

Commissioners

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:40 AM
To: MACO
Subject: BLM Seeks Nominations to Resource Advisory Councils

BLM Seeks Nominations to Resource Advisory Councils

The Bureau of Land Management is seeking public nominations for open positions on its 29 Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) to address public land issues. As published in a notice in the *Federal Register* today, the BLM will consider nominations for 45 days, until 11:59 PM on March 31, 2014.

The BLM's RACs, composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, help the Bureau carry out its mission on public lands. The Bureau, which manages more land than any other Federal agency, has 29 RACs across the West, where most consist of 10 to 15 members with an interest or expertise in public land management, including such individuals as conservationists, recreationists, state and local government officials, Tribal officials, and academics. The diverse membership of each RAC provides the varying perspectives they need to achieve their mission, which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses.

"The advice given to the BLM by these citizen-based Resource Advisory Councils is a vital part of the BLM's collaborative decision-making process," said BLM-Montana/Dakotas State Director Jamie Connell. "Citizen input enhances our agency's ability to administer and conserve public lands for the enjoyment of current and future generations of Americans."

Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on an advisory council. Nominees, who must be residents of the council's jurisdiction, will be judged on the basis of their training, education, and knowledge of the council's geographical area. Nominees must demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making. All nominations must be accompanied by letters of support from interested parties, interests or organizations, a completed RAC application, and any other information that speaks to the nominee's qualifications. Each of the 29 RACs has different positions open in the following categories:

Category One - Public land ranchers and representatives of organizations associated with energy and mineral development, recreation, rights-of-way, off-highway vehicle use, and commercial recreation.

Category Two - Representatives of nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations, archaeological and historical sites, and recreation activities, and wild horse and burro organizations.

Category Three - Representatives of state, county, or local elected office; representatives and employees of a state agency; representatives of natural resources; representatives of Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; representatives of educational institutions who are involved in natural sciences; and the public-at-large.

A term on a RAC is for three years. The BLM-Montana/Dakotas has vacancies on each of its four RACs.

Western Montana: Send nominations to David Abrams, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, MT, 59701, 406/533-7617.

Central Montana: Send nominations to Jonathan Moor, 920 NE Main Street, Lewistown, MT, 59457, 406/538-1943.

Eastern Montana: Send nominations to Mark Jacobsen, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT, 59301, 406/233-2831.

Dakotas: Send nominations to Mark Jacobsen, 111 Garryowen Road, Miles City, MT, 59301, 406/233-2831.

More information is available at http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/resource_advisory.html. This site also includes a link to the BLM's public land issues page. Please also visit us on the web at www.blm.gov/mt. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BLMMontana, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/BLMMontana.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, includes Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage public lands for the enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.5 billion in revenue.

--BLM--

Montana/Dakotas State Office 5001 Southgate Dr. Billings, MT 59101

Nomination Form is available at:

http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/wo/Communications_Directorate/legislation/rac_documents.Par.91838.File.dat/RAC%20nomination%20form.pdf

Western Montana RAC Members

Name	Address	Interest Represented
<u>Category 1</u>		
Ted Antonioli	Missoula	Energy/Minerals
Koy Holland	Dillon	Federal Grazing
Bob Walker - Chair	Clancy	Commercial Recreation
David Krueger	Anaconda	Timber
Jack King	Billings	Energy/Minerals
<u>Category 2</u>		
Michael Connors	Dillon	Dispersed Recreation
Paul Putz	Townsend	Archeologic/Historic
Michael Gibson	Missoula	Environmental
Katherine Looney - Vice Chair	Pony	Dispersed Recreation
Oliver Akab Weltzien	Dillon	Environmental
<u>Category 3</u>		
Vacant	NA	NA
Sam Samson	Boulder	Public-at-large
Whitney Tilt	Bozeman	Public-at-large
Mark Sweeney	Anaconda	Elected Official
David Kirsch	Boulder	Elected Official

The Western Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) is an official federal advisory committee that provides advice and recommendations on all aspects of public land management to the Bureau of Land Management's Butte, Missoula and Dillon Field Offices.

The Western Montana RAC operates on the principle of collaborative decision-making and strives for consensus before making official recommendations to BLM. In fact, our motto is "Making Significant Progress Towards Consensus."

The Secretary of the Interior appoints citizens to staggered three-year terms on the Council. A list of potential appointees is generated by an annual public nomination process.

Since the Council was established in 1995, the Western Montana RAC has assisted in developing the Montana BLM's Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing, and the Whitetail/Pipestone Travel Management Plan. Most recently, Council involvement has focused on development of the Dillon Resource Management Plan the Sustaining Working Landscape Initiative. Membership on the 15-member Western Montana RAC is balanced to achieve representation of the wide variety of public land resources and users.

