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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BLM Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Resource Advisory Council to Sponsor Field Trip

The Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Advisory Committee will meet at the Anasazi Heritage Center in Dolores at 9 a.m. on Tuesday September 14, 2004, and leave immediately for a field trip. The first two stops will be reclaiming burn areas. One burn area is located north of Painted Hand Pueblo, while the second is in the Sandstone Canyon area of the Monument. A picnic lunch will take place at Kinder Morgan CO₂ Company's Hovenweep Facility, where Monument Manager LouAnn Jacobson will give a planning update. From there, the group will travel to another reclaiming burn area at Hovenweep Canyon.

The group will return to the Anasazi Heritage Center by 2:15 p.m. to discuss fuels reduction treatments and then take public comments at 3:00 p.m. During the public comment period, members of the public may make oral statements or submit written statements. Time limits for oral statements may be necessary to make sure all those interested have an opportunity to speak. At the end of the meeting, members will discuss the agenda for next meeting. The meeting will adjourn shortly thereafter.

Members of the public are welcome to follow along during the field trip in their own vehicles. Some routes traveled during the field trip require a four wheel drive vehicle. Participants are encouraged to wear light-weight, light-colored clothing, a large hat, sunscreen, and insect repellent, and bring along plenty of water. Those wishing to join the picnic lunch should bring their own food and drink.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of the Interior and the Bureau of Land Management on development and implementation of a Resource Management Plan for the Monument.

For more information, contact LouAnn Jacobson, Monument Manager, Anasazi Heritage Center, 970 882-5600.