

**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA DESERT DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

CHARTER

1. **OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** California Desert District Advisory Committee (Committee).
2. **AUTHORITY:** The Committee is a statutory advisory committee established under Section 309 and Section 601(g)(1) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), as amended (43 U.S.C. 1739); and all other provisions of the law. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is subject to standards and procedures for the creation, operation, and termination of BLM resource advisory committees. Refer to the 1995 amended BLM regulations (43 CFR 1784) for specific regulations regarding avoidance of conflicts of interest (1784.2-2); calls for nominations (1784.6-1(e)); notice of meetings (1784.4-2); open meetings (1784.4-3); records (1784.5-3); and course of instruction for members (1784.6-1(f)). The Committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App. 2. Pursuant to Section 804(c)(1)(D) of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA) (16 U.S.C. § 6803(d)(1)(D)), the Committee is authorized to make recommendations on BLM and U.S. Forest Service (FS) recreation fee proposals.
3. **OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES:** The Committee will serve in an advisory capacity concerning the planning and management of the public land resources located within the BLM's California Desert District and implementation of the comprehensive, long-range plan for the management, use, development, and protection of the public lands within the California Desert Conservation Area.
4. **DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:** Committee duties and responsibilities are generally as follows:
 - a. Upon the request of the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), develop recommendations for the BLM with respect to the land use planning, classification, retention, management, and disposal of the public lands within the area for which the advisory committee is established and such other matters as may be referred to it by the DFO, including recommendations regarding implementation of the long-range plan for the California Desert Conservation Area.
 - b. Upon the request of the DFO, the Council may make recommendations regarding a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee, whenever the recommendations related to public concerns in the State or region covered by the Council regarding:

- (A) the implementation of a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee or the establishment of a specific recreation fee site;
- (B) the elimination of a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee; or
- (C) the expansion or limitation of the recreation fee program.

The Committee may make these recommendations for BLM when BLM's amenity recreation fees are at issue and it would facilitate the effective implementation of the REA. With the concurrence of the FS when their amenity recreation fees are at issue, the Committee may also make these recommendations for BLM and/or FS if that would facilitate the effective implementation of the REA.

5. **OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The Committee provides advice to the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) through the DFO.
6. **SUPPORT:** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Committee will be provided by the office of the BLM's California Desert District Manager.
7. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS and STAFF YEARS:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's activities are estimated to be \$130,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 1.2 Federal staff years support.
8. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The DFO is the BLM's California Desert District Manager, who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all Committee and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the official to whom the Committee reports.
9. **ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** The Committee will meet approximately two to four times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
10. **DURATION:** Continuing.
11. **TERMINATION:** The Committee will terminate 2 years from the date the Charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, the Charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of the FACA. The Committee will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.

12. MEMBERSHIP AND DESIGNATION:

- a. Committee members appointed by the Secretary will be representative of the following groups:
 - (1) environmental protection groups or organizations;
 - (2) recreation groups or organizations;
 - (3) renewable resources groups or organizations;
 - (4) non-renewable resources groups or organizations;
 - (5) transportation/rights-of-way (or occupancy issues) groups or organizations;
 - (6) wildlife groups or organizations;
 - (7) the renewable energy industry;
 - (8) the public-at-large; and
 - (9) elected officials of general purpose government serving the people of the District.
- b. The Committee will be comprised of 15 members distributed in a balanced fashion among the three interest groups.
- c. Members will be appointed to the Committee to serve 3-year terms.

13. ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS: No Committee or subcommittee member shall participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest. As provided in 43 CFR 1784.2-2, members of the Committee shall be required to disclose their direct or indirect interest in leases, licenses, permits, contracts, or claims that involve lands or resources administered by the BLM, or in any litigation related thereto.

14. SUBCOMMITTEES: Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.

15. **RECORDKEEPING:** The Records of the Committee, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 26, Item 2, or other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Ken Salazar

Secretary of the Interior

DEC 22 2011

Date

JAN 08 2012

Date Filed