

For Immediate Release
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Pam Robbins (503) 808-6306

Secretary Norton Announces New Appointments to BLM Resource Advisory Councils

PORTLAND – Interior Secretary Gale Norton has announced the appointment of several new members to Oregon’s citizen-based Resource Advisory Councils (RAC) that advise the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on public land issues east of the Cascade Mountains.

“We value the input that the Oregon Resource Advisory Councils provide in helping the BLM manage America’s public lands,” Norton said. “I welcome our new and returning members, thank them for their commitment, and look forward to their counsel as we work to improve the health and productivity of the public lands.”

Composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, the BLM’s Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) help the agency carry out its stewardship of 261 million acres of public lands across the West. The Bureau, which manages more land than any other Federal agency, has 24 RACs across the West, where most BLM-managed land is located.

“RAC members bring a wealth of experience and a wide range of perspectives to each of our councils,” said BLM Director Kathleen Clarke. “This diversity results in a balanced outlook that the BLM needs for its mission, which is to manage the public lands for multiple uses.” The BLM, an agency of the Department of the Interior, is responsible for managing these various uses – such as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production – while conserving the land’s natural, historical, and cultural resources.

The list of members of each Oregon RAC is attached – names of new appointments or reappointments are in bold type. The next RAC meeting for the John Day-Snake RAC will be December 2, 2004, in Pendleton. The Southeast Oregon RAC will meet November 18-19, 2004, in Ontario, Oregon. Further information is available at individual RAC websites:

- <http://www.or.blm.gov/johndaysnake-RAC/>
- <http://www.or.blm.gov/SEOR-RAC/>

-- 2nd sheet attached --

John Day-Snake	Southeast Oregon
Daniel Forsea (N) Grazing	Dennis Hitt Grazing
Steven Courtney Commercial Timber	Lee Fledderjohann (R) Commercial Timber
Terry Drever-Gee Energy and Minerals	Mark Ferns Energy/Minerals
Arthur Waugh (R) Commercial Recreation/OHV	Tom Harris Commercial Recreation/OHV
Adriane Borgias Transportation/Rights of Way	Dick Leever Transportation/Rights of Way
William Lang (N) Archaeology/History	Peter Mehringer (N) Archeology/Historical
Shirley Pierce Muse (R) Environmental	Jill Workman Environmental
David Riley Dispersed Recreation	David Vandenberg Dispersed Recreation
Phil Shephard (N) Wild Horse and Burro	John Bishop Wild Horse and Burro
Berta Youtie Conservation	Bob Kindschy (R) Conservation
Timothy Stearns Public-at-Large	Chuck Graham Public-at-Large
John Tanaka Academician	Chad Boyd Academician
Michael Hayward (R) Elected Official	Jane O'Keeffe (R) Elected Official
Vacant State Natural Resources	Walt Van Dyke State Natural Resources
Vacant Native American Tribes	Brenda Sam (N) Native American Tribes

Names in bold type are new (N) or reappointed (R) members.