

Northern Utah Resource Advisory Committee

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve on a committee that gets things done?

Do you have an interest in the lands managed by the Forest Service in Northern Utah?

If you reside in Utah, the Northern Utah Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) may be just what you are looking for. This committee is guaranteed funding and recommends land management projects on or adjacent to the Uinta-Wasatch-Cache and Ashley National Forests in northern Utah.

The Northern Utah RAC is now looking for members from across northern Utah to represent a wide variety of interest as members of this committee.



What is the purpose of a Resource Advisory Committee?

Resource Advisory Committees were established under the Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 and with reauthorized payments by Congress in 2020.

The RAC's recommend how to allocate a portion of federal funds counties receive under the Act. The Act directs that funds be spent on projects such as road, trail and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration, improvements in soil and forest ecosystem health, restoration and improvements of wildlife and fish habitat, control of weeds, and reestablishment of native animals and plants. Projects must benefit resources on National Forest lands and meet federal environmental laws.

What areas are served by the Northern Utah Resource Advisory Committee?

The Northern Utah RAC advises the Ashley, Cache, Uinta, and Wasatch National Forests.

What are the duties of the Resource Advisory Committee?

The RAC's duties include reviewing proposed forest management projects in accordance with the Secure Rural Schools Act and making recommendations to the Forest Service and providing opportunities for interested parties to participate in the project development process. RAC duties include monitoring project progress and completion.

Secure Rural Schools Program

A portion of Forest Service funds generated through multi-use activities, such as grazing, timber production, and special use permits, are distributed to eligible counties to help maintain local roads and schools.

Payments are divided into three distinct categories, or Titles: Title I for roads and schools, Title II for projects on Federal lands, and Title III for county projects.

What types of Projects does the RAC fund?

Projects which have been funded represent several categories. These include projects like trail projects, weed spraying, lake and stream monitoring, dust abatement, signage, education events, and vault toilets.

Who makes up the Resource Advisory Committee?

Each resource advisory committee shall be comprised of 15 members made up of people from categories including the public, with equal representation from industry, environmental groups, elected officials, and other local interests. Members are appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and serve a four-year term.

How can I become involved?

The Northern Utah RAC is soliciting applications from individuals to fill positions on our Resource Advisory Committee. Individuals should have an interest in resource management and a strong desire to work collaboratively within a diverse group of interests.

To be a RAC member, applicants must fall into one of the following categories:

Category A

- Organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups
- Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities
- Energy & mineral development interests or commercial or recreational fishing interests
- Commercial timber industry
- Hold federal grazing or other land use permits, or represent non-industrial private forest landowners within the area for which the committee is organized



Category B

- Nationally recognized environmental organizations.
- Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations.
- Dispersed recreation activities.
- Archaeological and historical interests.
- Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse or burro groups, wildlife or hunting organizations, or watershed organizations.

Category C

- State-elected officeholders or their designee.
- County or local elected officeholders.
- American Indian tribal representatives from tribes within or adjacent to the RAC area.
- School officials or teachers.
- Citizens representing the affected public at large.

How do I apply?

Additional information and application form can be obtained at [Ashley National Forest - Advisory Committees \(usda.gov\).](http://Ashley%20National%20Forest%20-%20Advisory%20Committees%20(usda.gov).)

Application forms (hard copy only) must be received at the Ashley National Forest office, by 5:00 p.m. on March 31, 2023.

Applications can be mailed to:

Ashley National Forest
355 North Vernal Avenue
Vernal, Utah 84078

or call 435-781-5105 for more information