

RECREATION RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL (RRAC)
FINAL MINUTES
June 25, 2009

BLM National Training Center
9828 North 31st Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

AGENDA ITEM: Recreation Resource Advisory Council (RRAC) Session
REA Work Group Report, Steve Saway

DISCUSSION: Steve Saway gave a summary of the working group's recent meetings. He said the working group had a conference call with personnel at the Kingman Field Office on May 20th to discuss their fee increase proposal. The conference call enabled the working group to better understand the fee sites and financial details. At the REA working group meeting on June 24th, Len Marceau from the Kingman Field Office gave an update of the draft business plan and responded to RAC member questions. The working group noted that the June 25th RAC meeting would not have a quorum, but decided to proceed with the fee proposal presentation because it was noticed on the RAC agenda and there could be public comments. The working group also voted (3 in favor, 1 opposed) to recommend the RAC accept the fee proposals as presented. However, a RAC vote will have to be deferred to the September meeting due to lack of a quorum at the June RAC meeting. Regarding future working group meetings, a question was raised about public notification procedures: do working group meetings require a Federal Register notice? Deborah Stevens said no but that there will need to be a local public notice. The meeting can be via teleconference, but a room will need to be reserved for the public to participate. Norman Perry suggested using the local office that is the subject of the discussion.

Maggie Sacher has agreed to join the Recreation Enhancement Act Working Group. The Working Group voted unanimously to recommend the RAC appoint her to the REA working group. When the RAC has a quorum, there will be a vote to allow her to officially join.

ACTION: When a future REA Working Group meeting is scheduled, set up Teleconference for the Recreation Enhancement Act Working Group and put out public notice.

AGENDA ITEM: BLM Fee Proposal: - BLM Kingman Recreation Amenity Fee Sites (Len Marceau, BLM Kingman Field Office)

DISCUSSION: Len Marceau, BLM Kingman Field Office Recreation Planner, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the {PROPOSED FEE} increases at three area campsites. The fees at the Burro Creek, Wild Cow Springs, and Windy Point campgrounds would be increased for the first time in 11 years. Mr. Marceau said the fees are based on

comparable government facilities in the Kaibab National Forest, the Fish & Wildlife Service campgrounds, Red Rocks in Las Vegas, and two local county parks. The fee increase would not recoup all costs.

Steve Saway asked how close Wild Cow Springs {CAMPGROUND WAS} to the county campground. Mr. Marceau said it was four miles, but that the county campground has water and paved roads, where Wild Cow Springs does not. Richard Lunt asked if most people pay the fee. Mr. Marceau said most people in Burro Creek do, but because the other two sites have a younger clientele, there is a higher rate of noncompliance.

Steve Saway asked Mr. Marceau to talk about day use fees for Burro Creek. Mr. Marceau said they had considered charging a day use fee, not unlike that the Forest Service charges at the Tonto, but they decided against that. He said they may revisit the issue in the future if budgets continue to drop.

Norman Perry suggested that AS times continue to be hard, they may want to think about allowing people with local licenses to use the campgrounds at lower rates. Mr. Saway said he believed it was the Prescott National Forest that asked if people preferred an inflation increase rather than one large increase. He said people didn't want the fees to increase every year. Mr. Marceau said that 90% of users in the higher elevations are locals, where most of the users in Burro Creek are snowbirds.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Steve Saway opened the floor to members of the public for the Public Comment Period. There were no members of the public present and the Public Comment Period as closed.

Mr. Saway said that at the next RAC meeting when there is a quorum, the RAC will officially vote on the fee increase. Ms. Werner said the Kingman recreation staff did an excellent job on preparing the document. {INSTEAD} of having a new version and an old version, they put changes in colored type. Deborah Stevens asked if there would be public comment at the next meeting or not. Mr. Saway said anytime we discuss a fee increase, we should allow public comment.

ACTION: Update the RAC webpage with a notice the BLM Kingman fee proposal will be discussed at the September meeting, due to the lack of a RAC quorum to make a recommendation to the Designated Federal Official.

ACTION: RRAC meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.