
From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Carolyn Crow [cekcrow@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 12:11 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already had a degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

Thank you for considering my comments.

In addition: if the US Government is still paying for logging and mining roads in government owned lands, this should stop immediately.

The companies that log and mine should pay for these--and the roads should be held to standards that minimize damage to the environment and perhaps contribute to fire protection. They are the only beneficiaries of the roads. Also, if they must pay, there should be less demand for publicly owned lands for their enterprises.

Sincerely,

COE357

Mrs. Carolyn Crow
1512 La Mesa Ln
Burlingame, CA 94010-5973
do not call

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Carol Halberstadt [carol@migrations.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:41 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

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Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious plants, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

I urge you to do what is morally and ethically right for our grievously wounded Earth--and first, do no harm:

"Every twenty minutes a species goes extinct" (--Conservation International, June 2011)

"But ask now the animals, and they shall teach you; and the birds of the sky, they will tell you. Or speak to the earth and it will teach you; and the fishes of the sea shall inform you." (--Job 12:7-8)

Thank you for considering my comments.

COR 257

Sincerely,

Ms. Carol Halberstadt
9 Whittemore Rd
Newton, MA 02458-2105

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Anna Minore [miriam3141@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:18 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Colorado is a beautiful state. And even if it wasn't beautiful, harming long-term ecosystems for the benefit of a relatively few short-term human bank accounts is criminal. It also shows a narcissism that is quite ugly.

Therefore, please

DELETE the Colorado Roadless Rule.

REPLACE it with the National Roadless Rule.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anna Minore

Kingston, PA 18704-5343

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Dave Potter [kpottermom@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:50 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

My wife and I live near and often use/enjoy our National Forest wilderness and wild areas. They are a small percentage of total Forest acres and must be completely protected from all exploiters [petroleum, mining, clear-cutting and off-road bikers/ATVers.] I know many bikers/ATV folks care. I also know, here in Oregon, that too many do not care and cause major ecological damages. They viturally never are caught and punished!

Please, please dump proposed Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas provide vital values for wildlife, solitude for humans, clean water, clean air and priceless recreation like walk in camping, rafting, fishing and nature study - very valuable tourism money each year!

This proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

Less than a third of National Forests in Colorado remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dave Potter
3930 Rio Vista Way
Klamath Falls, OR 97603-7729

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Linda Guthrie [lroseguthrie@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 8:41 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 6, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

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The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

I do not understand why the Forest Service has let things get this far. The Forest Service is supposed to protect our forests, not sell them out to the highest bidder. The Obama Administration has been a big disappointment to people who care about the environment.

Taxpayers expect departments to do what they're supposed to do, not let slick schemes in the back door while the picture at the front door is very different. ENFORCE ROADLESS RULES BECAUSE THAT'S YOUR JOB.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

COR355

Ms. Linda Guthrie
1122 Saint Louis Pl NE
Atlanta, GA 30306-4532
(404) 875-6563

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Demosthenes Matsis [danmatsis@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 8:57 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 6, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Pell-mell exploitation of the Nation's Land Trust may temporarily satisfy profiteers and consumers, but the artificially low energy prices will make it painfully difficult to return to the discipline of conservation and balanced living.

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Demosthenes Matsis
302 W 90th St Apt 3b
New York, NY 10024-1642

COR 356

(212) 595-5208

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Susan Norman-Jones [suenj11@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 12:26 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As we have been watching more severe Tornado's, Epic flooding, huge fires, oil spills (even in Yellowstone), and see the planet heat up, it makes me wonder how intelligent human beings are. When we forget to care for the planet and only want more money, we will have to pay for this attitude. We are trying to destroy the planet and she is fighting back. There are other ways to do this living here on this blue-green-brown-beautiful ball traveling through space. Please consider how the earth feels. Please consider how a 600 year old tree feels when it is getting chainsawed. Are we so selfish, that we forgot about God, and he gave us this gift we are living on? I think we are extremely selfish and need to be removed.

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Susan Norman-Jones
12330 Takilma Rd
Cave Junction, OR 97523-9836

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Gretchen Smurr [gsmurr@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 2:20 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

How ridiculous can our policies be. We need to conserve oil yet we are going to build new roads into beautiful roadless areas to use up more oil. We have concerns about global warming. Forests reduce global warming yet we are going to reduce the forests and build roads to bring pollution to areas that are relatively clean. Makes no sense but then not much does in this country these days. As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

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Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already had a degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gretchen Smurr
1312 Jimeno Ln

COR 3F8

Woodland, CA 95695-5304

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Gordon James [gtjames1940@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 12:47 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

If the 2001 National Roadless Rule (NRR) is better than the Colorado Roadless Rule in terms of preserving more forests, wild areas, watersheds, and wildlife, then please adopt the NRR. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Gordon James
3036 S Cherry Way
Denver, CO 80222-6744

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Sandra Guenette [sandra_guenette13@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 12:52 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

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Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already had a degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

COH 360

Ms. Sandra Guenette
13 Village Dr Apt 102
Saugerties, NY 12477-2326
(845) 247-0605

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of L. Bagley [lorba58@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 1:42 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

When will our government organizations, including the US Forest Service, get tough on preserving and protecting our environments?

Quit letting big business infiltrate and influence our public programs that are supposed to uphold our rights and our demands, regarding our forests and everything else!

