



Landscapes in Reclamation

Preliminary Registration Brochure

ASRS 2026

Our 43rd Annual Meeting

ASRS's 43rd Annual Meeting is happening in Laramie, Wyoming, at the [Marian H Rochelle Gateway Center](#).

Join us for technical sessions, field tours, workshops, and open discussions relating to mining, reclamation, restoration, reforestation, and land management issues.

Key Dates to Remember

NOW - February 14

[Submit your abstract](#)

NOW - February 28

[Submit society award nominations](#)

NOW - March 1

[Submit memorial scholarship applications](#)

NOW - April 1

[Become a sponsor and book your exhibit space](#)
Limited exhibit space - reserve your spot now!

NOW - April 3

Oral and poster presenter registration deadline

Now - April 22

[General attendee early registration deadline](#)



NOW - May 16

[Book your hotel room!](#)

NOW - June 7

[Submit items for the silent auction](#)

**100% of the proceeds benefit
ASRS student initiatives**

New in 2026! You can donate items ahead of the meeting. Check the site for more details

Venues

Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center

Conference and Networking Space

For 10 years, the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center has served as more than just a building —it's been the heart of the University of Wyoming's first impressions. Standing tall as the university's grand front door, this iconic space has embodied Wyoming's spirit of excellence, hospitality and ambition — greeting students, alumni and visitors alike.

Tamara Linse, University of Wyoming Foundation



Hilton Garden Inn Laramie

Primary hotel block - 0.1 mile from conference



Stay where all the energy is! This hotel is a two-minute walk from the conference venue and a three-minute walk from the War Memorial Football Stadium and is near shopping and bars. They have an indoor pool, fitness center, and free WiFi. Pets are welcome too.

Book your complimentary airport shuttle through the Hilton Garden Inn today!

Holiday Inn Laramie University Area

0.6 mile from conference

The Laramie Holiday Inn is conveniently located close to I-80 and just two blocks from the University of Wyoming and located 7 miles from the Laramie Regional Airport LAR. They have an indoor pool, fitness center, and free WiFi. Pets are welcome too.



Hampton by Hilton - Laramie

1 mile from conference



The Hampton is one mile from the Marian H. Rochelle Gateway Center, just off I-80 and has a free hot daily breakfast, free WiFi, a fitness center, indoor pool, and pet friendly rooms.

[Book Hotel](#)



Presenting Author Registration Options and Rates

Registration is required to present your abstract	On/Before March 19	On/After March 20
Current ASRS Member Abstract Presenter Registration Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social <u>Check your membership status</u>	\$400	\$500
Non-Member Abstract Presenter Registration and 1-year Membership Package Includes one full-year ASRS professional membership, (a \$150 value!) breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social Are you a student or early career professional? <u>Become a member at a reduced rate to save</u>	\$600	\$700
Non-Member Abstract Presenter Registration Only Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$650	\$750
Current Student Member Abstract Presenter Registration Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social NOTE: Only current ASRS Student Members are eligible for this rate <u>Become a member at a reduced rate to save</u>	\$175	\$175



Presenting authors with an accepted abstract (either oral or poster) **MUST** register by **April 3** to keep their abstract in the program.

A discount code will be emailed to the presenting author after their abstract has been accepted.

Attendee Registration Options and Rates

	On/Before April 22	On/After April 23
Current ASRS Member Registration Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$525	\$625
Check your membership status		
Non-Member Registration and 1-year Membership Package Includes one full-year ASRS membership (a \$150 value!), breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and ECP/poster social	\$725	\$825
Are you a student or early career professional? Become a member at a reduced rate to save		
Non-Member Registration Only Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$800	\$900
Current ASRS Student Member Registration Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$175	\$175
NOTE: Only current ASRS Student Members are eligible for this rate Become a member at a reduced rate to save		
Current ASRS Retiree Member Registration Includes breakfasts, lunches, and breaks, the Welcome Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$200	\$200

