

1 **NORTHWEST PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION**

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3 **21-06 Archived Resolution**

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5 **ACCESS FOR UTILITY RIGHTS-OF-WAY**

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7 We call upon the appropriate federal agencies to reverse policies
8 that prohibit or deny consumer-owned utilities timely access to federal
9 lands to perform routine, prudent maintenance on electric utility rights-
10 of-way. These policies poses severe and immediate threats to
11 communities and electric utilities in and around these forests since
12 essential roads and transmission and distribution lines will no longer be
13 able to be built. Consumer-owned utilities serve members located in
14 sparsely populated areas of the United States, where the greatest impact
15 of this policy will be felt.

16 NWPPA decries the designation of National Forests as roadless,
17 particularly where no practical alternative routes exist to serve electric
18 consumers. Given the significant number of fires that have devastated
19 much of the Western states including Alaska, and more specifically
20 burned thousands of acres of federally controlled lands, NWPPA
21 adamantly opposes the implementation of the Roadless Policy.

22 Implementation of any policy that seeks to restrict access to federal
23 lands should be delayed until potential impacts are determined by the
24 completion of an economic analysis and an environmental impact
25 statement with a commensurate level of public input.

26 Implications of any federal action should be fully understood and
27 alternative policies developed that take into consideration the basic
28 needs of the communities established in and near federally controlled
29 lands.

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33 Origination Date: 2001 by Alaska Village Electric Co-op.

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35 Archived: