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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Karen Raucher [floatingisland26@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2011 7:22 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 4, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

Economic assessments prove over and over that even with a low value placed on recreation the value of the few remaining roadless areas to the PUBLIC is greater over time if they remain roadless than if the public receives the small amount that comes back to us from oil and gas exploration and exploitation.

Please support public use of these lands!

Karen Raucher  
Senior Economist  
Stratus Consulting

Sincerely,

Ms. Karen Raucher  
3315 4th St  
Boulder, CO 80304-1747  
do not call me

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> June 06, 2011
<b>Received:</b> May 30, 2011
<b>Status:</b> Draft
<b>Category:</b> NA
<b>Tracking No.</b> 80e34c99
<b>Comments Due:</b> July 14, 2011
<b>Submission Type:</b> Web

**Docket:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001  
Recently Posted FS Rules and Notices.

**Comment On:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001-1051  
Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation: Applicability to the National Forests in Colorado

**Document:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001-DRAFT-0153  
Comment on FR Doc # 2011-09119

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Jerry D Unruh  
**Address:**  
225 Earthsong Way  
Manitou Springs, CO, 80829-2845  
**Email:** jerryunruh42@msn.com  
**Phone:** 719-685-3084  
**Organization:** Private citizen

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## General Comment

Thank you for allowing the public to comment on Colorado's Roadless Rule. I am a native of Colorado, but lived elsewhere for many years before moving back in 2000. As a child I remember many places that were wild but are now private and built up. Colorado is growing so fast that we need to protect every bit of wilderness possible. In addition, the damage done by off road vehicles is so fast and so great, that they should be banned from as many places as possible. Finally, there is probably no greater threat to wildland quality as that of oil and gas drilling. Only roadless protection provides protection from all of these assaults. Therefore, as a generalization, I urge you to expand and strengthen "Upper tier" protections for all the 2.8 million acres the Forest Service has identified in various Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) alternatives. These are areas known to have particularly high wildlife value, are important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, and offer unique and outstanding recreational opportunities.

Closer to my home, I am quite disappointed that the Pike-San Isabel National Forest has such a paltry amount of Upper Tier protection. While I am fortunate to live close to an area of Pike National Forest that has relatively few roads, I am also close to once beautiful places such as Jones Park and Frosty Park that have been utterly destroyed by off road vehicles. As such, I urge

CORSA

you to include all of the areas nominated as Upper Tier in Alternative 4 in Pike-San Isabel National Forests to be included in the proposed Rule. Additionally, there is so much pressure in the Pikes Peak Region, Pikes Peak East and West should be included in the Upper Tier.

In summary, I urge you to maintain the same standards for Colorado as in the National Roadless Rule. More succinctly, logging, road building, oil and gas drilling and "linear construction zones" should be strictly forbidden.

Thank you once again.

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

<b>As of:</b> June 06, 2011
<b>Received:</b> June 06, 2011
<b>Status:</b> Draft
<b>Category:</b> NA
<b>Tracking No.</b> 80e3d383
<b>Comments Due:</b> July 14, 2011
<b>Submission Type:</b> Web

**Docket:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001  
Recently Posted FS Rules and Notices.

**Comment On:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001-1051  
Special Areas; Roadless Area Conservation: Applicability to the National Forests in Colorado

**Document:** FS\_FRDOC\_0001-DRAFT-0154  
Comment on FR Doc # 2011-09119

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## Submitter Information

**Name:** Robert August Giacomelli  
**Address:**  
PO Box 1698  
Westcliffe, Colorado, 81252  
**Phone:** giaco320@gmail.com  
**Fax:** na  
**Organization:** na  
**Government Agency Type:** Federal

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## General Comment

I am 67 and have a bum leg making extended walks painfull. As a rockhound access to remote places are only available via road by truck or ATV. Please leave existing roads accessable. More roads on federal lands would be helpfull not less. Bob Giacomelli

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**From:** Susan Davies [sadavies@frontier.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 8:59 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Roadless Areas

For all concerned,

Please keep roadless areas roadless. The press of human population makes it imperative that these wild places are preserved for future humanity and future wildlife should any survive human expansion.

Sincerely,

Susan A. Davies

P.O. Box F

Durango, CO 81302

970-259-1294

6-4-11

COR55.

JUN 07 2011

Dear Commentary Staff

Please give the roadless areas of Colorado the same environmental protections that were set forth in the National Roadless Rule of 2001.

With the exception of Alaska, no part of the United States is more than a few miles from some type of road, so the final version of the Colorado rule should include strict provisions that would prevent commercial logging and oil and gas extractions from the inventoried roadless areas of Colorado.

There is enough private land available for oil and gas development; For example "By 2008, there were almost 800 wells in Greeley, Colorado, 300 of them within the city's limits." (DENVER POST 5-24-11 by SHARON DUNN) Also please note the enclosed article concerning gas extraction and its potential link to earthquakes.

In 2001 "... an average of 3.2 million acres per year of forest, wetland, farmland and open space were converted to more urban uses ...." "In an increasingly developed landscape, large unfragmented tracts of land become more important."

These two previous quotes were from  
 the 2001 National Roadless Rule  
 (Federal REGISTER / Vol 66, NO 9 / Friday, 1-12-2001)

The 2001 National Roadless Rule  
 also mentions that there was an estimated  
 8.4 billion dollar backlog in deferred  
 maintenance and reconstruction on the  
 386,000 miles of roads in the Forest  
 transportation system. So for fiscal  
 considerations alone the roadless areas  
 of Colorado should be left unmarked.

