

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2001

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

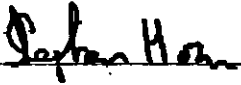
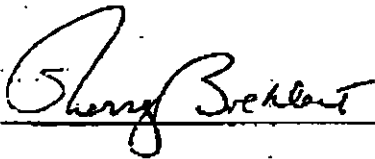
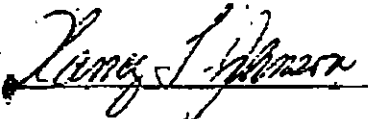

We are writing to urge you to move forward with the rule protecting roadless areas in our national forests. This rule has already been subjected to lengthy and exhaustive reviews that took into account more than a million public comments. The Administration should put the rule in force and vigorously defend it in court.

The roadless rule is not extreme. It is broadly supported by Republican-minded sportsmen and conservation groups. And surveys by Republican pollsters indicate that the rule has broad support among all elements of the American public. A poll last year by Linda DiVall found that more than 70 percent of the public in each and every region of the country supported the rule. Republican support was more than 60 percent.

The roadless rule will not shut down logging in our national forests or increase the risk of fire. But the rule will protect for future generations the relatively few stands in our national forests that remain untrammelled. This seems to us to be a reasonable step in the public interest, one predicated on the understanding that our national forests have multiple uses.

We look forward to working with you to develop moderate approaches to difficult natural resource issues.

Sincerely,

Russ Simmons

Sue Kelly

James Greenwood

Jim Linder

Ed Le Bardo

Tommy Linder

Kenneth E. Allen

Jack Linder

Alan King

Mary Rockman

Lennie Moulton

Chiffy Sharp

Will Fagan

Jim Roster

Mike Cottle

Ann Hight

Don Filmer

Chris Smith