



Senate Chamber
State of Colorado
Denver

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NEWS RELEASE

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ISGAR TO CREATE A ROADLESS AREA REVIEW TASK FORCE

Senate Bill 243 passes Senate and now moves to the House

DENVER—The Roadless Area Conservation Rule was published in the Federal Register on January 12, 2001, as a rule to change the Forest Service’s approach to managing roadless areas. The rule established general limiting of roads, with some exceptions for timber harvest road construction and reconstruction within areas on national forests and grasslands across the country.

Today, **Senator Jim Isgar (D-Hesperus)** passed Senate Bill 243, which creates the Colorado Roadless Areas Review Task Force, on a unanimous vote in the Senate. The bill will help those areas in the Western part of Colorado which struggle with the roadless rule to suggest changes to the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

“People in western Colorado were concerned when the roadless rule was adopted because of the lack of local input,” said Senator Isgar. “This measure will create a process where people of the area can make recommendations on managing much of these areas and will bring reasonable people to the table to create reasonable recommendations. This measure will help the Governor in his decision making process for management in national forests, so that all sides with can voice their concerns.”

Senate Bill 243 creates the Colorado Roadless Areas Review Task Force. The bill specifies some of the following:

- that the task force make recommendations to the Governor regarding roadless areas in national forests;
- that the task force will make recommendations on roadless areas in national forests, including boundary adjustments, modification to management guidelines; and
- that the task force terminates when the Governor delivers management recommendations to the National Forest Service.

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