For 30 years I've lived next to the  
 San Isabel Forest in Chaffee County.  
 The noise, fumes and erosion caused  
 by ATVs and motorcycles is disgraceful  
 and damaging to the natural  
 environment. The roads in Baldwin Lakes  
 Basin and Mount White should remain  
 closed to motorized traffic. Again there  
 is enough area already in existence  
 for these recreational vehicles to travel on.  
 The 2001 Roadless Rule mentions that  
 there were 60,000 miles of unauthorized  
 roads in the Forest System - The lack of  
 concern by users of these vehicles has played  
 a great part in the free-lance desecration  
 of our public lands -

CORS5

Finally, I ask you to give "top-tier protection" to the 2.8 million acres that have been identified as having the necessary characteristics deserving of these environmental safeguards. Such areas should include the recommended lands of South Cottonwood Creek, Buffalo Peaks, Sangre de Cristo, and Porphyry Creek.

Someone once said that if you love the land, you will protect it.

Thanks for your consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Lee Truitt

P.O. Box 1254 / 30680 PROMONTORY E.  
Buena Vista, Co. 81211  
(719) 395-2097

CORSS

DENVER POST 10-30-11 6-3-11

# "Fracking" halted after 2 quakes

By Jill Lawless  
The Associated Press

LONDON» A mining company has halted drilling for shale gas in England after scientists said two small earthquakes might be linked to the controversial process, known as "fracking."

The decision by Cuadrilla Resources Ltd. heightened European environmentalists' concerns about a process that has been promoted as an untapped source of energy but criticized by opponents as dirty and disruptive.

The British Geological Survey recorded a 1.5-magnitude quake Friday near Blackpool in northwestern England, within 1.2 miles of the gas well. A

2.3-magnitude quake was recorded nearby in April.

The geological survey's head of seismology, Brian Baptie, said Tuesday that the two quakes appeared to have "a similar location and mechanism." Cuadrilla Resources said it had stopped hydraulic fracturing, or fracking — the process of extracting gas by pummeling rocks deep underground with high-pressure water, sand and chemicals — while it studied data from the quakes and consulted with experts.

It is not the first time fracking has been linked to seismic activity. Scientists are studying whether more than 1,000 small earthquakes in Arkansas are connected to shale-gas exploration.

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Mr. Lee Truitt  
PO Box 1254  
Buena Vista, CO 81211-1254

Colorado Roadless Rule / EIS  
P.O. Box 1919  
Sacramento, California 95812

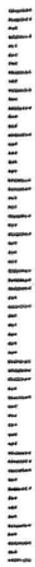
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Public Comment Submission  
on Rulemaking for Colorado Roadless Areas  
Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS) and/or Proposed Colorado Roadless Rule

This document constitutes my submittal of written comments on the revised draft EIS and/or proposed Colorado Roadless Rule. I understand the USDA Forest Service will review and consider these comments prior to finalizing the EIS and making a decision on the proposed roadless rule. I further understand that these comments, including my name and address, will become part of the public record.

Name: John M. Skones  
Address: 2819 Middleborough Ct  
E-mail: JohnMSkones@Comcast.net  
Phone: 970-217-0557

JUN 06 2011

Signature: John M Skones Date: 5/26/11

COMMENTS:

I believe this Roadless plan goes to far.  
IT makes 2/3 of the Forest in Colorado roadless  
we have the rip's and wilderness areas as roadless  
areas. The rest of the forest system should  
be managed for sustainable use.

Public Comment Submission  
 on Rulemaking for Colorado Roadless Areas  
 Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS) and/or Proposed Colorado Roadless Rule

This document constitutes my submittal of written comments on the revised draft EIS and/or proposed Colorado Roadless Rule. I understand the USDA Forest Service will review and consider these comments prior to finalizing the EIS and making a decision on the proposed roadless rule. I further understand that these comments, including my name and address, will become part of the public record.

Name: Charles W. Bates  
 Address: P.O. 6165, Steamboat Springs, Colo., 80471  
 E-mail: charliebates97@yahoo.com  
 Phone: 970-819-6290

JUN 06 2011

Signature: Charles W. Bates Date: 05/25/2011

COMMENTS:

It seem restrictions on tree cutting  
preclude any possibility of controlling tree  
diseases, other than use of fire, which  
is more dangerous. It seems ~~to~~ maintaining  
healthy forests ought to be the primary  
mission of the Forest Service,

Public Comment Submission  
 on Rulemaking for Colorado Roadless Areas  
 Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (RDEIS) and/or Proposed Colorado Roadless Rule

This document constitutes my submittal of written comments on the revised draft EIS and/or proposed Colorado Roadless Rule. I understand the USDA Forest Service will review and consider these comments prior to finalizing the EIS and making a decision on the proposed roadless rule. I further understand that these comments, including my name and address, will become part of the public record.

Name: JOHN SPEZIA  
 Address: 642 EVANS ST, SS, CO 80477  
 E-mail: j.spezia@yahoo.com  
 Phone: 970-879-1289

JUN 06 2011

Signature: John Spezia Date: 5/25/2011

COMMENTS:

North Fork mine is an unsure process as coal has many problems that is detrimental to our air, water, health, snow pack, mercury, visible/viewing air shed, heavy metals in fly ash, acid rain. This not good for Colorado

LCZ, according to FS official, has ~~over~~ priority over wild life habitat, migration, wind fall damage because the corridor is still present, it will not be allowed to grow back. Wild life is important to Colorado Fuel Treatment 1/2 mile is the maximum as it is not economical to go beyond 1/2 mi with out roads or major damage to the area

Water shed tree cutting, The USFS has found that tree cutting does not stop/prevent more beetle kill, cutting will remove dead trees, cause erosion, and degrade water quality & quantity.

JUN 06 2011

**Robert M. McConnell**

P.O. 880111 Steamboat Springs, CO. 80488

970-846-4907 [scrapironbob@aol.com](mailto:scrapironbob@aol.com)

May 25, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

The roadless plan for management of federal lands in Northwestern Colorado now under consideration is not about protecting resources. It is about denying the opportunity to utilize those resources. To some, this will sound counter-intuitive. Others will recognize it as a clear statement of an agenda which wears the mask of environmental responsibility. History demonstrates that when we take a long term view, we can both utilize and protect natural resources. A brief recitation of facts with which I hope we can all agree will make my point clear.

