiki (festival) site for King Kamehameha I. After nearly two centuries or...

USA: Restoration of Diamondback Terrapin Nesting Habitat along the Potowomut River; East Greenwich, RI



SER 2019 World Conference





Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP) Program

- Launched in 2017
- Members have expressed interest in certification since 1990s
- SER members wanted credentials that recognize their education, training, knowledge and experience
- SER wanted to improve the standards of practice in the field of ecological restoration, as well as actual implementation on the ground





CERP Program Development

- Several iterations thanks to the hard work of many volunteers
- SER member and external consultant reviews
- Tried to balance ideal and realistic requirements
- Applicable internationally





Certification Program Goals

Goal 1: Establish and validate the credentials for ecological restoration practitioners

Goal 2: Encourage practitioners to practice ecological restoration according to consistent, comprehensive “standards of practice”

Goal 3: Increase confidence in ecological restoration practice and practitioners

Goal 4: Fill an increasing demand for a skilled workforce to design, implement and monitor effective ecological restoration projects

Goal 5: Improve the quality of ecological restoration projects on the ground

Goal 6: Facilitate the exchange of information and promote the advancement of proven techniques used in ecological restoration

Goal 7: Define a clear pathway into the field of ecological restoration for recent graduates and emerging professionals



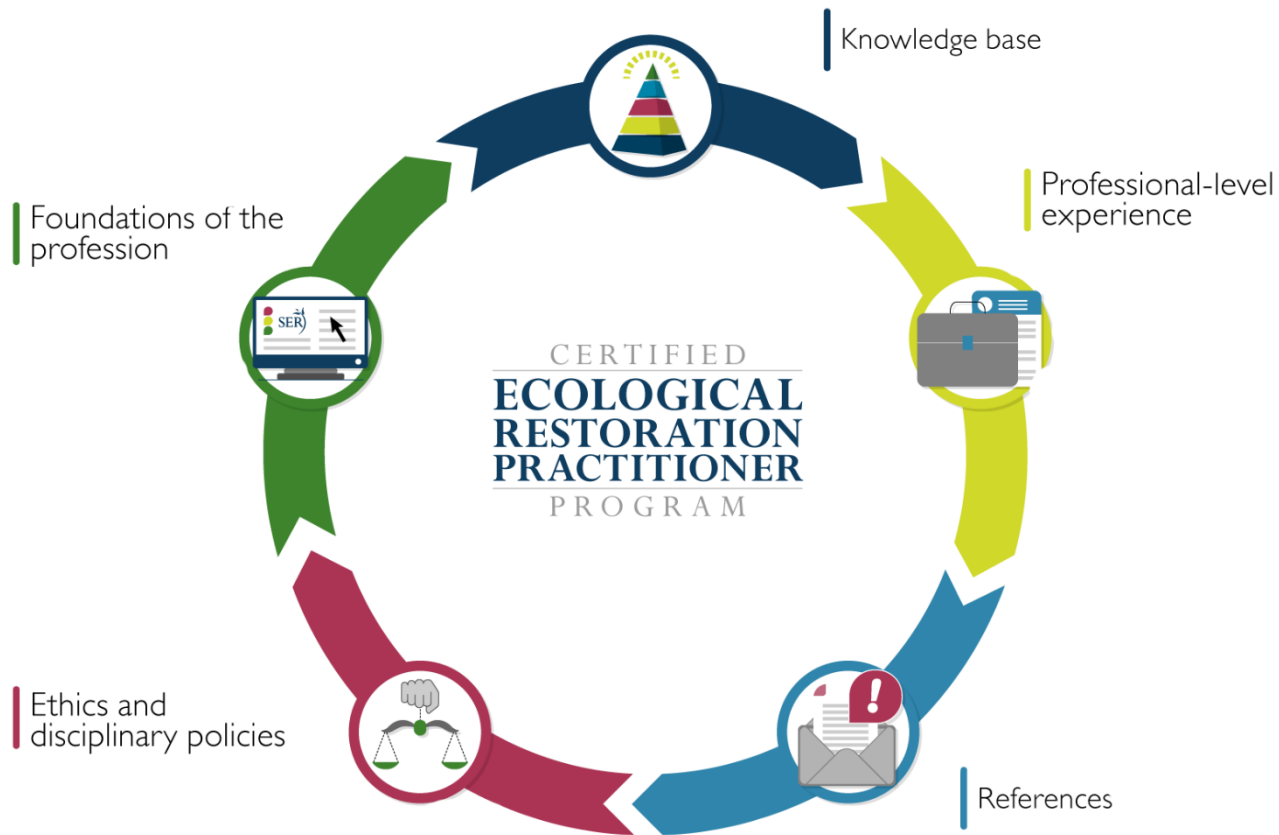
Types of Certification

- **Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP)**
 - Senior level practitioners
 - Strong knowledge base in ecosystem and ecological function
 - At least 5 years of full-time experience with restoration
- **Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner-in-training (CERPIT)**
 - Practitioners who have either met the knowledge requirements – OR – met the 5 years of full-time experience requirement





Certification Requirements





Certification Requirements: Foundations of the Profession

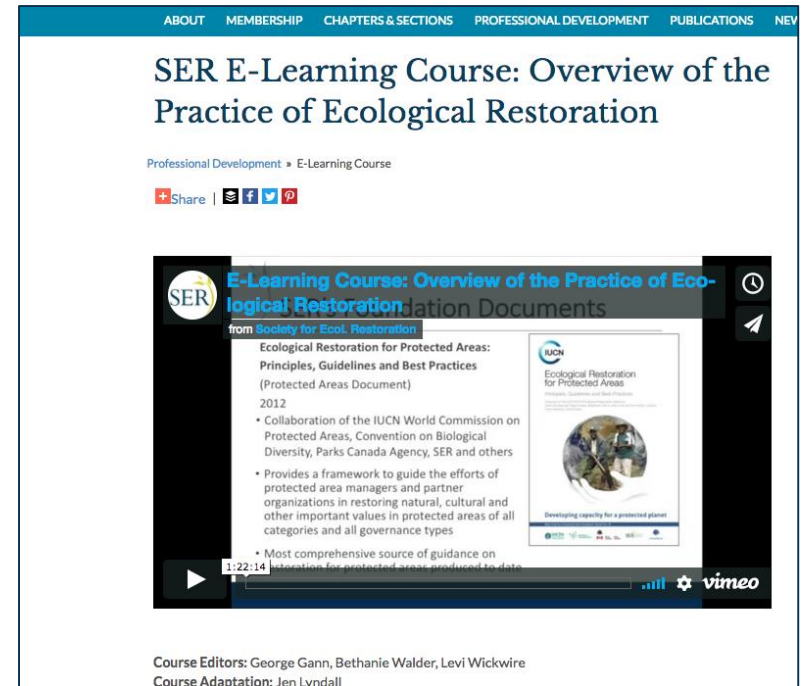
- E-learning course provides an overview of the key SER foundation documents
 - SER Primer
 - IUCN guidance documents
 - International standards
- Not intended to teach ecological restoration
- Rather, intended to develop common language and understanding of standard practices





Foundations of the Profession

- E-learning Course
 - Video version without the assessments also available
 - Applicants for CERP/CERPIT must take assessment version (www.ser.org/certification)
- 10 modules
- Approximately 2 hours with assessment
- Can save as you go



