

*Scoping Comments and the Objection Process.* This notice of intent initiates the scoping process. Comments submitted in response to this notice will be considered and will guide the development of the proposed amendment and draft environmental impact statement which will be accompanied by a 90-day comment period. In this scoping period, the Agency is requesting comments on potential alternatives and impacts, and identification of any relevant information, studies, or analyses concerning impacts that may affect the quality of the environment. It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. The agency is planning several webinars to share information about the Northwest Forest Plan and potential proposed actions. See **DATES** section above for a link to dates, times and links will be [https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev2\\_026990](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev2_026990).

The proposed action is subject to the objection process identified in 36 CFR 219, subpart B (219.50–219.62). Commenting during the opportunity to comment provided by the Responsible Official as prescribed by the applicable regulations will establish eligibility to object once the final environmental impact statement and draft record of decision have been published. Only individuals or entities who submit substantive written comments during the designated comment periods will be eligible to participate in the objection process (36 CFR 219.53(a)). Substantive written comments should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, they cannot be used to establish eligibility for the objection process. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names (and addresses, if included) of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action.

This preliminary proposed action and other related documents are available for comment on the project website listed in the **ADDRESSES** section above, and additional information regarding this proposal can be found at <https://>

[www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev2\\_026990](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r6/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev2_026990).

Dated: December 13, 2023.

**Troy Heithecker,**

*Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.*

[FR Doc. 2023–27742 Filed 12–15–23; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3411–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Intent To Establish Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committee and Solicitation of Nominations for Membership for Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committee

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

**ACTION:** Notice of Establishment for Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committee and Solicitation of Nominations for Membership.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 as amended, codified in Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018, and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, the United States Department of Agriculture announces its intent to renew the charter for 80 Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees (RACs) and establish six new RACs through merger/consolidation. The Secure Rural Schools Advisory Committees will advise the Secretary of Agriculture on proposed recommendations and other such matters as the Secretary determines. The Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees will be governed by the provisions of FACA. Duration of Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees are for two years unless renewed by the Secretary, USDA. This notice also solicits nominations for membership on the Secure Rural Schools Resource Advisory Committees. **DATES:** Written nominations must be submitted via email or postmarked within 90 days following the publication date of this notice. A completed application packet includes the nominee's name, resume, and completed Form AD–755 (Advisory Committee or Research and Promotion Background Information, <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-755.pdf>). All completed application packets must be sent to the addresses below.

**ADDRESSES:**

### Northern Regional Office—Region I

*Central Montana RAC, Flathead RAC, Gallatin RAC, Idaho Panhandle RAC, Lincoln RAC, Mineral County RAC, Missoula RAC, Missouri River RAC, North Central Idaho RAC, Ravalli RAC, Sanders RAC, Southern Montana RAC, Southwest Montana RAC, Tri-County RAC*

Jeffery Miller, Northern Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 26 Fort Missoula Road, Missoula, Montana 59804, (406) 329–3576, [jeffrey.m.miller@usda.gov](mailto:jeffrey.m.miller@usda.gov).

### Rocky Mountain Regional Office—Region II

*Black Hills RAC and Greater Rocky Mountain RAC*

David Boyd, Rocky Mountain Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Building 17, Lakewood, Colorado 80401, [david.boyd@usda.gov](mailto:david.boyd@usda.gov), (970) 319–4895.

### Southwestern Regional Office—Region III

*Coconino County RAC, Eastern Arizona RAC, Northern New Mexico RAC, Southern Arizona RAC, Southern New Mexico RAC, Yavapai RAC*

Erick Stemmerman, Southwestern Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 333 Broadway SE, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102, (575) 654–3278, [erick.stemmerman@usda.gov](mailto:erick.stemmerman@usda.gov).

### Intermountain Regional Office—Region IV

*Alpine RAC, Bridger-Teton RAC, Central Idaho RAC, Dixie RAC, Eastern Idaho RAC, Fishlake RAC, Lyon-Mineral RAC, Manti-La Sal RAC, Northern Utah RAC, South Central Idaho RAC, Southwest Idaho RAC, Rural Nevada RAC*

Hannah Lenkowski, Intermountain Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, UT 84078, [hannah.lenkowski@usda.gov](mailto:hannah.lenkowski@usda.gov), 385–517–0972.

**Pacific Southwest Regional Office—Region V**

Butte County RAC, Del Norte County RAC, El Dorado County RAC, Fresno County RAC, Glenn and Colusa Counties RAC, Humboldt County RAC, Kern and Tulare Counties RAC, Lassen County RAC, Mendo-Lake County RAC, Modoc County RAC, Nevada and Placer Counties RAC, Plumas County RAC, Shasta County RAC, Sierra County RAC, Siskiyou County RAC, Tehama RAC, Trinity County RAC, Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties RAC

Paul Wade, Pacific Southwest Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, California 94592, (707) 562-9010, [paul.r.wade@usda.gov](mailto:paul.r.wade@usda.gov).