-Colorado is blessed with abundant natural resources, including flora, fauna, water and minerals.

-Over the past hundred plus years, the discovery and use of those resources has generally followed an east to west progression.

-Increased populations and economic growth have followed that same progression.

-The use of resources whether through hunting, trapping, harvesting or extraction results in disruption of conditions existing before that use begins. Well known examples include the depletion of beaver, deer and elk populations, along with visual degradation associated with harvesting timber and extraction of coal, oil and minerals.

-Today, populations of beaver, deer, elk and other previously depleted fauna are thriving.

-Today, along the Front Range visual degradation and other impacts resulting from previous extraction have been mitigated. A prime example is Marshall Mesa near Boulder. Literature published by the Open Space & Mountain Parks Coalition, [www.osmp.org](http://www.osmp.org) reports, "A century ago, Marshall Mesa was famous as one of the most important coal mining areas in the state. There were 51 official coal mines in Marshall ....The last of the mines closed in the 1940's." Today, prairie dogs chirp and meadowlarks sing in over 3,000 acres of intact grassland. This beautiful open space, minutes from downtown Boulder is open to hiking, biking, and horseback riding. Seventy years ago it was producing millions of tons of coal.

-Mining coal on Marshall Mesa brought miners, their families, and supporting infrastructure including railroads, and later highways to Boulder County. The coal mined there fueled the economic development of the entire Front Range.

-Today, Boulder is a thriving metropolitan community dedicated to protecting the natural resources that, through utilization led to its economic growth.

-I moved to Steamboat Springs five years ago. The Forest Service was then reporting that one million acres of the conifer forest north of I-70 was dead. That number has grown to two million, and now four million acres of dead trees. This represents geometric growth, or rather death.

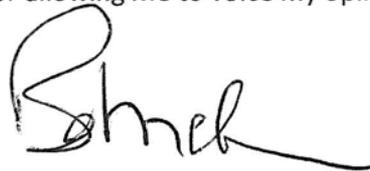
-Through the greater Rocky Mountain eco-system that number is estimated to be thirty million acres of dead trees stretching from Canada to Mexico.

-While not as dramatic as the Gulf, or the Exxon Valdez oil spills, the environmental impact of this flora loss will be far more long lasting and profound.

-Former Representative Salazar called this a crisis as early as 2005. Senator Udall has obtained some funding to mitigate the damage. However, mitigation is limited just as much by access as it is by funding.

We are now faced with choices. We can let this dead wood burn. Once we dry out, it will burn. Recall that during the Yellowstone fire, smoke clouds darkened the sky as far south as New Mexico. What will be the impact of just a one million acre fire? How many homes will be lost and communities will suffer? Another choice is to fast track the removal of this valuable resource while most of the dead trees are still standing. That will create jobs for loggers, truckers, millers, sales people and managers. In the near term, it will require clearing forest roads. Once the dead wood is removed, these roads can be allowed to become trails, providing access for multiple uses, just as thousands of old mining and logging roads throughout Colorado do now.

I stand in favor of responsible utilization of our resources, accepting that in the short term, there will be adverse impacts. I believe that those impacts can be mitigated, just as adverse impacts have been mitigated on the Front Range. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

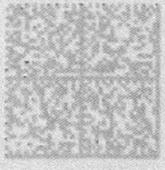
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. McConnell", with a stylized, cursive script.

Robert M. McConnell



REGIONAL FOREST SERVICE  
USDA, Forest Service  
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GOLDEN, COLORADO 80401-4720

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PO Box 1919  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95812

FIRST CLASS MAIL

JUN 06 2011

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Norma Groverland [nbigtree@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 03, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 3, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

There are alternative fuel industries ready to go that do not rape the environment. Please save our land for the future generations.

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Norma Groverland  
16 Canyon View Rd  
Boulder, CO 80302-9634  
(303) 449-0304

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Dianne Herber [diherber@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 8:24 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

COLORADO IS MY MOST FAVORITE VACATION PLACE. I GO THERE FOR THE BEAUTIFUL SCENERY AND FRESH MOUNTAIN AIR. I SIT IN THE BACKCOUNTRY AND WATCH NATURE AND WILDLIFE. I DO NOT WANT TO SEE DRILLING RIGS, LOGGING TRUCKS, BARE FOREST LANDS FULL OF TREE STUMPS, DIRT ROADS FULL OF THRILL SEEKING 3 OR 4 WHEELERS. AND I DO NOT WANT TO BREATHE IN THE POLLUTION THAT COMES FROM THESE VERY THINGS! I WANT THE BEAUTY AND THE PEACE AND QUIET. AND I MOST ESPECIALLY DO NOT WANT TO SEE CONDOS AND OTHER MAN MADE STRUCTURES SPOILING THE SCENERY, ALL THE IN THE NAME OF "PROGRESS". (This is not progress, but destruction of God's country.)

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were ILLEGALLY ISSUED by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions

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of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. THEY ARE SIMPLY TOO GREAT A RESOURCE TO SQUANDER. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Ms. Dianne Herber  
223 Evergreen Cir  
Georgetown, TX 78626-4808

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Brian Homka [alpha\_rogue831@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 9:53 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.

It is long overdue that alternative energy sources be developed. Continually succumbing to the requests of the oil companies, removes virtually all incentive to do so. For the sake of the environment, and consumers there must be some finality to this issue.

2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.

3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.

4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier"

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lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Brian Homka  
1434 Genesee St Apt 35  
Utica, NY 13502-5170  
(315) 790-5652

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Jake Hodie [skicopmtn@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 05, 2011 11:39 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** PLEASE Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 5, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

Colorado is such a beautiful state. PLEASE don't let that change. I say that because nothing is guaranteed these days. Our beautiful state is under attack from the oil and gas lobbyists as well as the OTV crowd.

