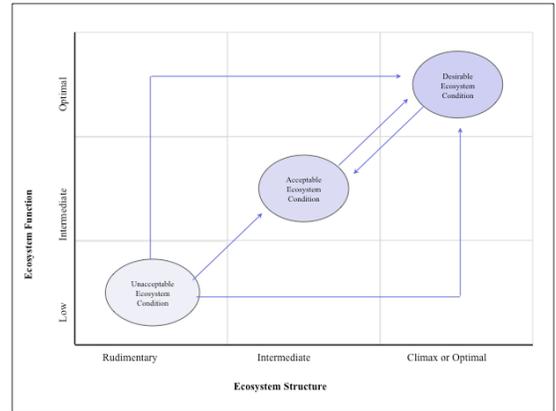


Assessing Cumulative Ecosystem Effects of Multiple Restoration Projects

Workshop Background and Objective:

The intent of this workshop is to present an approach to answering the question, “When can we conclude that conservation and restoration projects have together made a significant improvement in the ecosystem?” Because of the high cost of restoration projects, it is critical to document whether actions are successful. Therefore, the development of methods to measure “net ecosystem improvement” at large scales is also important. Although large-scale restoration programs are beginning to supplement isolated projects in tidal waterways, generally their effects continue to be evaluated at project scales or in an additive manner. Instead, lessons from assessing cumulative effects of ecosystem degradation can be applied ‘in reverse’ to evaluate the interactions among restoration projects in larger programs. This workshop will focus on the lower Columbia River, a large tidal river/estuary system, but the approach presented should have applicability to the evaluation of restoration programs in other ecosystems. Topics addressed will include the theory underpinning cumulative effects analysis, a ‘levels of evidence’ approach to addressing cumulative effects, selection of performance assessment metrics, development of monitoring protocols, performance goals, scales of analysis, identification of critical uncertainties, how to ‘roll up’ results, use of project prioritization frameworks, and adaptive management.



Who Will Attend:

The intended audience includes scientists, engineers, planners, and decision-makers who are pursuing ecosystem-based restoration; various land trusts, national estuary programs, as well as state agency scientists and planners trying to restore estuarine ecosystems; and, researchers interested in cumulative effects analysis applied to improving an ecosystem.

Session Organizers:

Ronald M. Thom leads the Coastal Ecosystem Research technical group at the Pacific Northwest National Lab’s Marine Sciences Laboratory in Sequim, Washington.

Blaine D. Ebberts is a Senior Fisheries Biologist with Portland District, Corps of Engineers, and has over 25 experience of research and program management experience.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

The number of participants will be limited to 60. Participants will be enrolled in the order in which their registration is received, but no later than July 1st. **Note:** The standard workshop fee will be required for participants to support a continental breakfast, break, audio visual equipment and room set up by NCER conference organizers.





NCER '11 PRE-CONFERENCE TECHNICAL WORKSHOP
Monday, August 1, 2011 9:00 – 12 noon - Baltimore Marriott
Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

The Spirit of Cooperation

Challenges and Opportunities Common to Large-Scale Adaptive Management Programs

Summary: CAMNet is dedicated to the advancement of practical applications of Adaptive Management and collaboration. One method CAMNet employs is to hold an interactive session that brings a diverse group of CAMNet members together with the leaders and stakeholders of a program actively applying Collaborative Adaptive Management. The interactive session provides an opportunity for the leaders and stakeholders of the local program to use CAMNet as a sounding board for their thoughts and application efforts. CAMNet members are able to learn from the local program and share their insights and experiences with the program leaders and stakeholders. The diversity of the CAMNet members will provide access to a broad and deep experience in applying Adaptive Management that is not easily assembled or conveyed in other forums. The session will be less focused on a specific outcome and more focused on producing healthy and useful dialog among the participants. The dialog will be primarily between the CAMNet members and the leaders and stakeholders of the local program, but will provide opportunities for interactions with the larger audience attending the session.

Workshop Objective: Explore opportunities for large-scale ecosystem restoration programs to work together to implement solutions to common challenges

AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review**
- 9:30 a.m. Identification of Issues/Challenges Common to Large Scale Adaptive Management Programs**
- *Collaborating with non-governmental stakeholders within the context of FACA*
 - *Adaptive governance – making adjustments within existing decision making structures, processes, rules*
 - *Other?*
- 10:15 a.m. Identification and Evaluation of Options for Addressing Common Challenges**
- *Would it be beneficial for AM Programs to work together to address any of these issues?*
 - *If so, which ones? What strategies would be most effective if implemented collectively?*
- 11:30 a.m. Next Steps**
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn**

Session Organizers:

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NCER '11 PRE-CONFERENCE TECHNICAL WORKSHOP
Monday, August 1, 2011 9:00 – 12 noon - Baltimore
Marriott Waterfront, Baltimore, MD

New Strategies and Tools for Organizing and Funding Large-scale, Regional Ecosystem and Watershed Restoration

Offered by Storm Cunningham, CEO of REVITALIZ, LLC, Washington, DC

Workshop Background:

Research into ecological restoration and technical tools for discrete, fairly self-contained projects has been advancing at a rapid pace over the past decade. The same cannot be said for open-ended, regional, large-scale projects and programs.

At this level, integrating the renewal of the natural, built, and socioeconomic environments comes into play—not to mention the political challenges of dealing with multiple jurisdictions, multiple funding agencies, and multiple private property owners. The resulting complexity, and sheer volume of challenges, has scared-off most efforts to bring rigor to the process. As a result, regional ecological renewal is largely an *ad hoc* process.

This workshop will introduce tools and strategies have recently been introduced to address these complex challenges.

Workshop Objective:

The objective of the proposed workshop is to acquaint attendees with software and approaches to dealing with the challenge of integrating the many forms of renewal that must be addressed when planning or implementing large-scale ecological and/or watershed restoration projects. These include infrastructure, agriculture, fisheries, historic/cultural assets, commercial assets, brownfields remediation/redevelopment, catastrophe recovery, and community revitalization goals, to name just a few.

These tools and approaches are also designed to simplify the process of effectively engaging all public and private stakeholders, funders, planning agencies, economic development agencies, and other resources. Proper use of these tools results in more resilient projects and programs that are properly supported and funded throughout their lifecycle.

Who Will Attend:

Anyone who has responsibility for designing, funding, and/or implementing large-scale ecological restoration projects. This especially includes those that wish to recruit support for the project/program amongst citizens, elected leaders, academic institutions, NGOs, foundations, not-for-profits, businesses, and local/state/federal agencies.

Workshop Instructor:

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Author: [The Restoration Economy](#) & [Rewealth](#) Keynotes & workshops: www.StormCunningham.com

ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED:

The number of participants will be limited to 60. Participants will be enrolled in the order in which their registration is received, but no later than July 1st. **Note:** The standard workshop fee will be required for participants to support a continental breakfast, break, audio visual equipment and room set up by NCER conference organizers.