

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20250

May 28, 2009

SECRETARY'S MEMORANDUM 1042-154

**Authority to Approve Road Construction and Timber Harvesting in Certain Lands
Administered by the Forest Service**

1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Memorandum is to reserve to the Secretary decisionmaking authority over the construction and reconstruction of roads and the cutting, sale, or removal of timber in inventoried roadless areas on certain lands administered by the Forest Service. This memorandum affects only the process by which such activities are authorized. It does not alter or prescribe any substantive standards for the management of such areas.

2. ACTIONS ORDERED

The delegations of authority to the Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment (7 CFR 2.20(a)(2)) and from the Under Secretary to the Chief of the Forest Service (7 CFR 2.60(a)) for the management and administration of the national forests, national forest purchase units, national grasslands and other lands and interests administered by the Forest Service are revised to reserve to the Secretary the authority to approve or disapprove road construction or reconstruction and the cutting, sale, or removal of timber in those areas identified in the set of inventoried roadless area maps contained in Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000.

3. EXISTING DIRECTIVES

Prior delegations of authority, administrative regulations, and other directives not inconsistent with the provisions of this Memorandum shall remain in full force and effect.

This Memorandum does not affect the lands subject to 36 CFR Part 294, Subpart C.

This Memorandum creates no private right of action.

4. EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this Memorandum are effective immediately and shall apply prospectively only.

5. TERMINATION

This Memorandum shall remain in full force and effect for one year or until such earlier time as published delegations of authority have been revised to incorporate its provisions or until revoked.

TOM VILSACK
SECRETARY