LOGGING TARGETS OREGON'S LARGEST UNPROTECTED

ROADLESS AREA

Stop the first large-scale logging of roadless forests since the Roadless Rule was approved



Forests threatened by the Mike's Gulch logging sale in the South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area. Photo by Rolf Skar

The Bush administration recently announced plans to log the largest unprotected roadless forest in Oregon. Part of the controversial Biscuit logging project, the Forest Service is pushing this destructive proposal despite the fact that roadless wildlands are supposed to be shielded from logging while state Governors and the Bush administration negotiate state specific roadless conservation policies.

It is a dramatic contradiction, and one that could have disastrous effects on some of the most important roadless wildlands in the nation.

Roadless forests targeted by the new logging sales, called "Mike's Gulch" and "Blackberry," could begin falling this summer. Your help is needed to stop this logging before it starts!

The Roadless Areas

The North & South Kalmiopsis Roadless Areas surround the Kalmiopsis Wilderness in Oregon's Siskiyou National Forest. At 88,000 acres and 105,000 acres respectively, they are the largest unprotected roadless areas in Oregon. With the 179,000-acre Kalmiopsis Wilderness as the core, they form a botanically diverse 370,000-acre wild, rugged landscape along the Pacific Coast that hosts three National Wild & Scenic Rivers, five eligible Wild & Scenic Rivers and some of the most valuable salmon and steelhead habitat in the United States.

Gutting The Roadless Rule

The Roadless Area Conservation Rule was finalized in 2001 after years of study and over 2.5 million comments in favor of protections. The rule shielded 58.5 million acres nationwide from logging and road building. In May 2005, the Bush administration repealed the Roadless Rule, eliminating its protections. The Bush administration stated that it would provide, "interim protection to roadless areas, pending the development of state specific rules provided for in our 2005 rule making." (Mark Rey, Sept. 6, 2005). By pushing to log the North and South Kalmiopsis Roadless Areas, the administration is breaking its promise to the American people. The Mike's Gulch and Blackberry sales would be the first of their kind, subjecting these sensitive roadless areas to unfettered logging.



Snow graces the threatened Mike's Gulch watershed in the South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area.

Photo by Barbara Ullian

The Logging Sales

Mike's Gulch (South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area)

At about 12 million board feet, the Mike's Gulch sale is directly above the National Wild & Scenic Illinois River, and about a mile and a quarter above the river itself.

Blackberry (North Kalmiopsis Roadless Area)

At about 13 million board feet, the Blackberry sale is in the Indigo Creek Key Watershed. Indigo Creek is a tributary of the National Wild & Scenic Illinois River and a major contributor to wild salmon and steelhead populations of the lower National Wild & Scenic Rogue River's world class fishery.

What You Can Do To Help

Call Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth and tell him to:

- 1. Immediately withdraw all roadless logging proposals in the Siskiyou National Forest including the Mike's Gulch and Blackberry logging sales.
- 2. Stop breaking your promise! Restore a moratorium on national roadless area logging while protection issues remain unresolved.

Forest Service Chief Bosworth, USDA Forest Service 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0003

Phone: 202/205-1661; Fax: 202/205-1765; Email: dbosworth@fs.fed.us

Please contact Senator Ron Wyden, Representative Peter DeFazio and Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, and:

- 1. Thank them for speaking up on behalf of roadless areas;
- 2. Ask that they continue to pressure the Bush administration and demand full protection of roadless areas in Oregon.

Senator Ron Wyden

Federal Courthouse 310 West 6th St, Room 118 Medford, OR 97501 (541) 858-5122

Representative Peter DeFazio

Roseburg Office 612 S.E Jackson Street, Room 9 Roseburg, OR 97470 (541) 440-3523

Governor Kulongoski

160 State Capitol 900 Court Street Salem, Oregon 97301-4047 Phone: (503) 378.4582