Resource Advisory Committees (RACs)

Public Law 106-393 creates a mechanism for local community collaboration with federal land managers in recommending projects to be conducted on federal lands or that will benefit resources on federal lands. The geographic boundaries of the RACs are generally aligned with county boundaries, and each RAC is assigned a Designated Federal Official (DFO) to serve as the point of contact.

The committees' duties include reviewing proposed forest management projects in accordance with the <u>Act</u> and making recommendations to the Forest Service and providing opportunities for interested parties to participate in the project development process.

These committees are to be balanced and diverse with equal representation from industry, environmental groups, elected officials and local people. The composition of each RAC is to be balanced according to the following three interest categories identified in Public Law 106-393:

Category A Represents

- Labor
- Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users or commercial recreational activities
- Energy and mineral development interests
- Commercial timber industry
- Holders of federal grazing or other land use permits

Category B Represents

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations
- Dispersed recreational activities
- · Archaeological and historical interests
- Wild horse and burro interests (national or regional)

Category C Represents

- Holder of State elected office (or designee)
- Holder of county or local elected office
- American Indian tribes within or adjacent to area which committee represents
- School officials or teachers
- Affected public at large