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News Release

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Ashley National Forest Resource Advisory Committee Seeking New Members

Vernal, Utah ... The Ashley National Forest is seeking members to serve on the Ashley Resource Advisory Committee. The RAC is a local advisory committee that recommends projects for funding to federal land managers which will benefit resources on National Forest System Lands.

The 15 member group represents a cross section of county communities, industries, schools, environmentalists and local government. RAC members solicit, review and recommend projects that meet the following objectives:

- Enhance forest ecosystems.
- Restore and improve the health of the land and water quality.
- Protect, restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

Since its creation, the RAC has helped fund numerous projects in Daggett, Duchesne and Uintah Counties. Projects recommended by the RAC include guard station and lookout renovation and maintenance projects, fish passage and waterway restoration, road maintenance and noxious weed reduction efforts. All RAC projects must show a clear benefit to public lands. Many of the projects are located on National Forest lands on the Ashley National Forest, but can take place on private lands if there is a direct benefit to public lands.

There are several vacancies among the 15 member positions and three alternate positions.

To be eligible for consideration, prospective committee members must reside within the state of Utah and preferably within Daggett, Duchesne or Uintah

Counties. Prospective members should be representative of at least one element of one of the following three categories:

- Organized labor developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, energy and mineral development interests, commercial timber industry, or hold federal grazing or other land use permits.
- Nationally recognized environmental organizations, regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations, dispersed recreational activities, archaeological and historical interests, or nationally or regionally recognized wild horse and burro interest groups.
- State elected office or a designee, county or local elected official, American Indian Tribes, school officials or teachers, or represent the affected public at large.

The RAC meets on an “as needed basis” generally three to four times a year at the Ashley National Forest Supervisor’s Office in Vernal, Utah. Meetings generally start at around 6:00 p.m. and usually last from 2 to 3 hours.

Application forms and additional information can be obtained by contacting Louis Haynes at the Ashley National Forest: (435) 781-5105 or email ljhaynes@fs.fed.us or picked up at any Forest Service offices in Vernal, Roosevelt, Duchesne or Manila Utah. Application forms can also be obtained by visiting the Ashley National Forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/ashley/workingtogether/advisorycommittees>.

Additional information can be found on the web at www.fs.usda.gov/main/pts/home.