And if they "win" then the wildlife, forests, environment, and residents lose!  
Is it worth the risk to so many to please so few?!

NO MORE DRILLING!  
NO MORE ROADS!  
NO MORE OTV USAGE EXPANSION!

PLEASE think of our wildlife. PLEASE think of the peace and quiet that so many of us wish for.  
PLEASE think of the environment.  
PLEASE think of the beautiful state Colorado is.

We need your support to protect our wilderness. You have the power.  
PLEASE help! More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jake Hodie

145 Starwood  
Aspen, CO 81611

COR63

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Laura Cook [lauramcook@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 7:54 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Form  
Master #4

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

CORL64

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Laura Cook  
540 30th Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95062-5028

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Jerry Clark [jcdinsul@bresnan.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 05, 2011 3:10 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 5, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

I'm not sure what the corporate profiteers do for fun (I've got a good idea) but I spend a lot of time in Colorado's mountains & canyons, either camping, bike riding, hiking, or just on day trips. Considering the fact that fossil fuel is literally a thing of the past, a dinosaur if you will, why would anyone want to ruin creation just to create something that ruins creation for a short term gain? Obviously, the answer to that rhetorical question, is greed.

America will be nothing more than a concrete vault with pictures of cash on the walls if we succumb to the greedy & heartless. Raw, pristine, original earth lands have more beauty & value than just one or two generations of humankind can ever appreciate. Don't shortchange us, the living, or the uncountable generations yet to come.

Preserve America!  
Preserve Mother Earth, forever!!

Sincerely,

Mr. Jerry Clark  
440 County Road 232

Durango, CO 81303-6872

COR65

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Patricia Kaiser [ballerina030@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 04, 2011 2:07 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 4, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

It is essential that wild areas are protected from the exploitation of man because the wild life require peaceful private safe existence in order to survive and reproduce. For example the Lynx or Mountain lion and even the last jaguar that just passed last year require safe privacy in order to have healthy off spring! It would be in the best interests of the animals that have to travel long distances in order to find a mate, to keep a track of land free from the intrusion of man to traverse from Canada, U.S., to Mexico in order to save the few remaining dwindling numbers of protected species. It has been projected that by 2030 to 2050 more that 50% of all wild life will be permanently extinct due to man..... Please lets stop this before its too late!

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Thank You for truly representing values that make a difference!

Sincerely;

Dr. Patricia L. Kaiser

Sincerely,

Dr. Patricia Kaiser  
8631 E Yale Ave Apt E  
Denver, CO 80231-4052  
(303) 337-0665

CORLdb

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Robert A. Mertz  
[ramertz@access.mountain.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 6:53 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support stronger protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

As a Biology, Wildlife Management and Environmental Earth Science teacher working in the public school systems of several states, for thirty one years, 29 in West Virginia, I have been teaching students as well as our two sons, the importance of a sustainable life style. I want them to learn to live within the ecological budget of Earth. The quality of life for the present and future generations depends on keeping the life sustaining diversity of our complex life systems healthy. Although there are some impressive self-maintaining dynamics at work to stabilize these systems, there are limits to their ability to correct for continued stress. The geological record is full of evidence showing sudden drastic upheavals and ecological disasters. We have no valid reason to believe that we humans with our huge powers to alter the climate and ecosystems will not trigger another watershed shift in the world's balance that will result in condition that renders the Earth unsuitable for human life, or that degrades the quality of our existence to a much lower level. It is our duty as the most powerful species to exist on this planet to use our might to protect the integrity of our life support systems for the benefit of all living things, to do anything is the extreme in narrow minded, short sighted self indulgent stupidity.

Our sons, and our beautiful two year old granddaughter, are the most important and joyful parts of my life. Although both my wife and I have spent the greater part of our adult lives interacting with young people as teachers, nothing comes close to the emotional intensity of raising your own children. They are grown and mostly independent of us now, but our commitment to them continues. Today the growth of the human population and the selfish consumerism that is spreading over the Earth is endangering the future of all humans. Will we be able to both save ourselves from self-destruction and maintain our freedom and individuality? I have been teaching students the value of developing a sustainable culture and personal life style for 31 years as a Biology and Environmental Earth Science teacher. I hope that the knowledge I have gained from my masters degree in Biology as well as my extensive reading have been delivered with the passion that I feel for the welfare of our planet. Teaching is a powerful way to have a positive influence on the future, but many issues are too important and too immediate to wait for the future. I am writing today about one of these issues.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases"

EOR67

were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.

2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.

3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.

4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert A. Mertz  
1205 Mulberry Rdg  
Spencer, WV 25276-8561  
(304) 927-5055

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Laurel Higgins [llhiggins@ionsky.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 06, 2011 6:13 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 6, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

We live adjacent to Roosevelt N. F. In Colorado. We support roadless areas for the next 7 generations & beyond. Short sighted needs drilling via leases will not solve our problems! We should expand our solar, wind, & water resource generation as well as conserving our use of resources is the only common sense solution!!

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Laurel Higgins  
188 Diane Ave  
Black Hawk, CO 80422-4304

**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Raul Miller [mobilizecwa@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 06, 2011 9:13 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 6, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

As you read the following, please keep in mind that public lands are the province of the public... for their use and enjoyment... NOT for the generation of corporate profit!

Also keep in mind that once these pristine lands are ravaged by development they are gone forever and no longer serve the public!

If the government sees a need to develop additional energy resources, let's place our investments in the clean, renewable resources of the future, rather than destroy the wild spaces that belong to the public and our future generations....

