

To whom it may concern,

Based upon the environmental assessment, we condemn Taos Ski Valley Incorporated's proposed plan to build a gondola, water tank, and restaurant on land managed by the National Forest Service. Our primary concern with this project is the environmental impact this construction is sure to have on the Rio Hondo watershed. The water Taos Ski Valley seeks to siphon from the creek is currently being used by residents to sustain agricultural endeavors that feed the local populations and provide livelihoods for residents of Taos County. Taos Ski Valley wishes to instead pump this water into toilets, kitchens, and snow-blowing hoses, all in service of people who do not live in the county. After polluting this water, the environmental assessment does not show how Taos Ski Valley will store it, leading us to fear, based upon their established history of water system failures, this grey and black water will contaminate the Rio Hondo.

We are an organization in service of Taos County residents. Taos Ski Valley's proposed infrastructure expansion has been discussed during our programs on many occasions and has been met with universal contempt. We urge Carson National Forest to reject Taos Ski Valley's proposal to build a restaurant, water tank, and gondola.

Northern New Mexico Survival Programs