**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

**STATE OF UTAH**
**GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT**
**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

# CHARTER

1. **OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Advisory Committee (Committee).

2. **AUTHORITY:** The Committee is a discretionary advisory committee established under Section 309 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), as amended (43 U.S.C. 1739). The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is subject to standards and procedures for the creation, operation, and termination of BLM resource advisory councils. Refer to the 1995 amended BLM regulations (43 CFR 1784) for specific regulations regarding avoidance of conflicts of interest (1784.2-2); calls for nominations (1784.6-1(e)); notice of meetings (1784.4-2); open meetings (1784.4-3); records (1784.5-3); course of instruction for members (1784.6-1(f)); and quorum requirements (1784.6-1(h)). The Committee is established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., Appendix 2.

3. **OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES:** The Committee will advise the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) on science and other management issues and the achievement of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan (Management Plan) objectives.

4. **DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:** Committee duties and responsibilities are as follows:

   To develop recommendations for the Monument on issues pertaining to science and other management issues, and the achievement of objectives set forth in the Management Plan.

   Specifically, the Committee may be requested by the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) to:

   (i) gather and analyze information, conduct studies and field examinations, seek public input or ascertain facts to develop recommendations concerning the use and management of the Monument;

   (ii) review evaluation reports produced by the Monument Science Team and make recommendations on protocols and projects to achieve overall objectives (these evaluations will be completed pursuant to the Monument's Adaptive Management Program);

(iii) compile monitoring data and assess and advise the DFO of the extent to which the Plan objectives are being met;

(iv) review appropriate research proposals and make recommendations on project necessity and validity;

(v) make recommendations regarding allocation of research funds through review of research and project proposals as well as needs identified through the evaluation process;

(vi) consult and make recommendations on issues such as protocols for specific projects, e.g., vegetation restoration methods or standards for excavation and curation of artifacts and objects; and/or

(vii) prepare an annual report summarizing the Committee's activities and accomplishments of the past year, and make recommendations for future needs and activities.

5. **OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS:** The Committee provides advice to the Secretary through the DFO.

6. **SUPPORT:** Administrative support and funding for activities of the Committee will be provided by the BLM.

7. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS and STAFF YEARS:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Committee's activities are estimated to be $40,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and 0.3 Federal staff years support.

8. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The DFO is the BLM's Monument Manager who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all Committee and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.

9. **ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** The Committee will meet approximately two to four times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.

10. **DURATION:** Continuing.

11. **TERMINATION:** The Committee will terminate 2 years from the date the Charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, the Charter is renewed in accordance with Section 14 of the FACA. The Council will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.

## 12. MEMBERSHIP AND DESIGNATION:

a. Eight members will be appointed as follows, one from each of the categories listed below:

(1) an elected official from Garfield County, to represent the interests of county residents;

(2) an elected official from Kane County, to represent the interests of county residents;

(3) a representative of state government;

(4) a representative of tribal government with ancestral interest in the Monument;

(5) an educator, to represent the educational community;

(6) a representative of the environmental community;

(7) an outfitter and guide operating within the Monument, to represent commercial recreational users; and

(8) a livestock grazing permittee operating within the Monument to represent grazing permittees.

b. Seven members will be appointed as special Government employees, one for each of the following areas of expertise:

(1) archaeology;

(2) paleontology;

(3) geology;

(4) botany;

(5) wildlife biology;

(6) social science; and

(7) systems ecology.

c. Members will be appointed to the Committee to serve 3-year terms.

d. Members appointed as special Government employees are required to file on an annual basis a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report.

13. **ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS**: No Committee or subcommittee member will participate in any matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct financial interest.

As provided in 43 CFR 1784.2-2, members of the Committee shall be required to disclose their direct or indirect interest in leases, licenses, permits, contracts, or claims that involve lands or resources administered by the BLM, or in any litigation related thereto. For the purposes of this paragraph, indirect interest includes holdings of a spouse or dependent child.

The Department of the Interior will provide materials to members appointed as special Government employees explaining their ethical obligations. Consistent with the ethics requirements, members will endeavor to avoid any actions that would cause the public to question the integrity of the Committee's operations, activities, or advice. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject.

14. **SUBCOMMITTEES:** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Committee for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Committee Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.

15. **RECORDKEEPING**: The Records of the Committee, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the Committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 26, Item 2, or other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

Ken Salazar

Secretary of the Interior

JAN 17 2012

Date

JAN 22 2012

Date Filed