

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Western Montana Resource Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Western Montana Resource Advisory Council

3b. GSA

Committee No.

2058

4. Is this New Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

11/09/2023 11/09/2025

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

5 U.S.C. Appendix

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Sec. 309

13. Effective Date

10/21/1976

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 Western Montana Resource Advisory Council serves in an advisory capacity concerning the issues relating to land use planning or the management of the public land resources located within the BLM's Western Montana District. The Council also make recommendations regarding a standard amenity recreation fees and expanded amenity recreation fees to the BLM and U.S. Forest Service.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Western Montana Resource Advisory Council is composed of 15 members distributed in a balanced fashion among the following groups and within those groups. Specific interests include: 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?

Meetings are generally held quarterly. They always include discussions of management activities the BLM is currently analyzing or proposing, which is the purpose of the Council.

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

This council is necessary to assist the BLM in making sure public concerns and values are considered when management activities are proposed for public lands. The council members represent diverse and complex interests that otherwise would not come together to consider a broad range of multiple uses for the public lands in

RAC's area of jurisdiction. The RAC provides consensus advice to the BLM on those uses.

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 Montana website, and distributed to local newspapers.

21. Remarks

The RAC met on April 26, 2023.

Designated Federal Officer

Kathryn Stevens BLM Western MT District
Manager

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Belangie-Nye, Jean	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Business Owner	Representative Member
			Western Montana Field	
Clewis, Eric	04/13/2022	04/13/2025	Coordinator for the Montana Wildlife Federation	Representative Member
Elliott, Clayton	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Director of Government Affairs	Representative Member
Korn, Michael	04/13/2022	04/13/2025	Retired MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks Employee	Representative Member
Kumlien, David	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Outfitter	Representative Member
			Resource Advisor, Confederated	
McDonald, Kathryn	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation	Representative Member
Milburn, Denis	04/13/2022	04/13/2025	Retired	Representative Member

O'Herron, Michael	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Area Manager	Representative Member
Peck, John	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Rancher	Representative Member
Peck, Mark	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Retired State Employee	Representative Member
Steinbeck, Lois	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Retired	Representative Member
Steinebach, Sean	03/08/2023	03/08/2026	Forester	Representative Member
Vero, Juanita	01/15/2021	01/15/2024	Missoula County Commissioner	Representative Member
Williams, Roderick	01/15/2021	01/15/2024	Retired	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 14

Narrative Description

The Western Montana Resource Advisory Council serves as a sounding board for the three BLM field managers in western Montana. They have formed subgroups to tackle issues such as travel management, the Greater sage-grouse management plan, and recreation fee increases. They provide input and advice on a variety of issues.

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 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 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 Western Montana 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?

12

Number of Recommendations Comments

The RAC did not make any recommendations in FY23.

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

50%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Most, if not all, of the RAC's recreation fee proposals have been implemented

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

N/A

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 BLM provides feedback verbally at meetings through dialogue or question/answer sessions.

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

N/A

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 type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Information for the Western Montana RAC is provided on the BLM-Montana webpage.