\* \* \* \* \*

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Mr. Raul Miller  
PO Box 621515  
Littleton, CO 80162-1515  
(720) 255-6061

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**From:** Sierra Club Membership Services [membership.services@sierraclub.org] on behalf of Mel Preusser [melpreusser@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 06, 2011 9:11 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Keep Colorado's Back Country Roadless!

Jun 6, 2011

Colorado Roadless Area Rule Public Comment Email CO

Dear Public Comment Email,

I spend lots of time in Colorado's forests and wilderness areas and I enjoy the tranquility and pristine scenery of the roadless areas the most. Please support this effort to avoid needless exploitation and adulteration to these areas.

More than a hundred years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt established our national forest system as a legacy for future generations. Because of his vision, these public lands have provided valuable habitat for fish and wildlife, clean drinking water for millions, and unparalleled outdoor recreation opportunities for all to enjoy.

A century later, these national forests still stand because Americans have enthusiastically embraced their protection and pushed back when special interests threatened them.

Now, we call on you to renew Theodore Roosevelt's commitment to our national heritage and protect more than 58 million acres of pristine national forests by resolving to:

\* Uphold the Roadless Area Conservation Rule that protects our last undeveloped national forests.

\* Suspend all commercial road-building and logging in inventoried roadless areas that violates the rule.

Under the current proposal, only 13% of Colorado's roadless areas are given top tier protection, thus leaving the remainder more vulnerable to new road building, drilling, and development.

Colorado deserves more! Please expand top tier protection for our roadless national forests in a manner that fully protects their suite of backcountry values, so that the water, wildlife, and other bounties of our backcountry will be preserved.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mel Preusser  
7931 E 29th Ave  
Denver, CO 80238-3137

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**From:** Dick & Jan Scar [Scars@RockyMountains.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2011 3:29 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Colorado Roadless Rule

I am unable to attend the public meeting on the Colorado Roadless Rule in Pueblo on May 19. I therefore submit these comments for inclusion in the public record.

In general, I support the protections embodied in the National Roadless Rule and do not support managing the forests in Colorado to any lower standard. To ensure this, any final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections and give priority to maintaining and enhancing roadless characteristics in all of the state's Inventoried Roadless Areas.

Areas of our national forests that contain no roads are a valuable, and historically, rapidly decreasing natural resource that must be protected to maintain wildlife habitat, watersheds and quiet (also a rapidly decreasing resource).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. I will appreciate your careful consideration of them.

Sincerely,

Dick Scar  
P.O. Box 717  
Buena Vista, CO 81211  
(719) 395-8426

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Michael Pitt [pittactor@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 3:00 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. Ridiculous, outrageous and a violation of the public trust.

Colorado has no business making it's own rules for lands owned by all americans. It is not their land to toy with, it's OURS!

The 2001 Roadless Rule was the most popular rule in the entire history of federal rulemaking! Let's see... 2011 minus 1776 equals uh 235 years and nothing has engendered so many positive comments. NOTHING!

Modern technology notwithstanding, this is clearly the will of the american poeple whom you have sworn to serve.

There are no special circumstances which should exempt Colorado (or Idaho, for that matter) from this wonderful, far-sighted rule.

The only acceptable rule for Colorado's roadless lands, which are just as much my lands as they are the Colorado governor's, is the 2001 Roadless Rule.

Sincerely,

Mr. Michael Pitt  
815 Frost Rd Apt 1202  
Streetsboro, OH 44241-4736

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**From:** Deric JAQUES [boyne831@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 20, 2011 6:42 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** roadless rules

As a frequent visitor to Pagossa Springs and Wolf Creek I am very concerned about the possible change in the access to areas for cutting timber etc. I do feel this should be restricted and only allowed for possible fire safety.

We need to preserve our state land and not grant access for companies that seem to have no concern for the wild life, the watersheds and our forests. I must Insist that the final rule prohibit road construction for water projects in roadless areas.

I would request that more roadless areas be added to the "upper tier", where they have more protection against logging.

I would hope that electrical and telecommunication lines not be allowed in roadless areas, especially in the upper tier areas.

I would Insist that road construction be prohibited on any oil and gas leases in roadless areas. The oil or gas beneath leased locations within roadless areas can be reached via directional drilling from places outside roadless areas

sincerely

Deric Jaques  
2075 Langham Dr  
West Bloomfield, Mi 48323

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Helen Caswell [helencaswell@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:53 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

If we lose the precious wild lands in Colorado they will never return.  
These areas should be preserved for ALL Americans, not for the benefit of oil and gas  
companies or loggers. The integrity of these lands would be badly damaged by road  
construction as well.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national  
forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the  
National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in  
federal court.

Thank you for your time. Please protect roadless areas in Colorado while you can still do  
so.

Sincerely,

Ms. Helen Caswell  
4190 12th St SE  
Salem, OR 97302-1873

**From:** Kportzla@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2011 3:43 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** (no subject)

To: the Ladies and Gentlemen of the US Forest Service

From: Ken Portz - Durango, CO

Subject: Colorado Roadless Rule Revision

Date: 6/21/2011

First let me thank your group for a half a century of taking care of "my" Colorado. I grew up here , had to leave for career reasons for some 25 years and have returned to spend my retirement years. While the State has certainly grown the public lands and resources seem to have been managed with an clear eye for the future and the protection of what cannot be recreated, once disturbed. Great job, thanks.

It seems that once again we have to legally define what we want to protect, going forward, from current land use policies in finalizing a Roadless Rule doctrine. I have spent some time reviewing what I would think should be a) the goals and b) the key phraseology of a legally binding document that could either help make a stronger document or alternatively, make it less effective one. The latter inviting ongoing challenges based on intent, because we weren't clear enough initially. Let me be clear.

Chief among my concerns are: 1) keeping LCZs out of the "upper tier" areas and taking full opportunity to keep roadless areas today, roadless in the future, and 2) absolute protection of all water shed areas that feed both our domestic/agricultural needs as well as support sportsmen from here and around the country who fish and hunt in Colorado. I have hiked and fished feeder streams throughout Colorado for years. Please protect them.

