

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Geological Survey**

**Advisory Committee on Landslides**

**Charter**

1. **Committee's Official Designation.** The official designation of the committee is the Advisory Committee on Landslides (ACL).
2. **Authority.** The ACL is established under the National Landslide Preparedness Act, P.L. 116-323, and regulated by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, 5 U.S.C. Ch. 10.
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activities.** The ACL will submit recommendations for the implementation of the National Landslide Hazards Reduction Program to the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Landslide Hazards (Committee), including recommendations regarding landslide hazard risk reduction and planning; tools for communities; and research. The Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) and the agency heads of the Committee, or their designees, will take into consideration the recommendations of the ACL. The Secretary's biennial report to Congress on the work of the Committee will include a description of the extent to which recommendations of the ACL have been implemented.
4. **Description of Duties.** The duties of the ACL are solely advisory, and are stated in Paragraph 3, above.
5. **Agency or Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports.** The ACL reports to the Secretary through the Committee.
6. **Support.** Support for the ACL will be provided by the U.S. Geological Survey's Landslide Hazards Program.
7. **Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years.** The estimated annual operating costs associated with supporting the ACL's functions are \$60,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and .20 Federal staff years support.
8. **Designated Federal Officer (DFO).** The DFO is the Program Coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey Landslide Hazards Program who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all ACL committee and subcommittee meetings, prepare, and approve all meeting agendas, attend all ACL committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines

adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.

9. **Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings.** The ACL will meet approximately one to two times annually and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
10. **Duration.** Continuing.
11. **Termination.** The ACL will become inactive 2 years from the date the charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The ACL will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **Membership and Designation:** The ACL will be composed of no fewer than 11 representative members appointed by the Secretary. Members will be individuals not employed by the Federal Government who are qualified in landslide hazard and risk or related fields. The ACL membership will be representative of:
  - States, including State geological organizations;
  - territories, including territorial geological organizations;
  - Indian Tribes, including Tribal geological organizations;
  - research institutions and institutions of higher education qualified to provide advice regarding landslide hazard and risk reduction, and representing related scientific, architectural, engineering, and planning disciplines;
  - industry standards development organizations; and
  - State, territorial, local, and Tribal emergency management agencies.

Selection of members will ensure a reasonable cross-section of views and expertise is represented on the ACL, including a range of geographies and communities impacted by landslide hazards in the United States. Each member will serve a term of up to 3 years, with terms staggered to ensure continuity.

Any vacancy on the ACL will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. Members serve at the discretion of the Secretary.

Members of the ACL will serve without compensation. However, while away from their homes or regular places of business, ACL and subcommittee members engaged in ACL or subcommittee business that has been approved by the DFO may be allowed travel expenses. These travel expenses may include per diem in the same manner as persons employed intermittently in Government service receive consistent with 5 U.S.C. § 5703.



13. **Ethics Responsibilities of Members.** No ACL or subcommittee member will participate in any ACL or subcommittee deliberations or votes relating to a specific party matter before the Department of the Interior or its bureaus and offices including a lease, license, permit, contract, grant, claim, agreement, or litigation in which the member or the entity the member represents has a direct financial interest.
14. **Subcommittees.** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees may be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full ACL for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Department of the Interior. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **Recordkeeping.** The records of the ACL, and formally and informally established subcommittees of the ACL, will be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved Agency records disposition schedules. These records will be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.



Secretary of the Interior

AUG 01 2023

Date

September 30, 2024

Date Filed