

**Title:**

**SERA national standards for the practice of restoration in  
Australia**

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*Abstract*

*Ecological restoration is increasingly needed in Australia to repair past and current degradation and raise awareness of the need to avoid future environmental damage.*

*The Australian continent carries a legacy of extensive environmental degradation in urban, industrial and production landscapes and seascapes that will not be overcome without active and ecologically appropriate intervention. Degradation from past activities and current developments will not be adequately mitigated without a strong restoration standards framework - and future degradation will not be avoided without society becoming more aware of the cost and benefits of protecting native plant and animal communities from damage in the first place.*

*The Draft SERA National Standards for the Practice of Ecological Restoration in Australia has been prepared collaboratively by the Board of the Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia and its not-for-profit Partner organisations. This presentation will, for the first time, share these standards with the professional environment community.*

*The Standards identify the need and purpose of ecological restoration and explains the relation to other forms of environmental repair practiced in a range of zones in the landscapes and seascapes of Australia. The Standards outline the principles underpinning restoration philosophies and methods, and identifies a framework for identifying appropriate ecological goals, objectives and measurable standards for projects - ranging from those that are least well-resourced to those that are resourced by commercial gains attached to industrial and residential developments. The Standards provide a blueprint of principles that will also aid regulatory frameworks governing development approvals, to encourage and measure ecological appropriate restoration and rehabilitation.*