

**Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council  
Nov. 15, 2007**

**Glenwood Springs Colorado**

**Minutes**

**Attendees**

Jeff Comstock, Cat 3  
Jon Hill, Cat 1  
Clare Bastable, Cat 2  
Lanny Weddle, Cat 3  
Steve Gunderson, Cat 1  
Dave Stout, BLM Kremmling Field Manager  
Dave Boyd, BLM  
Dave Cesark, Cat 1  
Forrest Nelson, Cat 3  
Charlie Kerr, Cat 2  
John Husband, BLM Little Snake Field Manager  
Jamie Connell, BLM Glenwood Springs Field Manager, Designated Federal Officer  
Mike Perry, Cat 2  
Dennis Sylvia, BLM White River Associate Field Manager  
Pat Kennedy, Cat 2  
Catherine Robertson, BLM Grand Junction Field Manager  
Derek Wagner, Conoco Phillips  
Jaime Gardner, BLM Colorado State Office  
David Francomb, USFS  
Creed Clayton, USFWS  
Glenn Vawter, EGL Resources  
Claire Moseley, PLA  
Ken Brenner, citizen  
Mike Herth, USFS  
Luke Schaffer, Colorado Environmental Coalition  
Sasha Nelsa, Colorado Environmental Coalition  
Tom Turnbull, Carbondale  
Collin Ewing, USFWS

Called to order 8:05 a.m.

Confirmed Quorum present

Dave passed out hats

## **Schedule**

Feb 13,14 Glenwood

May 21,22 LSFO

Aug 20,21 Kremmling

Dec 3,4 Grand Junction

Jamie thanked cooperators from Roan and Chairman Cesark and Forrest Nelson for coming to dinner with new BLM Director.

## **Kremmling Field Office, Dave Stout**

**Glenwood/Kremmling RMP revisions:** Two three-day alternative development workshops have been completed with contractor assistance. Kremmling and Glenwood staff worked in teams to develop preliminary alternatives for the draft RMP. Both offices coordinated with one another through tele-conferencing to ensure some consistency of alternatives between the Kremmling and Glenwood Springs RMPs. In Kremmling meetings are scheduled with Cooperating Agencies and with the RAC subgroup, which will provide advice on travel management and recreation. Glenwood held a Cooperating Agency meeting last week. The first meeting of the Glenwood RAC subgroup meet last week as well.

**North Park Stewardship:** The Stewardship Contract with Jackson County has been signed. Meetings with Jackson County are scheduled for this month to develop the work plan to define the work that will be done under the contract.

**Owl Mountain Partnership:** Jerry Jack, a BLM employee who has been the long-term manager of the Owl Mountain Partnership in North Park, is retiring at the end of this year. We have recommended to the Partnership's Steering Committee that Pete Torma, a Rangeland Management Specialist in our office, be appointed as the next manager of the Partnership. Pete has been working with Jerry on Partnership projects over the last couple of years, and he has substantial familiarity with the operations of livestock grazing permittees in North Park.

**Junction Butte:** During the public comment period of the last RAC meeting, Chris Sammons of Kremmling rendered a complaint about our management of the Junction Butte wildlife area. The area is a joint project of the BLM and Ducks Unlimited south of the Colorado River immediately upstream from the Highway 9 bridge at the outskirts of Kremmling. The wildlife area is irrigated by means of a series of ditches, creating ponds, wetland areas, and irrigated pasture to benefit wildlife. Ms. Sammons' complaint included her impression that public land adjacent to Highway 9 was in poor condition. I

talked with Ms. Sammons within a few days of the RAC meeting to arrange a meeting on-site. Ms. Sammons was unable to meet at the time; we have not scheduled a meeting. I went to the site, and believe Ms. Sammons' comments referenced a small triangle of public land that cannot be irrigated, and contains a parking area and access to the River. We are proceeding with contracting for construction of a fence along the south bank of the River, which will keep Ms. Sammons cattle from trespassing on the wildlife area. The cattle trespass has been a continuing problem at times of low water in the River, since the forage and wet areas attract the Sammons' cattle from adjacent private lands.

