

## 2018 Current Fiscal Year Report: Kern and Tulare Counties Resource Advisory Committee

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>		<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>	
Department of Agriculture		2018	
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>		<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>	
Kern and Tulare Counties Resource Advisory Committee		73541	
<b>4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	06/21/2016	06/21/2018	
<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>	
No			
<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>	
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
<b>11. Establishment Authority</b>	Statutory (Congress Created)		
<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
The SRS and Community Self-Determination Act as reauthorized in PL 110-343 and PL 112-141.	10/03/2008	Continuing	No
<b>15. Description of Committee</b>	Other Committee		
<b>16a. Total Number of Reports</b>	No Reports for this Fiscal Year		
<b>17a. Open Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>17b. Closed Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates</b>	<b>17d. Total Meetings and Dates</b>
No Meetings	0	0	0

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00

<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.10

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

Since 2010, the Kern and Tulare Counties RAC has met 15 times, and recommended 56 projects for funding, which were all approved by the Sequoia National Forest, totaling \$658,661. Since that time 83% percent of the funds have been spent to complete projects such as trail maintenance, fuels reduction, watershed clean up, and fire lookout restoration. These funds have helped the Sequoia National Forest to build new partnerships with many groups, such as Keepers of the Kern, High Sierra Volunteer Trail Crew, and Stewards of the Sequoia.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Originally started with 15 appointed members in 2010, 2 members died and one resigned. The remaining 12 committee appointments expired on 9/30/2017. This leaves 15 vacancies, which are expected to be filled in 2018-2019.

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

In 2018 the RAC did not need to meet to accomplish its goals. The forest is in the process of spending the FY 2017 funds in the amount of \$52,663 (awarded in 2018) toward projects that were previously recommended by the Committee and approved.

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

The RAC is necessary to improve collaborative relationships among the people that use and care for the National Forests and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with Title II of the Act.

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

All meetings are open to the public.

**21. Remarks**

No RAC committee activity for FY2018. Title II funds are in the process of being allocated for previous FYs approved project recommendations.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Alfred W. Watson District Ranger, Kern River Ranger District

### **Narrative Description**

By recommending projects that maintain and improve the health of national forest ecosystems and improve cooperative relationships among the people who use and care for the national forests, the Secure Rural Schools resource advisory committees support the Forest Service mission to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The committees specifically support Forest Service strategic goals to 1. Restore, sustain, and enhance the national forests; and 2. Provide and sustain benefits to the American people.

### **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 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**

Projects have improved safety of trails by performing needed maintenance, provided fuels reduction surrounding communities to reduce fire risk, and cleanup and public education to protect the wild and scenic Kern River corridor.

### **What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

	Checked if Applies
None	<input 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 checked="" 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 Comments**

Trail maintenance projects using volunteer labor have calculated the value of time contributed.

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

54

### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

No new RAC recommendations for FY2018. Projects previously recommended by the committee were obligated in the amount of \$61,154 in 2018, including \$52,663 of FY 2017 funds and \$8,491 in FY 2014 and 2015 funds..

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

81%

### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

48 recommendations have been completed.

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

17%

### **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

4 recommendations are in progress. 2 have not started.

**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 Forest Service (FS) Designated Federal Official regularly reports to the committee on whether recommended projects proposals are or are not approved by the FS. The DFO also reports on actions taken to implement approved projects. This may take the form of verbal reports and presentations at committee meetings, committee field trips and monitoring activities.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

**Action Comments**

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

Yes

- What is the estimated **Number** of grants reviewed for approval 0
- What is the estimated **Number** of grants recommended for approval 0
- What is the estimated **Dollar Value** of grants recommended for approval \$0

**Grant Review Comments**

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

**Access Comments**