Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/2/2018 7:00:56 PM

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Organization: Ski and Snowboard Club Vail

Title: Operations Manager

Comments: To whom may read this,

I am in full support of the Golden Peak Expansion project and all that it will accomplish. The first and foremost important part of this expansion that all need to realize, is that we are not proposing this project for just a larger venue and taking a step in front of the paying public. SSCV's motto since I have been at SSCV is "For the Kids." This is what this project is for, the kids and the ability to gain even more opportunities to reach their goals and be the best they can be.

Additionally, one of the comments I have heard from my years at SSCV is when training is taking place on the alternative venues we are allowed to use (Whippersnapper, Black Forest, Cookshack and Giant Steps). In all of these locations the voice from public is why are these trails closed, this is unfair. This project, eliminates such conflicts as SSCV will be on Golden Peak throughout the year. This is mainly when Main Arena is closed due to events held either by SSCV or Vail (i.e. Burton US Open), which is roughly around 25% of the season.

It must be clearly stated that this project is not to just be for SSCV, though during training the venue will be closed, but potentially open to the public later after such training is completed. But it also must be known that a race venue is not a public skiing trail or constructed as such. In many occasions, currently on Gold Peak, there are nightly changes in either the terrain, surface, etc. and are not always marked. This creates an unsafe environment for those that are not knowledgeable in what is in a race venue. The reason that Gold Peak is closed to the public currently, is for the safety of the public.

I would ask that the Forest Service approve the project and allow the athletes to reach their optimal performance and be the best they can be. With the ability to have that opportunity by having a venue that is not closed for any training 25% out of the season. Thank you for reading and I hope that I have voiced my opinion to allow this project to move forward, along with many others opinions as well.