

(Regional)-High Court Rejects Challenges To Roadless Rule And Neb. Abortion Case

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/01/2012 11:58 AM

WASHINGTON (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - The Supreme Court won't reconsider a decision stopping a Nebraska anti-abortion group from fighting for an abortion law that requires health screenings for women seeking abortions.

The high court on Monday refused to hear an appeal by Nebraskan United for Life, which wanted the court to reconsider a lower court's refusal to hear its appeal.

Federal courts refused to allow Nebraska's 2010 law to go into effect and the state attorney general decided against defending the measure. The anti-abortion group, doing business as the NuLife Pregnancy Resource Center, wanted to intervene to argue for the law but was blocked by the courts.

The Supreme Court will not review that decision.

In addition, the Supreme Court has turned away an appeal challenging a federal rule that bars development on 50 million acres of roadless areas in national forests.

The justices said Monday they will leave in place a federal appeals court decision that upheld the so-called roadless rule that took effect late in the presidency of Bill Clinton.

The state of Wyoming and the Colorado Mining Association said closing so much forest land to development has had serious consequences for residents of Western states and the logging, mining and drilling industries.

The challenge centered on the contention that that U.S. Forest Service essentially declared forests to be wilderness areas, a power that rests with Congress under the 1964 Wilderness Act. The Forest Service manages more than 190 million acres of land.