

**BLM NEVADA MOJAVE-SOUTHERN GREAT BASIN (MOSO)
Tri-RAC BREAKOUT SESSION**

Suncoast Hotel Casino
9090 Alta Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada
January 27, 2012

Resource Advisory Council members present:

Ronda Hornbeck	Public at Large
Gracian Uhalde	Federal Grazing
Douglas ("Stretch") Baker	Transportation / ROW
Julie von Tobel-Gleason	Wild Horses & Burros
Elise McAllister	Recreation (Dispersed)
Tim Carlson	Energy / Minerals
Joni Eastley	Elected Official (Nye County Commissioner)
Jane Feldman	Environment
Mark Blankensop	State Agency
Heather Fisher	Recreation (Permitted)
Kenny A. Anderson	Native American Representative
Scott Abella	Environment

Resource Advisory Council members not present:

Ed Weber	Academic (UNLV)
Edwin Higbee	Ranching and Federal Grazing
Greg Seymour	Archaeology

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) representatives present:

Mary Jo Rugwell	Southern Nevada District Manager and Designated Federal Official
Tom Seley	Tonopah Field Manager
Rosie Thomas	Ely District Manager
Hillierie Patton	Public Affairs Specialist
Rochelle Francisco	Public Affairs Specialist
Erika Haspiel	Nevada Chief of Communications

Meeting Minutes

7:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

Mary Jo Rugwell, the BLM Southern Nevada District Manager, and MOSO RAC Designated Federal Official, called the meeting to order. Members and BLM staff introduced themselves. Managers welcomed new and returning RAC members.

7:45 a.m. Administrative Matters/Travel Vouchers

Hillierie C. Patton, BLM Southern Nevada District Office Public Affairs Specialist, and the RAC Coordinator, reviewed the travel reimbursement process for new and returning members.

8:00 a.m. Review and Approve Minutes from last session

The members reviewed the 2011 meeting minutes. There were minor details and errors that needed correction. As the RAC Chair for Fiscal Year 2011, Joni Eastley will approve and sign the finalized meeting minutes at the upcoming meeting. They will be made available online BLM Nevada MOSO RAC page.

8:30 a.m. Roles & Responsibilities

The Designated Federal Official led the RAC members in a discussion of the roles and responsibilities for the coming session. She advised members they need to come to meetings prepared and ready to participate. The details of the roles and responsibilities follow:

RAC Chairperson –

- Official representative of MOSO RAC members and subcommittees
- Provide MOSO RAC advice to the BLM through written documentation/correspondence
- Preside over RAC Meetings
- Lead members in voting
- Assist BLM in planning meeting agendas
- Approve meeting minutes

RAC Co-Chairperson -- TBD

- Serve as RAC Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson

MOSO RAC Members

- Attend RAC Meetings
- Provide Advice to BLM on agency issues

9:00 a.m. Structure of the FY 12 RAC

The Designated Federal Official led a discussion about how the RAC should function this year, and the topics and themes that might become the focus of the member's time and attention. Additionally, the discussion focused on field trips and if they would be helpful to the group. During a 2011 meeting, members expressed concern about the public comment period being held at the beginning of each meeting. During the 2012 tri-RAC MOSO Breakout session, the RAC determined it would be in the public's best interest to schedule two opportunities for public comment at each meeting. The meetings and the public comment period(s) will be announced in the *Federal Register*.

Last year, the meetings were held in March, July, and September. RAC members and BLM staff agreed these months would be appropriate for 2012. Joni Eastley suggested that the RAC meet on Fridays, and that they are held in Las Vegas unless otherwise decided. Suggested topics included: recreation and RAMPs, RMPs, sage grouse, desert tortoise, SNPLMA, renewable energy (including Searchlight wind), transmission, horse gathers, Blue Diamond Subdivision, Nellis dunes dust Study, geocaching, Gold Butte, and Travel Management Plans. Member Jane Feldman asked that the RAC be provided a web site location where SNPLMA projects are posted before bringing them to the RAC. Gracian Uhalde and Doug Baker asked for copies of the updated SNPLMA annual report.

The July meeting could include field visits to the Robinson Substation of the OnLine project; Apex Wind; Spring Valley Wind; SNWA pipeline; vegetation identification training and discussion of fire issues and drought. Julie Von Tobel Gleason suggested offering a field trip to the Elko District's Spruce Mountain allotments, where a wild horse sanctuary is proposed.

The RAC and the Designated Federal Official determined the 2012 meeting dates/locations/topics as follows:

March 16 – Las Vegas, Southern Nevada District Office

- Renewable Energy/Transmission
- Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act Round 13 Project Nominations
- Blue Diamond Subdivision

July 20 – Ely District Office

- Field Trip to include:
 - Wild Horse & Burros/Herd Management Areas
 - Transmission
 - Vegetation Identification

September 21 – Las Vegas, Southern Nevada District Office

- Follow up on 2012 topics
- Briefings
 - Recreation/Recreation Area Management Plans
 - Districts Resource Management Plans
 - Nellis Dunes Dust Study

Note: Members requested a briefing on the sage grouse at each meeting.

10:00 a.m. Open Discussion/Q &A

Mary Jo Rugwell indicated that Gold Butte needs in put on allowable activities, locations, etc. She advised members to call Carolyn Ronning for information on this effort as quickly as possible to provide “on the ground” use information.

Joni Eastley said the RAC needs to stay on top of travel management plans and issues that affect local government, resolutions, and ordinances.

RAC members and BLM staff determined there would be two sub-committees in 2012.

Recreation Sub-committee

Elise McAllister – Lead
Douglas “Stretch” Baker
Ed Higbee
Heather Love-Fisher

Resource Management Plan Sub-committee

Joni Eastley - Lead
Heather Love-Fisher
Scott Abella
Jane Feldman
Ronda Hornbeck
Julie Von Tobel-Gleason

10:30 a.m. Election of Officers

The Designated Federal Official opened the meeting to election of officers. The RAC members voted unanimously to elect Joni Eastley, Elected Official representative as the RAC Chairperson and Julie Von Tobel-Gleason, Wild Horse and Burro representative as the Co-Chairperson.

Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned, and RAC members would later reconvene in the full Tri-RAC meeting.

APPROVED BY:

Date: _____

Rosemary Thomas,
Designated Federal Official

Date: _____

Joni Eastly, Chair
Mojave-Southern Great Basin
Resource Advisory Council

- Minutes provided by Rosemary Thomas, BLM Ely District Office and
Hillierie C. Patton, BLM Southern Nevada District Office