

2020 Current Fiscal Year Report: Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency		2. Fiscal Year	
Department of the Interior		2020	
3. Committee or Subcommittee		3b. GSA Committee No.	
Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council		2060	
4. Is this New 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	Executive Order 13875 "Evaluating and Improving the Utility of Federal Advisory Committees"		
9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?	
Merge	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. 0 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total0
Open

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	\$1,000.00	\$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	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.10	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The RAC offers advice to the BLM and serves as a sounding board and input-working group for the BLM field managers located in Billings and Miles City, Montana. RAC members provide input to the BLM regarding the viewpoints from their constituencies on local natural resource issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council was composed of 15 members distributed in a balanced fashion among the following groups. Category I includes those holding Federal grazing permits or leases, interests associated with transportation or rights-of-way, developed outdoor recreation, OHV users, or 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, employee of a State agency responsible for the management of natural resources, Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized, are employed as academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences, or represent the public-at-large.

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

The Eastern Montana RAC did not meet in FY2020, but typically met two to three times a year in various locations throughout its jurisdictional area. The meetings include RAC member briefings to the BLM; updates on activities by the BLM's Billings and Miles City Field Offices and Eastern Montana/Dakotas District. Other agenda items are included that reflect developing issues and new BLM-wide emphasis areas. RAC members stay up-to-date on BLM programs and issues and offer pertinent and timely advice. Training is also periodically conducted at these meetings.

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

Montana is characterized by great distances between communities. The BLM's Miles City and Billings Field Offices cover an area encompassing the entire eastern one-third of the state with a checkerboard land-ownership status. The RAC meets this need and allows the BLM to hear from a variety of interests without excessive time and expense. RAC meetings rotate between communities in eastern Montana to allow the public to address the Council.

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

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council (2060) was consolidated with the North Central Montana (2059) and Dakotas (2061) Resource Advisory Councils into a single Missouri Basin Resource Advisory Council (84608).

Designated Federal Officer

Diane Friez BLM Eastern Montana/Dakotas
District Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bukoskey, Ralph	03/13/2019	03/05/2020	Retired	Representative Member
Burke, Kathleen	03/13/2019	03/05/2020	Retired	Representative Member
Clark, Bradley	03/13/2019	03/05/2020	Retired	Representative Member
Hoff, Fred	03/13/2019	03/05/2020	Rancher	Representative Member
Rustad, Allen	03/13/2019	03/05/2020	Retired	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 5

Narrative Description

Members of the Eastern BLM's Montana RAC provide input on BLM issues related to natural resource management in eastern Montana. RAC members are also a conduit for public participation and provide input to the BLM from their respective constituencies. Council members address public comments made during regular RAC meetings, and provide perspective to the public relating to BLM policies.

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

The RAC provides an interface between various land-use groups and interests, and is an effective liaison between the agency and the multiple use-oriented public. The RAC helps enhance trust and the public's feelings of involvement where the public land is concerned. The RAC also represents the public in resource management planning, providing input for consideration on management strategies and possible outcomes.

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

☐

\$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 Eastern Montana RAC. However, the contributions of the RAC are of benefit to the BLM.

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

14

Number of Recommendations Comments

There were no recommendations developed in FY2020.

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

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

No recommendations developed in FY2020.

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

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

No recommendations developed in FY2020

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

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Agency Feedback Comments

RAC didn't meet in FY20 because it was consolidated in response to EO13875.

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 type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

RAC did not meet in FY2020

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

When they meet, the BLM distributes meeting notes to RAC members after each meeting.

These notes are also posted on the RAC website at:

<https://www.blm.gov/get-involved/resource-advisory-council/near-you/montana-dakotas>.

Individuals can also call the designated Federal Officer directly with questions or concerns, and do so on a regular basis. RAC members treat the managers with respect and value their relationships. They inquire on topics of interest in relation to the BLM's role in local issues.