



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Secretary Norton Announces New Appointments to BLM Resource Advisory Council**

**Santa Fe** – Interior Secretary Gale Norton announced the appointment of five new members to New Mexico’s citizen-based Resource Advisory Council (RAC) that advises the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on public land issues.

“We value the concerns and input the New Mexico Resource Advisory Council provides in helping us manage our public lands,” Norton said. “I welcome our new members and look forward to their commitment, expertise and counsel as we work to improve the health of our public lands.”

Composed of citizens chosen for their expertise in natural resource issues, the BLM’s 24 Resource Advisory Councils help improve the health and productivity of public lands across the West. Each RAC provides counsel and advice on public lands planning and management within the RAC’s jurisdictional boundary.

“RAC members bring diverse backgrounds and a wide range of perspectives to each of our councils,” said BLM Director Kathleen Clarke. “This diversity results in a balanced outlook that helps the BLM carry out its multiple-use mission in New Mexico and throughout the West.”

New members and the interests they represent for New Mexico are:

James Bailey	- National/Regional Environmental
Michael Chirigos	- Dispersed Recreation
Meade Kemrer	- Archaeology
Wayne Bingham	- Public-at-Large
Robert MoQuino	- Native American Tribes

-more-



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Existing members and the interests they represent for New Mexico are:

Crestina Trujillo Armstrong	- Federal Grazing
Dennis Braden	- Federal Grazing
Max Cordova	- Commercial Timber
Michael Eisenfeld	- National/Regional Environmental
John Hand	- Elected Official
Raye Miller	- Energy/Minerals
Tony Popp	- Academia
Gretchen Sammis	- Public-at-Large
Joe Stell	- Federal Grazing
Don Tripp	- Elected Official

The 15-member BLM Resource Advisory Council for New Mexico provides advice and recommendations to the BLM on resource and land management issues for 13.3 million acres of public lands in New Mexico. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM accomplishes this by managing for such resources as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, and energy and mineral development that helps meet the nation's energy needs, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

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