**Ecological Enhancement:  
A Process  
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ChicoryLane Farm  
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**Overview**

* **Select a site**
* **Record it**
* **Identify Features of Interest**
* **Map the site**
* **Consider changes**
* **Plan changes**
* **Implement**
* **Assess**

**Select a site**

* Scale is important
  + Not too big: large enough to have impact
  + E.g.:100 yard segment of stream in a 10-100 acre property
* You are drawn to it

**Record it**

* Images of the whole, in some logical order
  + Starting state
  + Evolving state
  + End or transition state
* Other forms?
  + Audio
  + Records in some form of other perceptions

**Identify Features of Interest**

* Plant species
  + Present / missing
  + Gather them into two palettes
    - Desirable / undesirable
* Natural elements
  + Rocks, streams, vistas, etc.

**Map the site**

* Rough, hand drawn
* Place species and elements
  + Indicate desirable/undesirable

**Consider changes**

* Desirable species that might be increased
  + Why
  + Where
    - Existing location
    - New locations
      * Conditions appropriate?
* Undesirable species that might be reduced or removed
  + Why
  + Where
* Same for Natural elements

**Plan changes**

* Make tentative decisions
  + Why and in what way would changes enhance ecology of the site?
    - Better balance?
    - benefits wildlife?
    - New element?
    - Reduces problem?
  + Asses personal preferences vs. ecological benefits
    - Consider resulting motivation a plus
    - Beware personal idiosyncrasies not matched by benefit
  + Draft working plan/notes

**Implement**

* Work from plan
  + Revise plan as things work/don’t work
* Get help
* Monitor ecological pros and cons as site evolves
  + Work on personal honesty
  + Work on listening to others but trusting your own judgement
* Strive to be aware as to when to pause, when to start up again, when to transition to stop or maintenance

**Assess**

* Document the site
* Identify ecological factors that have changed or are changing
  + Quantify, if possible/practical
  + Qualitative, as well
* Tell the story of the site
  + What drew you to the site?
  + Motivation and/or need?
  + Brief narrative of the process
  + Identify elements of the palettes
  + Hard look at decision that were made and their reasons
  + How did it work out?
    - Ecological improvement?
    - Ecological problems reduced?
    - New problems created?
    - Document
  + What would you do differently?