Remember, you and your families will lose everything too if you keep loosening up our protective regulations, doesn't that matter to you enough?

Do your job and get tougher with these kinds of regulations before it is too damn late!

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. L. Bagley
4749 Trumbull Ave SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108-3550

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Ruth Leibowitz [jackiepooh@optonline.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 1:24 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule/God's Country-Please Protect It.

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

It would be unconscionable to destroy our precious natural beauty for absolutely senseless purposes, or for that matter any reason at all. It is horrific to even put this into consideration. It is outrageous.

These National Forests are the jewels of our planet, & to bring destruction, & devastation to them is absolutely heartbreaking. How can this even be considered? How much more devastation, & destruction must there be on our planet? It is shameful. There is so much loss on our planet already, due to global warming, pollution, clear cutting, etc., & any more loss in our world would tear our hearts apart. It really is a beautiful planet, & it is shameful, & horrific how we are treating it. We must look around us, & see what is happening, & do what we could to protect, & preserve our planet, & not destroy it any more. God created such an amazing, & beautiful world for us to live, with such sweet, & precious wildlife, & we must respect it more, & treat it better, for it is a sin to destroy the world that the Almighty created.

Please protect, preserve, & respect our planet, so future generations have a world with all the natural beauty to endure, the creations of our Almighty God.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents. Our creatures, & mankind depend on this habitat for survival, & healthy drinking water, & without it, would be totally devastating, total destruction, & demise. Very sad.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

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Please save our forests. It what makes our world, & our lives so much more special, & beautiful to endure the naural beauty of the creations of God.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ruth Leibowitz
137 Seabreeze Way
Keansburg, NJ 07734-1067

From: Sinjin Eberle [sinjin.eberle@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 3:52 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Please protect Colorado's Roadless areas

Good afternoon,

I am writing you today to encourage you to consider the maximum amount of protection for Colorado's roadless areas.

As a Colorado native (I grew up in Paonia, Colorado), the woods were my home, my refuge, and my escape. But they are also the source of clean air and clean water, and are vital habitat to the species I care about. I would go into the Gunnison National Forest and backpack, hike, and fish, all throughout my youth and now into my adult life. There is nothing like hiking in the Raggeds, or around Marcellina Mountain – two spectacular areas between Paonia and Crested Butte.

Roadless areas cannot be made out of the blue – but they can be destroyed or degraded quickly and permanently. That is why I believe that it is very important to allocate the highest level of protection for the widest amount of roadless area possible. We also need to be sure to eliminate loopholes from the rule, such as silly Linear Construction Zones, which are basically habitat-splitting corridors that introduce greater opportunity for fire and invasive species deep into our native forests. These are silly, and unnecessary.

Lastly, oil and gas development should be required to comply with No Surface Occupancy stipulations, and those stipulations should be enforced. Careless accidents such as the events in the Gulf and in Montana show that oil and gas operators should be held firmly to a high standard, less accidents that will cause permanent damage to our wild places can and will happen.

Please...protect what unbroken roadless areas we have left in this state.

Thank you,

Sinjin Eberle
4131 E. 26th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80207

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Diane Dolden [dianedolden@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 1:50 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Use the 2001 National Roadless Rule in Colorado. For the sake of the forests keep the forests roadless! Do not apply a weaker rule that can be exploited by any interest that wants to. Keep the less in roadless!

Sincerely,

Ms. Diane Dolden
2440 Paso Robles St
Oceano, CA 93445-9117

From: weliming@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 3:06 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado's Integrity

Dear Resource Managers,

Please do not reduce the amount of roadless back-country in Colorado. These places change when they are accessible by motor vehicle and they can't be improved upon, Mother Nature needs a quiet space to carry on her work. I can't illustrate the scientific evidence that supports leaving these areas untrampled but it is abundant from many organizations like Trout Unlimited.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion, so-to-speak.

Sincerely, R. Bruce Nelson

From: Tom Culbertson [srreality45@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 3:28 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

As I understand it, the Forest Service is accepting public comment on your proposal to give "upper tier" roadless designation to about 562000 acres of the 4.2-million acres now designated "roadless" in Colorado. That's not good enough! Trout Unlimited, among others, proposes that 2.6-million of those acres receive the "upper tier" designation. Personally, I feel the whole 4.2-million acres should remain roadless and that includes prohibiting right of ways for pipelines, power lines and other such incursion, but I'll compromise and support Trout Unlimited's position. There are fewer and fewer places on this earth that are untouched by development, oil & gas exploration, mining, and OHV destruction.

"Linear construction zones" attempts to define pipelines, power lines as being other than roads. The impact of their construction and maintenance access afterwards certainly means vehicular travel, damage to the environment, potential damage to the streams and rivers involved and more scars upon the land. Some areas are not as pristine as others; they can be used for this kind of development. Development should be prohibited in these "upper tier" pristine areas. I support Trout Unlimited's proposal to add an NSO (no surface occupancy) stipulation to these "upper tier" areas to keep operators off the surface lands.

One of our concerns as trout fishermen is the destruction of habitat for native cutthroat trout, whose populations have been declining for years. Your current proposal leaves gaps that will allow destruction of these habitats. That needs to be corrected. Any projects (which there should be few, anyway) must refrain from altering, damaging or destroying cutthroat trout populations.

