

Richard Davis is currently the Abandoned Mine Land Projects Coordinator for the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy located in Big Stone Gap, Virginia. He has worked for the Commonwealth for over thirty-one years. His current duties are in reclaiming abandoned coal mine lands, i.e., areas that were mined prior to 1981 and not reclaimed or inadequately reclaimed. The work involves requesting federal funding, maintaining an inventory of abandoned coal mine sites, and working with conservation groups to secure non-federal funding. Prior to this, he worked as a reclamation inspector for the Department, inspecting active and abandoned coal mine sites. Davis received a B.A. in Biology from Clinch Valley College (now the University of Virginia's College at Wise), and a M.S. in Biological Science from East Tennessee State University. Davis enjoys outdoor sports such as cycling and fly-fishing.