

Citizens' Petition for a National Rule to Protect National Forest Roadless Areas

Michael Johanns, Secretary
US Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Johanns:

I strongly oppose the Bush administration's recent decision to revoke the Roadless Area Conservation Rule and replace it with a burdensome and uncertain state petition process. Protecting the 58.5 million acres of National Forest Roadless Areas is a core responsibility of the U.S. Forest Service to all Americans. It should not be contingent on action by state governors.

The Roadless Area Conservation Rule was the product of a massive public involvement process that included more than 600 public meetings and generated more than 1.6 million comments from the American people. More than 95 percent of those comments supported a strong nationwide policy protecting all National Forest Roadless Areas.

More Americans supported the Roadless Area Conservation Rule of 2001 than any other federal rule in U.S. history. And more Americans opposed the Bush administration's rescission of that rule than any other rule revision in history.

The American people have loudly, clearly, and in great number expressed their desire that you protect the clean water, undisturbed wildlife habitat, and backcountry recreational opportunities our remaining national forest roadless areas provide. And they have made clear that they do not want more of their taxpayer dollars to go toward roadbuilding in wild areas when there is already almost \$10 billion in existing maintenance needed on forest service roads.

The Forest Service's rationale for such a rule is as valid today as it was in 2001. It ended decades of conflict. It helped the agency direct resources to its priority responsibilities. It halted expansion of a decaying, 400,000 mile forest road network that has saddled taxpayers with a \$10 billion maintenance backlog. And it assured that the broader significance of nationally scarce roadless areas would not be overlooked through local decisionmaking.

Therefore, I hereby petition you to withdraw the decision of Under Secretary Mark Rey, published on Friday, May 13, 2005, revoking the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule and instituting a state petition process. I make this request pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, which requires each federal agency to "give an interested person the right to petition for the issuance, amendment, or repeal of a rule" (5 USC 553(e)). And please do not allow or reinstate any forest-specific exemptions from the 2001 rule, like the prior one for the Tongass rainforest.

Please promptly consider this petition and notify me of your decision, as required by 7 CFR 1.28.

Sincerely,

ADVENTURE RACING, FAST PACKING AND ULTRA RUNNING

Lisa Goldsmith, Nederland, CO

Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team

2001 North American Champion, 10K Snowshoe

2002 – 2nd place, 2004 – 2nd place

Scott Gall, Cedar Falls, IA

Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team

1999-2002 Mountain Running World Championships, 5th Place

USA Olympic Marathon Trials Qualifier

Louisa Jenkins, Niwot, CO

Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team

Member, USA National Cycling Team 1988 – 1998

National Road Champion 1997

Adam Chase, Boulder, CO

Founding Member and Captain, Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team

Adventure Race National Champion 2003

Patrick Harper, Ketchum, ID

Adventure Racing, Ultra Running, Kayaking

Top-ten Placement in Several Adventure Competitions

Rebecca Rusch, Ketchum, ID

2003 Adventure Racer of the Year

1st Place, Raid Gauloises 2002

One of the top athletes in adventure racing for the past 6 years

Shane Sigle, Durango, CO

Primal Quest Expedition Adventure Race, 2nd Place

Ecomotion Pro, 1st Place

World Rafting Championships, 5th Place

Raid the North, 1st Place

Andrew Skurka, Seekonk, MA

Go-Lite Fast Packing Team

First Person to Hike the 7,700-mile Sea-to-Sea Trail

Appalachian Trail, 2002, Colorado Trail, 2004

Backpacker Magazine Person of the Year, 2005

Christopher Boyd, Boulder, CO

Captian, GoLite/Timberland Sprint Team

Several First Place Finishes including:

2004 AdventureXstream Series, 2005 Eco Lonestar, 2005 Wild Scallion, 2005 Imperial Challenge, 2005 18-hours of Fruita

Michael Kloser, Vail, CO
Mountain Biking World champion
3-time winner of Eco Challenge

Brian Robinson, Mountain View, CA
GoLite Fast Pack Team
2001, Only Person to Hike the Appalachian, Continental Divide and Pacific Crest National Scenic Trails in One Year

Bernie Boettcher, Colorado
GoLite Ultra Running Team
2003, 2004, 2005 North American Masters Snowshoe Champion,
2003, 2004 USSSA National Team, All-American
2003, 2005 USATF Masters Mountain Runner of the Year

Katie Mazzia
Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team
4th Place Overall Female San Juan Summer Solstice
1st Place Beaver Creek Ascent
1st Place 6-Hours at Frisco

