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Interactive Website Highlights Pioneering Approach to Ecosystem Restoration  
*A virtual experience of the development and execution of a novel approach to stream restoration*

LANCASTER, Pennsylvania – February 9, 2015 - Franklin & Marshall College and multiple partners who collaborated to develop and test a new approach to a wetland ecosystem restoration at Big Spring Run (BSR) in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania are pleased to announce the launch of the BSR Project website ([www.bsr-project.com](http://www.bsr-project.com)). The BSR Project website consolidates more than a decade of research and monitoring of a pioneering approach to ecosystem restoration within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, with the research lead by Franklin & Marshall College and the restoration design and implementation by [LandStudies](http://LandStudies.com) Inc. Lititz, Pennsylvania.

The BSR Project website provides a virtual experience of both the restoration work and approximately 10 years of research that laid the foundation for the development of a new restoration technique aimed at restoring critical wetland ecosystem functions and services. The website is intended to serve as tool for communicating information that is vital to mitigating the downstream flow of excess sediment and nutrients to the Chesapeake Bay. The audience for this information ranges from research scientists and students to policy makers and restoration professionals.

The web site features three main sections: Restoration, Research, and Media Gallery. Navigating through the Restoration section, users can gain a sense for the motivation behind the restoration approach by navigating through a variety of storyboard-style interactive displays. The Research section allows users to download publications by BSR project collaborators, access raw data, and link to real-time monitoring of the restoration site. The Media Gallery is a rich visual library featuring videos, photos, interactive visualizations and podcasts.

The BSR Project outreach team has developed an extensive plan of outreach in coordination with the group of institutions and agencies involved in the Project. The plan utilizes preexisting social media platforms including Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

**The BSR Project outreach team** includes faculty, staff and students in Franklin & Marshall College's department of Earth and Environment. Members of the team have received national recognition for their work in the fields of geology and environmental science.