



Forest
Service

Washington
Office

1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

File Code: 1920

Date: May 31, 2012

Route To:

Subject: Roadless Activities Review Process

To: Regional Foresters

On March 2, 2012, Judge Brimmer (Wyoming) lifted his injunction on the 2001 Roadless Rule. Lifting of the injunction paves the way for implementation of the 2001 Roadless Rule nationwide and provides much needed consistency regarding the management of Inventoried Roadless Areas.

On May 30, 2012, the Secretary's Memorandum 1042-156 requiring review and approval of certain activities in Roadless Areas expired. I am continuing to review certain activities planned in roadless areas to provide for a smooth transition (see enclosure). Projects will be reviewed to ensure we are applying a consistent approach to implementation of the 2001 Roadless Rule and that we are doing all we can to protect roadless area characteristics. The clarity we now have with the alignment of the circuit court decisions allows us to move forward with consistent roadless area protection nationwide. Roadless areas provide opportunities for restoration of ecosystem function and improvement of threatened, endangered, proposed, and sensitive species habitat. Integration of roadless area management into your landscape restoration plans is an important component of overall environmental restoration.

The attached document outlines the types of projects requiring my review. If you have questions about a particular project please contact Steve Cossette, Roadless Area Coordinator, Ecosystem Management Coordination, at (202) 205-1791 or scossette@fs.fed.us.

/s/ Thomas L. Tidwell
THOMAS L. TIDWELL
Chief

Enclosure

