

Northwest Colorado RAC protocols for decision-making and citizen input

Guiding principle

The Northwest RAC should maintain its ability to make decisions and to convey policy recommendations that are timely and are based in thoughtful discussion and input.

Protocols and options

- Whenever possible, the RAC should act on proposed actions and policy positions soon after they are proposed, especially when prompt action by the RAC is timely in a larger public land management context.

- When prompt action is warranted, proposed text for a resolutions, a formal recommendation, or other formal action may be drafted during meeting in which it is to be considered, *but it is preferable* to provide such proposals to RAC members at least one week (preferably longer) before the RAC meeting at which the action will be requested. This will facilitate well-informed discussion and thoughtful decision-making.

- Although an action may be taken at the meeting in which the related issue is discussed, *it is preferable* that newly proposed resolutions, formal recommendations, and other formal actions be proposed at a RAC meeting, with final vote or action postponed until subsequent RAC meeting.

Citizens input, and RAC deliberations

- Opportunity will be provided for public comment on resolutions and other formal actions before votes/actions are taken, especially when an action is to be proposed and decided in the same meeting. This might be accomplished by either:

- asking for public comment as part of RAC discussion of the proposed action;
- postponing final action/vote until after the pre-scheduled public comment time on the meeting agenda; or
- other similar accommodation.

- Opportunity will be encouraged for members of respective categories to caucus before action/vote is taken.

- At the request by a RAC member, opportunity will be provided for other subsets of RAC members to caucus and work on compromise language before action/vote is taken.

Courtesies and other considerations

- RAC members are encouraged to hear the spectrum of discussions and points of view before settling on their individual positions on a proposal.

- RAC members, and public commenters, are encouraged to compose and express their views and recommendations on a proposal in terms that at least partially respond to and accommodate other points of view.

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Received by Designated Federal Officer
Steve Bennett



Pat Kennedy, Chair
Northwest Resource Advisory Council