I've seen the destruction that man's encroachment on public lands has caused. Some areas that were beautiful 40 years ago are now criss-crossed with both "authorized" roads and trails and also "informal" roads and trails cut by ATVs, motorcycles, 4X4's, etc. "The public" cannot be trusted to remain on designated roads and trails; their respect for nature and the environment has eroded significantly in my lifetime. Unfortunately, the only way to stop that is to prohibit access by vehicle, period. The same holds true for "commerical development".....an area is never pristine again after oil & gas exploration is carried out, or a pipeline is dug or a power line is passed through an area.

It's sad to me that citizens like myself should have to admonish the Forest Service to be more protective of public lands. You've seen for yourselves the destruction that has occurred. Big money interests have more clout in Washington than does a steward's best instincts do, but that's what I look to the Forest Service to stand for. What's best for the land, the rivers and streams, the wildlife - - - no matter what "big money" or the ignorant mass of "the public" wants.

Thanks for your time and consideration

Tom Culbertson
2409 Winter Park St.
Loveland, Colorado 80538

970-685-4442

From: gaughanc@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 6:47 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

Chris Gaughan
2109 Madison Ave
Boise, ID 83702-4930

July 6, 2011

Tom Vilsack
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS
P.O. Box 1919
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Tom Vilsack:

Please take time to close development loopholes and increase the number of mountains and passes in the "Upper Tier" category of protection.

Sincerely,

Chris

From: Joan Edmonds [jededmo@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 7:45 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

To Whom It May Concern:

It is imperative that Colorado's backcountry lands be protected to support the native fish and game. Development continues to chip away at the natural lands that we have left. It is your responsibility to protect the natural habitat for fish and wildlife in Colorado and to insure that these lands will be there for future generations to enjoy.

This responsibility of protection extends to any intrusion of development whether it be in the form of roads, power lines, pipelines, etc. This also includes introduction of any harmful chemicals and drilling operations. Any type of intrusion disrupts the pristine ecosystem balance.

This state has worked to increase the populations of cutthroat trout which was once thought lost to extinction. As a native fish of Colorado it is our duty to protect and increase habitat for the survival of this trout. As a fisher person I relish seeing these beautiful fish in our clear mountain streams and lakes.

Please do everything in your power to continue to protect our beautiful backcountry vistas from the encroachment of development and drilling. There is no amount of money that can justify destroying this natural pristine land. Make the right decision for your children and mine.

Thank you,
Joan E. Edmonds

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Elinor Williams [elinor@dgwilliams.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:16 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Please don't make Colorado an Exception to Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Please don't make Colorado an exception to the Roadless Rule. Mining, logging, and the roads that go with them have ruined formerly wild lands all over the country, including Colorado, fragmenting wildlife habitat and polluting watersheds. Please don't let this degradation continue.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Elinor Williams
3101 Lakeview Blvd
Delray Beach, FL 33445-5604

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Janet and Mark Thew
[gavelgoddess@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:34 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: we support full roadless protection in CO

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Please tell us it isn't so. Surely the Obama administration would not try to devastate protected roadless forests to appease coal and lumber interests. Surely this administration will uphold the National Roadless Rule for ALL our states, as it should. It's simply not possible that President Obama would pull a Bush maneuver to destroy wilderness for private profit. Is it?

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Janet and Mark Thew
5572 W Saint Francis Cir
Loomis, CA 95650-7917

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Linda Day [lday@daycreative.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 9:25 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: The National Roadless Rule

Jul 5, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Please replace the Colorado Roadless Rule with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

The Colorado Roadless Rule is the pet of commercial special interests such as logging and coal. This "Roadless Rule" will actually only protect a small portion (12%) of the 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas in Colorado's seven National Forests.

Degrading the environment one state at a time -- which this Colorado rule sets in motion -- is a horrible precedent! Our goal as Americans should be to preserve our national heritage for our children and their children, not auction it off a bit at a time, to the corporate giants who already rule so much of our national life.

It goes without saying that roads bring deforestation, mining, the degradation of the land and the streams that nourish both wildlife and ourselves, not to mention the recreational values that are such a large part of Colorado's economy.

As a person from Houston, Texas (with its paucity of untrammelled nature), I really appreciate Colorado and believe strongly that its natural values should be preserved.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Linda Day
4224 Lehigh Ave
Houston, TX 77005-1935
(713) 664-1908

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Robert Shalit [rshalit@ne.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 7:25 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 7, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

One of the best ways to protect these areas is to open trails up to mountain bikers who build and protect sustainable trails for multi-use purposes.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Shalit
350 Water St
Keene, NH 03431-4228

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Justin Mears [jake8me@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:27 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 7, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Please keep what is left of roadless areas in Colorado roadless. I am currently visiting this breathtakingly beautiful state as we speak. I hope the most beautiful places here, that I am not likely to even see, remain inaccessible by motor vehicle.

Keeping some places unspoilable is the right thing to do for the health of the planet, and therefor, humanity.

Sincerely,

Mr. Justin Mears
405 Hazel St
Walterboro, SC 29488-2717

From: Colorado Environmental Coalition [info@ourcolorado.org] on behalf of Trevor Ycas [trevecas@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 10:12 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Please protect Colorado's Roadless Areas

Form
Master #7

Jul 6, 2011

Colorado Roadless Comments

Dear Comment Team Roadless Comments,

I urge you to ensure that any rule it adopts is at least as protective as the National Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has defended in federal court.

