



U.S. Department of Agriculture/U.S. Department of the Interior  
Forest Service / Bureau of Land Management  
Pacific Northwest Region / Oregon State Office  
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Portland, Oregon 97204  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

XXXX

date

**To:** Non-Federal Recreation Resources Advisory Committee Members  
(see distribution list)

**SUBJECT: SUMMARY NOTES FOR THE APRIL 11-12, 2007  
RECREATION RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

This memo transmits summary meeting notes from the April 11-12, 2007 Recreation Resources Advisory Committee meeting held at the DoubleTree Hotel and Executive Meeting Center, Portland, Oregon. This meeting included an orientation session for all members (primary and alternate). Primaries also participated in a project review session on April 12 that unanimously approved fee increases for:

- Proposal 1: Willamette National Forest
- Proposal 2: Roseburg District
- Proposal 3: Mount Saint Helens Monument

Congratulations go to **Dennis Oliphant** our new chairperson who will be helping formulate the agenda for the next meeting scheduled for May 16-17, 2007 in the Portland, Oregon area. Additional details for this meeting (such as the location, meeting times, travel tips, and meeting topics) will be sent to you under separate cover.

If you have questions related to these notes please contact me (541-308-1706), Abbie Jossie (541-471-6500), or Kath Collier (503-808-2179, RecRAC Facilitator). I look forward to seeing you at the May meeting.

**DANIEL HARKENRIDER**  
Designated Federal Official

**ABBIE JOSSIE**  
Ex Officio/BLM Official

Recreation Resources Advisory Committee

Attachments

1. Meeting agenda (2p)
2. Summary notes (8p)

**RECREATION RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISTRIBUTION LIST**

<b>Primary</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
<b>John W. Vogel</b> - Winter Motorized Recreation	Billy Gene Bowling
<b>Gustav W. Bekker</b> - Winter Non-Motorized Recreation	June Wyman Helbig
<b>Carol P. Jensen</b> – Summer Motorized Recreation	Dwight Edward Richter
<b>Elizabeth Lunney</b> – Summer Non-Motorized Recreation	Rebecca A. Hope
<b>Frank Bird</b> – Hunting and Fishing	Richard Fahey
<b>Robert Hamlyn</b> – Motorized, Outfitters/Guides	--
<b>Dennis Oliphant</b> – Non-Motorized, Outfitters/Guides	Warren Meyer
<b>Joyce Pisanont</b> – Local Environmental	Charles Walter Warner
<b>Todd E. Davidson</b> – State Tourism	--
<b>John T. Walker</b> – Tribal	--
<b>Charles Hurliman</b> – Local Government	John S. Griffith

cc: RecRAC Support Team

**Recreation Resources Advisory Committee**  
**Draft Agenda for April 11-12, 2007**  
**DoubleTree Hotel & Conference Center, Portland, Oregon**

Time	Topics for April 11, 2007	Purpose	Presenter
8:15	<b>Welcome/Logistics/Introductions/Participation</b>	Housekeeping	Dan Harkenrider (FS) Abbie Jossie (BLM)
8:45	<b>Opening Statements</b>	Introductions and Recognition	Linda Goodman (FS) Ed Shepard (BLM)
9:15	<b>Logistics, Agenda Review, Goals, and Objectives for this meeting, public statement</b>	Housekeeping	Kath Collier (BLM)
9:30	<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>	Clarification	Dan Harkenrider (FS) Abbie Jossie (BLM)
10:00	Break		
10:15	<b>Federal Advisory Committee Act Overview</b>	Training requirement	Shaundra Terry (FS)
11:00	<b>Notebook Questions and Answers</b>	Clarification	Dan Harkenrider (FS)
11:30	Lunch		
12:30	<b>Introduction to the Recreation Program</b>	Overview	Jocelyn Brio (FS), Margaret Wolf, or Mike Harvey...
2:00	<b>Public Comment</b>	Required	Kath Collier (BLM)
2:30	Break		
2:45	<b>Protocol for Making Committee Recommendations</b> - Group Agreements (meeting) - Bylaws Overview - Recommendation Protocol	Overview Q&A	Kath Collier (BLM) Dan Harkenrider (FS) Abbie Jossie (BLM)
4:45	<b>Closing</b> - What we will be doing tomorrow - Tasks and agreements	Housekeeping	Kath Collier (BLM)
5:00	<b>Adjourn</b>		
5:30	<b>Social Hour</b>		No host
6:30			

