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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose Mission Ridge Resorts' expansion proposal. Please deny it, for several reasons.

The local forest has already been impacted by Mission Ridges' robust popularity. One key point made by Mission Ridge (MR) is that if approved, it will secure their long term sustainability. I don't think so. Their business has boomed in the last few years, and visits have increased considerably annually. I've been skiing there for 35 years, I have witnessed the gain in visits.

Another key point made regarding their desire to have the plan approved is 'It will improve the quality of life for locals.' NO, it definitely will not! As a local (I live on Squilchuck Road, and buy a season ski pass annually), I see their increased popularity has already degraded our quality of life. Traffic, crowds & a few rude visitors are the culprit.

Another reason for my no vote? The wildlife! Elk are numerous in this area. More visitors staying on the mountain will evolve into more people exploring the adjacent area. I see the effect of a very few people hiking up & skiing or snowboarding down our area has on the elk. They bed, and when spooked, they are forced to move quickly in very deep snow which is exhausting their energy, when little is available for them. I see the same with deer.

Aside from my stated concerns, Squilchuck Road simply cannot handle the load of traffic this would lead to. Their increased visits already have caused issues. Please do not approve this expansion plan.

Thank you.