Colorado's National Forest roadless lands include some of the state's largest and most critical unprotected wildlands -- safeguarding important habitat and wildlife migration routes; securing healthy watersheds; and providing world-class opportunities to explore Colorado's great outdoors.

To ensure that these valuable lands get the level of protection they deserve, a final rule must ensure the following:

* Upper tier protections must be expanded and strengthened

The agency has identified more than 2.8 million acres for 'upper tier' protections in one or another of its DEIS alternatives. These are areas known to have particularly high wildlife value, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, and unique and outstanding recreational opportunities.

Well more than half of Colorado's roadless areas have the important, high-quality values that warrant protection in an 'upper tier.' To adequately strengthen the proposed rule, all of these lands deserve protection as upper tier lands.

In addition, all 'upper tier' lands must have strict No Surface Occupancy stipulations to protect the entire roadless area from any future oil and gas leasing and development. These areas must not permit the use of 'linear construction zones' to facilitate pipelines, transmission lines, and telecomm facilities.

* On all roadless forests priority must be given to the area's roadless qualities and characteristics.

Even in the case where permitting allowable activities, protection of the area's roadless qualities and characteristics need to be the agency's top consideration. Broad discretion to approve logging projects in the backcountry must be tightened. New exemptions for roadbuilding to access yet undeveloped water facilities and expanding authorities to allow 'linear construction zones' should be prohibited on all roadless lands.

*Currant Creek (Priest Mountain IRA) should not be included in the North Fork Coal Area.

The State of Colorado got it right removing Currant Creek from the North Fork Coal Area. Currant Creek is nowhere near any operating mine, and should not be included in lands that would facilitate this activity. Currant Creek, and the adjacent Flattops/Elk Park (the Priest Mountain Inventoried Roadless Areas), should be protected with 'upper tier' status.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National Roadless Rule and do not support managing Colorado's National Forests to a lower standard. To ensure that any state-specific rule is at least as protective as this landmark conservation

COR374

tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the 'upper tier' protections and give priority to maintaining and enhancing roadless characteristics in all the state's Inventoried Roadless Areas.

Sincerely,

Trevor Ycas
718 E 8th Ave
Durango, CO 81301-5534
(720) 771-2698

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Craig Garcia [craigg@portfridayharbor.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 7:22 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 6, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

Don't waste TAX DOLLARS on this UNNECESSARY change in regulations!!

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Mr. Craig Garcia
2343 San Juan Valley Rd
Friday Harbor, WA 98250-8240
(360) 378-8944

From: Earthjustice [info@earthjustice.org] on behalf of Donnie Shelton [tiwiwas@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2011 11:53 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: RIN 0596-AC74: Colorado Deserves The National Roadless Rule

Jul 7, 2011

U.S. Forest Service
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS, P.O. Box 1919 Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Forest Service,

...and the people deserve to have Colorado's roadless areas kept that way! What are you folks thinking? You are supposed to protect, not decimate our forests!

As someone who cares about protecting America's pristine forests for future generations, I strongly urge you to abandon the Colorado Roadless Rule, a dangerously weak proposal, and replace it entirely with the stronger National Roadless Rule.

Colorado is home to seven National Forests, which contain some of the last truly unspoiled lands in the country, including 4.4 million acres of pristine roadless areas. These lands are a haven for wildlife -- home to many imperiled species, including the northern goshawk and cutthroat trout. Many of Colorado's most important rivers have headwaters in roadless watersheds -- providing drinking water to millions of Americans and Colorado residents.

Colorado's roadless and backcountry areas also provide world-class recreational opportunities, which not only help sustain the state's tourism and recreation-based economy but also its residents' quality of life.

Unfortunately, the proposed state-specific roadless rule will only provide a high level of protection for less than 12 percent of Colorado's remaining roadless lands and also contains several gaping loopholes that will allow more logging and road-building and exempts 20,000 acres of roadless areas so that the coal industry can bulldoze the land with roads and drill it with holes.

Decades of road-building, logging, and mining have already degraded much of Colorado's national forests, and less than a third remain as roadless areas. Roads fragment habitat and bring pollution, noise, and noxious weeds, which rapidly eat away at the territory left safe for imperiled species. Roads also bring erosion and sedimentation, scarring sensitive landscapes and muddying clear mountain streams.

The 2001 National Roadless Rule currently protects 50 million acres of pristine national forests nationwide, sparing America's last unroaded lands from auction, bulldozing, and commercial logging. The Obama Administration's Forest Service should not put forward a watered-down roadless rule for Colorado that will jeopardize fish and wildlife populations and clean water and threaten the recreational opportunities and other important benefits provided by these lands. Colorado shouldn't have to accept weaker protections. It deserves the same gold-standard protections afforded to the rest of the country under the 2001 National Roadless Rule.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ms. Donnie Shelton
1100 Blue Mountain Rd
Lyons, CO 80540-8376

From: sjohnson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 11:42 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

Seth Johnson
811 Shadow Oak
Baton Rouge, LA 70810-5380

July 7, 2011

Tom Vilsack
Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS
P.O. Box 1919
Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Tom Vilsack:

