

RAC Conference Call Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2011
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

RAC members in attendance: Frank White, Ray Bloxham, Bryan Harris, Fran Amendola, Bill Hopkin, Jim Allison, John Harja, Ted Zimmerman

RAC members not in attendance: John Malechek, Lowell Braxton, Stu Sprouse, Chuck Hawley, Dell LeFevre

BLM employees in attendance: Sherry Foot, Mitch Snow (DFO), Aaron Curtis, Dave Jeppesen

Public on call/in attendance: None

Ray, (RAC subgroup chairman), gave background information on how the subgroup was formed and their task. They were to provide comments and recommendations to the draft BLM Utah's Motorized Travel and Transportation Management Planning Policy Instruction IM (IM). Each member reviewed the draft IM and provided input/recommendations. Ray gathered the comments and incorporated those into the draft IM for review by the RAC Subgroup. The Subgroup met last week (9/8/11) and went through the document (IM) and acknowledged comments for change or acceptance. Ray then revised the IM and sent it to the parent RAC for their review and comments (which they are to provide at this meeting).

Ultimately, the RAC's responsibility is to forward the edited version of the IM to the State Director for his review the first part of October. (For a copy of the most current version of the draft IM, contact Sherry Foot at (801) 539-4195.)

RAC had several concerns:

Section 3, last bullet. Subgroup didn't come to consensus with the wording. BLM needs to designate specific routes to dispersed vehicle camping and incorporate this into all travel planning and the identification of these routes should be done during pre-planning. Second concern: Designated route setbacks would be pertinent and BLM should not facilitate the cross-country vehicle use. Third concern: Dispersed campsites should be evaluated. (This bullet point was discussed extensively—Group was in agreement to deal with dispersed vehicle camping but total agreement was not achieved on how BLM should assess these during planning.)

Section 3, 3.A. Keep verbiage that is already in the IM except: Identify three types of routes not considered: 1. Agreements 2. ROWs 3. Class B. Will be analyzed as far as resources. Doesn't deal with RS 2477 roads. Add another bullet about Class D roads if they don't fall under the 3 types of routes (management agreements).

There was disagreement from the Subgroup about Class D roads. Vast majority of these roads are non-maintained and maintenance agreements are not in place.

Concerns were made about the RS 2477 Considerations section. Some members discussed that BLM travel planning cannot resolve the RS 2477 claims, while John Harja disagreed and noted that he has tried to get BLM to incorporate NEPA planning.

Public Comment: No public comments at this time

Continued discussion – how to proceed with moving this document through to the State Director:

- Agree at this point that BLM will look at the document and revise IM. Once RAC is back in session, re-send IM to diverse stakeholders
- Accept changes the Subgroup have made and note that consensus was not made in some areas. Present the IM to RAC in future meeting for reconsideration

Motion was made by Ray to make the changes that were discussed and send those out for RAC to review. Have an e-mail vote. (Sherry stated that this could not be done without having a FRN issued and another meeting called.)

Amended motion by Bill Hopkin for Ray to compile the changes and recommendations to the IM based on the discussion of today. Forward to BLM with a cover letter signed by Bill Hopkin (Vice Chair) acknowledging the areas of disagreement and for the opportunity to review the document again with the full RAC at a future meeting.

Ted Zimmerman – seconded motion

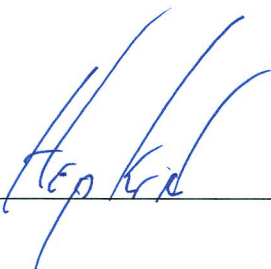
Vote was made to follow the amended motion: Bill, Fran, Bryan, Ray, Jim, Ted – YES
Frank, John – NO
Document will be forwarded as mentioned.

Because this was the last meeting, Sherry thanked the RAC for their hard work and dedication to the Council during the year.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Fran; Ray seconded; meeting adjourned (at 12:45 p.m.)



Bill Hopkin, Vice Chairman



Date 9/26/2011