

2007 Current Fiscal Year Report: Resource Advisory Committees for the Southwestern Region

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2007

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Resource Advisory Committees for the Southwestern Region

3b. GSA

Committee No.

13815

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

06/30/2006

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

09/30/2007

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

P.L. 106-393

8c. Actual Term Date

09/30/2007

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Enacted

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

P.L. 106-393

13. Effective Date

10/30/2000

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a.

Open

2

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

Review and select projects for funding

Start

09/11/2007

End

09/11/2007

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	\$49,000.00	\$49,000.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$1,500.00	\$500.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$500.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
18d. Total	\$52,400.00	\$52,400.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.60	0.60

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The scope and objectives are to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service consistent with the Secure Rural Schools and

Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. The duties and responsibilities are to review and recommend projects proposed under Title II of the Act by participating counties and other persons, propose projects and funding to the Secretary of Agriculture, provide frequent opportunities for citizens, organizations, tribes, land management agencies, and other interested parties to participate openly and meaningfully, at the beginning of the early stages of project development process.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership shall be balanced and have broad representation from within each of the three membership categories, as required by the Act. These categories are further broken-down into five specific areas. Therefore, the following interests are represented: persons who represent organized labor; developed outdoor recreation, off-highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities; energy and mineral development interests; commercial timber industry; person holding Federal grazing permits or other land use permits; nationally and regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreational activities; archaeological and historical interest; nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups; person holding state elected office or their designee; persons holding county or local elected office; representative of American Indian tribes; school officials or teachers; and person representing the affected public-at-large.

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

Estimated Number of Meetings for two

committees/subcommittees with appointed members, per Year - 4 Estimated per committee
Total Meetings - 8

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

This committee is essential because the Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) provide for early and continuous coordination with agency officials on forest projects and for frequent opportunities for citizens, organizations, tribes, land management agencies and others to participate openly and meaningfully beginning at the early stages of the project development process. Advice of the committee is not available from other sources because the Act requires that RACs be formed to review forest projects and recommend the proposed projects they deem have merit to the Secretary of Agriculture for approval.

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

N/A

21. Remarks

Termination advised by Secretariat due to lapsed legislation. Agency may bring this committee back on its own authority if legislation is not forthcoming.

Designated Federal Officer

Harv Forsgren Regional Forester

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Benne, Robert	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Ranching	Representative Member
Brown, Jack	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	legislator, ranching	Representative Member
Greenwood, Bill	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Town Manager	Representative Member
Hodges, R.	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Director, Sky Island Alliance	Representative Member

Hoffman, Donald	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Arizona Wilderness Coalition Coordinator	Representative Member
Hughes, Dennis	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Powr company executive	Representative Member
Lunt, Richard	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	County Supervisor	Representative Member
Marks, Barbara	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Ranching	Representative Member
Mathis, Janet	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Cooperative Extension Service	Representative Member
Pinkerton, Richard	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Retired cartographer	Representative Member
Sitko, Suzanne	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Nature Conservancy Director	Representative Member
Taylor, Arnold	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Manager, Department of Natural Resources, Hopi Tribe	Representative Member
Thurman, Lorna	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Self-employed consultant	Representative Member
Wager, Joseph	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	retired publisher	Representative Member
Wise, Elizabeth	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Retired educator; non-motorized trail enthusiast	Representative Member
Benne, Robert [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Finance, financial planning, ranching	Representative Member
Brown, Jack [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	State of Arizona House of Representatives, ranching	Representative Member
Greenwood, Bill [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Town Manager, Town of Eagar	Representative Member
Hodges, R. [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Policy Director, Sky Island Alliance	Representative Member
Hoffman, Donald [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Arizona Wilderness Coalition	Representative Member
Hughes, Dennis [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Navopache Electric Cooperative	Representative Member
Lunt, Richard [Eastern Arizona Counties Organization Resource Advisory Committee]	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	County Supervisor	Representative Member

Marks, Barbara					Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Ranching		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]					
Mathis, Janet					Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Educator		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]					
Sitko, Suzanne					Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	The Nature		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]			Conservancy		
Taylor, Arnold					Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Hopi Tribe		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]					
Thurman, Lorna				Educational and	Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	business		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]			consultant		
Wager, Joseph				President,	Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Scythian Group,		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]			Inc. (publishing)		
			trail advocacy,		
Wise, Elizabeth				White Mountain	Representative
[Eastern Arizona Counties Organization	02/21/2006	02/21/2009	Conservation		Member
Resource Advisory Committee]			League		

Number of Committee Members Listed: 29

Narrative Description

This Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) is mandated by Congress, under section 205 of PL 106-393, the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. The Committee was established for two purposes: (1) to improve collaborative relationships among the people who use and care for the National Forests and the Forest Service, which manages the lands; and (2) to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service in identifying and implementing broadly supported land management projects that maintain existing infrastructure, enhance forest ecosystems, and improve land health and water quality. The RAC directly supports the agency's mission goal for ecosystem health: to Promote ecosystem health and conservation using a collaborative approach to sustain the Nations's forests, grasslands, and watersheds.

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

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety



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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

RAC funded projects have improved the safety of area residents living in communities adjacent to national forests

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?

60

Number of Recommendations Comments

Sixty project applications have been recommended for funding since the RAC first met.

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

48%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

29 out of 60 projects are fully completed.

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

52%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

NA

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 RAC is briefed during regular meetings about projects funded

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

Action Comments

NA

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

Yes

What is the estimated **Number** of grants reviewed for approval 104

What is the estimated **Number** of grants recommended for approval 60

What is the estimated **Dollar Value** of grants recommended for approval \$2,306,056

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 type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A