My name is Seth Johnson and I am a hiker and backpacker. I make a trip to Colorado every summer to hike 14ers and backpack in the National Forests and Wilderness areas. I am deeply concerned about the impact on the National Forests if the Colorado Roadless rule isn't implemented. The roadless areas are a finite resource with a very high value to Colorado and everyone that utilizes these areas. I think it is of utmost importance to uphold the commitment to implement this and at preferably more protective level than the 2001 Roadless Rule. In order to protect these areas from oil and gas development an upper tier category of management should be created and subject to a strict "No surface Occupancy" stipulation. Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,
Seth Johnso
811 Shadow Oak
baton Rouge, LA 70810

Sincerely,

Seth Johnson
225-328-1228

From: Helen & Douglas Kretzmann [kretzmannhd@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 10:21 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

Hallo,

Please adopt the conservation alternative (Alt. 4) for the new Roadless Rules. The current proposal does not protect our roadless lands.

The 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule would have provided similar protections to the Alternative 4. That rule was developed following years of scientific evidence and hundreds of public meetings across the country. The Forest Service received more than four million comments on the rule - 95% in favor.

Implementing this rule for Colorado's forests is not just good policy, it's also what the people want. Failing that, at least implementing the next best alternative would be appropriate.

There are enough roads. It's not possible to get more than 10 miles away from a road anywhere in Colorado. The Forest Service can't afford to maintain the roads that already exist on public land.

The benefits will be enormous - safeguarding our drinking water, economic benefits from recreation, and more. As a hiker, canoeist, and fisherman, I am wholly in favor of protecting roadless areas. My children and I enjoy the roadless areas - where there are roads, there is junk, and quite often a few drunken motorized-recreation enthusiasts making life unpleasant for the rest of us.

thank you,
Douglas Kretzmann

From: Willard Clapper [wclapper@sopris.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:50 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Roadless Rule

I am writing this letter to ask that you do not diminish the protection for Colorado's Roadless areas, my backyard. I am a 3rd generation Coloradan and live in the Roaring Fork River Valley. I have spent all of my life hiking, fishing, camping and exploring the incredible roadless backcountry around this area. The paths and permanent roads that do exist were the result of mining and logging, with a bit of ranching thrown in. They are there as a result of the kind of indiscriminate pursuit of wealth that was common and normal at the turn of the century.

There was no foresight given to what might exist in the future, just dig it, chop it, move it...on and on. Because there were so few hardy souls who did this and the fact that they didn't have the machinery to really reek havoc, the roads and trails are still pretty pristine, but they are there. It is important to keep in mind that the numbers of people who use the backcountry today is huge compared to that era. Increase usage means increased damage! The backcountry does not need more roads (linear construction zones?) to further enhance access to those areas that truly are pristine and must remain so.

Today, as we look back at what was, and looking at the nightmare that current oil and gas extraction is having on Western Colorado, we have to look into the future and decide if we want to create more opportunities for mankind to further damage what is left of our wonderful wilderness. Those who consider the backcountry nothing more than a storehouse for money-making materials have little regard for wilderness concerns. They are focused upon the bottom line. if we look at the damage the old time miners had upon the environment with the limited machinery they had, it takes very little to imagine what might become of our backcountry when these immense and powerful machines do their work...and what will be the result when they leave? Just look at the incredible mess they leave at nearly every site that they work!

It is truly time to say, "NO!" to any efforts to lessen the protection for our incredible backcountry. Please do not give in to big business and fall prey to their lobbying efforts. We do not have to open the backcountry up to this kind of potential disaster...protect it now!

Willard L. Clapper

011 Walter Rd
Basalt, CO 81621

From: John Bullington [bull12107@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:43 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Alternative #4

Please endorse and vote for Alternative #4. On a relative basis we have such a small amount of lands that need the most extreme protection and therefore we should give our best efforts to ensure it happens.

Thank you for the support.

John Bullington

Houston, Tx. and Creede, Colorado

Sent from my iPad

From: rkymtnangler@q.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:05 AM
To: COcomments
Cc: Dennis Cook
Subject: Comments - Roadless Rule

July 7, 2011

TO: U.S. Forest Service
From: Dennis Cook

SUBJ: Colorado Roadless Rule

This is the third time I've offered my observations describing why Colorado needs a stronger Roadless Rule than perhaps other states require. Each state's Rule should reflect the unique natural resources, and their settings.

I was a Pennsylvania resident and sportsman who visited Colorado on a business trip, was overwhelmed by its beauty and spirit, and moved here 28 years ago. My life has been better ever since and has continued to revolve around and be enriched by Colorado's outdoors. I hike, camp and fish, volunteer with the state parks and sensible conservation organizations and am an active conservator who cares about Colorado's future.

Colorado is the single richest coldwater resources state in the West. This fact is indisputable. But our water resources are reaching their breaking point because of population growth, extractive resources development and infrastructure development. This intrusion into the genesis regions of coldwater resources origins must be curbed...while also providing responsible alternatives for continuing essential development.

The issue is "how much" and "where" should the line be drawn, and the answer at this prolonged juncture is the "upper tier". Sensible conservation organizations have intelligently surrendered many liberties to accommodate responsible development, and now it should be clear to all that enough is enough. If we denude and damage now forested upper elevations, this will cause further damage to the lower elevations habitats, water resources and wildlife/fish communities' essential life processes. This in turn will destroy the main reason why people move to live and vacation in Colorado...and also destroy one of our primary economic engines.