**Oil and Gas Leasing:** The November 8 oil and gas lease sale attracted substantial public interest in Grand and Jackson counties. Leases were nominated for sale in both counties. Although a press release about the sale was distributed to media outlets, and letters were sent to County governments and State agencies, many folks in the counties, especially representatives of local governments, felt they had not been informed of the sale, and were unaware that leasing was being proposed. Requests to defer leasing were made by a number of entities, and protests of specific parcels were submitted. All parcels in Grand County were deferred for this sale. Some parcels in Grand County are within the boundaries of a Special Recreation Management Area that is being proposed as part of the Kremmling RMP's preferred alternative. The remaining parcels were deferred to provide opportunities for additional public outreach, in response to local government concerns. In Jackson County, some parcels were deferred for further analysis in response to comments and new information provided by the Colorado Division of Wildlife. Leasing has occurred in both counties. During the next several weeks, we will be making appointments with representatives of local governments and media to discuss oil and gas leasing.

Clare: Seemed like perception in RMP was KFO oil and gas wouldn't be a big deal. Does this change that?

Dave S: Going to try to get more people interested in RMP. 1984 RMP anticipated 200 wells over 20 years. Don't expect that to change in this RMP. Low to moderate potential.

Charlie: How many wells have been drilled in those 20 years?

Dave: Nowhere near 200.

Jamie C: Less than 50 would be my estimation

Dave: Not sure why the interest in leasing from industry

Charlie: Were State Wildlife Areas deferred?

Dave: Yes, among other reasons: sage grouse, proposed SRMA, wild and scenic. Deferred parcels along Colorado River and Kinney Creek right off the bat. We'll make sure notification gets done. Will talk to as many people as possible

Lanny: How many parcels in Jackson County sold? Jaime will provide info. 2 did not sale out of 18. Commissioners under a lot of fire. Editor of Jackson Star says he was not notified. Public did feel like they were adequately notified. Commissioners didn't announce it publicly.

Catherine: Maybe able to use statewide map on-line to help with info

Jon: Meeker paper put website in paper. I use it all the time. Need to highlight. thaht in news release

**Gore Fest:** A strong BLM presence was seen along the Colorado River during the weekend of August 18 and 19, in response to claims from some in the kayaking community that the Gore Fest kayak race was going to be held without authorization. A substantial effort was made to provide adequate parking and camping facilities, and to publicize requests for public cooperation, to minimize possible conflicts with large numbers of visitors to the river and "unofficial" racers. Some kayakers apparently tried to conduct a race, but most visitors complied with BLM requests. Except for large crowds, the weekend was largely uneventful.

**KFO Land Exchange Updates:** The Windy Gap Land Exchange, west of Granby, is expected to be completed by the end of the year or early in the new year. The exchange is between the BLM, the Forest Service and the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District. The District will gain lands around their infrastructure. The BLM will gain land along the Colorado River; the Forest Service will gain a small amount of land in the Granby area. The Blue Valley Ranch Land Exchange is essentially in hiatus, pending completion of the RMP revision. An appraisal request has been submitted, however, at the request of the Blue Valley Ranch, as a means of determining the accuracy of the original appraisal. The new appraisal will be an interim appraisal.

Clare thanks Dave S for working with CMC his first few weeks. Very good experience.

