

**REVEGETATION AND STABILIZATION OF DETERIORATED AND ALTERED LANDS
WRCC-21 COMMITTEE¹**

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Abstract: Natural Ecosystems of the Western United States are continually impacted by Natural and anthropogenic disturbances that result in the loss of topsoil, introduction of contaminants, and reduced productivity. These disturbances include floods, fire, overgrazing, improper cropping practices, clear cutting, mineral mining, roads, pipelines, and powerline construction. Many ecological systems, including deserts, arctic, alpine, grasslands, croplands, and woodlands are impacted. The Western Regional Coordinating Committee 21 (WRCC-21) membership, composed of representatives from Agricultural Experiment Stations and Federal and State agencies involved in reclamation research, actively address these research needs.

WRCC-21 objectives are to promote communication and technology sharing among personnel involved in soil stabilization and revegetation research; promote technology of research to user groups; identify research needs; coordinate research to avoid duplication; promote restoration ecology, biodiversity, and ecosystem sustainability in revegetation programs; and promote a holistic approach -- through wildlife biology, and ecology -- to stabilization and revegetation of disturbed lands. WRCC-21 meets annually at research locations (primarily in the West) to discuss research, to plan programs, and to identify research needs. Annual reports for all participants are compiled and distributed. Field tours allow members to observe and discuss reclamation problems and progress.

WRCC-21 actively co-sponsors and participates in symposia, workshops, and society meetings. Recently, they co-sponsored the Society for Range management Symposium on "Perspectives and Processes in Rangeland Revegetation" in Reno, Nevada; co-sponsored the 1993 Billings Mine Reclamation Symposium and the American Society of Surface mining and Reclamation 10th annual meeting in Spokane, Washington, May 1993; assisted in organizing the 1991 BLM workshop "Reclamation of Linear Disturbances" in Casper, Wyoming.

Copies of the WRCC-21 annual activity reports are available from the secretary.

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