

2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2009

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Roadless Area Conservation National
Advisory Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

25110

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

04/03/2007

6. Expected Renewal Date

04/03/2009

7. Expected Term Date

04/03/2009

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

USDA

8c. Actual Term Date

04/03/2009

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Established under FACA (5 USC App II) to advise on IRA petitions submitted under APA (5 USC 553(e))

13.

Effective Date

09/08/2005

14.

Committee Type

Continuing

14c.

Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report

Date

Report Title

12/05/2008 RACNAC Advice on the Proposed Colorado Roadless Rule

Number of Committee Reports Listed:

1

17a.

Open

2

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose	Start	End
The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed rule for the management of roadless areas on National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado and to discuss other related roadless area matters.	10/09/2008	10/09/2008
The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed rule for the management of roadless areas on National Forest System lands in the State of Colorado and to discuss other related roadless area matters.	11/18/2008	11/19/2008

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$8,420.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$38,800.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$34,400.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$2,200.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$3,600.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$87,420.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.25	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee provides a national perspective to petitions submitted to the Secretary

of Agriculture by Governors seeking to establish or adjust management requirements for inventoried roadless areas within their respective states. Existing management requirements are contained in current, approved land management plans for each unit of the National Forest System and the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule. The committee will review submitted petitions in light of the petition requirements in the Administrative Procedures Act and provide the Secretary with advice and recommendations concerning the petition and any subsequent rulemaking.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee members will represent national organizations interested in the conservation and management of inventoried roadless areas, and membership on the committee will be balanced to represent diverse interests and points of view concerning this issue.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Frequency of the meetings will depend on how many of the 39 governors submit petitions to the Secretary, and whether subsequent meetings are needed to provide advice to the Secretary during the rulemaking procedures following acceptance of the state petition. The committee will have 90 days from the receipt of a completed petition to review it and provide the Secretary with advice and recommendations.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Charter for this committee is currently expired. The committee is under review to see if

the need still exists to re-charter.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Meetings are not closed meetings. (See Charter)

21. Remarks

USDA did not reauthorize the RACNAC charter when it was up for renewal, so the committee was terminated in 2009.

Designated Federal Officer

Richard Cook Forest Service, Deputy Director,
Ecosystem Management Coordination

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Bird, Darin	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Utah Department of Natural Resources	Representative Member
Cook, Adena	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Blue Ribbon Coalition	Representative Member
Cope, Robert	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	National Association of Counties	Representative Member
Eisenberg, Jeff	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	National Cattlemen's Beef Association	Representative Member
Hansen, Paul	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	The Nature Conservancy	Representative Member
Harris, Dale	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Montana Wilderness Association	Representative Member
Link, Geraldine	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	National Ski Areas Association	Representative Member
Riley, James	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Intermountain Forest Association	Representative Member
Schaefer, Greg	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	National Mining Association	Representative Member
Schulke, Todd	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Center for Biological Diversity	Representative Member
Scott, Denny	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners	Representative Member
Vaughan, Ray	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	WildLaw	Representative Member
Wood, Chris	09/13/2005	09/13/2009	Trout Unlimited	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 13

Narrative Description

Inventoried roadless areas represent approximately one third of the total National Forest System land base of just over 192 million acres. The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The goals of the agency's strategic plan are to: (1) reduce the risk from catastrophic wildland fire; (2) reduce the impacts from invasive species; (3) provide outdoor recreation opportunities; (4) help meet energy resource needs; (5) improve watershed condition; and (6) conduct mission-related work to that which supports the agency goals. The conservation and management of inventoried roadless areas can implement and support the agency's mission and strategic plan goals in many different ways. The committee's advice and recommendations on state-specific proposals for the management of these areas will help the Secretary determine the best course of action for their future management.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$500,001 - \$1,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Over \$10,000,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cost Savings Other | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

6

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Committee has issued recommendations on 5 state petitions: Idaho, Colorado, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina. The Committee has also issued recommendations on the proposed Idaho Roadless Rule and the proposed Colorado Roadless Rule. Two additional recommendations were in progress for the petitions from California and Utah in September of 2006. However, California and Utah subsequently withdrew their petitions due to the Laporte decision on the 2005 State Petition Rule.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

33%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

USDA and the Forest Service have implemented the Committee's recommendations on the Idaho State Petition and the Proposed Idaho Roadless Rule. Implementation of the recommendation on Colorado roadless petition is in progress. Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina withdrew their petitions after the Laporte decision on the 2005 State Petition Rule, making the RACNAC recommendations moot.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

16%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

see above

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The Agency is in contact with the Committee as needed to update them on the status of their recommendations.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The Agency has issued regulations on the management of inventoried roadless areas on NFS lands in Idaho as a result of the RACNAC recommendations on the Idaho petition and proposed rule. The agency has also issued a proposed Colorado Roadless Rule as a result of the RACNAC recommendations on the Colorado petition. Work on the final Colorado Roadless Rule is still underway.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

The Forest Service national roadless area website contains copies of the RACNAC's meeting notes and committee recommendations, as well as the committee charter, list of members and meeting announcements.