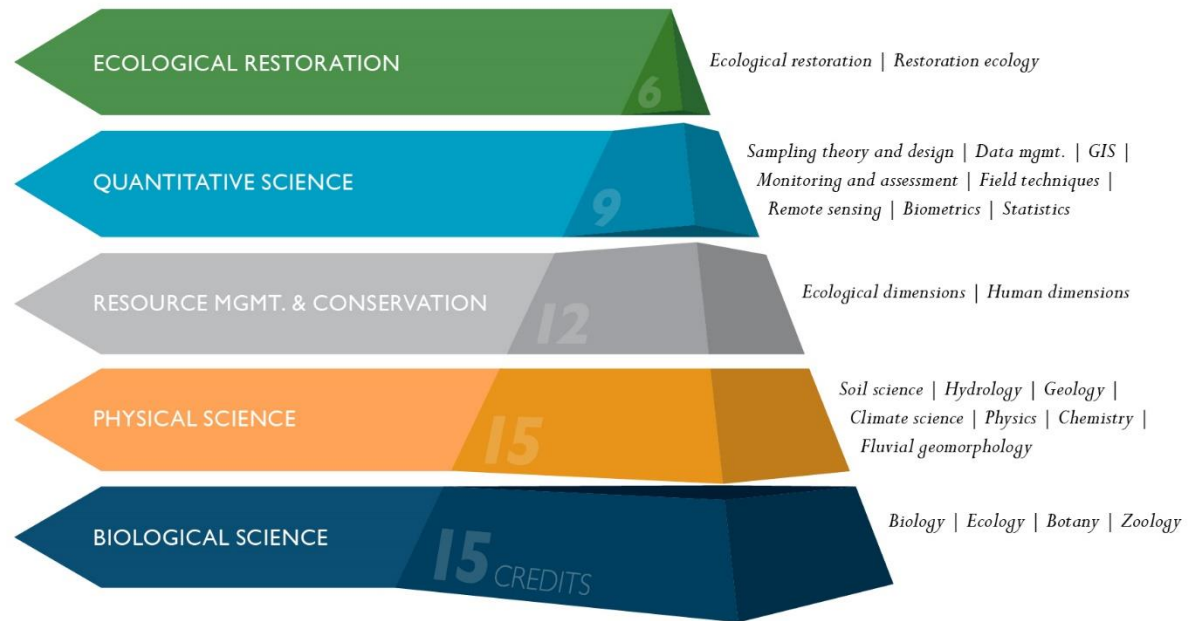
The screenshot shows the SER E-Learning Course page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: ABOUT, MEMBERSHIP, CHAPTERS & SECTIONS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, PUBLICATIONS, and NEWS. The main heading is "SER E-Learning Course: Overview of the Practice of Ecological Restoration". Below this, it says "Professional Development > E-Learning Course" and includes social media sharing icons for Share, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. The video player shows a slide titled "E-Learning Course: Overview of the Practice of Ecological Restoration" with the SER logo. The slide content includes: "from Society for Ecological Restoration", "Ecological Restoration for Protected Areas: Principles, Guidelines and Best Practices (Protected Areas Document) 2012", "Collaboration of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, Convention on Biological Diversity, Parks Canada Agency, SER and others", "Provides a framework to guide the efforts of protected area managers and partner organizations in restoring natural, cultural and other important values in protected areas of all categories and all governance types", and "Most comprehensive source of guidance on restoration for protected areas produced to date". The video player has a play button, a progress bar at 1:22:14, and a Vimeo logo.

Course Editors: George Gann, Bethanie Walder, Levi Wickwire
Course Adaptation: Jen Lyndall



Certification Requirements: Knowledge

- Academic credentials
 - Coursework specific to ecological restoration and restoration-related fields
 - Requirements developed, in part, through extensive survey of academic degree programs in ecological restoration in North America





Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

- 2017-2022
- PLAR (Formerly referred to as grandfathering provision)
- Applicable for CERP applicants
- Alternate means of knowledge acquisition for those who do not have the specified coursework at this time (e.g., graduated prior to the development of ecological restoration-related course and degrees)
 - Field Work
 - Teaching
 - Self-Directed learning
 - Workshops/Short Courses
 - Writing books/manuscripts



Certification Requirements: Experience

- Professional-level Experience
 - Experience performing restoration project and/or program work
 - CERP requires at least 5 years of full-time experience
 - CERPIT is for those individuals with less than 5 years of full-time experience
- Project Experience (3 projects)
 - Project Name
 - Location
 - Objectives
 - Project Description
 - Description of applicant's role
- Experience can include project design, implementation, monitoring, and/or oversight





