

Peaceful Forms of Protest Resolution
Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council
August 18, 2016

WHEREAS, Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) are comprised of citizens representing various Public Land users and interests and exist to make recommendations to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) with regards to Public Land management; and

WHEREAS, the federal public lands managed by federal land management agencies are managed for many uses and are, with some restrictions and fees, meant to be generally available to the public for recreational use and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, the RACs across this great country was created to listen to any individual or group with a grievance against the BLM or any other federal land management agency to seek relief by using the RAC process, legal and peaceful forms of protests, and/or the legal system and not by threat or intimidation; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC is increasingly concerned because of the threat of violence by militia-type individuals brandishing firearms towards common citizens, law enforcement officers, BLM employees or any other public safety officials in an attempt to threaten and intimidate; and

WHEREAS, unwarranted and armed takeovers have often caused the disruption of nearby communities and disruption of citizens' normal access to public lands; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC strongly condemn these types of actions and remind individuals or groups that there are remedies built into the United States system both administratively and/or within the courts to seek relief.

WHEREAS, it is the right of every American citizen to peacefully protest to protect their rights or to demand a change in policy; and

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC supports peaceful protest and will listen to those that request the use of that process; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC does not support blatant and continuous disregard of federal regulations pertaining to the use of public lands, whether done by individuals or by organized groups; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC supports quick and firm actions, appropriate to the level of the situation, to prevent and defuse illegal and potentially violent forms of protest; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED that the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC supports appropriate review of any illegal and potentially violent acts to uncover what led to the unlawful actions and to provide guidance in the future to prevent similar situations and improve upon their peaceful resolution.