**Pacific Northwest Regional Office—VI**

Columbia County RAC, Colville RAC, Deschutes and Ochoco RAC, Fremont and Winema RAC, Hood and Willamette RAC, Gifford Pinchot RAC, North Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie RAC, Northeast Oregon Forests RAC, Olympic Peninsula RAC, Rogue and Umpqua RAC, Siskiyou (OR) RAC, Siuslaw RAC, Snohomish-South Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie RAC, Southeast Washington Forest RAC, Wenatchee-Okanogan RAC

Yewah Lau, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, Forest Service, 295142 Highway 101 South, Quilcene, Washington 98379, (360) 981-9101, [yewah.lau@usda.gov](mailto:yewah.lau@usda.gov).

**Southern Regional Office—Region VIII**

Alabama RAC, Cherokee RAC, Daniel Boone RAC, Davy Crockett RAC, Florida National Forests RAC, Francis Marion-Sumter RAC, Kisatchie RAC, Ozark-Ouachita RAC, Sabine-Angelina RAC, National Forests in Mississippi RAC, Virginia RAC

Sheila Holifield, Southern Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Road, Northwest, Atlanta, Georgia 30309, (205) 517-9033, [sheila.holifield@usda.gov](mailto:sheila.holifield@usda.gov).

**Eastern Regional Office—Region IX**

Allegheny RAC, Chippewa National Forest RAC, Eleven Point RAC, Hiawatha RAC, Huron-Manistee RAC, North Wisconsin RAC, Ottawa RAC, Superior RAC, West Virginia RAC

Tiffany Benna, Eastern Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 71 White Mountain Drive, Campton, New Hampshire 03223, (603) 348-0078, [tiffany.benna@usda.gov](mailto:tiffany.benna@usda.gov).

**Alaska Regional Office—Region X**

Kenai Peninsula-Anchorage Borough RAC, North Tongass RAC, Prince William Sound RAC, South Tongass RAC

Carlos De La Torre, Alaska Regional Coordinator, Forest Service, 709 West 9th Street, Room 561C, Juneau, Alaska 99801-1807, [carlos.DeLatorre@usda.gov](mailto:carlos.DeLatorre@usda.gov), 907-738-2758.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Brianna Gallegos, National Partnership Coordinator, National Partnership Office, USDA Forest Service, Yates Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, Mailstop #1158, Washington, DC 20250, by email to [SM.FS.SRSInbox@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.SRSInbox@usda.gov), or call 505-218-1535. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf and hard-of-hearing (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours per day, every day of the week, including holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 7125, directs the Secretary of Agriculture to create Secure Rural Schools Advisory Committees to provide advice and recommendations to the Forest Service concerning projects and funding consistent with SRS Title II of the Act. The duties of SRS RACs include monitoring projects, advising the Secretary on the progress and results of monitoring efforts, and making recommendations to the Forest Service for any appropriate changes or adjustments to the projects being monitored by the SRS RACs.

This charter renewal will establish six new committees as follows: Helena-Lewis and Clark RAC in Region 1 by consolidating the Central Montana and Missouri River RACs; the Southern Utah RAC in Region 4 by consolidating Dixie, Fishlake, and Manti-La Sal RACs; Nevada RAC in Region 4 by consolidating Rural Nevada and Lyon-Mineral RACs; the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest RAC in Region 6 by consolidating Snohomish-South Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie and North Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie RACs; Umatilla Washington RAC in Region 6 by consolidating Columbia County and Southeast Washington RACs; El Yunque RAC in Region 8.

Meetings for the Secure Rural Schools Advisory Committees will be published on the **Federal Register** website at least 15 days prior to the meeting date at: [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov). The SRS RACs will be comprised of 15 members. Members must be approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. The SRS RACs

shall include representation from the following interest areas:

1. Five persons who represent:
  - a. Organized Labor or Non-Timber Forest Product Harvester Groups,
  - b. Developed Outdoor Recreation, Off Highway Vehicle Users, or Commercial Recreation Activities,
  - c. Energy and Mineral Development, or Commercial or Recreational Fishing Interests,
  - d. Commercial Timber Industry, or
  - e. Federal Grazing or Other Land Use Permits, or Represent NonIndustrial Private Forest Land Owners, within the area for which the committee is organized.
2. Five persons who represent:
  - a. Nationally Recognized Environmental Organizations,
  - b. Regionally or Locally Recognized Environmental Organizations,
  - c. Dispersed Recreational Activities,
  - d. Archaeological and Historical Interests, or
  - e. Nationally or Regionally Recognized Wild Horse and Burro Interest Groups, Wildlife or Hunting Organizations, or Watershed Associations.
3. Five persons who represent:
  - a. State Elected Office (or a designee),
  - b. County or Local Elected Office,
  - c. American Indian Tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the committee is organized,
  - d. Area School Officials or Teachers,
  - or
  - e. Affected Public at Large.