**REGISTER
EARLY
& SAVE**



Additional Registration Options and Rates

	On/Before April 22	On/After April 23
Accompanying Guest Registration Includes the Welcome Social, Monday Social, and the ECP/poster social	\$225	\$225
One Full-Day Registration: Monday, June 8 Includes access to sessions, breakfast, lunch, and breaks on Monday Available to members and non-members NOTE: Attendees can only choose one one-day registration option. To register for several days, please review the attendee registration options and rates	\$300	\$300
One Full-Day Registration: Tuesday, June 9 Includes access to sessions, breakfast, lunch, breaks, and the ECP/poster social on Tuesday Available to members and non-members NOTE: Attendees can only choose one one-day registration option. To register for several days, please review the attendee registration options and rates	\$300	\$300
One Half-Day Registration: Wednesday, June 10 Includes access to sessions, breakfast, lunch, and breaks on Wednesday Available to members and non-members NOTE: Attendees can only choose one one-day registration option. To register for several days, please review the attendee registration options and rates	\$175	\$175



Reclamation 101 Workshop

Sunday, June 7
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Mountain Time

On/Before April 22

\$100

On/After April 23

\$150

Beverages and light
snacks will be
provided!

Facilitators Dr. Jennifer Bell (University of Wyoming) and Dr. Brenda Schladweiler (BKS Environmental Associates), along with invited guest speakers, will discuss and train attendees on the basics of reclamation/restoration by presenting the following topics:

- The history of reclamation and applicable laws
- Ecosystem services and how reclamation/restoration interact
- Planning for pre-, during-, and post-phases
- Soils, including baseline and operational issues
- Seed mixes, including evaluation of baseline vegetation
- Wetland restoration
- General reclamation techniques to include recontouring and site preparation, seeding, soil amendments, and weed control
- An overview of various industrial disturbances and their unique nature (coal, non-coal, O&G, renewables, linear features, hard rock, and AML)
- The need for a reclamation plan

Reclamation 201 Workshop

Sunday, June 7
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Mountain Time

On/Before April 22

\$100

On/After April 23

\$150

Beverages and light
snacks will be
provided!

Facilitators Dr. Jana Heisler-White (Battelle Memorial Institute) and Ed Spotts (KC Harvey), along with invited guest speakers, will take a deep dive with attendees to explore challenges in reclamation and remediation.

The workshop will be divided into two sessions, each lasting two hours. Sessions will open with a case study, followed by a toolbox overview and guided peer-to-peer discussions. Each session will produce take-home materials for attendees.

Session topics will be chosen by attendees ahead of the workshop and may include:

- Geomorphic reclamation
- Acid rock drainage and water management
- Soil erosion and sediment control techniques
- Ecological risk assessment
- Advanced/innovative approaches to vegetation sampling
- And more

Wyoming AML Certified Seeding Specialist Training

Sunday, June 7

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Mountain Time

No additional cost

Equipment provided by



Hosted by [Wyoming DEQ's Abandoned Mine Land Division \(WDEQ-AML\)](#), this training will offer insights into improving the establishment of diverse native plant communities on drastically disturbed sites where harsh climatic conditions and limited precipitation are common. Participants will receive resources and training to implement best management practices for reclamation, planning, and oversight on WDEQ-AML lands. Participants will earn a Certified Seeding Specialist (CSS) designation and will receive all required information and documentation for CSS planning and oversight of reclamation on WDEQ-AML sites.

The training will consist of a classroom portion and a 'field' portion, where participants will gain experience in calibrating a three-hopper box rangeland drill seeder using the CSS calibration sheets.



Bike Tour at Pilot Hill

Sunday, June 7

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Mountain Time

\$100 per person

Roundtrip transportation and bike/helmet rental included

Liability waivers are required

On the edge of Laramie lies 7,000 acres of open space called Pilot Hill. Hiking and mountain biking trails were developed according to the land use plan established in 2020, which prevents future development, protects the Casper Aquifer, conserves wildlife habitat, and supports public access for recreational and educational opportunities.

