

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2018 5:09:58 PM

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Comments: These comments are in regards to the planned development of McCoy Park on Beaver Creek Mountain.

I'm an employee of Beaver Creek and work at the Nordic Center. As someone who's job depends on guest visits to a Nordic Center in the White River National Forest, I feel as this development would degrade the guest's experience in several significant ways.

First and foremost, Nordic skiers don't generally use chair lifts. Through my experience at the BC Nordic Center, I've learned that the chair lift often provides the most harrowing experience of the whole day. Few first time visitors have used a chairlift for nordic or snowshoeing before.

Many of our guests have written statements regarding their visit. Many refer to the peace and quiet in the park. I believe consolidating the area available, adding chair lifts and downhill use will cause many of our current loyal and otherwise unrepresented guests terrible grief. In their minds, McCoy Park already is perfection.

Backcountry use currently is not an area where there are many numbers. I think we see more each year, but would currently estimate under 24 users per week. With the addition of lifts, I anticipate a tremendous increase in use. Possibly as many people can upload the chair in an hour. This will impact winter Elk habitat as well as existing snowshoe trails coming up from the Arrowhead area of Beaver Creek. The trail is narrow and skiers and snowboarders rarely avoid using it. I can foresee conflicting trail use. The trail exit is on to a drive way of several private homes. I don't speak for the owners, but I'm willing to bet anything that this was not what they were told about the easement on their property. I'm also not a wildlife expert, but where exactly are you looking to relocate the elk to?

As far as the need to add more terrain, when isn't a good time to add terrain?

As far as impacting Forest visits, I would hope you agree that enhancing a majority of visitors experience at the expense of others is unacceptable. Even if that is a small and unheard minority.