Certification Requirements: References


- Demonstrate that the practitioner is:
 - Held in high esteem by other restoration practitioners (e.g., peers, supervisors)
 - Has exhibited proficiency in various aspects of ecological restoration
- Starting in 2023, at least one reference will be required to come from an SER certified practitioner





Certification Requirements: Ethics and Disciplinary Policies

- SER Code of Ethics
 - Advance the Field
 - Develop and Use Knowledge
 - Serve as an Ambassador
 - Promote Fairness and Equity
 - Adhere to Standards of Conduct
- SER Certification Program Disciplinary Policy
 - Required to sign and abide by disciplinary policy



Society for Ecological Restoration

Code of Ethics

Preamble

"The Society for Ecological Restoration promotes ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and reestablishing an ecologically healthy relationship between nature and culture."
— SER mission statement

We serve all those who engage in restoration: researchers, practitioners, experts and volunteers. We aspire to constant learning, openness to many forms of knowledge, humility and perseverance in the face of ecological challenges, and honesty and responsibility in our practice.

As a relatively young science and practice, the ecological restoration community is coming to terms with rapid environmental, ecological and cultural changes. Our understanding of ecosystems and how to assist their recovery is constantly evolving.

This work takes courage and a willingness to live with complexity and uncertainty. There are difficult choices involved in addressing the needs of ecosystems, people, animals, plants and other organisms.

We know that the health of human communities depends on the health of ecosystems, and that our human communities thrive when our ecosystems thrive.

This Code of Ethics guides the conduct and work of SER members, boards and staff. We uphold this code and hold each other accountable to advance the science and practice of ecological restoration, develop and use knowledge pertaining to restoration, serve as an ambassador of SER, promote fairness and equality, and maintain high standards of conduct in our activities.

Advance Ecological Restoration

- We advance the field of ecological restoration by promoting competence, high standards, professional development and the sharing of knowledge.
- We encourage education, research and the exchange of ideas as part of a community of practice in the continuing development of the art, practice and science of ecological restoration for members, the public and the ecosystems we serve.



How Do I Apply?



SPONSORS



GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.



Friends of SER





Mark Your Calendar



Advance Your Career
Learn about our **Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner** program

16 July 1PM ET
19 September 2PM ET

CERP CERTIFIED ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PRACTITIONER
BY THE SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

The poster features a background image of a person in a field, kneeling and working with plants. The text is overlaid on this image in a clean, sans-serif font. The CERP logo is a dark blue hexagon with a stylized leaf icon and the text 'CERTIFIED ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PRACTITIONER' and 'BY THE SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION'.

Part 2: Application Tutorial with Questions and Answers

Jen Lyndall will walk you through the application process. Certification Committee Member, **Anne Halford**, CERP, will provide a reviewer's opinion on what works what well on an application. Continuing Education Committee Member, **John Wigginton**, will briefly discuss continuing education requirements. [**Register now!**](#)



Application Process

- Two application windows/year
 - February-May
 - July - October
- Automated online application process through www.ser.org/certification
- Review process
 - 3 independent reviewers for each application
 - If no consensus, goes to expanded review (6 reviewers) or request supplemental information
 - Decision announced
 - 8 weeks following application deadline for regular applications
 - 12 weeks following application deadline for applications using PLAR provision
 - Additional review time may be necessary for applications that required supplemental information or an expanded review





Fee Structure

Fee	Membership Status	Practitioner	Practitioner-in-training
Initial Application Fee	SER Members	\$250	\$100
	Non-members	\$350	\$200
Annual Maintenance Fee	SER Members	\$75	\$50
	Non-members	\$100	\$75
Recertification Fee	SER Members	\$125	\$100
	Non-members	\$225	\$200
Upgrade from Practitioner-in-training to Practitioner	SER Members	NA	\$100
	Non-members	NA	\$150



Certification Maintenance and Renewal

- 5-year certification period
- Continuing education credits required in order to renew
 - Pre-approvals for courses/workshops will be offered
 - CE credits can be managed online by practitioners and authenticated by SER in advance of renewal





Continuing Education Credit Examples

- College-level continuing education coursework
- Specialized training (short courses and workshops)
- Attending approved conference sessions and/or symposia at SER and partner conferences
- Publications, including technical and educational materials
- Instruction of short courses/workshops
- Pre-approved volunteer activities





CERP Program Outreach/Partnerships

- CERP Program Ambassadors
- Agreements with Academic Institutions
 - Program alignment review
 - Program alignment and early career transition package
- Continuing Education Partners





How Do I Get My Course Pre-approved?



CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW



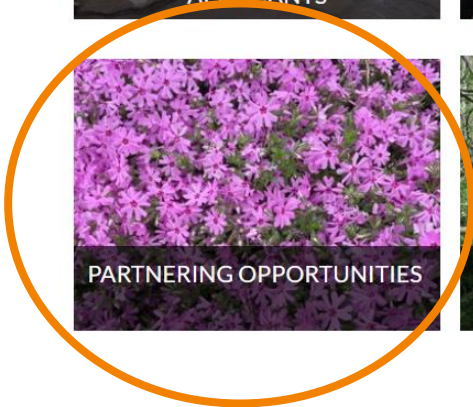
DIRECTORY OF APPROVED CERPS AND CERPITS



POTENTIAL CERP/CERPIT APPLICANTS



EXISTING CERP/CERPIT MAINTENANCE



PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES



MATERIALS AND OUTREACH

SPONSORS



GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

Friends of SER





Continuing Education Pre-Approval Applications

- Sponsor Contact Info
- Course/event Name
- Type
- Instructor Name(s) and CV
- Course Objectives
- Description
- Dates
- How to Register



Continuing Education Pre-Approval Application



Benefits of pre-approval: Pre-approval benefits both the program sponsors and the attendees. Pre-approved offerings provide course attendees with assurance that the offering will receive a pre-determined number of credits. In addition, pre-approval enables program sponsors to offer an additional benefits to potential attendees.

Who can request pre-approval: Educational institutions, government agencies, non-profit organizations, for-profit organizations, or individuals.

How long does pre-approval last: For non-recurring events, pre-approval will be granted for a single date/time. For a recurring course, pre-approval may be granted for a period of two years.

Fees: Currently, there is no application fee for CEC pre-approval.



Current CERPs/CERPITs

228 CERPs/CERPITs

www.ser.org/cerpdirectory

The screenshot shows the SER website's 'CERP and CERPIT Directory' page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'SER HOME', 'DONATE', and 'STORE'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main header includes the SER logo (30th Anniversary 1988-2018) and a 'NEWSLETTER SIGN UP' button. Below the header is a teal navigation bar with links for 'ABOUT', 'MEMBERSHIP', 'CHAPTERS & SECTIONS', 'PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT', 'RESTORATION RESOURCE CENTER', 'NEWS & EVENTS', and 'SPONSORS'. The main content area features the title 'CERP and CERPIT Directory' with a star icon, a breadcrumb trail 'Professional Development » Certification » CERP Directory', and social media sharing options. A paragraph explains that the Society for Ecological Restoration recognizes approved Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners (CERPs) and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners-in-Training (CERPITs). Below this is a search box with the placeholder text 'Enter your search terms...'. A table lists two practitioners: Troy Anderson (CERP, Maryland, United States, 5/15/22) and Aaron Andrews (CERP, California, United States, 11/15/22). On the right side, there is a 'MY PROFILE' sidebar with links for 'Profile Home', 'Manage Profile', 'Create Resumé/CV', 'Groups', 'Networks', 'Files & Links', 'Favorites', 'Messages', 'Connections', 'Membership Info', and 'Refer a Friend'. Below the sidebar is a 'LATEST NEWS' section with a date of 6/28/2018.

Select Language ▼

SER HOME DONATE STORE

Donate | Join | Print Page | My Profile | Manage Profile | Sign Out

NEWSLETTER SIGN UP

ABOUT MEMBERSHIP CHAPTERS & SECTIONS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESTORATION RESOURCE CENTER NEWS & EVENTS SPONSORS

CERP and CERPIT Directory

Professional Development » Certification » CERP Directory

+ Share | [f](#) [t](#) [p](#) [m](#)

The Society for Ecological Restoration is proud to recognize our approved Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners (CERPs) and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioners-in-Training (CERPITs).