**DAVE B will send non-competitive lease sale info to Charlie (et al?); also RPP lease link to steve**

### **Little Snake Field Office, John Husband**

**RMP Update:** LSFO continues to progress on the supplemental air quality analysis to the Little Snake Draft RMP/EIS. As reported at the last RAC meeting, EPA Region 8 reviewed the DEIS and found the air quality analysis to be inadequate. The primary concern is proximity to Class 1 air quality areas and the amount of new oil and gas activity projected to occur within the planning area over the next 20 years. After numerous discussions with EPA to determine the best way to proceed, we have decided to conduct a supplemental air quality analysis, which will entail an additional public notification and comment opportunity. We are currently working with EPA to develop a protocol, which will describe the analysis process and what components will be included in the emissions model. The protocol will be completed soon and will be available to the

public. An air quality consultant will then begin the modeling and analysis. LSFO and COSO will brief the Washington Office in the coming months on the schedule issues surrounding the Little Snake RMP revision process. The supplemental analysis is scheduled to be released in the spring of 2008.

**Hiawatha work continues:** The Rock Springs and Little Snake field offices continue to work with Questar and the Cooperating Agencies on a proposed energy development project that could include up to 4,200 new wells. About 66% of the new wells would be in Wyoming. The project schedule was delayed due to Questar's requested modifications in January to the Proposed Action. The Record of Decision is now anticipated for November 2008, which is approximately 5 months after the target ROD date from the previous schedule. Cooperating Agencies on this project are the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, Wyoming State Geologic Survey, Wyoming Department of Transportation, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investments, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Wyoming Business Council, Colorado Department of Natural Resources (Colorado State Land Board and Colorado Division of Wildlife), Sweetwater County Commission, Sweetwater County Conservation District, Moffat County Commission, Northern Arapaho Tribe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Emerald Mountain:** After final completion of the Emerald Mountain Land Exchange, the Emerald Mountain Special Recreation Area was dedicated in August. By the end of September the Ridge Trail was open for public use. Ridge Trail provides opportunities for strenuous, challenging mountain biking, Nordic skiing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, and other recreational activities. Development of the Ridge Trail is a part of the implementation of BLM's Recreation Area Management Plan for Emerald Mountain which was approved on June 15, 2007. Design of the Ridge Trail has been a joint effort between the BLM; City of Steamboat Springs Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services Department; Emerald Mountain Partnership; Rocky Mountain Youth Corps; and Routt County Riders. BLM continues to work with the City of Steamboat Springs and other cooperators on future plans for this area.

Dave C: congrats to John for Emerald Mountain. Great partner involvement

John H: Also have seen steady increase in oil and gas activity. Last year 57 apds approved.

### **Grand Junction Field Office, Catherine Robertson**

#### **Grand Junction Field Office Resource Management Plan**

The Grand Junction Field Office RMP was last comprehensively updated in 1987. We are scheduled to begin working on a comprehensive update in FY 2008 and will be approaching our cooperators in late winter to initiate Cooperating Agency Agreements. Mesa County will be one of the cooperators that we hope to engage. Issues will no doubt include energy and mineral development, increasing recreational use on BLM lands,

urban interface issues, land tenure, special areas designations, and travel management. We hope to contract a Community Assessment to be conducted this spring and begin formal scoping in late summer/fall.

Charlie: when do community assessments begin?

Catherine: Next spring and summer?

Charlie: All stakeholders?

Jamie: focus on community leaders, and it's up to community who participates

### **CAM/Red Cliff Coal Mine**

Most of the proposed action and alternatives sections of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) have been completed. Four alternatives for location of the transmission line are currently being considered and they all may be carried forward for full analysis in the EIS. Public release of the Draft EIS is scheduled for April 10, 2008.

### **Uranium Mining**

Several uranium mining proposals are being initiated in the Gateway area. Energy Fuels has submitted a Plan of Operation for uranium mining at the Whirlwind and Packrat mines located about three miles west of Gateway. The Environmental Assessment is being written by a third party consultant under BLM's direction. A scoping meeting was held in Gateway on August 29, and the public scoping period ended October 14. Energy Fuels has also applied for permits with the Colorado Department of Reclamation and Mine Safety, Mesa County, and other state and federal agencies. Several other mining companies in the Gateway area are exploring and sampling for uranium at other locations in the Uravan Mineral Belt. The White Mesa mill is located in Blanding, Utah, and expected to be online soon. Uranium notices and activity is anticipated to increase because of this and the fact that the Department of Energy released its final Environmental Assessment on July 6, 2007. Three of the lease tracts are in Mesa County. DOE has decided to reissue uranium leases on additional lands in this area.

