



BLM Resource Advisory Councils

Partners Across The West

To: Andrew Archuleta – Northwest District Manager

From: Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council

Date: December 6, 2018

Dear District Manager Archuleta,

Fire activity and severity in the western United States have been increasing in recent decades as a result of fuel loading, altered fire regimes, changing climate, elongated fire seasons, and the expanding wildland-urban interface (WUI). The Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council requests the Northwest District and its associated field offices and fire units to emphasize proactive wildfire mitigation and education efforts.

Actions and strategies to consider include, but are not limited to the following:

- Fuel treatment projects;
- Prescribed fire utilization;
- Public education and community outreach;
- Timber harvest;
- Green-stripping;
- Available technologies;
- Science and research;
- Interagency and intergovernmental partnerships;
- Public-private partnerships;
- Cross-boundary management.

In order to ensure the progression of these efforts, we strongly encourage the safeguarding of associated staffing and programs and the allocation of adequate resources for current and future needs. The NW RAC believes that fire and fuels management will continue to be a primary land management issue in our region for the foreseeable future, and we want to ensure that adequate directives are in place. Given that the BLM Northwest District recently completed a programmatic environmental analysis to streamline approvals of vegetation treatments, we request accelerated implementation of on-the-ground projects.

Sincerely,

Michael Pritchard
NW RAC Chair