



NEWS RELEASE

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Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council to meet

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. – The Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area Advisory Council is scheduled to meet Nov. 18 in Delta to discuss livestock grazing and desert bighorn sheep.

The advisory council provides guidance to the BLM in its management of the NCA through an open meeting format with an opportunity for the public to comment.

"This series of public advisory council meetings has been crucial to the BLM's development of a plan to protect the unique resources of these public lands while providing for use of the land that is important to the community," said Collin Ewing, manager of the NCA.

Livestock grazing is an important historical use of the NCA and is now managed as a specific use as defined by the U.S. Congress. According to Ewing, disease transmission among domestic sheep and goats and desert bighorn sheep is a major concern in allotments with a high probability of interaction among the species. Wild animals are specifically susceptible to diseases transmitted from domestic livestock.

The public is welcome to attend the Delta meeting from 3-6 p.m. on Nov. 18. at Bill Heddles Recreation Center.

Congress designated the 210,000-acre NCA and Wilderness in 2009 in recognition of their unique and important resources, including geological, paleontological, archaeological, historical, cultural, wildlife, riparian, recreational, scientific, educational, natural, scenic and wilderness values, as well as the area's water resources.

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