### **Bangs Canyon Special Recreation Management Area: Plan Implementation**

A black diamond mountain bike trail was recently constructed in the Lunch Loop area (Area 1) in partnership with volunteer "free riders" from the mountain bike community and assistance from COPMOBA and IMBA. This trail is the first of its kind in the area. Finishing touches are still needed, related to signing and coordination with EMS, and the trail will formally open sometime the week of November 12. BLM recently partnered with volunteers from COHVCO and Bicycle Colorado to layout a new shared-use trail system near Snyder Flats in Unaweep Canyon (Area 6). The cultural resource survey for Area 6 will be completed this winter and construction is planned for next spring. Construction on shared-use trails in Area 4 has resumed after a six-month delay resulting from unexpected cultural resource issues. This work is being completed under an assistance agreement between BLM and COHVCO.

Pat: Free riders are new group emerged in recent years. Heavy bikes that don't climb hills. Been trying to bring these younger riders into fold for a number of years. Gaining in popularity. This trail helped bring them into fold to see how to use process correctly. Complement Catherine on how this turned out. Will want more, need to look for other opportunities.

Jeff: Want to see demonstration at next GJ RAC field trip

Clare: resolution of cultural issues along trails?

Catherine: all trails are cleared before construction begins

### **Gateway SRMA**

Under an assistance agreement with BLM, ASU and Mesa State recently completed a recreation benefit study of the Gateway SRMA that included focus group interviews and surveys. The study complies with BLM's new "benefits-based" planning directives and is intended to yield recreation experience and benefit information that will be used in the development of the upcoming Gateway RAMP. The results of study are due to BLM by the end of December. Public scoping meetings will follow later this winter/spring. The ongoing inventory of routes in the Gateway area, conducted in partnership with Gateway Canyons Resort, is approximately 95 percent complete and is expected to be concluded later this month. Construction on the Lumsden Trail System was initiated in June as a National Trails Day project. Gateway Canyons Resort is investigating ways to complete the trail system this winter/spring, in cooperation with BLM. Also in partnership with the resort, a climbing route assessment and cultural survey have been completed on the Palisade historic climbing route and mine in preparation for clean-up of non-historic debris and future planning efforts in the upcoming RAMP. The Palisade clean-up project is planned for spring.

**Oil and Gas Lease Suspensions Terminated:** Effective September 1, 2007, the suspension of several oil and gas leases, which were purchased during a BLM oil and gas lease sale by Genesis Gas & Oil of Kansas City, Missouri, were lifted. The leases were purchased in February 2006; protested; issued on August 3, 2006; and then suspended for up to one year to allow the company to work with the communities of Palisade and Grand Junction in developing a community development plan in preparation for potential oil and gas activity in their municipal watersheds. Several agencies and stakeholders collaborated to develop the Palisade and Grand Junction Watershed Plan, which was issued in August 2007. An indication of community support, both the City of Grand Junction and Town of Palisade adopted the Plan by votes of their respective Council/Boards.

Dave C: great job getting this together

Catherine: great cooperation for parties involved

**Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Gather:** The Friends of the Mustangs and youth from the James P. Beckwourth Mountain Club, along with a contracted helicopter, assisted the BLM with removing a total of 55 horses off the Little Book Cliffs Wild Horse Range in September. A total of 38 horses were returned to the Range, and 42 of the 54 horses offered for adoption were successfully adopted. All other horses were transported to the Cañon City facility for inclusion in their bi-weekly adoptions. The Appropriate Management Level for the Range is from 90 to 150 horses, and after the gather, the number of horses on the Range is at 110.

