Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed (as defined by the Society for Ecological Restoration). This coursework focuses on soil, water, vegetation, and animal resources, providing students the tools and knowledge to implement successful restoration and rehabilitation of rangeland and forest ecosystems for local, state, and federal land management agencies as well as a variety of private entities. This area of study focuses on restoration efforts for multiple uses, such as recreation, preservation of wildlife habitat, and timber production to name a few.

**First-Destination Employers**
- USDA Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- The Nature Conservancy
- AloTerra Restoration Services
- Wildlands Restoration Volunteers
- Tetra Tech
- Santa Fe Botanical Garden
- Hydrotech
- Cottonwood Institute
- Trillium Botanicals
- Larimer County
- Restoration Ecology Lab, CSU

**First-Destination Job Titles**
- Wildfire Restoration Specialist
- Research Technician
- Stewardship Forester
- Youth Corps Crew Leader
- Forest Research Technician
- Natural Resource Specialist
- GIS Technician
- Research Assistant
- Crew and Field Operations Manager
- Horticulture Lead
- Tree Marker
- Plant Healthcare Technician

**Mid Level Positions**
*may require more experience or education*
- Trail and Stewardship Programs Manager
- Restoration Ecologist
- Ecologist
- Soil Scientist
- Restoration Program Manager
- Parks Planner
- Open Lands Manager
- Riparian Ecologist
- Mine Rehabilitation Specialist

**FACTORS of SUCCESS**
1. Engagement with CSU Career Center
2. Internship Involvement
3. On Campus Employment
4. GPA
Career Checklist

**First Year Students**
- Explore career options for your major by navigating the WCNR Career Services website
- Create a resume and learn how to write a cover letter. Ram Career Ready is our training module that helps guide you in this process.
- Log into Handshake, the CSU Career Center’s job and internship board
- Join a student organization:
  - Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), CSU Student Guild Chapter
  - Society of American Foresters (SAF), CSU Chapter
  - Rangeland Ecology Club, in association with Society for Range Management (SRM)
  - Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS)
  - Strategies for Ecology Education, Diversity, and Sustainability (SEEDS)
  - WCNR College Council

**Second Year Students**
- Update your resume through WCNR Career Services and Ram Career Ready
- Discuss career goals with your Career Education Manager
- Sign up to receive the NRCC Newsletter, our WCNR jobs listserv
- Volunteer in service or research projects
- Look for summer field work or internships. Use all your resources: Handshake, the All-Campus Career Fair, faculty, staff, and advisors.
- Attend the WCNR Networking Dinner in spring

**Third Year or Transfer Students**
- Update your resume
- Learn how to apply for government jobs/internships via USAJOBS
- Learn how to research employers and alumni on LinkedIn
- Begin to explore graduate school options utilizing the WCNR Career Services website
- Look for a summer field work or internships and use all your resources (listed above)
- Take a leadership role in a student organization
- Obtain relevant certifications i.e., Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP)
- Attend the WCNR Networking Dinner in spring

**Fourth Year Students**
- Begin your job search nine months before graduation
- Polish your resume and cover letter; have them reviewed by your Career Education Manager
- Update Handshake job search options
- Connect to alumni and peers on LinkedIn and follow potential employers
- Review interviewing skills and schedule a mock interview at the Career Center
- Finalize graduate school applications
- Develop and secure professional references
- Join a professional association that aligns with your industry of interest, i.e., Society for Ecological Restoration (SER)

**Alumni**
- Continue to use the Career Center for guidance up to one-year post-graduation. All services are still available to you!