

BCHA Emergency National Director Call

July 1, 2026

Roadless Rule Response Letters

Craig informed directors that they should have received three files from Michelle regarding the potential vote to rescind the roadless rule, which was recently included in a wildfire protection act. He asked directors to create state-specific letters addressing the roadless rule and send them to senators, with the option to also share with constituents. Craig requested copies of the letters for record keeping and clarified that the approach should be determined by each state, whether through individual directors or state organizations.

Senate Roadless Rule Repeal Strategy

The group discussed focusing efforts on the Senate rather than the House of Representatives regarding a roadless rule repeal. Craig asked Jackie to research how the repeal could benefit her state specifically, providing an example from Mark about how the roadless rule previously prevented a trailhead from being established where it would have made sense.

Beetle Kill and Roadless Management

Discussed the challenges of beetle kill in Wyoming and the need for active management, suggesting that restrictions in the current rule could be adjusted to allow more local control for building roads in areas with high tree mortality. Keith emphasized the importance of the Southeast region's voice in backcountry management and encouraged participants to engage with their senators about roadless areas, sharing specific examples from Tennessee. Craig revealed that the initial letter was generated using AI, and Keith confirmed that creating similar letters is straightforward with available information. Deb's question about a document regarding the roadless rule initiatives was cut off at the end of the transcript.

Roadless Areas Information Gathering

The meeting focused on gathering information about roadless areas across different states. Craig explained that directors should research their state's roadless areas and include this information in a letter that would be sent to Michelle and other team members. Heather shared an interactive map link in the chat to help directors locate roadless areas in their states. The conversation ended with Craig thanking the directors for their involvement and encouraging them to reach out with any questions.