

# Greenwire

## **Draft plan on roadless rule worries enviros**

08/01/2001

A draft plan crafted by U.S. Forest Service officials would give agency head Dale Bosworth more power to allow logging or road-building in national forests.

The draft plan would formalize the way the Forest Service operates the Clinton administration initiative to protect 58.5 million acres of national forest lands from new road building. Under the plan, Bosworth would give officials who oversee individual forests a chance to determine what appropriate protections would be. After receiving approval from Bosworth, local officials could map out their own plans to enforce protections.

"This seems to really solidify the administration's intent to scuttle the national forest protections and revert back to a piecemeal approach that gives the timber industry the upper hand in determining the fate of our forests," said Jane Danowitz, director of the Heritage Forests Campaign, the group that circulated the Forest Service draft plan. Forest Service spokeswoman Heidi Valetkevitch: "We are trying to get roadless (areas) dealt with as quickly as possible" AP/San Francisco Chronicle online, July 31). -- DIL