**Attachment 1-2 – Original Draft Agenda**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topics for April 12, 2007</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
8:00	<b>Welcome</b> /Logistics/Icebreaker/Participation	Housekeeping	Kath Collier (BLM)
8:45	<b>Being Collaborative--what does collaboration mean?</b>	Group Grounding	Norm Hesseldahl?
9:15	<b>Elections &amp; Bylaws</b> -- Clarification of the bylaws -- Election of committee chair	Decision	Dan Harkenrider (FS)
9:45	Break		
10:00	<b>Committee Recommendation Process</b> - Strawman proposal process - Presentation of the draft proposal - Group Discussion - Sensing - Voting process	Instructional	Dan Harkenrider (FS)
10:15	<b>Proposal #1: Campground Fee Increases - Malheur NF</b>	Process test and recommendation	Jocelyn Biro (FS) Kath Collier (BLM)
11:15	<b>Feedback on the Recommendation Process</b>	Process refinement	Kath Collier (BLM)
11:30	Lunch		
12:30	<b>Proposal #2: Campground Fee Increases – Roseburg District</b>	Process test and recommendation	Margaret Wolf (BLM) Kath Collier (BLM)
1:15	<b>Proposal #3: Monument Fee Increases - Mt. St Helens</b>	Review process and recommendation	Claire Lavendel or monument manager (FS) Kath Collier (BLM)
2:00	<b>Public Comment</b>	Required	Kath Collier (BLM)
2:30	Break		
2:45	<b>Mt. St Helens (Continued)</b>		
3:45	<b>Feedback on the Recommendation Process</b>	Process refinement recommendation	Kath Collier (BLM)
4:10	<b>Closure</b> - Tasks and Assignments - Next steps with public comments - Agreements/Recommendations - Loose ends (meeting notes, etc.) - Next meeting date	Housekeeping	Kath Collier (BLM)
4:20	<b>Closing Statements</b>	Closure	Dan Harkenrider (FS)
4:30	<b>Adjourn</b>		

## Topic Summaries

<b>Topic: Welcome and Opening</b>
<b>Presenter: Dan Harkenrider (FS), Jim Kenna (BLM), and Liz Agpaoa (FS)</b>
<b>Discussion Summary:</b> Dan provided opening welcome statements and introduced Oregon/ Washington State Office, Bureau of Land Management Associate Director Jim Kenna and Region 6, Forest Service Deputy Regional Forester Liz Agpaoa. Both Jim and Liz thanked the committee for volunteering and providing valuable recommendation to the agencies related to recreation fees. They also recognized the challenge the group will have in balancing value of the services provided and the fees recommended.

<b>Topic: Roles and Responsibilities</b>
<b>Presenters: Dan Harkenrider (FS) and Abbie Jossie (BLM)</b>
<b>Discussion Summary:</b> Dan provided an overview of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the purpose of the committee,</li><li>• the categories of public participation within the committee,</li><li>• the various instances where a quorum is required by the Recreation Enhancement Act, and</li><li>• clarified the differences between a recommendation (group recommendations related to proposals are forwarded to the agencies) versus a group decision (which might involve committee processes or meeting function).</li></ul> There were questions related to subcommittee functions (should they be established), related to the greater group function. The group also spent time talking about options the committee could use during the voting process.

<b>Topic: Federal Advisory Committee Act overview</b>
<b>Presenter: Shandra Terry (FS)</b>
<b>Discussion Summary:</b> Shandra provided an overview of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and how the Act applies to this particular committee. The Act (Public Law 92-463, 5 U.S.C., App) was enacted by Congress in 1972 to ensure that advice provided by the various advisory committees were objective and accessible to the public. The Act formalized a process for establishing, operating, overseeing, and terminating advisory groups. The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) use several FACA committees to gather advice. <i>Note:</i> Not all public meetings are under FACA rules, there are several types of meetings, such as intergovernmental meetings or town hall meetings, that are not.  Additional information about the Act is available at <a href="http://www.gsa.gov/faca">http://www.gsa.gov/faca</a> ; additional information about the Pacific Northwest Recreation Resource Advisory Committee can be found at <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/passespermits/rrac.shtml">http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/passespermits/rrac.shtml</a> .

