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Comments: I would like to comment on the proposed expansion plan for Mission Ridge Ski Area currently under consideration by Chelan County and the United States Forest Service.

The expansion of the ski area itself would add some beginner terrain and cross country ski trails, as well as more lifts. However, the proposal also calls for 621 new Condo/Duplex/Townhome units, 275 Single Family Homes, 57 Lodge rooms, 80 beds for employee housing, and 110,000 square feet of commercial space. This part of the proposal is a year-round Real Estate development roughly ten times the size of the nearby Forest Ridge community. I believe this would greatly increase adverse human impact to the area year-round. It would have significant environmental and fire safety issues, contribute greatly to traffic on the Squilchuck Creek Road, and heavily impact water supplies in the drainage. This "village" portion of the proposal would gain value from the ski area nearby, but does not add much value to the ski area. Further, the planned single access road to the residential area is not adequate to provide ingress or egress in the event of a major wildfire. Building new roads and/or expanding existing roads to help mitigate this risk would create even more adverse impact to public lands and wildlife. Safety zones and Fuel Breaks are inadequate. Additional costs will likely fall on the County, State, and Federal agencies. The urban-wildland interface analysis done by Aegis Engineering for Mission scored "High Hazard", which will make insurance difficult to obtain for potential homeowners. There is not enough water in the basin for a development of this size. There are senior water rights in the basin that are already allocated in dryer years, and it is unclear where the extra water will come from.

In summary, while the proposed ski area expansion itself would may add to the Wenatchee Valley, a large, year-round Real Estate development immediately adjacent to it would greatly detract and should not be permitted.

Thank You for the opportunity to comment.