Bryan Wickenhauser
Adventure Racer
Raid World Championships, Primal Quest and Teva Mountain Games
11th –Primal Quest 2nd -Teva Mtn Games 18th Raid World Championships

Carrie Sisk-Tukman
Montrail/Patagonia Team Member
50k runner with several Top-10 Placements

Teri Schneider
Montrail Ultra Running Team
Triathlon, Adventure Racing, Ultra-running

Jay Curwen
Team Litespeed Adventure Racing
2002 USARA National Adventure Racing Champions

Kristin Moehl Sybrowsky
Ultra Distance Trail Running (50km, 50 miles, 100 km, 100 miles)
Youngest & 2nd fastest woman to complete the Grand Slam of Ultra Running, 2005
2004 50 mile National Trail Championships, 3rd

Anne Riddle Lundblad

Ultrarunner

Silver Medalist, 2005 World Cup 100km

U.S. 100km Team Member, 2001-2006

6-time National Champion

Tom Borschel, Idaho Falls, Idaho

GoLite and Atlas Snow-Shoe racing teams

Many victories over 30 years of racing in various disciplines

Nikki Kimball, Livingston, MT

Atlas Snow-Shoe racing team

3 time US national snowshoe champion ('01, '04 '05); US snowshoe team member 2003-present)

2 time American ultrarunner of the year ('04; '05)

3 time US National 50 mile trail running champion

Ann Heaslett, Wisconsin

U.S. Track and Field, Ultra Running

2-time national champion

Greg Hexum, Duluth, MN

Atlas Snow-Shoe Racing Team

USSSA All-American

Two-time defending North Central Region Snowshoe Champion

Dave Mackey, Boulder, CO

Atlas Snowshoe Racing Team

USA Track and Field Ultra Runner of the Year 2004

2004 Montrail Cup Champion

Stuart M. Cowles, Colorado

A.M.G.A. Certified Rock and Mountain Guide

Long distance backpacker and A.T. thru-hiker

Mountain Sports Festival founder

Scott Creel, Bozeman, MT

US National Biathlon Team

US National Champion 50 km

2-time US National Team for 100 km World Cup,

CANOEING, KAYAKING AND ROWING

Rebecca Giddens, Kernville, CA

USA Canoe and Kayak Team, 2000 & 2004 Summer Olympics

Silver Medal, Women's K1 Slalom Kayak, 2004 Summer Olympics
World Champion and 5-time National Champion

Eric Giddens, Kernville, CA
USA Canoe and Kayak Team
1996 Summer Olympics
2000 & 2004 Coach

Corey Nielsen, Durango, CO
USA Canoe and Kayak Team
Coach, 1996 Summer Olympics
Top 7 Eco-challenge Athlete

Sarah Leith, Bethesda, MD
USA Canoe & Kayak Team
First Alternate, 2004 Summer Olympics
1999 World Silver Medalist

Eric Southwick, Albuquerque, NM
1999 Gold Medal, World Champion Freestyle Kayaking
2001 Silver Medal, World Champion Freestyle Kayaking

Brad Ludden, Gypsum, CO
Two-time World Freestyle Kayak Medalist, National Champion
Voted Top 10 Adventure Athlete in the World
Founder, First Descents, a kayak camp for young adults with cancer

Mary-Marshall Seaver, Durango, CO
Silver Medal, Women's Slalom Kayak World Championships
World Cup and Olympic Festival

Sam Drevo, Oregon
Founder, eNRGY Kayak Team
2001 World Extreme Kayak Champion

Yasmin Farooq, Springfield, OR
USA Rowing Team
1992 and 1996 Summer Olympics
World Champion, 3-time World Silver Medallist

Cathy Marino Bradford, Huntington Beach, CA
USA Canoe and Kayak Team, K-2, K4 500 meter
1988 and 1992 Summer Olympics
8-times National Champion, Sprint Kayaking
President of the Southern California Olympians

Joe Jacobi, Copperhill, TN
USA Canoe and Kayak Team
1992 and 2004 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, Whitewater Canoe Slalom Doubles, 1992

Lindsay Burns Barbier, San Francisco
1996 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal, Rowing, Lightweight Women's Double Scull

Davey Hearn, Bethesda, MD
USA Canoe and Kayak Team, Whitewater Slalom C1
1992, 1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics
International Whitewater Hall of Fame, 2005 Inductee

