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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Good evening, although I am a resident of Puerto Rico, I spend 5 months a year in the Vail, CO area. I am writing in support of the Golden Peak Improvements Project. I am a true environmentalist, a lover nature and Earth, but I believe the amount of forest needed to cut for this project is inconsequential to other issues impacting our environment. The clear cutting of thousands of acres of forests, the pollution China is emitting, and the suffocation of our oceans are a true threat to this planet. The cutting of a relative few trees in Colorado is not a threat our planet. I worry more about what China is doing to our planet than the cutting of 42 acres of trees.

Equally important to the environment is the issue of public safety. The expansion of Golden Peak will create a larger designated area for the ski and snowboard racers, keeping them away from the general public and novice skiers, creating a safer ski areas for both the racers and the public. Let's face it, the racers know what they are doing on snow, but a majority of the public doesn't. Keeping the racers and the public separate will be safer for both parties.

Vail is privileged to be home to some of the world's best skiers and snowboarders, some of whom have to train at other mountains (Cooper and Copper) regularly. The community should be able to accommodate its local athletes on its local hill without having to send them elsewhere. Expanding Golden Peak will also free up Cookshack to the public, creating more open terrain for recreational skiers, and once again, removing the racers from the area in which the general public skis.

It goes without saying that creating international racing venues at Vail will clearly benefit the entire community with larger events, increased visitor attendance, and more revenue for the town of Vail.

All in all, I believe the community will benefit greatly from the expansion of Golden Peak, with minimal environmental impact, and I fully support the project.