**Draft Energy Corridor PEIS released:** The Department of Energy, BLM and other Federal agencies last week released the Draft Programmatic Environmental Statement for the *Designation of Energy Corridors on Federal Lands in the 11 Western States*. Two public meetings will be held in Colorado, both from 2-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. The first will be Jan. 15 in Grand Junction at the Marriott (765 Horizon Dr.) and the second Jan. 31 in Denver at the Cherry Creek Holiday Inn. The PEIS is being prepared as directed by Congress in Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The PEIS is available for review at BLM offices or from the project website, <http://corridoreis.anl.gov/>

90-day comment period starts tomorrow

### **McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area (NCA)**

**Volunteer Activities:** On September 15-16, NCA staff and 85 volunteers from Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado re-routed one-half mile of the Trail Through Time in Rabbit Valley. VOC volunteers also closed and restored one-half mile of unsustainable trail. Staff from the Museum of Western Colorado's Dinosaur Journey was on hand to provide knowledge and expertise during the trail work while also giving a campground presentation on the paleontological history and resources of Rabbit Valley and the Trail Through Time. The BLM, VOC, Williams Energy, Friends of McInnis Canyons, and the Museum of Western Colorado sponsored the successful two-day event involving approximately 150 volunteers.

### **White River Field Office, Dennis Sylvia**

**West Douglas herd decision stands:** The White River Field Office's decision to remove a small herd of wild horses south of Rangely has been affirmed by the Washington Office. BLM will now begin the public process of developing a Gather Plan to remove approximately 120 horses in the West Douglas Herd Area. The first gather is expected next year, and more than one gather will likely be needed to remove all the horses from the area. The majority of the horses gathered will be available for adoption through BLM's wild horse and burro program. The remaining horses will be placed in long-term holding facilities. The 1997 Resource Management Plan for the BLM White River Field Office recommended the removal of the West Douglas Herd, while expanding the larger Piceance-East Douglas Horse Management Area in better habitat to the east. In September 2005, BLM completed an Environmental Assessment that also concluded the herd should be removed because the 123,000-acre West Douglas Herd Area could only support up to 60 horses, too small a herd to maintain genetic viability naturally.



**New staff arrives** – Hiring new personnel has been a priority for the White River Field Office during the past months. Associate Field Manager Dennis Silvia began last week. He comes from the U.S. Forest Service in Alaska. The Field Office has also gained Assistant Field Manager Barb Blackstun, most recently a Natural Resource Specialist at the Little Snake Field Office. Six other new employees have been hired since the last RAC meeting.

**White River RMP amendment update** – The Field Office held a cooperating agency meeting Nov. 2 to discuss alternative development. Alternatives are expected to be drafted by the end of November or early December. The Draft RMP is anticipated to be released for a 90-day public review period in 2008.

**Oil Shale PEIS release approaching** – The Draft Programmatic EIS covering commercial oil shale leasing is expected to be released by the end of the year. A 90-day public comment period including public meetings will follow. BLM expects the Final PEIS to be complete in 2008. Draft oil shale leasing regulations are also expected to be released in spring of 2008. Deputy Assistant Secretary Foster Wade recently addressed the Colorado School of Mines Oil Shale Symposium and stated that the Department of Interior currently predicts that 2015 is the earliest we would see any commercial oil shale development.

### **Glenwood Springs, Jamie Connell**

**Roan Plateau update:** BLM issued a Record of Decision covering 70 percent of the Roan Plateau in early June. The second Record of Decision is expected in early 2008. A 60-day public comment period for the remaining 30 percent, which are all the areas proposed as “Areas of Critical Environmental Concern,” closed August 10, with an additional 14-day period that allowed electronic submissions. BLM is now analyzing the more than 41,000 comments it received – the vast majority being a single form letter generated by the Natural Resource Defense Council. A total of 38 e-mail comments were received. The Secretary of the Interior granted Colorado Governor Bill Ritter 120 days to review the Roan plan in early August. The House Energy Bill designates the entire top of the Roan No Surface Occupancy; the Senate Energy bill does not address the Roan. The House and Senate must conference on their respective energy bills, and any resulting bill would need to be signed into law by the President. BLM is currently following direction from Congress to lease the Roan Plateau. BLM will follow any new direction it receives from Congress.