For experienced mountain bikers, we will be offering the opportunity for a guided mountain bike tour of the lower trail system, followed by independent time to explore the area on your own.

Participants who prefer to bring their own bikes and meet us at the trailhead are welcome to participate at no cost.

Social Event at the Wyoming Territorial Prison

Monday, June 8

5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Mountain Time

On/before April 22
\$85

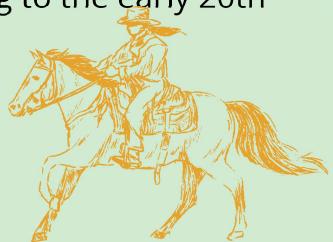
On/after April 23
\$100

Transportation,
dinner, tours,
entertainment,
and 2 drink
tickets included

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Wyoming Territorial Prison opened as a U.S. Penitentiary in 1872 and for 30 years, it held violent and desperate outlaws. Now a museum, the "Big House across the River," displays cells and artifacts that reveal the Prison's past.

After closing as a prison in 1903, the site took on a new life as an agricultural experiment station for the University of Wyoming until 1989. Attendees can join tours of the site's grounds to see historic buildings dating to the early 20th century.

Join us for food, fun, and networking and see where Butch Cassidy and other outlaws "called home."



Poster Session followed by the Early Career Professionals Social

Tuesday, June 9

5:30 pm - 9:30 pm Mountain Time

No additional cost

RSVP needed

Heavy appetizers
and 2 drink
tickets included

Join us at the Wildcatter Stadium Club at the University of Wyoming Football Stadium! The event will kick off with the poster session happy hour social, followed by the Early Career Professionals event.

We welcome those just starting their adventure in reclamation as well as those who can share their experiences from illustrious careers! A good time of mentoring, networking, and knowledge transfer will be had by all.

Between talking to poster presenters about their work, participating in trivia, and mingling with colleagues and friends, be sure to head down to the field to take photos. We'll also have a photo booth available for anyone who would like a professional headshot.



Baxter/Union Pacific Tie Treating Site Tour

Wednesday, June 10
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Mountain Time

\$15 per person

Transportation only

Located along the Laramie River, the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) operated a railroad tie treatment plant and other wood-preservation operations on an intermittent basis from 1886 to 1983. Historical spills and disposal practices led to contamination of the soil and groundwater with hazardous chemicals. The [Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) placed the site on the National Priorities List (NPL) in September 1983 and removed the site from the list in December 1999. Cleanup is ongoing under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program, administered by the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ).

Participants will be able to view and tour other sites in the area undergoing ongoing cleanup efforts.



Laramie Plains Museum at the Historic Ivinston Mansion

Wednesday, June 10
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Mountain Time

\$15 per person

Transportation only - attendees will need to purchase tickets to enter at the museum

Prices and details

This museum, set in the late 19th century historic Ivinston mansion, offers extraordinary collections of opulent Victorian fixtures and furnishings, beautiful historic textiles and clothing, and memorabilia from early Laramie and ranch history.

The Laramie Plains Museum legacy began in 1898 when the Laramie Women's Club began saving treasures they believed would be important mementos of the area's history. Wyoming had just been a state for eight years when, led by Mary Godat Bellamy—the first woman representative to a government legislature in Wyoming—a small band of women began accumulating artifacts that would become the basis of the present-day museum's collection.

Participants will be able to explore and learn about Laramie's history throughout all three floors of the mansion.

Reclamation and Restoration in Southeastern Wyoming Tour

Thursday, June 11
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Mountain Time

\$200 per person

Recommended clothing:
comfortable, closed-toe shoes,
a long-sleeve shirt,
long pants, a jacket,
and headwear

Transportation provided.

Lunch and water are included and will be provided at historic Walker Jenkins Lake, a scenic location overlooking a large pit lake commonly used by locals for fishing.

