

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000

Public Law 106-393

South Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee

3/18/2010

Amended 3/30/2011

Excerpts from Public Law 106-393 Relative to Role of Resource Advisory Committee

Sec. 2. Findings and Purposes

(b) Purposes – The purposes of this Act are as follows:

(1) To stabilize payments to counties to provide funding for schools and roads that supplements other available funds.

(2) To make additional investments in, and create additional employment opportunities through, projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve land health and water quality. Such projects shall enjoy a broad based support with objectives that may include, but are not limited to:

(A) Road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration;

(B) Soil productivity improvement

(C) Improvements in forest ecosystem health;

(D) Watershed restoration and maintenance;

(E) Restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;

(F) Control of noxious and exotic weeds; and

(G) Reestablishment of native species.

(3) To improve cooperative relationships among the people that use and care for Federal lands and the agencies that manage these lands.

Sec. 205. Resource Advisory Committees.

- (a) (2) Purpose** – The purpose of a resource advisory committee shall be to improve collaborative relationships and to provide advice and recommendations to land management agencies consistent with the purposes of this Act.
- (b) Duties** – A resource advisory committee shall-
- (1)** Review projects proposed under this title by participating counties and other persons;
 - (2)** Propose projects and funding to the Secretary concerned under section 203;
 - (3)** Provide early and continuous coordination with appropriate land management agency officials in recommending projects consistent with purposes of this Act under this title; and
 - (4)** Provide frequent opportunities for citizens, organizations, tribes, land management agencies, and other interested parties to participate openly and meaningfully, beginning at the early stages of the project development process under this title.

Operating Procedures – PL 106-393

Sec. 205. Resource Advisory Committees.

- (c) (1)** The Secretary concerned shall appoint the members of resource advisory committees for a term of three years beginning on the date of appointment. The Secretary concerned may reappoint members to subsequent 3 year terms.
- (d) (5)** A majority on each resource advisory committee shall elect the chairperson of the committee.
- (e) (2)** A project may be proposed by a resource advisory committee to the Secretary concerned under section 203(a), if it has been approved by a majority of members of the committee from each of the three categories in subsection (d) (2).

Operating Procedures – Charter for Resource Advisory Committees for the State of Idaho

3 Officers and Membership

(C) The Chairperson of each RAC shall be elected by the RAC from among its members for a term of one year.

F If a RAC member fails to attend (in person or by telephonic or electronic means) two consecutive official meetings, the Secretary may remove that member from the RAC.

4 Duties

E Consistent with applicable laws and Department regulations, each RAC may adopt such operating guidelines as it deems advisable.

6 Number and Frequency of Meetings

A The RACs will meet as often as is necessary to complete their business.

OPERATING GUIDELINES SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO RAC

- 1. Decisions on RAC operating procedures and guidelines will be made by a simple majority of members present at a RAC meeting where quorum has been established.**
- 2. Quorum, for purposes of conducting an official meeting of the RAC, will be defined as having a majority of RAC members (nine of fifteen), physically present or able to fully participate via conference call as allowed for in the Charter.**
- 3. Roberts Rules of Order will be used to conduct RAC meetings.**
- 4. Title II funds will be used to cover RAC expenses, including meals and mileage expenses for RAC members, alternates and support staff attending RAC meetings within the limits of Forest Service per diem rates.**
- 5. RAC members may submit recommendations to the RAC Chairperson for potential speakers to address the RAC at future meetings. The RAC Chairperson will have discretion on any associated costs.**
- 6. News Releases will be issued as needed for project solicitation. Project proposals received at least 14 days prior to a RAC meeting will be available for consideration at that meeting; and the DFO and RAC Chairperson, in preparing the meeting agenda, will notify project proponents if their project is scheduled for discussion.**
- 7. Project Proposals for consideration by the RAC will be submitted on Title II Project Proposal Form for the South Central Idaho RAC.**
- 8. Proposed projects will be screened and evaluated by the RAC in accord with procedures adopted at the April 19, 2010 meeting. The following is a synopsis of the process: Amended 3/30/11**

Project Proposal Form, Part 1

- a. Initial screening criteria (Completed by DFO and RAC Chair)**
- 9. Evaluation Criteria –**
 - A. NEPA must be completed on project**
 - B. A minimum of 20% match will be required and projects with a greater than 20% match will be considered more favorably.**

- C. Proponents can not use dollars received from other RAC's as match.**
- D. Indirect costs can not qualify for funding.**
- E. Project sponsors must review proposal with county commissioners and provide documentation of county commissioners' comments with the Form Part 1 portion of their application. The documentation may be in the form of a letter from the county commissioners or official meeting minutes of the commissioner meeting in which the project was discussed.**