Daniel K Sayner, Rye, NH
USA Rowing Team
1980 Summer Olympics

Wayne Dickert
USA Canoe & Kayak Team
1996 Summer Olympics

Marie Jonik Myers, Philadelphia, PA
USA Rowing Team
1976 Summer Olympics

Mark Hamilton, Louisville, KY
USA Canoe and Kayak Team, Four-man Flatwater Sprint Kayak, 1,000 meters
1988, 1992 and 1996 Summer Olympics
Multiple National Champion, Sprint Kayak
Multiple National Medalist, Whitewater

Benjamin Lewis, Miami, FL
USA Canoe and Kayak Team, Flatwater Sprint Kayak
2004 Summer Olympics

Michael Sean Hall, Augusta, GA
USA Rowing Team
1992, 1996, and 2000 Summer Olympics
World Champion, 1994

Bob Campbell, Glenwood Springs, CO
USA Canoe and Kayak Team, Whitewater Slalom
1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics
2000 US Olympic Committee Coach of the Year, Canoe and Kayak

Caryn Davies, Ithaca, NY

USA Rowing, W8+

2004 Summer Olympics

Silver medal

Christine Smith Collins, Boylston, MA

USA Rowing, Lightweight Women's Double

2000 Summer Olympics

Bronze medal and 5-time World Champion

Chuck Lyda, Truckee, CA

USA Canoe and Kayak Team

1976 and 1980 Olympics

2-time Whitewater World Champion

Drusilla van Hengel, Santa Barbara, CA

USA Canoe and Kayak Team, K4500, Flatwater Kayak

1996, 1997 and 1998 World Championships Participant

Jan Harville, Edmonds, WA

USA Rowing Team

1980 and 1984 Summer Olympics

1996 Summer Olympic Coach

Kimberly Santiago, Madison, WI

USA Rowing Team

1988 and 1992 Summer Olympics

Hilary Gehman, Ithaca, NY

USA Rowing Team, Women's Quadruple Sculls

2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics

Bert Hinkley

USA Canoe and Kayak Team, Whitewater Slalom

ICF Junior World Championships

Courtney Ludden, Gypsum, CO

Professional Kayaker (1997-2000)

First Descents Counselor

John Gerstenberger

USA Canoe/Kayak Team and USA Cross-Country Skiing Team

2005 Jr. National Champion 5K Classic (cross-country skiing)

2005, 4th Place Jr Pre-World Championships (kayaking)

Scott Parsons

USA Canoe and Kayak Team

2004 Olympic Team
World Cup Medalist and 2-time National Champion

Cathy Hearn, Bethesda, MD
USA Canoe Kayak Team; Coach, Canoe Slalom
World Champion, Outrigger Canoe 1993 and 1994
17 National Championships
12 World Championship Medals

Calvin Coffey, Watkins Glen, NY
USA Rowing Team
1976 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal, Straight Pair

CYCLING AND MOUNTAIN BIKING

Allison Dunlap, Colorado Springs, CO
USA Cycling Team
1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics
Mountain Bike World and World Cup Champion
13-time National Champion

Todd Wells
USA Mountain Bike Team
2004 Summer Olympics

EQUESTRIAN

Tad Coffin, Virginia
USA Equestrian Team
1976 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, individual three-day equestrian event (First American to win gold in this event)
Gold Medal, team medal

FENCING

Soren Thompson, San Diego, CA
USA Fencing
2004 Summer Olympics

GYMNASTICS

Kathy Johnson Clarke, Longwood, FL
USA Gymnastics Team
1980 and 1984 Summer Olympics
Silver and Bronze Medalist

Chris Waller, Valencia, CA
USA Gymnastics Team
1992 Summer Olympics

Phoebe Mills, Londonderry, VT
USA Gymnastics Team
1988 Summer Olympics
Bronze Medal, Balance Beam

HANDBALL

Amy Gamble, Phoenix, AZ
USA Team Handball
1988 Summer Olympics

HOCKEY

Mike Richter, Guildford, CT
USA Ice Hockey Team
1988, 1998 and 2002 Winter Olympics
Silver Medal, 2002 Winter Olympics
World cup MVP, 1996
Stanley Cup, 1994

John Taft, Edina, MN
USA Ice Hockey Team
1976 Winter Olympics

James Campbell, St. Louis, MO
USA Men's Ice Hockey Team
1994 Winter Olympics
NHL all-rookie team

Kurt Orban, Reno, NV
USA Field Hockey Team
1948 and 1956 Summer Olympics
Team Captain

LUGE AND SKELETON

Frank Masley, Wilmington, DE
USA Luge Team, Singles and Doubles
1980, 1984 and 1988 Winter Olympics
Silver Medal World Cup, 1987

