

Thursday, Sep. 20, 2012

Register Now for USU's 2012 Restoring the West Conference



'Balancing Energy Development and Biodiversity' is the theme for 2012's Restoring the West Conference Oct. 30-31 at USU. Discounts are offered for students and early registrants. Photo courtesy BLM.

Registration is in progress for the 2012 Restoring the West Conference slated for Oct. 30-31, at Utah State University's Eccles Conference Center. Discounts are offered for students and participants registering by Oct. 5.

"Balancing Energy Development and Biodiversity" is the theme for this year's gathering, which features talks and workshops led by scientists and land managers from throughout the western United States. This year's conference examines how the American West's boom in energy development is affecting many plant and animal species of the

region.

"We invite biologists, land managers and owners, energy development firms, students and others interest in the conference's theme to come together to discuss which plants and animals are at risk, how energy development affects these creatures and how we might mitigate the effects to maintain biodiversity and promote responsible energy development," says Michael Kuhns, professor and head of USU's Department of Wildland Resources, USU Forestry Extension specialist and conference chair.

Featured speakers for the conference include Cody Stewart, energy advisor to Utah Gov. Gary Herbert; Pat Deibert, National Sage Grouse Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Bill James, Energy Development / NEPA Coordinator, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; Jonathan B. Haufler, vice president, Wildlife Society, Ecosystem Management Research Institute; and Jim Gazewood, Renewable Energy Program coordinator, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Office.

Cost to attend the two-day conference is \$120 if registration is received by

Oct. 5 and \$140 after that date. Cost for students is \$30 if registration is received by Oct. 5 and \$40 thereafter. Conference cost includes materials, lunch and breaks on both days and a reception.

For a full agenda and registration information, visit the [conference website](#) or call USU Conference Registration Services at 1-800-538-2663 or 435-797-0423.

The gathering includes a poster session on Tuesday, Oct. 30, from 12:10-1:30 p.m. in the Eccles Conference Center. The poster abstract submission deadline for the poster session is Sept. 28, at 5 p.m. MDT. Poster submission guidelines and instructions are available [online](#).

The two-day conference is sponsored by USU Cooperative Extension, with additional sponsorship from the USU Department of Wildland Resources, USU College of Natural Resources, USU Ecology Center, USDA Forest Services, State and Private Forestry and the Western Aspen Alliance.

Related links:

- [USU Forestry Extension](#)
- [USU Department of Wildland Resources](#)
- [USU College of Natural Resources](#)
- [USU Ecology Center](#)

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