**Vegetation Measurement & Assessment (REM 357 & REM 410)**

**~~Measuring Diversity, Similarity, and Composition ~~**

Content Summary Assignment #8 (25 points total) Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Due by Midnight on Tuesday, November 27nd through Blackboard (<https://bblearn.uidaho.edu/>)

Read through Module 79 on Diversity, Dominance and Similarity.

Also read through: [Biodiversity and Ecosystem Function: Maintaining Natural Life Support Processes. Issues in Ecology](http://www.esa.org/science_resources/issues/FileEnglish/issue4.pdf) (Issue 4 - Fall 1999) published bye the Ecological Society of America

•• Answer the following questions with short essay-style answers.

1. Biodiversity includes aspects of richness and evenness. Define and compare richness and evenness and describe how these terms are used in determining biodiversity on a site? *(5 points).*
2. The authors of the Ecological Society of America paper (listed above) state that ecosystem functioning is decreased as the number of species in a community decreases. Why does ecosystem function decline with decreased biodiversity? *Make sure to give a variety of specific examples (15 points)*
3. When should estimates of biodiversity be included in vegetation monitoring projects? In other words, what might estimates of biodiversity indicate about the ecosystem’s status an how might this relate to management objectives? *(10 points)*

\*\*\**I realize these are very open and broad questions. I am interested in your understanding of biodiversity and how it might be used in vegetation assessment and ecosystem management. There are no specifically “right” answers. But, some answers are better than others – be as clear and thorough as you can.*