Tristan Gale, Salt Lake City, UT
USA Skeleton Team
2002 Winter Olympics
Gold Medal

Brian Martin, Palo Alto, CA
USA Luge Team, Doubles
1998 and 2002 Winter Olympics
Silver Medal, 2002; Bronze Medal, 1998

SAILING

Russ Silvestri
USA Sailing Team
2000 Summer Olympics
7-time North American Champion, Finn Class
USOC Male Athlete of the Year, Sailing 2000

Meg Gaillard, Jamestown, RI
USA Sailing, Sailing, Single-handed
2004 Summer Olympics
3rdPlace, 2000 and 2003 World Championships

SKATING

Gary Visconti
USA Figure Skating Team
3-time World Bronze Medallist
Men's National Figure Skating Champion
International Olympic Skating Coach

Beth Heiden Reid
USA Speed Skating Team
1980 Winter Olympics
Bronze Medal, 3000 meter

SKIING AND SNOWBOARDING

Seth Wescott, Farmington, ME
USA Ski Team, Snowboard snowcross
2006 Winter Olympics
Gold Medal

Chris Klug, Aspen, CO
USA Ski Team, Snowboarding
2002 Winter Olympics
Bronze Medal

Abigail Larson, Bozeman, MT
USA Olympic Ski Team, Cross-country
2006 Winter Olympics
2005 U.S. National Champion

Jed Hinkley, Park City, UT
USA Ski Team, 2002 Winter Olympics, Nordic Combined Skiing
2nd Place, National Championships 2005
Junior World Champion in Team Event 1999

Pete Vordenberg
USA Ski Team, Cross Country
1992 and 1994 Winter Olympic Athlete
2006 Winter Olympic Coach

Doug Lewis, Fayston, VT
USA Ski Team, Alpine
1984 and 1988 Winter Olympics
1985 World Championship Bronze Medalist, Downhill

Robert Aldighieri, Steamboat Springs, CO
USA Skiing, Freestyle Skiing Moguls
1992 Winter Olympics
2002 and 2006, Coach
World Cup Winner, Pro Winner Top 5 in World

Jim Holland, Park City, UT
USA Ski Team, Ski Jumping
1992 and 1994 Winter Olympics

Casey Colby, Park City, UT
USA Ski Team, Ski Jumping
1998 Winter Olympics

Kristen Ulmer, Salt Lake City, UT

USA Ski Team

Named by the ski industry as the best woman skier in the world for over a decade

Hannah Hardaway, Park City, UT

USA Skiing, Freestyle Moguls

2002 Winter Olympics

6-time National Champion, 5-time Jr. National champion, Jr. World Champion, World Cup winner

Scott Macartney, Redmond, WA

USA Skiing, Downhill/Super-G

2002 and 2006 Winter Olympics

Billy Demong

US Nordic Combined Ski Team

1998, 2002 and 2006 Winter Olympics

1999, 2001 and 2005 World Championship Team

2001 and 2002 National Champion

Eric Bergoust, Park City, UT

USA Skiing Team, Freestyle Aerials

1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006 Winter Olympics

Gold Medal, 1998 Olympics

1999 World Champion, 2001 and 2002 World Cup Champion

Mike Elliott

US Olympic Cross Country Ski Team

1964, 1968 and 1972 Winter Olympics

President Ford's Commission on Olympic Sports 1975-1977

Donna Weinbrecht, West Milford, NJ

United States Freestyle Ski Team, Moguls

1992, 1994 and 1998 Winter Olympics

1992 Olympic Gold Medal and 7-time National Champion

5-time World Cup Champion and 1991 Gold World Championships

Bill Koch, Vermont

USA Skiing Team, Cross-country

1976 Winter Olympics

Silver Medal, 30km

First American to win a medal in cross-country skiing

SOCCER

Brandi Chastain

USA Women's Soccer Team
World Cup Champion 1991 and 1999
Gold Medal, 1996 and 2004 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal 2000 Summer Olympics

Carin Gabarra, Arnold, MD
USA Women's Soccer Team
1996 Summer Olympics
World Championships, 1991 and 1995
1996 Gold Medalist, 1991 World Champion

Jim Gabarra, Arnold, MD
USA Men's Soccer
1988 Summer Olympics

SOFTBALL

Stacey Nuveman, Visalia, CA
USA Softball Team
2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics
2-time Olympic Gold Medalist

