

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
AND  
U.S.D.A. FOREST SERVICE  
RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**CHARTER**

- 1. OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council.
- 2. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE:** Provide representative citizen counsel and advice to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture (Secretary) through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service's (FS) Designated Federal Officer (DFO) concerning the planning and management of the public land and national forest resources located in whole or in part within the Spokane District of the BLM and the Colville and Okanogan National Forests.
- 3. PERIOD OF TIME NECESSARY FOR THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES:** Since its functions are related to continuing the BLM and the FS responsibility for managing public and national forest lands and resources within the geographical area of jurisdiction described above, the need for the Council is expected to continue indefinitely. Council continuation will be subject to periodic review and rechartering every 2 years as required by Section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. Appendix.
- 4. OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COUNCIL REPORTS:** The DFO to whom the Council reports, unless otherwise noted, is the Spokane District Manager, 1103 North Fancher Road, Spokane, Washington 99212.
- 5. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT:** Administrative support for activities of the Council will be provided by the office of the DFO.
- 6. DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL:** Members of the Council will serve in an advisory capacity to BLM and FS officials within the Council's area of jurisdiction. Council duties and responsibilities are generally as follows:
  - a. Develop recommendations for the BLM and FS officials regarding the preparation, amendment, and implementation of land use plans for the public lands and resources within the jurisdiction of the Council. This may require the Council to, at the direction of the DFO, gather and analyze information, conduct studies and field examinations, hear public comments, and provide advice on the issues presented.
  - b. Advise the BLM and FS officials in identifying the geographic area for which standards and guidelines will be developed, and in developing and amending standards and guidelines, as necessary.
  - c. Advise the BLM and FS officials in developing recommendations for implementation of ecosystem management concepts, principles and programs, and assist the BLM in establishing landscape goals and objectives.
  - d. Except for the purpose of long-range planning and the establishment of resource management priorities, the Council will not provide advice on the allocation and expenditure of Federal funds or on personnel actions.

## **7. COUNCIL COMPOSITION:**

a. Council members appointed by the Secretary will be representative of the following three general groups:

### **GROUP 1 – PERSONS WHO:**

- (i) hold Federal grazing permits or leases within the area for which the Council is organized;
- (ii) represent interests associated with transportation or rights-of-way;
- (iii) represent developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
- (iv) represent the commercial timber industry; or
- (v) represent energy and mineral development.

### **GROUP 2 – PERSONS REPRESENTING:**

- (i) nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations;
- (ii) dispersed recreational activities;
- (iii) archaeological and historical interests; or
- (iv) nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups.

### **GROUP 3 – PERSONS WHO:**

- (i) hold State, county, or local elected office;
- (ii) are employed by a State agency responsible for the management of natural resources, land, or water;
- (iii) represent Indian tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the Council is organized;
- (iv) are employed as academicians in natural resource management or the natural sciences; or
- (v) represent the affected public-at-large.

b. The Council will be comprised of 15 members distributed in a balanced fashion among the three general groups as specified in paragraph 7a. of this charter.

c. In appointing Council members from the three groups, the Secretary shall provide for a balanced and broad representation within each group.

**8. ALLOWANCES FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS:** Council members serve without salary, but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses when on Council business as authorized by Section 309(a) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, and 5 U.S.C. 5703.

**9. ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS:** No Council or subcommittee member shall participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, or related litigation with the Department of the Interior or the U.S.D.A. in which the member has a direct financial interest. As provided in 43 CFR 1784.2-2, members of the Council 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.

**10. SUBGROUPS:** The Council, in consultation with the DFO, may form subgroups to provide input necessary to the successful functioning of the Council. Such subgroups can be formed, subject to the DFO's approval, in response to a petition from local citizens or by a motion of the Council. Input by subgroups will be presented directly to the Council for its deliberation and consideration.

**11. QUORUM AND VOTING REQUIREMENTS:** A majority of the Council members of each interest group must be present to constitute a quorum. To refer an issue to the DFO requires an affirmative vote of the majority of members from each interest group. Unanimous agreement of all Council members will be needed to forward a request to the Secretary as provided for under 43 CFR 1784.6-1(i).

**12. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** The Council will normally meet from two to four times annually, but in no case less than once. Additional meetings may be called by the DFO.

**13. ESTIMATED OPERATING COSTS:** Activities of the Council will require an estimated \$50,000, including 4 work months of Federal employee support.

**14. EXPIRATION DATE:** The Council's charter will expire 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is rechartered by the Secretary in accordance with the provisions of Section 14(b) of FACA, 5 U.S.C. Appendix. The Council shall not meet or perform any functions without a valid current charter.

**15. ADDITIONAL BLM REGULATIONS:** The BLM is subject to additional standards and procedures for the creation, operation, and termination of BLM resource advisory committees. Refer to the 2005 amended BLM regulations (43 CFR 1784) for specific regulations regarding: composition (1784.6-1(c)); avoidance of conflict 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); and course of instruction for members (1784.6-1(f)).

**16. AUTHORITY:** Section 309 of FLPMA, as amended, 43 U.S.C. 1739.

/s/ Dirk Kempthorne  
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

October 11, 2007  
Date Signed

October 13, 2007  
Date Charter Filed