



BLM NEWS

New Mexico Oklahoma Texas Kansas

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Contact: Mary White
505 438-7404

**PUBLIC INVITED TO OBSERVE/ADDRESS
THE RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING
IN SILVER CITY, NEW MEXICO**

The New Mexico Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet in Silver City on Thursday and Friday, October 12-13, 2000, at the Copper Manor Motel, 710 Silver Heights Blvd, Silver City, New Mexico, starting at 8:00 a.m. This meeting is open to the citizens of New Mexico. The Public may address the RAC on Thursday, October 12.

Topics to be discussed include mine reclamation in general and an overview of a project to study the impacts of historic mining operations on human health and the environment related to the Santa Rita Mine and to remediate those impacts. Speakers will be from Phelps Dodge, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, and BLM. In addition, the off-highway vehicle issue will be reviewed. Jon Borne, New Mexico State University, Regional Task Force on the Southwest Willow Flycatcher will speak on that endangered species. The BLM Field Office Managers will present status reports on their individual operations. At 10:00 a.m, on October 13, any member of the public may sign in and address the RAC on issues under consideration for recommendation, such as the Southwest Willow Flycatcher, off highway vehicles, and commercial mining in the southern part of the State.

There will be an optional field trip on Wednesday, October 11, 2000, to the Southwest Willow Flycatcher habitat managed by the Tyrone Mine. The Chino Mine will be toured in the afternoon.. Transportation will be provided for RAC members. The trip will be organized by the Las Cruces Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and hosted by Phelps Dodge..

Resource Advisory Councils were established throughout the west in 1995 as a component of the BLM's Rangeland Management Program. The New Mexico Resource Advisory Council is made up of 15 volunteer New Mexicans who have a wide variety of viewpoints on how best to guarantee healthy public lands in the State. The purpose of the Council, which meets regularly to help the BLM develop standards for public land health, is to advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM.

For more information please contact Mary White, Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State Office 505 438-7404.

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