

# **Wyoming Reclamation Ecology Center: A New Research, Education and Outreach Initiative. (A01-vance213928-Poster)**

## **Authors:**

- G.F.Vance - *University of Wyoming*

## **Abstract:**

The Reclamation Ecology Center at the University of Wyoming features multidisciplinary reclamation and restoration ecology research, teaching, and outreach programs that focus on the identification, assessment, and rehabilitation of disturbed ecosystems in Wyoming, the northern Rocky Mountains and Great Plains, and the western U.S. The center's mission is to address research problems, provide education and training opportunities for students, and interact with city, county, state, and federal agencies and the public on concerns involving reclamation and restoration ecology problems. Efforts within the center have focused on identifying and working on research approaches to various reclamation and restoration ecology issues, and concurrently implementing an undergraduate and graduate teaching curricula that complements our research endeavors and the needs of potential collaborators. Activities in the center emphasize the importance of near surface reclamation and restoration of disturbed ecosystems. A committee comprised of faculty, public officials, and private citizens will assist the center director in developing priorities and funding opportunities to support personnel in addressing issues and problems identified by Wyoming and federal governmental agencies, private industry groups such as the Wyoming Mining Association, and public interest groups. This poster presentation will provide details of the Reclamation Ecology Center initiatives and its role in research, education, and outreach activities related to Wyoming and the western United States.

## **Corresponding Author Information:**

George Vance

University of Wyoming

Department of Renewable Resources

Laramie, WY 82071-3354

phone: 307 766-2297

fax: 307 766-6403

e-mail: gfv@uwyo.edu

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