<b>Topic: Notebook Questions and Answers</b>
<b>Presenter: Dan Harkenrider (FS)</b>
<b>Discussion Summary:</b> Dan asked Jocelyn Biro to walk the committee through the contents of the RRAC Notebook, which contains templates and information from the national website. The notebook includes the Charter, National Map, Interagency Agreements, information on Travel, draft bylaws, draft ground rules, etc. The notebook also contained information on the fee proposals scheduled for discussion the following day. The group spent time talking about the differences between the special use permits and fee proposals, what outfitters pay, etc.

**Topic: Introduction to the Recreation Program**

**Presenter: Jocelyn Biro (FS), and Terry Slider (FS)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Jocelyn provided committee members with a broad overview of the recreation program, fee assessments, and how recovered fee dollars are spent. She also talked about the differences between the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management programs.

Terry Slider provided a Geospatial Model overview of Oregon and Washington populations and their impacts on the recreation program. He also discussed the differences between the two agencies and illustrated changes in the population composition and growth, and discussed how some issues, such as public safety, have come to the forefront.

**Follow-Up Task:** Provide committee members with a copy of Terry's presentation.

**Topic: Public Comments April 11, 2007**

**Comments received from: Roger Cole, Sierra Club; Dave Bybee**

**Summary of Discussion:**

Roger Cole believes that access to the public lands should be free and that the fee demo program is a form of double taxation.

Dave Bybee felt similar to Roger and questioned whether the fee demo had been thoroughly vetted in Congress. He was also concerned that only rich citizens will be able to use the public lands.

**Topic: Protocol for Making Committee Recommendations**

**Presenters: Dan Harkenrider, DFO; Abbie Jossie (BLM); and Kath Collier (REO)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Dan, Abbie, and Kath helped work the group through draft proposals for standard procedures. For instance, Kath requested that members review the draft ground rules on the back of the name tents. The group approved these ground rules, and agreed to revisit them at a later date to ensure that they remain effective. The group was asked to review the bylaws and notebook and be ready to discuss the particulars on the following day.

**April 12, 2007**

**Topic: Welcome - Icebreaker**

**Presenters: Kath Collier (REO)**

**Summary of Discussion:** Kath lead the group through an exercise of envisioning where committee members might want this program to be in five years. The goal of this exercise is to not only have participants reintroduce themselves to the group, but also look for areas of agreement and future opportunities within the group. There were several themes in the discussion which included:

- Our challenge will be to avoid ‘fee creep’ while balancing the cost and maintenance against reasonable fee assessments. There was a concern about out pricing segments of the population.
- A measured approach was recommended with the idea that amenities and fees could be kept at a minimum by practicing moderation in development with the realization that some new services will be needed.
- There was a desire to create a feeling of connection/commitment with a site and feel the investment was worth it. There was also a desire to look for opportunities for fee waivers, and look at the complete revenue package, as well as, manage expectations throughout a range of opportunities.
- Members recommended increasing public understanding of the program as a whole, and in particular of the ongoing costs and needs. It was recommended that the scale and urban impacts be included.
- Members suggested that a comprehensive intergovernmental approach be used to meet community needs. The success of this program will be through public involvement and awareness, and opportunities to provide public input. There was a repeated desire to provide input on agency policy.
- At the committee level, there was a desire expressed by some alternates to be a primary. There was also a desire to make the RAC as transparent (fair, open, and honest) as possible.

**Topic: Being Collaborative**

**Presenters: Norm Hesseldahl, co-author “Collaboration A Handbook for Government Agencies” and “Collaborative Decision Making an Introduction for Participants”**

**Summary of Discussion:** Collaboration, Norm Hesseldahl emphasized, is the results of “People working together to try and get something done.” Norm discussed how to maintain momentum through a closure process that uses three key ethics: Fair, Open, and Honest. He presented six key principles essential to maintaining momentum and how these principles are used to solve problems. Norm further explored the closure process and why it can be difficult to get a decision on problems and how “no action” may be used as a tactic for delaying decisions. Norm is the co-author (along with Anthony Faast and Sue Dicipole) of two books “Collaborative Decision Making an Introduction for Participants” and “Collaboration A Handbook for Government Agencies.”

