

# NW RAC 101

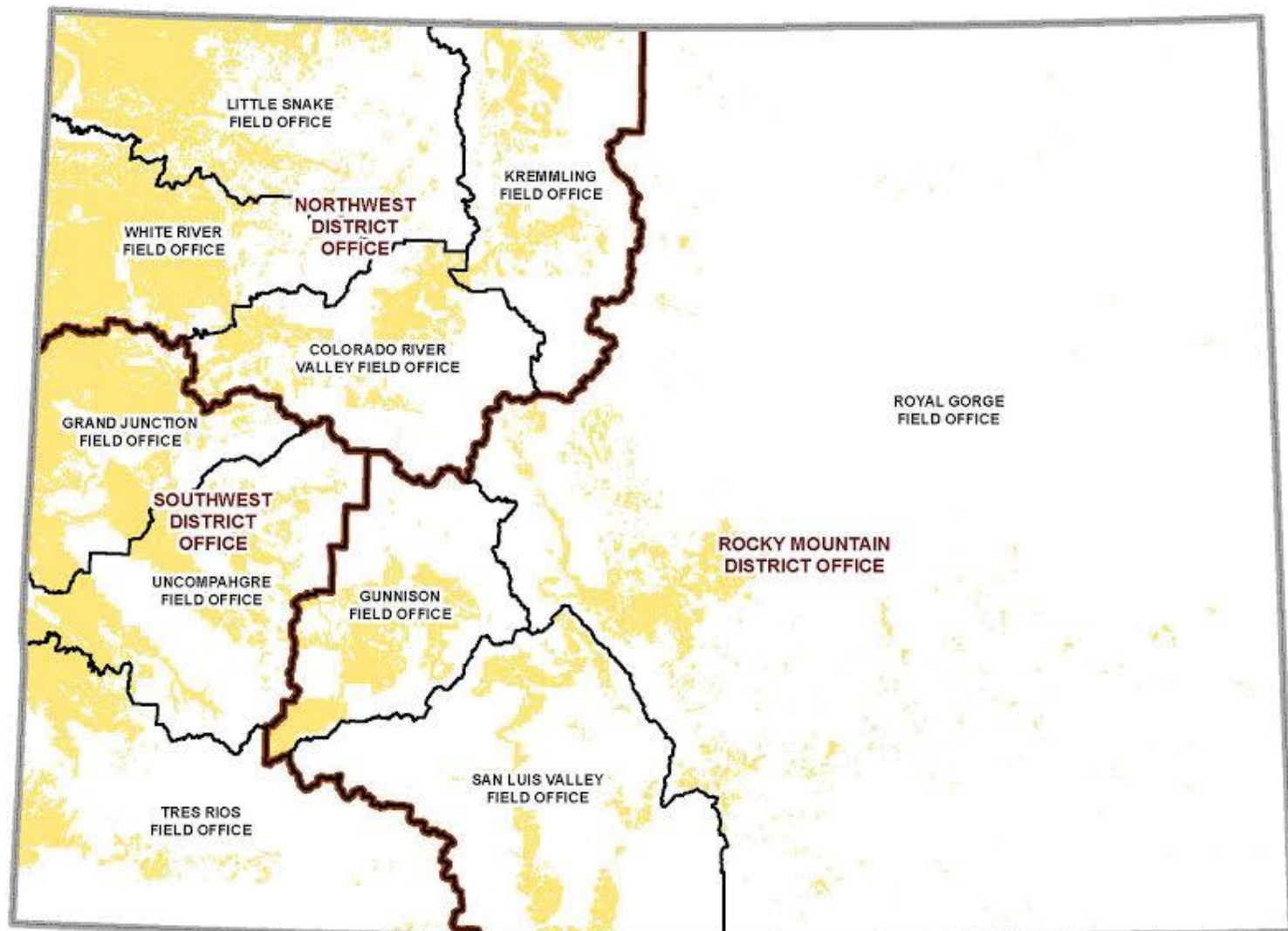
Dec. 6, 2018

# BLM RAC history

- ▣ Formed in 1995 as a way for BLM to formally get advice from stakeholders from a wide variety of interests







-  BLM Field Office Areas
-  BLM District Office Areas
-  State Boundary
-  Bureau of Land Management

## BLM Colorado District Realignment

Date: 7/20/2016



NOTE TO MAP USER:  
NO WARRANTY IS MADE BY THE  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AS TO  
THE ACCURACY, RELIABILITY, OR  
COMPLETENESS OF THESE DATA FOR  
INDIVIDUAL USE OR AGGREGATION USE  
WITH OTHER DATA



# Objective from the regulations

- ▣ “Make available to DOI and BLM *the expert counsel of concerned, knowledgeable citizens and public officials* regarding both the formulation of operating guidelines and the preparation and execution of plans and programs for the use and management of (BLM) public lands, their natural and cultural resources, and the environment.”