BLM staff began implementing the travel management decisions in the Roan plan this fall. This included closing or limiting to administrative use more than 100 miles of roads. The majority of these closures were in response to recommendations made by the Division of Wildlife during the Roan Plateau Planning Process.

Jamie: concerned about those who are saying we can still get to all the gas by developing just below the rim. Don't have environmental assessment that shows that

**200-acre parcel in GSFO leased for record amount:** A 200-acre parcel west of Parachute Creek went for \$26,000 an acre at last Thursday's quarterly oil and gas lease sale in Lakewood. It tripled the previous per-acre record for a federal lease in Colorado. This parcel is 6.5 miles west of the public land in the Roan Plateau Planning Area. This single parcel – the only one in the Glenwood Springs Field Office in this sale – generated \$5.2 million dollars in bonus bids, which was more than half of the \$9.6 million in total bonus bids from the lease sale. Bonus bid revenue is split 50/50 with the State of Colorado and the U.S. Treasury. A total of 102,989 acres of leases were sold Thursday. Most parcels, including the record parcel, were protested, and the leases will not be issued until the protests are resolved.

Clare: Avalanche Energy – who are they? No contact information

**Glenwood Springs Field Office moving to Silt:** The Glenwood Springs Field Office is currently planning its move to Silt for March of 2009. The office will include about 60 employees -- both the Field Office staff currently in West Glenwood and the Energy Office staff currently south of downtown. A new, LEED-certified building will be built southeast of the Silt exit from I-70 and north of the Colorado River. Real estate prices drove the move west.

**Numerous fuel treatment projects underway:** GSFO is conducting numerous fuel treatment projects to enhance community safety and/or improve wildlife habitat. Among the highlights are the 196-acre Prince Creek project, the 12-acre Canyon Creek project, the 500-acre East Sopris project in conjunction with Division of Wildlife, and the 500-acre Deer Pen project.

Dave C: Parents in area were very pleased with firefighting efforts as well as fuels treatment

**Bull Mountain decision expected soon:** BLM and the Forest Service expect to issue a Decision on the proposed Bull Mountain Pipeline, a 20-inch pipeline from near Paonia to East Divide Creek. BLM is the lead decision making by law because the right-of-way would cross multiple jurisdictions. However, the bulk of the proposed pipeline would cross Forest Service lands, including three Inventoried Roadless Areas. The Forest Service has taken the lead on the Environmental Impact Statement, including alternative development.

**Jamie:** Least environmentally damaging alternative accord to USFS. Follows existing pipeline right of way, even through the roadless areas

Charlie: Wants to address earlier comment. Not disingenuous to drill bottom and not drill top. At this point there might be a need for a whole new analysis. There is now a huge amount of development around Roan. With new developments in directional drilling and

new environmental analysis it is quite possible to drill from bottom and not have as many impacts to wildlife. Don't want to see the Hell drilled out of the bottom.

Jamie: I disagree with you. DOW has stated from beginning that big game issues are below the Roan, not on top

Clare: Private lands on top could assess a lot of gas.

Dave C. Not with current technology

Jamie: would take 8-miles to get to all that gas. Also would have to have the private land owners agree. It is very complicated

Clare: Disingenuous to say 1% development would still save top from becoming industrial as well. Different perspectives

**Public comment:**

Claire Moseley: Public lands advocacy in Denver. Involved in White River Plan Amendment. Article on the Roan in the sports section in GJ Sentinel. Showing private property, approved by state not BLM. Industry does really good job of reclaiming land. The big game herds in Colorado are exceeding targets, so I find whole Roan argument disingenuous.

