

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

( ) Check box if no longer subject to Section 16.  
 Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instructions 1(b).

- ( ) Form 3 Holdings Reported  
 ( ) Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person

Daines, O. Nolan  
 5128 South Morrow Park Road  
 Spokane, WA 99206  
 U.S.A.

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

Echostar Communications Corporation  
 DISH

3. IRS or Social Security Number of Reporting Person (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year

12/31/00

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)

(X) Director ( ) 10% Owner ( ) Officer (give title below) ( ) Other  
 (specify below)

7. Individual or Joint/Group Reporting (Check Applicable Line)

(X) Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 ( ) Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security	2. Transaction Date	3. Code	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	A/D	Price	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	6. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Derivative Security	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date	4. Code	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Amount	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities Title and Number of Shares	8. Price of Derivative Security	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Year	10. Direct (D) or Indirect (I)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership
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Non-Employee Director Stock Option	\$33.109	6/30/00	A	10,000	A	(1) 6/30/10	Class A Common Stock	10,000		10,000		
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Explanation of Responses:

(1) The shares underlying the option vested 100% when issued on June 30, 2000.

SIGNATURE OF REPORTING PERSON

O. Nolan Daines