



RREA in Wyoming

Participants in a range monitoring workshop learn techniques for sampling vegetation and gain experience using Global Positioning System technology.

Wyoming's natural resource environments range from wilderness, forests and native rangelands to intensively managed grazing lands producing livestock, wildlife, water, and recreation. Using an interdisciplinary approach, RREA programs provide science-based answers to environmental and natural resource management issues.

In public educational programs conducted by the University of Wyoming, each RREA dollar typically leverages \$6 - \$10 of state, private, and/or local funds. In recent years, RREA funds were used to:

- Produce "Wyoming's Natural Resources", a series of 64, 70-second spots which air twice weekly on statewide commercial television reaching an estimated 30,000 homes. Viewers gain a better understanding and awareness of natural resources, related issues, and how they impact the state. The Wyoming Private Grazing Land Team contributes funds to support this effort.
- Develop and conduct rangeland monitoring workshops to expand cooperative monitoring programs between public land management agencies and livestock grazing permittees. Over 500 producers and agency personnel have participated in these efforts since 2002. Two new cooperative monitoring programs were initiated in the past year as a result of these efforts.
- Initiated development and delivered Range Management School and Range College, a virtual assembly of curricula which includes small acre residential, few acre producer, general range education, assessment and monitoring, range grazing management, range manipulation, water quality and hydrology, and irrigated pasture topics. Programs and resources reached over 11,684 individuals during 2003 - 2004.

"Starting a monitoring program and the associated management has saved our operation around \$5,000 per year" - Participant in the Silver Creek Monitoring Program.

"The information from the workshop on grazing irrigated pastures helped me decide to plant an irrigated pasture and has been very valuable to my program" – Wyoming Platte County Rancher.

"The training and range monitoring kits have given me the tools to teach producers acceptable range monitoring methods." – Southeast Area Extension Educator.

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