This tour will explore the reclamation and restoration practices of multiple industries in disturbed landscapes across southeastern Wyoming. We will begin at a working quarry near Laramie, where participants will learn about aggregate extraction, topsoil management, and reclamation practices at an active operation.

We'll then continue to wind and power features, where participants will observe miles of linear disturbances and reclamation efforts on wind energy farms and recently upgraded power transmission line footprints. The discussion will focus on the unique challenges associated with both types of disturbance, which occur at high altitudes and under harsh growing conditions.

The next stop at the Shirley Basin will focus on two abandoned spoil piles from historical open-pit uranium mining. The piles are within the greater sage-grouse core habitat and adjacent to the impacted Little Medicine Bow River. One spoil pile was reclaimed in 2021–2022 using modern geomorphic design techniques and is showing early success with strong native vegetation growth, improved slope stability, and emerging wildlife habitat. The second spoil pile is across the road and was reclaimed in the 1990s using traditional reclamation with 3:1 slopes. The second pile is failing, and geomorphic planning and design efforts are underway to reclaim it, providing a unique opportunity to compare old to new approaches at the same site.

Lastly, participants will visit a river restoration project along a four-mile reach of the Little Medicine Bow River. Restoration efforts have included increased channel sinuosity, toe wood structures, and sod mats. These features enhance bank stability, reduce sediment transport, and improve both aquatic and riparian habitat.

The abandoned uranium mine and river restoration sites are located on the 7E Ranch, operated by a fifth-generation Wyoming landowner, who will join the tour to provide firsthand insights on historical mining. The engineer overseeing the design and construction of the geomorphic reclamation will also join the tour to provide insight into planning, soil investigations, design, and constructability considerations required for a successful geomorphic reclamation.

McIntosh Open Pit Mine Geomorphic Reclamation Tour

Thursday, June 11
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Mountain Time

\$200 per person

Recommended clothing:
fieldwear, boots,
a long-sleeve shirt,
long pants, a jacket,
and headwear

Transportation,
lunch, water, and
snacks provided

Lunch will be served at the McIntosh reservoir, a fishery stocked by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department with a variety of trout and bass species. The site is located at an elevation of 7,000' and weather can fluctuate dramatically.

The Wyoming Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Program is tasked with mitigating hazards and environmental degradation resulting from historic mining for which no party is responsible. The McIntosh Uranium Mine Pit was a pre-law mine disturbance that was mined during the uranium boom following WWII and ended in the early 1980's.

Prior to reclamation, the abandoned mine site included a groundwater-filled, hazardous pit lake surrounded by highwalls up to 200' tall above the water and up to 240' deep below the surface. Using a variety of techniques, the Wyoming AML completed the backfill and highwall reduction of the mine pit over a 10-year phased project. The final project completed geomorphic grading on over 260 acres of disturbed mine land.

The geomorphic reclamation surface has successfully withstood two large rainstorms exceeding the 200-year recurrence interval since completion, a testament to the resiliency of this design even in areas of high relief. A variety of habitat improvements were completed, including specialized native seed plantings, salvage and replanting of native evergreens, and enhancements to a fishery. The site is located in historic Crook's Gap, adjacent to scenic Green Mountain in Fremont County, Wyoming, and is frequented by a variety of big game species, including elk, deer, moose, and wild horses at the margin between the Great Divide Basin rangeland and the forests on Green Mountain in one of the largest undeveloped natural ecosystems in the state.

We will also stop at Split Rock along the Oregon Trail route, where participants will view what remains of the historic Crook's Gap stage station.

**REGISTER
EARLY
& SAVE**



ASRS Merchandise

Available for sale online through the registration process

Claim yours before April 27!



Dark Green Polo
featuring the ASRS logo
(Men's and Women's Sizes)

\$35 Each

Allmade® Unisex T-Shirts
featuring the ASRS logo
(Black, White, or Dark Green)

\$25 Each



Carhartt® Mesh Back Black Cap
featuring the ASRS logo

\$40 Each

