

2020 Current Fiscal Year Report: Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2020

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Yakima River Basin Conservation
Advisory Group

3b. GSA

Committee No.

2043

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/15/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

03/15/2020

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was

Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Executive Order 13875
"Evaluating and Improving the
Utility of Federal Advisory
Committees"

8c. Actual Term Date

11/01/2019

9. Agency

Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not
Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Title XII, Pub. L. 103-434

13. Effective Date

10/31/1994

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee Scientific Technical Program

Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. 0 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total0
Open

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 Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group was chartered to provide technical advice and counsel to the Secretary of the Interior (through the Bureau of Reclamation) and the State of Washington on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Project. The Basin Conservation

Plan that was structured and guided by this group set forth the mechanism for implementing water conservation measures in the Yakima River basin, including eligibility requirements for State and Federal sponsored grants, standards for the scope and content of water conservation plans, criteria for evaluating and prioritizing measures for implementation, institutional and economic incentives to increase conservation and to promote more efficient use of water, administrative procedures and allocation of funds, a post-implementation monitoring process, and oversight of the Basin Conservation Project. The Group structured a water transfer process in the Yakima River basin and structured a mitigation process for measures installed with the conservation funds. The Group provided advice and support for the technical changes to the legislation for clarification. The Group provided oversight for minor changes in the recommendations they provided in the Basin Conservation Plan.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership of the Conservation Advisory Group was comprised of: a representative of the Yakima River basin non-proratable irrigators, a representative of the Yakima River basin proratable irrigators, a representative of the Yakama Nation, a representative of environmental interests, a representative of the Cooperative Extension, Washington State University, and a representative of the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Members were nominated from the constituency of the representative groups identified in the legislation.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the

Committee Meetings?

The Conservation Advisory Group met annually, and at other such times as the Designated Federal Officer deemed necessary. During the off months, members of the Conservation Advisory Group continued to work on conservation efforts throughout the Yakima basin. Ongoing water conservation grants and contract efforts, including proposed grantees, were reported to the members and discussed during the annual meeting.

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

The committee's oversight role required the members for the full-term of their charter. This committee structured and guided the Basin Conservation Plan for the Yakima River Basin. The committee's advice was useful as the plan was being implemented and adaptive revisions were needed. The Conservation Advisory Group's guidance was needed on future pending water conservation issues.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

The Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group terminated on November 1, 2019, pursuant to Executive Order 13875 "Evaluating and Improving the Utility of Federal Advisory Committees", Section 9(a)(1) - Authorized by Statute.

Designated Federal Officer

Gwendolyn W Christensen Designated Federal Officer

| Committee Members | Start | End | Occupation | Member Designation |
|-------------------|-------|-----|------------|--------------------|
|-------------------|-------|-----|------------|--------------------|

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|------------|--|-----------------------|
| Kent, Brady | 02/22/2019 | 11/01/2019 | Confederated Tribes and bands of the Yakama Nation | Representative Member |
| Torrey, Elizabeth | 02/22/2019 | 11/01/2019 | Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife | Representative Member |

Number of Committee Members Listed: 2

Narrative Description

The Yakima River Basin Conservation Advisory Group provided technical advice and counsel to the Secretary of the Interior (through the Bureau of Reclamation) and the State of Washington on the structure, implementation, and oversight of the Yakima River Basin Water Conservation Project.

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

| | Checked if Applies |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Improvements to health or safety | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Trust in government | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Major policy changes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advance in scientific research | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Effective grant making | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Improved service delivery | <input checked="" 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

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

| | Checked if Applies |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input 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

N/A

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

15

Number of Recommendations Comments

No formal recommendations were made for FY20.

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

86%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Recommendations were implemented continuously over a long period of time.

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

2%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Some recommendations required State or Federal Legislation to be fully implemented.

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

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

As staff reported at the Conservation Advisory Group meetings.

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

Provided advice and oversight on the implementation of the Title XII Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project, Pub. L 103-434, October 31, 1994.

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

Access Comments

N/A