<b>Topic: Elections and Bylaws</b>
<b>Presenters: Dan Harkenrider, DFO</b>
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> Congratulations <b>Dennis Oliphant</b> for being elected as the new Pacific Northwest RRAC Chair! The group had a very interesting give and take session and resolved several questions related to the Bylaws. In summary those bylaw changes include:
<b>III. Attendance.</b> If a member misses <b>2</b> consecutive meetings they may... Note: <b>IV.B. Prework.</b> The goal will be to get pre-work out 2 weeks before meeting and post meeting notices in the Federal Register 15 days before the actual meeting. The pre-work and meeting notes will be posted on the website. Alternates will be sent information and may also retrieve information from the website. Members without web access will receive paper or fax information. <b>IV.D. Public Comment.</b> It was suggested that Public comments be scheduled earlier in the day and that the number of public comments may affect the amount of time allowed for each commenter. It was suggested that an afternoon session, in addition to the morning session be considered. Comments on any subject may be received by the committee. The committee will need to determine if further discussion of the comments is warranted during the meeting and if so, further discussion should be scheduled for a future meeting. <b>E. Draft Notes.</b> Notes should be brief (but detail ‘for’ and ‘against’ arguments) capturing the essence of the meeting. Will need to capture the votes for each of the three main groups of participants. <b>VIII. Chairperson.</b> Will serve a one-year term with an opportunity to serve an additional term.
<b>Other Discussion Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only the primary can vote; alternates cannot.</li><li>• There was a desire to keep sub-committees to a minimum.</li><li>• Shandra clarified the term for each member (some have 2 years, others have 3).</li><li>• DFO may designate a DFO for a subcommittees.</li></ul>

<b>Topic: Committee Recommendation Process</b>
<b>Presenters: Jocelyn Biro (FS)</b>
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> Jocelyn provided an overview of the process proposals go through before they are presented to the committee. This process includes several opportunities for public comment prior to the proposal being presented to the Rec-RAC. A typical process would include an explanation of why the fee proposal is being made and an explanation of how the amount was determine, followed by discussions related to maintenance, and other nearby recreation opportunities. A sample proposal was given to the group to review by Dani Pavoni (FS) that illustrated the process and gave the group a chance to practice working through the process (see notes below).



<b>Topic: Proposal: Willamette National Forest (FS)</b>
<b>Presenters: Dani Pavoni (FS)</b>
<b>Sites: Shady Grove Campground, Trail Bridge, and Gold Butte Lookout.</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Current campground fees are well below average and have not kept up with outside costs or the needed maintenance. Maintenance issues were related to old toilets and water systems. There was a new fee request for the Gold Butte Lookout which will make the facility more consistent with other lookouts with similar amenities.
<b>Motion:</b> Accept the proposal with the caveat that in the future, there will be more information and supporting documentation.
<b>Vote:</b> Unanimous (Group 1 = 5; Group 2 = 2; Group 3 – 3)

*Note: The Malheur National Forest (FS) proposal packet was deferred until the next meeting due to time constraints.*

<b>Topic: Proposal: Roseburg District (BLM)</b>
<b>Presenters: Gregg Morgan (BLM)</b>
<b>Sites: [not captured by the note taker]</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Gregg provided a history of the fees charged at the campground and day use, along with the extensive renovations (replaced restrooms, brought in camp hosts, improved maintenance, constructed pavilions). He pointed out the special amenities for each area and how trees from the site were used to build the new structures. Many volunteers and agency staff were involved in this work. Finally, Gregg provided a comparison of rental fees between the BLM, FS, OSP, and Douglas County as well as where ‘no fee’ areas were located. Comments related to “not charging enough” were received from the public.
<b>Motion:</b> Accept the proposed price increases.
<b>Vote:</b> Unanimous (Group 1 = 5; Group 2 = 2; Group 3 – 3)

<b>Topic: Public Comments April 12, 2007</b>
<b>Comments received from: June Helbig (RAC alternate) and Dwight Richter (RAC alternate)</b>
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> June urged the FS and BLM to educate the public on why fees are charged and how much it costs to maintain and develop each area. She was concerned about the feeling that the public is “pushed into concessionaire operated” areas due to the closure of free campgrounds. She also mentioned concern over the closure of trailheads and making it harder to get trail access. Dwight shared a proposal to honor our servicemen and women with discounts to the various fee sites. He proposed a reduced fee schedule and expressed his belief that this would be a symbolic and very beneficial move.

