

Working with land, air, water and wildlife

ADVANCING ENERGY TOGETHER

The University of Wyoming School of Energy Resources is an interdisciplinary entity tasked with developing the fundamental knowledge, technologies and human resources necessary to solve the critical energy challenges society faces today. Each School of Energy Resources Center of Excellence serves as a hub to unite academia, government and industry in cooperation for the advancement of its focus area.

SCHOOL OF ENERGY RESOURCES

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



Wyoming Reclamation and Restoration Center



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CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Wyoming Reclamation and Restoration Center (WRRC) helps to maintain and protect Wyoming's land, air, water and wildlife by promoting restoration of the complex components and functions of disturbed ecosystems. With a special emphasis on energy development activities in the arid west, WRRC educates new professionals, provides and confirms existing information about reclamation, creates new knowledge and addresses the concerns of industry, government and the public.

WRRC is a critical piece in Wyoming's energy future, ensuring that energy projects continue to be mutually beneficial to the state's economy, residents and landscapes, as well as to energy producers and consumers. Reclamation and restoration represent the final step in successful mining and deconstruction efforts, and additionally provide ongoing stewardship of the rangelands, forests and tourist sites that comprise Wyoming's other lucrative resources. The center conducts research on topsoil management and revegetation, seed quality and availability, the use of livestock to enhance reclamation, impacts of resource development on wildlife, economics of reclamation, and more.

As energy demands continue to increase, so will the demands on Wyoming's resources. Likewise, the future will require a growing base of restoration practices and personnel that have proven successful in Wyoming ecosystems. WRRC provides an ideal venue – in close proximity to active reclamation projects and in collaboration with reputable industry and government entities – for research, education and outreach in this critical field.

WRRC provides government and industry with knowledge, technologies and an educated workforce, ensuring the long-term success of Wyoming's sustainable natural resources throughout periods of energy development and beyond. The center's activities include:

RESEARCH

- Discover and document effective methods and best practices of land reclamation and restoration in Wyoming that avoid, mitigate, reclaim and /or restore land, water and wildlife disturbances
- Collaborate with state and federal agencies as well as industry to improve technologies
- Provide funding to students and scientists to conduct research on reclamation and restoration

EDUCATION

- Provide undergraduate and graduate coursework and field opportunities
- Provide professional development opportunities
- Train students and professionals to facilitate reclamation and restoration projects based on sound ecological, agricultural and economical practices

OUTREACH

- Teach educational programs on issues critical to successful reclamation
- Develop and publish extension bulletins

AFFILIATED DEPARTMENTS

- Department of Ecosystem Science and Management
- Department of Agriculture and Applied Economics
- Department of Plant Sciences
- Department of Botany
- Department of Statistics
- School of Energy Resources
- Civil and Architectural Engineering
- University of Wyoming Extension

OUTSIDE COLLABORATORS

- Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
- Bureau of Land Management
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

