

2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2018

3b. GSA

Committee

No.

Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation
Area Advisory Council

73512

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

02/19/2016 02/19/2018

7. Expected Term Date

01/09/2018

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

5 U.S.C. Appendix 2

8c. Actual Term Date

01/09/2018

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Subtitle E, Omnibus Public
Land Management Act of
2009 (Public Law 111-11)

13. Effective Date

03/30/2009

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	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	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Council advises the Secretary of Interior (Secretary) through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with respect to the preparation and implementation of the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area (NCA) Resource Management Plan (RMP) for public lands within the Dominguez-Escalante NCA as described in Title II, Subtitle E – Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (P.L.111-11).The Advisory Council ensures

that the broad range of public interests are represented, that the planning process is inclusive and transparent, and that the BLM will maintain and encourage the consensus-building spirit that led to the legislation and designation that established the Dominguez-Escalante NCA. In 2014, the Council reviewed the Draft RMP and focused on the differences between the Council's past recommendations and the BLM's preferred alternative. Meetings were broadly and frequently attended by members of the public, in some cases up to 60 individuals. Each meeting includes opportunities for members of the public to speak to the Advisory Council and the BLM for up to 30 minutes. This process has given the public an indication of which Advisory Council members to work with in follow-up conversations, and has ensured that both the BLM and the public hear a broad range of viewpoints on public land management issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Advisory Council consists of 10 members. As specified in P.L.111-11, the Advisory Council membership consists of the following: (1) 1 member appointed after considering the recommendations of the Mesa County Commission; (2) 1 member appointed after considering the recommendations of the Montrose County Commission; (3) 1 member appointed after considering the recommendations of the Delta County Commission; (4) 1 member appointed after considering the recommendations of the permittees holding grazing allotments within the Conservation Area or the Wilderness; and (5) Six members that reside in, or within reasonable proximity to, Mesa County, Delta County, or Montrose County, Colorado, with recognized

backgrounds reflecting— (a) the purposes for which the National Conservation Area or Wilderness was established; and (b) the interests of the stakeholders, including the general public, that are affected by the planning and management of the National Conservation Area and Wilderness. In appointing members to the Advisory Council, the Secretary ensures that the membership of the Advisory Council is fairly balanced in terms of the points of view represented and the functions performed by the Advisory Council members. Persons are appointed to serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. To be eligible for appointment to the Advisory Council, a person must be qualified through education, training, knowledge, or experience to give informed and objective advice regarding the purposes for which the Dominguez-Escalante NCA was established; have demonstrated experience or knowledge of the geographical area under the purview of the Advisory Council; have demonstrated a commitment to collaborate in seeking solutions to a wide spectrum of resource management issues; and have the ability to represent their designated constituency. Advisory Council members must reside in, or within reasonable proximity to Mesa, Montrose, or Delta counties, Colorado. Advisory Council members must be supported by letters of recommendation from the groups or interests they will represent.

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

In Fiscal Year 2017, the Advisory Council met two times. The members of the Advisory Council discussed the Approved RMP and implementation priorities. The meetings were relevant to the planning process and provided the public an

opportunity to hear various viewpoints and discussions about the elements of the RMP and weigh in on their desired implementation priorities.

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

The enabling statute requires that the Dominguez-Escalante NCA be managed to serve the needs of a diverse group of users while also tapping into the views and expertise of cooperating Federal and state agencies and private industry, particularly in the recreation field. This diverse group of users would not be adequately served without their direct input.

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

All meetings are open to the public. Notices of the meetings are published in the Federal Register, posted on the BLM Colorado website, and distributed to local newspapers.

21. Remarks

The Council has fulfilled its duties as stated in the enabling legislation. The Dominguez-Escalante Resource Management Plan was approved by the Bureau of Land Management on January 9, 2017. The Council held its last meeting on Monday, January 8, 2018 and the Council sunset on January 9, 2018. Legislation directed the BLM to form the advisory council to advise the BLM through the development of the Resource Management Plan.

Designated Federal Officer

Collin Ewing Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Atchley, Clifford	01/19/2012	07/09/2018	Delta County Commissioner	Representative Member

Files, Ralph	11/20/2013	01/10/2020	Retired	Representative Member
Grother, Craig	07/10/2015	07/09/2018	Wildlife Biologist	Representative Member
Harris, William	11/18/2010	01/10/2020	Registered Nurse	Representative Member
Janowski, Robert	11/20/2013	01/10/2020	Engineering Program Management Consultant	Representative Member
Massey, Oscar	11/18/2010	01/10/2020	Rancher	Representative Member
Minnick, Tamera	11/18/2010	01/10/2020	Ecology Professor, Colorado Mesa University	Representative Member
Schenk, Sherry	01/10/2017	01/10/2020	Retired school psychologist	Representative Member
Simonson, Kaye	11/20/2013	01/10/2020	Senior Planner, Mesa County Long Range Planning	Representative Member
Steele, Katie	11/18/2010	01/10/2020	Student, Mesa State College	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 10

Narrative Description

The Advisory Council ensures that a broad range of public interests are represented, establishes an inclusive and transparent planning process, and will maintain and encourage the consensus-building spirit that led to the legislation and designation that established the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area.

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

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Other ☐

Outcome Comments

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

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

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

53

Number of Recommendations Comments

Between the Draft and Final EIS, the council made 13 recommendations for changes from the BLM's preferred alternative to the Proposed RMP. No formal recommendations for FY 2016. The Advisory Council also provided approximately 40 discrete recommendations to the BLM regarding the range of alternatives for the RMP prior to the release of the Draft RMP in 2013.

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

87%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The BLM considered all of the Council's 40 recommendations in developing the range of alternatives for the RMP. Of the 13 recommendations for changes from Preferred to Proposed, BLM fully implemented 7, partially implemented 3, and did not implement 3 in the Proposed RMP.

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

6%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Of the 13 recommendations for changes from Preferred to Proposed, BLM fully implemented 7, partially implemented 3, and did not implement 3 in the Proposed RMP.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The agency provides feedback in providing the Advisory Council with a range of planning alternatives to review, where they can see that their recommendations were incorporated. The agency discusses the rationale for the range of alternatives.

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

Action Comments

The agency has used the Advisory Council's recommendations to develop a range of alternatives through the resource management planning process, and to make changes to the Proposed Plan alternative from the Draft Preferred.

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Information related to the Advisory Council is posted on the Committee's Website, or members may contact the Designated Federal Officer.