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First name: Elliott

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Elliott Jolley. I was born and raised in Vernal Utah and live there with my wife and children. For years, I have been in favor of establishing a ski resort along Highway 191 or Highway 44, on the roads between Vernal in Uintah County Utah and Manilla in Daggett County Utah. I would like to request that this type of recreational use is allowed and facilitated in any future plans for the forest. It would be an important, and, for locals, new way for those of us who enjoy skiing and snowboarding to enjoy the outdoors, especially in the winter months. Such a resort engender respect and appreciation for the Ashley National Forest in people who live locally or who visit the resort from out of town. Such appreciation will ensure that future generations who grow up here will value the forest and desire to see it preserved. I can imagine myself riding up a lift through the snowy trees, pointing out the beautiful scenery to my children as we enjoy a day of skiing and snowboarding only 45 minutes from home.

Recently I was part of a meeting to discuss the possibility of creating such a ski resort, with several government officials from Uintah and Daggett counties in favor of it. There were also investors there who want to build a ski resort as an investment in the community . They are all people who would also like to enjoy that type of recreation closer to home, and with their friends and families. They also understand what a benefit it would be to the health and well-being of our communities, our economy, and the forest. If the wheels keep turning on this project after this recent meeting, there will soon be permit applications filed and negotiations made to lease the land and start building it.

Please ensure that ski resort recreation is added into the long term plans for the forest. Thank you for your time.