

Recreation Resource Advisory Committee Organization

To implement the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act requirement for establishing Recreation Resource Advisory Committees (RRACs), the DOI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the USDA Forest Service (Forest Service) have agreed to the following organization structure.

Existing BLM Advisory Councils Will Be Used in the Following States:

- Idaho – four existing Councils
- Montana/Dakotas – four existing Councils
- Utah – one existing Council
- Nevada – three existing Councils
- Colorado – three existing Councils
- Arizona – one existing Council
- New Mexico – one existing Council (will include western Texas and Oklahoma grasslands managed out of New Mexico's Cibola National Forest)

Create New RRACs Where BLM Advisory Councils Do Not Exist:

- One *Forest Service Region 8 RRAC* that includes Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Puerto Rico
- One *Forest Service Region 9 RRAC* that includes Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, New York, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine

States that Will Not Use Existing BLM Advisory Councils:

- *Washington and Oregon.* The State Director and the Regional Forester recommend creating one joint RRAC that covers the entire area of both States instead of using the existing three eastern BLM Advisory Councils.
- *California.* State Director and Regional Forester recommend establishing one, joint RRAC for the entire State instead of using the existing four BLM Advisory Councils.
- *Alaska.* Create one new RRAC that would address Forest Service recreation fees only. The BLM will continue to consult with their existing Advisory Council on BLM recreation fee issues.

State that Will Use an Existing Forest Service Advisory Committee:

- *South Dakota.* The Black Hills National Forest (NF) will consult with the Black Hills NF Advisory Board for Forest Service recreation fees only. The BLM will continue to consult with the Dakota Advisory Council that covers North Dakota and South Dakota.

States that Will Not Have a RRAC or Use an Existing BLM Advisory Council Per the Governor's Prerogative:

- Wyoming

Decisions Pending - Waiting for Final Communication with the Governors' Offices:

- Nebraska
- Kansas

Funding Advisory Committees

According to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, only one agency can financially support a Federal advisory committee. The BLM is responsible for direct costs for their Advisory Councils while the Forest Service will be responsible for direct costs for the RRACs when established. The BLM and Forest Service will share in the tasks associated with managing and assisting the Advisory Councils for the recreation fee portion of their work and the RRACs. The Forest Service Regions and BLM State Offices have the flexibility to work out the details of staffing these Advisory Councils and RRACs.

Special Recreation Permits

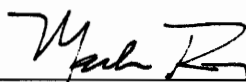
Advisory Councils and RRACs will review all noncommercial, individual special recreation permits prior to establishing a fee for the permit. Commercial and group special recreation permits, such as outfitting and guiding permits or recreation events, will not be reviewed by Advisory Councils and RRACs.



P. Lynn Scarlett
Deputy Secretary, DOI

3/29/06

Date



Mark E. Rey
Under Secretary for Natural
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3/30/06

Date