I am enjoying Colorado, my children and grandchildren either live here or travel here often and I want to present to them, the vast beautiful undisturbed places. Let's protect all that we can. I do not think that in 30 years we will look back and think that we should have developed more of our public lands.

**I would ask that you adopt Alternative 4**

Best regards,

Kenneth A. Portz

Durango, Colorado

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Sigrid Benson [dirgis3@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 9:54 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National  
2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal  
court.

A final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following  
areas:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases.
- 2) Logging.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection.

Noticeably absent from the above list is Visitor Recreation and Enjoyment. Isn't that one of  
the multipurpose USDA Forest Service?  
How come it always gets lost?

Sincerely,

Ms. Sigrid Benson  
1514 Mariners Cir  
Gulf Breeze, FL 32563-2988  
do not call

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**From:** Peter Hartman [wpeterhartman@me.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 12, 2011 6:36 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Save Colorado's roadless backcountry

To whom it may concern,

I cant remember a day that i have not been outside in the woods, fishing, hiking or just enjoying the serenity of the quite. One of the biggest draws for me to the woods it the "escape" from the city life i live in. The car noises die off the further i go and the air seems a little crisper. To see these backcountry forests that i hold dear to me be scared with roads and cars would be a same to see as well as a disgrace to the beauty of the Colorado back country. I am still young, only 20 years old and i want to be able to pass these small little life treasures as fishing is solitude in the state i call home with out a car driving by. Please do what is right for our state and our youth for years to come KEEP COLORADO'S BACK COUNTY ROADLESS! Thank you for your time and your understanding.

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Pat Priest [ppriest@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 10:24 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Writing re: final rules for roadless areas in Colorado

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please follow the 2001 National rules and disallow any watering down by any state! Protect  
roadless lands in Colorado!

I am writing in particular to protest the so-called linear construction zones. What a farce!  
There should be no new power lines or or bogus access to water -- nothing.

These roadless areas are critical for wildlife, recreation, and preserving clean water.

Keep 'em roadless!

Sincerely,

Dr. Pat Priest  
1181 Tanglebrook Dr  
Athens, GA 30606-5739  
(706) 353-8310

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**From:** katethelizard@gmail.com on behalf of Kate Spencer [kate@katespencer.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 12, 2011 7:00 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Support Conservation Alternative for Routt National Forest Roadless Lands

Dear National Forest Service Staff:

I urge you to choose the Conservation Alternative in your plans for managing the Routt National Forest and designate approximately 350,000 acres as "upper tier" roadless lands. The surface resources of forest habitat, hunting areas, and pristine trout streams are extremely valuable just as they are. Colorado's marvelous wild areas have already been carved up enough. This wilderness deserves to be left alone -- protected -- for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you,  
Kate Spencer

---  
**KATE SPENCER**  
Artist • Naturalist | **Lizardfish Studios**  
PO Box 51052, Pacific Grove, California 93950  
[kate@katespencer.com](mailto:kate@katespencer.com)

---

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Charles Brumleve [ctbrumleve@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 6:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Why must you destroy the roadless rule? It was there to protect our forests from off road vehicles and other traffic. If people need a road then they need to go elsewhere. Otherwise enjoy the walk in a pristine environment. Please reconsider and leave the roadless rule in place.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Charles Brumleve  
2416 Wilmar Dr  
Manhattan, KS 66502-3862  
(785) 776-8497

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Leslie Fowler [fowler1555@att.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 6:24 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

No Oil and Gas Drilling in our roadless national forests. Stop the stupidity. I have had  
solar on my house for the past 14 years and it generates over 50% of my annual electrical  
needs!

Sincerely,

Ms. Leslie Fowler  
10295 Mira Vista Rd  
Cupertino, CA 95014-2704

---

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Joann Keller [joannk780@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

It is not appropriate to give in to the oil industry. Our lands must be protected from profit-making industries. Mother Earth is fragile right now and must be protected. Let's wise up.

Sincerely,

Ms. Joann Keller  
780 Excalibur St  
Lafayette, CO 80026-1911

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of F. G. Meseke  
[sarachel@augsburchurch.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 6:30 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

pristine means just that...untouched by mankind.

Sincerely,

Dr. F. G. Meseke  
RR 1 PO Box 156  
Shobonier, IL 62885-9801  
(618) 846-4981

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**From:** Ryan Huggins [rkhuggins@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 21, 2011 11:02 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** roadless rule

Government staff:

thank you for considering public input in this process. I ask that you also consider government mandates to protect resources for future generations as well as current uses. In addition to the comments below, i want to emphasize how important the roadless areas are to me, my local community, my local economy (which fishing and hunting are a big piece of) and the quality of life that makes us colorado citizens. the san juan area is blessed with the weeminuche but many of the surrounding areas (hermosa, mitchell lakes, silverton areas, etc.) are not protected even though they are part of the same ecosystem and need to be conected. We all know roads are the gateway to development, by rogue users, erosion and other users that creep in up the cut paths. please keep larger areas pristine.

thank you,  
Ryan Huggins,  
durango, CO

Adopt the conservation alternative (Alt. 4). This alternative would protect 2.6 million acres in the upper tier category and safeguard fish and wildlife. Tell them of your favorite places (use names), why they are important to you, and use anecdotal evidence i.e. stories of hunting and fishing trips, the importance of these areas to your municipal watershed, family traditions, etc.

Protect roadless areas with No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulations and not to grant waivers. This will keep development from disturbing the surface inside roadless areas and creating harmful impacts such as erosion, invasive species, chemical contamination, habitat fragmentation, damage to waterways, and visual degradation.