Search for a name, certification, state/province, or country:

Name	Certification	State/Province	Country	Expiration
Troy Anderson	CERP	Maryland	United States	5/15/22
Aaron Andrews	CERP	California	United States	11/15/22

MY PROFILE

- [Profile Home](#)
- [Manage Profile](#)
- [Create Resumé/CV](#)
- [Groups](#)
- [Networks](#)
- [Files & Links](#)
- [Favorites](#)
- [Messages](#)
- [Connections](#)
- [Membership Info](#)
- [Refer a Friend](#)

LATEST NEWS

6/28/2018

July 2018

240

Applications for CERP
and CERPIT

182

Approved
CERPs

45

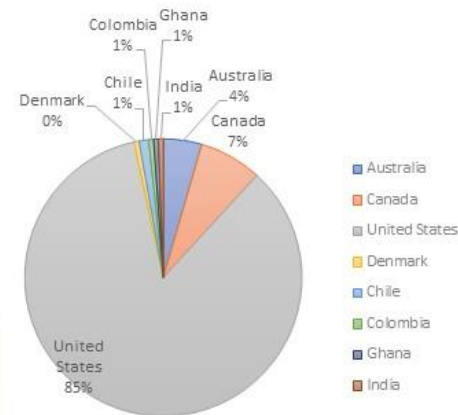
Approved
CERPITS



88%

Percentage of applicants who
are members of the Society for
Ecological Restoration

10 Countries represented
by CERP and CERPIT
applicants



500+

Hours spent by reviewers

Application window is open:
www.ser.org/certification



CERP/CERPIT Feedback



“Having a structure for professional development is really important, especially in such a complex field”

– Regina Wandler, CERPIT, 2017



“Perception matters. Having a certification helps me stand out.”

– Bill Shadel, CERP, 2017



“I like the tangible evidence third party certification provides that indicate my qualifications in this particular profession.”

– Ondrea Hummel, CERP, 2017



“This program elevates the importance of ecological restoration work globally. By being part of SER I can support the growing exposure of the importance of ecological restoration.”

– Graham Gidden, CERPIT, 2017



“The lack of standardization/accreditation in the restoration field is something I was hoping would be addressed and CERP is a good start.”

– Heather Davis, CERP, 2017



“This certification will allow a standard of ecological restoration to exist and moving forward will be the industry standard for practitioners in a global community.”

– Robert Monico, CERPIT, 2017



Acknowledgements

This program would not be possible without our volunteers, who have graciously donated their time to ensure that the CERP program runs effectively:

Mel Asher

Joe Berg

Connie Bersok

Bruce Clarkson

Juli Crane

Paul Davis

Rory Denovan

Lynde Dodd

Jen Ford

David Forestieri

Jennifer Franklin

Anne Halford

Michael Hughes

Jeanne Kinney

Chris Lenhart

Robert Magill

Mickey Marcus

Mary Beth McCormack

Tein McDonald

Katie McMahan

Rob Monico

Julia Munger

Carolina Murcia

Cara Nelson

Chris Polatin

Dave Polster

Andrew Rayburn

Cassi Saari

Bill Shadel

Nancy Shaw

Joshua Tallis

Mike Toohill

Mark Vander Meer

Shri Verrill

Regina Wandler

John Wigginton

Special thanks to current and former SER staff (Bethanie Walder, Levi Wickwire, Rebecca Shoer, Laura Capponi, Marguerite Nutter, and Hannah Boone) for their support in program implementation.

A wide-angle photograph of a lush green field with scattered yellow wildflowers. The field is in the foreground, leading to a dark line of trees in the distance. The sky is a vibrant blue, filled with numerous fluffy white cumulus clouds. Two thin, dark stalks of grass with seed heads are visible in the foreground, slightly out of focus.

Certification@ser.org
www.ser.org/certification