Simply put...protecting only the proposed 562 acres is not responsible. The entire 4.2 million acres must remain free from any development invasion.

Corporate industrial and infrastructure development needs can be satisfied reasonably without damaging the critical upper tiers. This only serves interests of shareholders...and I happen to be a shareholder who gladly will concede significant share value to help ensure upper tier protection.

The opportunity to establish a sensible outcome that will protect Colorado's resources foundation rests in your hands. Please make the "right" decision for Colorado's forest resources that public citizens have entrusted to your care. Corporate and infrastructure private interests can and will survive quite nicely without wreaking this unnecessary intrusion into the upper tier. Thank you.

Dennis Cook
4692 Brumby Lane
Fort Collins, CO 80524
(970) 372-9229

From: Jamie Gomer [jamiogomer@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 12:19 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Dear Comment Team [Decision Maker],

Colorado Roadless Rule/EIS
P.O. Box 1919
Sacramento, CA95812
Via email: COComments@fsroadless.org

Form 8 -
Thompson Divide
Coalition

Dear Land Managers:

The Final Colorado Roadless Rule needs stronger restrictions on logging and road construction in roadless areas. The maximum distance allowed for road construction for fuel reduction should be no more than one-quarter mile from roadless boundaries.

I support expanding the acreage in the Upper Tier and increasing protection of Upper Tier areas. The Forest Service should combine Alternative 4 Upper Tier lands with Alternative 2 Upper Tier lands to create meaningful protection for most of Colorado's Roadless Areas.

Two loopholes in Upper Tier protections must be eliminated. First, all upper tier lands should have NSO stipulations for future oil and gas leases that cannot be waived, modified, or excepted. Second, all linear construction zones should be prohibited in Upper Tier lands other than for valid and existing rights.

The Forest Service should consider invalidating or appropriately stipulating gap leases to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act. Any final environmental analysis must consider the impacts of invalidating gap leases.

To comply with agency regulations and other laws, any final rule must require that gap leases issued without appropriate stipulations will be invalidated or brought into compliance when the 2001 Rule is upheld.

The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management must take affirmative steps to ensure that leases issued in roadless areas after the 2001 Roadless Rule are not developed in violation of that Rule.

The Forest Service should not give the impression that illegal gap leases will be grandfathered by a new Colorado Roadless Rule.

A Colorado Rule must be as protective of endangered species and their habitat as the 2001 Roadless Rule.

Jamie Gomer
31 Thelma Ct.
El Jebel, CO 81623

From: Pew Environment Group [advocacyemail@pewtrusts.org] on behalf of James Day [ramal_81052@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 1:16 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Protect Colorado Forests

Form #9
Pew Environmental
Group

Jul 8, 2011

U.S. Forest Service

Dear Forest Service,

Colorado's 4.4 million acres of undeveloped national forests are an irreplaceable treasure, protecting valuable water resources and wildlife habitat and providing world-class opportunities to experience the great outdoors.

But the administration's new proposal falls short. It gives less than 13 percent of the state's best backcountry protection it deserves, leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road-building, drilling and development. This is unacceptable

Colorado deserves more! Give top tier protection to all of Colorado's undeveloped national forests, so that the water, wildlife and other bounty of our state will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Day
1528 Constitution Ave
Colorado Springs, CO 80907-6501
(719) 632-0136

From: Jim Milstein [6wayxing@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 10:56 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Protection of Roadless Areas

Dear Forest Service beings,

I believe that roadless areas are an irreplaceable resource and must remain fully protected or be fully protected if they are not now. Please do not allow logging or mineral extraction in roadless areas. Don't even allow motorized recreation in roadless areas. Leave them be.

Sincerely,

Jim Milstein
329 Bross Pl
Pagosa Springs, Colorado 81147

970 731 0680

From: Amanda Martin [mnd_martin@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 12:34 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Save Roadless Areas

My family and I go on nature hikes often to enjoy the peace and beauty that surrounds us in these national forest lands. We also go camping often to enjoy the great outdoors and they were intended to be enjoyed, free of human destruction. Roadless areas deserve a high level of protection because life needs to be protected. A balanced ecosystem is essential to the survival of all life, even humans. By destroying habitat we are destroying our future. It makes me sad to think that my children will not be able to enjoy our national forest lands as they are, but rather fractured. Activities that should be conducted in roadless areas are those that do not destroy the wilderness, roadless area. Activities that maintain the character of the roadless area includes foot traffic and camping.

Roadless areas need to be added to the upper tier. This protection is essential for a balanced ecosystem. Electrical and telecommunication lines do not need to be taken through roadless areas, especially the upper tier. Also, please stop the construction of roads through forest lands for gas and oil leases. I live in area where the ecosystem is extremely fractured due to oil and gas roads. The traffic is high and this also interferes with natural function of the environment. It is extremely vital that roads for water projects in roadless areas be stopped.

There are other ways to meet the demands of humans. It is not necessary that more roadless areas be destroyed.