# FACA-chartered

- ▣ FACA provides legal framework for a federal agency to form an advisory group



# BLM RAC Composition

- ▣ Category 1 – Grazing permittees, energy interests, OHV interests
- ▣ Category 2 – Environmental, wild horse and burro, dispersed recreation, cultural/historical
- ▣ Category 3 – Elected officials (required), State government, public-at-large

# Charter

- ▣ The Council provides advice to the Secretary of the Interior through the Designated Federal Officer



# Advice

- ▣ Formal advice – resolutions, letters, etc. requiring a vote
- ▣ Informal advice – discussions of the group at meetings



# Formal votes

- ▣ Quorum – Three from each category must be present
- ▣ Three from each category must vote yes to refer to DFO, who forwards to Secretary through BLM
- ▣ Handout

# Unanimous vote

- ▣ When RAC feels its advice is being arbitrarily disregarded, the council may request that the Secretary respond directly.
- ▣ Such a request can only be made upon the agreement of all council members

# Resolution procedure

- ▣ See handout
- ▣ Not in charter – this was developed by NW RAC
- ▣ Goal is to give time for members and the public to fully consider resolutions

# Recreation Enhancement Act role

- ▣ Assumed “Recreation RAC” responsibilities for BLM Feb 2011, reaffirmed May 2012
- ▣ Review and vote on recreation fee proposals for NW District Field Offices

# Recreation Enhancement Act role

- ▣ 18 Road Campground, new fees Dec 2011
- ▣ Ruby-Horsethief Colorado River, new camp fees Dec 2011
- ▣ Upper Colorado River fee adjustments March 2012

# Agenda

- ▣ DFO sets agenda and meeting locations
- ▣ Close coordination with RAC and RAC chair



# Public involvement

- ▣ NW RAC meetings are open to the public
- ▣ Must be announced in Federal Register and through local media
- ▣ Public has opportunity to address NW RAC about issues during specific comment periods

# Communication

- ▣ Results in increased communication
- ▣ RAC members share with their groups
- ▣ Members can comment as individuals
- ▣ Good opportunity for public to keep up with issues



# Success stories

- ▣ NW RAC long-recognized as an active, effective RAC
- ▣ Passionate, diverse members who have worked well together



# Field Trips



- ▣ See issues first hand

- ▣ Be outside!

# Field Trips

- ▣ Interact with BLM specialists



# Field Trips

- ▣ Great way to get to know one another



# RAC Dinners



- ▣ NW RAC first to do
- ▣ Opportunity to get to informally get to know one another
- ▣ Warm up for meeting

# Active participation from managers



# Specific Formal Advice

## RESOLUTIONS

- ▣ Roan Plateau
  - 2005
  - 2013
- ▣ Recreation fee areas
- ▣ North Sand Hills
- ▣ Social science
- ▣ National Fire Policy
- ▣ Wild Horses (several)

## LETTERS

- ▣ Camping rule
- ▣ Rec RAC letter
- ▣ Wild horses

# Formal sub-groups

- ▣ White River Field Office Travel Management
- ▣ RMPs – CRVFO, KFO, WRFO, GJFO

# Informal advice examples

- ▣ Upper Colorado River Fee Adjustment
- ▣ Transwest
- ▣ CRVFO cave management
- ▣ Sage Grouse
- ▣ Upper Colorado River RAMP

# Reporting requirements

- ▣ Department of the Interior now requires a summary of actions taken by RACs after each meeting
- ▣ Any requests related to the RACs (nominations, meeting dates) also require a justification memo
- ▣ DOI wants to ensure RACs and FACA groups are functional and relevant

# Discussion

- ▣ Examples from Field Managers? RAC Members?

