



East Zone/Holy Cross Ranger District
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Vail Valley Partnership (VVP) is the regional chamber of commerce representing Eagle County, Colorado. Our organization has over 850 member organizations, representing over 80% of the local workforce within the valley.

We are writing in support of **Vail Mountain Resort Snowmaking #54859**. This project will open more of the mountain earlier than ever, enabling both Vail and Lionshead villages to have better early season conditions, thus benefiting our visitors and our tourism economy.

Specifically, we believe:

- A new and expanded snowmaking system would dramatically change Vail Mountain's opening scenario from what we've become accustomed to with opening terrain largely available in and around the Eagle's Nest and Born Free areas out of Lionshead.
 - Better early-season success making snow at higher elevations in warmer years like we saw the past two seasons benefits our community and our visitors by creating a better on-mountain product.
 - This would also allow Vail Mountain to offer more appropriate terrain early on for varied abilities in addition to Born Free, which is on the steeper end of the spectrum of intermediate trails.
- This proposal would create a much better snowmaking-only opening scenario experience than just terrain on and around the Born Free trail.
- With a new system, Vail Mountain expects to have the Mountain Top Express Lift (#4) and Avanti Express Lift (#2), and likely access out of Lionshead for Thanksgiving, even in much warmer years like the last two seasons. Again, this is a significantly better offering than just Born Free or not being able to open which benefits our visitors and our business community.

We are supportive of this proposal.

Thank you,

President & CEO
Vail Valley Partnership