From: Charlie Kerr [ricekerr@bresnan.net]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 12:16 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

To the USFS:

For forty years I have backpacked and mountain climbed in the GMUG national forests and know firsthand how valuable the roadless areas are as places of biodiversity and wildlife sanctuaries in our heavily roaded national forests. I have also witnessed the destructive impacts of oil and gas development on our public lands with its networks of road and pipelines, drilling sites, waste pits, storage tanks, compressors, spills, and accidents.

Please strengthen the Colorado Roadless Rule **to exclude all surface disturbance** by O&G development in all roadless areas. In its report to stockholders, EXXON cites successful directional drilling of over six miles. Please require directional drilling to access O&G leases in roadless areas.

In addition I urge the USFS to reexamine and expand the upper tier protected areas. More than 13% of Colorado's roadless areas deserve heightened protection. Upper tier protection should be extended to include areas like Priest Mountain and Current Creek.

Sincerely yours,

Charles Kerr

888 Quail Run Drive

Grand Junction, Colorado 81505

ricekerr@bresnan.net

From: pdronkers@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 11:17 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Protect CO roadless areas

Please give maximum protection to all of Colorado's inventoried roadless areas.

I think they should all be managed as wilderness, with the possible exception of mountain biking. All should be eligible for wilderness designation under the Wilderness Act and the forest service should recommend areas to Congress for wilderness designation if the people desire it.

Regardless of Wilderness designations, these lands should should be managed for maximum protection from surface disturbance and other developments forever regardless of the national direction of the Roadless Rule.

The Forest Service should support the proposed federal Roadless Area Conservation Act, but if not enacted, the Forest Service should manage all roadless areas as if this rule were in place under the plans mandated by the National Forest Management Act.

Thanks,

--Pete Dronkers

pdronkers@aol.com

From: Garybdnws@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 8:35 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: COLORADO ROADLESS RULE

To all who love the great outdoors, please save these areas for us and all our future generations. These places are the very breeding grounds for fish and wildlife, if we let these areas become over developed we shall lose something we can never replace. I pray you will think about this before you act.

Gary L. Montgomery
Gunnison Colorado

From: Sara Ransom [durangoransom@frontier.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 3:49 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Protect our ROADLESS areas, please!

RE: what I've just learned about your proposal(s) with respect to roadless areas:

- Your proposed rule would allow logging up to 1.5 miles into roadless areas, or in some cases, over an unlimited distance. Roads could be built a half mile into these areas. So called "linear construction zones" (LCZs), a fancy name for a road, could be built for water projects, electrical and telecommunication lines, and some oil or gas pipelines, facilities that simply do not belong in any roadless areas.
- Your rule would place 562,000 acres (of 4.2 million) in an "upper tier" category, under which logging and road construction would be more restricted. But LCZs would still be allowed in such areas. And about 2.8 million acres of Colorado's roadless areas are remote, relatively primitive, and deserving of upper tier protection.

And here's who I am, and my comments on these proposals

I live in Durango, CO -- and what we DO is get out there and enjoy our national forest lands -- bushwhacking on foot, exploring, sitting quietly, observing wildlife and fauna... We are exploring wilderness and NOT a "park" with a few attractions saved for the public to enjoy. You allow roads such as LCZs in there, and a park is what you've created, having destroyed the very essence of wilderness.

So.... the only kind of activities that should only be allowed in roadless areas --by definition, yes? -- should be those that maintain or enhance the character of roadless areas.

Now.... I understand the concern for fire threat, and the desire to allow logging to reduce danger to nearby homes. Well, this kind of "logging" need be only the first quarter mile or so from areas needing protection from fire.

Furthermore, a roadless area is a roadless area -- no roads! That means no road construction for water projects in roadless areas.

In fact, in order to protect our threatened roadless areas, I request that more roadless areas be added to the "upper tier," where they have more protection against logging and road construction. I understand that the Forest Service has identified about 2.8 million acres that could be added to the upper tier.

While I'm at it, may I insist that electrical and telecommunication lines not be allowed in roadless areas, especially in the upper tier areas. "Roadless" means.... no roads.

And since "roadless" means "no roads" may I also insist that road construction be prohibited on any oil and gas leases in roadless areas. What can the oil and gas folks do to reach their locations? This: the oil or gas beneath leased locations within roadless areas can be reached via directional drilling from places outside roadless areas.

Thank you.

Sara Ransom

From: Sean McWilliams [ironventure@q.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 6:02 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Remember the Yellowstone!

To whom it may concern: With respect to the changes in the Roadless Areas protection, it would behove us all to remember just "who" we are dealing with, and the certain potential for environmental disaster. These corporations are not responsible, will lie cheat, steal, even murder to pursue their objectives. By no means should we allow them in the Thompson Divide. Companies like British Petroleum, Exxon, Encana, Williams Resources are well known, what will it take for people to wake up. I took a stand against BP in the Southwest, they drove me out, IT WILL NOT HAPPEN HERE! Remember the Gulf, Remember the Yellowstone! Respectfully, Sean McWilliams

From: Ron Cowen [ronc0037@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 6:34 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Upper Tier Roadless Protection Needed

Sir/Maam:

Instead of taking a step backward and weakening current protections for roadless areas we need to strengthen current legislation to protect healthy watersheds, habitat and migration routes.

