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Comments: TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Several years ago my family moved to Vail from Tahoe to provide my son, currently a FIS Alpine athlete, to train with and compete for Ski & Snowboard Club Vail (SSCV). Prior to doing so we looked at the top ski clubs in the country, and we soon concluded that SSCV offers elite-level athletes an exceptional -- perhaps the preeminent -- opportunity to pursue skiing to the highest level possible. That opportunity requires, among other things, outstanding coaches, competitive teammates, and a world-class training venue. SSCV is highly regarded throughout the global skiing community, and should be considered a local resource that has helped to establish Vail as a world-class competitive skiing center. Preservation of the resource that is SSCV requires that it continue to attract top athletic talent. SSCV's current training venue presents logistics issues, many of which have been exacerbated by the late onset of the snow season that we have experienced for the past several years.

Assuming global climate change is not a hoax (it is not), SSCV can expect to face heightened challenges. If SSCV's training venue is not improved, SSCV's position in the ski world will diminish; on the other hand, allowing the Golden Peak Improvements Project to be developed will preserve SSCV's place as the place where serious US ski athletes go to become world champions. We strongly urge the Forest Service to approve the Golden Peak Improvement Project plan. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Judd