



Chronology: Colorado Roadless Rulemaking

- ∞ **January 12, 2001** – Roadless Area Conservation Rule (2001 Roadless Rule) published with an effective date of March 31, 2001.
- ∞ **February 5, 2001** – Secretary of Agriculture Veneman delays effective date of rule of May 12, 2001.
- ∞ **May 10, 2001** – U.S. District court Judge Lodge (Idaho) issues preliminary injunction barring implementation of the rule.
- ∞ **April 14, 2003** – 9th Circuit Court issues mandate reversing Judge Lodge’s injunction; 2001 Roadless Rule becomes effective.
- ∞ **July 14th, 2003** – U.S. District court judge Brimmer (Wyoming) orders 2001 Roadless Rule set aside and issues permanent injunction. Decision later vacated by 10th Circuit Court as moot.
- ∞ **May 13, 2005** – State Petition Rule published. New rule provides process for Governors of states with National Forest System inventoried roadless areas to petition Secretary of Agriculture to establish state-specific roadless management direction through rulemaking.
- ∞ **May 2005** – Colorado State legislature enacts bill creating 13-member bipartisan state taskforce to make recommendations to governor in support of state’s petition for roadless rule. Gov. Owens signs legislation on June 8, 2005.
- ∞ **November 2005** – June 2006 – State Taskforce holds nine public hearings and uses over 40,000 written comments to develop recommendations.
- ∞ **September 13, 2006** – Taskforce delivers recommendations to Governor Owens
- ∞ **September 20, 2006** – U.S. District Court Judge La Porte (California) sets aside State Petition Rule and reinstates 2001 Roadless Rule.
- ∞ **November 13, 2006** – Governor Owens submits Colorado Petition to Secretary of Agriculture Johanns pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act.
- ∞ **April 8, 2007** – Roadless Area Conservation National Advisory Committee (RACNAC) reviews Colorado petition and recommends Department of Agriculture direct Forest Service to initiate rulemaking.
- ∞ **April 11, 2007** – Governor Ritter asks Secretary Agriculture to move forward with Colorado’s petition with modifications to 2006 Petition.

- ∞ **August 24, 2007** – USDA Undersecretary Rey instructs the Forest Service to begin rulemaking process for a Colorado-specific rule with the State of Colorado as a cooperating agency.
- ∞ **December 26, 2007** – Notice of Intent to prepare EIS for Colorado Roadless Rule published in Federal Register.
- ∞ **July 25, 2008** – Proposed Colorado Rule published in Federal Register, begins 90-day public comment period.
- ∞ **August 1, 2008** – Notice of Draft Environmental Impact Statement published in Federal Register, comment period through October 23, 2008.
- ∞ **August 12, 2008** – District court judge Brimmer (Wyoming) again sets aside 2001 Roadless Rule and issues permanent injunction barring implementation of 2001 Roadless Rule.
- ∞ **August 20, 2008** – Department of Justice simultaneously files motions seeking relief from the California and Wyoming district courts.
- ∞ **October 23, 2008** – Proposed Colorado Rule and Draft Environmental Impact Statement public comment period ends.
- ∞ **Mid 2009** – Based on public comments, the State of Colorado decided to revise its petition and reexamine the inventory of roadless areas.
- ∞ **April 6, 2010** – Colorado Governor Bill Ritter submitted the revised State petition to Secretary Vilsack. The Secretary then directed the Forest Service to move forward with the rulemaking process.
- ∞ **April 15, 2011** – The US Forest Service and State of Colorado announce a 90-day public comment period on the proposed Colorado Roadless Rule and Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement through July 14, 2011.
- ∞ **October 21, 2011** – The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the District Court of Wyoming's order to set aside and permanently enjoin the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule (2001 Roadless Rule).
- ∞ **February 24, 2012** – The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals mandate makes the 2001 Roadless Rule the controlling management direction for roadless areas in Colorado as well as the rest of the nation, except Idaho. The Tenth Circuit rulings change what is considered the "no action alternative" in the EIS. Alternative 1, 2001 Roadless Rule, is now the no action alternative and environmental baseline.
- ∞ **May 4, 2012** – FEIS is published in the Federal Register.
- ∞ **July 3, 2012** – Final Rule is published in the Federal Register.
- ∞ **July 2013** – High Country Conservation Advocates, WildEarth Guardians, and Sierra Club challenged the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule.
- ∞ **June 2014** – The District Court of Colorado determined that the Forest Service's analysis of the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception failed to meet National Environmental Policy Act requirements.

- ∞ **September 2014** – The District Court of Colorado vacated the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule (36 CFR 294.43(c)(1)(ix)).
- ∞ **April 7, 2015** – The Forest Service published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register explaining the need to prepare a supplemental environmental impact statement to reinstate the North Fork Coal Mining Area exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule, beginning 45-day public comment period.
- ∞ **May 22, 2015** – Public Comment Period closed, ending 45-day public comment period.
- ∞ **November 20, 2015** – The Forest Service published a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register that the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement and proposed rule was available for review and public comment, beginning the 45-day public comment period.
- ∞ **December 30, 2015** – The Forest Service published a notice in the Federal Register that an 11-day extension to the comment period was granted.
- ∞ **January 15, 2016** – The Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement public comment period closed.
- ∞ **January 16-November 10, 2016** – Comments were analyzed and addressed. Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS) was prepared and reviewed by USDA and other government agencies.
- ∞ **November 18, 2016** – Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement published in the Federal Register.
- ∞ **December 2016** – Record of Decision and Final Rule published in the Federal Register.
- ∞ **February 2017** – The Final Rule will go into effect 60 days after its publication in the Federal Register.