

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 07/02/2025 05:27:15 AM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area
Advisory Council

3b. GSA

Committee No.

5311

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year? **5. Current Charter** **6. Expected Renewal Date** **7. Expected Term Date**

No 04/02/2008

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

No

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

16 USC 1132 note; P.L.
104-333 sec. 1023(e)

13. Effective Date

11/12/1996 Continuing

14. Committee Type

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. 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	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The original purpose of the Council was to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on the preparation of a comprehensive management plan for the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area, and advise the DFO on a regular and periodic basis on matters relating to management of the Opal Creek SRA.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Opal Creek legislation requires certain interests to be represented as follows: Marion County, City of Salem, State of Oregon, local communities, economic development, Indian tribes, environmental organizations, mining and timber industries, SRA inholder and public at large. Although the timber industry has been contacted, they have not demonstrated interest in participating on the council given that the legislation does not allow timber harvesting. Extensive outreach efforts are made to encourage diverse membership. It is not expected that this chair will ever be filled since the creation of Opal Creek removed the timber from the timber base and no timber harvest is allowed.

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

Meetings are not held currently since the Advisory Council was placed in Inactive Status on March 6, 2012.

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

Opal Creek had a long history of political and environmental involvement. For more than two decades, land management planning and public involvement strategies could not administratively resolve the management status of the area. Final resolution came to fruition when the Opal Creek legislation P.L. 104-333 was enacted. The council was legislatively mandated, which specifically identified the majority of interests and organizations to serve as members. The council provided a diverse range of perspectives to advise the Forest Service with the management of the Opal Creek Scenic Recreation Area.

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

All meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

This committee is administratively inactive. The Chief of the Forest Service has requested that the Council be placed on inactive status as of March 6, 2012. Recommendation was made to Congress under FY19 E.O. to terminate this committee.

Designated Federal Officer

Grady McMahan District Ranger, Detroit Ranger District

Narrative Description

This council was formed under public law 104-333. The council contributes to the agency's mission by meeting the requirements of the Opal Creek legislation which fosters many of the agency's goals and includes: *Advocating a conservation ethic in promoting the diversity and beauty of forests and associated lands. *Listening to people and responding to their diverse needs in making decisions. *Protecting and managing the National Forests so they best demonstrate the sustainable multiple-use management concept within the management constraints established under the Opal Creek Act. *Helping States and communities to wisely use the forests to promote rural economic development and a quality rural environment. *Developing and providing scientific and technical knowledge to protect, manage, and use forests and rangelands. The committee also supports the following FS guiding principles by the way they carry out advisory council roles and responsibilities: *to be good neighbors who respect private property rights. *to strive for quality and excellence in everything we do and are sensitive to the effects of our decisions on people and resources. *to strive to meet the needs of our customers (councils stakeholders) in fair, friendly, and open ways. *to form partnerships to achieve shared

goals. *to promote grassroots participation in our decisions and activities. *to value and trust one another and share leadership. *to value a multicultural organization (diverity of councils interests) as essential to our success. *to maintain high professional and ethical standards. *to be responsible and accountable for what we do. *to recognize and accept that some conflict is natural and we strive to deal with it professionally. *to follow laws, regulations, executive direction, and congressional intent. Since the council advises on matters relating to the Scenic Recreation Area, their goal is to meet goals and objectives of the FS Strategic Plan. The Recreation Agenda provides focus for programs and activities consistent with the Strategic Plan, and include: 1. improving the settings for outdoor recreation; 2. improving visitor satisfaction with our facilities and services; 3. improving education opportunities for the public about the values of conservation, land stewardsip and responsible recreation; 4. strengthening our relationships with private entities and volunteer-based and nonprofit organizations; and 5. establishing professionally managed partnerships and intergovernmental cooperative efforts. The management plan was developed with the assistance of the advisory council and focuses on these five areas.

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 type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input 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 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

N/A

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

46

Number of Recommendations Comments

N/A

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

N/A

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

Agency gives verbal feedback during open meetings and documents within meeting minutes.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The Management Plan established new regulations. Establishment of ranking process for projects helped the agency to reorganize priorities and focus on program of work. The council has given their support on Payco projects and OWEB grant funding which helped the agency to receive funds to accomplish priority projects.

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

Not applicable.