The Desert Research Institute (DRI) is a recognized world leader in basic and applied interdisciplinary research. Committed to scientific excellence and integrity, DRI faculty, students, and staff have developed scientific knowledge and innovative technologies in research projects around the globe. Since 1959, DRI’s research has advanced scientific knowledge, supported Nevada’s diversifying economy, provided science-based educational opportunities, and informed policy makers, business leaders, and community members. With campuses in Reno and Las Vegas, DRI serves as the non-profit research arm of the Nevada System of Higher Education.

Faculty members at DRI are nontenured and responsible for their own salaries through external grants and contracts. Through this blend of academic rigor and private-sector pragmatism, DRI has earned a reputation for delivering high-quality scientific information in an efficient, transparent, and accountable fashion.

DRI AT A GLANCE

- 500 scientists, engineers, students, & staff
- Over 300 projects on all 7 continents
- Over $35 million in sponsored research
- 100 Ph.D. faculty in over 40 disciplines
- 2 research campuses
- 70 specialized labs

NEVADA SCIENCE, GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

Northern Nevada Science Center
2215 Raggio Pkwy., Reno, NV
PHONE: 775-673-7300

Southern Nevada Science Center
775 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV
PHONE: 702-862-5400
PREK-12 EDUCATION:
Science Alive, DRI’s PreK-12 education and engagement program, fosters a diverse and capable STEM workforce by designing curriculum and providing professional development opportunities for educators.

RESEARCH AREAS
DRI’s reputation is built on 60 years of air, water, land, and ecosystem research. The institute is committed to continued research excellence in these areas and invigorating them with investigations into today’s most pressing environmental challenges.

• ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES: Conducting fundamental and applied research into natural atmospheric processes and air quality issues of regional, national, and planetary interest.

• EARTH & ECOSYSTEM SCIENCES: Investigating the complex interactions of geological processes, organisms, biological communities, and human societies.

• HYDROLOGIC SCIENCES: Advancing society’s understanding of hydrological systems and encouraging more effective management of water resources.

• CLIMATE & DATA SERVICES: Collecting and disseminating high quality climate data and information and conducting applied environmental research related to climate issues.

• FIRE SCIENCES: Combining broad expertise in fire emissions, ecology, and hydrology to gain a holistic understanding of fire causes, processes, and effects on the environment and our communities.

• WATER RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY: Addressing research and capacity gaps that persist in developing countries and assisting with the design of sustainable water, sanitation, and hygiene programs in order to improve community health.

• DATA ANALYTICS & CYBERSECURITY: Leading research and training for the next generation of cybersecurity professionals to protect critical infrastructure like water supply and electrical grids.

• PUBLIC HEALTH & THE ENVIRONMENT: Pioneering new ways to investigate the intersections between the environment and human health in order to improve care for Nevadans and people around the world.

• ADVANCED AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS: Developing innovative applications for new autonomous aerial systems technologies to fight wildfire, monitor air quality, and enhance snowfall.

CITIZEN SCIENCE:
DRI creates pathways for lifelong learning and engagement with science through citizen science programs that enlist community members to participate in research into the environmental issues that impact their communities, like air quality and winter storm characteristics.

INNOVATION & INDUSTRY:
DRI’s technology commercialization partner, the Desert Research Corporation, aligns DRI’s world-class scientific resources, specialized laboratories, and expertise with market-based solutions targeting some of today’s most complex sustainability challenges.