



Compact Groasis checklist for ecosystem restoration projects

Inspiration

This document is inspired by the book 'Restoration Ecology', ISBN-13: 978-1-59726-189-0, written by Evelyn A. Howell, John A. Harrington and Stephen B. Glass. The book is published by Island Press, Washington, USA and their website is www.islandpress.org. The function of this document is to help you to understand, within 5 minutes, the ins and outs of writing an ecosystem restoration project plan based on the integration of economical and ecological objectives. If after reading this document, you want to develop your own project, then we advise you to buy the book.

Introduction

In order to perform an ecosystem restoration project, you have to do a site inventory and analysis, and write your project plan based on that. This document gives you a compact checklist of subjects that have to be addressed. The inventory is an information list about topography, hydrology, soils, plants, wildlife, built features, human uses, agriculture, legal restrictions, climate, road system, water availability and all other fields of interest that are important to know.

Start of the plan

1. Write a 2-page concept project plan
2. Organize stakeholders and get them excited about your plan
3. Decide the objective of your restoration project
4. Only eco-restoration / with agroforestry / tourism / housing / etc. etc.
5. Decide which data you need in order to reach your objectives
6. Decide the quality and source of the data you need (general or detailed)
7. Collect and analyze your data
8. Organize a financial partner
9. Write a max 10-page concept project plan based on the collected information
10. Decide 'go' – 'no go' for the next steps

Detailed information to collect:

1. General land cover
2. Site condition
3. Site context
4. Topography
5. Site access



6. Soil quality
7. Erosion
8. Water availability
9. Present species assortment
10. Present invasive species assortment
11. Area of invasive species
12. Present wildlife assortment
13. Present invasive wildlife assortment (goats, sheep, rats, house cats, etc.)
14. Present land use
15. Ownership of land
16. Legal restrictions
17. Present economical use of the area
18. Ownership rights of land use and water use
19. Local stakeholders opinions on future use
20. Political, social and economic context

Purpose of site inventory and analysis

1. Decide the future use of the site
2. Possible restoration models to reach the future use
3. Do the conditions of the site meet the conditions to reach the future use
4. Limitations and constraints
5. How do physical characteristics influence the planting of vegetation
6. Impact on present vegetation and wildlife
7. Define a period of plan development
8. Determine local stakeholders
9. What functions and processes are present
10. Past, present and future human activities
11. Desired future species assortment
12. Desired future wildlife assortment
13. Define necessary plant quality
14. Define a project budget
15. Define future economical pillars (agroforestry/tourism/city development/CO₂ disconnecting/hunting/etc.) to support the development of the area in combination with ecosystem restoration
16. Organize the financials to execute the project
17. Make a precise risk analysis
18. Write the project plan
19. Organize a meeting with all possible interested parties
20. Present the Project Plan



Execution

1. Appoint a supervisory board and a steering committee
2. Found the organizing and executing entity
3. Involve local stakeholders
4. Organize the site preparation needs
5. Appoint management and source personnel
6. Determine targets for management
7. Determine where to source high quality planting material
8. Develop invasive plant elimination scheme
9. Develop planting scheme
10. Organize
11. Organize a stable legal environment
12. Organize the desired economical development as supporting pillars for your project
13. Organize political involvement and support
14. Organize stable financial securities
15. Start the development of your Project

Control

1. Organize daily, weekly, monthly, three-monthly and annual reports
2. Organize monthly and annual financial reports
3. Check success rate of exterminating invasive plants and animals
4. Check plant quality before planting
5. Determine survival and growth rates of planting
6. Stimulate and analyze desired wildlife development
7. Accompany and analyze the progress of the desired economical activities in the area
8. Check and adjust the management targets if necessary
9. Compare activities and results with the analyzed risks
10. Check achieved results and compare them with the desired ones in the Project Plan