



Crs Report for Congress: The National Forest System Roadless Areas Initiative: December 19, 2002 - RL30647

By Pamela Baldwin

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 32 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. In part to recognize the importance of roadless areas for many purposes and in part because making project decisions involving roadless areas on a forest-by-forest basis was resulting in controversy and litigation that consumed considerable time and money, the Clinton Administration established a new nationwide approach to the management of the roadless areas in the National Forest System. A record of decision (ROD) and a final rule were published on January 12, 2001, to be effective March 13, 2001, that prohibited road construction and reconstruction in 58.5 million acres of inventoried forest roadless areas, with significant exceptions. Most timber harvests in the roadless areas also were prohibited, but some timber cutting would have been allowed for certain specified purposes, including improving habitat for threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species, or maintaining or restoring ecosystem composition and structure, such as by reducing the risk of wildfire and disease. The new prohibitions would have applied immediately to the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, but roads and harvests in inventoried roadless areas could go forward if a notice of availability of a draft...



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