Keep Linear Construction Zones (LCZs) out of upper tier areas. Upper tier areas are the best of the best lands in the state of Colorado. These areas are too valuable to allow any new development. Tell the Forest Service that these areas should be off limits to any kind of development.

Create strong language that requires any project in a roadless area to maintain the viability of fish and wildlife populations throughout the duration of the project. Language in the proposal regarding cutthroat trout does not require that projects refrain from harming fish and wildlife during the project, only that they retain conditions over the long term. This could allow populations to be exterminated even if the conditions we're returned to pre-project conditions years after the project was complete.

Protect our hunting and angling heritage and the economic opportunities they create. Relay the importance of the outdoor economy and the reliance of local communities on hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing dollars that wouldn't be possible without pristine public lands. Hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing contribute nearly \$2 billion and over 20,000 jobs annually to Colorado's economy. Additionally, nearly 60% of all native cold water fisheries habitat in Colorado is in roadless areas and the 15 most hunted game management units (GMUs) are all over 50% roadless, including over 100,000 acres of roadless backcountry in 12 of the 15 most hunted GMUs.

Protect our cool, clean water sources. Remind the Forest Service that over 16,000 streams originate in Colorado's roadless backcountry and provide much of our

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drinking water, recreational opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat. Protect key fish and wildlife habitat in all of our forests. Remind the Forest Service that the Pike San Isabel, Routt, and Rio Grande National Forests have tens of thousands of high value roadless backcountry acres that are worthy of upper tier protections and not to leave them out of upper tier designation.

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Lynne Bailey [lynnembailey@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 11:25 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

While this message is a duplicate of many you will receive, know that I strongly agree with ALL of these provisions and am greatly concerned about preserving our national forests. They are an extremely important resource for biodiversity, cleaning the air, and a national treasure.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier"

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lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Ms. Lynne Bailey  
280 Riverside Ave  
Rutherford, NJ 07070-2639

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Thomas Keenan [grsrs09@imaxmail.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 6:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

We are losing so much precious wild lands and so many species every year, and with populations continuing to swell around the world, it becomes more important than ever that we do everything possible to preserve and restore our natural and wild areas. Clean water will be impacted on the loss of many of our wilderness areas as time marches on, and future wars will be fought over it. This miracle of life will not be supported much longer if we don't reign in green house gases and preserve our wild and natural lands in abundance.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further,

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loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Keenan  
1415 E McFarland Ave  
Coeur D Alene, ID 83814-4876  
(208) 667-2715

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Arlene Malkin [auntiear@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2011 9:06 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 13, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

While I understand the need to access our natural resources, we must ensure that when doing so we balance the needs of these resources with the need to protect the lands that provide these resources. In order to do so, we must understand that our failure to do so will have fatal consequences to the lands, wildlife and ultimately our planet; each are intricately interdependent upon the other and we cannot forget that. Once balance is not observed, a disastrous chain effect begins. Literally, the lives of future generations depend upon it!

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further,

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loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Ms. Arlene Malkin  
1554 Quiet Crk  
Beaumont, CA 92223-7317  
(928) 242-0752

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of John Witte [jwitte@reed.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Colorado and the rest of America already have enough fuckin' roads without you the forest  
service allowing the timber assholes to build more into previously roadless areas. So stop  
this bullshit once and for all!

Sincerely,

Dr. John Witte  
4855 SE Tenino Ct  
Portland, OR 97206-0848  
(503) 774-7559

**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Julie Unruh [unruh.julie@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

If you do not fix the Roadless rules for the Colorado forest, everyone in Colorado and probably in the surrounding states will be asthmatic.  
Please do not destroy something so beautiful and that gives us air.

Sincerely,

Ms. Julie Unruh  
1203 New Jersey St  
Lawrence, KS 66044-3357  
(785) 766-1310

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Helmut Steger [hjstrin@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

What is wrong with you people? Do we have to jeopardize our most pristine forest's and wildlife areas just so that multi-billion Corporations can make more money? How far does this lousy greed go? You are selling out the future of our children for corporate greed and you should be ashamed!

Sincerely,

Mr. Helmut Steger  
370 15th St NW  
Naples, FL 34120-1906

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of N W Botting [neil.open@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:53 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** The present protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas are appropriate

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that no rule include any further or new restrictions.

In particular this includes restrictions on Oil & Gas Leases; Logging; Linear Construction Zones; and Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection.

Sincerely,

Mr. N W Botting  
4585 W Highway 24  
Florissant, CO 80816-7097  
(719) 748-3003

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Richard Gale [rgale@ccsf.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to EXISTING rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

I was under the impression that your specific duties and obligations, under law, were to protect and maintain our national wild lands, and to act as stewards for them.

If that is the case, then clearly the slipshod rule-making in this instance must either be just that -slipshod and rather incompetent -- or a deliberate violation of your primary responsibilities and duties in order to pander to huge corporate interests under cover of this self-same slipshod incompetence. In the first instance, such would be reprehensible; if the second case applies, it would be inexcusable and contemptible.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape.

They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Richard Gale  
75 Eastmoor Ave  
Apt 4  
Daly City, CA 94015-3727  
(650) 991-4834

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Charles Blaisdell  
[truthpro@roadrunner.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

It is all too apparent that you are willing to bargain away the environment to corporate and teabag interests.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands have strict No Surface Occupancy stipulations to protect the entire roadless area from any future oil and gas leasing and development. These areas must

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not permit the use of "linear construction zones" to facilitate pipelines, transmission lines, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Dr. Charles Blaisdell  
17 Monument St Apt 1  
Winslow, ME 04901-7074  
(207) 873-0055

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Nels Flesehr [nelsflesher@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 11, 2011 10:01 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 11, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

I spent two summers working for a forestry company in Washington state. During those months I gained a realistic perspective of the balance between managing our forest lands as resources and as wildlife habitat. It may seem that in troubled economic times and in times of energy crisis we need to lean more heavily toward resource extraction. However, we must also consider HOW FAR the balance has shifted in that direction already. Consider the continental United States. Colorado is one of the few places left on a once abundant continent that is not severely altered and over-developed by industry and agriculture. Roadless areas are important. I recognize that my view may be radical, but so is the situation in which we now live.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.

