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First name: Jack

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Organization: Durango Chamber of Commerce

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms. Chadwick, I am writing in support of the proposed Ice Creek Project located within Purgatory Resort's existing special use permit area. Purgatory is a family-focused ski area, this proposed project will improve the experience for our locals as well as visiting guests. The proposed improvements will increase the beginner and intermediate skier experience. By increasing the skier terrain, more individuals will experience one of the most important assets of the National Forest, recreation. In addition to the increased ski runs, the local economy will benefit. Numerous families visiting the area will stay at Purgatory or in and around Durango and la Plata County. As people come to ski, they will venture to our historic downtown, thus spending money in our local shops and restaurants. This addition to the local economy is an economic driver, enhancing the multiplier effect. There is no better time than now to approve the proposed improvements. Recreation tourism is so important to local businesses and the community. Purgatory must continue to improve the terrain and offerings to their valued guests. As people come to ski and enjoy themselves, the ultimate goal will be to have them return year after year and in off ski season to enjoy what the San Juan Forest offers. Again, the Durango Chamber of Commerce is supportive of the Ice Creek proposal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, iack@durangobusiness.org or my cell, 970-749-4548.