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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the Forest Supervisor - White River National Forest:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed expansion of Golden Peak at Vail. This project provides significant value to the community of Vail, state of Colorado and more broadly the snow sports community nationally and internationally by adding to and improving the quality of training venues for alpine ski racing, freestyle, free skiing and snowboard.

Evolving venue standards and sport progression have rendered existing venues in need of enhancement by increased length and vertical rise for race courses, narrowly prescribed pitches and features for judged sports, as well as, greater variety of terrain and areas for specialized snow preparation. The growth in the local club's programs has made a desire for this additional terrain for local kids evolve into an urgent need. Most importantly, the segregation, whenever possible, of competitive ski and snowboard athletes from recreational skiers and snowboarders is desirable to insure the highest possible standards of safety for all users of the public lands.

Additional lifts will further enhance user safety and convenience by relocating thousands of daily returns to the base area by competitors and athletes training while lapping on Golden Peak.

Much consideration has been given to minimizing the disruption to soils and vegetation. Run-off management will be improved and the visual impact of trails on Golden Peak will be normalized by the extension of the current trails that have an unnatural mid-mountain starting point accessed from the Chair 6 mid station.

In all ways, this project will be an important enhancement to all users of Vail Mountain with minimal impacts. I strongly encourage your approval of this project for the benefit of the kids of the Vail Valley and snow sports enthusiasts and community members alike.

Respectfully,
Aldo Radamus