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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

May 2, 0222

Public Comments

USFS

Carson Nation Forest Service.

Dear Sirs,

I am submitting this "letter of comment" on behalf of the Ski Industry of New Mexico. SNM is a non-profit membership organization representing all 8 New Mexico Ski Resorts and an additional 25-35 ski related businesses. The ski industry in New Mexico represents a \$500 million business, generating over \$32 million in GRT to the state of NM, generates millions of dollars in local taxes and assessments, and employees over 3500 people. Taos Ski Valley is the NM "flag ship" resort in New Mexico and improvements made at TSV will improve the whole ski industry in NM. We 100% support the TSV Master Development Plan.

Specifically:

1. the proposed base to base Gondola connecting the main base area with the Kachina Basin will allow a better flow of people, increase recreational activities, and increase dining options for guests at the resort. Taos ski valley has a good amount of skiable terrain and eliminating choke points are desirable and will increase the guest experience. Summer activities will also benefit greatly from this improvement. Carbon reduction will also result from such an addition.
- 2.Replacement of lifts (2,4,7 and 8) meet the desire to decrease choke points and increase the guest experience. Replacement and upgrading equipment are also necessary to provide a safe and more desirable experience. The better we treat our guests the more likely it is they will return.
- 3.To continue to make Taos Ski Valley a viable community and business, it must continue to grow and develops. Additional activities, such as Nordic skiing and snowshoeing are desirable for the winter guests. Hiking trails and mtn. biking trails are low impact activities and recreational activities the public are looking for today. Expanding these options at TSV is wise and necessary.
- 4.Climate change require the necessity for more and better water management. Additional water storage will make water available when the demand is greatest, snowmaking in the winter and fire suppression in the summer. Water storage tanks and booster stations are part of the answer.

In closing, Taos Ski Valley Inc. has been a great steward of the land under USFS lease and used their private lands wisely. They have acted in the publics best interest, provided a much need recreational facility, provided employment in and area where winter jobs are few, while keep the environmental impact at a good balance. We strongly ask for approval and support of the TSV Inc. request.

Thank you

Sincerely,

George Brooks

Executive Director Ski New Mexico

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