

What Happens After a Petition is Filed?

After a petition is filed:

- A National Advisory Committee shall review each petition and provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary within 90 days of receipt of a completed petition. The committee will also provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary on any subsequent State-specific rulemakings.
- The Secretary of Agriculture shall review petitions and may request additional information from a petitioner before deciding whether to accept the petition.
- If the Secretary requests additional information from a petitioner, the petition will be considered complete when the petitioner provides the additional information.
- The Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall respond to the petition within 180 days of receipt of a completed petition. The response shall accept or decline the petition to initiate a State-specific rulemaking.
- If the Secretary or the Secretary's designee accepts a petition, the Forest Service shall be directed to initiate notice and comment rulemaking to address the petition. (There is no time frame given for the initiation of the rulemaking)
- The Forest Service shall coordinate development of the proposed rule with the petitioner.
- The Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall make the final decision for any State- specific inventoried roadless area management rule.

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