Each member will serve a 4-year term. Balanced representation: In appointing committee members from the 3 categories above, the Secretary shall provide for balanced and broad representation from within each category. In addition, SRS RACs membership will be balanced in terms of the points of view represented and functions to be performed.

Of these members, one will become the Chairperson who is recognized for their ability to lead a group in a fair and focused manner and who has been briefed on the mission of the RAC. A chairperson is selected by a majority of RAC members. The Committee will meet on an annual basis or as needed and determined by the Agency.

In the event that a vacancy arises, the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) may fill the vacancy in the manner in which the original appointments were made. In accordance with the SRS Act, members of the SRS RAC shall serve without compensation. SRS RAC members may be allowed travel and per diem expenses for attendance at committee meetings, subject to approval of the DFO responsible for administrative support to the SRS RAC.

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership. Interested candidates may nominate themselves. Individuals who wish to be considered for membership on the Secure Rural Schools Advisory Committee must submit a nomination with information, including a background disclosure form (Form AD-755). Nominations should be typed and include the following:

(1) If nominating an individual, a brief summary, no more than two pages, explaining the nominee's qualifications to serve on the Secure Rural Schools Advisory Committee and addressing the membership composition and criteria described above.

(2) A resume providing the nominee's background, experience, and educational qualifications.

(3) A completed background disclosure form (Form AD-755) signed by the nominee. <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-755.pdf>.

(4) Letters of endorsement are optional.

Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies shall be followed in all appointments to the SRS RACs. To ensure that the recommendations of the SRS RACs have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership will, to the extent practicable, include individuals with demonstrated ability to represent all racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and persons with disabilities.

Dated: December 13, 2023.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### **Intent To Reestablish the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board and Solicitation of Nominations for Membership for the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).**

**ACTION:** Notice to reestablish the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board and solicit nominations for membership.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA), the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (NFMA), the Federal Lands

Recreation Enhancement Act (REA), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), the United States Department of Agriculture announces its intent through its Secretary to reestablish the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board. The Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board will advise the Secretary of Agriculture on programmatic forest issues and project level issues that have forest-wide implications. The Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board will be governed by the provisions of FACA. Duration of the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board is for two years unless renewed by the Secretary, USDA. This notice also solicits nominations for membership on the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board.

**DATES:** Nominations must be submitted via email or postmarked 30 days from the date of publishing this notice in the **Federal Register**. Once approved by the Secretary, the charter will be valid on the date of filing by the USDA Committee Management Officer and once the filing requirements are met.

**ADDRESSES:** Please submit nominations and resumes to Scott Jacobson, Committee Coordinator, 8221 Mount Rushmore Road, Rapid City, South Dakota 57702.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Toni Strauss, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), by phone at 605-673-9201 or email at [toni.strauss@usda.gov](mailto:toni.strauss@usda.gov), or Scott Jacobson, Committee Coordinator, by phone at 605-440-1409 or email at [scott.j.jacobson@usda.gov](mailto:scott.j.jacobson@usda.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1600 et seq.), the National Forest Management Act of 1976 (16 U.S.C. 1612), the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (Pub. L. 108-447), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. 10), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture intends to establish the charter.

#### **Scope and Structure**

The purpose of the Board is to provide advice and recommendations on a broad range of forest issues such as forest plan revisions or amendments, forest health including fire and mountain pine beetle epidemics, travel management, forest monitoring and evaluation, recreation fees, and site-specific projects having forest-wide implications. The Board will meet approximately nine times per year and will attend one summer field tour.

The Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board consists of 16 members.

The members represent the following areas of interest:

- Developed outdoor recreation, Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use, or commercial recreation
- Economic development
- Energy and mineral development
- Forest products industry
- Nationally recognized sportsmen's group such as anglers or hunters
- Archaeological, cultural, and historical interests
- Nationally recognized environmental organization
- Regionally recognized environmental organization
- Dispersed recreation
- Hold federal grazing permits or other land use permits
- Tribal government elected or appointed official
- Hold state, county, local-elected or appointed office in South Dakota or Wyoming
- State Natural Resource Agency official from South Dakota
- State Natural Resource Agency official from Wyoming

Any interested person or organization may nominate qualified individuals for membership. Interested candidates may nominate themselves. Individuals who wish to be considered for membership on the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board must submit a nomination with information, including a background disclosure form (Form AD-755). Nominations should be typed and include the following:

1. If nominating an individual, a brief summary, no more than two pages, explaining the nominee's qualifications to serve on the Black Hills National Forest Advisory Board and addressing the membership composition and criteria described above.

2. A resume providing the nominee's background, experience, and educational qualifications.

3. A completed background disclosure form (Form AD-755) signed by the nominee. <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-755.pdf>

4. Letters of endorsement are optional.

USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.