

Definition of Self-Heal Restoration

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Self-Heal Restoration, Self Restoration or Auto Restoration: A process in which revegetation of a previously-disturbed site, such as one on which natural vegetation has been removed or degraded and which may have areas of bare soil and disturbed soil horizons, is allowed to occur without importation of plant material, active planting, transplanting of vegetation obtained from off-site or reseeded of vegetation. Instead, existing live seed banks, rhizomes, roots, etc. which remain beneath or adjacent to the disturbed area are permitted to re-colonize the disturbed area. Under this process, active monitoring is undertaken for a prescribed period of years to ensure that invasive plant species do not overtake the restoration and physical intervention to remove the invasive species may also be conducted. Continued maintenance and monitoring after the prescribed period is encouraged.