



Oregon Wild

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## Wildlife Need Wild Places

### Protect Our Roadless Wildlands

After years of conflict and uncertainty, we finally have an opportunity to protect our most pristine wildlands.

Like the species that depend on them, our roadless wildlands are threatened.

After unprecedented public participation, the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule became one of the most popular conservation measures in history. Nationally, the rule protected 58.5 million acres (nearly 2 million in Oregon) from commercial logging and road-building. Unfortunately, almost immediately, it came under attack from an incoming Bush administration.

Citizens rallied to defend the rule. In eight years, only 7 miles of roads have been built and 535 acres logged in roadless areas. However, due to lawsuits by the logging industry, the rule now protects less than half the land that it once did.

With a new president taking office, it's time to fully reinstate and uphold the 2001 rule as an easy and commonsense first step in protecting our last wild places.

*Nationally, roadless wildlands provide critical habitat for more than 1,500 species of fish and wildlife, including many threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant and animal species.*



## Roadless Wildlands Provide Critical Habitat

After 60 years, wolves have returned to Oregon, and wolverines and lynx may soon make a comeback. Cougars, elk, and bald eagles are thriving. These and other species need wild places free from conflict with humans to flourish.

Roadless wildlands provide critical habitat for these animals. Roads fragment habitat, cause direct mortality and changes in animal behavior, aid the spread of invasive species, and damage water quality. The fish and wildlife that roadless areas support are part of what make Oregon such a special place to live, work, and raise a family.

Dang Ngo



Over 50% of our National Forests are already open to development. It's time to protect America's remaining roadless wildlands.

Gary Kramer, USFWS

## The Roadless Rule Makes Sense

- *The rule makes commonsense exceptions for public health, safety, and access.*
- *80% of Oregonians and 60 million Americans get their drinking water from streams that originate on roadless lands.*
- *More than half of our National Forests are already open to drilling, mining, and logging.*
- *Our National Forests already contain nearly twice as many roads as the entire U.S. Highway System and face a \$10 billion maintenance backlog.*

## Get Involved!

Oregonians have always led the charge to protect our roadless wildlands. Help keep us at the forefront.

- **Join** Oregon Wild and help protect the wildlife, wildlands, and water that make our state special.
- **Contact** your senators and President Obama. Let them know why roadless wildlands are important to you!

Senator Wyden (503) 326-7525  
 Senator Merkley (503) 326-3386  
 President Obama (202) 456-1111

- **Visit** our website, stay up-to-date, and **take action!**

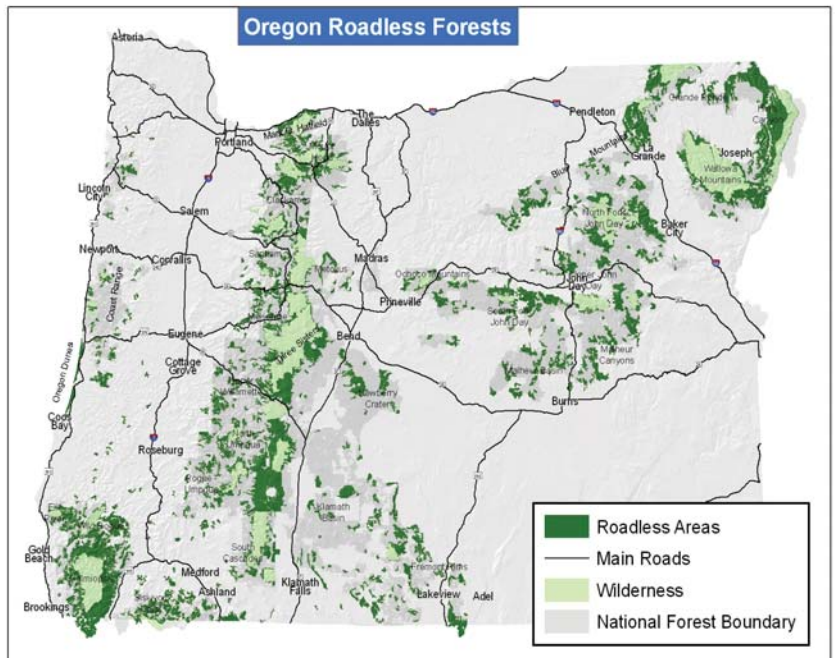
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