<b>Topic: Proposal: Mount Saint Helen's National Monument</b>
<b>Presenters: Tom Mulder (FS)</b>
<b>Sites: Mount Saint Helen's National Monument</b>
<b>Discussion:</b> Tom provided an overview of the history of the site and the visitor centers. The objective of the proposal was to simplify the fee process and enhance the visitor experience at the center. The new fees would be comparable to other national monuments and fees will provide for operations, maintenance, and employee wages. The fee increase, if approved, would go into effect in May, 2007. There was some discussion regarding the commercial use permits and how that process worked (which are not part of this committee). The Coldwater site is being transferred to the state.
<b>Motion:</b> Recommend approval of the fee increase.
<b>Vote:</b> Unanimous (Group 1 = 5; Group 2 = 2; Group 3 – 3)

<b>Topic: Feedback on the Recommendation Process</b>
<b>Facilitated Discussion: Kath Collier (REO/BLM)</b>
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> Members appreciated well-thought out and documented proposals that were illustrated. These tools made it much easier to determine the condition and justification for the increases. Several members suggested that it would be helpful getting the pre-work in advance.
The voting process proposed (voting is done group by group) seems to be working well.
One of the members indicated that they would like to see proposal comparisons with other regions and compare the fees. There was expressed a desire to better understand how fees were determined.
There was quite a bit of discussion on the public comment period and we will be scheduling this time a bit different in the future. A suggestion was made that the agenda be posted on the door to help facilitate public comments.
There is also a desire to capture why individuals voted in a certain way, concerns, and what members liked/didn't like with the proposals. Some of this has been captured in the notes.
There was a discussion related to the next meeting, future proposals, and if the group might want to 'batch' proposals. At this point, the committee is deferring the idea of 'batching' until they get more experience with the process.

<b>Topic: Closing Processes: Surprise Guest</b>
<b>Presenters: Linda Goodman, Regional Forester (FS)</b>
<b>Summary of Discussion:</b> Linda Goodman thanked all of the committee members for their hard work. She also distributed copies of the group picture taken earlier. She stressed how important the committees work is and how much work has gone into getting this far in the process.

## Housekeeping

### Follow-Up Tasks:

Who	When	What
Dan	Before next meeting	Add BLM to Section 1 of the Bylaws
Dan	“	Web address for the RRAC (See topic summary, page 3)
Shandra	“	DOI FACA Link (See topic summary, page 3)
Dan	“	Distribute Terry Slider’s PPT presentation

### Roster:

Jon Vogel	Winter Motorized	Billy Gene Bowling	Alternate
Gustav Bekker	Winter Non-Motorized	June Helbig	Alternate
Carol Jensen	Summer Motorized	Dwight Richter	Alternate
Elizabeth Lunney	Summer Non-Motorized	Rebecca Hope	Alternate
Frank Bird	Hunting and Fishing	Richard Fahey	Alternate
Robery Hamlyn	Motorized Outfitter Guides		
Dennis Oliphant	Non-Motorized Outfitter Guides		
	Local Environmental	Charles Warner	Alternate
Todd Davidson	State Tourism Official		
John Walker	Tribal		
Charles Hurliman	Local Government	John Griffith	Alternate
Dan Harkenrider	DFO	Abbie Josse	Ex Officio
Melissa Hayes	Travel Assistant	Kath Collier	Facilitator
Anne Kennedy	FS	Jocelyn Biro	FS
Margaret Wolf	BLM	Shandra Terry	FS
Janet Siverts-Smith	FS	Dani Pavoni	FS
Liz Agpaoa	FS	Clair Laveldel	FS
Tom Mulder	FS	Gregg Morgan	BLM
Norm Hesseldahl	Private Consultant	Jim Kenna	BLM
Al Matecko	FS	Jo ???	
Glen Sa???	FS	Marti Marshall	FS
Miles Brown	BLM	Robin Rose	FS
Debbie Morgan	Visitor	Magge Dowd	FS
Pam Robbins	FS		

**Potential Future Meeting Topics:**

Key for the campground evaluation form

RSFMP Process overview illustrating how the public is involved

NEXT MEETING:

May 16 and 17

Marriott Residence Inn at Lloyd Center

Corporate Room