- 5 members representing commercial uses and users such as livestock grazing, timber, mining, oil & gas, realty & rights-of-ways, off-highway vehicle groups and guides & outfitters

- 5 members representing environmental organizations, historic & cultural interests, wildlife organizations, wild horses & burros, and dispersed recreation
- 5 members representing elected officials, Tribes, state or other governmental agencies, academic institutions, and the public-at-large

The Western Montana RAC meets approximately every quarter. Meeting locations alternate between the Butte, Missoula and Dillon Field offices, with the Field Manager at the meeting location serving as the Designated Federal Official (DFO) and host of the meeting.

Periodically, field trips are scheduled to various areas that are pertinent to a specific topic of discussion. All of the RAC meetings are open to the public and opportunities are provided at each meeting for the public to address the Council. Meeting minutes are available after each meeting, and will be posted on this website.

Eastern Montana RAC Members

Name	Address	Interest Represented
<u>Category 1</u>		
Thomas Hohn	Columbus	Energy/Minerals
Larry Pilster	Alzada	Federal Grazing
Mack Cole	Forsyth	Energy/Minerals
Doug Kary	Billings	Off-highway Vehicles
<u>Category 2</u>		
Rita Harding	Billings	Environmental
Janice Kallevig	Sidney	Archeologic/Historic
<u>Category 3</u>		
Tim Lehman	Billings	Academia
Lance Kalfell	Terry	Public-at-large
Calvin Cumin	Lame Deer	Native American Tribes
Harold Guse	Shepherd	Public-at-large
Bill Kennedy	Billings	Elected Official

The Eastern Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) is an official federal advisory committee that provides advice and recommendations on all aspects of public land management to the Bureau of Land Management's Miles City and Billings Field Offices.

The Secretary of the Interior appoints citizens to staggered three-year terms on the Council. A list of potential appointees is generated by an annual public nomination process.

Membership on the 15-member Eastern Montana RAC is balanced to reflect various interest and users of public lands.

- 5 members representing commodity interests such as livestock grazing, timber, energy and mining, off-highway vehicle groups and developed recreation.
- 5 members representing environmental organizations, historic & culture interests, wildlife organizations, wild horses & burros, and dispersed recreation.
- 5 members representing elected officials, Tribes, state or other governmental agencies, academicians involved in natural sciences, and the public-at-large.

The Eastern Montana RAC meets from two to four times a year. Meeting locations alternate among eastern Montana communities to allow the public to address the council. The Miles City and Billings Field Managers serve as the co-Designated Federal Officials(DFO) at the meetings.

Periodically, field trips are scheduled to various areas that are pertinent to a specific topic of discussion. All RAC meetings are open to the public and time is allotted at each meeting for the public to address the Council. Meeting minutes are available after each meeting, and will be posted on this website.

Central Montana RAC Members

Name	Address	Interest Represented
<u>Category 1</u>		
Dan Kluck	Malta	Federal Grazing
Dana Darlington	Big Sandy	Federal Grazing
Wayne Fairchild	Missoula	Commercial Recreation
Nick Schultz	Grass Range	Federal Grazing
Vacant	NA	Energy/Minerals
<u>Category 2</u>		
Ralph Knapp	Great Falls	Dispersed Recreation
Jason Birdwell	Lewistown	Dispersed Recreation
Aart Dolman	Great Falls	Environmental
Larry Epstein	Cut Bank	Environmental
Mary V. Jones	Lewistown	Environmental
<u>Category 3</u>		
James McCollum	Great Falls	Public-at-large
Ron Poertner	Winifred	Public-at-large
Clive Rooney - Chair	Lewistown	State Natural Resources
David Reingardt	Hinsdale	Elected Official

The Central Montana Resource Advisory Council (RAC) is an official federal advisory committee that provides advice and recommendations on all aspects of public land management to the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM field managers within the council's jurisdictional boundary.

The intent of this (and every) RAC is to closely involve citizens in public resource management. The RAC operates on the principle of collaborative decision making and strives for consensus before making resource management recommendations to the BLM.

The RAC is composed of citizens appointed by the Secretary of the Interior to staggered three-year terms. A list of potential appointees is generated annually through a public nomination process and in consultation with the Governor's office.

Membership on the 15-member Central Montana RAC is balanced to reflect the various interests and users of public lands. The three categories represented by RAC members are as follows:

- 5 members representing commodity interests such as livestock grazing, timber, energy and mining, off-highway vehicle groups and developed recreation;

- 5 members representing environmental organizations, historic and cultural interests, wildlife organizations, wild horses and burros, and dispersed recreation;
- 5 members representing elected officials, tribes, state or other governmental agencies, academicians involved in natural sciences, and the public-at-large.

The RAC meets approximately three times a year, and all meetings are open to the public. Meeting locations vary throughout central Montana to allow the public more convenient access to the meetings. Time is allotted at the beginning of each meeting for the public to address the council. Meeting minutes are available after each meeting and are posted on this website. Periodically, field trips are scheduled to various areas to afford the RAC members a firsthand look at locations pertinent to specific topics of discussion. The field trips are typically held in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting.