

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Northwest Resource Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Northwest Resource Advisory
Council

3b. GSA Committee

No.

2041

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

5. Current Charter

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

No 09/28/2023 09/28/2025

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

No

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

13. Effective Date

14. Committee Type

14c. Presidential?

Federal Land Policy and
Management Act, Sec. 309

10/21/1976 Continuing 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 Next

FY 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 Northwest Resource Advisory Council (RAC) provides diverse viewpoints on a wide variety of public land issues. The Northwest RAC functions as a 15-member committee that provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM Director that address issues such as fire policy, weed eradication, minerals management, wildlife, cultural resources, recreation, wild horse management, wilderness management, and other multiple-use land management issues. The BLM uses the recommendations as appropriate to inform its decision-making.

20b. How does the Committee balance its

membership?

The RAC is composed of 15 members balanced among and within the following groups: Category I includes those holding Federal grazing permits, transportation or rights-of-way, developed outdoor recreation, OHV users, commercial recreation activities, commercial timber industry, or energy and mineral development; Category II includes nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, dispersed recreation activities, archaeological and historical interests, or nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups; Category III includes state, county, or locally elected office-holders, employees of state agencies responsible for the management of natural resources, Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the RAC's area of concern, academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences or representatives of the public-at-large.

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

The RAC meets as needed to perform its roles and responsibilities. The meetings consistently addressed issues of importance to the BLM and dealt with the agency's responsibilities associated with public land resource management. The Northwest RAC members also review their effectiveness and role as an advisory committee to keep on track with the RAC's mission. In order to maintain a good working relationship and bring new members up to speed on resource issues, coordination with other advisory councils in Colorado and orientations/briefings are held with the RAC. This effort is on-going as new members come on board annually.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this

committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

BLM Colorado has found that the RAC provides relevant input on a variety of public land issues. The balanced membership of the RAC ensures that advice and recommendations are wholly representative of the local and regional populace, thus providing the BLM with a snapshot of public opinion. The RAC also provides opportunities for the BLM to benefit from the variety of comments they receive from individuals and public land interest groups during the public comment and discussion periods of RAC meetings.

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, emailed to stakeholders and distributed to local newspapers.

21. Remarks

The RAC met on January 25-26, 2023, and June 21-22, 2023. The RAC also participated in a joint meeting with the Southwest and Rocky Mountain RACs on March 29, 2023 and participated in a joint meeting with the Southwest RAC on March 30, 2023. PLEASE NOTE: Accounting for the March 29 and March 30, 2023, joint meetings are all captured in the Northwest RAC's ACR.

Designated Federal Officer

Greg Larson BLM Upper Colorado River District Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Braden, Scott	04/28/2022	04/28/2025	Director, Colorado Wildlands Project	Representative Member
Chollett, Shannon	01/14/2021	01/14/2024	Petroleum engineer	Representative Member

Comstock, Jeff	06/05/2018	04/28/2025	Moffat County Natural Resources Director	Representative Member
Conner, Carl	11/15/2010	01/14/2024	Archaeologist	Representative Member
Daehling, Kirk	06/05/2018	11/04/2025	President, Natural Soda LLC	Representative Member
Jankovsky, Tom	11/30/2016	01/14/2024	County Commissioner	Representative Member
Johnson, Hattie	06/01/2023	06/01/2026	Recreation American Whitewater	Representative Member
Justman, John	01/14/2021	01/14/2024	Farmer	Representative Member
Karo, Roy	01/14/2021	01/14/2024	Retired	Representative Member
Middledorf, Kris	06/01/2023	06/01/2026	Area Wildlife Manager	Representative Member
Robertson, Scott	01/14/2021	01/14/2024	Rancher	Representative Member
Soto Ruvalcaba, Beatriz	06/01/2023	06/01/2026	Protégéte Director -Conservation Colorado	Representative Member
Steele, Kathleen	01/19/2022	01/19/2025	Retired	Representative Member
Vagneur, Anthony	01/14/2021	01/14/2024	Retired	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 14

Narrative Description

The RAC provides the BLM with diverse viewpoints on a wide variety of public land issues. The Northwest RAC functions as a 15-member committee, as well as through working groups, addressing fire policy, range management, ecology, weed eradication, wildlife issues, cultural resources, recreation issues, wild horse and burro policy and wilderness management. Working groups may meet on their own time outside of the RAC meetings and present their findings to the entire RAC. Operating by consensus, the RAC makes recommendations to the BLM after all its members have carefully reviewed an issue and listened to their constituents. The BLM uses these recommendations as appropriate to inform its decisionmaking.

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	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

Not Applicable

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 Northwest RAC. 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?

Number of Recommendations Comments

The RAC approved three fee increases included in the Upper Colorado River Business Plan.

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

60%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The recommended fee proposals have not been implemented to-date.

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

60%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The fee increases recommended in FY23 have not been implemented to-date.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

BLM Colorado officials provide feedback through written responses and presentations during RAC meetings.

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

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input 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 RAC recommendations provide guidance and reassurance to BLM managers that

current public land management is administered appropriately and supported by the public.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A