

# Wyoming, Montana coal mines win federal reclamation award

Associated Press | Posted: Wednesday, November 11, 2009 6:30 am |

GILLETTE, Wyo. - Two Powder River Basin coal mines have been recognized by the U.S. Office of Surface Mining for their reclamation work.

Rio Tinto Energy America's Spring Creek mine in southeast Montana and Peabody Energy's Caballo mine in northeast Wyoming were two of four mines that received national awards for work on their properties.

Caballo mine won for its reclamation and construction of a wetlands reservoir that has re-established riparian vegetation and wetlands. Restoring wetlands is one of the most difficult reclamation activities to do.

Spring Creek mine won for its work to help establish and maintain a rare plant species, the woolly twinpod mustard.