



Forest  
Service

Washington  
Office

1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

**File Code:** 1230

**Date:** August 3, 2009

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Activities in Inventoried Roadless Areas

**To:** Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director, Deputy Chiefs and WO Directors

On May 28, 2009, Secretary Thomas J. Vilsack reserved final decision authority over certain forest management and road construction projects in inventoried roadless areas. The Secretary's Memorandum 1042-154 is intended to assure the careful evaluation of actions in inventoried roadless areas while long term roadless policy is developed and relevant court cases move forward.

The Forest Service has received re-delegation of authority from the Secretary to authorize —

a) Approval of any necessary timber cutting or removal or any road construction/reconstruction in emergency situations involving wildfire suppression, search and rescue operations, or other imminent threats to public health and safety in inventoried roadless areas. The local line officer is delegated authority to make these decisions.

b) Approval of any timber cutting, sale, or removal in inventoried roadless areas incidental to the implementation of an existing special use authorization. Road construction/reconstruction is not authorized through this re-delegation without further project-specific review. The local line officer is delegated authority to make these decisions.

Please be sure that your staff (especially line officers) is made aware of existing orders and the above re-delegation. Continue to coordinate requests for instructions or clarifications regarding activities in inventoried roadless areas through Planning Specialist Bill Supulski of the Ecosystem Management Coordination staff at (202) 205-0948. The Secretary's Memorandum is available at <http://roadless.fs.fed.us>.

*/s/ Glaria Manning (for) Joel D. Holtrop*  
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Deputy Chief, National Forest System



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