

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION		Number: 1042-108
SUBJECT: Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute Advisory Board	DATE: September 16, 1999	
	OPI: Forest Service	

1 PURPOSE

a The Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute Advisory Board is hereby renewed pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463) and Section 1246(c) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (Pub. L. No. 101-624).

b The purpose of the Board is advisory in nature, specifically to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on:

(1) The formulation of plans to implement the Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute as a partnership with Federal, State, and local agencies, universities, and the private sector, and

(2) Plans and programs that will enable the Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute to enhance the long-term economic and social benefits derived from the natural resources of the Blue Mountains in an ecologically sensitive manner through meeting the objectives outlined in Section 1246(b) of Pub. L. No. 101-624.

2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

This regulation will expire 2 years from the date of filing.

3 CANCELLATIONS

This regulation supersedes DR 1042-108 dated September 8, 1997.

4 MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS

a The Board shall consist of 20 members appointed by the Secretary as follows:

(1) Two members from county government officials representing the following Oregon counties which are within the Blue Mountains

Natural Resources Institute boundaries: Baker, Union, Wallowa, Grant, Umatilla, Malheur, Morrow, Harney, Wheeler, and Crook.

(2) One member from county government officials representing the following Washington counties which are within the Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute boundaries: Columbia, Asotin, Garfield, and Walla Walla.

(3) One member representing each of the following:

(a) The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla,

(b) Environmental advocacy groups,

(c) Local civic organizations,

(d) Private landowners,

(e) Private industry active in natural resource management, and

(f) Economic development organizations.

(4) One member from each of the following colleges, universities, and research centers:

(a) Washington State University, Pullman, WA,

(b) Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR,

(c) Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR,

(d) Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Burns, OR.

- (5) One member representing the State forest land management agencies from each of the following States:
- (a) Oregon, and
 - (b) Washington.
- (6) One member representing the State fish and wildlife management agencies from each of the following States:
- (a) Oregon, and
 - (b) Washington.
- (7) Two members who shall be employees of the USDA Forest Service:
- (a) The Director, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, and
 - (b) The Regional Forester, Pacific Northwest Region.
- (8) The Director, Oregon/Washington State Office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.

b In addition, four non-voting Forest Service employees shall serve as ex-officio members as follows:

- (1) Supervisor of the Malheur National Forest,
- (2) Supervisor of the Umatilla National Forest,
- (3) Supervisor of the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, and
- (4) Supervisor of the Ochoco National Forest.

c The Manager of the Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute shall serve as the Executive Secretary to the Board and shall serve as the designated Federal official under sections 10(e) and 10(f) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

d Members of the Board shall be appointed for terms of two years, but may be reappointed.

e Vacancies on the Board shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which his/her predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term.

f The Board shall elect one of its voting members as chairperson and establish such rules and procedures as it deems necessary.

g Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to the Board. To ensure that the recommendations of the Board have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the Department, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

5 DUTIES

a The Board will advise the Secretary on preparation of a long-term strategic plan for the Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute. The plan will guide a research, development, application, education, and demonstration program to enhance the long-term economic and social benefits derived from the natural resources of the Blue Mountains in an ecologically sensitive manner.

b The Board will recommend activities that will enable the Institute to initiate programs to meet the objectives stated in Section 1246(b) of Pub. L. No. 101-624.

c The Board may establish such working groups or subcommittees as it may find necessary. If appropriate, these work groups or subcommittees may include representatives from organizations other than Board members that have an interest in implementation of the Institute programs.

6 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

a Members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses which are incurred in carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the Board in accordance with USDA travel regulations. Such expenses will be submitted on vouchers signed by the Chairperson.

b Estimated operating costs of the Board are \$20,000 and 0.2 staff years of support.

7 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

a The Executive Secretary is empowered to call and adjourn meetings of the Board.

b The Board shall meet on a periodic basis, but at least annually.

c Notices of meetings will be published in the Federal Register and in local newspapers which have a distribution generally covering the Institute's boundaries. Board members shall be notified personally of the date, time, and place of each meeting. Meetings will be held at a location which will facilitate attendance by the Board members and the public. All meetings will be open to the public.

d Ten voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

8 REPORTS/SUPPORT

a The Board reports to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Station Director, Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, the Chief of the Forest Service, and the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment.

b Support for the Board will be provided by the Forest Service.

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