



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

National Forests in  
North Carolina

160A Zillicoa Street  
P.O. Box 2750  
Asheville, NC 28802

---

Date: June 4, 2000

Contact: Terry Seyden 828-257-4202  
Larry Hayden 828-257-4864

## News Release

### **Roadless Public Comment Meeting Set for 9 a.m., June 10<sup>th</sup>, UNC-A Owen Conference Center**

The National Forests in North Carolina will hold a public comment meeting Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> on a USDA Forest Service proposal to prohibit road construction or reconstruction in national forest roadless areas across the country. The meeting will be from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at Owen Conference Center, UNC-Asheville. Individuals will be given up to three minutes each to make statements about the proposed rule. A court reporter will record all comments. For those wishing to make statements, signup will begin at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at Owens Conference Center.

Of the 1.2 million acres of national forest land in North Carolina, approximately 144,800 acres are classified as roadless and included in the proposed nationwide road ban. Most of these NC roadless areas occur in the Pisgah and Nantahala national forests and, under local forest plan direction, are already being managed to maintain their roadless character.

The USDA Forest Service released the Proposed Roadless Area Conservation Policy and Draft Environmental Impact Statement on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The public comment period runs through July 17<sup>th</sup>. The agency is encouraging people to submit their comments in writing, but is also holding public meetings on each national forest for those who prefer to provide oral statements.

Written comments on the proposal should be submitted no later than July 17, 2000 to  
USDA Forest Service-CAET  
Attn: Roadless Area Proposed Rule  
P.O. Box 221090  
Salt Lake City, UT 84122

The public can also e-mail comments to [roadlessdeis@fs.fed.us](mailto:roadlessdeis@fs.fed.us)  
or fax comments to (877) 703-2494.

-More-



Caring for the Land and Serving People

Printed on Recycled Paper

The Proposed Rule and Summary of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, as well as a Two Volume Draft Environmental Impact Statement, are available on paper, compact disc (CD) and the Internet. Requests for CDs or printed copies of the documents should be mailed to the Rocky Mountain Research Station, Publications Distribution, 240 West Prospect Road, Fort Collins, CO 80526-2098. Faxed orders will be accepted at 800-777-5805. Orders must specify either a printed version of the Summary and Proposed Rule, DEIS two volume set, or CD version of documents. Those with Internet access may obtain a copy of the summary, the DEIS, individual state maps, and additional supporting information through the Roadless Project website ([roadless.fs.fed.us](http://roadless.fs.fed.us)).

A limited number of copies of the Roadless Proposal and DEIS are also available at U.S. Forest Service offices in North Carolina, including the Forest Supervisor's Office at 160A Zillicoa Street, Asheville. Copies will also be available Saturday at the public comment meeting at Owen Conference Center, UNC-Asheville. The Forest Service will also have information tables set up with maps of the North Carolina roadless areas, and comment cards will be available for those who wish to submit their comments in writing.

Additional information is also available at the National Forests in North Carolina website: <http://www.cs.unca.edu/nfsnc>.

###