

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Steens Mountain Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Steens Mountain Advisory Council

3b. GSA Committee No.

10798

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year? 5. Current Charter 6. Expected Renewal Date 7. Expected Term Date

No 03/05/2018 03/05/2020

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? 8b. Specific Termination Authority 8c. Actual Term Date

No 5 U.S.C Appendix

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? 10b. Legislation Pending?

Continue Not Applicable Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act (P.L. 106-399)

13. Effective Date 14. Committee Type 14c. Presidential?

10/30/2000 Continuing No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 1 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 1 Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
A field tour to various areas on Steens Mountain; the annual recreation program report; review of one or more sections of the Steens Act; a personnel, projects, and litigation update from the Designated Federal Official; discussion of the Nature's Advocate, LLC, [Subcommitteeinholder access Environmental Assessment; a report on the BLM's outcome-based on Public grazing initiative; follow-up on member work between meetings on issues for private land Lands Access] inholders in the Steens area; a review of land exchanges, sales and purchases; information sharing about water rights and how they are issued, prioritized and processed; and regular business items such as approving the previous meeting's minutes, member round-table, and planning the next meeting's agenda.	09/27/2018	09/28/2018

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 1

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$13,164.23	\$38,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$2,707.35	\$6,600.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$600.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$1,664.00	\$2,500.00
18d. Total	\$17,535.58	\$47,700.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.30	0.30

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Steens Mountain Advisory Council provides advice and guidance to the BLM's Burns District on managing the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA). The members seek collaborative solutions to critical issues in the CMPA, environmental assessments in the CMPA, and recreational uses. The members' goal is seamless landscape management that meets human and resource needs. The Steens Mountain Advisory Council has been meeting this purpose for over 15 years by continually looking at the big picture of public land management, emphasizing on-the-ground/positive impacts, and working hard to find ways among themselves to communicate openly and make tough decisions for the betterment of multiple-uses on public lands.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership (established by statute) is representative of the varied groups with an interest in the management of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area. Membership categories include: State environmental representative; local environmental representative; Burns Paiute Tribe; representative of the general public (with no Cooperative Management and Protection Area financial interest); recreational permit holder; private landowner; grazing permittee; fish and recreational fishing; dispersed recreation; mechanized or consumptive recreation; and wild horse management. Recommendations for membership come from the Harney County Court, the Oregon Governor's Office, the Burns Paiute Tribe, and the BLM. The Steens Mountain Advisory Council continues to balance its membership by reaching out to constituents across representation boundaries and encouraging their application to and/or participation in Council actions.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Meetings are typically held approximately every 2-3 months or 4 times per year, and not less than once per year. This meeting schedule has regularly accommodated the needs of the BLM and the availability of Council members. Topics are related to implementing the management plan for the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection

Area. A subcommittee of the Steens Mountain Advisory Council met one time in FY2018.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Council provides very critical advice and guidance for the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area. The Council's mandate is to develop recommendations to implement the management plan for the area and provide feedback and new approaches to other critical issues.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The Steens Mountain Advisory Council did not meet in FY18 due to a lack of a quorum, per BLM regulations. The council's Subcommittee on Public Lands Access met once in FY18.

Designated Federal Officer

Rhonda Karges Andrews/Steens Resource Area Field Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Davies, Stacy	08/14/2001	03/23/2018	Roaring Springs Ranch Manager	Representative Member
Findling, Karl	03/23/2015	03/23/2018	Firefighter/Business Owner	Representative Member
Helmer, John	10/19/2016	10/19/2019	Retired	Representative Member
Hovekamp, Nathan	03/23/2015	03/23/2018	Teacher	Representative Member
Klus, Rodney (Rod)	03/23/2015	03/23/2018	Wildlife Biologist	Representative Member
Pielstick, Leon	12/20/2012	12/20/2018	Retired	Representative Member
Weikel-Magden, Owyhee	03/23/2015	03/23/2018	Lawyer	Representative Member
Wilson, Katherine (Kali)	03/23/2015	03/23/2018	Veterinarian	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 8

Narrative Description

The Steens Mountain Advisory Council is legally mandated to advise the Secretary of the Interior regarding managing and promoting cooperative management in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research

- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

This Council's role is directed by the legislation establishing the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

An in-depth analysis has not been done to determine cost savings associated with the Steens Mountain Advisory Council. However, the contributions of the RAC are of great benefit to the BLM.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

139

Number of Recommendations Comments

There were no official recommendations made in FY2018.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

75%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

N/A for FY2018

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

24%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

See comments above.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Feedback is provided at in-person meetings, via email, and/or through official correspondence.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Specific management actions have been revised based on Council recommendations.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO

- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

The BLM utilizes all practicable avenues to provide information to the Council, including mail and email updates.