ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND/OR QUALIFICATIONS FOR RECOGNITION AN INDIVIDUAL AS A PIONEER OF RECLAMATION IN THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MINING AND RECLAMATION

**Definition:** A Pioneer of Reclamation is any person who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the art and science of the reclamation of mined or drastically disturbed lands, and/or who has achieved an acknowledged mined land reclamation accomplishment.

**General Considerations:**

- A Pioneer of Reclamation is not required to be, or to have been a member of the American Society of Mining and Reclamation.

- A Pioneer of Reclamation is not required to hold any specific academic credentials, or to have had any formal education in specified fields or in areas related to mined land reclamation.

- A Pioneer of Reclamation may, or may not, have been previously recognized by the American Society of Mining and Reclamation through any of its award categories. A recipient of an ASMR award does not guarantee recognition as a Pioneer of Reclamation, nor will lack of such an award deny anyone recognition as a Pioneer of Reclamation.

- A Pioneer of Reclamation may have made contributions that, over time, may have become outdated, or superceded by new refinements. However, those contributions, even though no longer applicable, may have been a catalyst or foundation for a new approach, without which the new approach may not have been recognized or developed.

- The reclamation contribution or reclamation accomplishments for recognition as a Pioneer of Reclamation must pass the test of time. The research or reclamation accomplishment must be demonstrated over a period of time to be a basic finding from which new developments and/or techniques are developed. A unique finding, new discovery, or an innovative reclamation practice shall not qualify a person as a Pioneer of Reclamation on its own merits. The Society’s Reclamation Researcher of the Year and the Reclamationist of the Year awards are designed and intended to recognize these contributions and accomplishments.

- A Pioneer of Reclamation must have made their contribution or achieved their accomplishment in the art and science of mine land reclamation.

- Mined lands shall mean lands disturbed by mining and/or the primary processing for all minerals. This would include geological exploration activities such as drilling, trenching, and related access development; surface and underground mining, waste product disposal areas such as overburden or spoil piles, refuse and slurry disposal...
areas associated with coal washing and processing, mill tailings disposal areas from metal and industrial mineral processing (including uranium and other radioactive minerals), water pollution control or treatment resulting from mine drainage, de-watering, processing discharge, and seepage, and/or surface runoff. Activities addressing subsidence from underground mining may also be considered. Reclamation activities may have been performed on active, inactive, or abandoned mined lands.

- Reclamation activities shall include the fields of soils, vegetation, wildlife habitat, geotechnical stabilization, erosion control (wind and water), hydrology (surface and groundwater), drainage control (including geomorphology), but shall not be limited thereto.

- Areas of occupational activity may include, but not be limited to, academic, government, industry, consulting; specific fields of activity may include, but not be limited to, mine operations, mine environmental activities, applied or basic research, forestry and/or range management; acid rock drainage control and mitigation, wetlands habitat mitigation and construction, landscaping, and land use planning.