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Comments: I am opposed to the expansion of terrain into the Pandora area of the mountain. Richmond Ridge gets a little busier every winter. On most days during the winter, if you venture behind the gondola building, you will encounter snow cat operations, snowmobiles, side country skiers, people skinning and skiing, and hikers. On a semi-regular basis, there are classes from elementary schools hiking and learning about the outdoors.

If you expand the ski area boundary, you will compress the amount of space available to all that traffic. The traffic will not reduce. There will be more conflicts as the side country skiers are pushed further out on Richmond Ridge and start skiing the terrain that is used for snow cat operations and snowmobile skiing. Within a few years of installation of the Pandora lift, the Aspen Skiing Company will be asking the Forest Service to limit the number of people using Richmond Ridge so that they can continue their snow cat operations.

The Forest Service knows the impact on wildlife of all the people using this area. Expanding the ski area into heavily used terrain will only increase the stress on the environment.