

2020 Current Fiscal Year Report: North Central Montana Resource Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of the Interior

2. Fiscal Year

2020

3. Committee or Subcommittee

North Central Montana Resource
Advisory Council

3b. GSA

Committee No.

2059

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

03/05/2018

6. Expected Renewal Date

03/05/2020

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

Executive Order
31875

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Merge

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	\$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. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$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 provides representative citizen counsel and advice to the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management's Designated Federal Officer concerning the planning and management of the public land resources located within the geographic area of the BLM's Central Montana District Office, Lewistown Field Office,

HiLine District Office, and Great Falls Oil and Gas Field Station. It continues to develop recommendations for the BLM regarding the preparation, amendment, and implementation of the land use plans for the public lands and resources within the jurisdiction of the RAC. For example, but not limited to: The HiLine Resource Management Plan, Limekiln/Ruby project area, all-terrain vehicle use, and monument plan implementation including fee amenities and fee proposals for the U.S. Forest Service.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The North Central Montana Resource Advisory council is 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 RAC did not meet in FY2020.

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

This RAC provides a solid link between public land users and public land managers. The RAC addresses the constant concern that the public is not involved with public resource decisions. The RAC provides a comfortable point of contact for some members of the public who want to discuss public resource issues. The end result is often a usable product for the BLM. RACs provide essential public collaboration with government officials, and an invaluable link between communities and BLM's local decision-makers about the management of the public's lands. The RAC's help bridge the gap between the members of the public and the BLM to increase the understanding of BLM's positions.

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 news media.

21. Remarks

The North Central Montana (2059) Resource Advisory Council was consolidated with the Eastern Montana (2060), and Dakotas (2061) Resource Advisory Councils into a single Missouri Basin Resource Advisory Council (84608). The RAC did not develop recommendations in FY 2020.

Designated Federal Officer

Mark Albers BLM North Central Montana District Manager

Narrative Description

The North Central Montana Resource Advisory Council provides a link between public land users and public land managers. It addresses the constant concern that the public is not involved with public resource decisions and provides a comfortable point of contact for some members of the public who want to discuss public resource issues. RAC members made recommendations and clarified information pertaining to the HiLine Resource Management Plan, all-terrain vehicle use, and reviewed travel management and fee amenities for the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument. The end result of the time and commitment by the RAC members is often a usable product for the BLM and the public.

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

The most significant outcome associated with this RAC is the coordination and communication with the interested public about BLM policies, plans, and regulations.

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 North Central Montana RAC. Contributions of the RAC benefit the BLM.

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

28

Number of Recommendations Comments

No recommendations were made in FY 2020.

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

95%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

The majority of the RAC's recommendations were implemented into the planning processes for specific projects and long term management of the North Central Montana District Offices.

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

5%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The RAC's recommendations into the Judith Moccassins travel plan were implemented with only minor changes in specific roads but the content of the RAC's recommendations were 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

The BLM-Montana management team provides feedback by either written response letters and/or feedback at the next RAC meeting of how their recommendations were used/implemented and through regular updates to the RAC members by the BLM managers.

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

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

The BLM distributes meeting notes to all RAC members after each meeting. These notes are also posted on the RAC website. Individuals can also call the Designated Federal Official directly with questions or concerns.