

## Meeting Minutes

### Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council

January 25-27, 2012

Las Vegas, Nevada

#### I. RAC Attendance and Welcome

7:30 a.m., Friday, January 27, 2012 – meeting was called to order by Craig Young with the following members of the RAC present:

**SIERRA FRONT–NORTHWESTERN GREAT BASIN RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

<b>COUNCIL MEMBER</b>	<b>RESOURCE/EXPERTISE</b>	<b>06/15/2011</b>
<i>Will Roger Peterson (Chair)</i>	Recreation	
<i>Craig Young (Vice Chair)</i>	Archaeology	X
<i>Tim Dufurrena</i>	Livestock Permittee	X
<i>Verl Ray Hendrix</i>	Livestock Permittee	X
<i>Kyle Snyder</i>	Energy/Minerals	X
<i>Deborah Lassiter</i>	Energy/Minerals	X
<i>Mathew Gingerich</i>	Transportation/ROWs	X
<i>David Von Seggern</i>	Environmental	X
<i>William Molini</i>	Wildlife	X
<i>Mark Freese</i>	State Agency	X
<i>Charles Matton</i>	Wild Horses & Burros	X
<i>Jim Billingsley</i>	Elected Official	
<i>Michael P. Drews</i>	Public-At-Large	X
<i>Douglas Hogan</i>	Academic	X
<i>Wayne Burke</i>	Native Americans	

**BLM Staff Present: Gene Seidlitz, Chris McAlear, Amy Lueders, Lisa Ross**

**Public Present: N/A**

## **II. Summary of Motions Other Than to Approve Minutes**

1. Willie made the motion to re-elect Will Peterson as Chair and Craig Young as Vice Chair. Chuck seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. Willie made the motion that the Black Rock Subgroup's two letters presented recommending the development of the Black Rock NCA Recreation Area Management Plan and focus to protecting the national historic resources in the area be combined. The letters should also include the importance of wildlife and other resources within the NCA. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. Mark made the motion the current "Rec RAC" members continue as members. Debbie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **III. Welcome & Introductions**

Craig Young welcomed all and called the meeting to order. Craig welcomed new RAC members: Kyle Snyder, Ray Hendrix, and Doug Hogan to the SFNWGB RAC. Re-appointed RAC members Mark Freese and William Molini were also recognized.

## **IV. Election RAC Officers for FY 2012 – See motion above.**

## **V. Minutes from June meeting in Gerlach**

Chuck made the motion to approve the minutes from the June 2010 meeting. Willie seconded the motion. The motion passed.

## **VI. RAC Subgroup Reports-** Craig explained to new members about the RAC subgroups.

### **Black Rock Subgroup – Craig Young**

Craig stated how pleased the sub-group is with the motivation and effort displayed by Field Manager, Rolando Mendez and the Black Rock staff. The sub-group appreciates the opportunity to interact with the staff present at the sub-group meetings. Craig reported that the proposal for geocaching within the NCA was discussed at length at the last sub-group meeting, in December 2011. The discussion included not having geocaching within the NCA until a Black Rock NCA Recreation Area Management Plan has been completed. It was also discussed to remind the BLM that besides recreation, historical resources are important, along with other resources. The sub-group will provide more council and advice on the geocaching to the Winnemucca District Manager. It is important to make sure activities within the NCA meet the intent of legislation and

the NCA RMP. Debbie also brought to the attention of the RAC that the “Friends” are looking into grant money for the completion of a brochure addressing geocaching. This then generated more dialogue about seeking the council of the RAC and NCA sub- group on “interim guidelines for geocaching within the NCA. Gene Seidlitz recommends that this item be addressed in the forthcoming combined letter. And Gene summarized this discussion by saying the interim guidelines would be coordinated with BLM, RAC and NCA RAC sub-group and then in the next 1-4 years the initiation and completion of a Recreation Plan for the NCA would also address geocaching as a form of recreation. The RAC agreed.

- **Wild Horse and Burro Subgroup** – Chuck Matton – No report was given.

**XII. Approval of RAC Subgroup Letters** – See motion above.

**XIII. District Manager Reports**

Carson City: Chris McAlear, District Manager – See DM report.

Winnemucca: Gene Seidlitz, District Manager – See DM report.

It was discussed that Chris and Gene will provide grazing permit information including the status of grazing permits issued to the RAC at a future meeting.

Craig asked Chris about the status of the Comstock Mining Incorporated's (CMI) Right-of-way application within the Virginia City National Historic Landmark. Chris reported that the application had been withdrawn.

**XIV. Nominations for NV RAC Recreation Sub-committee (Rec RAC)** – The current four members will stay on the Rec RAC. See motion above.

1. Will Peterson
2. Willie Molini
3. Debbie Lassiter
4. Michael Drews

**XVIII. FY11 Accomplishments and FY12 RAC Issue/Agenda Priority Setting & Scheduling of Meetings**

- Sage grouse
- Burbank Canyon – Field Trip, Carson City
- Fire prevention – Urban Interface
- Landscape Vegetative Management
- Ongoing monitoring – Paradise Valley Field Trip in Winnemucca
- Wildland Evaluation, State Lead for Wilderness to explain “Lands with Wilderness Characteristics
- Ruby Pipeline
- Grazing permitting processes and status of permits – Both Districts
- Resource Management Plans – Carson City
- Vegetation Management
- Montana Mountains Fuels Reduction Area – Field Trip, Winnemucca
- NRCS Funding

#### **XIX. Other Discussion**

- David questioned why the BLM did not approve the letter to be sent to UNR and the NV Legislature expressing the RAC’s concern about the decision to close the College of Agriculture at UNR, which was discussed in a previous RAC meeting. Chris McAlear and Gene Seidlitz explained that Doran Sanchez, Chief of Communications, at the time, advised that it would be lobbying on the BLM’s part and would not be appropriate to be sent from the SFNWGB RAC. It is appropriate for individual members to send the letter with their signature. Gene Seidlitz explained that the previous letter sent from the RAC should not have been sent, but was not addressed at the time.

#### **XX. Adjournment**

**The 2012 RAC meeting dates are:**

- **June 14 and 15 in Carson City**
- **September 27 and 28 in Winnemucca**

**The next Tri-RAC meeting will be January 2013 in Carson City (Date yet to be set)**

**Discussion at meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup> after Tri-RAC reconvened.**

**The following two RAC subgroups will be formed:**

- 1. Sage grouse–William Molini from the SFNWGB RAC will be the lead.**
- 2. Grazing–Jeff White from the NEGB RAC will be the lead.**