Dick Scar: Republicans for Environmental Protection, Colorado Chair. Believe national energy policy should be to develop alternatives/renewables. Should be a priority on the scale of the Manhattan Project. Not all in party believe this, this group is growing and intends to change this. Sacrificing long-term benefits for short-term like on Roan is not the right way to do it. Concerned about damage to public lands from energy development. Eg CBM in New Mexico that has forced people out of ranching business. Concerned about water sources. Taxpayer subsidies concerned about. We think you should avoid the sensitive areas that are more valuable than energy.

**Fred RFD:**

Powerpoint presentation

Not a decision, least restriction scenario, includes all wells fed private state

Considers industry predictions and data

Claire M: done at beginning of planning process, but planning process is a long process. Can change over that time. In some cases RFD is half what industry thinks it is. I would suggest you make sure your RFD is accurate so plan is not outdated by the time it is released

**Dave will send link to oil potential map link to group. Will post presentation on-line. Also mesaverde play map.**

Water quality monitoring? Fred: geologist looks at all water sources at apd stage. Work with state on issues

Jamie: We hope to get State employees in Energy Office. We have offered to pay for those positions.

Catherine: Very serious problem for BLM that we have to do these. They are often very far apart from the preferred alternative. Not a decision document. How can we do this better? RAC can help us with any ideas.

**NW RAC RMP subgroups:**

Glenwood: Have met last week, gone over process.

Jeff: very diverse group, good job

Charlie: motion to accept advisory group second. Passes unanimously

Kremmling: RAC members were sent names. Duane Dailey has resigned. He and Clare were RAC members on this group. Need new RAC rep for this subgroup to replace. Meet Nov. 27. focused largely on travel management

Jeff: very diverse group, good job

Clare: What is official role of RAC members?

Jamie: Your job is to represent whole RAC with this group.

Catherine: Given leasing issues, should you have an energy rep

Recommendation to move ahead with this group with the addition of an energy representative. Passed unanimously.

White River:

Dave C minutes say motion was to follow Glenwood/Kremmling model. This group is not diverse enough.

Jeff, Pat, others concur

Jeff: Stockmen's group recommended Mike Lopez. Would like to see him on the board.

Jon H: supports Mike Lopez addition as well.

Forrest: I think only two people actually live in the White River Resource Area. That's a concern for me.

Jeff: Concerned that cattlemen group didn't know more about it. Need to get out and recruit folks for this group.

Steve: Need OHV representative as well

Dennis: I will take concerns back to Kent.

Dave C: I will talk to Kent as well

Jeff: Already working through draft alternatives. Crucial time for group to participate right now

Jamie: Give him names. That will speed it up.

Jeff: I will send additional contacts to Kent

Charlie: You also need someone with air quality experience

Jamie: Kent does have an air quality stakeholder group

### **John Harpole – Powerpoint presentation**

Clare: based on Vince's presentation last time and this one, do we need to be covering more broad issues? We need more balance. These are all crises presentation

Catherine: Interested in trying to figure out what alternative energies are being looked at out here that might be on the public land in the future

Jon: Would like to get somebody in to talk about windfarms

Charlie: transmission lines and solar as well

### **Josh Eldridge – Interim reclamation results Presentation**

#### **Catherine leasing**

Landowners in split estate – sometime they want more protections than in place, sometimes less. Key is to get agreement in writing

When talking about split estate it's important to clarify whether its federal split estate

John H: We can enforce what is signed in the APD. What is in surface-use agreement is between company and landowner. BLM just requires that there be one

**Next meeting agenda items**

Sage brush initiative

Renewable potential on federal lands – clare will try to track

Governor energy office

Transmission lines related to the above

Hardrock mining udall bill

COGCC rulemaking changes overview

Invite Hunsaker to next RAC meeting