



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Idaho Resource Advisory Council Meeting

Wednesday, 19 August 2025, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. MDT

MINUTES

Designated Federal Officer (DFO) Update: DFO provided update and insight into BLM-Idaho leadership staffing, Administration's EO/SO-energy, geothermal/renewable energy, hydrogen exploration, minerals, mines/phosphate, timber program, EXPLORE Act, recreation, America 250, permitting, and NEPA programs.

Fire Season Update: As of 12 August 2025, the Great Basin region has had 688 fires which have burned 124927 acres

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Developed Sites: Challis Field Office: Proposed increase/adjustment in fees for 4 existing campgrounds, establish new fee for 3 campgrounds. Reservations system and First Come/First Serve (FCFS)

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Developed Sites: Pocatello Field Office: Proposed fee increase for 3 campgrounds and establish new fees for 1 campground

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Developed Sites: Upper Snake Field Office: Proposed fee increase for 2 campgrounds and 1 amenity site

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Individual Special Recreation Permits: Upper Snake Field Office: Proposed Special Permit Fee structure of dispersed camping sites along the upper Snake River

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Developed Sites: Payette River Sites (USFS & BLM-FRFO): Proposed fee increase for several developed recreation sites and new fees for several sites still to be developed, for a total of 64 sites, 4 BLM sites which are maintained by USFS during the fee collection season. Vote was taken for ALL business plans to adopt the fee structure and reservation system as proposed by field offices and Boise National Forest to the appropriate governing bodies. Motion to Approve Recommendation of Fee Proposals was made by Don Hall and 2nd by John Robison; the vote passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Recreation Fee Proposal Recommendation to the Boise National Forest to be sent to the Boise National Forest, NLT 01 October 2025.

Changes to DOI NEPA Process: Presentation on the 2025 changes to National Environmental Policy Act law, regulations and policy. The presentation focused on the rescission of CEQ regulations and changes related to categorical exclusions, public involvement, and pre-NEPA requirements.

BLM Idaho Geothermal Program and Upcoming Lease Sales: Presentation of the Geothermal Program and approaching Lease Sales within BLM-Idaho.

Public Comment Period: Email comment on Federal register, Dan Sakura, Karen Steenhof, Shaua Robinson, Alex Ernst had public comments.

District Updates: Each district provided updates and status of projects supporting the Administrations Executive Actions & Secretarial Orders.

Status of Nominations: Nominations of persons to be members of the Idaho Resource Advisory Council are on hold until further notice.

FY 2026 Scheduling: Until further notice, all meetings, when a quorum is reestablished, will be virtual meetings.

Based on the discussions around the recreation site fee proposals and the Geothermal Program presentation, Kathy Rinaldi forwarded a motion for 2 subcommittees: Recreation committee and Energy sub-committee.

Motion for establishing Energy Sub-Committee was made by Kathy Rinaldi and 2nd by Don Hall; there was no opposition; motion passed. Motion for Recreation Sub-Committee was made by Kathy Rinaldi and 2nd by Don Hall; there was no opposition; motion passed.

ATTENDEES

IDAHO RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME

Scott Nichols, RAC Chair
John Robison, RAC Vice-Chair
Chad Colter
Addie Faust
Zachary Funkhouser
Don Hall
Darcy Helmick
Terrell Huddleston
Skylar Jett
Steven Lentz
McKinsey Lyon
Brenda Pace, not present
Jennifer Pierce
Kathryn Rinaldi
Kristy Tucker

INTEREST REPRESENTED

Dispersed Recreation
Environmental Organizations
Tribal Representation
State Government Representation
Energy & Minerals Development
Elected Official
Federal Lease/Permit Holder
Dispersed Recreation
Public-at-Large
Commercial Recreation
Energy & Mineral Development
Archeological & Historic Interests
Academia
Environmental Organizations
Commercial Timber

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PUBLIC COMMENT PARTICIPANTS

Dan Sakura
Karen Steenhof
Shuana Robison

PUBLIC ATTENDEES

Larry Ballard
Brandon Flack
Emily Hendricson
Emily Her
Dale Kerner
Susan Kolbay
Chris Laraway
Greg LeDonne
Alexandria Lewis
Ann Potcher
Emily Schlenker
Mindy Seal
Krish Vijayaraghavan

BLM IDAHO LEADERSHIP & STAFF

June Shoemaker	Designated Federal Officer / State Director (Acting)	Idaho State Office
Dennis Strange	State Fire Management Officer	Idaho State Office
Amiee Betts	Deputy State Director (Acting)	Idaho State Office
Ken Anderson	RAC Coordinator	Idaho State Office
Alison Dennis	Secretary	Idaho State Office
Jarod Blades	Branch Chief, Biological Resources	Idaho State Office
Pam Murdock	Planning & Environmental Coordinator	Idaho State Office
Shannon Bassista	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Idaho State Office
Holly Goggin	Geologist	Idaho State Office
Kasey Prestwich	Project Manager	Idaho State Office
Birk Roseman	District Manager	Twin Falls District
Robert Taylor	Deputy District Manager (Acting)	Idaho Falls District
Blaine Newman	Deputy District Manager (Acting)	Idaho Falls District
David Hilliard	Field Manager (Acting)	Challis Field Office
Gabrielle Lukins	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Challis Field Office
Bryce Anderson	Field Manager (Acting)	Pocatello Field Office
John Reffit	Field Manager	Upper Snake Field Office
Monica Zimmerman	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Upper Snake Field Office
Jessie Vidrio-Toews	Outdoor Recreation Planner	Upper Snake Field Office
Kurt Pindel	District Manager	Coeur d'Alene District Office
Richard Fries	Deputy District Manager (Acting)	Coeur d'Alene District Office
Jon Beck	Deputy District Manager	Boise District Office
Heather Tiel-Nelson	Public Affairs Specialist	DOI Public Affairs
Bruce Hallman	DOI Public Affairs Specialist	DOI Public Affairs

USFS STAFF

Christopher Bentley	USFS-ID
Anna Fargo	USFS-ID
Allison Ginn	USFS-ID
Adriene Holcomb	USFS-ID
Amanda Loye	USFS-CA
Courtney Miller	USFS-OR
Joshua Newman	USFS-ID
Allison Remley	USFS-TX
Everado Santillan	USFS-ID
Sam Snider	USFS-MN
Michael Williamson	USFS-ID
Joanna Wilson	USFS-DC