COR94

4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Nels Flesehr  
1300 Delaware St Apt 35  
Berkeley, CA 94702-1472  
(253) 223-9582

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@twc.org] on behalf of Richard Curtis [dlc@myhome.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 11, 2011 9:01 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** Farm Foresters support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 11, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

As farm foresters we practice good stewardship to protect our forests and the underlying lands from abuse that can have long term adverse impact on the environment and productivity of the land. We expect no less from those responsible to manage our public lands. Please accept our comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

COR95

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape.

They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Richard Curtis  
PO Box 451  
Ethel, WA 98542-0451  
(360) 266-9905

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Deanna Wiemar [ldyentity@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 1:30 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

COR96

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape.

They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

My husband and I have decided to move to Colorado for the beauty in this state. Please do not destroy Nature's beautiful gifts for profit and greed.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Deanna Wiemar  
2340 Oak Meadow Dr  
O Fallon, MO 63368-6564

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Mary Thoma [jthoma1924@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 8:54 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 10, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

COR97

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape.

They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Has not the GREED of the drilling companies done enough damage? Please protect and follow President Obamas ruling.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Thoma  
326 Spirea Dr  
Dayton, OH 45419-3541  
(937) 299-9389

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Rhesa Olsen [rolsen5@ivytech.edu]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 11, 2011 1:02 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 11, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Doesn't it seem odd that you are the Forest SERVICE Team, and yet what you plan to do is a DISSERVICE to the Forest of which you are supposed to protect?! If you do NOT ensure the protection of the forest, you will have "worked" yourselves out of a job!!!

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands have strict No Surface Occupancy stipulations to protect the

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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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rhesa Olsen  
1445 E 111th St  
Indianapolis, IN 46280-1219

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Jeff Edeker [jeff@rhythm.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:52 PM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 9, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

C'mon damn-it. I have family that lives in Montrose and visit frequently. It is BEAUTIFUL! Do you really want to ruin that for short term economics? This land belongs to the people of Colorado and the United States, NOT the multi-national corporations that want to rape it.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands 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, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jeff Edeker  
4519 Coldwater Canyon Ave  
Studio City, CA 91604-1081

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**From:** The Wilderness Society [action@tw.s.org] on behalf of Ruth Hardy [dingbat9@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 12, 2011 9:03 AM  
**To:** COcomments  
**Subject:** I support strong protections for Colorado's Roadless Areas

Jun 12, 2011

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

Dear Forest Service Comment Team Comment Team,

Our national forests are an essential part of our heritage, and our survival depends on maintaining intact ecosystems throughout these lands.

Please accept these written comments on the proposed rule for Colorado's roadless national forests. I urge the Forest Service to ensure that any rule be at least as protective as the National 2001 Roadless Rule, which the Obama administration has supported and defended in federal court.

To ensure that Colorado's valuable wild lands receive the level of protection they deserve, a final Colorado Rule must be significantly improved in the following ways:

- 1) Oil and Gas Leases: The proposed Colorado Rule would allow development to go forward on approximately 100 new oil and gas leases in some of Colorado's best backcountry. These "gap leases" were illegally issued by the Bush administration after the Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001. Any Colorado Rule must be accompanied by an agreement that applies "no-surface occupancy" requirements for the approximately 100 oil and gas gap leases, or other guarantees that the affected roadless areas are never damaged. Also, the Colorado rule must provide for "no-surface occupancy" on all new oil and gas leases on all Forest Service roadless lands.
- 2) Logging: The proposed Colorado Rule contains an overly-broad definition of "at-risk community." The rule's proposed list includes more than 340 so-called "communities," some of which are not even located on current State maps and may no longer be inhabited. This definition of at-risk communities needs to be tightened to focus logging exemptions only where needed.
- 3) Linear Construction Zones: I disagree with the draft Colorado Rule's allowance of road building (euphemistically called "linear construction zones") for new developments. New roads of any type should not be allowed to access or develop future water facilities, nor should the "linear construction zones" be expanded to permit new transmission, utility, and telecommunication lines. Any construction corridors on roadless forests must be limited to existing rights-of-way.
- 4) Upper Tier Roadless Area Protection: Upper tier protections for roadless lands must be expanded and strengthened. The draft Colorado Rule provides enhanced "upper tier" protection for only 13% of Colorado roadless areas, despite the fact that well over half are known to provide exceptional wildlife habitat, important sources of clean drinking water for millions of downstream Americans, or unique and outstanding recreational opportunities. Further, loopholes put even the few "upper tier" roadless areas at risk from oil and gas development, pipelines, and transmission lines. A final Colorado Rule should ensure that all "upper tier" lands and other roadless lands have strict No Surface Occupancy stipulations to protect the entire roadless area from any future oil and gas leasing and development. These areas must

COR100

not permit the use of "linear construction zones" to facilitate pipelines, transmission lines, or telecommunication facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment. I support the protections embodied in the National 2001 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 tool, a final rule needs to expand and strengthen the "upper tier" protections, must tighten the overly broad discretion that would allow logging far into the backcountry and building of "linear construction zones," and ensure that Colorado's oil and gas "gap leases" are not developed.

Colorado's remaining wildlands provide clean water, abundant wildlife, and unsurpassed recreation on a nationally recognized public landscape. They are simply too great a resource to squander. The Forest Service's management of roadless areas must match the Obama administration's commitment to strong environmental protections of roadless areas.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ruth Hardy  
7757 Anderson Oaks Dr  
Cincinnati, OH 45255-3076