My parents grew up in Salida and I've extensively hiked almost all the areas being considered for Upper Tier protection status. "Social trails" created by ATVs grind up existing vegetation and promote active erosion. Maintaining no surface occupancy by oil/gas companies will also preserve pristine conditions in these areas.

Allowing any disruptive activities in these areas ensures their "native" loss.

Thanks for your consideration of my requests.

Ron Cowen
6846 Los Reyes Circle
Colo. Spgs., CO 80918

From: Laurence Saunders [lrs02493@myfairpoint.net]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 6:25 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: woodland areas & diversification of species

Dear People,

Keep roadless area roadless . NO chemical retardant use, Please.
LRS

From: Sage Janet [janetsage43@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 2:50 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Areas

Although I now live in Michigan, I spent 50 wonderful years in Colorado and must chime in on behalf of those who want MORE LAND PROTECTED - MUCH MORE. There are a million reasons to tear up the land to benefit people - at the cost of the natural systems, rhythms, and beauty. Our great-great-great-grandkids will feel grateful to us and respect us if we have the foresight NOW to value the irreplaceable places in our beautiful state. Let's save all we can now - so that more of our descendants can enjoy real solitude and nature untamed. We can never go back once it is destroyed. Thank you for letting my voice be heard! Mrs. Jan Sage, Retired Teacher

From: Bill Sustrich [bsustrich@wildblue.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 8:11 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule

I ask you to please keep in mind the following in your deliberations on the Colorado Roadless Rules:

1. Our hunting and fishing advocates make a substantial contribution to our state economy.
2. Both of these activities benefit directly from adequate habitat protection.
3. Without suitable habitat, we will have no game; without game, we will have no hunting and fishing; without hunting and fishing, a precious heritage of our past will be lost forever.
4. To quote the greatest naturalist and environmentalist in recent memory, "The wildlife and its habitat cannot speak. So we must and we will." Theodore Roosevelt

These points should be foremost in your minds and I sincerely hope will help influence you to elevate upper tier protections for more high quality roadless lands.

Thank you,
Bill Sustrich
16760 CR 220
Salida CO

--

"Extremism in Defense of Wilderness is a Virtue"
Bill Sustrich

From: stephen eckert [freightdog78@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 8:19 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: CO Roadless Rule

To the USFS;

The best reason I can think of for protecting unspoiled rivers and streams in the Colorado backcountry, which might be at risk if any form of road, except hiking trails, is this; once access is granted to motor vehicles these areas will NO LONGER be BACKCOUNTRY.

That means that the folks who currently make the effort to hike or mt. bike into areas where there are no roads will never again be able to visit their favorite places to fish and hunt and find them unspoiled by the noise and pollution that vehicles bring to the wilderness.

PLEASE, DON'T build anymore access roads into areas which currently do not allow access to motor vehicles in the Colorado Wilderness.

Thanks,

Stephen Eckert, fisherman
Boulder, CO

From: Laurie LaGoe [lal8607@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 2:48 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Keep our remaining forests intact

I live in nothern Virginia near Washington DC. All remaining roadless areas should remain roadless. Half of the clearcut forests go to paper, a disposable product and particleboard, an inferior and toxic building material. We need to go to hemp and agricultural waste for paper. We need to go to concrete housing which would be much less flammable. It would also be more energy efficient also.

From: Richard Grossman [mailto:population-matters.org]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 2:24 AM
To: COcomments
Cc: info@coloradowild.org
Subject: The importance of roadless areas in Colorado

Dear Friends,

I am writing to support the maintenance of roadless areas in Colorado.

My wife and I are among the thousands of people who enjoy hiking and backpacking (and occasionally riding horseback) in Colorado. We live in Bayfield (ZIP code 81122). It is important to us personally that we not be bothered by the noise and pollution of motorized traffic. But there are other, more important reasons for keeping as much of Colorado roadless as possible.

As a practicing physician I am aware of the importance of people exercising in areas away from motorized traffic. It has been shown that such encounters increase a person's psychological arousal and stress.

As person with an interest in and a degree in public health, I am know the value and importance of natural, roadless areas for people to relax and rejuvenate.

As an Adjunct Professor of Biology at Fort Lewis College in Durango, I am discovering the services that our forests and wildlands provide for humans, including purifying air and water.

Finally, as a resident in an area of tourism, I read about the great economic value of the area in La Plata County for tourism. Building roads will dilute the economic ability of these areas to attract tourists from all over the world.

Please protect our heritage by preventing the construction of new roads on the public lands of Colorado!

Sincerely,

Richard Grossman MD, MPH

From: mike miller [gofishinor@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 1:11 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Roadless

We must keep the Roadless Rules in place and maybe make new ones. We need to protect the wild places, animals and fish. It is priceless. Once it is gone there is no getting it back. Mike Miller

From: Rodney Proffitt [planatlaw@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2011 6:29 AM
To: COcomments
Subject: Roadless Comment

I am for more restrictive access to roadless areas of the State. Too much has already been compromised to allow further degradation of roadless areas of the State.

Rodney B. Proffitt
263 Woodsman Drive
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147
planatlaw@gmail.com
970-903-9314

From: Dino Amato [damato1969co@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2011 9:23 PM
To: COcomments
Subject: Roadless ereas

Please take the time to realize how your selling out to big business affects us all. How will you tell your grandchildren your legacy has affected so many generations to come. PROTECT THE ROCKIES.....