

Resolution of the Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council Regarding Vacant Resource Advisory Council Seats

WHEREAS, the Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council ("Council") is established pursuant to the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), as amended, and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), to provide advice and recommendations to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on the planning and management of public lands within the Rocky Mountain District of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, the Council plays a vital role in ensuring that the BLM's management decisions are informed by multiple perspectives representative of the local community and conscious of local economic impacts, including those of State and local governments, environmental organizations, industry representatives, recreation users, and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the Council currently experiences a significant number of vacant seats, which hinders its ability to achieve a quorum and fulfill its advisory responsibilities, thereby limiting its capacity to represent the full spectrum of interests within the community; and

WHEREAS, the lack of a fully constituted Council limits the BLM's capacity to receive timely and comprehensive advice on critical land management issues, including but not limited to land use planning, classification, retention, management, extraction of energy and mineral resources and disposal of public lands.

WHEREAS, the ongoing vacancies create an imbalance in representation, potentially excluding crucial perspectives from the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes the importance of timely appointments to ensure the effective operation of the advisory process and the fulfillment of the BLM's mission; and

WHEREAS, the Council acknowledges the efforts of the BLM to solicit applications for vacant positions, but notes the persistent need for expedited appointment processes; and

WHEREAS, Council duties and responsibilities, where applicable, are as follows:

1. Upon the request of the Designated Federal Officer (DFO), develop recommendations for BLM with respect to the land use planning, classification, retention, management, and disposal of the public lands within the area for which

the advisory council is established and such other matters as may be referred to it by the DFO.

2. Upon the request of the DFO, the Council may make recommendations regarding a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee, whenever the recommendations related to public concerns in the State or region covered by the Council regarding:
 - (a) the implementation of a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee or the establishment of a specific recreation fee site;
 - (b) the elimination of a standard amenity recreation fee or an expanded amenity recreation fee; or
 - (c) the expansion or limitation of the recreation fee program.

The Council may make these recommendations to BLM when BLM's amenity recreation fees are at issue and it would facilitate the effective implementation of the FLREA. When FS amenity recreation fees are at issue, the Council may make recommendations to BLM and/or FS with FS concurrence if doing so would facilitate the effective implementation of the FLREA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council hereby implores the Colorado State Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the Secretary of the Interior to:

1. **Prioritize the timely appointment of qualified candidates to all vacant Resource Advisory Council seats** within the Rocky Mountain District of Colorado, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;
2. **Expedite the review and appointment process** for qualified applicants to ensure the Council's full operational capacity;
3. **Increase outreach and recruitment efforts** to attract a diverse pool of candidates representing all relevant stakeholder groups;
4. **Provide clear and transparent communication** regarding the status of the appointment process to the Council and the public;
5. **Acknowledge and address the urgency** of filling these seats to maintain effective public land management and stakeholder engagement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council requests that the Secretary of the Interior provide a written response within 60 days, outlining the steps being taken to address the vacancies and the expected timeline for appointments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the following:

- The Colorado State Director of the Bureau of Land Management
- The Secretary of the Interior
- Members of the Colorado Congressional Delegation
- Other relevant stakeholders.

Voted on this 3rd day of April, 2025 in 12 in favor of and 0 oppose.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Daniel", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mick Daniel

Chair, Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council

Chris Ziegler

Designated Federal Officer, Rocky Mountain Resource Advisory Council