Michele Smith, St. Petersburg, FL
USA Softball Team
1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics
2-time Olympic Gold Medalist

Sheila Douty
USA Softball Team
1996 and 2000 Summer Olympics
2-time Gold Medalist

Jessica Mendoza, Camarillo, CA
USA Softball Team
2004 Summer Olympic
Gold Medalist

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Jeremy Linn, Virginia
USA Swimming Team, 1996 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, 400m Medley Relay
Silver Medal, 100m Breaststroke

Jon Olsen

USA Swimming Team,
1992 and 1996 Summer Olympics
Five-time Olympic Medalist

Mark Henderson, San Francisco, CA
USA Swimming, 100 Butterfly & 400 Medley Relay
1996 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal 400 Medley Relay
Olympic Record Holder

Scott Donie, New York, NY
USA Diving Team
1992 and 1996 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal, 10 Meter Platform

David Sims, Downers Grove, IL
USA Swimming Team, 1500 M Freestyle
1980 Summer Olympics
USA National Champion, US National Team Member, 1980-1985

Susan Walsh, Durham, NC
USA Swimming Team
1980 Summer Olympics
Former American and World-Record Holder
USS and Pan-Am Champion, 10-time NCAA Champion

Carol Pence Taylor, Tucson, AZ
USA Swimming Team, 200 Breaststroke
1948 Summer Olympics
National champion 1948-1952

Karen Moe Humphreys, Moraga, CA
USA Swimming Team
1972 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, 200m Butterfly

Neil Walker, Austin, TX
USA Swimming, 4x100 Freestyle Relay, 4x100 Medley Relay, 100m Freestyle
2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics
2000, Gold and Silver; 2004, Gold and Bronze
Multiple-time National champion, World Championship medalist, Former World Record Holder

Jenny Kemp, Cincinnati, OH
USA Swimming Team, 100m Freestyle, 400m Freestyle Relay, 100m Backstroke
1972 Summer Olympics and 1975 Pan American Games

John Hargis, Pennsylvania
USA Swimming Team, 100m backstroke
1996 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, Medley Relay

TRACK AND FIELD

Philip Dunn, Eugene, OR
USA Track & Field, 50km Racewalk
2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics
5-time National Champion

Victor Plata, San Luis Obispo, CA
USA Triathlon Team
1996 Summer Olympics

Carol Cady, Denver, CO
USA Track and Field, Shot Put 1984, Discus 1988
1984 and 1988 Summer Olympics
Current American Record Holder, Women's Discus

Joan Guetschow, Park City, UT
USA Biathlon Team
1992 and 1994 Summer Olympics

Ron Freeman, Baltimore, MD
USA Track and Field
1968 Summer Olympics
Bronze, 400 Meter
Gold, 4X400 Meter Relay

Marilyn King, Oakland, CA
USA Track and Field, Pentathlon
1972 and 1976 Summer Olympics

Bud Held, Del Mar, CA
USA Track and Field, Javelin
1952 Summer Olympics
World Record, 1953 and 1955

Jamie Nieto, Chula Vista, CA
USA Track and Field, High Jump
World Champs, 2003; World Indoor Champs 2004; Summer Olympics, 2004
4th Place 2004 Summer Olympics

Jerry Siebert, Boulder, CO
USA Track and Field, 800m
1960 and 1964 Summer Olympics

Phil McMullen, California
USA Track and Field, Decathlon
2000 Summer Olympic Trials, 4th
2004 Summer Olympic Trials, 4th

VOLLEYBALL

Jack Henn, San Diego, CA
USA Volleyball Team
1968 Summer Olympics
Gold Medal, Pan American Games, 1967

Sue Woodstra, Fresh Water, CA
USA Women's Volleyball Team
1980 and 1984 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal, Women's Volleyball, 1984

Jon Root, Venice, CA
USA Volleyball Team
1988 Summer Olympics, Gold Medal
1986 World Champion

WATER POLO

Heather Petri, California
USA Water Polo Team
2000 and 2004 Summer Olympics
Silver Medal, 2000; Bronze Medal, 2004
World Champion

WEIGHTLIFTING

Joseph D. Dube' Sr., Jacksonville, FL
Weightlifting Heavyweight Class
1968 Summer Olympics, Bronze Medal
Former Holder of 6 World Records and 12 American Records.

COACHES, TRAINERS AND OTHERS

Gina Maggio, Chula Vista, CA
USA Olympic Team Athletic Trainer

Cynthia E. Stinger, Manager
United States Olympians Association
1984, 1988 and 1992 Summer Olympics